

Greenwood 1838–9 C. Greenwood, An epitome of county history – vol. I – county of Kent (London, 1838–9).

i

AN
EPITOME OF COUNTY HISTORY,
WHEREIN THE
MOST REMARKABLE OBJECTS, PERSONS, AND EVENTS,
ARE BRIEFLY TREATED OF;

THE SEATS, RESIDENCES, ETC.
OF
THE NOBILITY, CLERGY, AND GENTRY,
THEIR
ARCHITECTURE, INTERIOR DECORATIONS, SURROUNDING SCENERY, ETC. DESCRIBED, FROM
PERSONAL OBSERVATION,
AND
THE NAMES, TITLES, AND OTHER DISTINCTIONS,
CIVIL, MILITARY, OR ECCLESIASTICAL,
INSERTED.

With Notices of the principal Churches,
AND THE MONUMENTS AND MEMORIALS OF DISTINGUISHED FAMILIES.

EACH COUNTY ILLUSTRATED BY A MAP,
EXPRESSLY CONSTRUCTED TO SUIT THE DESIGN OF THIS WORK,
EXHIBITING IN ONE VIEW THE PARKS, PADDOCKS, SEATS, AND OTHER RESIDENCES INCLUDED
THEREIN.

VOL. I. – COUNTY OF KENT.

BY C. GREENWOOD.

LONDON:
PUBLISHED FOR THE PROPRIETOR, AT THE OFFICE OF THE AUTHOR,
No. 5, HART STREET, BLOOMSBURY SQUARE.
1838.

ii

ENTERED AT STATIONERS' HALL.

DENNETT, PRINTER, UNION BUILDINGS, LEATHER LANE.

iii

PREFACE.

The subject of the present work, after a protracted consideration of some years, was entered upon by the author with the greatest diffidence, from a consciousness of the uncertainty as to how far it might be possible, by personal application, to obtain the intelligence absolutely necessary to make it acceptable. He was sensible that nothing short of a disposition all but universal in his favour could enable him to give it such a stamp of originality and novelty as might warrant the expectation of ultimate success.

The difficulties here intimated, however, have been surmounted even to an extent exceeding his most sanguine anticipation; and in return the author can

claim for himself, with the greatest confidence, the merit of not having abused so unexpected and liberal a patronage. In the course of nearly two years he has in person submitted his proposals to more than 500 of the first families in the county, at their respective residences; and he takes the present opportunity of expressing his gratitude for the kindness and assistance with which he has invariably had the good fortune to be honoured. Indeed, from no less direct sources of information could he have acquired satisfactory and conclusive authority for numerous particulars, which unite to give a peculiar character to his present undertaking.

The descriptions of the seats and residences that touch upon such points as the architecture, paintings, museums of natural curiosities, or works of art; the names, titles, and other distinctions, civil, military, or ecclesiastical, of the residents; scenery, distances, bearings, &c. are uniformly the result of personal enquiry and observation: and to this extent the work is entirely original.

The copious particulars (given in a smaller type) which follow the descriptions of most of the ancient houses, are abridged from Hasted's elaborate history of the county. But the epitaphs and memorials (in the same type) of later date than 1780, have been collected by the author from the places themselves.

The map, it will be observed, has been designed with particular reference to the illustration of the present work, and represents most prominently the parks, paddocks, seats, and other residences particularised in the volume: and the delineation of the objects, their relative situations, &c. have been determined by actual survey.

iv

Such, therefore, is the construction of the work, as far as its plan has hitherto been submitted to the attention of the subscribers.

A new and very important addition, however, has been suggested by many families, viz. a series of lithographical views of the principal seats, to face the respective descriptions. But as this will necessarily form a considerable additional expense, the inclusion of such illustrations will of course be optional with those who have already purchased the work.

P.S. For the more extended articles in this volume, materials have been gathered, if not perhaps from any very recondite sources, yet carefully and from approved authorities. At present it will be sufficient to mention a few of the more obvious and important. The two Histories of Kent, by Harris and Hasted, Lyson's "Environs of London," Brayley's volume on Kent in the "Beauties of England and Wales," Lambarde's "Perambulation of Kent," the treatises of Somner and many others, bearing more or less directly on the subjects in view, have been perused or consulted; of which the sequel, it is hoped, will contain satisfactory evidence. The author of these historical notices desires further to observe, that they are limited to places of particular interest; and, though in the description of these he has endeavoured on the whole to embrace as much as possible, he does not pretend to have included every object belonging to them, nor even every object of importance. To have done so, and yet maintained the requisite brevity, would have reduced him to give little else than a meagre summary. The present work aims at an approach to something like completeness only in its comprehensive mention of private residences and families. To this, therefore, the intermingled matter of a more general nature must be considered as subsidiary; though at the same time important, as designed to sustain the other parts of the plan by the occasional intervention of inquiries that open a wider field and admit a freer treatment. Such being the principal intention of the work, a great deal that comes within the scope of local history would here be out of place. Now and then a few statistical particulars are detailed; but only where it seemed that something more popularly attractive might be elicited from them or illustrated by them. Much also which, though otherwise applicable,

the repetition of former writers has rendered tediously trite, the author has, for that reason, briefly dismissed or omitted altogether. In general, he has not scrupled to enlarge most on what has happened to appear most interesting to himself; considering that on such topics he had the best chance of being able to engage likewise the attention of the reader.

v

INTRODUCTION TO THE HISTORY OF KENT.

The name of Kent (which the Latins turned into Cantium) is of British or Gallic origin, supposed by Camden to indicate a corner, and to allude to the position of this coast at the corner of the island; in support of which he instances the words canton and cantle as having properly the same import, and the Scotch term cantir, for any land thus situated. Such seems to be the popular etymology; but in Welch, it appears, the name Gaint or Caint, which has always been applied to this county, means a region of open downs; a description to many parts of it sufficiently suitable.

Kent, if we regard the important events of which it has been the theatre, deserves the first place in English topography. In its public edifices and its various remains of antiquity, it possesses monuments of most of the great epochs of our national history; while several of the mansions, with which altogether it is nobly adorned, recall also some high recollections. Simply considered, the country bears a very pleasing aspect, presenting in most directions a perpetual undulation of hills and woody sequestered dales running in among the rich cultivated landscapes. On the side next the metropolis, from Blackheath to Gravesend, it is literally one scarcely interrupted garden. The whole county indeed is entitled, by its general fertility, to the appellation of the garden of England; and many portions of it, such as the Isle of Thanet, and the pastures of Romney Marsh, are exuberantly rich. It is a well watered country; and the navigable rivers, above all, the Thames, and its tributary, the Medway (the latter flowing through the very heart of the shire), furnish the farmer with the readiest means for pouring his produce into the great London market. Most of the land is arable; but the county supplies also vast quantities of fruit, and especially is famous for its filberts and cherries. To a general observer the most distinguishing circumstance of its husbandry is the cultivation of the Hop, a plant neglected, and perhaps unknown, in England, till the Flemish exiles, about the reign of Elizabeth, taught this part of the kingdom its value. The hop-grounds are particularly numerous in the neighbourhood of Maidstone, and form, especially at harvest-time, an interesting and almost a peculiar feature in Kentish scenery. The various beauties of the county are well displayed from the hills,

vi

which traverse it in every direction. Two ranges, superior to the rest, run nearly parallel to each other through its entire length, and terminate together in the steep sea-coast about Dover and Folkstone. The upper or northern chain consists in many parts of dry and chalky downs, where, at least towards the east, the country is rather bare and exposed to winds from the N.E. and S.W. The other line (which, from the nature of the rock, is sometimes called the Ragstone hill), enters Kent about Westerham, and reaches to Folkstone, forming, towards its eastern extremity, the highest ridge of land in the county. The hills on this side overlook the Weald, which is of course the same word as wild; but the tract is now enclosed, though still interspersed with extensive woodlands. It formerly covered a surface of 120 miles, embracing the whole of Sussex, with a large part of Hampshire. The Weald of Kent stretches along the southern border of the county, from Romney Marsh to the confines of Surrey. It made part of the great British forest of Andereda (Coit Andred), and was the grand

hunting ground of the Saxon princes, being much noted for its numerous stags and wild boars.

In the earliest times the people of Kent had the credit of being better civilized (or less barbarous) than their neighbours. Every one knows, from authority more familiar than Cæsar's, that his Commentaries term "Kent the civilest place in all this isle," and as the nearness of the continent must have given the inhabitants greater opportunities of foreign intercourse than the rest of the islanders, the praise, we may conclude, was deserved. The same circumstances of situation have often rendered it extremely obnoxious to attack: in fact, it has almost invariably borne the first brunt in every invasion of the island. The reader has probably no particular wish to fight over again the battles of Julius Cæsar in this county for the thousandth time. It is well known that he scarcely penetrated beyond its limits, and placed here no Roman station. The country was subjected to some small tribute, which, being little more than nominal, seems to have been paid till the reign of Claudius, when a British prince, whom the Latin writers call Arviragus, refused it in consequence of the Emperor's refusal to deliver up some fugitive criminals. The island was then invaded in earnest, and this was the first portion of it reduced to a province. In few parts of the country are there left such conspicuous evidences of the imperial government. One of the chief of these is the road called the Watling Street, which runs from Dover through Canterbury (where it unites with another branch from Sandwich) over Blackheath to London; whence, indeed, it may be traced across the entire kingdom to Anglesey. Before the Romans had aban-

vii

doned the island, the barbarians who were destined next to make it their own had already paid it some hostile visits; and "Count of the Saxon shore" was the ominous title of the Roman officer entrusted with the defence of our south-eastern coasts. This officer had a particular jurisdiction over ten sea-ports in this quarter, which were required, on occasions of emergency, to have vessels in readiness to act against the new enemy. Several of these havens must have been the same which, in a later age, were associated under the name of Cinque Ports for similar services. Probably, to guard such important stations from the attacks of the strangers, the Romans erected on the sea-side of this county the fortresses of which there are still such considerable remains at Reculver, Richborough, and Limne.

Soon after Britain had been left to its own resources, three vessels, it is said, full of these Saxon rovers attacked the coast of Kent. The pirates (or exiles, as some historians call them,) were led by the brothers, Hengist and Horsa, whose father, according to one story, was the great-grandson of the deified Woden. Vortigern, who had now assumed the British government, (at least in the south,) persuaded them, by the offer of lands, to turn their arms against the Picts; and similar promises encouraged the settlement of additional numbers of their countrymen. They were first put in possession of the Isle of Thanet, and afterwards of the whole of Kent. But their designs soon becoming manifest, the indignation of the Britons either deposed Vortigern or obliged him to alter his policy. His son, Vortimir, fought hard to drive out the intruders. Several places in the county preserve some dim tradition of his battles: and during the life of this spirited prince, Hengist found it difficult to maintain his ground. The Saxon, however, declared himself King of Kent; though, to the last, he seems scarcely to have attempted any further conquest. Other parts of the island were assailed by different bands of independent adventurers. In Kent the descendants of Hengist reigned for upwards of three centuries and a half: and Ethelbert, the fifth in succession, determined, as the representative of the hero who was the first of his race that set foot on the island, to assert pretensions to more general dominion. With this view, in the rashness of his youth, on his accession to the throne at sixteen years of age, he attacked Ceaulin, King of Wessex, the most

powerful of the Saxon chiefs, and, as well as himself, derived from the blood of Woden. Ceaulin overthrew him, and Kent seemed likely to be crushed. But several obstacles intervened. The King of Wessex had before been sufficiently formidable to his neighbours, and now their alarm set them upon combining against him. The Welch and the Scots, too, (stirred up against him

viii

by his own nephew,) before he could repeat his blow, effectually humbled him in his own dominions. Meanwhile the coalition against Ceaulin had thrown a great deal of power into the hands of Ethelbert, and he was finally chosen Bretwalda, (overruler of Britain;) a title occasionally bestowed by the commonwealth of Saxon princes on the most illustrious of their body. He soon showed that he intended to hold more than a titular pre-eminence. From one encroachment to another, he advanced so far as to arrogate a right to fill up all the thrones around him as they became vacant. But finding that his ambition was likely to be visited with the fate of his old rival of Wessex, he at length contented himself within fairer limits; but still succeeded in preserving a considerable superiority, and to a great degree made himself paramount in every quarter south of the Humber. The authority of Ethelbert was, perhaps, facilitated by the new and popular influence of that compound of truth and dreams which, during his reign, Augustine introduced as Christianity; and which, in return, was still more likely to be materially assisted by the ascendancy of this prince, who was the leading convert among the Saxon kings. Kent was the first scene of the missionary's labours: but the whole nation had probably been prepared in great measure for the admission of what he taught, by previous intercourse with the British Christians. In a few years, through the medium of his royal patron, the first Archbishop of Canterbury appears to have been able to influence the politics of several of the adjacent states. The reign of Ethelbert lasted for fifty-three years, and with him ended the superiority of Kent. His son, Eadbald, for some time relapsed into idolatry, but ultimately re-established the christian religion. His successors, Ercombert and Egbert, were zealous supporters of it. On the death of the latter, a contest took place between Edric, the rightful heir of the crown, and Lothaire, his uncle, who had seized it. The usurper was slain, and Edric became king. But the civil war continued, and within two years this king perished by the violence of his subjects. Soon afterwards, Cedwalla, the King of Wessex, taking advantage of the distracted state of the country, sent his brother Mollo to invade it. Mollo, however, was defeated; and he and a few companions of his flight, having taken refuge in a cottage, were there all burnt together by the conquerors. In revenge, Cedwalla made a furious inroad, and utterly laid waste the country. On his death-bed he urged the most relentless prosecution of the war on his successor, Ina; whose ravages finally compelled the miserable inhabitants to compound for little more than their bare lives, with a payment of 36,000 marks of gold. The power of the kingdom of Kent was now irreparably ruined. Its jealous neighbours allowed

ix

it a considerable respite, but its own intestine broils presently broke out again, and divided it into a number of petty principalities. The sovereignty was at length recovered by Aldric, the last of the race of Hengist. He was defeated and slain at Otford, by Offa, King of Mercia; which for some time had taken the lead among the Saxon states. And now nothing but their mutual rivalries suspended for a while the entire conquest of this wretched little kingdom. The vacant throne was seized by Eadbert-Pren. But Kenulph, the next king of Mercia, took him captive, blinded him, and cut off his right hand. His conqueror gave the crown, as a mere dependancy, to Cudred; whose son, Baldred, was the last of the Kentish kings. Baldred was driven out by Egbert, the great King of Wessex;

whose power, after a decisive struggle with Mercia, had acquired such a preponderance, that he is frequently considered the first monarch of England. Kent was afterwards governed by a succession of Earls, whose power appears to have been considerable, even to a period subsequent to the Norman conquest. Earl (it may be observed by the way) is a title of Danish extraction, originally written, Jarl; but radically the same word, perhaps, as the first syllables of the Saxon compound, Ealdor-man: which we have converted into Elder, and Alderman.

The Danes first began to trouble the island a little before Kent had subsided into the general kingdom; which, in fact, seems to have been very opportunely consolidated to resist the approaching storm. As usual, this exposed corner was among the earliest to suffer from its violence; and the Danes, like the Saxons before them, chose the Isle of Thanet for the spot where they first ventured to winter in England. The ground was convenient, and they made it their frequent station; and thus, for more than a century, the surrounding country could never feel itself secure from continual alarm, havoc, and confusion. In the course of such terrible discipline, however, the men of Kent acquired extraordinary renown for military prowess, and hence the vanguard in battle became for many ages their admitted right. Instances of their valour and their sufferings will occur in the body of the history. During the Danish wars, this county witnessed several of the most eventful and critical struggles that took place; in particular, the campaign of Alfred the Great against the formidable Hastings, and also the final conflict for the kingdom, between Edmund Ironside and Canute, when, for a short interval ere the death of the former left his rival in full sovereignty, the Roman Watling Street was made the boundary line of a divided empire.

In the course of this contest occurred the rise of the famous Goodwin, whose name is even still commemorated on the coasts of Kent. As the fortune of Goodwin was very extraordinary, and adds a splendour, which has been

x

unworthily tarnished, to the history of this particular county, it may be found, perhaps, neither irrelevant nor uninteresting to give a brief outline of his career. An accident drew him out of rustic obscurity. After a battle in Warwickshire between Edmund and Canute, where the latter was worsted, it happened that a Dane of distinction, named Ulfr, lost his way in the rout, and after wandering all night through the woods, met a young herdsman, whom he asked to direct him to the Danish fleet, (then stationed in the Severn;) urging his request with large promises of reward, and the proffer of a valuable jewel. The youth, (who was no other than Goodwin,) expressed his surprise that a Dane should look for assistance from a Saxon, but in the end agreed to be his guide, though he refused his present; and having conducted him in safety, and thus exposed himself to the resentment of his countrymen, he remained among the Danes. The grateful Ulfr gave him his daughter in marriage, and Canute (in whose Norwegian wars he performed important services,) made him governor or duke of Wessex. He thus became the most powerful lord in the kingdom. It does not appear, however, that his sword had ever been drawn against the Saxon cause; which, now that its enemies had invested him with power that he could wield as he pleased, he took the first opportunity to vindicate with signal decision. Resolving to bring back the native line, on the death of Hardy-canute he raised the standard of insurrection: the English promptly answered his summons, and the Danes, having no competitor in readiness for the throne, were rapidly driven from all their places of dominion. Edward, the son of Ethelred, (the last Saxon who had reigned in England,) by the Norman princess, Emma, was immediately invited out of Normandy. On his arrival he married Goodwin's daughter Edith, took an oath to retain none of the Normans about him, and was solemnly crowned. But, notwithstanding what he had sworn, the court and kingdom were soon filled with his foreign favourites: they were placed in every situation of trust, and their language became the only fashionable idiom.

Among the men of note, Goodwin alone, (now a resolute Saxon,) showed his contempt and disgust at these fantastical customs. The insolence of the strangers at length produced a crisis. Eustace, Count of Boulogne, who had married Edward's sister, on returning from a visit at the English court, passed through Dover with an armed retinue, who demanded whatever quarters pleased them best, in a style of insulting bravado. An Englishman was killed in the defence of his house. The enraged populace drove out the Boulognese, of whom several were slain; and Eustace hastened back with loud complaints to his brother-in-law. Edward, the slave of the Normans, commanded Goodwin (who was

xi

now Earl of Kent, his most important province, and governor of the Castle of Dover), summarily to punish the people under his charge. The earl replied, that it was not fit that a king should, without hearing, punish those whom it was his duty to protect, and advised the fair trial of the accused. For this refractoriness he was cited before the council: but, being well apprised that his enemies were determined to have his banishment decreed, he answered the citation by calling the men of Kent into the field. An army was despatched against him; but the boldness of his front brought his antagonists to a stand, and it was mutually agreed that the Witenagemot (the Saxon parliament) should be immediately assembled to adjust the points at issue. "The magnanimous Earl," (as he is justly styled by some old historian,) being thus thrown off his guard, no sooner had most of his troops dispersed, than his enemies took advantage of his reliance on their good faith, and again marched against him with an overwhelming force. Goodwin and his four sons were now compelled to fly. Three of them accompanied their father to Flanders; Harold, the eldest, crossed the Irish Channel. The Normans now every where exulted: and Duke William, the future Conqueror, paid the kingdom a visit; landing at Dover, and acquainting himself with the wealth of the land, which already, (says an eloquent historian,) he might have fancied to be his own: every where he heard the Norman language; the fleet at Dover was commanded by the Norman, Eudes; a Norman garrison welcomed him at Canterbury, and Robert, a monk of Normandy, was the metropolitan prelate. William's assistance had been desired, in the expectation of a struggle; but the only foe of the Normans was a fugitive and an exile, and the visitor returned home, flattering himself, perhaps, that he had only to wait his opportunity, and England would be his without a battle. But in a few months the formidable earl had recruited his strength, and was hovering with a fleet about the coasts of Kent. Pursued by Eudes and Raulfe, (Edward's Norman admirals,) he took shelter in the Pevensey road, while the ships of his enemies were shattered by a storm. He next made several descents upon the coast; and wherever he landed, (according to the Saxon Chronicle,) the people willingly supplied him with provisions, and swore that they would "live or die with him." The vessels in the Kentish harbours went over to his party, and he was soon joined by his son Harold, with an additional force from Ireland. The father and the son now sailed with their united armament to Sandwich, ascended the Thames, and cast anchor before London, where the king was resident. A body of troops was landed; but before a sword was drawn, "though the earl's authority," says the same ancient writer, "could

xii

scarcely restrain his followers," the two chiefs sent a message to the king, couched in respectful terms, but demanding the reversal of their banishment. The soldiers of Edward had already given sufficient intimation that they would not be compelled to shed their countrymen's blood in support of Norman insolence, and the king reluctantly promised to acquiesce in whatever the Witenagemot should determine, which he engaged immediately to convene.

The Witenagemot could not again be made a pretext of delusion: the assembly was held, and voted at once for the reception of Goodwin and his friends; on hearing which, the Normans waited for nothing more, but fled in every direction across the seas. Robert, the archbishop, was in such haste that he left his pallium behind him for the use of his Saxon successor, who was immediately installed in the vacant chair.

Thus ended the career (for he died very soon afterwards) of this extraordinary man, whose fame has been clouded with ungrateful obloquy. The reproach that clings to him the closest is that of having been accessory to the murder of Edward's elder brother, Alfred, who, in the reign of Harald the Dane, had been inveigled out of Normandy by that prince's agents, and barbarously destroyed in England. Goodwin's participation in the treachery is, at all events, not proved. The imputation, however, pursued him to his death, which is represented not only as having been very sudden, but attended with some terrible circumstances. As he sat at the king's table, (it is said,) the latter chanced to be reminded of his brother's violent end, and bitterly upbraided him with it; when Goodwin, uttering a solemn imprecation, that if he deserved the suspicion, the bread might suffocate him which he was about to eat, put the morsel into his mouth, and instantly fell dead. The tale may justly be suspected of being the invention of his enemies. The Normans pursued his memory with unrelenting malice, revenging themselves for their expulsion by henceforth making the very name of Goodwin a bye-word of infamy; and, as they afterwards became the masters (and consequently the historians) of the kingdom, he appears in most of the records of the time as a blood-stained traitor, haughty and rebellious against a benevolent sovereign, prosecuting his selfish aggrandizement at the expense of his country's welfare, the scourge and plunderer of its shores, the profligate embroiler of two friendly nations, and the true author of all the calamities that were so soon to fall upon his own; a man, in short, so cursed by heaven itself, that the very sea must be called up, must swell with indignation against the name of Goodwin, and the quicksand must be fabled to have been fruitful ground, but sapped by the waves, and made the sailor's terror, because Good-

xiii

win, (without doubt,) the merciless, destroying Goodwin, was once the master of the soil! and the blind descendants of the people whose independence he prolonged, were taught at last to babble such a tradition as this! Our popular historians have re-echoed it all; (they have all but swallowed the quicksand;) they seem to have forgotten that the Saxon champion – the father of Harold the Dauntless – is warmly defended and honoured by several of the contemporary pens of his countrymen. And yet it needs no mixture of a kindred blood to make it natural to treat with at least some respect the timely vindicator of his country from the stealthy approaches of a power that threatened its independence. It has been left, however, to a foreigner and a Frenchman to do justice to the English worthy: we mean the able historian of the Norman conquest, M. Thierry, whose animated narrative has formed the ground-work of the one here offered to the reader. It may be granted, indeed, that this writer has probably somewhat exaggerated his hero's merits. It cannot well be affirmed that Goodwin was clearly a disinterested patriot. His memory is charged with the murder (or betrayal, at least) of the eldest heir of the Saxon throne, whose high spirit (so far as his character is reported,) seemed not likely, if he had lived, to brook a master. Goodwin, it is true, might here have been innocent: but it is more difficult to acquit him of making subsequent circumstances very subservient to his own aggrandizement. The brother of the unhappy prince was the king of his choice, and one of the weakest of mankind; and to this king he was careful to ally himself before he gave him his crown. Afterwards, again, during Edward's reign, he must have felt that nothing but the foreign influence interfered with his own ascendancy; and most likely he felt also that only the pre-

tensions of the Norman line were serious obstacles to the probability of his energetic son's succession to the throne on the death of the childless Confessor. On the other hand, in regard to his requiring the formal marriage of this royal monk, it may be fairly argued, in behalf of Goodwin's political rectitude, (or at least of his ambition and duty being concurrent,) that Edward's feeble judgment and Norman partialities made it necessary to the nation's safety for some influential person (and who but Goodwin?) to acquire a permanent hold upon him. Besides, if the Earl's views of self-interest were really so exorbitant, instead of being (as, after all, upon the whole, a fair survey of his history would rather induce us to conclude) remarkably moderate, why should he, powerful and popular, and with great capacity for government, instead of seizing the kingdom which lay within his grasp, invite a puling prince out of a foreign country, surrounded with foreign favourites, and already prejudiced against him as the supposed betrayer of his brother? And

xiv

why, after all, when that prince arrived, should he have insisted on an alliance, which, (whatever advantages it gave him,) if it had produced an heir, would have excluded his own son, whom, in those critical times, nature had marked out for the sceptre? Let his motives, however, from first to last, have been what they may, (and there is much reason to believe that they partook largely of public spirit,) it is clear enough that his cause was patriotic and noble, and that he carried with him the hearts of the people; and his conduct, with reference to national objects, appears to have been alike wise, temperate, and courageous. Upon the death of Goodwin, Harold succeeded to more than his father's authority over the pliable mind of the Confessor; and the Normans did not again recover the ground they had lost, till the battle of Hastings put them in possession of the kingdom.

From the scene of this fatal overthrow, the Conqueror first marched to Romney, and took a bloody revenge on the inhabitants for their slaughter of some Norman troops that had previously landed there. He then swept the coast, and secured the sea-ports as far as Dover, the most impregnable and important fortress in the kingdom: and this place likewise being terrified into a speedy surrender, he pressed on by the Roman Watling Street, across the country, towards London. Meanwhile the people of Kent had recollected some sparks, at least, of the valour for which they had long been renowned: and on his approaching the Thames, near Swanscomb, they met him in an armed body, which obliged him, it seems, rather than risk the event of a second battle, or the dangers of delay, to guarantee to them, under the general ruin that impended, the undisturbed possession of their own peculiar rights. However doubtful this transaction may be considered, it is commonly allowed that the customs which subsist in Kent, under the name of gavel-kind, contain evidence of an extraordinary antiquity; and there may be traced among them indications of an origin from a simpler condition of society than that which was superinduced by the jealous Norman despotism. As they form so important a feature in the historical character of the county, the chief of them shall here be mentioned. One grand principle of the law of gavel-kind is the equal partibility of estates among the sons (or, in default of sons, the daughters, or finally among the whole nearest kindred) of persons dying intestate; whence, give-all-kind has been often supposed to be this identical term in a modern form: another of its customs empowers the heir to alienate his property by feoffment at fifteen years of age; a third provides that, in cases of felony, there shall be no forfeiture of the rights of succession; and previously to a statute of Henry VIII. a tenant under gavel-

xv

kind might dispose of his land by will. The system of dividing inheritances was much at variance with the Norman pride, which cherished the establishment of a

powerful aristocracy. In fact, the Kentish law seems to have been repugnant to every feudal notion; it rejected the practice of military tenure, and of vassalage; it always implied that the tenant gave rent for his land. The prescription of a payment, instead of personal service to the lord of the soil, is considered to have been so essential to the nature of gavel-kind, that the best antiquaries derive the term from the Saxon word, gavel, or gafol, (husbandry-work or rent,) and thus make it indicate the sort or kind of land that yields rent. Notwithstanding these liberal laws, however, it is not to be supposed that the condition of villenage was unknown in Kent, either after the conquest or before: (it had always indeed been familiar enough to our Saxon ancestors throughout the kingdom.) Yet, generally speaking, it may be fairly boasted, that, under the protection of Kentish privilege, while the bulk of the nation was made up of drudges indissolubly bound to the soil, a man who would prove his freedom had only to show that his father was a native of Kent. So that, in this corner of the land, the seed was preserved of the boast and birthright of Englishmen.

The story of the stipulations with the Conqueror was first related, with some romantic circumstances which, it must be owned, wear rather an apocryphal appearance, by Thomas Sprot, a monk of Canterbury, of the time of Edward I./* The men of Kent (says he), having chosen the bold Archbishop Stigand for their leader, advanced with each a green bough in his hand; and, on the enemy's approach, the boughs, which at a distance gave their army the appearance of a forest, were suddenly cast aside, while trumpets sounded, and a formidable array displayed itself. A messenger was then dispatched, who addressed the Norman in the following terms: "The commons of Kent, most noble Duke, are ready to offer thee either peace or war, at thine own choice: peace with their faithful obedience, if thou wilt permit them to enjoy their ancient liberties: war, and that most deadly, if thou deny it them."/† The Duke was anxious to press forward, and the demand, thus resolutely made, says the story, was immediately granted. The moving forest was not the wood of Birnam, and the tyrant held on his way. He had no sooner seized upon the Crown than he showed his respect for Kentish liberties by giving the command of the county to his half-brother, Odo, Bishop of Baieux, the most notorious tyrant (next to his master) of those tyrannical

/* Sprot was almost immediately followed in the same statement by William Thorn, a writer of more credit.

/ _ Lambarde's Perambulation of Kent.

xvi

times: even William soon felt himself obliged to allow Lanfranc, the Primate, to call this greedy governor to an account: but, though Odo was forced to give back the spoils of which he had stripped the church, his rapaciousness, where only lay-property was concerned, was probably by no means so promptly put a stop to.

But the instances that might be alleged, either of the usual Norman tyranny or of any special violation of the pretended Kentish privileges, neither prove that such privileges had not been stipulated for, nor indeed, that the stipulation, if made, was useless. Whatever may be thought of the green boughs (in the month of November, it has been maliciously observed – as if Kent had no laurels); whatever we may think of such flourishes as these, and the "faithful obedience" so haughtily tendered, and qualified with defiance, by the stout "commons of Kent," – that William, on his way through the county, was opposed by a large body of the inhabitants, and that some capitulation took place in consequence, must be allowed to rest upon authority at least not contemptible. And the relation, be it observed, should be judged of, not as if it were altogether insulated and unconnected with positive facts, but as giving the only account that professes to be historical of the origin of an actual and remarkable state of things. The particulars of the affair may be obscure: but as there is nowhere any mention of a battle or a rout, it would be reasonable, even without as much testi-

mony on the subject as we possess, to suppose a compromise. The probability is, that the people showed a firm front, and would have fought with the fury of despair, but that William prudently accepted their conditional submission, or perhaps made them an offer himself, and debauched them from the common interest by an assurance, never meant to be observed, of respecting their local liberties; whilst, on their parts, they were glad enough, amid the general panic and the prostration of a headless country, to sheathe their swords upon such honorable terms. No such compact, indeed, is affirmed by any contemporary writers; and Somner thinks the silence of Ingulf, "William's own chaplain," on the subject is fatal to its credibility: as if "William's own chaplain" would be particularly anxious to record a promise extorted from his patron in the flush of conquest, and afterwards, besides, in all likelihood, disgracefully violated. The Norman writers would be willing enough to slight a circumstance that gave even a shadow of independence to a trampled race: and even the pen of a Saxon might not always (while the wounds of the vanquished were yet smarting), be very ready to honour a distinction invidiously borne, and it might be thought, perhaps, selfishly obtained, by a single province of the kingdom, and humiliating to all the rest. There are registers, however, as early as the reign of Henry III.

xvii

which prove that, at that time at least, the Kentish privileges of gavel-kind were uniformly admitted in the courts of law, and even then regarded as ancient. A record, as old as the time of Edward I. now extant in the Surrenden Library, is quoted by Hasted, which mentions a case where they were allowed, on the express plea that this county had not been conquered with the rest of the realm, but had stipulated for the preservation of its rights. The fact of the alleged promise, therefore, is thus far legally accredited; and it must be inferred that the continuity of the privileges claimed under it, could never have been entirely lost; that the engagement, even from the first, though it might often be broken, must still have been partially observed; while, in proportion as popular rights acquired weight, these in particular would become, of course, more distinctly acknowledged. The rigid critics who would entirely set aside the tradition of the compact with the Conqueror are reduced, after all, to fanciful conjectures of their own, and labour in vain to account for the remarkable and immemorial prevalence, throughout this county, of customs which, at the same time they admit to be of a Saxon character, and which, in many points, form a striking contrast to the institutions that made the ground-work of the Conqueror's policy.^{/*} It could not have been by neglect that, when the kingdom was placed under a general system of military obligations, this, its most exposed and anxiously-guarded frontier, was allowed in great measure to preserve its peaceful tenures, which, so far from exacting warlike services in return for holding property, were incompatible with such a mode of requiring them. It is true that the history of Kent will supply its full share of such conditions as knight's-service, castle-guard tenure, and the like instances of a martial government. But the estates that lay under these claims were chiefly demesne lands, held immediately of the Crown or of the several castles belonging to it: and it is no less true, on the other hand, that the customs of gavel-kind, which admitted no such demands, so decidedly obtain in this county, that they constitute the acknowledged common law of Kent, and of Kent alone. They may be met with in other parts of the island; but wherever they are there alleged, the proof of the privilege must be circum-

^{/*} It should here be recollected, that the rights above referred to concerned exactly those interests which certainly underwent the greatest change from the effects of the conquest: the rules of criminal jurisprudence that had been previously in use were formally re-established by William throughout the island; but the conditions of property were very extensively and indeed almost inevitably altered; the lands, of which the wealthiest proprietors were commonly dispossessed, being thenceforth held by the usurpers on terms more familiar to their national practice, as well as better adapted to

maintain their power over the natives.

xviii

stantially entered into; whereas all lands in Kent are presumed to be subject to these usages, unless the contrary can be shown. So predominant is their authority here, that although (particularly under Henry VII. Henry VIII. and Edward VI.) many of the larger estates in the county were disgavelled (to such an extent as to be made no longer partible), yet even among these the common practice is generally suffered to proceed; the loss of registers and the lack of precedents of a contrary practice rendering it, in fact, extremely difficult to ascertain the estates in question. The particulars of the law of gavel-kind are contained in the Custumal of Kent, a record of sufficient authority to have been admitted in evidence before a jury. Copies of the Custumal, both in Latin and French (the Latin copies, it is said, differ materially from one another), exist in the public libraries. There are several among the Harleian MSS. in the British Museum.

So much for this famous law: the vindication of which, whether justly or not, crowned the character of the yeomen of Kent for the possession of a double portion of the virtue of English blood. The affair is a doubtful one: doubtful in fact, and of doubtful merit. If it were thoroughly clear of the appearance of an act of desertion, it would have been more certainly worthy of the men who had always claimed to themselves, in the day of battle, the post of honour and of danger. As it is, through the obscurity of the circumstances, and amidst the contemporary eclipse of the nation, it wears a dazzling show of heroism; whether heroism or cowardice it deserves, in fact, to be called. The liberties of England being for the time overwhelmed, this solitary successful exertion looks like, and perhaps might really have been, the noble rescue of something from the general wreck. Something was snatched from the paw of the lion in the very instant of his savage exultation, and the thought of the little one's deliverance soothed the wounded pride of the Saxon. At all events, the retention (in any degree) of the cherished privileges, considering the character of William and his immediate successors, must, so far as can be judged, have been owing to some wholesome fear or experience of the high spirit of the people, and reflects upon it proportionable honour. Who would grudge, therefore, to indulge for a moment the enthusiasm of the lofty lines in the *Polyolbion*?

"Oh, noble Kent, the praise doth unto thee belong,
"Most hard to be controul'd, impatientest of wrong;
"Who, when the Norman first with pride and horror sway'd,
"Threw'st off the servile yoke upon the English laid,
"And with a firm resolve, most bravely didst restore
"That liberty so long enjoy'd by thee before:

xix

"Not suffering foreign laws thy customs free to bind,
"Thou only show'dst thyself of ancient Saxon kind.
"Of all the English shires be thou surnam'd the free,
"And foremost ever plac'd when they shall reckon'd be."

But if we listen to the poet, he will make us dream that the stout men of Kent actually beat back the Conqueror to Normandy, and broke from off the neck of England that "servile yoke," which, however, if we had not borne in our youth, we should never have fought at Cressy or Agincourt, nor won our Magna Charta, and converted the most oppressive impositions into a solid foundation of freedom.

Among such impositions of despotism or necessity, may be mentioned one, almost limited to Kent, viz. the establishment of the Cinque Ports, which,

(however convenient to ancient tyranny, or obnoxious to the charge of modern corruption,) seems to have contributed something to the building of the English constitution, besides nursing the infancy of our naval power, and cherishing the naval spirit. We have already observed, that several harbours (probably including these,) were first made confederate by the Romans to oppose the early Saxon invaders. The Saxons afterwards adopted the same plan to frustrate the attacks of the Danes; and for these purposes of defence, under the vigorous reign of the Confessor, (which means, that of his ministers, Earl Godwin and his son Harold,) it appears, from allusions which occur in subsequent charters, that some at least of the ports in question were regularly incorporated. To the Conqueror these harbours were of peculiar importance, because they secured his access to the continent, where his presence and his troops were often necessary in his foreign dominions; and whence he might draw the most trusty forces to crush any risings of independence at home. Only Dover, Sandwich, and Romney, however, appear in the Domesday Survey, as privileged ports: it is probable that Hythe and Hastings were included in the course of William's reign; but no charter, belonging to any of the number, is now extant of so early a date. Winchelsea and Rye were afterwards added to the Five, as principals, and several small towns in Kent and the adjoining county, as members, or contributory dependents, attached to the respective leaders. Each of these ports was obliged to furnish a certain number of vessels for war or transport, when the king required them; the whole, on ordinary occasions, varying, under different charters, from fifty-seven to eighty, and their period of annual service from fifteen to forty days. If the armament were needed for a longer time, it was to be at the king's expense. The ports equipped every

xx

vessel with a crew of nineteen or twenty men and a boy; the rest (who would probably be soldiers) were to be supplied by the king. Before the establishment of the royal navy, the advantages of such a provision were very great. The institution of the Cinque Ports may be considered as an imperfect extension to the sea of that system to which, as we have seen, the land in Kent was less subject than other parts of the kingdom; as an application of some of the feudal principles, which pervaded the country, to purposes of naval warfare and to corporate towns. Whether, at the same time that the above-named obligations were imposed, privileges of correspondent consequence were given, is not quite clear: but it is plain that considerable advantages were conferred immediately; and these again were frequently enlarged by succeeding sovereigns. They chiefly consisted in an exemption from subsidies and other general aids, as well as from particular imposts, harbour-dues, &c. and in a judicature of their own, which had the sole right to try even capital offences committed within the limits of its jurisdiction, or by any person belonging to the fraternity. The Barons of the Cinque Ports also still retain the honour of bearing the canopy over the sovereign's head at his coronation. These Barons (the title which dignified, at least, if it did not ennoble, the freemen of the towns in question) certainly sat in parliament among the lords, before its distinction into two houses, and apparently before other commoners were admitted; at all events, before they were generally admitted. On the whole, therefore, it may be affirmed, that this association, however open to abuse, or in former ages subservient to royal encroachments, contributed nevertheless to give that importance to the boroughs which was most essential to balance the power both of the aristocracy and of the king, and which, gradually increasing, established at last the general freedom. When we come to the places themselves, we shall notice a few more of the ancient peculiarities of the Cinque Ports; which seem to form the last prominent point in the history of Kent that requires any introductory observations.

EPITOME
OF
THE HISTORY OF KENT.

This County comprises two principal Divisions, East and West, and is subdivided into five Lathes: Sutton at Hone, Aylesford, Scray, St. Augustine, and Shepway.

The Lathe of Sutton at Hone

CONTAINS THE HUNDREDS OF BLACKHEATH, BROMLEY AND BECKENHAM, LITTLE AND LESNES, ROOKESLEY, WESTERHAM AND EDENBRIDGE, SOMERDEN, CODSHEATH, AXTON, AND DARTFORD AND WILMINGTON.

THE HUNDRED OF BLACKHEATH.

DEPTFORD. – The first Royal Dock here is supposed to have been established in the time of Henry VIII.; since which the dock-yard has gradually become extensive, and given importance to the town.

Among the objects of interest belonging to Deptford should not be omitted the site of Sayes Court, on the ground afterwards occupied by the building which, under the old system of the poor law, was the parish workhouse of St. Nicholas. The ancient mansion, long since demolished, was, in early times, the property of the family of De Saye, and afterwards the seat of the learned John Evelyn, Esq. who lent it, in 1698, to Peter the Great, while that prince was acquiring the practice of naval architecture at the royal dock yard. During his residence here, the barbarian wantonly ruined the fine gardens which his host had taken a plea-

sure in improving, till they had become the admiration of the age. There is now nothing remaining of them. A splendid holly hedge, mentioned by Evelyn, in his "Sylva," was the latest relic of their beauties.

A Janus' head entire was found at Deptford, in 1690, in the road to New Cross, near St. Thomas's watering place. One face was that of a man bearded, with ears and horns like a ram; the other that of a young woman. It measured 18 inches in height.

In the old church of St. Nicholas are the following monuments most worthy of notice:

For the Rev. John Hughes, A.M. of Jesus College, Cambridge, obt. 1710; for a son and daughter of John Evelyn; for the family of Browne, of Sayes Court: in the north aisle, a memorial for John, eldest son of Admiral John Benbow, obt. 1762, æt. 25: in the middle aisle, one for Catherine, wife of Captain F. Wivell, obt. 1713, æt. 40: in the great chancel, for G. Shelvocke, Esq. F.R.S. Secretary to the Post Office, obt. 1760, æt. 58; for R. Boyle, eldest son of Richard, Earl of Cork, obt. 1617; for E. Fenton, Esq. obt. 1603; and for William Hawkyins, Esq. of Plymouth, obt. 1589.

The Church of St. Paul is an elegant structure, with a semicircular portico, supported by columns. The interior is very magnificent: the roof is particularly beautiful, and is sustained by a range of lofty pillars and pilasters, with Corinthian capitals in front of the galleries, and extending round both ends of the church. Of the monuments the following are most remarkable:

On the south side of the chancel, a sumptuous one for Matthew Finch, gentleman, obt. 1745, æt. 70, and his brother Benjamin: on the north side, a beautiful monument, with an urn of Sicilian marble, for Mary, wife of Richard Hanwell, gent. of Oxford, obt. 1754, æt. 25: south of the altar, a

mural monument, fixed to one of the columns, for Elizabeth, widow of Thomas Dobson, Esq. late of Kennington Place, Vauxhall, who died Jan. 10th, 1838, aged 82; another for Charles Burney, D.D. F.R.S. F.A.S. Rector of this Church and of Cliffe, in this county, Prebendary of Lincoln, and Chaplain in Ordinary to his Majesty, born Dec. 4th, 1757, and departed this life Dec. 28th, 1817; for Mary, wife of Captain Henry Garrett, R. N. who died Aug. 26th, 1812, aged 39 years: a large monument to the memory of Elizabeth, wife of Adam Bell, Esq. who departed this life Dec. 15, 1809, aged 53 years; and of Miss Elizabeth Bell, who died Oct. 3d, 1814, aged 20 years; and of Adam Bell, Esq. who died Jan. 4th, 1825, aged 73 years; and of another daughter: for Arthur Putt, Esq. who departed this life Sept. 4th, 1835, aged 86 years; also Mary his wife, who died April 9th, 1832, aged 66 years; also Arthur Henry Chamberlin, grandson of the above, who died April 10th, 1837, aged 16 months: north of the altar are, a monument for Henry Sayer, son of John Sayer and Catherine his Wife, one of the co-heiresses of the late Admiral Hughes, born Dec. 5th, 1726, died Jan. 28th, 1789; also Sarah Sayer his wife, one of the co-heiresses of the late John Collier, Esq. of Hastings, born Jan. 13th, 1739-40, died Aug. 30th, 1822; and of three of their issue: and one opposite to and corresponding with that of Mrs. Dobson's above mentioned, for Charles Augustin Ferguson, Esq. who

3

died March 21st, 1830, aged 72 years; also Mrs. Elizabeth Ferguson, relict of the above, who died Nov. 15th, 1831, aged 76 years.

This church was consecrated by Edmund, Bishop of London, June 30th, 1730.

GREENWICH is pleasantly situated on the Thames, beneath the high ground in the adjoining Royal Park, and opposite to the level tract which, being nearly surrounded by the river, is called the Isle of Dogs. This seems formerly to have been covered with water, and probably contributed to suggest the Saxon name of this place, Grenewic, which properly signifies the Green Bay.

In the beginning of the eleventh century Greenwich was, for several years together, the station of a great fleet and army of the Danes, who at that time were on the point of completing the conquest of the kingdom. Ethelred the Unready had disheartened the people by frequently exacting large sums of money to bribe his enemies to retire. The consequence was, that the country soon swarmed with plunderers eager to be rewarded for their ravages. At last, during a truce which the invaders had taken advantage of to indulge the most brutal licentiousness, the English were tempted to fall upon them with one consent, and a general massacre took place amidst the solemnity of a common festival. The following year was signalized by the invasion and ample vengeance of Sweyn, the King of Denmark, in person; whom Ethelred's usual method of opposing an assailant had scarcely, at length, induced to depart, when (in the year 1011) a new armament ascended the Thames, under Turkill, one of the Danish Jarls. The fleet cast anchor by the Isle of Dogs, and their camp was fixed on the elevated plain between Greenwich and Blackheath. Making this their main position, they proceeded to the attack of London and of Canterbury. The latter city was carried by storm, and Elfeg, the Archbishop, having been led hither in chains, was kept prisoner for several months, an enormous ransom being required for his freedom. But he steadily told his captors that he would be no party to the plunder of his unhappy country; that he had not the means of satisfying their demands, and would neither tax his wasted tenantry, nor solicit from clergy, prince, or people, what all alike were so little able to spare. The good bishop's resolution was immovable, and the disappointed barbarians murdered him at last in a drunken tumult. The parish church of Greenwich was afterwards dedicated to his honour, and still bears the name of St. Alphage the Martyr. Turkill subsequently made his peace with Ethelred, and consented to serve him with his Danes. Accordingly, on Sweyn's

4

return, in 1013, they assisted in the successful defence of London against their countrymen. The oppressions of Ethelred, however, had made the nation almost welcome its inveterate enemies. The Saxon monarch was driven from the throne, and took refuge among his mercenaries at Greenwich, whence he escaped into Normandy. At his recall, on the death of Sweyn, a few months afterwards (when he promised to govern better), these Danes were still in possession of the same station, and received £30,000 in requital of their services. In the following year (1015), Turkill and his troops joined Canute, the son of their old sovereign, who sailed up to this place in a fleet which, instead of exhibiting such rough barks as the Danes commonly employed, consisted of vessels gaily painted, and adorned with rows of brazen bucklers and the gilded figures of lions and dolphins; while the royal galley displayed the form of a dragon, the head projecting from the prow, and the tail coiled round the stern. There are still, or were within these few years, the traces of a great encampment, supposed to be that of the Danes, about East and West Comb (or Camp), in this vicinity; though in fact, as the same spot has been repeatedly occupied by armed bodies on occasions of insurrection or civil war, these remains may belong to later periods. Near the centre of the park, above the declivity, there is a cluster of harrows, now a good deal defaced, which are conjectured to mark the Danish burial-ground. Several of them were opened about the end of the last century, and found to contain human bones, along with knives, weapons of war, &c.

The earliest notice of a Royal Residence at Greenwich occurs in the annals of Edward I. But its history is obscure till Henry VI. granted the manor to his uncle, Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester, surnamed the Good; who built here a sumptuous palace, and the tower, which long continued to be known by his name, on the site of the present observatory. He called the demesne his Manor of Pleasaunce; a title which suited it so well, that the place retained it as long as a prince occupied the palace. Edward IV. and Henry VII. were often resident here; and Henry VIII., who was a native of Greenwich, added greatly to its magnificence, while he suffered the neighbouring seat of his ancestors at Eltham to fall into neglect, from which it never recovered. At Greenwich he solemnized his marriage with Catharine of Arragon, and afterwards with Anne of Cleves; and Stow recounts how often he celebrated here, "in a most princely manner," the feasts of Christmas and May-day. In the park were held repeated tournaments; and, on one of these occasions, the king, supported by three knights, challenged all comers. Mary and Elizabeth were both of them born at

5

Greenwich; which witnessed, during the reign of the latter, a frequent renewal of the same chivalrous pageantry that had graced it in the time of her father. This palace was her favourite summer residence, and she is said to have particularly enjoyed the walks and prospects in the park. James I. surrounded this park with a brick wall, and granted part of the manor to his queen, Anne of Denmark, who commenced there the building of the House of Delight, just opposite the palace. This house was completed, and very superbly furnished, by the queen of Charles I., Henrietta Maria, whose name appears upon its front. Inigo Jones was the architect, and the painted ceilings were the work of Gentileschi; one of these is still remaining, and, though in a damaged condition, is yet much admired. On the death of Charles, the parliament determined to offer the palace for sale, but at last assigned it to the use of the Protector and his successors. Charles II. took down the whole with the purpose of re-building it on a grander scale, and at the same time engaged Le Notre to lay out the grounds in the park. This artist was the favourite of Louis XIV., and the contriver of the magnificent gardens of Versailles and Fontaine-bleau. One wing of the new palace was finished at an expense of £36,000 in the course of Charles's

reign, who occasionally made it his residence; but the work was carried no further till after the revolution.

Early in the reign of William and Mary, a design was formed of establishing some place of reception for disabled and superannuated seamen. The idea is said to have been first suggested by the queen, who died the year after the commencement of the undertaking. To carry the royal purpose into effect, Sir Christopher Wren proposed the completion of the palace at Greenwich; and his recommendation being approved, a commission of superintendence was appointed, and the king allotted from the privy purse £2000 per annum towards the expenses of the building and of the future establishment. The public were invited, but with little success, to contribute; the commissioners themselves subscribed £8000, but hardly any one else subscribed at all. The work was commenced in 1696, but its advancement appears to have been very slow; for though the building already erected was large enough to receive 400 persons, it was not prepared, till 1705, for the accommodation of so many as 40. The greater part of the century had elapsed before the hospital was complete. During this period the complement of pensioners was gradually increased, and at present between 2000 and 3000 are maintained within the walls.

The benefits of this institution were, in the first instance, confined to seamen of the royal navy, whether foreigners (who had served for two years) or natives.

6

But, in 1712, a permanent contribution to its support, of sixpence a month, being levied by act of parliament on the wages of all sailors alike, it was provided, in return, that merchant-seamen should be also admissible, if wounded in any encounter with the public enemy. This tax on the wages of seamen has been recently taken off; the other endowments of the hospital being now amply sufficient for every purpose of its foundation. Its income is derived from a variety of grants, confiscations, fines, captured prizes, and public and private benefactions; many of which are perpetual, and must be of increasing value. In particular it possesses a very large property in the forfeited estates of the Earl of Derwentwater, who was attainted for his share in the rebellion of 1715. These estates, lying mostly in Cumberland and Durham, include several productive mines, which, in some years, have yielded upwards of £170,000. An infirmary was added to the hospital in 1763, which is calculated to contain more than 250 patients. At the same time the funds became equal to the relief of a greater number of seamen than it is possible to lodge within the buildings. The out-pensioners, a few years ago, numbered about 7000, who receive each £7 per annum. The in-pensioners, in addition to their clothing and support, have a small weekly sum for pocket money, with a due allowance of tobacco. From 100 to 150 widows of seamen are likewise provided for as nurses, and have £8 per annum in wages; they must be under 45 years of age at the time of admission. There are two cemeteries belonging to the hospital; one of them the gift of Prince George of Denmark. About 200 burials take place annually.

The pensioners mess together in one or two great dining halls; taking it in turn (some dozen or a score of them at once) to bring in a procession of smoking dishes from the kitchens at each end. The spectator can hardly fail to enjoy their good cheer – to be regaled with the sight of this numerous company of our shattered tars partaking daily of so much excellent beef and mutton. All the healthy wards are open, without application, to the free inspection of the public; who may view the whole economy of the hospital, from the kitchen to the dormitories. Several of these command noble prospects, and all of them are spacious and well-aired rooms, divided along both sides into ranges of open cells, each exhibiting a comfortable berth. A Bible and two or three good books may be generally observed on a shelf or small table by every bed; and a few of the more meditative inmates are here and there in quiet nooks and window-seats engaged in reading to themselves. If afterwards the visitor wanders out into the park, he will

probably fall in again with a little group of his blue-coated old friends on One-tree-hill, or beside the observatory, who, if they have the encouragement of a

7

glance, may possibly invite him to look through a telescope or a coloured glass, or to examine some rare curiosity, reptile or bright insect, from foreign parts. But if he does not choose to favour such things with a moment's attention, (which might perhaps not be expected to be quite gratuitous,) there will yet be no need to assume a chilling countenance; he will not find himself subjected to the slightest importunity. This decorous reserve seems the effect, not merely of the check imposed by actual authority, but in great part of a certain sense of fitness and dignity which so honourable a retreat may well be supposed to inspire.

All the officers of the hospital must belong to the naval profession. The Governor and the Treasurer are appointed by the Crown; the subordinate functionaries by the Lord High Admiral, (or the committee in whom that office may be vested.) A general superintendence of its affairs is exercised, at frequent intervals, by a court of seven commissioners, which became a body corporate in 1775, and always includes among its members some of the highest ministers of state, particularly the Lord Admiral and the Lord Treasurer.

Greenwich Hospital (or "College," as the old pensioners prefer to call it) is a handsome Grecian edifice, consisting of four separate buildings, which confine two sides of a spacious court, the other two remaining open towards the river and the park. These buildings are distinguished by the names of the several sovereigns under whose patronage they were principally erected. King Charles' and Queen Anne's Buildings are opposite to each other, and nearly abut upon the Thames; only leaving space enough for a stone terrace between their gable walls and the water's edge. Next to these stand the piles called King William's and Queen Mary's, which are also on opposite sides, and have each a long colonnade of Doric pillars, with an entablature, in front. In the centre of the intervening square is a statue, by Rysbrache, of George II., which was formed out of a single block of marble taken from the French by Sir George Rooke. The statue was presented to the hospital by Sir George Jennings, one of the governors. The display of architecture from about this point has been justly admired: to the right and left are the domes and colonnades of the Chapel and the Great Hall; facing the spectator, and only separated from the hospital by the high road and a lawn, is the building of Henrietta Maria, which still deserves, for its elegance, to be called the House of Delight; and just above it appears the woody eminence crowned by the Royal Observatory in the park.

King Charles's building contains the Governor's apartments and the Council-room. The latter is appropriately adorned with pictures of naval exploits and

8

naval heroes, and with portraits of the royal founders and several benefactors of the place. Here are portraits of William and Mary, by Kneller, and one, by Lely, of Edward, the first Earl of Sandwich; who, at the expense of his life, when the British fleet was overpowered at Solbay by the Dutch, secured the retreat of the former, by braving with his single ship the whole force of the enemy, and desperately continuing the struggle after the vessel was in flames, till she blew up, and all on board perished. In this apartment, among kings and queens and other illustrious persons, appears the venerable head of John Worley, a fine old man, who was the first pensioner received into the hospital. Queen Mary's building comprises the chapel, which having been burnt down in 1779, was rebuilt in a style of much elegance by "Athenian Stuart." The decorations of the chapel are in unison with the naval character of the whole place: the subject of the altar-piece, a picture by West, of St. Paul's deliverance from shipwreck,

borrowed additional interest from its situation. In King William's range are the Great Hall and Vestibule, both of which were designed and executed by Sir Christopher Wren, who gave his gratuitous services to advance the building of the hospital. Their interior is covered with pompous figures, the product of Sir James Thornhill's panegyric pencil. In the ceiling are enthroned King William and Queen Mary, surrounded by the Cardinal Virtues; the King trampling on the giant of Tyranny, represented in the costume of the Grand Monarque, the Queen offering the symbols of peace and liberty to Europe, and receiving the homage of the nations in return: and over all, to crown this sublime burlesque, Apollo in his chariot appears riding through the signs of the zodiac, and Flamsteed and Tycho Brahe are somewhere among the morning stars. The ceiling of the Upper Hall is devoted to the honour of Queen Anne and Prince George of Denmark; and the sides display the landing of the Prince of Orange at Harwich, and of George I. at Greenwich. On the 5th of January, 1806, the remains of Lord Nelson were landed at Greenwich, and lay in state in the Painted Hall during that and the two following days: on each of which it is computed that no less than 30,000 persons were admitted to view the body. The car on which it was carried to St. Paul's Cathedral was afterwards presented to the hospital, and continued to be exhibited in this saloon till its rotten texture required its removal. In connection with the obsequies of Nelson may be mentioned the humbler honours to the memory of one of his brave fellows, a pensioner of this place, who has been rewarded with an epitaph in the adjoining burial ground; which records that, having been wounded at the battle of Trafalgar, and hearing the shouts of victory, he joined in the

9

cheer, and sang, Rule Britannia, as heartily as the chorus of his shipmates, while the surgeon was amputating his leg.

The House of Delight, in the park, when it ceased to be the retirement of royalty, became the Governor's house, and afterwards the Ranger's lodge. It has latterly been assigned to the Royal Naval Asylum for the children of indigent seamen, especially orphans. Since this appropriation, wings and corridors have been added to the original building. The asylum was intended to maintain and educate 1000 boys and girls, but the actual number is by no means so large. On leaving school they are placed out in suitable employments. The boys, unless disposed for a sea-faring life, are mostly instructed in rope-making. This institution was previously seated at Paddington. It became a royal foundation on the very day of the Battle of Trafalgar, and in the following year was removed by Act of Parliament to Greenwich. It is worthy of remark, that what first drew public attention to the importance of such a charity, and led the way to its adoption, was the exposure, in 1798, of a fictitious society, professing to have the same object, under the name of the British Endeavour; which was merely a pretext that enabled an artful individual to cheat benevolent persons of their money. The discovery of the fraud, and the subsequent establishment of what it so happily gave rise to, were in a great degree owing to the activity of the Duke of Sussex and of Dr. Clarke, afterwards the Auditor of the institution. Besides the Naval Asylum, there has long been annexed to the hospital, in conformity with the design of the founders, a school for the sons of seamen, which maintains about 200 boys, who are afterwards apprenticed for seven years to the sea service. This school is entirely supported from the small sums paid by visitors for viewing the Painted Hall. It is now incorporated with the Asylum.

The Royal Observatory stands upon a steep knoll, overlooking the town and hospital. The good Duke Humphrey, who was unconsciously laying its foundations when he built his famous tower, was in his day a great patron of science, and, by the testimony of Leland, no inconsiderable astronomer. This tower has served rather a curious variety of uses. In the reigns of Henry VII. and his

son it was sometimes a place of dignified confinement, sometimes the abode of the younger children of the king. It often offered an easy retreat to the sovereign from the cares of government and the oppressive pomp of the neighbouring palace. Occasionally some beauty of the court was lodged in its apartments. Henry VIII. was accustomed to meet here "a fayre ladye whom he loved." Elizabeth made it the prison of her favourite, the Earl of Leicester,

10

when his marriage with the Countess of Essex had vexed the heart of his royal mistress. In those romantic times it gained the fanciful name of Mirefleur, and was so renowned that it seems to have given "a local habitation" to the dreams of foreign chivalry; being, according to the German Hentzner, the very tower that is celebrated in *Amadis de Gaul*; and the commentator on Camden observes, that it was "famous in Spanish fables." James I. may be said to have again made it the seat of the muses, by granting it to Henry Howard, Earl of Northampton, the son of the accomplished Earl of Surrey, and himself distinguished for his learning, but infamous, it must be added, for his more than suspected share in the murder of Sir Thomas Overbury. This Earl much enlarged and adorned the building, and made it his principal residence. During the civil wars it was a military fortress. It was then called Greenwich Castle, and considered of consequence enough to be among the first places which the Parliament took measures to secure. But it still continued to be best known by the name of its old founder, till, in the reign of Charles II. Humphrey's Tower was superseded by Flamsteed House.

A Frenchman of the name of St. Pierre had claimed the notice of the British court for some alleged discoveries in the longitude; and Flamsteed, being commissioned to examine his pretensions, gave him certain data for calculation, of which St. Pierre found he could make no use; and Flamsteed himself admitted that, though the data were correct, in fact nothing definite could be inferred from them, for want of more accurate tables of the moon and of the polar distances of the stars. On hearing this, the king declared that his mariners should be no longer in jeopardy for want of any attainable knowledge, and conceived the project of founding an Observatory. The tower in the park, on the recommendation of Sir Christopher Wren, (who had afterwards the merit of suggesting the site of the adjacent hospital,) was taken down and rebuilt in a manner suitable to this new design. Flamsteed was appointed the first Astronomer Royal, and, in September, 1676, he began his observations. These proved highly valuable, though the instruments then in use were very defective, and for many years he had not the advantage of a mural quadrant. For an imperfect contrivance of this kind he was at last indebted chiefly to his own ingenuity. During the period of his holding the office, he calculated the polar distances, variations, &c. of more than 3000 of the fixed stars. The observatory has scarcely yet lost its old and happy appellation of Flamsteed House, which was probably first bestowed on it by the sea-faring people in the neighbourhood, to whom the place was an important and a familiar object. Such a title

11

appears a pleasing indication of a fame more truly popular than philosophers have often the good fortune to win. On Flamsteed's death, in 1719, the office was conferred on Dr. Halley, who had long been in high reputation, both for mathematical ability and for the zeal with which he sought to extend the limits of practical science. At an earlier period of his life he had procured himself to be made captain of a vessel by King William, that he might ascertain by experiment the variations of the compass, particularly in the remote parts of the Atlantic, which he traversed repeatedly from north to south as far as the ice would permit him. On his first voyage his crew, not partaking of their commander's ardour, mutinied, and

obliged him to return without satisfying his mind on the subject of his inquiries. He took a second voyage in the same capacity, and published the result under the title of "A Chart of the Variations of the Compass in all those Seas where English Navigators are acquainted." When he had afterwards become Royal Astronomer, Queen Caroline, paying him a visit at the observatory, remarked that he ought to be considered as belonging to the naval service, and obtained for him a captain's half-pay, in addition to his official salary. He died at a very advanced age, in 1741, and was succeeded, as he had earnestly desired to be, by his friend Dr. Bradley. This astronomer representing that the observatory was deficient in mathematical instruments, George II. gave him £1000 to purchase a complete apparatus; by which means it was furnished with the best of every kind from the hands of first-rate artists. Dr. Bradley was an astronomer of great merit, and made some remarkable discoveries in science, (particularly of the aberration of the fixed stars,) though his diffidence and rigorous accuracy precluded his giving to the world so much as was expected from him; and for several years after his death, (in 1762,) his observations were withheld from the public, in consequence of a dispute between his heirs and the government respecting the right to the possession of the MSS. They were at last given up by the family, to whom, however, the profits of their publication were allowed. For the two last years of his life, probably from too intense application to his astronomical engagements. Dr. Bradley was deplorably oppressed with the dread of losing his mental faculties, which, notwithstanding, he retained to the last. His successor, Mr. Bliss, held the office only two or three years. It was bestowed, in 1765, on Dr. Neville Maskelyne, whose appointment gave very warm and universal satisfaction. Dr. Maskelyne had displayed the best qualifications for the duties of an observator, having accomplished several scientific voyages, and devoted his attention with eminent success to the correction of the lunar tables and ascertaining the places of the stars, with a view to a nearer

12

determination of the longitude, the express purpose for which the observatory was founded. To the end of his long career he distinguished himself, perhaps even beyond his illustrious predecessors in the same path. In 1767 he commenced his "Nautical Almanack," and continued it from that time in annual volumes. This work, and its supplement, entitled, "Tables requisite to be used with the Nautical Almanack to find the Latitude and Longitude at Sea," are well known and highly esteemed, both in this country and abroad. The supplement especially is familiar to navigators by the name of The Requisite Tables. The French mathematician, Lalande, pronounces this the most perfect Ephemeris that has been given to the world; and declares that though all the other records of astronomy were lost, the works of Dr. Maskelyne would afford sufficient materials to re-construct the science. His zeal did much to stimulate the public mind on subjects connected with philosophical inquiry: private observatories became common, national rewards were offered for discoveries in the longitude, and numerous were the claims, (many of them very visionary and troublesome,) which were officially referred to the judgment of the Royal Astronomer. The disappointment of pretenders sometimes raised a clamour about him, but the justness of his decisions has been long ago admitted on all hands. In 1774 the observations made at the Royal Observatory were first ordered by the king to be regularly published, under the superintendence of the Royal Society; which has since continued to issue them yearly on the 30th of November, the anniversary of the Society's foundation. Dr. Maskelyne's death occurred in 1811,/* when he was succeeded by Mr. Pond; who, though he may not be considered equal to his more celebrated predecessor, produced an extraordinary number of observations, which prove him to have been a very laborious and able astronomer. At his death, in 1836, the appointment was given to its present possessor, Professor Airy, of Cambridge.

The views from the high ground on which the observatory stands are varied and interesting. London spreads far and wide upon the left, above the woody scenery of the park; the town of Greenwich, with its stately hospital, is just beneath the eye; and the Thames, forming a large peninsula behind the town, stretches away through the fertile distance to the right. The grand objects that have been added to the natural beauty of the scene, are, for effect at least on the spectator's mind, very happily associated. An observatory to which every

/* There is a good memoir of Dr. Maskeline in Rees' Cyclopædia, from which most of the above particulars have been taken.

13

navigator looks for important direction, seems well placed, on a commanding elevation, in the neighbourhood of men who have long been familiar with all the dangers of the ocean. And surely the hospital that forms the noble retreat of their old age could not have been more appropriately situated than where the river, lined with dock-yards and crowded with shipping, still supplies a thousand spectacles to remind the veterans of their past adventures, and of the naval greatness of the country whose battles they have fought. It pleases the fancy also to reflect that this hospital was once a palace, the chosen resort of some of our most renowned princes, the birth-place of the queen whose fortune first pointed out to England the dominion of the seas; that here she loved to hold her brilliant and festive court; and here a new palace was rising, and still more proudly than before, when it was given up, at the great epoch of British freedom, to make a fit dwelling-place for the wounded and the worn out in the service of the nation; and for the sake of these decrepid men, the palace of Elizabeth was re-established in all its present splendour. Just reason seems here to be given for loyal enthusiasm, not only within those walls, but wherever an English heart is to be found.

BLACKHEATH. – This spacious plain, in earlier times, was the scene of many important events and imposing spectacles: it has been occupied by foreign invaders, and, repeatedly, by tumultuous assemblages during seasons of civil disturbance: and, on the other hand, it has often been ennobled by royal pageantry, and enlivened by joyous sports.

The memorable encampment of the Danes here has been already noticed in the account of Greenwich. The followers of Wat Tyler, likewise, and afterwards of Jack Cade, made this their place of rendezvous, while threatening the metropolis: and here Henry VII., in 1497, defeated the Cornish insurgents under Lord Audley and others. On Blackheath Henry IV. A.D. 1400, with great magnificence, received Manuel Palæogus, Emperor of Constantinople, who had come for assistance against Bajazet, Emperor of the Turks. Here also Henry V. after the battle of Agincourt, in November, 1415; Henry VI. after his coronation in Paris, Feb. 1431; Edward IV. on his return from France, whither he had been to conclude a treaty of peace with Louis in 1474; and Charles II. on his restoration, were met with great pomp by the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Citizens of London, together with thousands of the populace: and here, in 1540, was enacted a most splendid pageant, on the occasion of Henry VIII. meeting Anne of Cleves on Blackheath, of which Hall,

14

in his "Chronicles," gives a particular account. In later days it has been the arena of numerous reviews, exhibitions, and pastimes.

In 1710, near the junction of the roads to Dover and Lee, there were dug up on the heath several Roman urns, among which were two made of a fine red clay, one spherical, the other cylindrical. The former contained ashes, was

6ft. 3in. in circumference, and about the mouth of it were scratched the words, "Marcvs Avrelivs IIII." The latter contained a great quantity of ashes also, together with a few coins, on one of which, was indistinctly legible "Clau-divs," and on another "Galienvs."

The Ranger's Lodge, in the Parish of Greenwich, the residence of her Royal Highness the Princess Sophia Matilda of Gloucester, is situated on the south-west side of Greenwich Park. This mansion some few years ago was called Chesterfield House; Philip, Earl of Chesterfield, having purchased, in 1753, the assignment of the ground adjoining, and greatly enlarged and improved the old house, where he occasionally resided. In 1807 the lease was purchased by her Serene Highness the Duchess Dowager of Brunswick; and on her decease it was bought by the Crown, and appropriated to the Ranger of the park.

West Combe, in the Parish of Greenwich, the residence of Thomas Brockelbank, Esq. is situate east from Greenwich, at a distance of about three-quarters of a mile.

The manor of West Combe in the reign of Edward II. was possessed by the wealthy family of De Badlesmere; but Bartholomew, Lord Badlesmere, being attainted and executed for treason, it escheated to the crown. Richard II. granted it to Sir Robert Belknap, the judge, who also being attainted in the 10th year of that reign, it again became forfeited to the crown, and was immediately given in fee by the same king to his butler, Robert Ballard, Esq. In the 14th year of Henry VII. Anne Lady Audley held West Combe of the Countess of Richmond, whose heir was William Ballard. In the beginning of Philip and Mary, Nicholas Ballard alienated this estate to John Lambarde, Esq. of London, draper and alderman, and to him succeeded his son, William Lambarde, Esq. the eminent antiquary, and author of the "Perambulation of Kent," whose son, Sir Multon Lambarde, inherited it in 1601, and was followed in 1634 by his son Thomas Lambarde, Esq. Thomas Lambarde, being a zealous royalist, was obliged to compound for his estates, which had been sequestered, at a very high rate; and to do so was necessitated to alienate this property to Hugh Forth, who soon passed it away to Theophilus, afterwards Sir Theophilus Biddulph, of London. His son, Sir Michael Biddulph, Bart. next succeeded to it, whose heirs, soon after his death, which happened in 1718, alienated it to Sir Gregory Page, Bart. and he dying in 1775, was followed here by his nephew, Sir Gregory Turner, Bart. of Ambrosden, in Oxfordshire, who thereupon assumed the name of Page. The present mansion was built by Captain Galfridus Walpole, (younger brother of Sir Robert,) who had a long lease of the estate from Sir Gregory Page. This lease came afterwards into the hands of Charles Duke of Bolton, who resided here several years with the celebrated Lavinia Fenton.

West Combe is distant from London about six miles.

15

Woodlands, in the Parish of Greenwich, the elegant seat of John Angerstein, Esq. was erected in 1772 by John Julius Angerstein, Esq. father of the present proprietor. It contains some good paintings, among which may be noticed the celebrated picture, by Sir Joshua Reynolds, of Garrick between Tragedy and Comedy; Venus, and a Boy piping, by the same master; a Landscape, by Cuyp; and, a Portrait of Rubens, by Vandyck. The grounds are remarkably pleasant, and the prospects good. The botanic garden is said to contain one of the most extensive collections of rare plants and heaths in the kingdom.

Woodlands is distant from Greenwich, eastward, about a mile, and from London Bridge about six miles.

East Combe, in the Parish of Greenwich, the seat of the Countess of Buckinghamshire, is situated about half a mile west from Charlton, on the north side of the London road. It is a very delightful residence, commanding a fine prospect over the Thames, with distant views of the surrounding country.

Combe, alias East or Nether Combe, was formerly an appendage to the manor of Lewisham, and

was given with that to the Abbey of St. Peter at Ghent, which possessed it till the suppression of the alien priories by Henry V. in his second year. This monarch, the year following, settled it on his newly founded Priory of Shene, part of whose possessions it continued till exchanged by the Prior with Henry VIII. for other premises. At the restoration of Charles II., this estate was possessed under a lease by James Fortree, (the fee of it being in the crown,) who in 1665 assigned his term to James Hayes, Esq. and from his heirs it came into possession of Ralph Sanderson, Esq.: it afterwards descended to Sir William Sanderson, Bart., who was succeeded by his son of the same name, whose widow enjoyed it till her death in 1780, when it came to the Right Honourable Frederick Montague, as heir at law, and he transferred it to John Hook Campbell, Esq.

The Church of St. Mary, Greenwich, is a neat edifice in the Grecian style, after a design of George Bassevi, Esq. It is built of Suffolk white brick, with stone facings, and a square tower, and portico of Bath stone. The interior is particularly chaste and elegant; and over the inscribed tablets above the altar is a beautiful painting by Richter, representing our Saviour giving sight to the Blind, which was presented by the British Institution. The first stone of this building was laid by her Royal Highness the Princess Sophia Matilda, June 17th, 1823; and it was consecrated by the Right Reverend Edward Lord Bishop of Oxford, June 25th, 1825.

The Church of St. Alphege, Greenwich, is a very fine structure, of Roman

16

architecture, from a design of Mr. John James. It was completed in the year 1718, and consecrated September 10th of the same year, by Bishop Atterbury. Of the numerous monuments in the interior, the following appear most to deserve notice.

On the north wall, one for the Rev. Sir Henry Bate Dudley, Bart. late Prebendary of Ely College, and Rector of Willingham, in Cambridgeshire, &c. &c. who died at Cheltenham, Feb. 1st, 1823: near to which is one for Martha Bate, wife of Edward Bate, Esq. whose remains are deposited in the Vicar's Vault; she died 30th August, 1823, aged 58 years: next to this is one for Anne Dewell Masters, twin daughter of Bonham Smalman, Esq. of Bridgnorth, and widow of William Masters, Esq. of this parish, who died Jan. 29th, 1833; and for William Masters, Esq. above-named, who departed this life Feb. 20th, 1803, aged 57 years; also, in the same vault, Anne, posthumous and only daughter of Bonham Caldwell, of Bewdley, widow first of Bonham Smalman; she died Jan. 30th, 1803, aged 84 years; and of Edward Smalman, third son of Bonham and Anne Smalman, who died Nov. 26th, 1792, aged 38 years. At the west end of the church, south of the organ, a mural monument for Captain John William Wood, of Croom's Hill, in this parish, who departed this life 28th May, 1814, aged 61 years; also Arabella, relict of the above, who died 6th Feb. 1836, in the 77th year of her age: another for Captain Brown Wood, of 10th Regiment of Bengal Native Infantry, who died at Barrackpore, August 29th, 1835, aged 36 years. On the south wall are the following mural monuments, beginning from the west end: first, a handsome one for Mrs. Amelia Vansittart, daughter of Nicholas Morse, Esq. formerly Governor of Madras, and widow of Henry Vansittart, Esq. formerly Governor of Bengal; she died August 2d, 1819, aged 82 years; her remains are deposited in the Vicar's Vault: also of her daughter, Sophia Vansittart, who died at the house of her brother, the Right Honourable Lord Bexley, 18th May, 1836, in the 68th year of her age: another for George Bridges, Colonel of the Royal Engineers, and a Major General in the army, who died June 1st, 1825, in the 67th year of his age; also for Anne his wife, who died 29th October, 1832, aged 58 years: next to this a very handsome one for John Julius Angerstein, Esq. late of Woodlands, in this parish, who died 23d January, 1823, aged 91 years; and of his two wives, Anne, daughter and heiress of Henry Muilman, and widow of Charles Crockatt, Esq. who died June 19th, 1783, aged 50 years; and Eliza, daughter of Rev. Joseph Payne, of Buckland Newton, and widow of Thomas Lucas, Esq. of Lee, who died 8th March, 1800, in her 51st year; also of Henry Frederick Angerstein and George Angerstein, sons of John Angerstein, Esq. of Woodlands, and grandsons of John Julius Angerstein, Esq. and Anne his wife; the first of whom was unfortunately drowned at Eton, 26th March, 1821, in the 16th year of his age; and the latter died 15th April, 1808, aged only three months: also one in memory of Tristram Maries Madox, Esq. of this parish, who departed this life

Sept. 29th, 1801, in the 47th year of his age; also Sarah his wife, who departed this life 28th Oct. 1828, aged 75 years; also Tristram Madox, who died 11th May, 1777, aged only nine months; and Walter Taylor Madox, who died July 2d, 1780, aged three years; and Tristram Maries Madox, who died March 15th, 1789, aged two years; and Henry Wall Madox, who died April 13th, 1790, in the 6th year of his age; sons of the above Tristram Maries Madox and Sarah his wife: next to this is one for Thomas Blair, Esq. of Walton Grove, in the County of Surrey, who died 22d Nov. 1828, in the 77th year of his age; and in the same vault, Harriet Anne Blair, his daughter, who died July 8th, 1828, in the 22d year of her age: also George Mackenzie Blair, who died July 6th, 1830, aged 29 years. At the east end, a monument for Jane Allen, of Croom's Hill, who died March 18th, 1807, aged 91

17

years: and for Sarah Smith, of Lee, who departed this life 22d Aug. 1813, aged 73 years; also for Mary Smith, daughter of the above, who died 13th March, 1816, aged 55 years: another for Harriet Arabella, wife of Lieutenant Colonel William Lloyd, R.A. and fourth daughter of the late Robert Campbell, Esq. of this place, who died at Bermuda, July 26th, 1830, aged 52 years; also the above-named Lieutenant Colonel William Lloyd, R.A. who died also at Bermuda, May 26th, 1831, aged 52 years. Here also is interred, (but if there be any monument, it must be so obscure as to be very easily overlooked,) the illustrious General Wolfe: he was buried in this church, near his father, who, as well as the General himself, was for some years resident at Blackheath.

On the north wall there is a painting representing a monumental effigy of Queen Elizabeth beneath a canopy, with the following distich:

"Olim parva fuit Grenovicum villa, sed ortu
Virginis Augusta clarior urbe micat."

This painting, it is said, was removed from the ceiling of the choir in the old church.

Charlton House, in the Parish of Charlton, the seat of Sir Thomas Maryon Wilson, Bart. a magistrate and Deputy Lieutenant of the county, is situated on the south side of Charlton, in a small but beautiful park, which is well stocked with deer, and surrounded by a high substantial brick wall. This ancient mansion is a fine specimen of decorative architecture of the time of James I. It has a noble hall, most splendidly embellished: the picture gallery is adorned with some of the best specimens of the old masters; and there are various other attractions which we regret we had not the opportunity of noticing in detail.

Charlton, in the time of Edward the Confessor, was considered two manors. In the 6th year of William Rufus, Robert Bloett, Bishop of Lincoln, into whose possession it had come, granted the manor of Charlton to the Monastery of St. Saviour, Bermondsey, in which it remained till surrendered to Henry VIII. in the 29th year of his reign. By a grant of James I. it was subsequently possessed by Sir Adam Newton, Bart. who built here a noble gothic mansion. At his death, in 1629, Sir Henry Newton, Bart. his son, inherited this estate, who, being a firm royalist, and having suffered much by sequestration, was obliged to dispose of this property by sale to Sir William Ducie, Bart. of Tortworth, in Gloucestershire. He died s. p. in 1697, and his executors sold it to Sir William Langhorn, Bart. whose nephew, Sir John Conyers, Bart. succeeded him in 1714. His grandson, Sir John Conyers, Bart. dying without male issue, the manor devolved by entail first on William Langhorn Games, and afterwards on the Rev. John Maryon, of Essex, who devised it to his sister Margaretta Maria, and at her death it became vested in her daughter Margaretta Elizabeth, married to Sir Thomas Spencer Wilson, Bart. of East Bourne, in Sussex, whose descendant is the present proprietor.

There is a curious circumstance mentioned by Dr. Plot, of a marble chimney-piece in the drawing-room of this house; which, he says, was so highly polished,

18

that Lord Downe saw reflected in it a robbery committed on Shooter's Hill, and immediately sending out his servants, apprehended the thieves.

Charlton House is distant from London Bridge about seven miles.

Morden College was founded by Sir John Morden, of Wricklesmarsh; which latter was a fine mansion, also in the Parish of Charlton, though now there is no house standing, and the grounds are disparked. Sir John was a Turkey merchant, and founded his college as a refuge for honest decayed merchants. The trustees, in number seven, are all to be Turkey merchants; or, in failure of the Turkey Company, members of the East India Company. The treasurer, chaplain, and pensioners are obliged to reside in the college, and no pensioner can be admitted who is not upwards of 50 years of age. Sir John Morden died in 1708. The situation of Morden College is near the most easterly point of Blackheath; it is distant from London about six miles.

Brooklands, in the Parish of Charlton, the seat of George Smith, Esq. is situated in Blackheath Park, formerly a part of the demesne of Sir Gregory Page Turner. It was erected in the year 1825, in the Italian style, and the grounds were laid out by William Sawrey Gilpin, Esq. The interior is decorated with some paintings. The grounds are limited, but the scenery around is very beautiful.

The Hall, a little to the westward of the above, the residence of Richard Day Squire, Esq. is on the same estate, and possesses great advantages of situation.

The New Church in Blackheath Park was built and endowed at the sole expense of John Cator, Esq. for his tenantry, at a cost of £10,000.

In Charlton Church are the following monuments:

On the south of the altar, a superb monument to the memory of the Honourable Brigadier Michael Richards, Surveyor General of the Ordnance, who died 1721, aged 48, with his figure in armour, in full proportion, and adorned with trophies. In the north aisle, a monument, with a bust, for Elizabeth, wife of Robert Dingley, Esq. of London, obt. 1759, æt. 50: for Lady Catherine, wife of Sir Adam Newton, Bart. obt. 1629: a noble one for Grace, Viscountess Ardmagh, second daughter of John Earl of Rutland, who married secondly Sir William Langhorn, Bart. obt. 1700, æt. 60: one for Sir Thomas Spencer Wilson, Bart. General of his Majesty's Forces, and Colonel of the 60th Regiment of Foot, father of Sir Thomas Maryon Wilson, Bart.; he died Aug. 29th, 1798, in his 73d year; on the right of the last, one for Dame Jane Wilson, his wife, who died Aug. 17th, 1818, aged 71 years; at the end of the aisle, a handsome mural monument for Sir Thomas Maryon Wilson, Bart. late lord of the manor, and seventh baronet in succession from Sir William Wilson, of East Bourne, in Sussex, (in whom the title was created, March 4th, 1660); he died July 22d, 1821, in the 48th year of his age; and to the memory of Caroline, his second daughter, who died Sept. 7th, in the same

19

year, aged 16 years; also to the memory of Spencer Maryon Wilson, Esq. his third son, who died Aug. 31st, 1826, in his 22d year: at the west end of the aisle is a well sculptured monument, with a bust, to the Right Honourable Spencer Perceval, First Lord of the Treasury and Chancellor of the Exchequer, whose days were terminated by the hand of an assassin, May 11th, A.D. 1812, in the Commons' House of Parliament, in the 50th year of his age; on the right, a brass memorial for Jane, wife of the Honourable Edward Percival, nata 23d Oct. 1791, nupta 20th March, 1821, obiit 13th Jan. 1824. In the south aisle, on the south side, is a monument for Sir William Congreve, Bart. late Lieutenant General of his Majesty's Forces, Colonel Commandant of the 8th Battalion of the Royal Regiment of Artillery, Comptroller of the Royal Laboratory, and Superintendant of the Royal Military Repository, of which most valuable institution he was the founder; he commanded the British Artillery under his Royal Highness the Duke of York, in Flanders: another for General Morrison, who died Nov. 26th, 1799, aged 69; a small one adjoining for Mary his wife, daughter of Edward Belcher, Esq. of Kingston, in Jamaica, who died June 24th, 1822, aged 86 years: a plain mural monument for Sir John Douglas, Knt. Major General in the army, Lieutenant Colonel of the Marines, and Groom of the Privy Chamber to his Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex, who died at

his house in Greenwich, March 4th, 1818, in the 52d year of his age: one for Augustus Simon Fraser, K.C.B. F.R.S. Colonel of the Royal Horse Artillery, and a Director of the Royal Laboratory, who died June 11th, 1835, aged 59 years. On the north side, between the pillars, one for William Maryon Wilson, Esq. fourth son of Sir Thomas Maryon Wilson, Bart. by Dame Eliza his wife, who died June 3d, 1808, aged 16 months; and opposite, also between the pillars, one erected by Sir Thomas M. Wilson, Bart. in memory of his mother, Dame Elizabeth, wife of Sir Thomas M. Wilson, who departed this life Nov. 5th, 1818, in the 48th year of her age: another for Major General James Miller, of the Royal Regiment of Artillery, who died March 24th, 1825, aged 67 years; and Jane his wife, daughter of the late General Bramham, of the Royal Engineers, who died 7th March, 1838, aged 85 years; likewise her daughter, Jane Sarah Cooper, who died in the same week, in her 58th year.

Charlton Church is dedicated to St. Luke.

WOOLWICH is so crowded with extensive public establishments, that the town altogether possesses a kind of grandeur peculiarly its own; and the view of the Arsenal especially produces a powerful impression of the national resources. The Royal Dock, which first gave consequence to the place, appears to have originated, (with others on different points of the river) in the reign of Henry VIII., when the Great Harry, or Harry Grace de Dieu, a vessel which mounted upwards of 170 guns, was certainly built here. The present dock-yard is five furlongs in extent, and contains two dry docks, and receptacles where seven great ships may be in building at one time.

The Royal Arsenal, which forms the principal feature in the town, comprehends, with its various appendages, an area of 160 acres. Within this ground, a recent description of it states, there are still arranged nearly 24,000 pieces of ordnance, though, since the conclusion of the war, several thousands have

20

been condemned and sold. The cannon-balls and bomb-shells amount to millions. The storehouses usually contain equipments for 10,000 horses, and a vast display of every kind of military weapon and accoutrement. In the cannon-foundry there are four air-furnaces, the largest of which will melt 325 cwt. of metal. In the process of casting, when the liquid mass is to be poured into the moulds, they are fixed in the earth before the furnaces, and made red-hot to evaporate every particle of moisture. The guns are cast solid, and afterwards bored by means of a large bit, against which they are made to revolve. Eleven or twelve days are required to complete a single cannon, which, after it has been cast, is four or five days in growing cool enough to be removed from the mould. Yet in one busy year of the war, (1809,) 180 guns were fabricated at Woolwich.

The cannon-foundry was transferred hither from Moorfields, London, in the early part of the last century, in consequence of a catastrophe which warned the Government that a business so full of danger should not be carried on among the crowds of the metropolis. The accident was attended with a remarkable circumstance, which proved instrumental to the removal of the establishment to Woolwich. A large company had assembled to view the operation of re-casting some French cannon, which, as trophies of the Duke of Marlborough's victories, had previously adorned the front of the foundry at Moorfields and the adjacent artillery-ground. Amongst the spectators was Andrew Schalch, a native of Switzerland, at that time a young man, who, having been educated for an engineer, was travelling to improve his professional knowledge. He alone, it seems, detected some slight tokens of dampness in the moulds that were about to receive the melted metal; and apprehending an explosion, he pointed out what he had observed to Colonel Armstrong, the Surveyor General of the Ordnance, who was also present. The Colonel, it is stated, having satisfied himself, by a few questions, of the sagacity of the stranger's judgment, profited by the warning, and retired with several of his friends. Probably the time, and various circum-

stances, rendered it impossible to apprise the people employed and the spectators in general of their danger, as no attempt of the kind appears to have been made. The anticipated event speedily took place, and great part of the roof of the building was blown off; several persons were dreadfully injured, and some of the workmen lost their lives. The next day an advertisement from Colonel Armstrong, in the public prints, invited "the young foreigner who had predicted the explosion" to an interview; and in the ensuing communications Schalch showed himself so intelligent in his art, that he was immediately appointed to the situation of master-founder, and commissioned to select any spot within

21

12 miles of London for the erection of a new foundry. He made choice of Woolwich; and the particular site determined on happening to be a rabbit-warren, the Warren has ever since continued to be the usual name for the arsenal. The first specimens of cannon cast under his direction were highly approved of; and the situation to which he had been preferred under such extraordinary circumstances he held for 60 years, till his death, at the age of 90, in 1776. During the whole of this period his skill and vigilance were so successfully exerted, that not a single accident occurred at any of the dangerous operations in which his duty engaged him.

The Artillery Barracks and the Royal Military Academy, (which had its rise in the last century,) were formerly each included in the arsenal, but are now independent buildings. They are both of them good structures, in the Grecian style. The Barracks are very spacious, a quarter of a mile in extent from east to west. The principal entrance is at a portal, divided into three arches by colonnades, terminating at the back of the building, and separating the whole into two quadrangular courts; around which there is accommodation for between 3000 and 4000 men, and stabling for nearly 1100 horses. Attached to the Barracks is a very numerous park of artillery. The Academy, which was built by Wyatt, is situated on Woolwich Common. It is an embattled brick edifice, with turrets at the several angles; the wings united by corridors to the quadrangle in the centre. This is the most important place of military education in the kingdom. The pupils, who must all belong to genteel families, vary in number from about 250 to 300. They are styled cadets, and the Master General of the Ordnance is always Captain of their company. On the completion of their studies they are commissioned in the artillery or engineer service. This institution has numbered among its mathematical professors the eminent names of Derham, Simpson, and Hutton; and the present Professor is Dr. Olinthus Gregory.

Woolwich Church. The interior of this edifice is nearly destitute of monuments; one, however, we noticed for Daniel Wiseman, Esq. who contributed largely towards the rebuilding of the church, obt. 1739, æt. 65. The church-yard abounds with memorials for persons of all degrees. There is one, though merely a headstone, which we cannot omit noticing: to the memory of Thomas Parker, Esq. late of Mulgrave Place, in this parish, who was barbarously murdered by an inhuman neighbour, his house plundered, and afterwards set on fire, by which his body was nearly consumed. This melancholy catastrophe happened March 3d, 1820. Mr. Parker was in the 78th year of his age.

Woolwich Church is dedicated to St. Mary.

22

Manor House, in the Parish of Lee, the property of Sir Thomas Baring, Bart. is situated about half a mile south of the church.

It is distant from London Bridge about six miles.

Lee, in the time of the Conqueror, was part of the possessions of Bishop Odo. In the reign of Edward I. we find it the residence of an ancient family named Bankwell, who, in the 31st year of the

same king, had a grant of free warren for all their lands in the parish. By a female heir of this family the manor of Lee was carried in marriage to John Arrapon, in the reign of Edward III. of whom, in the next reign, it was purchased by Sir Thomas Stury. He retained possession of it till the reign of Henry VI. when it became the property of Richard Widville, or Woodville, Esq. afterwards Earl Rivers, and Constable of England, the father of Lady Elizabeth Grey, who was raised to the throne by Edward IV. He, having been beheaded by the Lancastrians, was succeeded by his son Anthony; who also being beheaded at Pontefract Castle, in 1483, by order of the Duke of Gloucester, afterwards Richard III. and leaving no issue, was followed by his brother, Richard Woodville, who devised it to his nephew, Sir Thomas Grey, Marquis of Dorset; whose son, Thomas, granted it, in exchange, to Henry VIII. In the reign of Elizabeth this estate was held by Thomas Sackville, Earl of Dorset, whose grandson, Richard, Earl of Dorset, exchanged his interest in it with James I.; and Charles I. granted the fee simple of it to Ralph Freeman, Esq. of Aspeden, in Hertfordshire, at the yearly rent of £87. 10s. 2d. whose daughter, Joan, carried it in marriage to Sir George Sondes, of Lees Court, Sheldwich, K.C.B. afterwards Earl of Faversham.

Lee House, in the Parish of Lee, is situated a short distance south of the church. It is a handsome stately mansion of modern erection.

Lee House is distant from London Bridge about six miles.

This seat was in possession of Sir Thomas Fludyer at his death in 1769. His daughter Mary, in 1773, carried it in marriage to Trevor Charles Roper, Esq. afterwards, in 1786, Lord Dacre, the son of the Hon. George Roper, son of Lord Teynham, by his second wife, Anne Lady Dacre, the daughter of the Earl of Sussex. Lord Dacre, at his death, in 1794, s. p. bequeathed it to his widow Mary Lady Dacre.

Lee Grove, in the Parish of Lee, the seat of Thomas Brandram, Esq. a magistrate for the county, is situated on the west of Lee Church, which is, in fact, surrounded by its grounds. It is a handsome substantial house, and was formerly the property of the Misses Byfield. It is of some antiquity, but has been modernised and improved. The interior, particularly the dining-room, is spacious and elegant. There are a few paintings by eminent masters, and some fine Italian sculpture. The park, which, for this locality, is extensive, is well wooded, fertile, and ornamented with a fine sheet of water.

Lee Grove is distant from London Bridge about six miles.

Lee Church. In the interior of this structure the only monument deserving notice is that on the north of the altar for Bryan Anslye, Esq. obt. 1604, and

23

Awdrey his wife, obt. 1591, having their figures lying at full length. But the church-yard is crowded with tombs, and some of them very sumptuous, of which the most remarkable are the following:

An elegant marble monument for the Right Hon. Lord Dacre and his Lady: near it one for Sir Samuel Fludyer, Bart. his brother Sir Thomas Fludyer, Knt. and several members of their families: a superb one for Thomas Boone, Esq. of Lee Place (which house does not now exist), who died in 1748, aged 62 years; and Charles Boone, Esq. who died March 3d, 1819, aged 90 years; and Harriet, wife of Charles Boone, Esq. who died Sept. 12th, 1811, aged 69 years; also Harriet Lady Drummond, widow of Sir William Drummond, K.C. and daughter of the above Charles Boone, Esq. and Harriet his wife, who died at Naples, May 10th, 1837, aged 69 years; and for Charles, the only son of Charles Boone, Esq. and Harriet his wife, who died of a fever, Nov. 10th, 1786, in the 13th year of his age; and Elizabeth Boone, a daughter, who died April 3d, 1799, aged 28 years: a handsome monument for Anne, wife of Joseph Sladon, Esq. who died Nov. 27th, 1814, aged 34 years; and for Emma Mary, youngest daughter of the above, who died March 13th, 1829, aged 19 years: a neat one for Caroline Cruickshanks, late wife of William Cruickshanks, who departed this life June 7th, 1824, aged 20 years; also Caroline, infant of the above, who died Oct. 8th, 1824, aged four months: a plain tomb, beneath which are interred the eminent astronomers Dr. E. Halley and Mr. Pond: an elegant one for Sir John Call, Bart. of

Whiteford, in Cornwall, F.R.S. F.A.S. who died March 7th, 1801, at his mansion, Old Burlington Street, London; and his eldest son, John Battle Call, who was cut off in the bloom of life, Nov. 2d, 1794, on the eve of completing his 17th year: and a plain head-stone in memory of William Parsons the comedian, with the following epitaph:

Here Parsons lies; oft, on life's busy stage.
With nature, reader, hast thou seen him vie:
He science knew, knew manners, knew the age,
Respected knew to live, lamented die.

Lee Church is dedicated to St. Margaret.

LEWISHAM. – A little to the south of the church here a fine panoramic view presents itself. On the north the church tower, through a break in the luxuriant wood, forms the chief feature of a beautiful landscape. To the westward is seen the Priory, the elegant castellated seat of John Thackeray, Esq. with its gothic windows of stained glass, and the rich surrounding scenery, including various objects of artificial ornament. Further southward is the mansion of Henry Stainton, Esq. and beyond it, in the distance, Rosenthal, the residence of Alexander Rowland, Esq. The eastern portion of the circle is filled up by the neat residence and grounds of John Castendeick, Esq.

Camps Hill, in the Parish of Lewisham, the residence of Henry Lee, gentleman, is situated at Hither Green, a quarter of a mile south-eastward from Lewisham Church. The house, which is tastefully designed, was erected by

24

Mr. Lee, in 1824. It fronts a beautiful lawn, and commands to the westward a pleasing prospect.

Its distance from London is about six miles.

Brockley House, in the Parish of Lewisham, the seat of William Henry Jackson, Esq. is situated one mile south-west from Lewisham Church. It is a handsome house, with beautiful grounds; and though so near the metropolis, it has all the appearance of a retired country residence.

Its distance from London Bridge is about six miles.

Catford Hill House, in the Parish of Lewisham, the residence of Edward Dod Colville, Esq. one of the Registrars of the High Court of Chancery, is a small but very elegant house, situated a mile and a half south-west from Lewisham Church. The grounds have been laid out with great taste, at considerable expense. The interior of the house, which is elegantly fitted up, is decorated with paintings by Correggio, Rembrandt, Cranius, Domenichino, Claude, Teniers, Rubens, and Salvator Rosa. There is also a very large, as well as very select and curious collection of shells.

Catford Hill House is distant from London about seven miles and a half.

Perry Hill House, in the Parish of Lewisham, the residence of James Moore French, Esq. is an ancient family mansion, situated a little more than a mile north-east from Sydenham. This house stands on a gently-elevated site, commanding good prospects. The gardens and pleasure-ground display a great variety of choice trees and plants, among which are to be seen the iron-wood tree, from Brazil, the cork-wood tree, the deciduous cypress, and different species of the cedar. There is also, in the upper part of the grounds, a noble oak, measuring round the trunk 15 feet, and covering with the expansion of its limbs an area of 80 feet in diameter. The gardens are stocked with an abundant variety of fruit-trees, in the highest perfection of growth and bearing. The house has been partly modernised: its interior is decorated with some curious carvings in wood, ornamented ceilings, &c. It was the residence of the late Rev. P. A. French, A.M. son of Hugh French, Esq. M.D. of Sydenham, a magistrate, and Deputy Lieutenant of the county during a period of 40

years.

Perry Hill House is distant from London, via Lewisham, about eight miles.

Dartmouth Lodge, in the Parish of Lewisham, the residence of George Martin Bird, Esq. a Commissioner of Taxes, is situated about three quarters of a mile northward from Sydenham, about two miles south-west from Lewisham, and from London about seven miles.

25

Forest Hill. On the high ground here are several good houses, commanding very extensive and interesting prospects. Mrs. Williams, widow of the late John Williams, Esq. has a very pleasant residence here, about one mile north of the Sydenham Wells.

At SYDENHAM are the noted medicinal springs, commonly called, from their proximity to Dulwich, "Dulwich Wells," the waters of which possess the same cathartical qualities as the Epsom waters. They were discovered about the year 1640.

Here is also a considerable Mansion, with extensive grounds, well wooded and neatly laid out, the property of the Misses Mary and Fanny Wynell Mayow. The house appears to have been erected about the year 1660, and probably is the oldest building of any consequence in the place. It has been partly modernised, and is seen to the greatest advantage from the north. The interior, which is spacious and convenient, is decorated with paintings by Cuyp, Zoffany, and Vanderheyden; and several portraits and drawings by Sir Thomas Lawrence, Jordaens, &c.

Southend Hall, in the Parish of Lewisham, the seat of Samuel Forster, Esq. is situated on the left of the road from Lewisham to Bromley, distant from Bromley about two miles. This place has acquired considerable notoriety from the circumstance of so many coins having at different times been dug up in the park and about the grounds. The recent discovery of a great number of these curiosities must be fresh in the recollection of our readers.

Southend Park, in the Parish of Lewisham, the residence of Charles Perkins, Esq. is situated north of Southend Hall, the grounds of the two estates being contiguous. This is an ancient house modernised, and considerably enlarged. In the interior are some good paintings by the old masters: and in the library, which contains a valuable collection of rare works, is an Etruscan vase, measuring 30 inches in length. The park, though small, is well wooded, and adorned with fine timber, principally elm. From its eastern extremity, which is elevated, a very extensive prospect presents itself over parts of this county and Surrey.

It is distant from London Bridge about eight miles.

Elm Cottage, in the Parish of Lewisham, the residence of Henry Forster, Esq. Captain in the Royal Artillery, is situated between Southend Hall and Beckenham Place. This house is very ancient, supposed to have been built about 300 years ago: its situation is particularly pleasant, in the centre of a

26

very fashionable neighbourhood. Amongst the interior embellishments are some good paintings by the old masters.

Elm Cottage is distant from London a little more than eight miles.

Bromley Hill House, in the Parish of Lewisham, the seat of the late Right Hon. the Earl of Farnborough, is situated at the most southern point of the parish, and distant from Bromley, in a north-westerly direction, about one mile. The park is very beautiful; and the gardens are considered one of the greatest attractions in this part of the county.

Bromley Hill is distant from the metropolis about nine miles.

The manor of Lewisham having been given by Elthrua, the niece, or according to some, the daughter, of King Alfred, to St. Peter's Abbey at Ghent, the Abbot and Convent founded thereon a priory. This priory was a conventual cell, consisting of a certain number of Benedictine monks, under the government of a prior; and continued attached to the Abbey of St. Peter till the alien priories, to the number of 142, were suppressed, in the 2d year of Henry V. in the parliament held at Leicester.

Lewisham Church. In the interior, south of the altar, is a superb specimen of sculpture, by Flaxman, to the memory of Mary, daughter of William and Pauline Lushington, born Oct. 7th, 1771, and died Feb. 6th, 1797. On the south wall, near the east end, is a monument for Thomas Wilkinson, of Chester Hall, Midlothian, Esq. obt. July 7th, 1786, æt. 47; and Charles, his younger brother, obt. 7th Sept. 1795, æt. 49. On the north wall of the gallery are the following: near the east end a handsome one for Lady Maria Churchill, who died 30th Aug. 1801, aged 75 years: and immediately under, one for Charles Churchill, Esq. husband of the above Lady, who died in April, 1812, aged 92 years; and three of their sons. Major General George Churchill, died 1808, aged 57; Henry Churchill, Esq. died April 23d, 1821; and Major General Horatio Churchill, died Sept. 22d, 1817, aged 58: one for Joseph James, who, in his 34th year, fell a victim to the toils of public duty in Jamaica, which at that time was threatened with a French invasion: a handsome one for General Sir Anthony Farrington, Bart. Colonel Commandant of 1st Battalion of the Royal Regiment of Artillery, Director General of the Field Train Department, and D.C.L. of the University of Oxford, died at Blackheath, 3d Nov. 1823, aged 83 years; and for his Lady, and other members of the family. There are two magnificent specimens of sculpture at the west end, one on each side of the organ, for the family of Petrie: the one on the south is by T. Banks, R.A. and is a master-piece of workmanship, in memory of Margaret, relict of the Rev. Robert Petrie, who died Dec. 1st, 1791, aged 82 years. On the south wall is a handsome one for Mrs. Harriet Kruce, wife of Adam Kruce, Esq. who died 5th Jan. 1809, aged 24 years; and her two parents: and one for William Larkins, who died April 23d, 1800, who had been a faithful and confidential servant of the East India Company from 1772 to 1793, and filled the office of Accomptant-General at Fort William in Bengal.

Lewisham Church having been rebuilt, was opened for Divine Service on Sunday, Sept. 7th, 1777. It is dedicated to St. Mary.

Fairy Hill, in the Hamlet of Mottingham, the seat of Henry Rice, Esq. is situated a little more than one mile south-west from Eltham. It was the

27

temporary residence of Henry Earl Bathurst, when Lord High Chancellor, who dying in 1794, was succeeded by his son Henry Earl Bathurst, who sold it to Mr. Naylor, and he died in 1796. The house was modernised, and the grounds laid out and planted, in the Earl of Bathurst's time, according to the style of that period. Fairy Hill is distant from London about eight miles and a half.

Opposite the house, on the crown of a hill, is a deep hollow that was produced by several sinkings of the earth, mentioned by Philipott and other antiquaries, which swallowed up full-grown trees, and afterwards closed over them.

Mottingham Hall, in the Hamlet of Mottingham, the seat of James Moore, Esq. is a handsome house, with pleasure grounds, situated on the north of Fairy Hill, distant from London about eight miles and a half.

ELTHAM. The name of this place was written by the Saxons, Ealdham, which signifies an ancient mansion. From a remote period there was a royal manor-house here, which became a principal residence of several of the Plantagenets. Henry III. is recorded to have kept his Christmas at Eltham in 1270. Edward I. granted it to John de Vesci, through whom, by some obscure means, it came into the immediate possession of Anthony Bec, the powerful Bishop of Durham and Patriarch of Jerusalem. This prelate rebuilt the palace in a very splendid manner, and bequeathed it to Edward II. a son of whom was born in it, and called John of Eltham. Edward III. magnificently entertained here his prisoner, King John of France; and twice, in the course of his reign, assembled a Parliament in

the great hall. Edward IV. and Henry VII. made costly additions to the building; but about the same time Eltham began to be rivalled, and was soon outshone by Greenwich. The latter, being the birth-place of Henry VIII. was much preferred by that Monarch, who held there frequent festivities, but seems only, in one year of the plague, to have retired with a few attendants, to keep what was called the still Christmas at this deserted seat of his predecessors. James I. was the last prince who appears to have visited Eltham. During the civil wars the palace was for some time inhabited by Robert, Earl of Essex, the parliamentary general, who died here in 1646. Under the Protectorate it was sold for the value of its materials, which were estimated at £2754. Previously to this it had been declared to be in a ruinous and untenable state; and, except the banquetting hall and the chapel, all the rooms were without furniture. After the Restoration it was resumed for a short time by the Crown, but has ever since been suffered to fall by degrees entirely into decay. The neighbouring splendour of Greenwich makes the condition of this older abode of our kings more strikingly forlorn. The area of the palace is now a farm-yard, the great hall is used as a common barn, and its rich gothic windows are mostly bricked up.

Of all that constituted the Palace of Eltham, the boundary walls (which are fast going to decay), the handsome bridge across the moat, the subterranean passages lately discovered, and the magnificent banquetting hall, alone remain to give an idea of the taste and manners of its ancient princely occupiers.

In 1649, according to a parliamentary survey, the palace consisted of one fair chapel, one great hall, 36 rooms and offices below stairs, 17 lodging-rooms on the King's side, and 78 rooms in the offices round the court-yard. Some of the tapestry of the great hall was appropriated by the first Sir John Shaw, Bart. to decorate the great room called the billiard-room or saloon of his mansion, which was built in 1664. The tapestry is still there, in an excellent state of preservation; but some years

28

ago it was covered over with canvas and paper. The length of the hall is 100 feet, the breadth 36 feet, and height 55 feet: its beautiful proportions, the massiveness and elegance of the roof, and the lightness and exquisite workmanship of its stone windows, produce an effect equally imposing and agreeable.

Tradition has always kept up a belief of there being an underground passage to Blackheath, Greenwich, or the river; and that at Middle Park, connected with these passages, there were one or more excavations large enough to admit 60 horses. Under the ground-floor of an apartment of the palace a trap-door, where recently a new arch has been partly formed, opens into a room under ground, 10 feet by 5 feet, and, proceeding from it, a narrow passage of about 10 feet in length conducts to a series of passages with decoys, stairs, and shafts, some of which are vertical, and others on an inclined plane. They seem to have been intended, not merely for the admission of air, but likewise for the purpose of hurling down missiles upon enemies who might gain a subterranean entrance, as it is observable that these shafts converge just where weapons from above might assail an enemy with the greatest effect. One passage to the extent of 500 feet has been cleared out, and explored in a westerly direction towards Middle Park; and another under the moat to the length of 200 feet. The arch in the field leading from Eltham to Mottingham has been broken through, but the brickwork may still be traced. The remains of two iron gates, completely carbonised, were found in the passage under the moat, and large stalactites of super-carbonate of lime hung from the roof, which sufficiently indicate the antiquity of the work. At present water enough cannot be obtained to fill the moat, which possibly might always have been dry.

For much of the foregoing description we are indebted to Dr. King's Account of Eltham.

Shooter's Hill is said to be so named from its having been a usual place of exercise in archery. It was one point of the intersecting line drawn from Hounslow Heath, at the commencement of the grand trigonometrical survey of the kingdom, under the direction of the Board of Ordnance.

On May-day, in 1511, Stowe informs us King Henry VIII. with his consort Queen Catherine, journeyed hither to fetch the May-blossom; and he describes a representation made in their presence, of the exploits of the renowned Robin Hood and his men, which very much pleased the king and queen.

On the top of the hill is a mineral spring, which is said to overflow constantly, and to be never frozen in the severest winters.

Eltham Lodge, in the Parish of Eltham, the residence of James Lewis Knight Bruce, Esq. Queen's Counsel, was erected by Sir John Shaw, Bart. in 1664. It is a spacious square building, having the appearance of great antiquity. The park is well wooded, and is one mile in length, extending from Eltham in a direction due south, the house being in the centre. This mansion was lately the residence of the Right Hon. Lady Rivers.

Its distance from the Metropolis is about nine miles.

Eltham Park, in the Parish of Eltham, the seat of Benjamin Currey, Esq. is situated about half a mile eastward from the church. It was formerly called Park Place Farm, and is so designated by Hasted.

Eltham Park is distant from London about nine miles.

29

This property some years back belonged to Mr. Richard Nunn, and after his death was enjoyed by his widow during her life. It next passed, by virtue of Mr. Nunn's will, to his grand-daughter Mary Henrietta, wife of John Viscount Hinchinbrooke, who sold it to Thomas Lucas, Esq. of Lee: and he again, about 1775, disposed of it to William James, Esq. M.P. for West Looe, who was created a baronet in 1778. Sir William almost rebuilt the house, and inclosing it with a park, named it Park Place Farm. At his death, in 1783, his widow was left in possession of it, and by her it was demised to Sir Benjamin Hammett.

Clay Farm, in the Parish of Eltham, the property of Josias Stansfeld, Esq. of Field House, New Cross, Surrey, a Magistrate for Kent, is a modern structure in the Elizabethan style of architecture. It stands at the eastern extremity of the parish, on the south side of the road from Eltham to Fooks Cray, and is distant from the former about two miles.

Well Hall, in the Parish of Eltham, the residence of Samuel Jeffrey, Gentleman, is situated about half a mile north from Eltham.

The mansion of Well Hall, with the manor of Easthome, in the 1st year of Henry I. was in possession of Sir Jordan de Brisset, Lord of Clerkenwell. In the reign of Edward I. this estate was held by Matthew de Hegham; and by Sir John de Pulteney in that of Edward III. This family was succeeded, about the end of Richard II.'s reign, by William Chichele, of London, younger brother of the archbishop, whose son John afterwards inherited it; and his daughter Agnes carried it in marriage to John Tattersall, Esq. whose daughter Margery entitled her husband, John Roper, of Swacliffe, to the possession of it. In this family the manor remained till Elizabeth, daughter of Edward Roper, Esq. carried it in marriage to Edward Henshaw, Esq. of Hampshire, whose three daughters, some time after their father's death, in 1726, jointly sold this property to Sir Gregory Page, Bart. of Wricksmarsh, who pulled down the mansion of Well Hall, and in lieu thereof built a handsome farm-house, and at his death, in 1775, bequeathed it to his nephew, Sir Gregory Turner, Bart. of Oxfordshire.

In the great hall of the old mansion was a painting, by Hans Holbein, of Sir Thomas More and his family, which occupied nearly all the end of the hall. It was valued at £1000.

Severndroog Tower, on Shooter's Hill, in the Parish of Eltham, was erected by the widow of Sir William James, Bart. "in commemoration of his achievements in the East Indies, when commanding the Company's marine forces in those seas; and particularly to record his distinguished valour and meritorious conduct in the capture of the Castle of Severndroog, on the coast of Malabar, on the 2d of April, 1755." The tower, which is constructed in a triangular form, is three stories high: the summit is embattled and turreted at the angles. In one of these angles is a handsome winding staircase of 87 stone steps. In the ground-floor room are suspended from the walls Indian flags, coats of mail, a shield, a battle-axe, spears, swords, and numerous instruments of Indian warfare.

30

From the summit of this tower the ships may be seen at the Nore, and there is a general view of the surrounding country, unequalled in this part of the kingdom.

Sir William James died in Dec. 1783.

In Eltham Church was buried Susan, the wife of John Philipot, Esq. (Somerset Herald, designed Norroy, and author of *Villare Cantianum*,) and daughter of William Glover, Esq.: also the excellent Dr. George Horne, Bishop of Norwich, who died Jan. 17th, 1792, æt. 62. The more modern monuments deserving notice are the following: on the south wall, near the west end, one for French Laurence, LL.D. M.P. Regius Professor of Civil Law in the University of Oxford, Chancellor of the Diocese of Oxford, and Judge of the Cinque Ports, who died Feb. 26th, 1809, aged 51 years: a handsome one for members of the family of Johnson: a tablet for Richard Lewin, Esq. who died 7th June, 1832, aged 74 years: another for Elizabeth Jane, relict of the late Colonel P. W. Colebrooke, and daughter of Major General Grant, of the Royal Artillery, who died 17th July, 1836, aged 73.

In the church-yard is a monument in commemoration of Sir Richard Welch, who died Dec. 19th, 1809, aged 57 years; also Dame Hester, his wife, who departed this life Dec. 22d, 1826, aged 81.

Eltham Church is dedicated to St. John the Baptist. In the year 1767 it was much enlarged and beautified.

THE HUNDRED OF BROMLEY AND BECKENHAM.

Beckenham Place, in the Parish of Beckenham, the property of John Cator, Esq. is situated in a very beautiful park, one mile north-east from Beckenham. This is a very elegant edifice, built of stone, in a chaste style of architecture. It has a handsome portico, supported by four magnificent columns: the interior is spacious and elegant; and there is perhaps no place in the county, within the same distance from the metropolis, so desirable for a gentleman's residence.

The manor of Beckenham, in the reign of Edward I. was possessed by a family named De la Rochelle, or De la Rokele; by a female heir of which name it was carried in marriage to Sir William Bruyn. About the beginning of Edward IV. Alice and Elizabeth, the daughters of Sir Henry Bruin, divided the manor between them; and each, having had three husbands, entitled them successively to the possession of a moiety of it. The moiety inherited by Alice had, in the reign of Henry VIII. become the property of Henry Harleston, of Cooksale, who alienated it, in the 22d year of that king, to Mr. Robert Leigh, of London, and his descendant, Mr. Robert Leigh, in the middle of the reign of James I. alienated it to Sir Henry Snelgrave, whose grandson, Mr. Henry Snelgrave, at the end of Charles I. passed it away to Walter St. John, Esq.

The other moiety inherited by Elizabeth had, in the reign of Charles I., become the property of Sir George Dalston, of Cumberland, who alienated it to Sir Patrick Curwin, of Workinton. He, at the end of the same reign, conveyed his interest in it to Sir Oliver St. John, of Battersea; at the death of whose son it descended to Walter, afterwards Sir Walter, St. John, above-named, who thus

31

became possessed of the entire fee of the manor. In this illustrious family it continued till Frederick Viscount Bolingbroke, in 1773, passed it away to John Cator, Esq.

Manor House, in the Parish of Beckenham, the residence of the Hon. M. Fortescue, is situated between the church and Kelsey Park. It is a very beautiful residence, with pleasure grounds and gardens; at the foot of which is a fine sheet of water: the whole is seen to great advantage from the south or principal front. The interior is elegantly fitted up, and decorated with paintings and drawings of great merit. There are very fine copies of Guido's *Aurora*, *Andromache*, &c. The Manor House is distant from London about nine miles.

Village Place, in the Parish of Beckenham, the seat of the Right Hon. Samuel Wilson, Lord Mayor of London, and a Magistrate for the City of Westminster and for the Counties of Kent and Middlesex, is a handsome

house surrounded with agreeable grounds, situated a short distance south-west from the church. The proprietor of this seat holds the office of Harbinger to the Queen, and has in his possession three silver sticks, of the reign of Geo. IV. Wm. IV. and her present Majesty. He has also two full-length portraits in the costume of Harbinger, by Ripingal; one in the original dress worn at the coronation of Henry VIII. who established the office; the other in that worn at the coronation of Wm. IV. which dress has been twice since changed. In the grounds there is a fine old elm measuring 14 ft. 7 in. in girth, with a spiral flight of steps from the base to the summit, in which are several seats, and about midway an arbour. Previous to Nov. 1836, the highest landing place was 93 ft. 7 in. from the ground, reached by an ascent of 161 steps; and from this point there was a most extensive view of the country in every direction, including the shipping on the Thames. But the tremendous hurricane which occurred that month broke off two flights of steps, reducing the tree to the height of 93 ft. 9 in. and the topmost landing to 66 ft. 10 in.; there being now but 126 steps.

Village Place, in the year 1688, was the residence of one Michael Leigh, of whom it was purchased by William Davis, Esq. This gentleman having bought other land pulled down the house, and in 1717 rebuilt it, and at his own cost erected a large pew or gallery in the church, which still belongs to this house, and is the only faculty pew in the church. Village Place afterwards became the residence of Lady St. John, subsequently of the Right Hon. Lady Dacre, and then of the late Richard Lea, Esq. (formerly an alderman of the City of London,) father-in-law of the present proprietor, of whose executors it was purchased by Mr. Alderman Wilson.

The Oakery, in the Parish of Beckenham, the seat of Robert Gibson, Esq. stands on an elevation on the south of the road from Beckenham to Bromley,

32

distant from the former about three-quarters of a mile. The grounds southward from the house are beautifully laid out and finely wooded.

Kelsey, in the Parish of Beckenham, the seat of Peter Richard Hoare, Esq. was built by Richard Henry Alexander Bennett, Esq. It is beautifully situated, half a mile south from the church: the park is well wooded, and the grounds are tastefully laid out. Kelsey is distant from London about 10 miles.

Kelsey, or Kelseys, in the time of Henry III. was the property of a family of the same name, from whom it passed, in the reign of Richard II. to the family of Brograve, or Boroughgrave, a descendant of Sir Roger Brograve, of Warwickshire. At length John Brograve, a short time before 1688, sold this estate to Peter Burrell, Esq. ninth son of Walter Burrell, Esq. of Holmstead House, Cuckfield, whose ancestors are said to have been seated in Northumberland as early as the reign of Edward I. Peter Burrell, Esq. dying in 1718, was succeeded by his son Peter, whose grandson, Sir Peter Burrell, Bart. created in May, 1796, Lord Gwydir, was subsequently the possessor of this property.

Kelsey Cottage, in the Parish of Beckenham, the residence of Herbert Jenner, Esq. son of the Right Hon. Sir Herbert Jenner, of Goodlands, Chislehurst, was built by John Wolley, Esq. about 1832. It is situated on the west of Kelsey, and commands a most beautiful prospect into the adjoining County of Surrey.

Eden Park, in the Parish of Beckenham, the residence of Edward Lawford, Esq. Solicitor to the East India Company, is a very elegant mansion, situate about one mile southward from Beckenham Church.

Elmer Lodge, in the Parish of Beckenham, the seat of Edward Richards Adams, Esq. F.S.A. a Magistrate for the adjoining County of Surrey, is situated on the west side of Eden Park, about one mile south-west from Beckenham Church. The house was built about the year 1710. This estate was formerly the property of Col. Raymond, whose daughter married Peter Burrell, Esq. ancestor of the late Lord Gwydir, of whose executors it was purchased by Mr. Adams.

Eden Lodge, in the Parish of Beckenham, the residence of John Marshall, Esq. is situated between Eden Park and the road leading from Beckenham to Wickham. It is a modern building, in the cottage style, and possesses peculiar advantages of locality, being in the centre of a highly distinguished neighbourhood.

Langley Park, in the Parish of Beckenham, the seat of E. Goodheart, Esq. a Magistrate for the County, is situated nearly two miles south from Beckenham Church.

This place, which in early times was accounted a manor, was once the property of the Malmaines, of which family it was purchased about the end of the reign of Edward III. by Langley, a name that was probably assumed from the proprietorship of this estate. In the 30th year of Henry VI. Ralph

33

Langley, the last of this family, directed his property in Beckenham to be sold for discharging his debts, and accordingly Langley Park was purchased by John Violett, whose descendant, in the beginning of Henry VIII. conveyed it to John, afterwards Sir John, Stile, of London. It continued the property of this family for many years, till Elizabeth, daughter of Humphrey 8tyle, Esq. carried it in marriage to Sir John Elwill, Bart. who died in 1727, and was succeeded by his brother Edmund, who, in 1732, transferred it to Hugh Raymond, Esq. of Great Saling, in Essex. This gentleman settled it in tail general on his only son, Jones Raymond, Esq. with remainder to his eldest daughter Amy, who married Peter Burrell, Esq. and her issue male. Jones Raymond, Esq. was succeeded here by his son Jones, who died unmarried in 1768, when this estate descended to Peter Burrell, Esq. before-named, in right of his wife Amy. Mrs. Burrell, at her death in 1789, (being then a widow,) was followed by her grandson, Sir Peter Burrell, Bart. afterwards (in May, 1796) crested Lord Gwydir, of Gwydir, in Carnarvonshire, North Wales.

Langley Farm, in the Parish of Beckenham, the residence of Launcelot Holland, Esq. is situated on the north of Langley Park, and belongs to that estate.

Shortlands, in the Parish of Beckenham, the property of Thomas Carey Palmer, Esq. is situated about one mile eastward from Beckenham Church, and about the same distance westward from Bromley.

The Rectory. Beckenham, the residence of the Rev. Leveson Vernon Harcourt, was built by the Rev. William Rose, A.M. It is situated near the church on the West. It is a handsome, substantial house; surrounded by beautiful grounds, well planted and sheltered.

Beckenham Church. In the interior of this edifice there are several monuments for the family of Style, formerly of Langley; one of whom, Oliver Style, Esq. of Wateringbury, built the two side aisles at his own expense: the church, prior to this, consisting of but one aisle or nave.

On the east wall of the nave is a monument for Peter Burrell, Esq. obt. 1718, æt. 69. In the south transept, a sumptuous one for Mrs. Amy Burrell, of Langley Park, widow of Peter Burrell, Esq.; she died Aug. 16th, 1789, aged 89 years: and near it a small plain tablet for Peter Burrell, Baron Gwydir, Deputy Great Chamberlain of England; born July 16th, 1754, and died at Brighton, June 29th, 1820, in the 66th year of his age. At the north-west end, a small plain tablet in memory of Caroline, wife of John Henry Fletcher, Esq. who died Nov. 28th, 1823, aged 28 years. At the west side of the north transept is a very neat monument for Harriet, wife of J. G. Lambton, Esq. (now Earl of Durham,) of Lambton Hall, in the County of Durham, who departed this life July 11th, 1815, in the 25th year of her age: on the north side, a small neat one in memory of Sir Merrick Burrell, Bart. of West Grinstead Place, in the County of Sussex, fourth son of Peter Burrell, Esq. by Isabella, second daughter of John Merrick, Esq.; born April 3d, 1699, and departed this life April 6th, 1787: on the east side, a most elegant one, with a finely sculptured head in profile, to the memory of William Lord Auckland, of Eden Farm, in this parish, third son of Sir Robert Eden, Bart. of Windlestone, in the County of Durham; born April 14th, 1746, created a peer of England, 1793,

34

and died May 28th, 1814; also for Eleanor Lady Auckland, daughter of Sir Gilbert Elliot, of Minto, Bart.; born Feb. 1758, married Sept. 26th, 1776, and died May 14th, 1818; near to this is one equally elegant, and in the same style, in memory of the Hon. Catherine Isabella Vansittart, their daughter, whose remains are deposited in the same vault; she was born Sept. 20th, 1778, and died Aug. 10th, 1810; she was married July 23d, 1806, to the Rt. Hon. Nicholas Vansittart, now Lord Bexley. Over the vestry door there is an elegant monument for Dame Frances Anne Hoare, daughter of Richard and Anne Acland, relict of Sir Richard Hoare, Bart. of Barn Elms, in the County of Surrey, who died Sept. 10th, 1800, in the 64th year of her age.

This church is richly embellished, and has a very elegant appearance. Its light and beautiful spire is remarkable from different points of the surrounding country. It is dedicated to St. George.

Plaistow Lodge, in the Parish of Bromley, the seat of Robert Boyd, Esq. is situated one mile north from Bromley. This is a large and handsome house, built of brick, with facings of stone, and consists of a body with two wings; the interior and exterior decorations are very elegant. The grounds which surround it are well wooded, and very beautiful. It commands a good prospect to the north.

Plaistow Lodge is distant from London about nine miles and a half.

Sundridge, in the Parish of Bromley, the seat of Sir Samuel Scott, is situated rather more than a mile north-east from Bromley. This is a very elegant mansion, most beautifully seated on a gentle elevation, in a particularly picturesque park; the back grounds being covered with extensive plantations, and in front the grounds are tastefully diversified.

Sundridge is distant from London between 10 and 11 miles.

The manor of Sundridge was formerly the residence of a family named Blund, or Blound, (lords of Guines, in France, and ancestors of the Blounts of this country,) who came to England with William the Conqueror, and was held by them of the Bishop of Rochester. A female descendant of this name carried it in marriage to one Willoughby, of whom it was purchased by Booth. At length the daughter of Sith Booth, Esq. carried it in marriage to Thomas Bettenham, Esq. of Pluckley, whose great-grandson, Stephen Bettenham, Esq. gave it in marriage with his daughter Anne to Robert Pynsent, Esq. He dying in 1679, without issue, was succeeded here by Thomas Washer, Esq. of Lincoln's Inn, whose grand-daughter carried it in marriage to William Wilson, Esq. Sheriff of Kent, in 1766. At his death, in 1776, his son William Wilson, Esq. inherited this estate, which he alienated to Edward George Lind, Esq.

Bickley, in the Parish of Bromley, the seat of John Wells, Esq. a magistrate and Deputy Lieutenant for the county, and formerly M.P. for Maidstone, is a very substantial handsome mansion, situated in a beautiful park. It was erected

35

some few years ago by John Wells, Esq. of Deptford, who at his death devised it to his brother, William Wells, Esq. The house stands on elevated ground, commanding extensive and diversified prospects. Here is a very valuable library of rare and curious works, which occupies extensive apartments.

From Bromley, Bickley is distant one mile and a half east; and from the metropolis about 11 miles and a half.

Bromley Palace, in the Parish of Bromley, the residence of the Bishop of Rochester, is situated near Bromley, on the east, being distant not quite a quarter of a mile. We read that King Ethelbert gave to Eardulph, Bishop of Rochester, and to his church, certain lands in Bromley. King Ethelred, however, on account of some dispute, laid waste the lands belonging to the Bishop, and gave them, in 987, to his minister Æthelsine; but, in 998, in presence of his principal nobility, he restored to the church six plough lands, with the additional privilege of woods in the Weald, expressing much contrition for his former

impious act. After the conquest the possessions of the Bishop of Rochester were again seized by Odo; but Archbishop Lanfranc, in 1076, obliged him to restore them: only three plough lands, however, were recovered. The church of Rochester continued possessed of a mansion or palace, and lands at Bromley, till the time of the Commonwealth; when an act being passed for the abolition of archbishops, bishops, &c. and for the sale of their estates, this manor of Bromley was purchased, in 1648, by Augustin Skinner, for £5665. At the restoration of Charles II. it was restored to its proper owner, the Bishop of Rochester, then Dr. John Warner, and it has since been uninterruptedly transmitted to his successors.

The present seat was built by Bishop Thomas, in 1776.

Near the Bishop's garden is a well of chalybeate water, which formerly had an oratory attached to it, and was dedicated to St. Blaze. When the oratory became ruinous the well was disused, and for a time altogether forgotten; but being again discovered in 1754, it was, by the Bishop's orders, enclosed for the benefit of all persons who might be recommended to drink its medicinal waters.

Bromley House, at Bromley, the seat of George Tweedy, Esq. Lieut. Col. in the Bombay army, is situated on the south of the church. The grounds here are exceedingly beautiful, and profusely adorned with rich shrubberies. Adjoining to Bromley House, on the west, are the remains of an ancient building called Simpsons, also the property of Col. Tweedy.

Simpsons was anciently possessed by the Banquels, of Lee. After this family had become extinct here, we find this estate in the name of Clark, of a descendant of whom, in the reign of Henry VI. it

36

was purchased by John Simpson, who much improved the mansion that had been built by William Clark, in the time of Henry V. and gave it his own name, by which it has ever since been known. Nicholas Simpson alienated Simpsons to Alexander Basset, who, in the reign of Henry VIII. sold it to Sir Humphry Style, of Langley. By a female heir of this family it was carried in marriage to Sir John Elwill, Bart. whose brother Edmund, about 1732, conveyed it to Hugh Raymond, Esq. of Great Saling, in Essex, who settled it on his son Jones, with remainder to his daughter Amy, married to Peter Burrell, Esq. and her issue male. Jones Raymond, Esq. was succeeded by his son Jones, at whose death, in 1768, this estate descended to Peter Burrell, Esq. above-named; and after the death of Mrs. Burrell (who survived her husband) it passed to her grandson. Lord Gwydir.

Bromley Common, in the Parish of Bromley, the seat of George Ward Norman, Esq. is situated two miles south-east from Bromley, west of the high road to Farnborough. It is an ancient house, of commanding appearance. The grounds are extensive, fertile, and well wooded.

The distance from London is about 12 miles.

Southborough Lodge, in the Parish of Bromley, the seat of John Joseph Wells, Esq. is a modern structure, enclosed in a small park. It is situated one mile south from Bickley, two miles south-east from Bromley, and from London 12 miles.

Blackbrook, in the Parish of Bromley, the residence of the Rev. James Edward Newell, A.M. is situated rather more than two miles south-east from Bromley.

Bromley College. This excellent charity, which was the first of the kind ever established in England, was founded by Dr. John Warner, Bishop of Rochester, (who died in 1666,) for 20 widows of clergymen of the established church, and a chaplain. Since the founder's endowment it has received several noble benefactions from benevolent individuals, among which the following are the most considerable: a gift of £2000 by the Rev. Wm. Hetherington, £5000 by Bishop Pearce, £10,000 by Mrs. Helen Betenson, and £12,000 by Mr. Pearce, brother of Bishop Pearce. It is under the management of 14 trustees, at the head of whom are the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Bishops of London and

Rochester.

By means of the above magnificent donations, aided by several smaller ones, the trustees have been enabled to enlarge the building so as to accommodate double the original number of widows, at the same time providing funds for the maintenance of the additional number, and increasing the chaplain's salary, which by the founder was limited to £50 per annum.

Bromley Church appears to have been built at different times, the eastern part seeming by far the most ancient. The interior is very light and elegant.

37

Here were interred John Young, Bishop of Rochester, obt. 1606; Dr. John Buckeridge, first, Bishop of Rochester, and afterwards of Ely, who died in 1631; Dr. Zachariah Pearce, Bishop of Rochester, who died at Ealing, in 1774; and Dr. John Hawkesworth, in 1773. In the church are also the following monuments: at the east end of the south aisle, a tablet to the memory of Elizabeth, wife of Samuel Farmer, Esq. of Nonsuch Park, in the County of Surrey, who departed this life Sept. 4th, 1805, in the 49th year of her age: another in memory of Jane Scott, wife of Charles Scott, Esq. of Gorrenberry, North Britain, of the noble family of Buccleugh, who departed this life July 22d, 1767, aged 65. In the north aisle, a tablet in memory of William Lyndon, Esq. who died June 10th, 1803, aged 93 years: another in memory of Helena Lyndon, spinster, who departed this life Dec. 13th, 1829, in the 84th year of her age: and one for John Baker, A.M. who died April 17th, 1824, aged 58; one for Henry Smith, D.D. 42 years minister of this parish, and 18 years rector of Headly, in the County of Hants, who departed this life July 22d, 1818, in the 68th year of his age: another for Jane, third daughter of the late William Stirling, Esq. of Keir, in the County of Perth, Scotland, who departed this life Sept. 17th, 1835, at Bromley, in the 60th year of her age. At the east end of the north aisle, a monument for Mary King and Edward Dawson King, the former of whom was the eldest daughter of Walker King, Bishop of Rochester, and Sarah his wife; she departed this life Feb. 22d, 1817, in the 21st year of her age; the latter, their second son, who died May 16th, 1816, in the 16th year of his age. In the gallery, at the south-east end, a handsome one to the memory of Thomas Chase, Esq. formerly of this parish, born in the City of Lisbon, Nov. 1st, 1729, and overwhelmed by the ruins of the same house where he first saw the light, in the ever memorable and terrible earthquake which befell that city, Nov. 1st, 1755, when, after a most wonderful escape, he by degrees recovered from a very deplorable condition, and lived till Nov. 20th, 1788, aged 69 years: a very neat one for John Gifford, Esq. the historian and biographer of William Pitt, who departed this life March 6th, 1818, aged 60 years: an elegant one to the memory of Sir Claud Scott, of Lychet, in the County of Dorsetshire, Bart. formerly of Sundridge Park, in this parish, who departed this life March 27th, 1830, aged 88 years; also of Dame Martha his relict, who departed this life Feb. 22d, 1831, in the 82d year of her age. On the north side, a monument to the memory of Mary Lyndon, who died June 27th, 1780: a handsome one for John Scott, of London, and of Gorrenbury, in Roxburghshire, North Britain, M.D. a descendant of the noble family of Buccleugh, who died in July, 1785; also of Jane Fox, relict of the above, and afterwards relict of Charles Fox, of Chacombe, in the County of Northampton, Esq. who departed this life Aug. 3d, 1820; also their sons, Francis Scott, an infant, who died in 1768, and Charles Scott, of London, M.D. who died in 1794; and of Jane, mother of the above John Scott, who died in 1767: another to the memory of Sophia Maria, wife of Thomas Raikes, of Berkeley Square, who departed this life April 5th, 1810, in the 27th year of her age; and one for Thomas Raikes, who died Dec. 29th, 1814, in his 73d year: also one for Thomas Newnham, Esq. late of Southborough, in this parish, who died Oct. 16th, 1827, in the 82d year of his age; also Mary, daughter of Thomas and Mary Banister Newnham, who departed this life July 11th, 1804, in her 23d year.

Bromley Church is dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul.

38

THE HUNDRED OF LITTLE AND LESNES.

Lesnes Abbey, in the Parish of Erith. — Richard de Lucy, Chief Justice of England, and one of the early proprietors of the Manor of Lesnes, in the year

1178 founded and endowed an Abbey of Canons regular of St. Augustine, adjoining to the large wood called Westwood. It was dedicated to St. Mary and St. Thomas the Martyr, and named at first the Abbey of Westwood, but afterwards the Abbey of Lesnes. What still remains of the building has been converted into a farm-house, which is called Abbey Farm. Nothing of any great interest, in connexion with this monastery, is related during its existence. It was suppressed in the year 1525. The abbey lands and possessions were bequeathed by Mr. Haws, of London, about the time of Charles I. to the Mayor and Commonalty of London, as Governors of the Hospitals of Bridewell, Christchurch, and St. Thomas, with whom they still continue.

In the *Archæologia*, vol. 1, p. 44, is an account of Lesnes Abbey, by Dr. Stukely.

When Sir John Hippisley possessed the abbey estates he directed an excavation to be made on the site of the old church; in consequence of which were discovered several stone coffins, and a handsome monument, with a full length figure of a man in coat armour, lying on a marble slab. In the tomb underneath, wrapped in a sheet of lead, there were the remains of a body, quite perfect.

Belvidere, in the Parish of Erith, the seat of the Rt. Hon. Gregory William Eardley Twistleton Fiennes, Lord Saye and Sele, is beautifully situated on elevated ground, near the banks of the River Thames, north-west from Erith, and distant thence rather more than a mile. This park exhibits, for its extent, an almost unrivalled variety of picturesque scenery: it is abundantly wooded with the finest timber: the grounds, walks, and gardens are kept in the neatest order, and decorated with a profusion of shrubs, plants, and flowers of the rarest and finest kinds. The mansion, a modern structure, is built of brick. It has a handsome stone portico at the front or south entrance, supported by six fine columns, in the Ionic style. The interior is tastefully embellished with a superb collection of valuable pictures of the ancient and modern schools. In the ante-room to the library are several family portraits, by Sir William Beechey and other eminent masters. The library is fitted up and decorated in a very beautiful manner: the ceiling and compartments of the walls are enriched with exquisite

39

devices, by Zacchi and Angelica Kauffman. The busts of Milton, Shakspeare, Dryden and others occupy their respective stations in this elegant repository of literature and science. In the passage from the library are two basso-relievos, in brass, of Silenus, and Bacchus and Ariadne. In the dining-room are paintings by Weenix, Teniers, Rembrandt, Antonio More, Basano, old Palma; a masterly painting of the Parable of the Unmerciful Creditor, by Quintin Matsys; a portrait of Van Tromp, by Francis Hals; a portrait, by Rembrandt, of himself; and two splendid views of Venice, by Canaletti. In the Blue Drawing-room are paintings by Lawrence, De la Hire, Rubens, Rothenamier, Paul Veronese, Leonardo da Vinci, Carlo Dolce, Van Goyen, Peter Neefs, Wouvermans, Albert Durer, Gasper Poussin, Teniers, Salvator Rosa, Peter Breughel, and Pynaker: the subject of one, by Rubens, is Snyders and his wife and child: the painting, in this room, of the animals collecting to go into the Ark, is by Rubens and Peter Breughel; the Golden Age, by the latter, is a splendid picture. The Assumption of the Virgin Mary, by Murillo, in the saloon, is also a magnificent work; there is, in this apartment, another piece by the same artist, and several fine productions of Claude Lorraine, Teniers, Rubens, Paul Veronese, Luca Geordana, and Tinteret. As we passed through the different apartments of this interesting mansion, our attention was often forcibly drawn from the works of human genius within to the rich scenes of natural grandeur which surround it. No spot could have been selected for the site of a noble residence more appropriate than that of Belvidere.

Belvidere is distant from London about 12 miles.

The original or previous mansion was erected by George Hayley, Esq. who sold it to Charles Calvert, Lord Baltimore, and after the death of his lordship, which happened in 1751, it was purchased of his devisee by Sampson Gideon, Esq. who greatly improved it, and died here in 1762. To him succeeded his son, Sir Sampson Gideon, Bart. (he having been elevated to this rank, in 1759, during his father's lifetime,) who was, in 1789, created Lord Eardley. This noble lord, to whom the present proprietor was son-in-law, rebuilt the mansion, and made it his principal residence.

Lesnes, alias Lesney, in the Parish of Erith. The mansion and grounds are in a state of great dilapidation; the former being uninhabited, and the latter literally disparked. But the high antiquity of the place, and the eminent families which have owned it, make it worthy of attention.

The manor of Lesnes, alias Erith, was part of the immense possessions of Bishop Odo. It afterwards passed through the illustrious names of De Lucy, De Dover, John de Asceles, Earl of Athol, Margaret, Queen of Edward I, the wealthy De Bartholomew, and the powerful, and afterwards

40

royal, family of Mortimer. This manor having become part of the royal revenue by the accession of Edward Mortimer, Earl of March, to the throne, as Edward IV., continued in the crown, till Henry VIII. in his 36th year, granted it to Elizabeth, Countess of Shrewsbury. This Lady settled it on her daughter Anne, Countess of Pembroke, at whose death it descended to her son and heir, Henry, by her first husband, Peter Compton, Esq. Henry, Lord Compton, settled it on his second son, Sir Thomas Compton, who devised it to his great nephew, Sir William Compton, third son of Spencer, Earl of Northampton. This gentleman conveyed it to Mr. Lodowick, of London, who again soon sold it to Nicholas Vanacker, Esq. also of London. His son, Francis Vanacker, Esq. inherited this estate on his father's death, whose widow, at her decease in 1702, was succeeded in it by her brother-in-law, Sir John Vanacker, Bart. at whose death it passed to his sister's husband, Alderman Sir William Hedges. His son, William Hedges, Esq. was next in possession of it, who, in 1734, devised it to John Wheatley, Esq. whose grandson, William Wheatley, Esq. having succeeded to the property, built the present mansion for his residence.

Lesney is a modern structure of brick, having a handsome stone portico. The prospects it commands (the site being on high ground) are extensive and beautiful.

The distance from Erith is about half a mile south-west, and from London rather more than 13 miles.

Holly Hill, in the Parish of Erith, belongs to the estate of Lesnes; it is situated on the south side of Belvidere. It is a very pleasant residence: the grounds well wooded, and tastefully disposed.

Holly Hill is distant from Erith about a mile, and from London about 13 miles.

West Heath House, in the Parish of Erith, the seat of Lady Hulse, is situated on high ground, about one mile westward from Belvidere, and nearly two miles eastward from Plumsted. It commands extensive and beautiful prospects.

It is distant from London about 12 miles.

The Church of Erith is rich in funeral monuments, too numerous to be severally particularised. The following are the most conspicuous for beauty, and for the distinguished persons reposing beneath them.

An altar tomb of white marble for Elizabeth, Countess of Shrewsbury, daughter of Sir Richard Walden, with her effigy in her robes and coronet; she died in 1568: a mural monument for Francis Vanacker, Esq. Lord of the Manor, obt. 1686; and beneath it, over the grave, is an elegant altar tomb of white marble: several memorials for the family of Wheatley: a noble white marble monument, by Chantry, inscribed as follows: "Near this place are deposited the mortal remains of the Rt. Hon. Baron Eardley; and also of the Hon. S. E. Eardley, his eldest son. This monument is erected by three sisters, the only (then) surviving children of Lord Eardley, as a memorial of duty,

affection, and gratitude to their beloved and lamented father and brother." A female figure is

41

represented in a kneeling posture, resting her head on a pedestal, upon which stand two urns; the first is inscribed, "The Hon. S. E. Eardley died 21st May, 1823, aged 63 years;" the second, "Baron Eardley died 25th Dec. 1824, aged 79 years:" opposite the above, a mural monument for Maria, Countess De Gersdorff; she was the only daughter of Lord and Lady Saye and Sele, who, soon after the birth of her first and still-born infant, departed this life 6th Aug. 1826: a mural monument for Major General William Wheatley, of Lesney, who died of fever at Madrid, while serving in command under the Marquis (now Duke) of Wellington, Sept. 1st, 1812, aged 41 years: another for Margaret, daughter of John Randall, Esq. of Charlton, in this county, and relict of William Wheatley, Esq. of Lesney, died 15th Jan. 1824, aged 72 years: and one for the above named William Wheatley, Esq. who was Lord of the Manor, and died June 20th, 1807, aged 64 years. Anne, Countess of Pembroke, who died in 1589, is also interred in the church.

Erith Church is dedicated to St. John the Baptist. John Weever, the author of the work entitled "Funereal Monuments," was possessed of this rectory at the end of Elizabeth's reign.

CRAYFORD. – Crayford has been pointed out by certain eminent antiquarians as "Noviomagus," the first station from London on the Roman road. The principal support of this opinion appears to be the similitude of its Roman and present name; Noviomagus bearing exactly the same meaning with Newbery, (a title applied to the manor,) i. e. the "new fortress." Among the advocates for this conjecture are Somner, Burton, and Bishop Stillingfleet; and to them we refer the curious reader. In the year 457 a bloody battle was fought here between the Britons, under Vortigern, and the Saxons; in which Hengist slew four of the British commanders and 4000 men, and entirely dispersed their remaining forces. From this time Hengist assumed the title of King of Kent.

Manor House, in the Parish of Crayford, the seat of Mrs. Sarah Barne, is a neat modern mansion, surrounded by beautiful grounds, shrubberies, &c. Its situation is exceedingly pleasant.

Manor House is distant from Crayford half a mile, and from London 13 miles.

Crayford, in the time of the Saxons, was held by a man of note, named Elfege, who, by will, about 970, gave a third part of his estates to Christchurch, in Canterbury; and in possession of the archbishop it continued at the survey of Domesday, although Leofsune, who had married the widow of Elfege's nephew, had endeavoured to recover them. The Manor of Crayford, alias Earde, (also called Newbery, that being the name of the manor house,) having become vested in the crown in the reign of Henry VIII. by exchange for other lands, was granted by Queen Elizabeth, in her seventh year, to Henry Partrich, who soon after conveyed it to Henry Apylton, or Appleton, of Marshall's Court, in this parish, where his ancestors had long resided. His descendant, Sir Roger Appleton, Bart. who died in the 13th year of James I. gave this estate, in dowry with his daughter Frances, to Francis Goldsmith, Gent. who sold it to Robert Draper, Esq. of May Place. Of the heirs of this

42

gentleman's grandson, Colonel Cresheld Draper, it was purchased, about 1694, by the eminent Sir Cloudesley Shovel; whose lady, after her husband's melancholy death, enjoyed the property till her decease, in 1732. It then, with other estates, passed to their daughters, Elizabeth, the widow of Robert Marsham, Lord Romney, and Anne, the wife of John Blackwood, Esq.; and, on a division, this manor was allotted to Elizabeth, who had married John, Lord Carmichael. They sold it to Nathaniel Elwick, Esq. and he (reserving a life estate) settled it on his daughter, Elizabeth, on her marriage, in 1745, with Miles Barne, Esq. of Sotterly, in Suffolk, and from him it descended to his son, Miles Barne, Esq.

May Place, in the Parish of Crayford, the residence of John Fassett

Burnett, Esq. is a spacious and handsome mansion, built about the time of James I.; in whose reign it appears to have been the property and residence of the family of Draper, who purchased the Manor of Newbery. Of the heirs of Colonel Cresheld Draper it was bought, together with Crayford or Newbery manor, by Admiral Sir Cloudesley Shovel, about 1694, and his widow, after the death of Sir Cloudesley, resided here. For years afterwards the two estates acknowledged the same proprietor. Part of the south-west front of this mansion is in the Elizabethan style of architecture. The grounds and surrounding prospects are very beautiful. The noble river, which divides this county from Essex, contributes materially to the picturesqueness of the scene. The interior is elegantly fitted up, and embellished with paintings by the most eminent masters of the old school.

May Place is about half a mile from Crayford, and from London about 13 miles.

Crayford Church contains the following interesting monuments:

In the north aisle, an elegant mural monument for Mrs. Elizabeth, wife of Miles Barne, Esq. of Sotterley, in Suffolk, only child of Nathaniel Elwick, Esq. of May Place, who died in 1747, æt. 24. On the north side of the great chancel, an ancient alabaster one, with the effigy of a woman kneeling at a desk, for Mrs. Blanche Marler, a descendant of the ancient family of Bury. In the north chancel is another of the same description, enclosed in an iron railing, with the full-length figures of a man and woman lying on it; at the head of the former is his son, and at his feet his daughter, both kneeling; and underneath an infant reclining on a pillow. This is to the memory of William Draper, Esq. of Crayford, obt. 1660, and Mary his wife, youngest daughter of Richard Cresheld, Sergeant at Law, and Justice of the Common Pleas, and of their three children: Mrs. Draper died in 1652, having bequeathed £30 to the poor of Erith, and £100 to the poor of this parish. In the great chancel, on the north side, a memorial for Gilbert Crokatt, M.A. Minister of this parish 19 years, obt. April 16th, 1711; and for his eldest son, William Fownes Crokatt, Esq. obt. 1727: another for Rev. Robert Newman, Rector of this parish; he died Dec. 9th, 1626: a mural monument for Robert Gardener, A.M. Rector of Ridley, in this county, obt. Aug. 8th, 1688, æt. 40. In the south chancel is a very handsome obelisk of black marble, under a canopy of white, for Dame Elizabeth, widow of Sir Cloudesley Shovel, Rear Admiral of England, &c.; and adjoining is a mural monument for Robert

43

Mansel, eldest son and heir of Thomas Lord Mansel, who married Anne, daughter of Sir Cloudesley Shovel; he died in 1723. Near the pulpit, another of the same kind for Mrs. Mary Vint, widow of Edward Vint, Esq. who died Feb. 9th, 1832, in the 95th year of her age: also one for Sir Stephen Cottrell, Master of the Ceremonies to the King, and for more than 40 years Clerk in Ordinary to the Privy Council; he died 23d May, 1818, aged 80 years; and, lastly, for his lady, who was eldest daughter of Lieut. Gen. Thomas Desaguliers; born 6th June, 1747, died July, 27th, 1814.

Crayford Church is dedicated to St. Paulinus.

East Wickham House, in the Parish of East Wickham, the property of Richard Jones, Esq. is a substantial modern mansion, situated about two miles and a half south-east from Woolwich, and distant from London about 11 miles. It came into this family about the year 1739, by the marriage of Thomas Jones, Esq. Comptroller of the Royal Artillery, with Martha Pelham, daughter and heiress of Charles Pelham, Esq. Shortly after his marriage, Mr. Jones pulled down the old house, and built the present mansion, still retaining the extensive, old-fashioned Dutch gardens with which it was ornamented. His son, Richard Jones, Esq. Colonel in the First Regiment of Foot Guards, and father of the present proprietor, modernised and altered the grounds to their present state.

East Wickham Court, in the Parish of East Wickham, the residence of Robert Dickson, Gentleman, and property of Isaac Lyon Goldsmid, Esq. is situated between East Wickham House and the church, in the midst of very agreeable gardens and pleasure grounds. The house, which is ancient, has been

considerably modernised: the land appertaining to it presents a good specimen of Kentish farming. It is distant from Woolwich a little more than two miles, and from London about 11 miles.

Goldie Lee, in the Parish of East Wickham, the property of Basil Heron Goldie, Esq. is situated about two miles south-east from Woolwich, and about half a mile northward from East Wickham Church. It is a modern building, on an elevated site, commanding a fine view of Shooter's Hill and the intermediate country. It is distant from London about 11 miles.

Bramblebury, in the Parish of Plumsted, the seat of Mrs. Frances Dickinson, is beautifully situated on an elevation, about one mile south of the banks of the Thames, which gives it a most interesting view of that river, with its ever-varying scenery. The mansion is surrounded by grounds that, under the superintendence of the proprietress, have been laid out and planted with the happiest effect. Few places, of like extent, can boast of such picturesque beauty, the natural advantages of the spot being improved by the fine taste of its fair owner. The interior is not less admirable. The rooms are well arranged,

44

and decorated with specimens of oriental, ancient, and modern embellishments.

Bramblebury is distant from the metropolis rather more than nine miles.

Shrewsbury House, in the Parish of Plumsted, the seat of John Cooper, Esq. is situated on the north-east edge of Shooter's Hill, and commands prospects unequalled in any other part of the county. The metropolis, the shipping, the winding course of the Thames to the verge of the horizon, the County of Essex, and the most interesting parts of Kent, including the populous towns of Greenwich and Woolwich, are all presented to the eye in a vast panorama from the leads of this lofty mansion. This was the residence, for a considerable time, of her late Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte, during her education: and certainly no situation could have been selected more salubrious, or better adapted to compose the attention to literary pursuits. In the study there is an immense globe geographically delineated on the floor, formed, it is said, to familiarise the science to the mind of the illustrious pupil. The interior of this house is decorated with many works of art, among which are paintings by Waltean, Permignano, De Here, Weenix, Glover, Chamberlain, and others; some fine sculpture, &c.

This mansion was erected by the Earl of Shrewsbury, and has been considerably improved by its present owner. It is distant from London about nine miles.

Among the monuments in Plumsted Church we selected the following:

A mural monument for Peter Denham, Esq. obt. 1736, whose ancestor made a large benefaction to the steeple: a grave-stone for John Gossage, who caused this church to be repaired, after it had lain in a ruinous state above twenty years; he died 1672: another for Benjamin Barnett, D.D. Prebendary of Gloucester, and Vicar of Plumsted, obt. 1707, æt. 57. On the north wall of the nave, an elegant monument for John Lidgbird, Esq. of Shooter's Hill, obt. 1772: a monument for General Sir Thomas Bloomfield, Bart. late of Shooter's Hill, Colonel Commandant of the 9th Battalion of the Royal Regiment of Artillery, Inspector of Artillery, and of the Royal Foundry at Woolwich, who died Aug. 24th, 1822, aged 79 years; and for Elizabeth, relict of the above, who died Aug. 21st, 1826, aged 81 years; she was daughter of Sir John Eardley Wilmot, Knt. Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas: another for Lieutenant General Douglas, Senior Colonel Commandant of the Royal Artillery, and Director General of the Field Train; he was born August 14th, 1744, and died April 4th, 1827: also one for General Sir William Green, Bart. Chief Royal Engineer, died Jan. 11th, 1811, aged 86 years; he was late of Bramblebury, in this parish. In the church-yard are interred several officers of the Royal Artillery and their families, and other distinguished individuals.

Plumsted Church is dedicated to St. Nicholas.

45

THE HUNDRED OF ROKESLEY.

Brampton Place, in the Parish of Bexley, formerly belonged to Austin Parke Goddard, Esq. who alienated it to Mr. Peter Warren, of London. He, dying in 1772, left it to his son, Alport Peter Warren, Esq. who sold it to Mr. Francis Vanaghen, of London.

Danson, in the Parish of Bexley, the seat of Mrs. Johnston, was built by Sir John Boyd, Bart. after an Italian model. It is a very elegant structure, of Portland stone, situated in a beautiful and extensive park, which is intersected by a fine sheet of water. The grounds were laid out, in Sir John Boyd's time, by the celebrated Brown. In the conservatory is an antique vase that was brought from Italy by Sir John, an engraving of which will be found in Perene's work. This vase ranks among the first specimens now existing of the ancient Italian artists. The interior of this mansion is spacious and elegant, and decorated with some fine antique statues: there is also an excellent landscape, by Wilson.

Danson is distant from London nearly 11 miles.

The name of Danson, formerly called Daunson, alias Daunsington, belonged, in the reign of Elizabeth, to Matthew, second son of Matthew Parker, Archbishop of Canterbury, who, dying without issue surviving, left it at his father's disposal, and he gave it to his son John. It afterwards came into the possession of Mr. John Styleman, of London, who was five times married. At his death, in 1734, he bequeathed the moiety of the manor in trust for certain charities mentioned in his will. This moiety, including Danson and the adjoining land, was subsequently let to John Boyd, Esq. of London, who, in the second year of George III. having procured an Act, vested in the trustees a rent-charge of £100 per annum, in lieu of the above-named moiety, which was vested in fee simple in him and his heirs. In May, 1775, John Boyd, Esq. was elevated to the rank of baronet.

The Hollies, in the Parish of Bexley, is the seat of Thomas Lewin, Esq. a magistrate and deputy lieutenant for the Counties of Kent and Hants. This park is contiguous, on the west, to that of Lamaby, and is distant from Bexley nearly three miles in a direction due west. Its situation is extremely pleasant. The house was greatly improved, in 1776, by the father of the present proprietor. Among the internal decorations is a portrait, by Sir Joshua Reynolds, of Mrs. Sheridan, daughter of Thomas Linley, Esq. and a scriptural piece by Poussin.

The Hollies is between 11 and 12 miles from London.

46

Lamb Abbey, in the Parish of Bexley, the seat of John Malcolm, Esq. appears to have been rebuilt in 1744 by William Steele, Esq. who then possessed it. This is a very delightful residence; the grounds well laid out, and particularly beautiful. The park abounds with fine trees, and a large sheet of water, that sweeps eastward from the mansion, adds considerably to the beauty of the scene. The interior is elegantly fitted up, and embellished with paintings by Canaletti, Bassano, &c.

It is distant from Bexley rather more than two miles, and from the Metropolis between 11 and 12 miles.

Lamb Abbey, a corruption of Lamaby, or Lamienby, belonged formerly to a family named Lamienby, alias Sparrow; the last of whom, Thomas Sparrow, died in 1513, and left the estate to his daughter, Agnes, who carried it in marriage to James Goldwell, a descendant of the Goldwells of Great Chart. Of one of the posterity of this gentleman it was purchased by James, and John James

passed it away to Nicholas Warren, Esq. who conveyed it to Thomas Foster, and he again, about 1744, sold it to William Steele, Esq. above mentioned. His son dying, s.p. this property descended to his four sisters, one of whom sold her share to Robert Dingley, Esq.; and the shares of the other three, after passing through different hands, were purchased, in 1783, by David Orme, Esq. M.D. of great St. Helen's, London, who also bought, the same year, of Mr. Dingley's son, the Rev. R. H. Dingley, the remaining fourth part. Dr. Orme added to and greatly improved the seat.

Blendon Hall, in the Parish of Bexley, is situated somewhat more than a mile westward from Bexley.

This place was anciently written Bladindon Court, and was possessed by a family of that name, which in time was contracted into Blendon. Jordan de Bladindon, about the 1st year of Richard II. passed it away to Walsingham, who continued proprietors of it till the end of the reign of Henry IV. and then sold it to Ferbie, of Paul's Cray Hill; one of whose descendants, in the beginning of Henry VI. conveyed it to William Marshall, by whom it was alienated to Rawlins. Of this family it was purchased by May, who, in the reign of Charles I. conveyed it to the Wroths: John Wroth, Esq. was created a baronet in 1660. At his death, in 1671, this estate descended to his son, Sir John Wroth, Bart. subject to a mortgage of 1000 years. In the year 1672 Edward Brewster became owner of the residue of this term, and in 1673 conveyed his interest to Sir Edward Brett. At his death, in 1684, he bequeathed his interest in this estate to his sister's grandson, John Fisher, Esq. who thereupon took the name of Brett, and who, in 1731, purchased of the heirs of Sir John Wroth the fee and inheritance of the estate; and at his death, in 1732, s. p. devised it to Jacob Sawbridge, Esq.; to him, in 1748, succeeded his second son, Jacob Sawbridge, Esq. of Canterbury, who, about 1763, sold it to Lady Mary Scott, a daughter of Charles, the fourth son of George Compton, Earl of Northampton, who had conferred on her, by special favour, the rank of an earl's daughter. This lady erected a neat house on the old site, and at her death, in 1782, devised the property to William Scott, Esq. (the brother of her late and second husband, and one of the family of Scott's Hall,) of whom it was purchased by Lieutenant General James Pattison.

47

Bridgen Place, in the Parish of Bexley, the seat of the Rev. Edward Cokayne Frith, a Magistrate for the County, is situated less than a mile to the west of Bexley, and not more than half a mile eastward from Blendon Hall. It stands on a gentle elevation, from which a grassy slope descends to the Bourne Water, that passes through the grounds, contributing materially to the beauty of the place. The mansion is handsome and spacious, and commands extensive prospects over a fertile and highly interesting part of the county. It was built about 60 years ago, by William Cope, Esq. and purchased by the present proprietor in the year 1821.

Bridgen Place is distant from London about 12 miles.

Parkhurst, in the Parish of Bexley, the seat of Frederick Holbrooke, Esq. F.S.A. is situated on the west of Bexley, about one-third of a mile from the church. This house, erected in the middle of the last century, was for several years the residence of the Rev. William Conybeare, D.D. of Christ-church, Oxford, son of Dr. John Conybeare, Bishop of Bristol. It was considerably altered and much improved in 1831, under the direction of the late Mr. John Shaw, the Architect of Christ's Hospital, by whom the sitting-rooms, the hall, and staircase were completed in the Elizabethan style. In the upper compartments of the bay-window in the drawing-room are the armorial bearings of the Sovereigns of Europe in the 16th century; which are splendid, and in good preservation. The windows in the hall, and in several other rooms, are also ornamented with antique stained glass, chiefly heraldic and scriptural subjects. There are drawings and paintings, by Berchew, Polenbery, Clover, and Robson. The following portraits are originals: John Donne, (the poet,) D.D. Dean of St. Paul's, in the reign of James I. obt. 1631, by Vandyck; this is the only original of Dr. Donne in existence: Anne Hyde, Duchess of York, daughter of the Lord Chancellor Clarendon, obt. 1671, by Sir Peter Lely: Anne Wyndham, daughter

of Thomas Wyndham, Esq. Groom of the Bedchamber to Charles II. obt. 1727, by Sir Peter Lely.

The surrounding country is mostly irregular and picturesque, and the garden and grounds are richly ornamented with American plants and evergreens.

Parkhurst is distant from London about 13 miles.

High Street House, in the Parish of Bexley, the residence of Mrs. Chapman, belonged formerly to the Goldwells, from whom it passed to the family of Austen, of Hall Place. By two female co-heirs of this house it was at length sold to John Thorpe, Esq. F.S.A. the only son of the learned antiquary Dr. John Thorpe, M.D. and F.R.S. He rebuilt this seat in 1761, and, dying in 1792,

48

left two daughters, his co-heiresses, the younger of whom having married Cuthbert Potts, Esq. of London, on a division of their father's property, received this as part of her share; Mr. Potts, in her right, becoming entitled to it.

Bexley Manor House, in the Parish of Bexley, is situated on the north-east, near the Church. Richard Leigh, Esq. of Hawley House, in the Parish of Sutton-at-Hone, is the present lessee.

Cenulph, King of Mercia, having subdued the kingdom of Kent, gave Bexley, or Bixley, to Wilfred, Archbishop of Canterbury, for the use of Christchurch, in Canterbury; and it continued part of the possessions of that See till Cranmer, in the 29th year of Henry VIII. yielded it to that Monarch. The manor of Bexley remained in the Crown till James I. granted it in fee to his jeweller, Sir John Spilman, who shortly after sold it to William Camden, Esq. the antiquary, and Clarencieux King at Arms. This great man, being desirous to promote the study of history, to which he had contributed largely by his writings, founded an historical lecture in the University of Oxford, and vested in the Chancellor, Masters, &c. of the University, as an endowment for it, his right in this manor, with all the profits and emoluments; making, however, this proviso, that William Heather, Esq. should enjoy, for 99 years from the death of the donor, the profits of the estate, and should pay yearly to the University, during that period, the sum of £140. Camden died in 1623. Mr. Heather parted with his interest in it to Sir Francis Leigh, of Addington, in Surrey, whose great grandson, Francis Leigh, Esq. of Hawley, being in possession of the manor when the above term expired, had a lease granted to him by the University for 21 years, which has been renewed from time to time.

Bridge House, in the Parish of Bexley, the residence of Edwin Cottingham, Esq. is situated on the banks of the river Cray, near High Street House, at Bexley. It is an agreeable place, surrounded by pleasure grounds, and sheltered by lofty trees. Among the internal decorations we observed a good painting of 'Birds,' by Melchior Hondekoeter.

Hurst House, in the Parish of Bexley, the residence of Walter Allen Meriton, Esq. is situated about a mile south-west from Bexley. Mr. Meriton has a good painting, over the mantel-piece in the dining-room, of the loss of the Halswell, East Indiaman, off Peverel Point, January 6th, 1786; and a fine portrait of Henry Meriton, Esq. Superintendant of the Bombay Marine, &c. We saw here, also, a remarkably good model of a three-decker of 130 guns.

Bourne Place, in the Parish of Bexley, the seat of the Rev. Thomas Garbett, M. A. is a modern structure, situated on the banks of the Bourne Water, near its junction with the river Cray, whence it takes its name. It has been much improved by the present proprietor. Among the decorations in the interior are an Ecce Homo, by Carlo Dolce; and Roman Ruins, by Panini, &c.

49

This house was built by Laurence Holker, Esq. of London, a descendant of an ancient family resident at Holker, near Furness Abbey, in Lancashire. Mr. Holker died, unmarried, in 1793, having devised Bourne Place, with other estates, to his sister, Mrs. Thorpe; but as he survived her,

her two daughters became entitled to the property; and on a partition, this was allotted to the youngest, married to Cuthbert Potts, Esq. of London, who, in her right, became proprietor of it.

Bourne Place is about half a mile north from Bexley, on the east side of the road thence to Crayford.

Hall Place, in the Parish of Bexley, the property of Francis Dashwood, Esq. is situated about half way between Bexley and Crayford, fronting the road westward.

This ancient mansion is at present occupied as a school for young gentlemen.

This estate belonged formerly to a family who, from it, were styled At-Hall, the last of whom, Thomas At-Hall, in the 41st Edward III. conveyed it to Thomas Shelle, of Gaysum, in Westerham, in which name it continued till William Shelley, in the 29th year of Henry VIII. passed it away to Sir John Champneis, of London. His grandson, Richard Champneis, Esq. conveyed it to Robert, afterwards Sir Robert Austen, who died in 1666. By members of this family it was successively inherited till Sir Robert Austen, Bart. of Tenterden, died in 1772, without issue, when the title became extinct; and, he having been only tenant for life, the fee of the estate, by the will of one of his predecessors, Sir Robert Austen, Bart. who died in 1743, became vested in Francis, Lord Le Despencer, who, at his death, in 1781, devised it to Francis Dashwood, Esq.

Hallcot, in the Parish of Bexley, the seat of Lady Anne Dashwood, is the property of her son Francis Dashwood, Esq. It is situated not far from Hall Place, on the opposite side of the road, nearer Crayford.

Lady Anne is a daughter of the Earl of Lauderdale.

Hallcot, formerly called Mount Pleasant, was built on a part of the Hall Place Estate, by Richard Simms, Esq. of Blackheath, on his marriage with a sister of Sir Robert Austen, Bart. who died in 1743. His daughter carried her interest in it, in marriage, to Granado Piggot, Esq. and at her death (she having survived her husband), it was purchased by Thomas Edsall, Esq.; but, he becoming a bankrupt in 1778, the remainder of his term was sold to William Selwyn, Esq. K.C. the inheritance, nevertheless, belonging to Francis Dashwood, Esq. above mentioned.

East Lodge, in the Parish of Bexley, the seat of the Rev. Richard Davies, M.A. Vicar of Erith, and a magistrate for the county, is situated about one mile and a quarter north-west from Bexley, on the south side of the high road from Crayford to London, and distant from the latter about twelve miles. It is a small neat house, of modern architecture, very pleasantly situated. Here is an excellent landscape, by Wilson, one of the only two (the other being at Danson) which we can recollect having seen in the county.

50

Vicarage House, in the Parish of Bexley, the residence of the Rev. Thomas Harding, M.A. is a modern house, situated less than a quarter of a mile south of the church. This is a highly favoured spot, enjoying pre-eminently the advantages of a most respectable neighbourhood, with the richest fertility, and a diversity of picturesque scenery.

Bexley Church. This fabric is dedicated to St. Mary, and consists of a large chancel and two aisles. It is replete with interesting objects, not the least striking of which are the numerous funeral memorials. The handsome altar-piece was given, about 1705, by the Rev. Benjamin Huntington, the Vicar, to whose memory there is a mural monument in the south chancel: he also left £50 for the poor of the parish; obt. Jan. 1st, 1706, æt. 66. On the south side of the chancel is a confessionary, consisting of three divisions of pointed arches, and a recess for holy water; and on the north side are seven old oak stalls, curiously carved.

The following are the most remarkable monuments:

In the south aisle, a mural monument for John Styleman, Esq. of London, merchant, who provided in his will for the foundation and endowment of 12 alms-houses, for 12 poor families of this parish; he died in 1734, aged 82: another of the same kind, for Mary Anne, wife of Neill Malcolm, of Poltallock, in Argyleshire, Esq. sole surviving daughter and heiress of David Orme, of Lamb Abbey, Esq. who died Oct. 14th, 1830, in the 56th year of her age: Neill Malcolm, Esq. above named, died Jan. 24th, 1837, in the 68th year of his age. In the north aisle, a mural monument for Edward Austen, Esq. third son of Sir Robert Austen, Bart. of Hall Place, obt. 1712; also for John Austen, Esq. his son, obt. 1750; and for his daughter Elizabeth, obt. 1755: a tablet to Sir Edward Brett, Kt. descended from the ancient family of the Bretts, of Whitstanton, in the county of Somerset, who served in the wars in Germany, under Gustavus Adolphus; he was recalled thence by Charles I. who required his assistance at home, and was knighted on the field of battle for a signal service performed in the county of Cornwall, A.D. 1644, under the command of Bernard, Earl of Lichfield. Subsequently, he commanded in the Netherlands, by the favour of William, Prince of Orange. At the time of his death, 12th Feb. 1683, in the 75th year of his age, he was Deputy Lieutenant to the Earl of Craven, in the county of Middlesex, and Sergeant Porter of his Majesty's Palaces. Sir E. Brett married Barbara, only daughter and heir of Sir John Fleming, descended from the ancient family of Fleming, of Flemsted Castle, in the county of Glamorgan, who died at the Hague, 22d Oct. 1674, and was buried at Flushing. A handsome monument for Mrs. Mary Lewin, who died in 1772, aged 38 years; and for Capt. Richard Lewin, who died Feb. 5th, 1810, aged 90 years; also for Mary, wife of Thomas Lewin, Esq. of Hollies, in this parish, eldest son of the above, who departed this life Nov. 20th, 1837, aged 70; she was eldest daughter of Gen. John Hall, of Gisborough, in the county of York: another for Elizabeth, wife of John Smith, Esq. M.P. of Blendon Hall, in this parish, who died April 16th, 1809, in the 35th year of her age. In the north chancel, on the north side, is a mural monument, with the effigies of a man and woman kneeling at a desk, for Sir John Champneis, sometime Lord Mayor of London, obt. 1556; he married Meriell, eldest daughter of John Barrett, Esq. of Belhouse, in Essex. On the east side, a handsome monument, enclosed within iron rails, for

51

Sir Robert Austen, Bart. who died 166G, aged 79. On the south side of the chancel, a mural monument, for Lady Mary Gerard Cosein, late wife of Sir Gilbert Gerard Cosein, Bart. of Yorkshire, sole issue of Charles, Lord Berkeley, of Rathdown, Earl of Falmouth, &c. Before the altar, a grave-stone, for Sir Richard Ford, Lord Mayor of London in 1671; he died in 1678, aged 65. On the north side of the chancel, a monument in memory of the Rev. William Green, M.A. Vicar of this parish, who died in 1808, aged 69 years. Over the door, another for Catherine, wife of John Thorpe, Esq. F.S.A. who died in 1789, aged 60: and lastly, a tablet in memory of Mrs. Mary Mason, which narrates that this most excellent woman bequeathed the residue of her fortune for the following benevolent purposes: one-third to be distributed among the poor of Bexley in provisions, on the day before Christmas-day; another third in coals, and the remaining third to be divided among those parishioners who have brought up the largest family without parochial relief.

A chapel of ease has been recently built by subscription, on Bexley Heath; the Incorporated Society for building Churches having granted £300 in aid hereof. It was consecrated and opened for divine service on Nov. 7th, 1836, by the Archbishop of Canterbury.

Vale Mascal, in the Parish of North Cray, the seat of Charles John Lawson, Esq. a magistrate for the county, is beautifully situated on the banks of the river Cray, about half a mile south-west from Bexley. The house is modern, and has a handsome appearance. From the principal front is seen a brilliant cascade, formed by the whole body of the Cray, which, in the foreground, expands into a lake, where the trout play in abundance. In the centre of the lake is a small sylvan island, which might be fancifully compared to Calypso's fairy isle.

The interior of the mansion is elegantly fitted up: we remarked among the decorations a fine painting of Venus reproved by Vulcan in the presence of Mars, but by whom we could not learn.

Vale Mascal is distant from London about 13 miles.

Vale Mascal was built by Thomas Tash, Esq. second son of Sir John Tash, of London, on part

of the estate of Mount Mascal, belonging to Sir John Barker, Bart. On his death, in 1737, by some omission in Lady Barker's settlement, this estate passed to their son Sir John Fitch Barker, Bart. who, dying s. p. in 1766, bequeathed it to Robert Nassau, Esq. second son of the Hon. Richard Savage Nassau, brother of the Earl of Rochford. Of this gentleman it was purchased, in 1782, by John Maddocks, Esq. who was succeeded by his son of the same name.

Mount Mascal, in the Parish of North Cray, the seat of Bertie C. Cater, Esq. Captain in the Royal Navy, and a magistrate, and Deputy Lieutenant for the county, occupies an elevated site, as its name implies, about half a mile south from Bexley. It is a handsome substantial structure, lofty, and turretted at each corner, commanding extensive prospects over a rich and most interesting

52

portion of the county. Among the elegant decorations with which the interior abounds, are paintings by Salvator Rosa, Panini, Cuyp, &c. &c.

This mansion is supposed to have been built in the reign of Charles II. it was modernised in the year 1817. The approach is through an avenue of majestic elms, in double rows.

Mount Mascal stands on part of the estate of the ancient noted, but now almost forgotten, Jacket's Court, the property of the Jacket family. From this name it passed by sale to that of Switzer, one of whom, in the reign of Elizabeth, conveyed it to Edmund Cooke, Esq. of Lesnes Abbey, whose grandson, George Cooke, Esq. passed away Mount Mascal with Jacket's Court to Sir John Leman, second son of John Leman, Esq. of Gillingham, in Norfolk. He alienated them to William Wiffin, of London, whose daughter Hannah entitled her husband, Thomas Bayles, Esq. of the Temple, to this estate, and he sold it to Sir Thomas Fitch, of Eltham, whose grand-daughter, Alice, at the death of her father, Sir Comport Fitch, Bart. in 1720, inherited it, and carried it in marriage, in 1740, to Sir John Barker, Bart. of Sproughton, in Suffolk. Lady Barker, surviving her husband, became by her marriage settlement possessed again of Mount Mascal and Jacket's Court; and outliving also her son, Sir John Fitch Barker, Bart. left it, at her death, in 1771, to three of the daughters of her second husband, Philip Brooke, Esq. of Nacton, in Suffolk; and they, in 1781, sold it to John Maddocks, Esq. who died in 1794, leaving it in possession of his widow.

Wollet Hall, in the Parish of North Cray, the seat of Richard Gosling, Esq. Banker in London, is situated on the banks of the river Cray, about one mile south-west from Bexley. It formerly belonged to Neighbour Frith, Esq. of London, who, at his death, in 1776, devised it to his nephew, the Rev. Edward Cokayn, who thereupon took the name of Frith. Of this gentleman it was purchased by Captain Bertie C. Cator, who disposed of it to the present proprietor.

Its distance from London is about 14 miles.

North Cray Rectory House. This house is very delightfully situated on the east side of the road, about half way between Bexley and Foots Cray. It was built by the Rev. Thomas Moore, with the aid of £700 and two acres of land, contributed by the patron of the benefice, the Rev. William Hetherington. The grounds are very beautiful, and agreeably surrounded with elegant villas and mansions.

North Cray Place, the residence of Samuel Nettleship, Esq. is the property of the Right Hon. Lord Bexley, from the grounds of whose elegant seat it is separated only by a fine sheet of water, formed by the river Cray. This is a stately modern mansion, pleasantly situated: the grounds are remarkably beautiful, and adorned with the choicest shrubs. The interior is spacious and handsome.

North Cray Place is distant from London about 13 miles.

53

The manor of North Cray, in the reign of Richard I. belonged to the family of Rokesle, which name they assumed from their possessions in Rokesle, or Ruxley, then a distinct parish. In descendants of this name it continued many years, passing, in the reign of Edward III. by failure of male issue, to the De Poynings; and from these, in the 25th Henry VI. on the death of Robert De Poynings, to his cousin Alianore, wife of Sir Henry Percy. The ancient family of Percy derive their origin from Mainfred de Perci, who came from Denmark into Normandy, and thence into England, with William the Conqueror. The last of this family who possessed this estate was Henry, Earl of Northumberland, who, the year preceding his decease, i. e. in the 28th Henry VIII. granted to that monarch all his lands and possessions in this country. Henry VIII. in his 36th year, gave this manor to Sir Roger Cholmeley, who held it but two years, and then alienated it to Sir Martin Bowes, to whom succeeded his son William Bowes, Esq. whose daughter Elizabeth, receiving it as her portion of her father's property in 1634, entitled her husband, Mr. William Buggin, to it. Their descendant, John Buggin, Esq. sold it, about 1710, to Thomas D'Aeth, Esq. who, in junction with his son Narborough D'Aeth, Esq. about 1738, sold it to Jeffery Hetherington, Esq. and he dying unmarried, in 1767, devised it to his brother, the Rev. William Hetherington, Rector of Farnham Royal, in Buckinghamshire. At his death, in 1778, he bequeathed it to Thomas Coventry, Esq. a descendant of the ancestors of the Earl of Coventry.

In North Cray Church are the following memorials:

In the chancel, a grave stone for the Rev. Josias Bull, 24 years Rector of this church, obt. Oct. 22d, 1656. Near the altar, a tablet for the Rev. Charles Weale, Rector of this parish, who died May 8th, 1701, aged 51; and his two daughters. On the north wall, for Jonathan Reade, Rector, anno 1709. Above the pulpit, a mural monument for Elizabeth, daughter of William Bowes, Esq. wife of William Buggin, Esq. obt. 1657, æt. 79. Facing the entrance is a fine figure in white marble, in the attitude of supplication, in commemoration of Octavia, Lady Ellenborough, wife of Edward Law, second Lord Ellenborough, and daughter of Robert Stewart, Marquis of Londonderry, who departed this life March 5th, 1819, in the 27th year of her age. Near the altar, on the north side, a tablet for the Rev. Thomas Moore, instituted Rector of this church July 18th, 1766, and died Feb. 1st, 1823, aged 85 years.

This Church is dedicated to St. James.

Foots Cray Place, in the Parish of Foots Cray, the seat of the Rt. Hon. Nicholas Vansittart, Lord Bexley, is a beautiful structure, after a design of Andrea Palladio. This celebrated architect was born at Vicenza in 1508, and died in 1580. He rose, by merit, from moderate circumstances to the rank of nobility. He commenced as sculptor; but Tressino, the poet, perceiving his inclination for the mathematics, explained to him the architecture of Vitruvius, and accompanied him in three journeys to Rome, where Palladio studied and designed after the ancient monuments in that city. In these pursuits he discovered the true principles of an art, that in his time was buried in Gothic barbarity. One of the chief of the noble structures which this illustrious architect raised, is the Theatre

54

Degli Olimpici, at Vicenza. Foots Cray Place and Mereworth Castle are the only specimens of this order in the country.

Foots Cray Place is distant from London about 12 miles.

The Manor of Foots Cray, in the 21st year of Henry VIII. was purchased of Christopher Heron, Esq. by Sir Edmund Walsingham, whose descendant, Sir Francis Walsingham, Principal Secretary of State to Queen Elizabeth, in the seventh and eighth of her Majesty's reign, sold, by fine, part of the demesnes of the manor to John Ellis, on which part was built Foots Cray Place. From the name of Ellis this estate passed to that of Limen, and afterwards to Smith. The heirs of Mr. George Smith alienated it to Bouchier Cleve, Esq. of London, who erected the present elegant mansion, and enclosed it in a park, having purchased a further part of the demesne lands of Edward Townsend, Esq. of Brockley, in Deptford, the proprietor of the manor. He died in 1760; and his daughter, Elizabeth,

in 1765, carried it in marriage to Sir George Younge, Bart. who, in 1772, sold it to Benjamin Harenc, Esq. of London.

In the Church of Foots Cray there is a white marble urn, embedded in a mural slab of black marble, and inscribed as follows: Emma Sydney Charlotte Harenc, Benjamin et Sophiæ nuper de villa adjacente filia secunda, nata indole ingenua, forma præstans. Quum annos nondum decem vixerat subito oppressa morbo, hic infra deposita, die Junii vi/a M DCCC XXII. This is the sole monument worthy of notice.

The Church is dedicated to All Saints.

Sidcup, in the Parish of Chislehurst, the seat of Henry Berens, Esq. Barrister at Law, is very pleasantly situated about three-quarters of a mile west from Foots Cray. This house, we may presume, was built in 1743, that date being visible on the gables. The interior is richly decorated with paintings, among which the following attracted our attention: a remarkable one by Wouter Crabeth, 1567; a fine painting by Sir Joshua Reynolds; a very animated hunting piece by Abraham Hondius; beautiful copy from Titian; and the head of a boy, by Furini, lately in Lord Warwick's collection. The panels of the drawing-room are ornamented with sketches in oil, by Mr. J. West, a modern artist, now in Rome.

Sidcup is distant from London about 12 miles.

Frognall, in the Parish of Chislehurst, the seat of the Rt. Hon. John Robert Townshend, Viscount Sydney, is situated about half a mile south-west from Foots Cray.

Frognall is distant from London about 12 miles.

This place, in the reign of Henry III. belonged to the family of Barber, which, becoming extinct in the reign of Edward II. was followed by that of Cressel. From this name, about the end of Henry Eighth's reign, it passed by sale to Dyneley, whose descendant, Sir John Dyneley, in the time of

55

James I. passed it away to William Watkins, Esq. and he, in the latter part of Charles I. alienated it to Philip Warwick, Esq. He was succeeded by his son, Philip Warwick, Esq. after whose death Frognall was purchased by the Tryons. After the decease of Thomas Tryon, Esq. this estate went into Chancery, and under a decree of that court was sold to the Hon. Thomas Townshend, who, in 1780, was succeeded by his eldest son, the Rt. Hon. Thomas Townshend, who was, in 1783, created Baron Sydney, and, in 1789, advanced to the title of Viscount Sydney.

Scadbury, in the Parish of Chislehurst, the property of the Rt. Hon. John Robert Townshend, Viscount Sydney, is situated on the south-west of Frognall, from which it is distant nearly one mile. The grounds surrounding this ancient site, though not definitely circumscribed as a park, have a very parklike appearance, and are adorned with fine timber, particularly oaks, of great age and magnitude. An elm, that we noticed, 120 feet high and 24 feet in girth, may convey some idea of the wood on this estate. The site of the ancient mansion is clearly to be traced: the moat still contains water in some parts, and there are the remains of the bridge over it.

This manor, in former times, belonged to a family who took their name from it. Anne, daughter of John de Scadbury, in the reign of Edward III. carried it in marriage to Osmund de Walsingham, in whose descendants it continued till Sir Thomas Walsingham, about the time of the restoration, alienated it to Sir Richard Betenson, of Layer de la Haye, in Essex. He was succeeded, at his decease, by his grandson, Sir Edward Betenson, who, dying unmarried in 1733, was succeeded by his three sisters; the eldest of whom, Albinia, by her husband Major General Selwyn, left a son, John Selwyn, Esq.; and he, partly in right of his mother, and partly by purchase of his aunt, Lady Hewet, became possessed of this manor; but soon sold it to the Hon. Thomas Townshend, the husband of his

daughter, Albinia. Mr. Townshend, before his death, which happened in 1780, made over this estate to his eldest son, the Hon. Thomas Townshend, afterwards Viscount Sydney.

Pheasant Grove, in the Parish of Chislehurst, the seat of the Rt. Hon. William Draper Best, Lord Wynford, is situated one mile south-east from Chislehurst, and is distant from London about 12 miles.

On Chislehurst Common stands the beautiful seat of Mrs. Harenc, with its delightful pleasure grounds and gardens. It is but a very short distance westward from the church, and eastward from Camden Place. From London it is about 11 miles.

Coopers, in the Parish of Chislehurst, the seat of George Stone, Esq. Banker in London, is situated on the south of Chislehurst, its beautiful and well-wooded park extending from the church, southward, about a mile. This mansion is handsomely built of brick, and consists of a body and two wings, the principal front looking into the park. The interior is spacious and elegant, and adorned

56

with many works of art. There is a splendid portrait of Herring, Archbishop of Canterbury, by Hogarth; a landscape, by Cuyp; Dutch girl, by Schalcken; landscape, by Ruysdael; sea piece, by Backhuysen; two paintings by Van Goyen, two by Vandervelde; flowers and fruit, by Baptist, &c. &c. Those by Schalcken, Ruysdael, and Backhuysen were from the collection of the Duchess de Berri.

This delightful residence was purchased by this family of Sir Richard Adams, one of the Barons of the Exchequer, in the year 1783.

Coopers is distant from London about 11 miles.

Goodlands, in the Parish of Chislehurst, the seat of the Rt. Hon. Sir Herbert Jenner, Kt. D.C.L. Dean of the Arches, and Judge of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, is situated on the south-west of Chislehurst. It is a handsome structure, pleasantly seated in picturesque grounds, and distant from the Metropolis about 11 miles.

Camden Place, in the Parish of Chislehurst, the residence of Mrs. Martin, is a handsome modern mansion, with beautiful grounds, gardens, and shrubberies. This place is rendered famous by having once been the property, and now bearing the name, of the learned William Camden, author of the *Britannia*, who died here in November, 1623, aged 73. We next find Camden Place in possession of Weston, afterwards of Harry Spencer, Esq. who sold it to Morrice; and of him it was purchased by Charles Pratt, Esq. Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, created, in 1765, Baron Camden, of this place, and the following year advanced to the dignity of Lord High Chancellor. In 1786 he was further elevated to the rank of Earl. At his death, in 1794, he was succeeded by his son, John Jefferies, Earl Camden, from whom this estate passed to the family of Bonar, the present proprietors.

Homewood Lodge, in the Parish of Chislehurst, the seat of Matthew De Vitre, Esq. is situated about half a mile north-east from the Church of Chislehurst. It is a handsome residence, and forms a prominent feature in the scenery of this delightful neighbourhood.

The distance from London is about 11 miles.

Kemnal House, in the Parish of Chislehurst, the residence of William Rice, Gent. is situated rather more than a mile north from the church. This house has a stately appearance, and commands pleasant and interesting prospects.

It is distant from London about 11 miles.

There are also one or two other seats in this parish, concerning which we could not obtain the necessary particulars to enable us to insert them satisfactorily.

57

Chislehurst Church contains the following remarkable monuments:

In the south aisle, on the south side, a monument for Sir Philip Warwick, obt. 1682, æt. 74; and his wife, Joan Fanshaw, of Ware Park, first married to Sir Wm. Boteler, Bart.; and for Philip Warwick, Esq. their only son, who died, an Envoy to Sweden, in 1682. In the north aisle, a beautiful monument for Lord Thomas Bertie, Captain in the Royal Navy, obt. 1749, æt. 29; he was fourth son of Robert, Duke of Ancaster, by his second wife, Albinia, daughter of Lieutenant General Farrington, who died in 1746, æt. 46, and was interred here. On the north side, an altar tomb of Bethersden marble, under an arch of alabaster, for Sir Edmund Walsingham, Lieutenant of the Tower 22 years, obt. 1549; and for Sir Thomas Walsingham, Knt. the sixth in succession of that order, obt. 1630, æt. 64. On the east side, an elegant mural monument, with an urn, by Rysbrache, for Roger Townshend, son of Charles, Viscount Townshend, by his first wife, Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas, Lord Pelham, of Langton, obt. 1760, unmarried: near this, a monument for Sir Richard Betenson, Knt. and Bart. who died in 1679, æt. 78; and his wife, Anne, eldest daughter of Sir William Morryns, of Waldershare, who died in 1681, at a very advanced age: another, with a pyramid, in memory of Sir Ed. Betenson, Bart. of Scadbury, son of Richard Betenson, Esq. of Surrey, and grandson of Sir Richard Betenson, Bart. of this county, who died unmarried in 1733, aged 58. Near the communion table, on the left, a magnificent monument, by Chantrey, to the memory of William Selwyn, Esq. who departed this life Aug. 21st, 1817, in the 85th year of his age; and of his son, the Rev. George Selwyn, who died in the prime of life, Aug. 1st, 1800. On the south side of the east window, one for Prince Hoare, Esq. F.S.A. Foreign Secretary of the Royal Academy, and a member of the Royal Society of Literature, who died Dec. 22d, 1834; and, on the opposite side, another in memory of Mary and Anne Hoare, all of them the children of William Hoare, Esq. of Bath, R.A. Mary became the wife of Henry Hoare, Esq. of Beckenham, and Anne died unmarried. In the north-east corner of the church there is a monument for Thomas, Lord Viscount Sydney, and his brother, Charles Townshend, Esq. Lord Viscount Sydney, by the favour of his sovereign, was appointed to the several offices of Joint Paymaster of his Majesty's Forces, Secretary at War, Secretary of State, and Lord Chief Justice in Eyre, south of the Trent; he was created Baron Sydney, A.D. 1783, and raised to the dignity of a Viscount, A.D. 1789: he departed this life June 30th, 1800, aged 69 years. His brother Charles executed the office of one of the Deputy Tellers of the Exchequer, under his father, and under John, Earl of Camden, 41 years; and died unmarried Aug. 10th, 1799, in the 65th year of his age. This monument commemorates also several other members of this noble family.

In this church are also interred Lord Montague Bertie, second son of Robert, second Duke of Ancaster, by his second wife, who died in 1753; his brother, Lord Robert Bertie, who died in 1782; and several of the family of Farrington. In the church-yard there is a monument for the unfortunate Thomas Bonar, Esq. and Anne his wife, who were barbarously murdered in their chamber, May 31st, 1813, at their seat, Camden Place, in this parish.

Paul's Cray Hill, in the Parish of Paul's Cray, the seat of James Chapman, Esq. a Magistrate and Deputy Lieutenant for the County, is situated, not upon a hill, but at the foot of a gentle elevation that forms the west side of the park. It is a handsome structure, in the Elizabethan style; rather ancient, but in perfectly good repair. The grounds and walks are very pleasant, and kept in the neatest order.

58

It is distant from Paul's Cray about half a mile eastward, and from London about 14 miles.

Paul's Cray Hill was very early the residence of the family of Fereby, or Ferby, descendants of whom, in 1686, conveyed it to George Gifford, Esq. of Penis, in Fawkham, whose son, Thomas Gilford, Esq. dying without male issue, his property, partly by will and partly by descent, devolved on his three daughters. A partition being made, in 1718, of the property bequeathed to his daughters, Mary and Jane, one moiety of this estate was allotted to Jane and her husband, Francis Leigh, Esq. who were already possessed of the other moiety, and they, in 1722, conveyed it to Mr. William Chapman, who was succeeded by his son, Richard, whose daughter, Eleanor, carried it in marriage, first to Richard Abbott, Esq. and secondly to James Chapman, Esq. This lady left by her last

husband a son James, by whom this seat was inherited at his father's death.

Rectory, Paul's Cray, the seat of the Rev. Robert Burr Bourne, M.A. Rector, instituted 1836, is a handsome, lofty structure, having been greatly altered and improved by the present incumbent. It is in the Grecian style. The interior is very elegant; and among other decorations we remarked a painting, by Partridge, of a Boy, which was exhibited at the British Institution, in 1836, under the name of "The Happy Age."

The Rectory is distant from Foot's Cray about a mile, and from London about 13 miles.

In the Church of Paul's Cray are the following memorials:

In the chancel, a memorial for the Rev. John Ashley, A.M. Rector of this parish 41 years, obt. July 18th 1703, æt. 63; and Hannah his wife, obt. 1691, æt. 44; and two of his children, who died young: another for the Rev. William Scrafton, A.M. Rector of this parish 38 years, obt. Jan. 31st, 1743, æt. 64; and Frances his wife, obt. 1738, æt. 78; and for their grandson, Lieutenant Thomas Sharpe, who was lost in the *Ramilies*, Feb. 15th, 1760, æt. 24. In the south aisle, on the south side, a mural monument to the memory of Fanny, Lady Hoghton, relict of Sir Henry Hoghton, Bart. of Walton Hall, in the County Palatine of Lancaster, who died at the Rectory House in this parish, after a short illness, April 25th, 1803, in the 60th year of her age: another for Robert Jenner Neve, Esq. Captain in the Royal Navy, who died Feb. 3, 1815; and Amelia his wife, who died July 30th, 1835: below this, one for Sophia, wife of Edward Sison, Esq. who died Oct. 25th, 1810, aged 65 years; also for Edward Sison, Esq. who died Dec. 4th, 1817, aged 72 years.

In the church-yard, inclosed with an iron railing, is an altar-tomb in memory of James Chapman, Esq. of Paul's Cray Hill, in this parish, where he was born, 27th Sept. 1730, and where he died, 1st. Feb. 1824; and of Jane his wife, daughter of the Rev. Robert Maw, Rector of Rosminogue, and Prebendary of Tuam, in Ireland; she died May 24th, 1820, in the 81st year of her age; also for other members of this family: near this is another for Mary Chapman, wife of James Chapman, Esq. and daughter of the late William Greenwood, Esq. of Hillingdon, in Middlesex; she died Sept. 6th, 1837, aged 75 years.

Paul's Cray Church is dedicated to St. Paulinus.

59

Kevington, in the Parish of St. Mary Cray, the seat of Joseph Berens, Esq. a Magistrate for the County, and Chairman of the Quarter Sessions for the western division, is situated on the east of St. Mary Cray, at a distance of about half a mile. This is a handsome, substantial family mansion, of ancient erection, but improved and modernised in 1756, and again at several subsequent periods. The grounds that surround it are very beautiful, and well planted. Among the elegant decorations of the interior are paintings by Andrea Del Sarto, Antonio Mengs, Cuyp, Canaletto, Wouvermans, Ostade, Jan Steen, Van Achen, T. Van Huysen, Baptist, Vander Neer, and other eminent masters.

Kevington is distant from the Metropolis nearly 14 miles.

This manor was for many years the property and residence of the Manning family, who came very early from Saxony. At length Richard Manning, Esq. dying without issue, in 1753, bequeathed it to his nephew, Denzil Onslow, Esq. of Drungwick, in Sussex, whose son, Middleton Onslow, Esq. sold it to Herman Berens, Esq. of London, and this gentleman, at his death in 1794, was succeeded by his Son, Joseph Berens, Esq.

The Church of St. Mary Cray contains numerous memorials for the family of Manning: also a mural monument, in the south chancel, on which are the effigies of a man, with his son behind him, and his wife, kneeling at a desk, to the memory of Margaret, wife of Robert Crewet, citizen and grocer, of London, and daughter of Francis Haddon, Gent. of this parish, who died 1602; and of her son. In the north chancel, on a grave-stone, the figure of a woman in brass, with an inscription in black letter, for Elizabeth, late wife of George Cobham, brother to Lord Cobham; and

her first husband, John Hart, Esq. they being father and mother to Sir Percival Hart: she died in 1643.

This church is dedicated to St. Mary.

East Hall, in the Parish of Orpington, the residence of Capt. Dyke, is situated rather more than a mile eastward from Orpington.

This manor, in the reign of Edward I. belonged to the family of Chellesfield, from whom it went to Otho de Grandison, and from this time to the 2d year of Richard III. was handed down to the same proprietors with the manor of Chelsfield. In the reign of Henry VII. it was in possession of Sir Edward Poynings, K.G. who dying s. p. anno 14 Henry VIII. and without any kindred, it escheated to the Crown, whence it was granted to Thomas Cromwell, Earl of Essex. On his attainder it again became forfeited to the Crown, and was again granted, by the same king, in his 36th year, to Sir Martin Bowes, who alienated it, anno 1 Edward VI. to Sir Percival Hart, of Lullingstone. From him it descended lineally to Percival Hart, Esq. of Lullingstone, whose daughter, Anne, carried it to her second husband, Sir Thomas Dyke, Bart. of Horsham, in Sussex, to whom succeeded their son, Sir John Dixon Dyke, Bart. of Lullingstone.

Crofton Hall, in the Parish of Orpington, the residence of the Misses Percival, is situated one mile north from Farnborough.

It is distant from London nearly 14 miles.

60

This manor was part of the possessions of Odo, Bishop of Baieux. In the reign of Edward I. it had become the inheritance of Ralph de Wibourn, from which name it went, about the end of Edward III. to Sir Robert Belknap. On the death of his descendant, Sir Edward Belknap, s. p. anno 12 Henry VIII. this estate became the property of Sir William Shelley, the husband of his sister Alice, who sold it to Sir Robert Read, Chief Justice of the King's Bench, and he conveyed it to the Hospital of the Savoy, in London. At the suppression of this hospital, anno 7 Edward VI. the king gave part of its estates, including Crofton Manor, to the citizens of London, towards maintaining his house of Bridewell and the Hospital of St. Thomas; and on a division of the gift, this estate was allotted to St. Thomas's Hospital, with the trustees of which the inheritance still remains.

Orpington Church. Between the chancel and the nave of this little church there is a screen of oak, curiously carved. The western entrance is Norman. The following are the monuments most worthy of notice:

In the great chancel, on the north side, a monument for Richard Gee, Esq. obt. 1727: another for Philippa, relict of the above-named R. Gee, Esq. obt. 1744; and three elegant monuments; the first for William Gee, Esq. of this parish, and of Beddington Park, in the County of Surrey, who died August 3, 1815, in the 69th year of his age; also for Ann Paston Gee, his widow, who departed this life March 28th, 1828, in the 71st year of her age; the second, for Richard Gee, Esq. of this parish, who died July 9th, 1791, aged 85; also Mrs. Elizabeth Gee, his wife, who died Aug. 29th, 1771, aged 54; also Dame Philippa Isham, sister of the above Richard Gee, who died Dec. 17th, 1786, aged 79; and Philippa Gee, Spinster, who died Aug. 3d, 1817, aged 73; the third for Richard Carew, formerly Richard Gee, Esq. of this parish, and of Beddington Park, who died Dec. 18th, 1816, aged 71 years. On the south side, a curious monument, without date, for Richard Spencer, fourth son of the Hon. Richard Spencer, son of Robert, Lord Spencer: on adjoining grave-stones are memorials for Mary, wife of William Gee, Esq. of Bishop's Burton, in Yorkshire, one of the daughters and heirs of the Hon. Richard Spencer, obt. 1702; and for Margaret, wife of John Venables, Esq. of Agdon, in Cheshire, one of the daughters and heirs of the Hon. Richard Spencer, obt. 1676: a memorial for the Hon. Mary Spencer, widow of the Hon. Richard Spencer, daughter of Sir Richard Sandys, of Northborne, obt. 1675, æt. 69; another for the Hon. Richard Spencer, second son of Robert, Lord Spencer, Baron of Wormleighton, obt. 1661, æt. 68. On the south wall, west of the pulpit, a monument for Sir Richard Clode, who served the office of Sheriff for the City of London and Middlesex; he was born in Sept. 1752, and in the night of October 12th, 1804, was

called away from this world at a moment's warning; also for Martha, his widow, born 11th Sept. 1759, and died at Bath, July 10th, 1825. In the church-yard, over the vault of the Berens family, is a handsome tomb to the memory of Herman Berens, Esq. of Kivington, who died in Dec. 1794, in the 89th year of his age; also his wife, who died in July, 1790, aged 69 years; on the opposite side, for Joseph Berens, Esq. only surviving son of Herman and Magdalen Berens, born in London, 1746; in 1772, married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Edward Hulse, of Breamore, Bart. and died at Kivington, Dec. 19th, 1825, leaving his widow above-named, four sons, and two daughters; the above-named Elizabeth survived her husband only till April 22d, 1827.

Orpington Church is dedicated to All Saints.

Goddington, in the Parish of Chelsfield, the residence of Mrs. Harris, is situated one mile north from the church.

61

This manor was anciently one of the seats of a family of the same name, who had another mansion at Great Chart. When this family became extinct here, it came into possession of Poynings, and at the death of Edward, Lord Poynings, s. p. in the reign of Henry VIII. it escheated to the Crown. We find it next in the name of Haddon, with whose descendants it continued to the end of the seventeenth century, when it passed to James Styles, Esq. whose son, John Styles, Esq. passed it away, about 1736, to Mrs. Mary Aynscomb, and her son; William Aynscomb, Esq. alienated it to James Harris, Esq.

Chelsfield Court Lodge, in the Parish of Chelsfield, the seat of Robert Crawford, Esq. is situated close to the church on the south-west. This is a fine old house, partly modernised: the interior is spacious, and embellished with some family portraits, by ancient and modern masters.

It is held of the manor of Farnborough, commonly called the Duchy Court, by the annual rent of 1s. 6d.

Chelsfield Court Lodge is distant from London between 16 and 17 miles.

The Manor of Chelsfield was a part of the possessions of Bishop Odo. It afterwards belonged to a family who took their surname from it, holding it as one knight's fee of Simon de Montfort; and from a descendant of them it passed, in the reign of Edward I. to Otho de Grandison, whose nephew, Otho, succeeded him, and he, dying anno 33 Edward III. was followed by his son, Sir Thomas Grandison, who died s. p. in the 50th year of the same reign. This manor, in the 22d year of Richard II. was the inheritance of Philippa, grand-daughter and heir of Sir Guy Bryan, married to Sir Henry Le Scroope, of Masham, to whom succeeded her sister Elizabeth, wife of Robert Lovel, Esq. It was afterwards possessed by James Boteler, Earl of Wiltshire; but on his being beheaded by the Yorkists, after the battle of Towton, in which he had been taken prisoner, it escheated to the Crown, and was granted for life to Robert Poynings, youngest son of Robert, Lord Poynings. It was next granted to Henry Viscount Bouchier, Earl of Essex, who, in 23d of Edward IV. was succeeded by his grandson, Henry Bouchier, and he, in 31st Henry VIII. was followed by his daughter, Anne, married to Lord Parre, of Kendal. Again it reverted to the Crown, and was granted, at an annual rent, to James Walsingham, Esq. whose son, Francis Walsingham, Esq. anno 4 Edward VI. parted with his interest to Robert Giles. His descendant, Francis Giles, Gent. sold it, in the reign of James I. to Captain Henry Lee, of London; and next it came into possession of Thomas Norton, Esq. the husband of one of Captain Lee's daughters. The grandson of this gentleman, dying in 1749, bequeathed it to Henry Martyn, Esq. who, in 1758, sold it to James Maud, Esq. of London, on whose death, in 1769, it descended to his daughter Mary, widow of John Tattersall, Esq. then married to B. Crosby, Esq. who, having survived her second husband, possessed it in her own right.

Chelsfield Rectory, the seat of the Rev. John Edward Tarleton, D.C.L. is situated about half a mile north-eastward from the church. It is a modern house, surrounded by pleasure-grounds and gardens: the interior is remarkably elegant, and contains some very good paintings. It is distant from Lullingstone

about three miles, and from Farnborough about the same; from Sevenoaks seven miles, and from London about 17 miles.

62

Woodlands, in the Parish of Chelsfield, the seat of Miss Fuller, is situated nearly three quarters of a mile eastward from the church, commanding good prospects. This very pleasant residence was erected in the modern style, in the year 1815, by John Fuller, Esq. father of the present owner.

It is distant from Sevenoaks about seven miles, and from London about 17 miles.

Hewitts, in the Parish of Chelsfield, the residence of Thomas Waring, Esq. (proprietor as well of this as of Farningham House and Farningham Hill House) is situated about a mile south-east from the church. The exterior of Hewitts is very plain, and bears no comparison, in point of appearance, with the mansions above referred to: it may be regarded rather as a hunting-box than a seat. In the interior are a few sporting pictures, by Cooper and others.

Hewitts is distant from Sevenoaks about six miles, from Farningham five miles, and from London 17 miles and a half.

This manor was formerly the property of a family of the same name, and when Hasted wrote, their descendants retained the possession or right of it; but the mansion, with the lands called Hewitts, in Chelsfield, have for a long time been in other hands. Some years back they belonged to James Rondeau, Esq. who sold them to John Fuller, Esq.

Chelsfield Church contains the following selected monuments:

In the great chancel, on the south side, a memorial for the Rev. Michael Petty, Rector of this parish, obt. June 28th, 1751, æt. 84. On the south of the altar, a tablet for three Rectors of this parish, grandfather, father, and son, named George Smith; of whom the first died May 22d, 1626, æt. 80; the second died March 19th, 1646, æt. 69; and the third died July 20th, 1650, æt. 32: below this, in an arch, is an altar tomb, of black marble, to the memory of George Smith, senior, above named; opposite to which is a corresponding one of the same kind, very ancient, for Robert de Brun, Rector of this church, obt. April 25th, 1417. On the north of the altar, a tablet for John Sandford, Rector of this parish, who died July 17th, 1781; also for Mrs. Martha Sandford, his widow, who died Oct. 27th, 1798. In the south chancel, on the south side, is a fine mural alabaster monument, having underneath the figures of a man and woman kneeling at an altar; behind the man is a boy recumbent, and behind the woman two girls kneeling, and another at full length; this is to the memory of Peter Collet, Alderman and Citizen of London, obt. 1607, æt. 64: adjoining to this a small mural one for Peter, eldest son of Sir Peter Heyman, of Sellinge, and Sarah his wife, (daughter of Peter Collet, above named,) who died an infant: a monument for Thomas and Catherine Saunders, of this place; the former died June 25th, 1772, and the latter, June 1st, 1783; also for Thomas Saunders, last surviving son of the above, late of Bethnal Green, Middlesex, Esq. who died May 7th, 1819: another for James Maud, Esq. Lord of the Manor, who died July 19th, 1769; and for Mary Crosby, his only daughter, relict of the late Alexander Crosby, who died Oct. 6th, 1800. On the north wall, near the pulpit, a monument of grey marble, for George Morland, Esq. Deputy Lieutenant for the County, a Governor of the Hospitals of Bridewell and Bethlem, and Lord of this Manor, born Jan. 22d, 1733, and died in Jan. 1814, aged 81. On the other side of the pulpit is a handsome one for Brass Crosby,

63

Esq. Alderman of the City of London, who served the office of Sheriff in 1765, and that of Lord Mayor in 1771: he was president of Bridewell and Bethlem Hospitals, and Governor of the Irish Society: he died Feb. 14th, 1793, aged 68 years.

In the church-yard, under an iron canopy, surmounted by an urn which is encircled by a serpent, is a stone for the Rev. Robert Cottam, M.A. Lecturer of St. John's church, Swansea, who died while on a visit to his friend the Rev. James Williams, A.B. Curate of this parish, Feb. 6th, 1828, aged 56 years.

Chelsfield Church is dedicated to St. Mary. On the south side is a small chapel, dedicated to St. John.

High Elms, in the Parish of Down, the residence of Joseph Esdaile, Esq. Banker, of London, and the property of Sir J. W. Lubbock, Bart. is situated about half a mile south from Farnborough. It is a beautiful seat, in the midst of well-grown and flourishing plantations.

It is distant from London about 15 miles.

Down House, in the Parish of Down, the seat of the Rev. James Drummond, M.A. is situated about a quarter of a mile southward from the church. It is a modern structure, very pleasantly seated among well-cultivated pleasure-grounds, and has the command of extensive prospects over an interesting part of the county.

It is distant from London about 16 miles.

Down Lodge, in the Parish of Down, the residence of Edward Price, Gentleman, is a small modern seat, a very short distance south-west from the church.

The small Church of Down contains no monuments of public interest.

Keston. On the west of Holwood Hill, in this parish, there are fine remains of a very extensive and strong fortification. That this was a Roman work may be inferred, with great probability, from there having been frequently dug up here Roman bricks, tiles, old foundations, and other fragments, as well as coins of the middle and lower empire. And further, the derivations given for the name of the place will lead to the same conclusion: Keston, anciently written Chestan, being considered by some a corruption of 'Chesterton,' the place of the camp; while others more boldly suppose it a contraction of 'Cæsar's,' or (as the Britons pronounced the C) 'Kæsar's town.'

The area of the camp is nearly two miles in compass, including almost 100 acres of ground, and is partly enclosed with rampires and double ditches of great height and depth. Various are the opinions concerning these remains. Some antiquarians imagine that it was the camp which Julius Cæsar formed

64

before his last battle with the united forces of the Britons, prior to his crossing the Thames. Some conjecture that here stood Noviomagus, the first Roman station on the way from London to Dover. Others think that here the Prætor, Aulus Plautius, encamped, after his fourth action with the Britons, to wait the arrival of the Emperor Claudius, as mentioned by Dion; of this opinion was Dr. John Tabor. And Horsley, in his *Britannia Romana*, says, that it is far too extensive for a station, and rather believes it to have been a *castra æstiva*. There are still to be seen the traces of a way from this camp to the spring-head of the Ravensborne, which rises on the west of it, whence the soldiers were supplied with water. In Hasted may be found a plan of the remains, as they existed in 1774.

Holwood, in the Parish of Keston, the seat of John Ward, Esq. a magistrate, and Deputy Lieutenant for the County, is seated on an elevated site, in a well-wooded and picturesque park. It is a beautiful specimen of modern architecture, erected in 1825, by Decimus Burton, on the site of the residence of the late Right Hon. William Pitt. Towards the south it commands a very fine prospect, and is seen from that direction, amid its diversified grounds and the rich foliage, to great advantage, forming in itself an exquisite coup d'œil.

Holwood is distant from London about 14 miles.

In 1673, Holwood belonged to Richard Peach, who, in 1709, settled it, in special tail, on his niece, Elizabeth Whiffin, on her marriage with Nathaniel Gatton, Esq. of Beckenham. He left an only son and heir, Nathaniel, whose daughter, Mary Dippen, was followed by her daughter, Anne

Dippen; and she, in 1765, alienated this seat to Peter Burrell, Esq. of Beckenham, who, in 1766, conveyed it to William Ross, of London; and he, the following year, passed it away to Robert Burrow, Esq. After the death of this gentleman, it was alienated to the celebrated minister, the Right Hon. William Pitt, second son of the great Earl of Chatham.

Keston Lodge, in the Parish of Keston, the seat of Francis Hastings Toone, Esq. is situated near the north extremity of Holwood Park. It is a handsome modern building, surrounded by beautiful grounds and plantations.

The distance from London is about 13 miles.

Hollydale, in the Parish of Keston, the seat of the Kirkpatrick family, is situated in a small park, about three miles south-east from Bromley. This is an ancient structure, but was greatly improved by Colonel James Kirkpatrick, father of the late George Kirkpatrick, Esq. The interior is elegantly embellished with paintings, and some fine sculpture in marble.

The distance from London is about 13 miles.

65

Keston Church. The following are the most remarkable monuments here:

On the floor, in front of the gallery, is an inscription in memory of the Rev. Christopher Clarke, A.M. Archdeacon of Norwich, Prebendary of Ely, and Rector of this parish, obt. May 19th, 1742, æt. 70. In the great chancel, a memorial for Jane, relict of Edward Smith, Gentleman, of London, daughter of Thomas Pyke, late Rector of this parish, obt. 1701, æt. 61. On the south side, a memorial for Judith and Elizabeth, the wives of Captain Richard Perch, of Holwood Hill; the former died in 1683, the latter in 1704.

In the church-yard there is an altar tomb in memory of Catherine Kirkpatrick, eldest daughter of George and Eleanor Kirkpatrick, who died June 16th, 1824, aged 17 years and 8 months.

Baston, in the Parish of Hayes, the seat of Samuel Nevil Ward, Esq. is situated one mile south from Hayes Church, on the southern boundary of the common. It is a pleasant villa: the view into the valley is very picturesque. There are in this house some very curious old paintings, a description of which may be found in the Gentleman's Magazine for December, 1830.

Baston is distant from London about 13 miles.

The manor of Baston was formerly the property of the Squerie family, one of whom, John Squerie, dying s. p. in the 4th year of Edward IV. it came to his sister Dorothy, married to Richard Menrin, Esq. of Fontels, in Wiltshire. Some time after this, but when is not exactly known, Baston Court, with the demesne lands, was separated from the manor, and came into the possession of a family named Wood. Richard and Anthony Wood, co-heirs, alienated it, in 1762, to John Luxford, Esq. who, in 1795, sold Baston Court and the adjoining land to James Randall, jun. Esq.

Hayes Place, in the Parish of Hayes, the residence of Miss Trail, is situated in a small park adjoining the village of Hayes.

Hayes Place is distant from London about 12 miles.

Hayes Place was anciently the inheritance of a branch of the Scotts, of Halden, a descendant of whom, Stephen Scott, Esq. alienated it to Mr. John Harrison, of Southwark, who, in 1757, sold it to the Right Hon. William Pitt, second son of Robert Pitt, Esq. of Boconnock, in Cornwall, afterwards created Earl of Chatham. He rebuilt the mansion, and added several pieces of land to the grounds; and in 1766, sold the estate to the Hon. Thomas Walpole, second son of Horatio, Lord Walpole, younger brother of Sir Robert Walpole, Earl of Oxford, who, two years afterwards, re-sold it to the Earl of Chatham; and here this great man died, May 11th, 1778. In 1785 it was alienated by this family to James Bond, Esq. afterwards Sir James Bond, Bart. who, in 1789, disposed of it by sale to the Right Hon. George, Viscount Lewisham, eldest son of the Earl of Dartmouth. The celebrated William Pitt, second son of the great Earl of Chatham, was born at Hayes Place, May 28th, 1759.

On Hayes Common stands the seat of Lady Gibbs, widow of the Right Hon. Sir Vicary Gibbs, who was first Lord Chief Baron of the Court of Exchequer, and afterwards Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas.

66

It is situated between Hayes Place and Baston, and is distant from London between 12 and 13 miles.

In Hayes Church are the following monuments that deserve the attention of the curious:

In the chancel, a monument for John Scott, Esq. eldest son of Sir Stephen Scott, of this county, who married Lady Hester, widow of Sir Humphry Style, Kt. and Bart. of Langley: he was of the King's Privy Chamber, and Justice of the Peace for this county, obt. 1670, æt. 45: another for Sir Stephen Scott, son of John Scott, Esq. of Halden, Gentleman Pensioner to Charles I. who married first, Jane Morrall, widow, daughter of Sir Cuthbert Hackett; secondly, Elizabeth, daughter of John Brograve, Esq.; he died at Cheshunt, in Hertfordshire, in the year 1658, aged 79: there are also other memorials for the children of Sir Stephen Scott: and a handsome mural monument to the memory of the Right Hon. Sir Vicary Gibbs, &c. &c. who was born at Exeter, Nov. 7th, 1751, and died in London, Feb. 8th, 1820: lastly, a tablet, in memory of the Rev. John Till, who died Feb. 13th, 1827, aged 83: he was Rector of this parish 50 years.

Hayes Church is dedicated to St. Mary.

Wickham Court, in the Parish of West Wickham, the seat of the Rev. Sir C. F. Farnaby, Bart. a Magistrate for the County, is situated rather more than three miles south-east from Beckenham, on elevated ground, almost adjoining the church of West Wickham. It is an ancient castellated structure, embattled and turretted. The grounds are very beautifully laid out.

Wickham Court is distant from the metropolis about 13 miles.

The manor of West Wickham, in very early times, was the property of the eminent family of Huntingfield, which, towards the end of the Reign of Edward III. terminating in two female heirs, on a division of their inheritance, it was allotted to Joan, married to John Copledike. In the reign of Henry VI. it was owned by Thomas Squerie, whose son, John, dying s. p. in the 4th Edward IV. it passed to his sister Dorothy, married to Richard Mervin, Esq. of Fontels, in Wiltshire. He soon after passed it away to Richard Scrope, Esq. who, by fine, alienated it to Ambrose Creseacre, and of him it was purchased by Henry, afterwards Sir Henry Heydon, of Baconsthorpe, in Norfolk. His descendant, Sir William Heydon, about the end of Elizabeth's reign, alienated it to John Lennard, Esq. of Chevening. Sir Samuel Lennard, Bart. at his death, in 1727, bequeathed it to his natural son, Samuel Lennard, Esq. whose daughter Mary afterwards carried it in marriage to John Farnaby, Esq. younger brother of Sir Charles Farnaby Radcliffe, Bart.

Wickham Place, in the Parish of West Wickham, now the seat of John Howell, Esq. but formerly part of the estate of Lord Gwydir, is situated in very beautiful grounds, adjoining the village of West Wickham. The house has a modern appearance: the interior is spacious and elegant, and contains paintings by Canaletti, Teniers, Watteau, Vandermuling, Vanloo, Van Goyen, Morland, &c.

It is distant from London about 12 miles.

67

West Wickham Church. In the north chancel there is a handsome monument for Sir Samuel Lennard, born at Chevening, bred at Cambridge and Lincoln's Inn: he married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Stephen Slanye, Lord Mayor of London, and died in 1618, æt. 65: on the south wall, a marble monument, to the memory of Margaret, wife of Thomas Hobbes, Esq. eldest daughter of Sir Samuel Lennard, who died in child-bed in 1608, aged 20. On the south side, west

of the pulpit, a neat mural monument, for Isaac James, of St. James, Westminster, citizen, who departed this life Oct. 29th, 1828, in the 46th year of his age; also Belinda, his relict, who died Aug. 12th, 1837, aged 60 years. On the north side of the church, a monument in memory of Sir John Farnaby, Bart. of Wickham Court, who died Aug. 19th, 1802, aged 59; also for Mary, his widow, only child and heiress of Samuel Lennard, Esq. formerly of Wickham Court, who died May 9th, 1833, aged 83 years; also their only daughter and three sons, Penelope Ann, wife of Lieut. Colonel William Cator, of the Royal Horse Artillery, who died at Dublin, Dec. 8th, 1833, in the 44th year of her age; John Samuel Farnaby, Esq. of St. John's College, Cambridge, where he died, Dec. 4th, 1813, aged 23 years; Lennard Motley Farnaby, Lieut. Fireworker in the Bengal Artillery, killed at the storming of Fort Cornellis, in the island of Java, Aug. 11th, 1811, in the 19th year of his age; and William Thomas Farnaby, who died at Medhurst, in the county of Sussex, Nov. 20th, 1809, in the 16th year of his age: a tablet, for Mrs. Elizabeth Richardson, formerly of Sevenoaks, in this county, but for many years resident at Wickham Court, who died June 14th, 1823, aged 85 years.

This Church is dedicated to St. John the Baptist.

Apperfield Lodge, in the Parish of Cudham, the seat of John <e> Cristy, Esq. is situated nearly eight miles south from Bromley, on the east side of the road leading from the latter place to Westerham. It is quite a modern house, and is surrounded by grounds planted with great taste.

The manor of Apperfield, anciently written Appuldre and Appuldrefield, belonged to the family of <e> Maurinot. Alice, sister of Wakelin de Maurinot, carried it in marriage to Geoffry de Say; and of the family of Say it was held, in the reign of Henry III. as one knight's fee, by one of the family of Appuldrefield, which surname was probably assumed from this property. In the reign of Edward III. it was held by Stephen de Ashway, who annexed to it a free chapel. Of this family it was purchased by Denny, and sold again by these, in the reign of Henry VIII. to George Dacre, Esq. who exchanged it with the Crown. It was then granted, under a fee-farm rent, to John Lennard, Esq. of Chevening, who was succeeded by his son Sampson; and he, some time afterwards, by reason of a jointure in the manor, was followed by his grandson, Francis Lennard, Lord Dacre, who died in 1662. His eldest son Thomas, Earl of Sussex, inherited it after the death of his mother, in 1686; and conveyed it, in 1707, to Thomas Know, Esq. whose son Roger, dying in 1737, devised it, with other estates, to his cousins, Leonard and John Know Bartholomew, sons of Philip Bartholomew, Esq. of Oxen Heath. On a partition of the property, this manor was allotted to John Know Bartholomew, Esq. and on his death, went to his brother Leonard, who, dying s. p. in 1757, bequeathed it to Sir William Geary, Bart. the second son of Sir Francis Geary, Bart. of Polsden, in Surrey, by his half-sister Mary.

This manor pays a fee-farm rent of £3. 11s. per annum to the Crown.
Apperfield Lodge is distant from London about 18 miles.

68

Ashgrove Cottage, in the Parish of Knockholt, the beautiful rustic residence of Miss Susanna Arabella Thrale, is situated near the north-east corner of Chevening Park, on high ground, commanding extensive and pleasing prospects.

It is distant from Sevenoaks about five miles, and from London 19 miles.

Knockholt House, in the Parish of Knockholt, the seat of Joseph Marcus Annesley Skeritt, Esq. Lieut. Colonel of the 55th Regiment, is situated on the north of Chevening Park, and about half a mile north-east from the church. Its position is elevated, and faces extensive prospects.

The distance hither from Sevenoaks is about five miles, and from London 19 miles.

Parsonage, Knockholt, the residence of the Rev. James Sutcliffe, A.M. is a neat modern house, with agreeable grounds attached to it.

It is situated close to the church, and is distant from Sevenoaks five miles, and

from London about 19 miles.

HUNDRED OF DARTFORD AND WILMINGTON.

DARTFORD. The Priory of Dartford was founded, according to Tanner, in 1355, by Edward III. and very liberally endowed by the same King, by patent, dated in his 46th year: subsequently an additional grant of lands in Norfolk, for the support of a chaplain for the Infirmary chapel, then lately built, was made by Richard II. in his 8th year. It was dedicated to St. Mary and St. Margaret the Virgins.

The religious, at its foundation, were of the order of St. Augustine, and under the government of the Friars Preachers; but at some subsequent period they changed their order, being, at the time of the dissolution, Dominicans, and under the government of the Black Friars of Langley, in Hertfordshire. Several ladies of noble family were nuns and prioresses of this house: among the former was Bridget, fourth daughter of Edward IV. and of the latter were Lady Joane, daughter of Lord Scroope, of Bolton; and Lady Margaret, the daughter of Lord Beaumont.

The Priory was dissolved at the general suppression, and was then valued, according to Speed, at £400. 8s. per annum. After its dissolution, the Lady Anne of Cleves resided here, having received a grant of it for life from

69

Edward VI. or for so long as she should remain in England: and Queen Elizabeth "rested in her own house here," when returning from her tour into Kent, in the 16th year of her reign.

The present remains, called the Place House, are of brick, and appear to have been built about the time of Henry VII.

Baldwins, in the Parish of Dartford, the seat of C. W. Minet, Esq. is situated rather more than two miles south-west from Dartford. The mansion is modern, the grounds extensive and well wooded.

The distance from London is about 14 miles.

Baldwins, says Hasted, is a corruption of Baudiwins, which name this estate received from its early possessor, Sir John Baude. Baldwins afterwards came into the possession of the Abbot and convent of Lesnes, with whom it continued till the suppression of the abbey, in the 16th year of Henry VIII. It was then granted to Cardinal Wolsey, for the endowment of his college at Oxford; but the Cardinal being cast in a præmunire before the estates had been firmly settled on his college, it became forfeited to the Crown, and was soon again granted, in exchange for other lands, to Eton College, to which it now belongs.

West Hill House, at Dartford, the seat of Mrs. Stainton Hall, is situated nearly half a mile westward from the church, on the north side of the main road through this town to London, from which it is distant 15 miles. It is a handsome modern building, adorned with pleasure-grounds and shrubberies, and forms a prominent object in the well-peopled neighbourhood in which it stands.

Dartford Church is a large and handsome structure, consisting of three aisles and two chancels. In the year 1793 it was repaired and beautified at an expense of £1200; but the pavement within the altar rails, and the painting and gilding above the altar, were executed, in 1702, at the sole cost of Charles Manning, Esq. It contains the following remarkable monuments:

In the great chancel, on the north side of the altar, a monument enclosed within an iron railing, for Sir John Spilman, who died in 1607, and his lady, with their effigies kneeling at a desk. On the south side of the chancel, an altar-tomb, enclosed with rails, for Clement Petit, Esq. of Joyes, in this parish, whose paternal seat was at Deutelion, in Thanet; he died in 1717. In the south chancel, a mural monument for John Twisleton, Esq. of Horseman's Place, son and

heir of John Twisleton, Esq. of Drax, in Yorkshire, who was uncle and heir of Sir John Twisleton, Bart. of Barley, in that county, the ancient family seat. At the east end, an altar-tomb for several of the family of Beer of Dartford: a monument for Margaret, relict of John Pitt, Esq. President of the South Sea Company at Vera Cruz, obt. 1731. In the middle aisle, several memorials of the Manning family: and on the north side, a handsome monument, with a bust in profile, for the Rev. John Curry, 47 years Vicar of this parish, and who was also Rector of Longfield; he died Oct. 18th, 1824, aged 89 years, and is buried in Northfleet Church. In the south aisle, on the north side, a small

70

tablet for Mrs. Anne Peete, daughter of Duncan Campbell, Esq. wife of Mr. William Peete, of this Parish, who departed this life Dec. 22d, 1801, aged 32.

Dartford Church is dedicated to the Holy Trinity.

Oakfield Lodge, in the Parish of Wilmington, the seat of Robert Seton, Esq. stands about one mile south from Dartford, at a short distance westward from the high road from Dartford to Farningham. The house is modern, its situation elevated and particularly pleasant.

The distance from London is about 16 miles.

Near the church, in the Parish of Wilmington, is the residence of Mrs. Tasker, a handsome house, in an elevated and agreeable situation.

This place was part of the possessions of Dartford Priory. After the dissolution, Henry VIII. granted it to John Byer, or Beer, of Horseman's Place, in Dartford; by a descendant of whom, Edward Beer, it was bequeathed, about 1627, to his cousin, John Twisleton, Esq. of Drax, in Yorkshire. In his posterity it remained till John Twisleton, Esq. dying s. p. in 1757, devised it to his nephew, Thomas Cockshutt, Esq. of Kegworth, in Leicestershire, who thereupon assumed the name of Twisleton. He passed away the estate to Mr. Thomas Williams, of Dartford, who alienated it to John Tasker, Esq. of the same place. It is now the property of John and William Tasker, sons of Mrs. Tasker, who resides in it.

Hulswood Villa, in the Parish of Wilmington, the seat of John Hayward, Esq. is situated about a mile and a half south-west from Dartford. This structure was lately erected under the professional direction of Mr. Edward Cresey, architect, in imitation of the Burgundian Chateau, in France.

It is distant from London about 15 miles.

Wilmington Common House, in the Parish of Wilmington, the property of George Russell, Esq. is situated nearly a mile south-west from Wilmington Church. It is a handsome building, rather secluded, and embosomed in luxuriant plantations and pleasure-grounds.

Wilmington Common House is distant from Dartford about two miles, and from London 15 miles.

This seat was built in 1743, by Edward Bathurst, Esq. who pulled down the old house. This gentleman inherited this estate of his father, William Bathurst, Esq. who had become possessed of it in right of his wife, Anne, widow of Launcelot Bathurst, Gent. Edward Bathurst, Esq. conveyed it to Thomas Motley, Esq. of Beckenham, whose daughter carried it in marriage to Francis Austen, Esq. of Sevenoaks, who was succeeded by his son Francis Motley Austen, Esq. It was recently purchased by the present proprietor.

Mount Pleasant, in the Parish of Wilmington, is seated about three-quarters of a mile southward from Wilmington Church. It was built by Mr.

71

Stephen Perry, of London, who, at his death in 1730, devised it to his nephew, Stephen Perry, Esq. whose son, John, in 1765, became entitled to it. After his

death, he leaving no issue, it was sold to Mr. Thurston Ford, who, dying in 1770, also without issue, left it to his brother, Gilbert Ford, Esq. and this gentleman was succeeded by his son, Thurston Ford, Esq.

Wilmington Church contains no monuments of public interest.

In the church-yard there is a handsome tomb for Sir Edward Hulse, Bart. M.D. First Physician to George II. obt. 1759, æt. 77, and other members of this family; and several stones, enclosed within a railing, for the family of Tasker: also a monument for Edward Fowke, of Hawley, who died in 1789.

This church is dedicated to St. Michael.

THE HUNDRED OF AXSTANE.

Hawley House, in the Parish of Sutton at Hone, the seat of Richard Leigh, Esq. is situated one mile and a half south-east from Dartford. This house is of great antiquity, but at what particular period it was founded does not clearly appear. The interior is very elegant: among the embellishments are several interesting paintings, particularly one of Lady Hinchbrook, the mother of John, Earl of Sandwich.

Hawley House is distant from London about 17 miles.

Haw Sawters, alias Sapters, in the reign of Edward III. belonged to the noble family of Hastings. John de Hastings, Earl of Pembroke, being killed at a tournament, anno 3 Richard II. left it in possession of his widow, Philippa, daughter of Edmund Mortimer, Earl of March, who carried it to her second husband, Richard Fitzalan, Earl of Arundel. At her death, anno 2 Henry IV. as she survived her second husband, it devolved, by entail of John de Hastings, on his cousin, William de Beauchamp, Lord Bergavenny, who, in the 12th year of Henry IV. was succeeded by Richard Beauchamp, his son, whose daughter, Elizabeth, conferred it on her husband, Edward Nevill, younger son of Ralph, Earl of Westmoreland. In the first year of Henry VIII. it had become the property of John Poulter, whose daughter, Anne, carried it in marriage to Thomas Mayo; and his descendants, in the beginning of James I. sold Hawley House, with the reputed manor of Sawters, to Edmund Hunt, Esq. After his death, in 1609, it was possessed by Mr. William Hewson, whose son, William, after the death of Charles I. transmitted Hawley House, with the estate (for the Manor of Sawters was now quite forgotten), to Edward Badby, Esq. whose heirs, after his death in 1682, sold it to the Hon. John Stafford Howard. His estates being forfeited for his adherence to James II. King William, in 1695, granted this seat to Sir Francis Leigh, of Tring, whose grandson, Francis

72

Leigh, Esq. dying s. p. in 1774, left it for life to his fourth and surviving wife, bequeathing the inheritance to his nephew, Richard Leigh, Esq.

Sutton Place, in the Parish of Sutton at Hone, the seat of Mumford Campbell, Esq. a Magistrate for the County, is situated about half a mile north from Sutton at Hone, and rather more than two miles south-east from Dartford. This appears to have once been a mansion of great note and magnificence, as may be inferred from the following account of it.

Sutton Place, formerly called Brook Place, belonged, in the reign of Henry VIII. to Nicholas Statham, Gent. whose widow, Elizabeth, after his death, carried it in marriage to Sir Maurice Denys, on whose death, anno 6 Elizabeth, it came to his brother, Sir Walter Denys, of Durhams, in Gloucestershire. He sold it to Rowland Hayward, Esq. of London, who passed it away to Martin Bowes, Esq. and he conveyed it to Anne Haddon, widow of Walter Haddon, Esq. who married, secondly, Sir Henry Brook, fifth son of George, Lord Cobham. Of this lady it was purchased by George Cole, Esq. who, in the 20th year of James I. sold it to Sir Thomas Smith, who much improved and enlarged this magnificent mansion, that had been first erected by Sir Maurice Denys. In his posterity Sutton Place continued till Catherine, widow of Robert Smythe, Esq. and Henry, their son, conveyed it, in

1699, to Sir John Le Thieullier, who very injudiciously pulled down a great part of the building. Afterwards Anne, widow of his grandson, John Lethieullier, Esq. sold it, in 1776, to Nathaniel Webb, Esq. who the following year conveyed it to Mr. John Mumford, who pulled down a further part of the house, and modernised and improved the remainder. At his death, in 1787, he bequeathed it to his widow for life, and after her decease, to his eldest son, William Mumford, Esq.

Sutton Place is distant from London about 17 miles.

St. John's, in the Parish of Sutton at Hone, the seat of Mrs. Anne Eleanor Mumford, is situated about half a mile south-east from Sutton at Hone, and rather more than two miles north-east from Farningham.

St. John's is distant from London about 18 miles.

In the reign of King John, Robert Basing gave the Manor of Sutton at Hone to the Knights Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem, who established here a commandery. It remained in their possession till the dissolution of the order in the 32d Henry VIII. and in the 35th year of the same reign it was granted to Sir Maurice Denys, who had before been appointed Receiver General of the Revenues of the Hospital, and who thereupon assumed the name of St. John. His widow, Lady Elizabeth, at her death in the 19th year of Elizabeth, gave this manor to her daughter Elizabeth, widow of Vincent Randyll, Esq. and to their daughters, Catherine and Martha, who at their mother's death became possessed of it in undivided moieties. Martha Randyll carried her moiety in marriage to Thomas Cranfield, Esq. of London, which moiety included the ancient mansion and chapel of the knights, and was considered a separate manor, retaining the title of St. John's, alias Sutton Manor. Vincent Cranfield, Esq. the grandson of Thomas Cranfield, Esq. above mentioned, conveyed it by deed and fine, in 1649, to Thomas Hollis, Esq. of London, and he, in 1660, passed it in the same way to Abraham Hill, Esq. of London, a learned man and great promoter of the Royal Society at its first institution. His daughter, Frances, dying unmarried, in 1736, possessed of it, left it to her relative,

73

William Hill, Esq. of Carwythinick, in Cornwall, who, in 1780, sold it to John Mumford, Esq. of Sutton Place, and he, dying in 1787, bequeathed the manor to his eldest son, William Mumford, Esq. and the mansion, which was almost rebuilt in 1755, to his youngest son, John Mumford, Esq.

Highlands, in the Parish of Sutton at Hone, the residence of John Staples, Gent. is situated at Swanley, two miles south-west from Sutton at Hone, and about three miles and a half south-west from Dartford.

Cold Harbour House, in the Parish of Sutton at Hone, the property and residence of James Shepherd, Gent. is situated eastward from Swanley, and about one mile and a half south-west from Sutton at Hone. Its distance from Dartford is about three miles and a half.

Sutton at Hone Church contains the following beautiful monuments:

On the south side of the south aisle, a monument, with the half-length figure of a woman in white marble, in alto relievo, for Mrs. Frances Hill, daughter of Abraham Hill, Esq. great-grand-daughter of William, Lord Willoughby, of Parham, who died unmarried, 1736, aged 78. In the small south chancel, at the east end, a mural monument for Abraham Hill, Esq. of St. John's, in this parish, the son of Richard Hill, Esq. descended out of Devonshire; he died 1721, aged 88: another for Richard Hill, Esq. above mentioned, who died in 1722. On the south side is a superb monument, under a richly ornamented arch, with the full-length figure of a man in robes, for Sir Thomas Smith, of Sutton Place, in this parish, Governor of the East India and other trading companies, Treasurer of the Virginian Plantation, prime undertaker of the discovery of the north-west passage in 1612, and some time Ambassador to the Emperor and Great Duke of Russia and Muscovy, &c. &c.; obt. 1625: a memorial for Henry Smith, Esq. son and heir of Robert Smith, Esq. great-grandson of Sir Thomas Smith, above mentioned, who died in 1706, aged 29, leaving a widow and one child, Sydney Stafford Smith. Near the pulpit is a small elegant mural monument to the memory of John Mumford, Esq. of St. John's, in this parish, who departed this life Aug. 23d, 1825, in the 74th year of his age; he married, first, Elizabeth, daughter of John Nash, M.D. of Sevenoaks; secondly, Elizabeth,

daughter of Mr. Sergeant Leigh, of Hawley, in this parish; and, thirdly, Anne Eleanor, second daughter of James Chapman, Esq. of Paul's Cray Hill, who survives him. In the north aisle, under the pew belonging to Hawley, are interred several of the family of Leigh, and other owners of that seat.

In the church-yard is a monument for John Lethieullier, Esq. of Sutton Place, and his two wives; he died in 1760: and another for William Mumford, Esq. of Sutton Place, who departed this life May 27th, 1821, in the 75th year of his age; also Mary, his relict, who died July 4th, 1834, aged 84 years; and other members of this family.

The Church of Sutton at Hone is dedicated to St. John the Baptist.

Court Lodge, in the Parish of Darent, the residence of Henry Chapman, Gent. is a handsome modern house, most pleasantly situated on the south side of the church, at a short distance eastward from the river Darent. It is rather more than two miles from Dartford.

74

DARENT. – An elegant house has recently been erected here by William Fleet, Esq. who resides in it.

Vicarage, Darent, the residence of the Rev. John Eveliegh, A.M. is a neat modern house, at a very short distance north from the church, and about two miles from Dartford.

Darent Church. The font here is very ancient: it is carved out of a single stone, and is composed of eight compartments, between which are columns, alternately angular and circular, supporting semicircular arches. On the compartments are scriptural and symbolical figures in alto relievo, rudely engraved. The upper part of the chancel is paved with black marble, the gift of Mr. Edmund Davenport in 1680, as appears by this inscription on the upper step next the rails, "Ex dono Edmund Davenport, 1680."

On the north side of the chancel there is a mural monument for Catherine, wife of Wm. Lee, Esq. daughter of Wm. Johnson, Esq. M.P. for Aldborough, in Suffolk, who died in 1746; and a memorial for Wm. Lee, Esq. above mentioned, Surveyor of the Navy in the reign of Queen Anne, who died in 1757, aged 87. There is also a very ancient brass, against the wall of the south aisle, for John Crepehege and Jane his wife, of this parish, who lived in the reign of Edward III.: it was formerly placed over their remains.

Darent Church is dedicated to St. Margaret.

Woodside House, in the Parish of Stone, the seat of the venerable Arch-deacon King, is a handsome modern house, recently erected in a very pleasant situation about half a mile south from the church. It is surrounded by extensive grounds, and commands a fine view of the river Thames.

Woodside House is distant from Dartford about two miles, from Gravesend five miles, and from London 17 miles.

Stone Cottage, in the Parish of Stone, the property and residence of Samuel Notley, Gent. is situated about three-quarters of a mile south from Stone Church, and distant from Dartford about two miles.

Stone Castle, in the Parish of Stone, is an elegant structure, in the castellated style: some part of it is ancient, but it has been considerably improved and enlarged within these few years. The grounds and walks are very beautiful.

Stone Castle is distant from Gravesend about five miles, and from London 17 miles and a half.

In the reign of Edward III. this place was held of the Bishop of Rochester, as half a knight's fee, by Sir John de Northwood. It afterwards came to a family named Bonevant, or Bontfant, from whom

it passed to that of Chambley, and from these again, at the end of the reign of Henry VIII. to Robert

75

Chapman, of London, whose grand-daughter, Anne Chapman, conferred it on her husband, William Carew, Esq. of London. From this family it passed to that of Atkins, and thence to Dr. Thomas Plume, Archdeacon of Rochester, who died in 1704. Dr. Plume was the founder of the Plumian Professorship at Cambridge, for the maintenance of which he gave to the University about £18,000. He bequeathed Stone Castle for certain charitable purposes in the diocese of Rochester, in trust to 20 clergymen of the diocese, and in these feoffees it still remains.

Stone Church. – This edifice is, perhaps, the finest specimen of Gothic architecture in the diocese. It consists of a nave, two side aisles, and a chancel; and at the west end is a large square tower. The windows are particularly remarkable for their fine symmetry, and for the brilliant stained glass with which they are ornamented. The interior is spacious and lofty: on each side of the chancel is a row of ancient stalls, curiously carved; and here, as well as in other parts of the church, are pilasters of brown marble.

The following are the principal monuments:

In the chancel, a mural monument for Robert Talbot, A.M. Rector of this parish, who died May 12th, 1754, aged 59; and Anne his wife, daughter of John Lynch, Esq. of Groves, in this county; also Mary their daughter. Over the door of the chapel, on the north side, is another of the same kind, with the figures of a man and his wife kneeling at desks; behind the man are two sons, and behind the woman eight daughters; it is to the memory of Robert Chapman, Esq. of London, merchant adventurer and draper, who died at Stone Castle in 1574, aged 65. South of the altar, a mural monument for Sarah, wife of Lieutenant Colonel Berkeley, daughter of John Talbot, Esq. of Stone Castle, who died Aug. 5th, 1801, in the 36th year of her age; also her infant son, James, who died July 1st, 1801, aged three months: another for John Talbot, Esq. of Stone Castle, who departed this life Sept. 20th, 1806, in the 72d year of his age; and for Anne his wife, who died March 13th, the same year, aged 71 years; also for Robert Talbot, Esq. of Stone Castle, eldest and only surviving son of John and Anne Talbot, who died April 10th, 1830, in the 69th year of his age; and Elizabeth Sophia, wife of Robert Talbot, Esq. daughter of J. T. Savary, Esq. of Greenwich, who died Nov. 18th, 1830, aged 70 years. North of the altar, a superb monument in memory of the Rev. Thomas Heathcote, LL.B. second son of Sir Thomas Heathcote, Bart. of Hursley Lodge, in the County of Southampton; he was collated to the Rectory of Stone by Zachary Pearce, Lord Bishop of Rochester, Jan. 1st, 1772, and died at the Parsonage House, in this parish, July 13th, 1811, in the 63d year of his age; also of Lætitia his wife, youngest daughter of the Right Hon. Lord Chief Baron Parker, by Martha, his second wife, daughter and co-heiress of Edward Strong, Esq. of Greenwich; Lætitia was herself co-heiress with Martha, Countess of St. Vincent, her only sister; she departed this life July 20th, 1802, in the 57th year of her age. The above Thomas and Lætitia were buried in the mausoleum at Hursley. In the south aisle, on the south side, is a neat monument for George Sharp, Gent. who died May 5th, 1810, aged 82 years; and for Mary, his wife, who died Jan. 23d, 1820, in the 86th year of her age.

In the church-yard, amongst many other tombs, is one of marble, in memory of Sarah, wife of Samuel Notley, Gent. of this parish, who died June 16th, 1822, aged 72 years.

Stone Church is dedicated to St. Mary.

76

Ingress Abbey, in the Parish of Swanscombe, the seat of Alderman Harmer, is a magnificent structure of Gothic and Elizabethan architecture, built of the stone of the old London Bridge. It is situated in a beautiful park on the banks of the Thames, and is decidedly the finest object seen from the river on the coast of Kent, after passing Greenwich. The dairy and larder are fitted up with stone from the late Sir William Curtis's mansion at Southgate, Middlesex.

Ingress Abbey is distant from London 18 miles.

Ingress, anciently Ingries, belonged formerly to the Priory of Dartford, and after the suppression of that house the fee of this estate remained in the Crown till Queen Elizabeth, in her fifth year, granted it to Edward Darbyshire and John Bere, who soon after conveyed it to one Jones. He, at the end of James I. alienated it to Mr. Whaley, who settled it on his relative, Thomas Holloway, Esq. and he again conveyed it to one Shires, whose widow, with her two sons, transferred it, in 1649, to Captain Edward Brent, of Southwark. At his death, in 1676, his widow enjoyed it for life, and afterwards it devolved on their son, Edward Brent, Esq. who, in 1689, conveyed it by mortgage to John Smith, Esq. of Camberwell, whose sons, Nathaniel and Jonathan, in 1710, purchased the fee of it of the heirs of Edward Brent, Esq. In 1719 Captain Nathaniel Smith conveyed his interest in Ingress to his brother, Jonathan, who, in 1737, alienated the estate to John Carmichael, Earl of Hyndford, and he, in 1748, alienated it to William, Viscount Duncannon, who succeeded, on his father's decease, to the title of Earl of Besborough. Of this nobleman it was purchased by John Calcraft, Esq. who, dying in 1772, devised it to his eldest son John, and he, in 1788, sold it to John Disney Roebuck, Esq. who, in 1796, was succeeded by his son, Henry Roebuck, Esq.

GREENHITH, in the Parish of Swanscombe. Within the angle of the road, at the west end of this place, is the handsome mansion of William Colyer, Esq. which was built by this gentleman about 1802. It commands a fine view of the Thames, (which flows immediately before the north front,) and of the county of Essex.

It is distant from Gravesend nearly five miles, and from London 18 miles.

Eagle Cliff, in the Parish of Swanscombe, the seat of Thomas Forrest, Esq. is situated at Greenhith. Its grounds, which are divided by the road from those of Ingress Abbey, afford, for so small an extent, an unequalled diversity of beautiful and picturesque scenery; the majestic Thames appearing through breaks in the luxuriant foliage. The house is modern, having been built within the last 40 years, and became the property of the present owner by purchase, in 1831. In the interior are a few paintings; a Dutch girl, by one of the old masters; Oliver Cromwell, supposed by Sir Peter Lely; portraits of Garrick and Quin; and a few family portraits.

Eagle Cliff is distant from Gravesend about four miles, and from London 18 miles.

77

Adjoining the Eagle Cliff is the residence of Thomas Sharp Hill, Esq. erected in 1800, by Mr George Sharp. It is the property of Mrs. Hill, widow of the late Commander Thomas Hill, R. N. of the same place.

Knockhold Lodge, in the Parish of Swanscombe, the property and residence of Charles Bayly, Gent. is a modern house, built by the late Samuel Bayly, Gent. about 11 years since. It is situated about half a mile south-east from Greenhith, and is distant from London about 18 miles.

Swanscombe Church contains, among many other monuments, the following:

In the north aisle, a mural monument for Mr. John Sloman, who died 1706, aged 21. On the north side, a plain tablet for the Rev. Charles Robert Marshall, B.D. Rector of Cold Hanworth, Lincolnshire, and Vicar of Exning, Suffolk: he was youngest son of William Marshall, Esq. of Thedlethorpe, Lincolnshire; he died April 12th, 1823, aged 69 years: and two small tablets, one above the other, the first for Charles Gore Lefebure, Esq. who was interred here July 29th, 1829, aged 82; the other for Elizabeth, his wife, interred here Aug. 18th, 1826, in her 83d year: a handsome mural monument for Eliza Thomson Wilson, only daughter of William Wilson, surgeon in the Royal Navy; she died April 29th, 1835, in her 20th year. In the great chancel, a memorial, within the rails, for the Rev. John Watts, obt. Jan. 12th, 1670: another for John Taylor, Clerk, B.D. Rector of this parish, who died Sept. 2d, 1757, aged 60 years: another for Martin Barnes, B.D. Rector of this parish, obt. Sept. 27th, 1759, æt. 69. On the south side, a mural monument, with the figure of a woman kneeling at a desk, for Dame Ellinor, wife of Sir Anthony Weldon, daughter of George Wilmer, Esq. obt. 1622: on the south side of the rails, a corresponding one, with the figure

of a man kneeling at a desk, for Anthony Weldon, Clerk of the Green Cloth to Queen Elizabeth, brother of Sir Ralph Weldon, obt. 1613. In the south chancel, a monument for Elianor, relict of William Say, Esq. obt. 1678: another for Elizabeth, relict of William Hart, Esq. obt. 1677: another for Anne, relict of Sir Percival Hart, of Lullingstone, obt. 1712. At the upper end of the south side is a fine monument of alabaster, on which are the figures of a knight in armour and his lady, lying at length, with a son and daughter at their feet, cumbent, and in front, under two tablets, three sons and five daughters kneeling; it is to the memory of Sir Ralph Weldon, Chief Clerk of the Kitchen to Queen Elizabeth, afterwards Clerk Comptroller to King James; and at the time of his death, anno 1609, Clerk of the Green Cloth. On another tablet is an inscription, setting forth that his grandfather, Edward Weldon, Esq. served Henry VII. and was Master of the Household to Henry VIII.; likewise that his uncle, Thomas Weldon, Esq. was Cofferer to Edward VI. and Queen Elizabeth. This family of Weldon is very ancient, being descended from Bertram de Weltdone, who was of the retinue of Walther, Earl of Northumberland and Bishop of Durham, at the time of the Conquest: they were proprietors of the manor of Swanscombe. In the south aisle is a tablet for John Bryan, Esq. who died June 6th, 1824, aged 69 years: he bequeathed £13,000 to alms-houses for aged women, and to other useful institutions; also for Mrs. Mary Bryan, his wife, who died Sept. 13th, 1822, in the 82d year of her age. North of the altar, a small but very elegant monument, by R. Westmacott, jun. in memory of Henry William Disney Roebuck, Esq. who departed this life March 27th, 1796, in the 63d year of his age.

In the church-yard there is a handsome monument for Richard Forrest, Esq. of Greenhith, who died Feb. 7th, 1796, aged 60; and for Sarah his wife, who died Aug. 6th, 1818, aged 81; also for

78

James Forrest, son of James Forrest, of this parish, who died May 9th, 1794, aged three years and six months; and for Richard Forrest, who died Feb. 16th, 1807, in the 38th year of his age: another near the gates, to the memory of Commander Thomas Hill, R. N. of Greenhith, who departed this life Dec. 8th, 1836, in the 69th year of his age.

Swanscombe Church is dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul.

Southfleet. The old Watling Street, after leaving Wingfield Bank, passes through Swanscombe park wood, and runs along the northern boundary of this parish towards Shinglewell, and thence to Cobham Park and Rochester. On this road, about half a mile west from Wingfield bank, near Springhead, some years ago, a stone was dug up, which was supposed to be a Roman milliare. When found, it was standing nearly upright, and the top of it, being only six or seven inches below the surface of the ground, was much furrowed by the plough. It measured 2 ft. 6 in. in height; two of the sides were 16 in. broad, and the opposite two 14 in. The corners were chiselled, but the faces were rustic; and on one side was a cross or numerical X. deeply cut, telling that it stood 10 miles from some particular station.

Coins, especially one of the Empress Faustina, in good preservation, have also been found about the same place.

Hasted, supported by Dr. Thorpe, conjectures that at Southfleet was the Roman station Vagniacæ (and not at Northfleet, as Somner and others suppose), the distance being about 10 Italian miles from the Medway at Rochester: and further, he adds, this is the more probable, from the valley between Northfleet Hill and the opposite hill to the westward being (as it would be now, but for the main road and the bank alongside) a broad sheet of water, the Thames flowing up at that time almost to Southfleet; in consequence of which the Roman road would turn southward, where the æstuary was narrower, and where there was the benefit of a fine spring.

North End, in the Parish of Southfleet, the property and residence of William Wingfield Armstrong, Gentleman, is an ancient house, situated about three quarters of a mile north-west from the church. In the interior are a few old paintings.

It is distant from Gravesend rather more than three miles, and from London

nineteen miles and a half.

Joyce Hall, in the Parish of Southfleet, the seat of Thomas Colyer, Esq. is situated a short distance westward from the church. It is a handsome house, partly modern, and partly ancient: the modern part forms the south front, and

79

is elegant and spacious. The site is very pleasant, and the gardens and grounds well laid out.

It is distant from Gravesend about three miles, and from London between 19 and 20 miles.

Hook Green House, in the Parish of Southfleet, the seat of Zachariah Piggot, Esq. is situated a short distance southward from the church. It is an ancient house, but we understand will shortly undergo considerable improvement, by the substitution of a new front in the Elizabethan style, which (to judge from a drawing that we saw of the proposed building) will be a beautiful specimen of that kind of architecture.

Hook Green House is distant from Gravesend rather more than three miles, and from London about 20 miles.

Hook Green House, or as Hasted calls it, Hook Place, was possessed, in the reign of James I. by Sir William Swan, who died in 1612, a descendant of whom, Sir William Swan, Bart. conveyed it to Aaron Harrington, Esq. who died in 1739. Elizabeth Russel, the daughter of this gentleman's sister Sarah, as devisee under her uncle's will, carried it in marriage to Joseph Brooke, Esq. Recorder of Rochester, who devised it, after his wife's decease, to the Rev. John Kennard Shaw, of Town Malling, who then took the name of Brooke. Mr. Joseph Brooke died in 1792, and his widow in 1796.

The Rectory, Southfleet, is a fine ancient house, with extensive grounds and shrubberies. Some few years ago it was altered and modernised by the Rev. Mr. Rashleigh, then Rector; but although it was made more commodious, the venerable appearance and uniform gothic beauty of the structure were very much impaired. It stands a short distance south from the church.

Southfleet Church. In the chancel of this church are six ancient stalls that were formerly appropriated to the monks of Rochester: there is also a curious octagonal font, ornamented in the compartments with rude carving. Among the monuments are the following:

In the chancel, a grave-stone, with the figures of a man and woman, for John Urban, Esq. who died in 1420; and Joane his wife, daughter of Sir John Reskymmer, of Cornwall, who died in 1414: another, with the figure of a man, for John Tubney, Rector of this parish, Archdeacon of St. Asaph, and Chaplain of John Lowe, Bishop of Rochester; he died in 1457. In the south aisle, an altar monument, for John Sedley, Esq. one of the Auditors of the Exchequer, who died in 1500; and Elizabeth, his wife: also for John Sedley, Esq. of Southfleet, who died in 1581; and Anne, his wife, daughter of John Colepeper, Esq. of Aylesford. On the south wall is a handsome monument, on which lies the figure of a man in armour, to the memory of John Sedley, Esq. who died in 1605, aged 44: it was erected by Sir William Sedley, Bart. In the north aisle, a memorial for Hester, Lady Swan, who died in 1712; and for her son, Sir William Swan, Bart. who died a few weeks after his mother: another for Cecilie, Lady Peyton: a handsome mural monument, for Joseph Brook, Esq. of the Inner Temple, one of the

80

Masters of the Bench of that Honorable Society; also for Elizabeth, his wife, the only child of Samuel Russell, of London, Merchant, by Sarah, his wife, one of the sisters of Aaron Harrington, Esq. of Hook Place, in this parish; also for Sarah, the only child of the said Joseph and Elizabeth Brooke; all of whom, excepting Samuel Russell (buried in London) are interred in this chancel. Joseph Brooke was for many years Recorder of the City of Rochester; but in the year 1784, in the 74th of his age, he retired from that office, and resided at his house at West Malling, in this county; and the year following, the Mayor and Corporation of Rochester waited upon him in their official capacity at his said

residence, and out of esteem for his services, and as a memorial of their gratitude, presented him with an elegant piece of plate. He died Jan. 27th, 1792, in the 81st year of his age. Elizabeth Brooke died Nov. 3d, 1796, aged 78.

Southfleet Church is dedicated to St. Nicholas.

Pennis House, in the Parish of Fawkham, the property of Joseph Almond Cropper, Esq. Barrister at Law, is situated about half a mile southward from the church. It is a neat modern structure, erected about 30 years ago, on an ancient site.

Pennis House is distant from Gravesend about six miles, and from London 21 miles.

The Manor of Fawkham, soon after the reign of William I. became the property of a family who took their name from it. In the reign of Henry II. it became divided into Old and New Fawkham, the latter of which, in the 8th Edward III. was held by Gilbert de Kirkby. After the Kirkbys had become extinct here, New Fawkham passed to the family of Rokesle, and afterwards to that of Percy, Earls of Northumberland. We find it subsequently in the name of White, whose heirs, in the reign of Elizabeth, sold it to Thomas Walter, Gentleman, who rebuilt the mansion belonging to it, which was called Pennis. He was succeeded by his son, John Walter, Esq. whose heirs sold it to George Gifford, Esq. and on his death, in 1704, it devolved on his son Thomas Gifford, Esq. After the death of this gentleman, on a division of the property among his three daughters, Pennis, with the lands belonging to it, became the property of John Selby, in right of his wife Mary, whose son John conveyed it to his elder brother William, and on his death, in 1773, it came to his son, William Selby, Esq. who died in 1777. After the decease of his widow, in 1788, Pennis devolved on John Brown, Esq. of the Moat Ightham, who then took the name of Selby.

Rectory, Fawkham, the residence of the Rev. Richard Salwey, B.A. who was instituted Rector here in 1829, is situated a short distance south-west from the church. It is a modern house, built by Dr. Hemming, and has since been altered and enlarged by the present incumbent.

The distance from Gravesend is about six miles, and from London 21 miles.

Fawkham Church. In the chancel of this church is a stone with a brass plate, inscribed, Richard Meredith, Esq. Clerk of the Catry to Queen Elizabeth and King James; obt. 1607. On the south side, a mural monument for Bennet, widow of Captain Ambrose Ward, of Hythe, and

81

daughter of Thomas Turney, Esq. of Brockwell, in Saltwood; she died 1641. On the east side, another, with the fissures of a man and woman kneeling at an altar, for John Walter, Esq. of this parish, Justice of the Peace; he married Dorcas, eldest daughter of Humphrey Michell, Esq. of Old Windsor, and died in 1626. This gentleman was a benefactor to the poor of this parish, and of Ash and Hartley.

Fawkham Church is dedicated to St. Mary.

Rands House, in the Parish of Ash, the seat of James Fletcher, Esq. is situated about three miles north-east from Wrotham. It is an ancient house, but has been modernised and considerably improved. Among the internal decorations is a fine picture by Andrian Vandiest.

Rands House is distant from London about 23 miles.

Ash Church consists of three aisles and three chancels. The altar-piece was presented by the Rev. Samuel Atwood, A. M. Rector of this church, who died April 24th, 1735.

In the rector's or principal chancel, on the south wall, is a monument for Thomas Maxfield, 8.T.P. Rector of this church and Ridley, who died Sept. 12th, 1605. In the north chancel, that belongs to the family of Hodsoll, are several memorials of that family. In the south or Fowler's chancel, on the

south wall, is a marble monument for Lady Anne, second wife of Sir Edmund Fowler, of this parish, daughter of Sir Edward Brabison Baron, of Ardey, sister of William, Earl of Estmeath, and widow of Samuel Alymer, Esq. of Suffolk; she died in 1645, as did also Sir Edmund Fowler, her husband.

This church is dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul.

New Cottage, in the Parish of Kingsdown, the residence and property of William Newell Campbell, Esq. is situated on the north-east side of the road from Farningham to Wrotham, about three miles and a half from the former place; and distant from London 21 miles.

Oakland House, in the parish of Kingsdown, the property and residence of George Morgan, Gent. is situated south-west of the road from Farningham to Wrotham, distant from Farningham about four miles, and from London 21 miles and a half.

Franks Hall, in the Parish of Horton Kirby, which we regretted to find fast going to decay, is a fine old specimen of the Elizabethan style. The interior has been richly decorated, as appears by the ruined remains; but at present few of the rooms are habitable.

Franks, in the reign of Henry III. belonged to a family from Yorkshire, who subscribed themselves, in deeds, Frankish. This name becoming extinct, Franks passed by sale into that of Martin, of whom Edward Martin, in the beginning of the reign of Elizabeth, alienated it to Launcelot Bathurst, of London, who rebuilt the seat on the side of the river Darent, opposite to its old site, and died in 1594. His descendants continued proprietors of this seat till Berenice, daughter of Francis

82

Bathurst, Esq. who died in 1738, carried it in marriage to Joseph Fletcher, Esq. of London, whose daughter, Susan, carried it in marriage to John Tasker, Esq. of Dartford, and he, on her death in 1757, became sole proprietor of this seat. He afterwards married Anne, eldest daughter of Thomas Faunce, Esq. of Sutton at Hone, and dying, in 1796, left her in possession of it.

Kirby Hall, in the Parish of Horton Kirby, the residence of Ingram Rider, Esq. is situated on the banks of the Darent, about one mile north-east from Farningham. It is a handsome modern structure, with beautiful grounds and shrubberies. The interior is spacious, and decorated with much taste and elegance.

Kirby Hall is distant from London about 19 miles.

The manor of Horton received the additional title of Kirkby, or Kirby, from its early possessors, de Kirkby, who were descended from the family of that name seated at Kirkby Hall, in Lancashire. At the end of the reign of Elizabeth, the mansion of Kirkby Court was separated from the manor by Sir Thomas Walsingham, and passed to Cuthbert Hacket, Esq. of London, whose heirs passed it away to one Payne. With this family it continued till Joel Payne, in 1681, conveyed it to John Collett, Esq. whose daughter, Elizabeth, in 1698, sold it to John Arnold, and his son, William, in 1730, conveyed it to Thomas Polhill, Esq. whose three daughters, at his death in 1732, inherited it, and transmitted it to their heirs. In 1738, Richard and Thomas Collins, the heirs of one of the daughters above mentioned, who had become sole proprietors of this seat, conveyed it to Richard Hornsby, Esq. whose widow afterwards enjoyed it; and the year following her decease, Edward Homewood, Esq. purchased it of her heirs.

Vicarage, Horton Kirby, the residence of the Rev. George Rashleigh, A.M. is situated near the church, on the south-east. It is an elegant modern house, having the advantage of grounds exceedingly well laid out and planted. The river Darent flows in front, at a short distance westward, which, together with the varied scenery of this beautiful valley, renders it a most agreeable spot. The decorations of the interior are enriched by some good paintings.

The distance hither from Farningham is about one mile and a half, from

Dartford four miles, and from the Metropolis 19 miles.

South Darent, in the Parish of Horton Kirby, the seat of Edward Cresey, Esq. Architect, is situated about half way between Horton Kirby and Darent. This is a modern structure, in the style of the Lombard houses in Italy. The situation is very pleasant, being a little elevated eastward from the river Darent.

It is distant from Dartford about three miles, and from London 18 miles.

Giffords, in the Parish of Horton Kirby, the residence and property of Mrs. Mugeridge, is situated on the banks of the Darent, about two miles north-east from Farningham. This house seems an ancient structure. The ground

83

in front is ornamented with a fine cedar, which gives the place a striking appearance.

It is distant from Dartford about three miles and a half, and from London 18 miles and a half.

Horton Kirby Church. In the chancel of this church there is a monument for Sir Thomas Bathurst, son of Sir Edward Bathurst, obt. 1688; and several others for members of this family. In the high chancel, under an arched recess in the wall, which is ornamented with carved work, is a tomb, most probably (as Hasted conjectures) for one of the family of De Ros, lords of this place. In the south end of the transept, on the east side, is a monument for Richard Hornsby, Esq. of Kirby Hall, and Elizabeth, his wife; he served the office of Sheriff of this County in 1749, and was also a Magistrate: he died Dec. 27th, 1772, aged 65 years, and was interred at Cobham. Mrs. Hornsby died Nov. 24th, 1791, aged 61 years, and was interred here; as are also eight of their children.

The Church of Horton Kirby is dedicated to St. Mary.

Farningham House, in the Parish of Farningham, the property of Thomas Waring, Esq. and present residence of George Russell, Esq. is situated in Farningham. It is a substantial ancient mansion, of very respectable appearance, and well sheltered.

The distance hence to London is about 17 miles and a half.

Mill House, Farningham, the residence and property of Charles Colyer, Gent. is a modern building, situated on the banks of the river Darent. The grounds surrounding it are very tastefully disposed: on the side of the cliff, westward from the house, is a winding ascent, conducting to an artificial ruin, which is considered the chief attraction of the place; and certainly it is arranged with much skill, and produces an imposing and perfectly natural effect. In the house are two remarkable paintings: one of game; the other of a salmon trout, which was caught in the river close to the house, in the time of the late Mr. Colyer, about the year 1808, and weighed nine pounds two ounces; an extraordinary weight for a fish of that species.

Vicarage House, Farningham, the residence of the Rev. Benjamin Winston, LL.B. is principally modern, having been rebuilt, in 1808, by the Rev. Dr. Van Mildert, afterwards Bishop of Durham, soon after his collation to this benefice. Dr. Van Mildert was succeeded here, in 1816, by the Rev. B. Sandford, now bearing the name of Winston, the present Vicar.

Croft House, Farningham, the property of George Edwards, Esq. is a modern structure in the Grecian style, situated near the angle formed by the London road, and the road branching off to Eynsford.

Farningham Hill House, in the Parish of Farningham, the property of Thomas Waring, Esq. is situated on the summit of the hill north of the old road

84

to London, about three-quarters of a mile from Farningham. It is a handsome

modern house, in a very salubrious and pleasant situation, commanding agreeable prospects over a considerable extent of country.

The distance from London is about 17 miles.

Farningham Church. From the monuments in this church we select the following, as most worthy of notice:

In the chancel, a grave-stone for Sir William Gylborne, Vicar, obt. July 15th, 1451: another for Henry Farebrace, A.M. Rector of Ightham, and Vicar of Farningham, a benefactor to the poor of both parishes; obt. Feb. 21st, 1601: and another for John Pendleberry, 35 years Vicar here; obt. Dec. 19th, 1719, æt. 66: a memorial for Elizabeth, daughter of William Emmerton, Esq. and Elizabeth, his wife, daughter of Sir John Beale, Bart.; obt. 1689: another for Lady Jane Beale, obt. 1676; and another for Sir John Beale, Bart. obt. 1684. On the south side, west of the pulpit, a neat monument for Thomas Nash, who died Dec. 31st, 1809, aged 66 years; and his second son, Edward, who died Jan. 3d, 1821, in the 42d year of his age; and for his eldest son, Thomas, who died June 27th, 1828, aged 54 years; likewise for Mary, widow of the first named, who died Jan. 8th, 1829, in the 87th year of her age; and for Sarah, his eldest daughter, who died June 9th, 1833, aged 57 years. On the north side, a small neat monument for Mrs. Elizabeth Warre, widow of William Warre, Esq. of Bradford, in the County of Somerset, descended from the ancient family of Warre, of Hestercombe, in the said county, who died Aug. 23d, 1788, in the 60th year of her age.

In the church-yard there is a noble mausoleum, the building of which was commenced by Thomas Nash, Esq. citizen of London, and one of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the Counties of Kent and Surrey, (who died at Paris, April 7th, 1778, and whose remains are deposited within it,) and finished by his executors for a burying place for himself and his family. It contains the following memorials: one for the founder, recording as above; one for John Nash, M.D. who died June 8th, 1783, aged 75: another for John Allen, Esq. of Milton, near Gravesend, who died Oct. 15th, 1802, aged 91 years; one for Elizabeth, his wife, who died May 5th, 1785, aged 69; also for John Allen, Esq. of Hazels, in the Parish of Northfleet, who died May 15th, 1827, aged 87; another for Elizabeth, wife of John Allen, who died Aug. 31st, 1782, aged 34: one for Thomas Harman, Esq. of Wombwell Hall, who died Dec. 12th, 1805, aged 69; and one for Mary, his wife, who died Oct. 31, 1813, aged 78; another for Thomas Harman, Esq. of Wombwell Hall, who departed this life Feb. 15th, 1837, in the 71st year of his age; also one for Rachel, wife of Thomas Harman, Esq. of Wombwell Hall, who departed this life 24th April, 1835, in the 71st year of her age: another for William Hall Timbrel, Esq. who died June 14th, 1814, aged 62; and, lastly, one for Anne Timbrel, his relict, who died April 28th, 1825, aged 70.

In the church-yard there is also a handsome monument over the vault of William Hardyman and Henry Colyer, in memory of Mary, wife of William Hardyman, who died May 24th, 1784, aged 63; also of Elizabeth Colyer, daughter of Henry and Charlotte Colyer, who died Feb. 26th, 1803, aged 12 years; also of Charlotte Colyer, who died Sept. 8th, 1815, aged 34 years; and of Ann Colyer, wife of Charles Colyer, who died Dec. 20th, 1816, in the 29th year of her age.

Farningham Church is dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul.

Lullingstone Park, in the Parish of Lullingstone, the seat of Sir Percival Hart Dyke, Bart. stands on the banks of the River Darent, at the eastern

85

extremity of a very extensive and beautifully diversified park, which is stocked with about 800 head of deer. It is a fine old English mansion, and forcibly impresses the mind with ideas of the grandeur of its ancient possessors. In the hall are several handsome family portraits, in the costume of the times to which the persons belonged. There is a magnificent room above stairs, of large dimensions, which has a vaulted ceiling of exquisite workmanship, and round it a most unique ancient wainscot: here we observed a fine portrait of Queen Anne. The arched entrance <e> of the house from the park has the appearance of great antiquity, and is probably some hundred years older than the rest of the building.

Lullingstone, in the beginning of the reign of Edward I. was possessed by the family of Rokesle. At length the feoffees of John de Rokesle, who died in 1361, conveyed his estates here to Sir John Peche, in whose posterity they continued till Elizabeth, sister and heir of Sir John Peche, about the reign of Henry VII. entitled her husband, John Hart, Esq. to the possession of them. This property was inherited by the descendants of this gentleman, bearing his name, and men of high repute in the county, till it passed with Anne, daughter of Percival Hart, Esq. who died in 1738, to her second husband, Sir Thomas Dyke, Bart. of Horeham, in Sussex, from whom it lineally descended to the present proprietor.

The park was restored to its present state by Sir Thomas Dyke, having for many years previously been suffered to lie waste; for, according to Lambarde, there was a park at Lullingstone in the reign of Elizabeth. The distance hither from Sevenoaks is about seven miles, and from London 18 miles.

Lullingstone Church. This little church is an object of almost as great attraction as the mansion itself, being remarkable for the great neatness with which it is kept, as well as for the many noble and interesting memorials which adorn it. Between the chancel and the nave is an ancient gothic oak screen, with a balustrade on the top, beautifully carved. The church throughout is paved with black and white marble.

In the chancel is a grave-stone for Galfridus, once Rector of this church: another for John de Rokesle, Lord of Lullingstone, obt. 1361: and one for Sir William Peche, obt. 1487. On the south side of the altar is a very sumptuous monument, and under the roof of it a sarcophagus, on which lie the figures of a man in armour and his lady, to the memory of Sir Percyval Hart, (heir to the Peches,) who lived in the service of four princes; he matched into the family of the Lord Bray; obt. æt. 84. On the north side, separating the two chancels, is another magnificent stone monument, enriched with gothic work, and ornamented with various coats of arms: below, under an altar-table, lies the figure of a knight in armour; this is to the memory of Sir John Peche, Knight Banneret, who, in the reign of Henry VIII. was Constable of Dover Castle, Lord Deputy of Calais, &c. &c. He founded the alms-houses at Lullingstone, and gave £500 to the Grocers' Company, for pious

86

purposes. At the east end, under the window, is a handsome tomb of alabaster, on which are the figures of a man in armour and his lady, lying with their hands joined; it is for Sir George Hart, second son of Sir Percival Hart, who died in 1587, aged 55. The west side of the chancel is entirely covered by a beautiful gothic monument, executed in stucco, and in the form of a screen, ornamented with a great number of shields of arms. In the centre is a white marble slab, in imitation of a door, on which is an inscription for Percyval Hart, Esq. the munificent repairer and beautifier of this church, and representative of this county in the two last parliaments of Queen Anne: he died in 1738, aged 70. On the north side is an elegant mural monument, with a profile of a lady, encircled with ornamental sculpture, and on each side two urns of brown marble, in memory of Dame Anne Dyke, who died in 1763, aged 71, only child of Percyval Hart, Esq. of this place: she was twice married; first, to John Bluet, Esq. of Holcomb Court, in Devonshire, and afterwards to Sir Thomas Dyke, Bart. of Horeham. Mr. Bluet died in 1728, aged 29, and was buried here: Sir Thomas Dyke died in 1756, aged 58, and was also interred in this chancel.

Lullingstone Church is dedicated to St. Botolph.

On the banks of the River Darent, in the Parish of Eynsford, stand the ruins of Eynsford Castle, which have rather a picturesque effect. The circuit of the walls is very irregular, inclosing about three-quarters of an acre of ground: they are built of squared flint, and are nearly four feet thick. In the middle is a strong keep, or dungeon. The moat that encompassed the castle may still be traced, though now quite dry.

In the church-yard of Longfield, adjoining the south wall of the church, is an altar-tomb for

Archdeacon Plumer, who died Nov. 20th, 1704, aged 74, of whom honourable notice has been already taken.

Longfield Church is dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen.

HUNDRED OF CODSHEATH.

Otford Court, in the Parish of Shoreham, the seat of Humphrey St. John Mildmay, Esq. is situated on the banks of the River Darent, adjoining Shoreham southward. This mansion has within these few years been rebuilt in the Elizabethan style, and is now a very elegant residence. The grounds, which slope to the river, are beautifully laid out: the park is small, but well wooded and picturesque.

It is distant from Sevenoaks about five miles, from Lullingstone two miles, and from London 20 miles.

87

This place, which at its original foundation was named New House, was built on the estate of Preston, in this parish, by John Borrett, Esq. who had purchased the property, in 1716, of Paul D'Aranda, Esq. of Putney. At his death, in 1739, he was succeeded by his son, Thomas Borrett, Esq. who, dying in 1751, left it for life to his widow, and at her decease it devolved on their daughter, Martha, who had married her relative, Thomas Borrett, Esq.

Dunstall Priory, in the Parish of Shoreham, the seat of J. Ryder Burton, Esq. Captain in the Royal Navy, K.C.H. is situated about half a mile eastward from Shoreham, on rising ground, commanding a full view of this beautiful valley, and its most conspicuous feature, Lullingstone Park. It is a modern structure, after an Italian model: the interior is tastefully fitted up, and there are some fine paintings by the old masters.

Dunstall Priory is about five miles north from Sevenoaks, and 20 miles from London.

Shoreham Church. At the west end is a mural monument for Anne, second daughter of John Borrett, Esq. of the Inner Temple, obt. 1735. In the north aisle, on a grave-stone, is a brass for William Wall, S.T.P. obt. Jan. 13th, 1727, æt. 82, Vicar of this church 53 years, and Rector of Milton almost 20 years. At the entrance of the great chancel is a grave-stone for Thomas Polhill, Gent. obt. 1588; and Anne his wife, daughter of William Plumley, of Otford: a mural monument, with the bust of a lady, for Susannah, wife of Edward Borrett, Esq. who died 1751. In the north chancel, at the east end, a grave-stone for Paul D'Aranda, Esq. of Shoreham, obt. 1712, æt. 60; another for Paul D'Aranda, Esq. of Putney, son of the above, obt. 1732, æt. 46. At the west end, a mural marble for John Polhill, Esq. late of Preston, in this parish, descended from the elder house of the Polhills of that place, obt. 1651, æt. 39; he married Anne, daughter of Sir Edward Gilbourne, of Shoreham: a beautiful monument, by Sir H. Cheere, with the busts of a man and woman, for John Borrett, Esq. Master of the Inner Temple, and Prothonotary, obt. 1739, æt. 82. In the great chancel, on the south side of the altar, a large elegant monument, with the busts of a gentleman and lady, for Sir Abraham Shard, eldest son of Sir Isaac Shard, of Lambeth, whose second wife was Ruth, daughter of John Borrett, Esq. of this parish; he died in 1746. In the north cross aisle, a plain monument for Susannah, Lady Stirling, of Faskine, in the County of Lanark, Shoreham Castle, and the Honour of Otford, interred in the family vault, Harmondsworth, Middlesex; paternally descended from William of Wykeham, which entitles her heirs to the benefit of Winchester College: she died June 8th, 1806, in childbed, aged 37 years. Near the pulpit, east side, a neat tablet for Charlotte, the wife of John Gregory, Esq. of this parish, who died April 17th, 1832: and a monument for the Rev. Vincent Perronet, who was Vicar of this parish 59 years, and died May 9th, 1785, in the 91st year of his age; also for Charity, his wife, who died in 1763.

Shoreham Church is dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paid.

Halstead Place, in the Parish of Halstead, the seat of Alderman Atkins, a Deputy Lieutenant of the County, is situated in a beautiful park, about five miles and a half north-west from Sevenoaks. The house is of modern architecture, handsome and spacious: the interior is very elegant, and decorated

88

with some valuable paintings by Correggio, Salvator Rosa, Caravaggio, Vanderelde, Brueghel, Marcenay, Clevely, Wycke, Cuyp, &c. &c. The grounds here are beautiful, and well adorned with shrubberies.

Halstead Place is distant from London about 18 miles.

The manor of Halstead, in very early times, was held by a family named Malavil, of the Archbishop of Canterbury. From his descendants it passed through several proprietors, till it came into possession of Admiral Lord Vere, third son of Charles, first Duke of St. Alban's, who, in 1755, separated the Court Lodge from the manor, and sold it, together with a small portion of land adjoining, to Robert Bagshaw, Esq. who afterwards passed away Halstead Place to Robert Ralph Foley, Esq. created in 1767 a Baronet. Of this gentleman it was purchased by John Sargent, Esq. who died in 1791; and it was then sold to Arnold Arnold, Esq.

Halstead Church. In the north chancel is a grave-stone for Sir Thomas Watson, of Halstead, a great benefactor to this church, who died in 1621: another for Elizabeth, his wife, which was placed here by her grandson, Thomas, Earl of Downe. At the east end, a mural monument for Sir James Ashe, Bart. of Twickenham, who died in 1733: a monument for John Sargent, Esq. of Halstead, who died Sept. 20th, 1792, aged 76 years; also for Rosamond, his wife, who died Dec. 5th, 1792, aged 70 years: near it another for George Arnold Arnold, Esq. of Halstead Place, who died Aug. 18th, 1805, aged 57 years.

This Church is dedicated to St. Margaret.

Chevening Park, in the Parish of Chevening, the seat of the Right Hon. Philip Henry Stanhope, Earl Stanhope. The park is extensive, and distinguished for variety of scenery and picturesque beauty. The southern part is a spacious level, adorned with numerous uncommon shrubs; the northern end stretches up to the summit of Madamscot Hill, which is clothed with its luxuriant groves. The house is a noble edifice, and contains, among its costly decorations, some superb paintings. We were struck, on entering the hall, with the curious disposition of fire-arms and other warlike weapons that are there displayed. The ample library occupies a separate suite of apartments, and comprises many rare and expensive works, both modern and ancient. The conservatories, pleasure-grounds, gardens, and shrubberies, evince the most successful cultivation and refined taste.

Chevening Park is nearly four miles north-west from Sevenoaks, about the same distance north-east from Westerham, and 21 miles from London.

Chevening manor, a subordinate one to another of the same name, in the reign of Henry III. was possessed by Adam de Chevening, whose descendants were succeeded by the family of De la Pole, of whom it was purchased by that of Isley, in the reign of Henry VI. William Isley, in the reign of Edward IV. gave it by deed to John Harneys, from whose posterity it was carried in marriage by a female heir, in the beginning of Henry VIII. to John Mills. His son John conveyed

89

it by deed poll, anno 3 Edward VI. to Henry Fitzherbert, who, the following year passed it away to John Leonard, Esq. In his illustrious descendants, the Lords Dacre, it continued till the Ladies Barbara and Anne, daughters of Thomas, Lord Dacre, Earl of Sussex, sold it, in 1717, to Major General James Stanhope, grandson of Philip, first Earl of Chesterfield, afterwards for his signal services created Viscount Mahon and Earl Stanhope, who died in 1721. From this nobleman it has lineally descended to the present noble proprietor.

Chevening Park is nearly four miles north-west from Sevenoaks, about the same distance north-east from Westerham, and 21 miles from London.

Rectory House, Chevening, the residence of the Rev. John Austen, A.M. a Magistrate for the County, is beautifully situated on the confines of Chevening Park, and has the advantage of part of its delightful scenery. The house was chiefly erected in the year 1814, by the present incumbent, in the ancient style of architecture: the interior is very elegant, and embellished with paintings by Michael Angelo; Caravaggio; one by W. Mieris, of our Saviour driving the money-changers out of the temple; Death of Cleopatra, by Vanderneer, &c. &c.

Chevening Rectory House is about four miles north-west from Sevenoaks, and 21 miles from London.

Chepstead Place, in the Parish of Chevening, the seat of Frederick Perkins, Esq. is situated west of Riverhead, on the south side of the road from thence to Sundridge, which passes through the centre of the park. The grounds surrounding the house possess great beauty, and are ornamented with fine timber. The interior of this spacious mansion is very elegant, and boasts a choice collection of paintings, the works of Murillo, Claude, Poussin, Cuyp, Teniers, Ostade, Both, Reynolds, Vandervelde, Wilson, &c. &c.

At the end of Elizabeth's reign this seat belonged to Robert Cranmer, Esq. whose daughter, Anne, on her father's death, in 1619, carried it in marriage to Sir Arthur Herrys. He was succeeded by his second son, John Herrys, Esq. whose widow carried it to her third husband, William Priestly, Esq. of Wildhill, in Hertfordshire, who, with his wife and her son, Cranmer Herrys, Esq. conveyed it, in 1652, to Jeffrey Thomas, Gent.: he, in 1654, conveyed it to Ralph Suckley, who, in 1658, again parted with it to David Polhill, Gent. of Otford. At his death he was succeeded by his brother, Thomas Polhill, Esq. of Clapham, (who had married the daughter of the famous Ireton,) who, in 1665, conveyed it to Sir Nicholas Strode, of Westerham, whose widow and two daughters, in 1693, passed it away to William Emerton, Esq. of London, who built the present seat. In the 8th year of Queen Anne, after his death, it was purchased by David Polhill, Esq. son of Thomas Polhill, Esq. before mentioned, whose descendants inherited it for many years.

Chepstead Place is about two miles north-west from Sevenoaks, and 23 miles from London.

90

Everlands, in the Parish of Chevening, the seat of Sir Richard Henry Charles Rycroft, Bart. is situated rather more than two miles south-west from Sevenoaks, and one mile and a half east from Ide Hill. It is one of those delightful situations afforded by this range of hills, which have been selected for the site of several elegant villas. Well sheltered against the north, east, and west, it commands toward the south a prospect of admirable extent and beauty. Everlands is a modern structure: the building of it was commenced by the Rev. Sir Richard Rycroft, Bart. continued by the predecessor of the present proprietor, and completed by Sir R. H. C. Rycroft, Bart.

It is distant from London about 26 miles.

Chevening Church contains the following magnificent monuments:

In a pew adjoining the south chancel is a fine altar-tomb, of Bethersden marble, for John Lennard, Gent. obt. 2d and 3d Philip and Mary, æt. 76. In the south chancel, a noble tomb of alabaster, on which lie the figures of a man in armour, and a lady in her robes; on the south side of it are three sons, kneeling, and on the north side five daughters: it is to the memory of Sampson Lennard, Esq. and his wife Margaret Fienes, Lady Dacre, obt. 1615. On the north side, a fine altar-tomb, with the figures of a man in armour and his lady, for John Lennard, Esq. and Elizabeth, his wife, obt. 1590, æt. 82. In the great chancel are memorials for the Watsons, of Madamscourt. On the north side is a monument for Lady Anne Herrys, sole daughter and heir of Robert Cranmer,

Esq. of Chepstead, wife of Sir Arthur Herrys, of Crixey, in Essex, obt. 1613, æt. 27. At the east end, a mural monument, with the figures of a man and woman kneeling at a desk, and in an arch below, a daughter, sitting, for Robert Cranmer, Esq. of Chepstead, son of Thomas Cranmer, Esq. of Asflacton, in Nottinghamshire, who died in 1619. In that part of the church appropriated to the noble family of Stanhope, the chief object of attraction, and one of Chantrey's most successful efforts, is a female with an infant at her breast, reclining on a couch, sculptured in white marble, as large as life, in memory of Lady Frederica Louisa Stanhope, daughter of the Earl of Mansfield, and wife of the Hon. James Hamilton Stanhope, who died in child-bed, Jan. 14, 1823, in the 23d year of her age. Every admirer of art must be struck with the effect of this exquisitely beautiful monument. Never, perhaps, did sculptor produce a more touching or more lively tableau. In the same tomb is also interred Lieutenant Colonel the Hon. James Hamilton Stanhope, third son of Charles, Earl Stanhope, who departed this life March 5th, 1825, in the 37th year of his age: near this is a mural monument in memory of Charles, third Earl Stanhope, who died at Chevening, Dec. 15th, 1816; and several others for members of this family. Over the door is one in memory of the Right Hon. Lady Lucy Taylor, wife of Thomas Taylor, Esq. Comptroller General of the Customs, third daughter of Earl Stanhope, by Lady Hester Pitt, daughter of the Earl of Chatham, who died March 2d, 1814, in the 34th year of her age.

Chevening Church is dedicated to St. Botolph.

OTFORD. History narrates that two great battles were fought here: one A.D. 773, between Offa, King of Mercia, and Aldric, King of Kent, for the

91

sovereignty of his kingdom of Kent, in which the former was victorious; and the other A.D. 1010, between Edmund Ironside and Canute, in which Edmund overthrew the Danes with great slaughter, and pursued them as far as Aylesford, in their retreat to the Isle of Sheppey. The remains of the slain have been frequently discovered in several fields in the parish, particularly in one called Dane Field.

Here also the Archbishops of Canterbury had a palace, and many fabulous, and even impious tales, are told of the miracles wrought by Thomas a Becket while he resided here.

Broughton House, in the Parish of Otford, the seat of John Wreford, Gent. is situated about three miles north-west from Sevenoaks, on the east side of the London road. It is a handsome modern structure, commanding, westward, a beautiful prospect of this interesting district. The young plantations by which it is surrounded will, in a few years, add materially to its beauty, and give it a more secluded appearance.

Broughton House is distant from London about 21 miles.

Broughton's, anno 33 Henry VIII. was exchanged by Sir George Harper with the Crown for other lands in Essex. In the 1st and 2d Philip and Mary it was granted to Humphrey Colwych, to hold by knight's service; and afterwards it came into possession of the family of Polhill, in whose descendants it continued for several years.

Otford Church contains the following monuments that particularly deserve the attention of the curious:

In the south aisle, on the south side, a mural monument of elegant structure, with a marble bust, for David Polhill, Esq. of Chepstead, son of Thomas Polhill, Esq. of Otford, by Elizabeth, daughter of Henry Ireton, by Bridget, daughter of Oliver Cromwell; he was one of the Kentish petitioners in the reign of William III. and at the time of his death, M. P. for Rochester, and Keeper of the Records in the Tower; he died in 1754, aged 80. He married three wives; first, Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Trevor, Esq. of Glynd, in Sussex; secondly, Gertrude, sister of Thomas Holles, Duke of Newcastle; and lastly, Elizabeth, daughter of John Borrett, Esq. of Shoreham. In the south chancel, a memorial for William Sydney, and Alice his wife, descended from William Sydney, Lord

of Kingsham, by Chichester, and of Isabella St. John, daughter of Lord St. John, obt. 1625. In the great chancel, on the north side, a noble monument, with the statue of a gentleman, as large as life, standing, and leaning on an urn; and above him the profile of a lady, with marble figures on each side, for Charles Polhill, Esq. youngest son of Thomas Polhill, Esq. by Elizabeth, daughter of Henry Ireton, obt. 1755: he married Martha, daughter of Thomas Streatfield, Esq. of Sevenoaks. At the end, a mural monument for George Petty and Anne his wife, daughter of John Polhill, Esq. of Otford; he died in 1719: also for Robert, their eldest son, obt. 1727. On the south side of the altar, a memorial for Robert Polhill, Gentleman, of Otford, son of John and Jane, of Otford, obt. 1699, æt. 67: a superb monument, by J. Bacon, jun. for Charles Polhill, Esq. who died July 23d,

92

1805, aged 81 years: he was twice married, first, to Tryphena Penelope, daughter of Sir John Shelley, of Mitchell Grove, Sussex, by whom he had issue one daughter only, named Tryphena Penelope, who married Mr. George Stafford, of Apsley Mills, Herts; she died before her father, leaving issue two sons, Charles and Thomas George: secondly, to Patience, daughter of Thomas and Sarah Hasswell, of Woodmanston, Surrey, who died April 23d, 1803; by her he had issue six sons and one daughter, viz. George, Charles, David, Patience, David, Thomas Alfred, and Francis, three only of whom survived him, viz. George, Patience, and Francis. North side, near the altar, a plain tablet, for Elizabeth Arnold, late of Brackley, Northamptonshire, who died May 9th, 1806: also for Richard Goodman, late of this parish, who died Oct. 3d, 1821, aged 49; and for Elizabeth Goodman, his wife, who died June 4th, 1828, aged 56. On the south wall, a monument for Robert Bostock, Esq. who died March 2d, 1747; and for Ellis Bostock, son of the above Robert, who died Feb. 2d, 1788, aged 66; also for Sarah, his wife, who died July 17th, 1799, aged 78; and for Robert, their son, who died April 1st, 1821, aged 62.

Otford Church is dedicated to St. Bartholomew, and was formerly in high repute for an image and shrine of that saint.

Stone Pitt, in the parish of Seal, the residence and property of Richard Round, Gentleman, is situated about one mile east from Seal. It is a very ancient place, in the Elizabethan style, and from its antiquity, possesses considerable interest. The wainscoting and ceilings in the interior are curious, and admirably executed; there are also several excellent family portraits, but by whom we could not ascertain.

This seat, in the reign of Elizabeth, was possessed by a family named Tybold, or Theobald, from whom it was carried in marriage, by Catherine, daughter of John Theobald, Esq. to Lawrence Piers, of Westfield, in Sussex, whose great grandson, Sir George Piers, Bart. died possessed of it A.D. 1720. It was shortly afterwards purchased by Richard Goodhugh, Esq. whose descendant, Sarah, carried it in marriage to Richard Round, Gentleman; and his son Richard, at his death, left it in trustees for the benefit of his infant children.

Wilderness, in the Parish of Seal, the seat of the most noble John Jeffreys Pratt, Marquis Camden, Lord Lieutenant for the CoUnty, is situated on the south of Seal, in a very beautiful, picturesque park, extremely well wooded, and in point of scenery greatly resembling that of Knole. The mansion is modern.

Wilderness is distant from Sevenoaks nearly two miles, and from London about 24 miles.

Wilderness (anciently Stidulfe's Place) was the property of a family who from it assumed their surname. William Stidulfe, about the 11th Henry VI. conveyed it to William Quintin, whose descendant, Robert Oliver, alias Quintin, in the beginning of Queen Elizabeth's reign, sold it to Richard Tybold, alias Theobald. Two female heirs of this name at length (in 1619), inheriting their father's property, this seat, on a division, was allotted to Catherine, married to Edward Michell, Esq.

93

a descendant of whom, in the reign of Charles II. sold it to Sir Charles Bickerstaffe, of the ancient family of that name, in the County of Lancaster, who changed the name of the place to Wilderness. After his death, in 1704, it was purchased of his trustees by John Pratt, Esq. (a descendant of a family originally from Devonshire), Chief Justice of the Court of King's Bench, whose grandson, John Pratt, Esq. at his death, in 1797, gave it to his nephew, the Right Hon. John Jeffreys, Earl of Camden.

Seal Church. In the north aisle there is a mural monument for Maximilian Buck, Vicar of Kemsing and Seal for 46 years, obt. April, 1720, æt. 70: a tablet for Ann Margaret, second daughter of the late Jeremy Lock, Esq. Major in the East India Company's Bombay Service, wife of the Rev. William Stamer, B.D. Curate of this parish, second son of Sir William Stamer, Bart.; she died May 13th, 1833; and for William Lovelace, their only son, who died May 22d, 1829, aged 16 months. In the chancel, a memorial for Harward Bickerstaffe, Esq. late of Chelsham, in Surrey, obt. 1648: another for Charles Bickerstaffe, his son, late of Wilderness, obt. 1704: another for Elizabeth Hunt, of Bounds, in Bidborough, first married to Henry Smythe, Esq. of Bounds, by whom she had one child, Sir S. S. Smythe, Baron of the Exchequer; she married, secondly, William Hunt, Esq.; she died in 1754, and was buried here, near her mother, Elizabeth Lloyd, widow of Dr. John Lloyd, and sister of Sir Charles Bickerstaffe, of Wilderness: another for Sir John Chichester and Lady Elizabeth, his wife, daughter of Sir Charles Bickerstaffe, both of whom died in 1680: a grave-stone, with the figure, in brass, of a man in armour, for Sir William de Bryene, Lord of Kemsing and Seal, who died in 1395: a monument for Stephen Theobald, Esq. and his two wives, obt. 1619. In the south chancel, a memorial for Sir Thomas Piers, Bart. of Stonepit, obt. 1680; a small mural monument, for John Theobald, sen. Gentleman, who died in 1577; he had seven sons and nine daughters by Clemence, who, before she died, was mother, grandmother, and great grandmother to 115 children: here are also other memorials for this family. In the south-east corner of the church are five elegant mural monuments; the central one has a sculptured profile, a coronet and cushion, being for Charles Pratt, Earl of Camden, who died in 1794, in the 81st year of his age: he filled the office of Attorney-General to the King from 1769 to 1761, when he was made Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, which office he held till 1765, and then was elevated to the high situation of Lord High Chancellor of England: in 1770 he resigned the great seal, having opposed those measures which led to the war with America: in 1782 he was made Lord President of His Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, which office he resigned in 1783, and was again appointed in 1784, and retained that situation in his Majesty's councils till his death: on the right of this, one for John Pratt, Esq. eldest grandson; and for Thomas Pratt, Esq. fourth son of Lord Chief Justice Pratt, each successively possessors of those estates in Kent and Sussex to which the Marquis Camden has succeeded; John Pratt, Esq. died April 3d, 1797, aged 74 years; Thomas Pratt, Esq. died March 25th, 1805, aged 98 years: above this, one for Lady Frances Margaret Pratt, eldest daughter of the Marquis and Marchioness Camden; she died in 1822, aged 35 years: on the left of that first mentioned, a fourth, for the Right Hon. Sir John Pratt, Lord Chief Justice of England, born 1656, died 1724: and over this, the fifth, in memory of Lady Caroline Stewart, wife of Alexander Robert Stewart, Esq. of Ards House, County of Donegal, Ireland, and third daughter of the Marquis Camden, who died Oct. 7th, 1827, in the 33d year of her age: near these there is a monument for Mrs. Eleanor Mortimer, of Sevenoaks, who died Sept. 25th, 1803, aged 84 years; also for Mrs. Eleanor Slye, of the same place, who died Feb. 3d, 1835, aged 75 years: an elegant one for the Rev. William Humphrey, M.A. 45 years Vicar of this parish and of Birling, who died July 13th, 1816, aged 73; and for Elizabeth, his wife, daughter of the Rev. Francis Woodgate, Vicar of Mounts-

field and Whatlington, in the County of Sussex, who died Feb. 14th, 1835, aged 84: another for George Upcot Humphrey, second son of the Rev. William Humphrey and Elizabeth his wife, born Dec. 10th, 1784, died May 14th, 1803; and for John, their third son, born April 30th, 1794, and died March 8th, 1807; also Elizabeth, their eldest daughter, born Jan. 18th, 1782, died Jan. 5th, 1815; and for William Ozias Humphrey, of the Council Office, Whitehall, their eldest son, who died May 26th, 1836, aged 46. Over the door, a tablet for Thomas Thompson, of Hall Place, in this parish, who died Jan. 11th, 1805, aged 61; and for Sarah, his wife, who died Nov. 2d, 1784, aged 35; also for Sarah, their daughter, who died May 25th, 1779, aged 4 years. At the west end of the south aisle, a tablet for the Rev. William Winder Clerk, who died Oct. 31st, 1790, aged 71; and for Mary, his

wife, who died March 28th, 1793, aged 73. On the south side, a mural monument for Richard Round, Esq. of Stone Pitt, who died Oct. 23d, 1779, aged 54; and two of his children, Stephen, who died Dec. 3d, 1777, aged 8 months, and Sarah, who died Sept. 8th, 1805, aged 25; also for Sarah Round, wife of the above Richard Round, who died March 23d, 1831, aged 84. Thomas de Brinton, Bishop of Rochester, who died in 1389, is said to have been interred in this church.

Seal Church is dedicated to St. Peter.

Greatness, in the Parish of Sevenoaks, the property of Sir Edmund Filmer, Bart. is situated one mile westward from Seal. This mansion is at present unoccupied.

It is distant from Sevenoaks about one mile and a half, and from London 23 miles and a half.

Bradbourne, in the Parish of Sevenoaks, the seat of Henry Hughes, Esq. is situated on the east side of Riverhead, at a distance of not more than half a mile. It is a large, handsome, substantial structure, surrounded by beautiful grounds. The interior is elegantly fitted up, and ornamented with paintings by Poussin, Ostade, Sir Godfrey Kneller, &c. &c.; and in the drawing-room is some fine tapestry in compartments, supposed to have been given by Queen Elizabeth to Sir Ralph Bosville. This seat is the centre of a very noble neighbourhood, having Knole to the south-east, at a distance of about two miles; Wilderness more to the east, at the same distance; Chevening Park to the north-west; Chepstead Place and the ancient mansion of the Petleys, at Riverhead, to the west; Montreal to the south-west; and Kippington to the south; besides many other distinguished houses within the circle we have thus partially drawn.

Bradbourne is distant from Sevenoaks one mile and a half, from Tunbridge Wells about 12 miles, and from London 23 miles.

The Manor of Bradborne was possessed by the proprietors of Knole, till Sir Thomas Grandison, in the reign of Edward III. sold it to Walter de Pevenley, or Pemley, who, it seems probable, first erected this mansion, it having been anciently called Pemley Court. To this family, in the reign of Henry VI. succeeded that of Ashe, who, after some generations, were followed by the Isleys; and, in 31st Henry VIII. Sir Henry Isley exchanged it with the king. In the Reign of Elizabeth it had

95

become the property of Sir Ralph Bosville, whose descendant, Henry Bosville, Esq. rebuilt the manor house, and, dying in 1761, unmarried, bequeathed it in tail to his relative, Sir Richard Betenson, Bart. On the death of Sir Richard, s. p. Bradbourne descended, by the limitation of Mr. Bosville's will, to Thomas Lane, Esq. of Sevenoaks.

Chapel House, in the Parish of Sevenoaks, the residence of the Rev. John Thomas Wilgress, M.A. is situated in the triangle formed by the roads bounding the parks of Montreal and Bradbourne on the east and west, and that from Riverhead to Seal on the north. It is of modern architecture, in the cottage style.

The distance from Sevenoaks is about one mile and a quarter, and from London 23 miles.

Riverhead, in the Parish of Sevenoaks. Here is the seat of Charles Robert Carter Petley, Esq. a Magistrate for the County. This mansion has been for many generations the property and residence of a branch of the Petley family; Ralph Petley, eldest son of Thomas Petley, Esq. of Filston, or Vielston, in Shoreham, who lived in the reign of James I. having been the first of that name resident here. From this gentleman it has descended lineally to the present proprietor.

Riverhead is distant from Sevenoaks one mile and a half, from Tunbridge Wells about 12 miles, and from London 22 miles.

Montreal, in the Parish of Sevenoaks, the seat of the Right Hon. William Pitt Amherst, Earl Amherst, is situated about one mile and a quarter north-west

from Sevenoaks, in a very beautiful park, well wooded, and in the highest state of cultivation.

Montreal is distant from Tunbridge Wells about 12 miles, and from London 23 miles.

The old mansion of Brooks Place (the predecessor of this seat) was built, according to tradition, by one of the family of Colepeper, out of the materials taken from the neighbouring suppressed Hospital of St. John. It afterwards came into possession of a younger branch of the Amhersts, of Pembury, a descendant of whom was Field Marshal Jeffry Amherst, Lord Amherst, of Holmsdale, who was ennobled for his victorious achievements in North America, in the middle of the last century. Lord Amherst, soon after his return from America, pulled down the old house of Brooks Place, and built the present elegant mansion, naming it Montreal, in commemoration of his capture of that city, Sept. 8th, 1760.

On an obelisk, in the grounds, are inscriptions detailing the successes of Lord Amherst during his glorious career in America. At his death, in 1797, he was succeeded by his nephew, William Pitt Amherst, Lord Amherst.

Kippington, in the Parish of Sevenoaks, the seat of Thomas Austen, Esq. a Magistrate for the County, is situated on the east side of Sevenoaks, on an

96

elevation commanding extensive prospects over this interesting part of the county.

Kippington is distant from Tunbridge Wells about 11 miles, and from London 24 miles.

It was formerly the inheritance of a younger branch of the family of Cobham, till Anne, daughter of Sir Thomas Cobham, carried it in marriage to Sir Edward Borough. His descendant, Sir William Borough, in the beginning of the reign of Elizabeth, alienated it to one Burges, whose sister carried it in marriage to a gentleman named Hanger, of whom it was purchased by Mr. Cowper, and he, in the time of Charles I. conveyed it to Mr. Thomas Farnaby, the eminent schoolmaster. His grandson, Charles, was advanced to the dignity of Baronet in 1726; and by his descendant, Sir Charles Farnaby Radcliffe, Bart. Kippington was sold to Francis Motley Austen, Esq.

Ash Grove, in the Parish of Sevenoaks, the seat of Alexander Glendining, Esq. is situated one mile south-west from Sevenoaks. This elegant villa has lately undergone considerable improvements. The grounds are laid out with great taste, and ornamented with extensive shrubberies and plantations.

Ash Grove is distant from Tunbridge Wells nearly 11 miles, and from London about 25 miles.

Belle Vue, in the Parish of Sevenoaks, the residence of Henry Austen, Esq. is situated one mile and a quarter south-west from Sevenoaks. The name of this delightful seat is very appropriate. It stands on the summit of the range of hills which here intersect the county, and from whence is seen that magnificent coup-d'œil already slightly noticed in the article on Everlands. This vast expanse of view comprehends the southern part of Kent, one half of Sussex, a considerable portion of Surrey, and, we believe, at its most remote point, a segment of Hampshire. The several seats along these hills, as St. Julians, River Hill, Beechmont, and Mariners, participate equally with Belle Vue and Everlands in the beauty of this prospect, which alone is sufficient to render them objects of no ordinary interest.

Belle Vue is distant from London about 25 miles and a half.

Beechmont, in the Parish of Sevenoaks, the seat of William Lambarde, Esq. is situated about one mile and a quarter south from Sevenoaks, on the summit of River Hill. It is a modern villa, surrounded by pleasure-grounds, and commanding, perhaps pre-eminently, all the charms of the scenery described in the preceding article, with the additional advantage of a prospect towards the north.

The ancient family residence of the Lambardes, however, is at the south entrance into Sevenoaks, and will be found on our map; but we could not learn that it bears any particular designation.

97

Beechmont is distant from Tunbridge Wells about 10 miles, and from London 25 miles and a half.

River Hill, in the Parish of Sevenoaks, the seat of Henry Buckley, Esq. is situated on the east side of the road from Sevenoaks to Tunbridge, about one mile and a half south-east from the former. This seat has been just mentioned in the description of Belle Vue: it is sufficient here to say that it commands to the utmost extent, "the gay, the open scene" outspread beneath it.

It is distant from Tunbridge about five miles, and from London 25 miles and a half.

St. Julians, in the Parish of Sevenoaks, the seat of the Right Hon. John Charles Herries, one of her Majesty's Privy Counsellors, and Member of Parliament for Harwich, (formerly Chancellor of the Exchequer, Master of the Mint, &c.) is beautifully situated in the bosom of River Hill, about two miles south-east from Sevenoaks. The house is an elegant specimen of the florid Elizabethan style, built of grey brick and Bath stone. The grounds are laid out in the best taste, and finely planted. On the west side of the mansion is a splendid conservatory, and in front a terrace, the centre of which is occupied by an ornamental fountain. From this terrace, and still more from the summer-house above it, that stands nearly at the top of the hill, north of the mansion, the views are most extensive and interesting.

St. Julians is distant from Tunbridge Wells about 10 miles, and from London 26 miles.

The situation of St. Julians is near that of the old manor house of Rumpsted, alias Rumpshot, which belonged formerly to a family of the same name, one of whom, Sir William de Rumpsted, was the foster father of William de Sevenoke. In the reign of Henry VI. Rumpsted was in possession of the family of Nisell, of Wrotham, with whom it remained till Alice, only daughter and heir of William Nisell, Esq. carried it in marriage to John Bere, of Dartford, who, in the reign of Henry VIII. alienated it to Peckham, and he, not many years after, conveyed it to one Bedell. In the 3d and 4th year of the reign of Queen Mary, Nicholas Bedell passed it to John Stacy, of Hollenden, in Tunbridge, who soon sold it to Mr. Richard Lone, of Sevenoaks, son of Robert Lone, of Ellow, in Suffolk, whose second son, Richard, disposed of it by sale to Thomas Lambarde, Esq. son of Sir Multon Lambarde, Bart. and grandson of William Lambarde, the antiquary.

Knole, in the Parish of Sevenoaks, the seat of the Right Hon. the Countess of Plymouth, is a place of such grandeur as not only to distinguish this part of Kent, but in a manner to dignify the county. It is a princely domain, complete in every requisite of a noble residence; whether we consider the architectural magnificence of the ancient mansion, the splendid embellishments within its walls,

98

or the combination of every circumstance of picturesque beauty in the wide seclusion of its surrounding grounds. The park extends over an area of nearly 1000 acres of the richest land; it is abundantly wooded with stately timber, and supplied with deer. The house is a grand pile of building in the Elizabethan style. The following list of the numerous collection of paintings, distributed through the principal apartments, will convey some idea of its magnitude, and of the interesting nature of these costly decorations.

PAINTINGS AT KNOLE.

The Hall, measuring 74 feet by 27, and in height upwards of 26 feet, contains the following: – Silenus and Bacchanalians, by Rubens; John, Lord Somers, Lord Chancellor to Queen Anne, whole length, by Kneller; the Death of Mark Antony, by Dance; the Finding of Moses, by Giordana; Animals, by Snyders; Lionel, Duke of Dorset, and his Sister, when children, by Kneller; King and Queen, by Ramsay; a View of Dover Castle and the adjacent Country, in which are introduced the portraits of Lionel, Duke of Dorset, Sir Basil Dixon, Maximilian Buck, Chaplain to his Grace, and others, painted by Wootton; the Duke D'Espernon, Constable of France, by Sir Anthony More; Richard, third Earl of Dorset, a copy; Lionel Cranfield, Earl of Middlesex, a copy; Martha Cranfield, Countess of Monmouth, by Mytens; Edward, Earl of Dorset, a copy; the Figure of Demosthenes in the act of delivering an oration, a fine Grecian work of art in marble, the size of the life, purchased in Italy by the Duke of Dorset for £700; a Statue of Egeria.

The Brown Gallery, 80 feet in length. – The portraits, which form the principal part of the collection in this room, are in the style of Holbein, and either by that master or by others of his school; they are half-lengths, nearly of equal dimensions, and of the following persons: – Alphonso D'Avalos, Marquis de Guasto, Lieutenant-General of the Armies of the Emperor Charles V. in Italy, and Knight of the Golden Fleece; Don John of Austria; Charles, Duke of Bourbon, Constable of France; John Wickliffe; Admiral Blake; Charles of Lorraine, Duke of Guise; John, Duke of Bourbon and Auvergne, Constable of France; Henry of Lorraine, Duke of Guise; George Clifford, Earl of Cumberland; Alexander Farnese, Duke of Parma and Placentia; John Dudley, Duke of Northumberland; William Herbert, Earl of Pembroke; Henry Howard, Earl of Northampton; Sir James Welford, Knight; Friar Bacon; Thomas Cranmer, Archbishop of Canterbury; Stephen Gardiner; Queen Mary; John Fisher, Bishop of Rochester; Thomas Cromwell, Earl of Essex; Henry Fitzallan, Earl of Arundel; Sir Thomas More; Thomas Howard, Duke of Norfolk; Henry VIII.; Sir Christopher Hatton, Keeper of the Great Seal to Queen Elizabeth; Cardinal Wolsey; Sir Francis Walsingham; Sir Francis Drake; William Cecil, Lord Burleigh, Lord Treasurer to Queen Elizabeth; Queen Elizabeth; Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester; Thomas Sackville, Earl of Dorset; Robert Cecil, Earl of Salisbury; Sir John Norris; Sir Walter Mildmay; William of Nassau, first Prince of Orange; Thomas Howard, Earl of Suffolk; Thomas (son of Henry) Ratcliffe, Earl of Sussex; John Whitgift, Archbishop of Canterbury; Richard Bancroft, Archbishop of Canterbury; Thomas Egerton, Baron Ellsmeere; Charles Howard, Earl of Nottingham; Mary, Queen of Scots, when a child; Catharine of Arragon, Queen to Henry VIII.; Isabella Clara Eugenie; Luther, Melancthon, and Pomeranus, Reformers, by Holbein; Agricola and Erasmus; a Florentine Nobleman, of the Strozzi family; Isabella Monata, Countess of Mone; St. John and the Lamb, by Correggio, a beautiful picture; William, Baron de Montmorency; the Duke de Alvarez; Ninon de l'Enelos; the Countess of Desmond, who lived more than 100 years, the lady who described the Duke of

99

Gloucester (Richard III.) as a very handsome prince, having danced with him in her youth: an Earl of Surrey; Philip, Count Horn; James I. of England; Anna Boleyn; the Emperor Charles V.; Edward VI. of England; Henry V. of England; a Masquerade, by Bronimo; Louis XV. of France; the Honourable Edward Cranfield; James Cranfield, Earl of Middlesex; a Doge of Venice; the Earl of Abergavenny; the Countess of Abergavenny; Edward, Earl of Dorset, a copy; Sir Kenelm Digby, a copy; Oliver Cromwell, by Walker.

Lady Betty Germain's Room. – Judith, with the Head of Holofernes; Cymon and Iphigenia, by Sir Peter Lely; Charles, Lord Backhurst, when a child; Lord Gowrey and Vandyke, in tapestry; Vandyke was son-in-law to Lord Gowrey; Mouse Montague, Earl of Halifax.

Lady Betty Germain's Dressing-Room. – Maurice, Prince of Orange; Lady Raleigh, wife to Sir Walter; Nymph and Echo, by Sir Peter Lely; William Paulet, first Marquis of Winchester; Thomas, first Earl of Dorset; his Countess, Cecilia Baker; Richard, third Earl of Dorset; his Countess and the Lady Margaret, their daughter, by Cornelius Jansen; Henry Cary, Lord Hunsdon, cousin to Queen Elizabeth.

The Spangled Bed-Room. – The Duke of Monmouth; a Mrs. Sackville, by Sir Peter Lely.

The Dressing-Room. – A Miser; a Venus, by Titian; a Candle-Light, by Schalken; the Salutation, by Rembrandt; Sibylla Persica, copied by Old Stone, at Rome; Miss Stewart, Mistress of Charles II.; Duchess of Richmond, by Sir Peter Lely; Ann, Duchess of York, by Sir Peter Lely; the Nativity, by Bassano; a Satyr and Venus, by Correggio; the Countess of Shrewsbury; a Landscape, by Salvator Rosa; Sir Theodore Mayerus, Physician to James I. by Dobson; a Card Party

and other Figures, by Hemskirk; Venus reposing, after Titian, by Ozeis Humphrey; William Compton, Earl of Northampton, by Vandyke; Abraham entertaining the Angels, by Guercino; a Magdalene, by Albini; Lady Ossory; Lady Stafford.

The Billiard-Room. – Diana and Nymphs discovered by Actæon; its companion, the Fault of Calisto; Sir Kenelm Digby, by Vandyke; Sir Thomas More, by Holbein; a Masquerade; Lady Frances Cranfield, afterwards Countess of Dorset, and her brother, James, Lord Cranfield; a Masquerade, by Paul Veronese; an Old Man, by Bassano; St. Peter, by Van Rein Rembrandt; a Head of a Youth blowing a Flute; two Landscapes, by Nicholas Poussin; Frank Hals, by himself; Sir Henry Fermor; the Prince Palatine of the Rhine; the Princess Palatine and her two Daughters; these were painted by Lucas de Heere; Lord and Lady Arundel; Lord Sunderland; Sir Anthony Cope; Peace, with the Arts and Sciences; Charles II.; Heraclitus and Democritus, the Laughing and Crying Philosophers, by Mignard; Thomas Betterton; the Earl of Carlisle; Major Mohun; Sir Ralph Bosville; James I.; Henry, Prince of Wales; Lady Milton, by Pompeo Battoni; Philip II. of Spain, and his Queen, by Sir Anthony More; Nicolo Molino, a Venetian Nobleman, by Mytens; James, Duke of Hamilton, by Vandyke; the Countess of Bedford, by Sir Peter Lely.

The Venetian Bed-Room. – Catherine II. of Russia; Lady Hume; Lionel, Duke of Dorset; Elizabeth, his Duchess. In this room is the state bed and furniture said to have been prepared for the reception of James II.

The Venetian Dressing-Room. – Poultry, by Honderkooter; Mrs. Abington, the Actress, by Sir Joshua Reynolds; Lionel, Duke of Dorset, on horseback, by Wootton; Sir Thomas More; an Old Head; a Study; the Death of Meleager; a Sketch by Rubens; Mr. Brett; a Landscape, with figures and cattle, by Berchem; Miss Axford, by Sir J. Reynolds; a Flemish Peasant, by Teniers; a Companion to it; Ann, Countess of Pembroke and Montgomery; the Earl of Shaftesbury, by Riley; Signora Schialleni, by Reynolds; the Death of Cleopatra, by Dominichino; Monsieur Campchinetze, by Gainsborough; Isabella, Duchess of Brabant; Margaret of Austria, Infanta of

100

Spain; a Battle Piece, by Borgonone; a Fancy Picture, after Titian; a Landscape, by Zucherrelli; Albertus, Archduke of Austria.

The Passage. – Jane Seymour, Queen of Henry VIII.

The Ball-Room. – Lord Sackville; Mary Curzon, Countess to Edward, Earl of Dorset; Edward, fourth Earl of Dorset, by Vandyke; Lionel, first Duke of Dorset, by Kneller; Elizabeth, his Duchess, by Hudson; John Frederick, third Duke, said to have been the handsomest man of his time, by Reynolds; Arabella Diana, the Duchess of Dorset, by Hopner; Thomas Sackville, first Earl of Dorset; Robert Sackville, second Earl of Dorset; Margaret Howard, his Countess; Charles, sixth Earl of Dorset, by Kneller; Richard, fifth Earl of Dorset, by Gerard Soest; Frances Cranfield, fifth Countess; Lionel Cranfield, Earl of Middlesex, by Mytens; Anne, Countess to Lionel, Earl of Middlesex; Anne, Countess to Richard, third Earl; Richard, third Earl of Dorset.

The Chapel Room. – Abigail meeting David; Sir Fleetwood Shepherd.

The Organ-Room. – Richard Bancroft, Archbishop of Canterbury; Sir John Suckling; Margaret Woffington, the Actress; a Head of Milton, when a boy, by Mrs. Beale.

The Drawing-Room. – The pictures in this room are by the first masters. A Chinese Youth, named Warnoton, by Sir Joshua Reynolds; a Madonna and St. John, by Andrea del Sarto; Holy Family, by Titian; Holy Family, by Parmegiano; a Post House, by Wouverman; the Fortune-teller, by Sir Joshua Reynolds; Holy Family, by Paul Veronese; a Madonna and Child; the Rape of the Wife of Hercules, by Annibal Carracci; a Landscape, with figures and cattle, by Berchem; the Angel liberating St. Peter, by Teniers; a small Head of Raphael, by himself; a Pieta, by Annibal Carracci; the Countess of Castlemaine, by Sir P. Lely; Frances, Countess of Dorset, by Vandyke; St. John and the Lamb; a Holy Family, by Vandyke; Judith with the Head of Holofernes; the Marriage of St. Catherine, by Parmegiano; Henry VIII. by Holbein; Cosmo, Duke of Tuscany, by Tintoret; Count Ugolino, by Sir Joshua Reynolds; Card Players, by Ostade; the Death of the Maccabees, by Vandyke; Mary, Queen of Scots, by Zucherrelli; a Magdalene, by Guercino; a Sibyl, by Dominichino.

A distinct apartment contains large copies of the Cartoons; viz. the Death of Ananias; Peter and John restoring the Lame Man; Draught of Fishes; Jesus and his Disciples; Paul and Barnabas at Lycaonia. In this room also are the portraits of Lady Mary Compton, Countess of Dorset, by Sir P. Lely; Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester; the Earl of Surrey, by Holbein.

This manor, in the reign of King John, was possessed by Baldwin de Betun, Earl of Albemarle, from whom it was carried in marriage to the family of Mareschall, Earls of Pembroke. William Mareschall, Earl of Pembroke, joining the rebellious barons in the reigns of John and Henry III. forfeited this manor to the Crown, whence it was granted to Fulk de Brent, whose estates being also seized by the Crown, for the treasonable support that he afforded to Lewis of France, it was afterwards restored to the Earl. Subsequently it passed in like manner to Hugh Bigod, Earl of Norfolk, whose heir, anno 11 Edward I. conveyed it to Otho de Grandison, who was succeeded by his brother William; and his grandson, Sir Thomas Grandison, passed it away to Geoffry de Say. In the reign of Henry VI. its proprietor was Ralph Leghe, of whom it was purchased by James Fynes, Lord Say and Sele, a descendant, by the female line, from the Says above mentioned. His son, Sir William Fynes, Lord Say and Sele, sold it, in the 34th Henry VI. to Thomas Bouchier, Archbishop of Canterbury, whose successors in that see, the Archbishops Morton, Deane, Warham, and Cranmer, inherited it on their preferment; but Cranmer, in the 29th Henry VIII. complying with the rage of the times, gave it up (with other estates) to the king. Edward VI. in the 4th year of his reign,

101

granted it in exchange to John Dudley, Earl of Warwick, afterwards Duke of Northumberland; but on his execution, in the 1st year of Queen Mary, it became forfeited to the Crown, and was immediately conferred on Cardinal Reginald Pole, Archbishop of Canterbury, for the term of his life and one year after. Cardinal Pole died in 1558, on the same day that Queen Mary died, without having made any devise of this estate: consequently it reverted to the Crown, and Elizabeth, in her 3d year, bestowed the manor and house of Knole on Sir Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester, who surrendered it to the Queen, in her 8th year, and her Majesty then granted it to Thomas Sackvill, Earl of Dorset, whose grandson, Richard, sold it, under a reservation, to Henry Smith, Esq. of London, who, on his death, in 1627, vested it in trustees for certain charitable purposes. In the 13th Charles II. Richard, Earl of Dorset, nephew of Earl Richard above-mentioned, received from the trustees the fee simple of this estate, in consideration of a clear annual rent-charge on his other estates in Bexhill and Cowding, of £130. Knole has since been uninterruptedly transmitted to the descendants of this nobleman, now Dukes of Dorset.

The family of Sackville derive their origin from Herbrand de Salchevilla, Salcavilla, Saccavilla, or Sacvill, (the name of a town in Normandy,) who came into England with William the Conqueror.

Knole is distant from London about 25 miles.

The Hospital or Alms-House, and Free Grammar School at Sevenoaks, were founded and endowed by Sir William de Sevenoke, by will, in 1432. This gentleman was found, a poor friendless child, about the end of the reign of Edward III. by Sir William Rumpsted, of Rumpsted, in this parish, as some say, in a hollow tree; and being brought up and put apprentice by the benevolence of Sir William and other charitable persons, he was, in the course of time, admitted to the freedom of the Grocers' Company, and succeeded eventually in accumulating great wealth. In the 6th year of the reign of Henry V. being then Lord Mayor of London, he received the honour of knighthood; and in the 8th year of the same reign he served in parliament for the City of London. Sir William de Sevenoke was interred in the Church of St. Martin, Ludgate.

Sevenoaks School is possessed of six exhibitions to the Universities, two of which were founded, about 1675, by Lady Margaret Boswell, daughter of Sir Ralph Bosville, and widow of Sir William Boswell.

Sevenoaks Church. In the north aisle there is a memorial for John Fermor, Esq. obt. 1722: a mural monument, that was removed hither from Greenwich, for William Lambarde, Esq. the perambulator, who died in 1601, at West Combe, in that parish; and for Sir Moulton Lambarde, of that place, his son and heir, who died at West Combe, in 1634. On the north side, a monument for John Fermor, Esq. son of William Fermor, Esq. of Walshes, in Sussex, who died in 1722. In the chancel, a memorial for Ralph Petley, Esq. of this parish, who died in 1704; and Jane his wife: another for Sir Charles Farnaby, Bart. of Keppington, who died in 1741; and Lady Elizabeth, his

wife, who died in 1757; and for Sir Thomas Farnaby, Bart. their only surviving son, who died in 1760; also for Thomas Farnaby, Esq. who died in 1647: another for Dame Anne Coell, eldest daughter of John Howson, Bishop of Durham, first married to Thomas Farnaby, Esq. of Kippington,

102

and afterwards to Sir John Coell, of Suffolk; she died in 1683: a monument, with the figure of a lady, kneeling, and holding a book, for Lady Margaret, relict of Sir William Boswell, Ambassador at the Hague for James I. twenty-one years; she died in 1692: another for Lady Margery Gierke, of the ancient family at Ford, in Wrotham, wife of Thomas Scott, Esq. of Congherst, in Hawk-hurst, who died in 1618. On the left of the altar, a sumptuous monument, by W. Tyler, sculpt. for John Amherst, who died Feb. 14th, 1778, aged 59; and William Amherst, who died May 13th, 1781, aged 49: an urn on the pedestal is inscribed as follows; John Amherst, Esq. was Admiral of the Blue; William was a Lieut. Gen. and Col. of the 32d Regiment of Foot, Lieut. Governor of St. John's, and Adjutant General of his Majesty's Forces; they were the sons of Jeffrey Amherst, Esq. of Brook's Place, in this parish, (on the site of which, Montreal, the present seat of this family, was raised,) by Elizabeth, his wife: a small tablet for Louisa Macdonald, third daughter of Alexander Macdonald, Esq. who died at Vine Lodge, Jan. 26th, 1833, in the 19th year of her age. Opposite the pulpit is a monument for Jane Randolph, daughter of T. Lambarde, Esq. of this parish, and widow of John Randolph, D.D. Bishop of London, who died Feb. 14th, 1836, aged 82. At the west end, over the vault of the Lambardes, is a tablet for a son and three daughters of Multon and Aurea Lambarde; Multon, who died Feb. 13th, 1808, aged 7 years; Jane, who died April 10th, 1810, aged 14 years; Frances, who died Dec. 24th, 1821, aged 30 years; and Bridget Aurea, married to John Gurdon, Esq. of Assington, Suffolk (where her remains are interred), who died Jan. 1st, 1826, aged 33 years; also for Calthrop Parker Gurdon, infant son of John and Bridget Aurea Gurdon, who died May 14th, 1826. On the north wall, a magnificent monument, by J. E. Carew, sculpt. to the memory of Charles, Earl Whitworth, who represented our King at the Imperial Court of Russia, at the Court of France during the Consular Government, and finally, as Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, and died May 13th, 1825, in the 71st year of his age: a tablet for Anne, wife of George Calverley Cole, Esq. born March 11th, 1805, died Jan. 30th, 1830: a very elegant monument for Field Marshal Jeffrey, Lord Amherst, of Holmsdale, in this county, born Jan. 29th, 1717, died Aug. 3d, 1797, who commanded in America before the peace of 1763, and who afterwards was twice honoured with the command of the army in Great Britain.

Sevenoaks Church is dedicated to St. Nicholas.

SUNDRIDGE, in the Parish of Sundridge. Here is the seat of George Polhill, Esq. situated about midway between Riverhead and Westerham, on the south side of the road. In the interior of this house are portraits of Oliver Cromwell and Ireton, by Cooper; of Mrs. Ireton, supposed by Sir Peter Lely; and very valuable miniatures of Oliver Cromwell, Richard Cromwell, and Ireton; also family portraits of Thomas Polhill, Esq. who married Miss Ireton; of David Polhill, Esq. who married, first, Miss Trevor, secondly, Gertrude Pelham, and, thirdly, Elizabeth Borrett; and of Charles Polhill, Esq.

Comb Bank, in the Parish of Sundridge, the seat of the late Right Hon. Lord Templemore, is a handsome structure, having been greatly improved by his Lordship; indeed the alterations were scarcely completed at the time of his decease. The grounds are beautifully diversified with wood and water.

103

It is distant from Westerham about two miles and a half, and from Seven-oaks, four miles.

Comb Bank was for many generations the property of the Isley family, having been formerly esteemed part of the manor of Sundridge. In the 18th year of the reign of Elizabeth, it was vested in trustees, to be sold for the payment of the debts of William Isley, and was purchased by the family

of Ash, the last of whom here sold it to Colonel John Campbell, of Mammore, who succeeded, in 1761, to the title of Duke of Argyle. His Grace died in 1770; but in his life time gave Comb Bank to his third surviving son, the Right Hon. Lord Frederick Campbell. Subsequent to this period it was in possession of William Manning, Esq. M.P.

Ovenden House, in the Parish of Sundridge, the seat of William Grasett, Esq. is situated near the south-west corner of Chevening Park.

Ovenden House is distant from Sevenoaks about four miles, and from London 21 miles.

This manor or farm (formerly called Overney, alias Overney's Green) was once a part of the property of the Freminghams. Afterwards it belonged to the family of Isley, of one of whom it was purchased by Leven Bufkin, Esq. and of him re-purchased by Henry Isley. Subsequently it came into possession of John and Sampson Lennard, and from these descended to Thomas, Earl of Sussex, whose two daughters conveyed it to Major General James Stanhope, afterwards Earl Stanhope, whose descendant, the Right Hon. Earl Stanhope, is the present proprietor.

Sundridge Church. On the north side, under a Gothic arch, is an ancient altar tomb, which, according to Philipott, is for John Isley, Esq. Sheriff of Kent anno 14 Edward IV. who died in 1484; but the inscription, as well as two figures that were on the side of it, are lost: there are also other memorials for this family. In the south chancel, a mural monument, for John Hyde, Esq. Lord of the Manor of Sundridge Weald and Millbrook, who died in 1729: another for John Hyde, Esq. who died in 1677: an oval one, for Elizabeth, wife of Humphry Hyde, Esq. who died in 1713: a monument for Frances, widow of Peter Shaw, M.D. and daughter of John Hyde, Esq. who died in 1767: a memorial for Henry Hyde, Gentleman, A.M. who died Oct. 26th, 1706; and for Humphry Hyde, Gentleman, second son of John Hyde, Esq. Lord of Sundridge manor, who died in 1709, aged 18 years. On a pillar, east of the pulpit, there is an elegant tablet for Mary, wife of Sir Richard Hardinge, Bart. who departed this life Aug. 6th, 1824, in the 50th year of her age. On each side of the altar is a head, beautifully sculptured in marble: on the north side, under a canopy, a tablet for Harriet Eleanor Manning, youngest daughter of William Manning, Esq. M.P. and Mary Manning, who died at Comb Bank, Jan. 29th, 1826, in the 19th year of her age: under it a very neat one, for William Manning, Esq. interred in the same vault: nearer the altar there is an inscription on stone, elegantly carved, for Lord Frederick Campbell, son of John, fourth Duke of Argyle, Lord Clerk Register of Scotland, who died June 8th, 1816, aged 87; also for Mary Meredith, his wife, who unfortunately lost her life at Comb Bank, July 26th, 1807, in the 71st year of her age. On the south side, a Latin inscription, for Anna Seymour Damer, who died March 28th, 1828, aged 80 years.

104

PARISH AND VILLE OF BRASTED.

Brasted Place, in the Parish of Brasted, the residence of Mrs. Douglas, is situated near Brasted on the south-east; the park or grounds joining, on the south, the Westerham and Sundridge road.

Brasted Place is distant from Westerham about two miles, from Sevenoaks nearly four miles, and from London 23 miles.

This seat (formerly called Stockets, and Crow Place, from its proprietors) was, in the reign of Edward I. held by Walter de Stocket of the Earl of Gloucester, as the fourth part of a knight's fee. Lora, daughter of Simon Stocket, carried it in marriage to Richard Boare, whose great granddaughter, Joane, took it in marriage also to Thomas Crow, jun. Esq. Their descendant, William Crow, Esq. at the end of the reign of James I. alienated it to Robert, afterwards Sir Robert Heath, of Mitcham, from whom (he being a firm loyalist) this estate was sequestered during the Commonwealth; but restored by Charles II. to his son, Edward Heath, Esq. In this family Brasted Place continued till Margaret, daughter of Sir John Heath, carried it in marriage to George Verney, Lord Willoughby de Broke, D.D. afterwards Dean of Windsor, descended from the family of De Verney, of Compton Murdock, in Warwickshire. This nobleman's great grandson, John Peyto Verney, Lord Willoughby de Broke, alienated it to the Right Hon. Lord Frederick Campbell, who subsequently

passed it to John Turton, Esq. M.D.

Rectory, Brasted, the residence of the Rev. John Gibbons, M.A. is situated near the church on the south-east. It is a fine ancient house, surrounded with highly-cultivated and beautiful grounds. The interior is elegantly fitted up, and adorned with some good paintings, and other works of art.

The Rectory is distant from Westerham about one mile and three-quarters, from Sevenoaks four miles, and from London 23 miles.

Philippines, in the Parish of Brasted, the property of William Bradshaw, Esq. is situated about one mile and a half south from Brasted, on the north side of the high hills which intersect this part of the county, consequently commanding very extensive and interesting prospects. The house, which is a handsome structure, was erected in 1834, by the late Mr. Bignold.

Philippines is distant from Westerham about two miles, from Sevenoaks four miles, and from London 23 miles.

Brasted Church. Here we found the following monuments, some of them very beautiful:

In the north chancel, a memorial for Margaret, daughter of the Hon. John and Abigail Verney, who died in 1733, aged 17; and for George, eldest son of the Hon. George and Margaret Verney, who died in 1698, aged 7 years: a mural monument, for Margaret Mennes, daughter and heiress of Sir Matthew Mennes, K.B. and Lady Margaret Stuart, married secondly to Sir John Heath; she

105

died in 1676. On the north side, a noble monument, on which are the figures of a judge in his robes and cap, and his lady, for Sir Robert Heath, Justice of the Common Pleas, son and heir of Robert Heath, Esq. by Anne, daughter and co-heir of Nicholas Posier, Gentleman, who died in 1649; and for Margaret, his wife, who died in 1647. In the great chancel, a monument for the Rev. Michael Bull, who was rector of this church 50 years; he died Aug. 27th, 1763, aged 88: on the north side of the altar, a monument for Margaret, wife of Thomas Seyliard, daughter and heir of Francis Rogers, Esq. of Otford, who died in 1616: beneath this last, a handsome altar tomb, for Dorothy, daughter of William Crowmer, Esq. of Tunstall, first married to William Seyliard, Esq. of Brasted; secondly, to Michael Beresford, Esq. of Westerham; she died in 1613. In the south-east corner, a tablet for Mary Croasdaile, who died March 6th, 1784, aged 60; also for Henry James Alexander Croasdaile, of Hargrave Lodge, in the County of Essex, her son, and the only survivor of 24 children; he died April 4th, 1831, aged 66. On the north wall, a tablet for William Walton, Benchet, of Lincoln's Inn, King's Counsel, and for 22 years Attorney-General of the Duchy of Lancaster, who died April 15th, 1833, aged 76. In the north aisle, a fine piece of sculpture, by Westmacott, in memory of Mary Turton, widow of John Turton, M.D. who died June 28th, 1810, aged 69: and near the corner, a superb monument, also by Westmacott, for John Turton, M.D. who died in 1806, aged 70 years.

Brasted Church is dedicated to St. Martin.

HUNDRED OF WESTERHAM AND EDENBRIDGE.

Hill Park, in the Parish of Westerham, the seat of David Baillie, Esq. is situated about one mile eastward from Westerham.

This place (formerly called Valons) was the residence of a family named Valons, and afterwards of that of Casinghurst, by whom it was conveyed, in the reign of Henry VII. to John Islip, Abbot of Westminster, who gave it to his servant, William Middleton. His descendants, towards the end of the reign of Elizabeth, conveyed it to Jacob Verzelini, Esq. of Downe, whose daughter, Elizabeth, carried it in marriage to Peter Manning, Esq. of Trowmer; and one of his posterity, in the reign of Charles I. passed it away to Ranulph Manning, Esq. of London. By this family it was alienated, in 1718, to Colonel Henry Harrison, who, about 1732, passed it to William Turner, Esq. and of him, in 1763, it was purchased by Captain Peter Dennis, R. N. About the year 1766 Captain Dennis sold

it to William M'Gwire, Esq. and he again, soon after, alienated it to Wills Hill, Earl of Hillsborough, who greatly improved the house and grounds, and changed the name from Valons to Hill Park. Soon after the death of his Lady, which happened in 1780, the Earl sold it to John Cottin, Esq.

Hill Park is distant from London about 22 miles.

106

Squerries, in the Parish of Westerham, the seat of the late John Warde, Esq. a Magistrate for the County, is situated south-west of Westerham, its beautiful park extending to the boundary that separates this county from Surrey. In front of the mansion is a broad sheet of water, on each side of which the rising ground, clothed with noble timber, has a very picturesque effect. The house contains an excellent collection of paintings by the old masters.

Squerries is distant from Sevenoaks about six miles, from Edenbridge five miles, and from London 22 miles.

This manor gave surname to its ancient proprietors. In the reign of Henry VI. it came into possession of Sir William Cromer, of Tunstall, in right of his Lady, Margaret, daughter of Thomas Squerrie, Esq. In the reign of Henry VIII. by some means, it passed to the Crown, and that King afterwards granted it to Thomas Cawarden, whose descendant, about the middle of Elizabeth's reign, alienated it to Michael Beresford, Esq. He passed it to George Strood, Esq. and from this gentleman it went to Thomas Lambert, Esq. the parliamentary general, who conveyed it to John Leach, Esq. and his son, Sir William Leach, sold it, in 1681, to Sir Nicholas Crisp, Bart. of Hammersmith. About 1701 Sir John Crisp, Bart. son of Sir Nicholas, sold it to the Right Hon. William Villiers, Earl of Jersey, of whose son and successor, William, Earl of Jersey, it was purchased by John Warde, Esq. from whom the present proprietor is lineally descended.

Vicarage House, Westerham, the residence of the Rev. Richard Board, B.L. This house is remarkable for having been the birth-place of General Wolfe, who was born in it, Jan. 2d, 1727.

Charts Edge, in the Parish of Westerham, the seat of the Rev. Thomas Streatfeild, F.S.A. is situated rather more than half a mile south from Westerham, and about the same distance east from Squerries, west of the high road to Edenbridge, from which there is a lodge-entrance into its beautiful grounds. This interesting seat was erected in 1819: a handsome hall and library have recently been added, in the style of William of Wykeham. The finishing of the interior is very elegant: the ceilings and windows are richly embellished with armorial bearings. We observed several portraits of Kentish worthies; also some of the finest specimens of Fuseli, Stothard, and Sir Thomas Lawrence. The scenery westward is very picturesque.

Charts Edge is distant from Sevenoaks about five miles, and from London 22 miles.

Mariners, in the Parish of Westerham, the seat of Mrs. Whittaker, is situated about two miles south from Westerham, in the bosom of the high ground which here intersects the county, whence it commands a grand prospect over a considerable portion of Kent, Surrey, and Sussex. The house is ancient, but

107

was modernised and greatly improved about thirty years ago: the interior is particularly neat, and most conveniently arranged. It is well sheltered with ornamental timber: the lawn in front is enclosed by a sunk fence.

Mariners is distant from Edenbridge about four miles, and from London 23 miles.

Westerham Church is a large handsome building, and contains a numerous assemblage of memorials and monuments, from which we select the following as most interesting:

In the cross aisle, at the west end, a grave-stone, for Sir William Dyne, Priest, some time Parson of Tattisfylde, obt. 1567: at the east end, an elegant mural monument for Thomas Knight, Esq. Clerk of the Assize for Norfolk, who died in 1708: near this, another for Eleanor, youngest daughter of Sir Thomas Seyliard, second Baronet of that ancient family, and of Lady Frances, his first wife, sole daughter and heir of Henry Wyat, Esq. eldest son of Sir Francis Wyat, of Boxley Abbey, who died in 1726. In the middle aisle, on the south side, a mural monument for Ranulph Manning, Gentleman, who died in 1712; and Catherine, his wife, daughter of Saul Missenden, Esq. Deputy Governor of the Merchant Adventurers of England resident at Hamburgh, who died in 1732. Over the south door, a neat monument in memory of General James Wolfe, son of Colonel Edward Wolfe, and Henrietta, his wife, who was born in this parish, Jan. 2, 1727, and died in America, Sept. 13th, 1759, Conqueror of Quebec. The stone is inscribed with the following lines:

"Whilst George in sorrow bows his laurelled head,
And bids the artist grace the soldier dead,
We raise no sculptured trophies to thy name,
Brave youth! the fairest in the list of fame.
Proud of thy birth, we boast the auspicious year, –
Struck with thy fall, we shed a general tear:
With humble grief inscribe one artless stone.
And from thy matchless honours date our own."

In the south aisle, a memorial for John Thorpe, descended from an ancient gentleman's family in Kent and Sussex, obt. 1703: on the south side, a monument for John Henry Barrow, Esq. who died Feb. 20th, 1811, aged 71; also for Frances Barrow, his wife, who died May 5th, 1825, aged 81 years; both formerly of the Island of Barbadoes, and late of Hill Park, in this parish: on the north side, an elegant one for General Sir Henry Warde, G.C.B. who died at his residence in Hampshire, Oct. 1st, 1834, in the 68th year of his age: a small tablet for Samuel Welch, Esq. of Dunsdale, in this parish, who died July 6th, 1836, aged 77; Charlotte, his wife, died at Bromley Common, May 15th, 1822, aged 62, and was interred in Bromley church-yard: at the upper end, next the chancel, a mural monument, with the figures of a man and woman kneeling at a desk, for Thomas Potter, Esq. of Westerham, who married Mary, daughter and co-heir of Richard Tichbourne, Esq. of Eatonbridge: in the north aisle are several memorials for the family of Dallings or Daulinge: on the north side, a mural monument for Thomas Hardy, citizen of London, who died in 1747; he was a benefactor to the poor of this parish: at the east end, a mural monument for Mary, wife of Henry Street, Esq. daughter of Sir John Gerrard, Bart. who died in 1651: another monument for Wenham Lewis, Esq.

108

of this parish, who died Oct. 30th, 1833, aged 56; he was the son of George Wenham Lewis, Esq. of Westerham, grandson of the Rev. George Lewis, M.A. and great grandson of the Rev. George Lewis, M.A. both of whom were Vicars of this parish: on a tablet attached, is an inscription to the memory of Randolph, fifth son of the above John Wenham Lewis, Esq. and Dorothy Frances, his wife, who died April 17th, 1833, aged 25: near the altar, a neat monument for the Rev. John Bodicoate, A.M. Patron and Vicar of this church, son of the late John Bodicoate, Esq. one of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for this county; and for Elizabeth, his wife, interred in the same vault: under this a very elegant one for Harriet, Countess of Winterton, daughter of William Board, Esq. and widow successively of the Rev. J. Bodicoate, and of Edward, Earl Winterton; she died at Shillinglee Park, in the county of Sussex, April 25th, 1831, aged 77 years: north wall, at the east end, are three memorials, very elegant and tastefully disposed; the highest one, represented as a flag folded over a spear, is to the memory of Lieutenant General William Minet, of Bovingdon, Hants, eldest son of Hughes Minet, Esq. who, after 40 years spent in the service of his King and country, departed this life, Dec. 27th, 1827, in the 66th year of his age; the middle one commemorates Hughes Minet, Esq. who died at his residence, near this place, Dec. 23d, 1813, aged 83; and the lowest one is for John Lewis Minet, Esq. of Hevers Wood, near this place, second son of the above Hughes Minet, Esq. who died Nov. 21st, 1829, aged 64; and for Elizabeth, his widow, who died July 10th, 1831, at the age of 59. Within the altar rails is a grave-stone, showing that Sir John Crisp, Bart. paved the communion space, in remembrance of Nicholas Crisp, Esq. eldest son of Sir Nicholas

Crisp, Bart. who died in 1697, aged 17.

Westerham Church is dedicated to St. Mary.

HUNDRED OF SOMERDEN.

Hall Place, in the Parish of Leigh, the property of Thomas Farmer Baily, Esq. (a minor), is situated about three miles west from Tunbridge, and about two miles and a half north-east from Penshurst, in a small but beautiful park, well stocked with deer.

When the district of land called Hollenden was parcelled out among different owners, a part of it, in the reign of Henry VIII. was conveyed to William Waller, who was succeeded in it by his son Richard, about which time it acquired the name of Hall Place. His widow, Anne, afterwards carried this estate to her second husband, Stephen Towse, Gentleman; and after their death it passed to Crittenden, whose descendant, in the reign of Charles II. alienated it to one Harrison. From these it passed to the name of Burges, of whom Robert Burges, Esq. rebuilt the seat, and died in 1794. His widow subsequently marrying James Harbroe, Esq. this gentleman became possessed of Hall Place.

Hall Place is distant from Sevenoaks about six miles, and from London 30 miles.

109

Leigh Church. In the chancel of this church there is a memorial for Anne and Philadelphia, the infant daughters of the Rev. Joseph Carte, Minister of this church, by Lady Anne, his wife, daughter of Robert, Earl of Leicester; also grave-stones for the family of Stace, of Hollenden: a memorial for Lady Anne Carte, who died in 1693: another for Sidney Carte, who died in 1582, aged 13: on the north side, a mural monument for Abraham Harrison, Esq. of Hall Place, alias Hollenden, who died in 1788; and Elizabeth, his second wife, who died also in 1718.

In the church-yard there is a handsome tomb, to the memory of Farmer Baily, Esq. of Hall Place, owner of the manor.

Leigh Church is dedicated to St. Mary.

Penshurst Castle, in the Parish of Penshurst, the seat of the Rt. Hon. Philip Charles Sidney, Lord de L'Isle and Dudley, is a castellated structure, partly ancient and partly modern, the ancient part being in the Elizabethan style. It has recently been enlarged, and has undergone considerable improvement. The hall is a fine specimen of the grandeur of olden times, and marks the importance which must have attached to this place at an earlier period. The Ball Room, Queen Elizabeth's Room, the Tapestry Room, Picture Gallery, and Picture Closet, contain a magnificent collection of paintings. We give a list of the principal pieces:

Queen Elizabeth's Room. – Robert Spencer, first Earl of Sunderland, Vandyck; Hon. Charles Egerton, Ryely; a Family (group) of the Sydneys, 1596, by Mark Gerard; Robert, Earl of Leicester, Vandyck; Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester, M. Gerard; a large painting of Lady Sherrard; Portraits of Mrs. Perry and Robert Sydney; Lady Elizabeth Sydney, by Sir Peter Lely; Ambrose Dudley, Earl of Warwick, by M. Gerard; Algernon Percy, Earl of Northumberland, Vandyck; Henry, Earl of Holland, Vandyck; a full length of the Earl of Pembroke, by Cor. Jansen; Lady Catherine Cecil, Sir Peter Lely; Jane Wroth, Countess of Rochford, S. Netscher; a full length of Sir William Sydney, by M. Gerard; a Sleeping Venus, by Titian; Queen Mary, by Holbein; Jupiter, &c. Titian; Fall of Phaeton, by G. D. Arpino; Mary de Medicis, Queen of France; Elizabeth Barnsly, wife to Weedon Perry, Esq.; Algernon Sydney, beheaded Dec. 7th, 1683; Charity, by Guido; Sir Philip Sydney; Countess of Pembroke, Sister to Sir Philip; a large Portrait of Lord Lisle, Vandyck; George III. by Ramsay; Elizabeth Howard, Countess of Northumberland, Vandyck; Robert Spencer, Earl of Sunderland, by Vandyck.

Tapestry Room. – Dorothy Percy, Countess of Leicester, and Lucy Percy, Countess of Carlisle, by D. Mytens; Nell Gwyn, by Sir Peter Lely; two portraits of William and Mary; Miss Perry, by Vanloo; Discovery of Calista, P. Lauri; Lady Catherine Cecil, by Sir Peter Lely; Nymph and Satyr, by Poelemburg; William III. and Mary, two large portraits; Sea Piece, by Vandervelde; St. Peter delivered out of Prison, by Stenwyck; King Edward VI. by Holbein; Duke of Clarence, (late King William IV.) by Sir Thomas Lawrence; Mr. Perry, by Vanloo. In this room also are two fine pieces of tapestry, the subject of one, the Triumph of Ceres; the other, Æolus unbarring the Wind; a curious card-table, covered partly by the needle-work of Queen Elizabeth; and, suspended in the centre, a chandelier of glass, presented by the Queen to the Earl of Leicester, which is said to have been the first of the kind ever made.

Picture Closet. – Henry Sydney, Earl of Romney; Head of a Saint, by Giorgione; a Fire, by

110

Francisco Francks; Banditti, by Spagnoletto; Madonna and Sleeping Christ, by Guido; a Crucifixion; Lady Sydney, by Vandyck; a Landscape, by Paul Bril; Procession of Saint Januarius to stop an Eruption of Vesuvius; Titian's Mistress, by himself; Algernon Percy, Earl of Northumberland, Lord High Admiral of England.

Picture Gallery. – Church of Florence; Deneef Figures, by Old Francks; Lady Mary Dudley, wife to Sir H. Sydney, and mother of Sir Philip Sydney; Algernon Sydney, J. Verrus; Languet, tutor to Sir P. Sydney; Weedon Perry, Esq. and his Lady; Lady Sherrard and her Son; Bacchanals, by N. Poussin. On marble, Lambert Christ Gori; Flowers, by Daniel Segers; James Stuart, Duke of Richmond, by Vandyck; the Dying Mother; Abraham and Isaac, by Guercino da Cento; Procession, by Rubens; Telemachus, in the Island of Calypso, by Vandyck; William Perry, Esq.; Dorothy, Countess of Sunderland, by Hoskins; Thomas Sydney, when a boy; Virgin and Child, and St. John, a copy from Raphael; Holy Family, Bassano; Meleager and Atalanta; Forge, &c. F. Franks; Beggars, by Old Weenix; a Head, by Currachi; Holy Family, by Rothenamer; Mercury and Argos, by Bartolmo; Endymion and Diana; St. John in the Wilderness, by Peter Schenck; Bacchanals, N. Poussin; Thomas, Earl of Surrey, L. de la Hire; the Perry Family, by David Loder; Ann Percy, Lady Stanhope, by Netscher; Prince Rupert and his Attendants, by T. Fitzallen; Archbishop of Canterbury; Drunken Gondolier, by Rubens; Apollo and Muses, by Sir Peter Lely; Dorothy Sydney, Countess of Sunderland, Vandyck (Waller's Sacharissa); William III. by Wissing; Madonna and Child, &c. Andrew del Sarto; Sir Philip Sydney and his Brother Robert, Earl of Leicester, by Gerrard; Elizabeth, daughter of Colonel Sydney, and wife of William Perry; Philip, fifth Earl of Leicester, by Sir Godfrey Kneller; Elizabeth Egerton, Countess of Leicester, by Sir Peter Lely; Christ at Emmaus, by John Stone; Robert, Earl of Leicester, by Sir Peter Lely; Jane Wroth, Countess of Rochford, by Netscher; Adam and Eve, by Holbein; Madonna and Child, by Leonardo da Vinci; a Head, by Simon Mercati, which, with one or two other paintings in this part of the room, formed part of the collection of Charles I.; Holy Family and St. John; Flemish Woman, by Terburg; Sir Thomas More, Holbein; Barbara Gamage, first Countess of Leicester, by Mark Gerard; Venus reclining, by Titian; Head of a Monk, by Peter Del Vaga; Venus attired by the Graces, copied from Guido, by Sir Peter Lely; a small Fruit Piece, by De Heem; Martyrdom of St. Sebastian.

Pages' Room. – Practising for a Masque, by Antonie Massena; Old Parr, 1635, ætat. 152; Fall of Phaeton, by Julio Romano; Frost Piece, by Francis Crowpen; Duchess of Portsmouth, favourite of Charles II.; Henry Sydney, Earl of Romney.

Ball-Room. – Triumph of Cupid; Venus, &c.; Cupid stringing his Bow; Europa; (these four, by Henry Vanderborcht, are very large, and cover the sides of the room;) Lady E. Sydney, by Sir Peter Lely; and some fine sculpture.

The park is extensive, well wooded, and picturesque.

Penshurst, at a short period subsequent to the reign of the Conqueror, was the property of a family who, from their proprietorship, assumed the name of Penshurst. From these it went in marriage with Alice de Penshurst to John de Columbers, and afterwards was conveyed to the eminent Sir John de Pulteney. After passing through the families of Lovaine, Devereux, Chamberlayn, and St. Clere, it was purchased of the last named by John, the Great Duke of Bedford, third son of Henry IV. by Mary, daughter of Humphrey de Bohun, Earl of Hereford, &c. and Regent of France during the minority of

his nephew, Henry VI. who, at his death, (anno 14 Henry VI.) was succeeded here by his next brother, Humphrey, the Good Duke of Gloucester, who dying s. p. Penshurst was inherited by his

111

Nephew, Henry VI. This manor was then granted to Humphrey Stafford, Duke of Buckingham, whose great-grandson, Edward, Duke of Buckingham, was executed for treason in the 14th year of Henry VIII. and his estates consequently were forfeited to the Crown. Subsequently it was conferred, by Edward VI. on John, Earl of Warwick, who exchanged it with the Crown for other lands; and it was then given, to hold by knight's service, to Sir Ralph Fane, who shortly afterwards was hanged on Tower Hill, as an accomplice of the Duke of Somerset. The king then, by letters patent, bestowed it on Sir William Sidney, of the family of Sydney, of Cranleigh, in Surrey, and Kingesham, in Sussex, which originally descended from Sir William Sidney, who came with Henry II. from Anjou. After being transmitted through the illustrious descendants of this gentleman to Joceline, Earl of Leicester, the last heir male, this manor came into possession, in undivided moieties, of Sir Brownlow Sherard and William Perry, Esq. in right of their wives, Mary and Elizabeth, the daughters of Colonel Thomas Sidney, an elder brother of Earl Joceline, above named, and son of Robert, Earl of Leicester, who died in 1702. Lady Anne Yonge and her son, Sir George, the heirs of Lady Mary Sherard, who died a widow and s. p. in 1768, sold, in 1770, their moiety to Mrs. Elizabeth Perry, then a widow, who, at her death, bequeathed the whole, in trustees, to her grandson, John Shelley, Esq. who then took the name of Sydney.

The celebrated oak in this park, now called Bears Oak, is said to have been planted at the birth of the accomplished Sir Philip Sydney. It is celebrated both by Waller and Ben Johnson.

Penshurst Castle is distant from Sevenoaks about eight miles, from Tunbridge five miles, and from London 32 miles.

Redleaf, in the Parish of Penshurst, the seat of William Wells, Esq. is situated nearly one mile north from Penshurst, in a park remarkable for the many natural beauties with which it is enriched. The house is sumptuously adorned with works of art, which we regret that we were not at leisure to survey with as much attention as they merit; for, judging not merely from such cursory notice as we were able to bestow, but from the high terms in which they are mentioned by others, we may observe, without fear of exaggeration, that this collection, in proportion to its extent, is not surpassed by any in the county. The grounds are extremely well cultivated, and the shrubberies embellished with many rare and beautiful plants. The mansion is ancient, with some modern additions.

Redleaf is distant from Sevenoaks about seven miles and a half, from Tunbridge five miles, and from London 31 miles.

Redleaf was for many years in possession of the family of Spencer, descendants of the Spencers of St. Albans, in Hertfordshire, having been the property of Gilbert Spencer, Esq. in the reign of Charles II. At length Abraham Spencer, Esq. dying unmarried, in 1740, bequeathed it to Thomas Harvey, Esq. of Tunbridge, who, at his death, in 1779, left it to his eldest son, the Rev. Thomas Harvey.

Rectory House, Penshurst, the residence of the Rev. Philip Stanhope

112

Dodd, M.A. is situated close to the church, and near Penshurst Castle. It is a handsome house, with beautiful lawn and pleasure grounds.

The distance from London is about 32 miles.

PENSHURST. About a quarter of a mile south-west from the village, on the west side of the road to South Park, is the pleasant residence of Mrs. Yates.

South Park, in the Parish of Penshurst, belongs to a family of the name of Jones, who were removing from it at the time we visited the place. This house

has been much enlarged, we believe by the present proprietor: it is situated on an elevated part of the park, and has a handsome appearance.

It is distant from London about 33 miles.

South Park was formerly the southern part of Penshurst Park, till alienated from it, in 1770, by Lady Anne and her son, Sir George Yonge, Bart. to Richard Alnutt, Esq. The house was built by Mr. Alnutt, who died in 1789; and, until within a few years past, the estate remained in his descendants.

Penshurst Church. From among the numerous memorials in this church we select the following:

In the chancel, within the altar rails, a grave-stone for William Egerton, LL.D. grandson of John, Earl of Bridgewater, Rector of Penshurst and Allhallows, Lombard street, Chancellor and Prebendary of Hereford, and Prebendary of Canterbury, who died Feb. 26th, 1737; he married Anne, daughter of Sir Francis Head. On the north side of the altar, a mural monument for Gilbert Spencer, Esq. of Redleaf, who died in 1709: a brass in memory of Martha, wife of the Rev. Philip Stanhope Dodd, M.A. Rector of this parish, who died Oct. 17th, 1833, in the 42d year of her age. In the south chancel, a stone, with brasses, for Pawle Yden, Gent. and Agnes, his wife, son of Thomas Yden, Esq. obt. 1564: two others for infant children of the Sydney family: another for Thomas Bullayen, son of Sir Thomas Bullayen: here was lately a monument for Lady Mary —, eldest daughter of the famous John, Duke of Northumberland, and sister of Ambrose, Earl of Warwick, of Robert, Earl of Leicester, and Catherine, Countess of Huntingdon, wife of the Right Hon. Sir Henry Sydney, K.G. At the west end, a mural monument for Sir William Coventry, youngest son of Thomas, Lord Coventry, who died at Tunbridge Wells, in 1686. On the south side, a fine old monument, and below, an altar-tomb, for Sir William Sydney, Knight Banneret, Chamberlain and Steward to Edward VI. and the first of the name Lord of the Manor of Penshurst; he died in 1553: on the front are the names of Sir William Dormer, Mary Sydney, Sir William Fitzwilliam, Sir James Hannington, Anne Sydney, and Lucy Sydney. On the south side, a handsome monument for Lord Philip Sydney, fifth Earl of Leicester, who died in 1705, and was succeeded by John, his brother and heir; also for John, sixth Earl of Leicester, cousin and heir of Henry Sydney, Earl of Romney, who died in 1737; his heirs being Mary and Elizabeth Sydney, daughters and heirs of his brother, the Hon. Thomas Sydney, third surviving son of Robert, Earl of Leicester; for Josceline, seventh Earl of Leicester, youngest brother and heir male of Earl John, died s. p. in 1743, with whom the title expired, as has been mentioned above, in the article on Penshurst Castle. On the monument is an

113

account of the several personages of this noble family, their descent, marriages, and issue, and shields of their arms and quarterings. On the north side, a fine monument for several infant children of this family; beneath is an urn and inscriptions, for Frances Sydney, fourth daughter, obt. 1692, æt. 6; for Robert Sydney, fourth Earl of Leicester, who married Lady Elizabeth Egerton, by whom he had fifteen children, of whom nine died young, and whose figures, as cherubim, are placed above, obt. 1702; Robert, the eldest son, obt. 1680, æt. 6; Elizabeth, Countess of Leicester, obt. 1709. Standing against the door, on the south side of this chancel, is an ancient stone figure of a knight in armour, for Sir Stephen de Penchester, Lord Warden and Constable of Dover Castle in the reign of Edward I.; it formerly lay on an altar tomb. Here we may remark that Penchester (a corruption of Pencestre) was an ancient name of this place, being derived from the old British word Pen, the height or top, and caestre, a camp. On the north wall, a neat monument for two sisters, daughters of Richard Allnut, Esq. and Frances, his wife, of South Park, in this parish; Frances Anne died July 3d, 1820, aged 23; Susanna died May 4th, 1821, aged 21: near this, a tablet for Richard Allnutt, Esq. of South Park, who died Nov. 19th, 1827, aged 65. Behind the pulpit, a tablet for Elizabeth, wife of Charles Brooke, Esq. who died Nov. 7th, 1821, aged 67. On the north side of the middle aisle, one for Nicholas Halhead, Esq. who died at Tunbridge Wells, July 12th, 1785, aged 67: and a tablet near the pulpit, with a Latin inscription, for Jonathan Hammond, who died Feb. 13th, 1819, aged 62.

Penshurst Church is dedicated to St. John the Baptist.

Chiddingstone Park, in the Parish of Chiddingstone, the seat of Henry Streatfeild, Esq. a Magistrate and Deputy Lieutenant for the County, is situated westward of Penshurst Castle and Redleaf. It is a fine gothic castellated mansion, surrounded by extensive grounds, which are well-timbered and picturesque: they include a large sheet of water. The improvements and additions, commenced some years ago, and lately completed, have taken from this seat much of its antique appearance.

Chiddingstone Park is distant from Westerham about seven miles and a half, from Tunbridge Wells nine miles, and from London 28 miles.

Chiddingstone was formerly divided into two manors, distinguished by the names of their respective owners; one called Chiddingstone Cobham, and the other Chiddingstone Burghersh.

Chiddingstone Cobham belonged, in the reign of Edward III. to a younger branch of the family of Cobham, of Cobham, in this county. At length Anne, the daughter of Sir Thomas Cobham, carried it in marriage to Sir Edward Borough, of Gainsborough, whose direct descendant, Thomas, Lord Burgh, alienated it, in the 38th year of Elizabeth, to Richard Streatfeild, Esq. of Highstreet House, in this parish, and in his posterity, by purchase and inheritance from branch to branch, it has since remained.

Chiddingstone Burghersh (formerly Burwash Court) was very early a part of the possessions of the eminent family of Burghersh. Bartholomew de Burghersh, about the 43d Edward III. conveyed it to Sir Walter de Pavely, whose descendant, at the end of the reign of Richard II. conveyed it to Mr. Vaux, of Northamptonshire, from whom it was alienated in the reign of Henry VI. to John

114

Alphew, of Bore Place, in this parish, whose daughter, Margaret, carried it to her husband, Sir Robert Read; and his daughter, Bridget, married to Sir Thomas Willoughby, at her father's death received this manor as her portion of his property. Their descendant, Sir Percival Willoughby, alienated it to John and Robert Seyliard, of Delaware, whose descendant, Sir Thomas Seyliard, Bart. about the year 1700, conveyed it to Henry Streatfeild, Esq. in which family of Streatfeild it has since remained.

The elder line of this family was resident at Highstreet House in the time of James I.

Stone Wall, in the Parish of Chiddingstone, the seat of Mrs. Whitton, is situated about two miles south from Chiddingstone. It is a handsome house, with beautiful grounds, and stands on an elevated site, distant from Penshurst, south-west, about two miles, and from London 30 miles.

Chiddingstone Church. In the middle aisle there is an iron plate for Richard Streatfeild, obt. 1601; a stone, with a brass, for Richard Streatfeild, of Cransted, obt. 1584. In the south aisle, memorials for the family of Basset. On a pillar, in the body of the church, a monument for Henry Streatfeild, Gent. late of Great Highstreet House, eldest son of Richard Streatfeild, of the same, who died in 1709; and Sarah, his wife, who died in 1716. In the chancel, a memorial for Richard Nurse, Rector of Chiddingstone, obt. June 10, 1705, æt. 65. On a pillar, a hatchment for Thomas Streatfeild, Gent. obt. 1628. On the north side is a chapel, called Bore Place Chapel, that was built by Sir Robert Reid in 1516, and dedicated to St. Catharine: here, against the wall, is a brass for Strode Hyde, Esq. of Bore Place, who died in 1742: an altar-tomb for Frances, daughter of John Reeve, married first to Thomas Streatfeild, secondly to John Seyliard; she died in 1650. In the south chancel, against a pillar, a small monument for W. Streatfeild, Gent. late of Burghersh Court, second son of Henry Streatfeild, Gent. of Highstreet House, who died in 1724: on the same pillar, an escutcheon inscribed for Richard Streatfeild, of this parish, Gent. who died in 1676. Over the small door, a stone carved in three compartments, each containing a brass; the first for Robert, son of John and Elizabeth Boissier, buried at St. John's, Hackney, April 20th, 1795; the next for the Rev. G. R. Boissier, A.B. Curate of Chiddingstone, who died June 12th, 1833; the last for Barrona Goring, wife of Robert Boissier, buried at Wadhurst, Aug. 2d, 1806. West end, north corner, a small elegant mural monument for William Whitton, Esq. late of Stone Wall, who died July 27th, 1832, in the 69th year of his age. North wall, a

handsome monument for William Streatfeild, Esq. late of Holden Southborough, in the Parish of Tunbridge, who died Nov. 14th, 1798, aged 42; he was the only surviving issue of William Streatfeild, Esq. of Hever Castle, by Sarah his wife, heiress of Oliver Thorpe, Esq. of New House, in Penshurst; another for Robert Streatfeild, Esq. of Wandsworth, Surrey, second son of Robert Streatfeild, of Hever Castle, who died March 26th, 1768, aged 45; and of Sandiforth Streatfeild, Esq. of Long Ditton, Surrey, who died at Bath, July 28th, 1809, aged 58. North of the altar, a sumptuous one, with a tablet over it, on which is a shield, with quarterings, and this inscription "Spe certa resurrectionis Harrieta, Alexandri Champion Armigeri filia et cohæres, a Thoma Streatfeild clerico conjux prudentissima, ab octo parvulis spectatissima parens abrepta, obiit decimo die Novembris, anno domini 1814, ætatis suæ 39;" on the monument is the following, "Thomæ Cl. et Harietæ quondam uxoris ejus, F. F. Robertus Champion Streatfeild, obt. Jan. 16, A.D. 1829, ætat. 26; Thomas Champion Streatfeild, obt. Jan. 20, A.D. 1823, ætat. 17; Alexander Champion Streatfeild, obt. Jan. 11,

115

A.D. 1833, ætat. 25; Thomæ ejusdem et Claræ tanti luctus omnino consortis, F. F. Amelia Streatfeild, obt. Feb. 7, A.D. 1830, ætat. 6; Henricus Rivers Streatfeild, obt. Apl. 9, A.D. 1831, ætat. 5. Hoc Marmor, desiderii simul et amoris ergo, pater posuit;" and encircling the lower part, "1814, Francesca Maria Nixon, apud Neapolin, obt. Sept. 21, ætat. 26; Edwardus Champion Streatfeild, obt. Dec. 16, æt. 24; hinc novae lacrymæ!"

Chiddingstone Church is dedicated to St. Mary.

Hever Castle, in the Parish of Hever, now occupied as a farm residence, is still entire. It is a mixture of the castellated and Elizabethan styles. The south front consists of an embattled tower over an arched doorway, surmounted with ornamental carvings in stone: at each of the four corners is a small square turret. The other fronts exhibit a preponderance of the Elizabethan style. There are still the remains of a moat, supplied by the River Medway, on the south bank of which this ancient fabric is situated.

Hever Castle is about one mile and a half west from Chiddingstone, and rather more than that distance south-east from Edenbridge.

Hever was formerly the seat of a family of the same name, whose still more ancient possessions were at Hever, near Northfleet. A descendant of these, William de Hever, in the reign of Edward III. left two daughters, of whom Joane carried one moiety of this manor in marriage to Reginald Cobham, whence it was named Hever Cobham; the other daughter, Margaret, carried the remaining part to her husband, Sir Oliver Brocas, which was thence called Hever Brocas. Reginald Cobham was succeeded by his son, Reginald, Lord Cobham, and he by his son of the same name, who purchased of the descendants of Sir Oliver Brocas the moiety called Hever Brocas, and died possessed of the whole, anno 6 Henry IV. His grandson, Sir Thomas Cobham, sold them to Sir Geoffrey Bulleyn, mercer, of London, ancestor of the Lady Anne Bulleyn, whose father, Sir Thomas Bulleyn, Viscount Rochford and Earl of Wiltshire, completed the buildings which his grandfather, Sir Geoffrey, began, and named the seat Hever Castle. After the death of the Earl, Henry VIII. seized on this property in right of the late Lady Anne, and afterwards granted it to the repudiated Lady Anne of Cleves during her life, or so long as she should remain in England. Subsequently reverting to the Crown, these manors were sold, in the reign of Philip and Mary, to Sir Edward de Waldegrave, whose descendant, James, Earl Waldegrave, conveyed them in 1715 to Sir William Humfreys, Bart. He was succeeded by his son, Sir Orlando Humfreys, whose two daughters, in 1745, sold them to Timothy Waldo, Esq. afterwards knighted. At his death, in 1786, Lady Waldo became entitled to Hever Castle.

Hever Church. In the chancel there is a memorial for Robert Humfreys, Esq. Lord of the Manor of Hever, only son and heir of Sir Orlando Humfreys, Bart. of Jenkins, in Essex, obt. 1736. In the north chancel, an altar-tomb for Sir Thomas Bullen, K.G. Earl of Wilcher and Earl of Ormund, obt. 1538: a small slab, with a brass for — Bullayen, son of Sir Thomas Bullayen. In the belfry is a stone with a brass, and inscription in French, for John de Cobham, Esq. obt. 1399; and Dame Johane, Dame de Leukenore, his wife; and Renaud, their son.

This church is dedicated to St. Peter.

116

Edells House, in the Parish of Cowden, the residence and property of Colonel William Woodhouse, a Magistrate for the County, is situated about one mile north-east from Cowden. A superior mansion, we understand, is about to be erected here, for which the grounds, being diversified and picturesque, form a suitable situation.

Edells House is distant from Edenbridge nearly four miles, and from London about 30 miles.

Bottings, in the Parish of Cowden, the seat of F. H. Brandram, Esq. a Magistrate for the County, is situated rather more than half a mile north-east from Cowden, near the borders of Sussex. It is a modern building, on a very pleasant elevated site, commanding a good prospect.

It is distant from Edenbridge between three and four miles, and from London about 30 miles.

Rectory, Cowden, the seat of the Rev. T. Harvey, a Magistrate for the County, is situated on the south side of the church, the grounds extending to the boundary of Sussex. It stands on a gentle acclivity, and is a very agreeable residence. The distance hither from London is about 31 miles.

Cowden Church is dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen. In the chancel, on the south side, there is a memorial for Thomas Aynscomb, Rector of this parish, who died April 16th, 1668: and another for Edward Harley, LL.B. Rector of this parish, who died May 22d, 1761, aged 61.

117

The Lathe of Aylesford

CONTAINS THE HUNDREDS OF WACHLINGSTONE, BRENCHLEY AND HORSMONDEN, WROTHAM, LITTLEFIELD, TWYFORD, EYHORNE, MAIDSTONE, LARKFIELD, CHATHAM AND GILLINGHAM, SHAMWELL, TOLTINGTROW, HOO, AND LITTLE BARNFIELD; ALSO THE LOWY OF TUNBRIDGE, THE CITY OF ROCHESTER, AND THE TOWN OF MAIDSTONE.

HUNDRED OF WACHLINGSTONE AND LOWY OF TUNBRIDGE.

Burrswood House, which takes its name from the estate of Burrswood, in the Parish of Speldhurst, the seat of David Salomons, Esq. a Magistrate for the Counties of Kent and Sussex, is situated near the boundary dividing this county from Sussex, four miles south from Penshurst, and the same distance south-west from Tunbridge Wells. It is a handsome structure, chiefly in the Elizabethan style, recently erected under the professional superintendence of Decimus Burton, Esq. The situation is picturesque, and its contiguity to Tunbridge Wells renders it a very desirable residence. It may be remarked, that the proprietor of this estate is the first gentleman of the Jewish religion who has filled the important and honourable offices of Sheriff and Justice of the Peace in this country. Mr. Salomons was Sheriff of London and Middlesex in the year 1835-6.

Burrswood House is distant from London about 36 miles.

Groombridge Place, in the Parish of Speldhurst.

The Manor of Groombridge, in the reign of Edward I. was possessed by a younger branch of the eminent family of Cobham. From these it passed to that of Clinton, one of whom, William de Clinton, Lord Clinton and Say, alienated it, at the end of the reign of Henry IV. to Thomas Waller, Esq. of Lamberhurst; whose grandson, Richard Waller, was at the battle of Agincourt, where he took captive

the Duke of Orleans, having found him almost dead under a heap of slain. On his return to England he confined his prisoner for some time at his seat in Groombridge, which, says Hasted, was so beneficial to the Duke, that he rebuilt the house, and was moreover a benefactor to the church of Speldhurst. In the descendants of Richard Waller, Esq. this manor continued till Sir Thomas Waller alienated it to Thomas Sackville, Earl of Dorset, who died in 1608, whose grandson, Richard, Earl of Dorset, conveyed it to John Packer, Esq. By the posterity of this gentleman it was thrown into Chancery, whence it was purchased by Mr. William Camfield, whose three sons, after his death, in 1781, sold it to Robert Burges, Esq. of Leigh, who died in 1794. Mrs. Sarah Surges, his widow, re-marrying James Harbroe, Esq. entitled that gentleman to the possession of it.

118

Ashurst Park, in the Parish of Ashurst, the residence of William H. Hoare, Esq. M.A. (a younger brother of Henry Hoare, Esq. of Staplehurst Place), and the property of William Jones, Esq. is a modern house, pleasantly situated, about three miles and a half west from Tunbridge Wells. It is surrounded by extensive and highly-cultivated grounds, and commands a good prospect over part of Sussex, where the eye is attracted by the picturesque domain of Eridge Castle. The drive hence to the Wells, and also that to Sevenoaks, is exceedingly pleasing.

The distance from this latter town is about 12 miles, and from London 36 miles.

Ashurst Lodge, in the Parish of Ashurst, the seat of Hugh Parkin, Esq. is an elegant castellated structure, most beautifully situated, exactly three miles west from Tunbridge Wells. The grounds which surround it are particularly well cultivated, and judiciously adorned.

It is distant from London about 36 miles.

Langton, in the Parish of Speldhurst, the seat of Baden Powell, Esq. a Magistrate for the County, is situated adjoining the grounds of Ashurst Park and Ashurst Lodge, close to Langton Green, and distant from Tunbridge Wells about two miles and a half. It is a handsome residence, with extensive grounds and shrubberies, and partakes in all the natural advantages of those mansions to which it is contiguous.

Langton is distant from London rather more than 36 miles.

Holland Farm, in the Parish of Speldhurst, is the seat of the Rev. Horace Cholmondeley, M.A. This beautiful residence is situated two miles and a half westward from Tunbridge Wells, a short distance south of the road from thence to Ashurst Park, and fronting a glen that descends to the boundary which separates this county from Sussex. Nothing can exceed the beauty of this well-selected spot: the grounds are sheltered on the north by trees in the pride of full maturity; and the view southward, from a terrace in front of the mansion, over the glen below, is particularly fine.

Holland Farm is distant from London about 37 miles.

Holland Farm, or Holands, was once the property of a noble family of that name, allied to the Holands, Earls of Kent. By these it was alienated, about the reign of Henry VI. to Richard Waller, Esq. of Groombridge, whose descendant, Sir Thomas Waller, sold it, in the reign of Elizabeth, to Thomas Sackville, Earl of Dorset. His grandson, Richard, Earl of Dorset, conveyed it to Lindsey, who, in the reign of Charles I. sold it to Caldicot, and he, in the following reign, alienated it to Mr. William Canfield, who sold it to the Rev. George Lewis, of Westerham. His son, Erasmus Lewis, Gent. sold it to Sir George Kelly, who, dying in 1772, was succeeded in this manor by his

119

sister, Mrs. Hannah Tanner, widow; and she, at her death, in 1780, bequeathed it in trust to her nephew, George Gardner, with remainder to his brother, Thomas Christopher Gardner, who eventually inherited the property.

Rusthall House, in the Parish of Speldhurst, the seat of Miss Jane Bowen Harding, is a very pleasant residence, situated on the south side of the road from Tunbridge Wells to Langton and Ashurst Park, being distant from the Wells only one mile and a half. From the front, southward, there is a most interesting view of part of Sussex, the High Rocks, Bridge Castle, &c. The grounds extend in this direction, with a gentle declivity, nearly to the borders of the county and the High Rocks, and are diversified by walks, wood, and water.

The distance from London is about 37 miles.

Rust Hall, in the Parish of Speldhurst, the seat of Robert Henry Cooper, Esq. a Captain in the Army, stands on the west side of Rusthall Common, south of the road to Langton from Tunbridge Wells, being distant from the latter rather more than one mile. This is a handsome building, in the ornamented cottage style, and the situation being highly elevated, commands extensive views in every direction, particularly of Bridge Castle, and the adjoining parts of the County of Sussex.

It is distant from London about 37 miles.

This place, as well as the preceding, was formerly a part of the old manor of Rust Hall.

Bishop's Down Grove, in the Parish of Speldhurst, the seat of D. J. Robertson, Esq. is situated near Tunbridge Wells, on the north-west, at a distance of about three-quarters of a mile. Though this structure has but little architectural beauty, there is an air of neatness and elegance about the place, which, combined with the advantages that nature has conferred, renders it a very agreeable residence: indeed, no spot in this part of the county can boast of richer or more picturesque scenery.

Bishop's Down Grove is distant from London about 36 miles.

Speldhurst Church is dedicated to St. Mary, and contains the following monuments:

In the chancel, on the south wall, a tablet for Jane, wife of John Mayo, M.D. who died 9th May, 1808, aged 48; also John Mayo, M.D. who died 29th Nov. 1818, aged 68; and Frances Lavinia Mayo, relict of the above-named John Mayo, who died 31st May, 1837, aged 61: a brass plate, for the eminent family of the Wallers, that was placed here by Sir J. W. Waller, Bart. of Braywick Lodge, Berks, and Twickenham, Middlesex, to perpetuate the memory of his ancestors. In the nave,

120

south wall, a monument for John Harvey Yorke, Esq. of Bishop's Down Grove, Col. in H. M. Royal Artillery, who was drowned off the coast of Brazil, 1st Nov. 1805, aged 50: a tablet for John Becher, Esq. late of Mount Ephraim, Tunbridge Wells, who died 28th March, 1830: north wall, a tablet for Thomas Henry Lloyd, who died 19th July, 1810, aged 22: a monument with a tablet, surmounted by emblems of war, for Martin Yorke, Esq. of Bishop's Down Grove, who died 27th April, 1798, aged 67; also his brother, Lieut. Col. William Yorke, of the 69th Regiment of Foot, who died 22d March, 1793, aged 50. North aisle, a tablet for Philip Brembridge, Esq. of Rust Hall, a Magistrate for the County, who died 26th April, 1833, aged 64; also Mary, relict of the above, who died 12th Oct. 1835, aged 78: another for Honora Mary Georgina, eldest daughter of the late Lieut. Col. Vassall, of the 38th Regiment, and wife of the Rev. E. P. Henslowe, who died at Tunbridge Wells, Aug. 28th, 1834, aged 32: and another for two sons and one daughter of Col. Christopher Hodgson. In the pavement of the nave is a stone for Emily, daughter of the Hon. John Douglas and Lady Frances Douglas, who departed this life 15th Dec. 1815, aged 22 years.

This is a modern structure, the old church, with the monuments and every thing it contained, having been set on fire and destroyed by lightning, during a dreadful tempest, Oct. 22d, 1791.

TUNBRIDGE. The town of Tunbridge stands on the banks of the river Medway, nearly in the centre of the parish of the same name, and on the high road from London to Tunbridge Wells, Lamberhurst, and Rye. Formerly it

consisted of little more than the cottages of the villeins and dependants of the Lord of the Manor, and formed a kind of suburb to the castle; but becoming gradually more important, from its advantageous locality, it has risen to the present respectable market-town. There are still existing some small remains of the castle, a more particular description of which will be found in the article immediately following.

The Priory of St. Mary Magdalen, at this place, was founded and endowed, about the end of the reign of Henry II. by Richard de Clare, first Earl of Hertford, and Lord of the Manor, for monks of the Premonstratensian order, or White Canons. It was one of the eighteen small religious houses that were suppressed in 1524 by the Pope's bull, on the application of Cardinal Wolsey, for the purpose of enabling the Cardinal to found two colleges; one at Ipswich, the other at Oxford; but in consequence of his being cast in a *præmunire* before the endowments had been finally settled on his new college at Oxford, all its possessions and revenues became forfeited to the Crown.

At the time of its dissolution the spiritualities of this priory amounted to £48. 11s. 4d. and the temporalities to £120. 18s. 11d.

The Free Grammar School, which is a large handsome building, situated

121

at the north end of the town, was founded by Sir Andrew Judde, a native of Tunbridge, citizen and skinner, of London, anno 7 Edward VI. and the government of it vested in the Skinners' Company. Since the founder's endowment it has received various bequests, and now possesses several exhibitions to the Universities. The school has for many years been in considerable repute, and among the masters who have contributed to raise its character, may be mentioned the late Dr. Vicessimus Knox, father of Dr. Thomas Knox, the gentleman who now fills the same situation.

Tunbridge Castle, immediately overlooking the Medway, is the residence of James Eldridge West, Esq. a Magistrate and Deputy Lieutenant for the County, who married, in December, 1804, Alicia, only daughter of the late, and sister of the present, Sir William Ashburnham, Bart. of Broomham Park, in Sussex. The interior of this interesting house, which is built within the area of the old castle, is decorated with paintings by Baptiste, Otho Venius, Sir Peter Lely, and other artists, and with a good collection of birds. There is also, in one apartment, a splendid and fine-toned organ, by the eminent builder, Mr. Joseph Walker, of High Holborn. The castle and its domain having become the property of the noble family of Stafford, has lately descended to the Hon. Edward Stafford Jerningham, second son of the late Lord Stafford. The ruins are picturesque, and the grounds have been much and tastefully improved by the present occupier, who has resided here several years, and who is the proprietor of very valuable estates in the neighbourhood. Of the ancient castle little now remains but the noble gateway, flanked with round towers, still very perfect, and the artificial mount on which stood the keep, or barbican. It was probably built about the beginning of the 12th century, by Richard Fitz Gilbert, Earl of Brionne, to whom the surrounding district, called the "Lowy of Tunbridge," (with certain privileges and exemptions,) was assigned by William Rufus, to reward the earl's attachment to his interest, in opposition to his brother Robert, and compensate him for the ruin of his estate in Normandy by the latter. Fitz Gilbert, from his property in Suffolk, took the title of De Clare, and his descendants became Earls of Hertford and Gloucester. The castle was a place of great strength, and during the wars of the barons, in the reign of Henry III. was defended against Prince Edward by Rufus Fitz Gilbert, who burnt the town to prevent the houses being of use to the besiegers. The castle, however, was taken, but restored to its owner on his joining the royal standard. He afterwards entertained Edward here, on his return from Palestine, with a splendour which detained that prince for three days from proceeding to take

possession of the crown. Edward's son, afterwards Edward II. also made this place his residence for a year, while Lieutenant of the kingdom, during his father's absence in Flanders.

The property of Tunbridge, before its allotment to the Fitz Gilberts, belonged to the see of Canterbury; but, at the instance of William Rufus, it was exchanged for Brionne, the estate in Normandy which Duke Robert's enmity would not allow the first Fitz Gilbert to retain. Notwithstanding this exchange, the abrogated claim of the church was often afterwards insisted on; and at length it was decided that the De Clares should hold their lands here of Canterbury, by the grand serjeantcy of serving as High Stewards and Chief Butlers at the Archbishop's installation, an office which continued for many generations to be personally discharged by the proprietors of Tunbridge, who, at one time, were among the wealthiest noblemen in the kingdom. One of the Chief Butler's perquisites on these occasions was the silver gilt cup in which it was his duty to present the wine: he was also entitled to two nights' provender for one hundred and forty horses; and on his return from the feast, he might claim entertainment for three days at some one of the Archbishop's manors in Kent, on condition that he brought no more than fifty horsemen in his retinue. Such circumstances are characteristic of the feudal and ecclesiastical grandeur of those times. In the reign of Edward III. the castle and manor of Tunbridge passed by marriage into the hands of Ralph, Earl of Stafford; the last of whose powerful line, (and the last of these noble High Stewards at the ceremony of an Archbishop's enthronization,) was the Duke of Buckingham, who perished on the scaffold in the reign of Henry VIII.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS, in the Parishes of Tunbridge and Speldhurst in Kent, and Frant in Sussex, about six miles from Tunbridge, and now full as populous a place, or more so, than the latter town, owes its origin to the chalybeate springs in its neighbourhood. The medicinal virtue of these waters was first discovered, or (more probably) only brought into more general notice, in the time of James I. by Dudley, Lord North, a dissolute young nobleman, who tried them with success on a broken constitution. In the next reign, the Queen, Henrietta Maria, resided here during two months, for the recovery of her health, after the birth of Prince Charles. The village afforded yet but little accommodation, and her gay court sojourned in tents amid the wild forest, which, at that time, overspread the district. In the general confusion that soon followed, the place appears to have been much neglected; but after the Restoration it was honoured

with another royal visit from the consort of Charles II. and in the course of his reign Tunbridge Wells became a highly fashionable resort. Its aspect and society at this period are described with much vivacity in the French memoirs of the Count de Grammont. Two of the present divisions of the hamlet, however, which were formed about this time, are of republican or puritanical origin – Mount Ephraim and Mount Sion, names assigned by rival parties of Baptists and Independents, who had here their separate places of amusement and religious assemblage. Till near the end of the 17th century, there was no church at the Wells belonging to the Establishment: at length the present chapel was built by subscription, and zealously dedicated to King Charles the Martyr. James II. also visited Tunbridge Wells, with his queen and his two daughters, afterwards the sovereigns, Mary and Anne. The latter princess, before her accession to the throne, was a frequent visitant, and the well itself, on which she bestowed a stone basin, was afterwards denominated the Queen's Well.

Tunbridge Wells derives much of its fame from the pleasantness of its situa-

tion, and the beauty of the surrounding country. The views from the various points of elevated ground in its immediate vicinity are picturesque, and replete with interesting objects; and even the irregularity of the town adds to it a peculiar charm, the principal houses, many of them handsome buildings, which stand apart, embosomed in groves and gardens, presenting the appearance of so many independent villas, and connecting themselves well with the neighbouring scenery.

For the benefit of invalids there are excellent and commodious baths of every description, composed of the mineral water. Previous to the building of the present edifice by Mrs. Shorey, the Lady of the Manor, the want of baths at the Wells was much felt, there being but one in the neighbourhood, near Rusthall Common, which was not only at a very inconvenient distance, but, the house becoming latterly much dilapidated, it was almost unfit for use.

The Parade is a handsome piazza, which terminates at the spring, and is connected with sheltered walks and avenues of lime-trees: here, during the season, a good band plays three times a day.

The adjacent Downs afford a fine space for exercise, and the air of the whole neighbourhood is considered remarkably pure. Of the scenery around, the most interesting portion is included in what are called the High Rocks, which form one side of a romantic valley. Among the clefts here, there is a rock which, when struck, is so peculiarly sonorous, that it has obtained the name of the Bell Rock. The easy distance of Tunbridge Wells from the metropolis and the sea-

124

coast, has contributed, together with the salubrity of its situation and the efficacy of the waters, to make it deservedly popular.

The new church is a handsome structure, from a design by Decimus Burton, Esq. The first stone was laid on 17th August, 1827, the birthday of H. R. H. the Duchess of Kent, who was then residing at Calverley House, and it was consecrated 3d Sept. 1829. It is dedicated to the Holy Trinity, and contains a tablet for Mrs. Thomas, the sister of the Rev. Stephen Woodgate, Vicar.

Tunbridge Wells contains so many residences of distinction that we can do no more than enumerate those which have come under our particular notice: viz. – In Calverley Park, those of Mrs. Haily and Decimus Burton, Esq.; Bloomfield Cottage, the seat of Lady Maria Meade; Mount Pleasant, William Marsdin, Esq.; Monson House, William Offley, Esq.; Parade, J. Hargraves, Esq.; Cumberland Villa, John Forbes, Esq.; Howard Lodge, William Stanhope Taylor, Esq.; Richmond House, Edward Scudamore, Esq.; Mount Calverley Lodge, A. St. John Baker, Esq.; Cumberland House, James Deane, Esq. a Magistrate for the County; Mount Ephraim, John Stone, Esq. Here is also a beautiful castellated structure, called Romanoff House, an academy under the superintendence of Thomas R. Alfree, Esq.

Great Culverden, in the Parish of Tunbridge, the seat of Mrs. Jeddere Fisher, is an elegant structure, situated near Mount Ephraim, at Tunbridge Wells. The pleasure grounds are laid out with much taste, and comprise an elegant shrubbery. Among the interior decorations are two paintings of a Boar Hunt, by Snyders.

The distance from London is nearly 36 miles.

Huntley's Villa and Huntley's Tower, both in the Parish of Tunbridge, are situated contiguous to each other, about one mile north-west from Tunbridge Wells, and little more than half a mile from Great Culverden: they are the property of Mrs. Jeddere Fisher.

Blackhurst, in the Parish of Tunbridge, the seat of Ford Wilson, Esq. is situated about two miles north-east from Tunbridge Wells, on the right of the road from thence to Pembury. This is a very elegant structure, recently erected under the direction of Decimus Burton, Esq. The situation is pleasant, commanding extensive prospects over parts of Sussex and Kent.

Blackhurst is distant from London about 35 miles.

Southfield Park, in the Parish of Tunbridge, the seat of the Rev. William Wilkin Stephens, M.A. is situated two miles north from Tunbridge Wells, on the east side of the road from thence to Southborough. This is an ancient house,

125

sheltered on the west by thriving plantations, and surrounded by extensive and fertile grounds. The interior is ornamented with a small collection of paintings, by Sir Joshua Reynolds, Sir Peter Lely, Spagnoletto, Romney, Hogarth, Francesca, Mola, and others.

Southfield Park is distant from Tunbridge three miles and a half, and from London 33 miles and a half.

Bentham Hill, in the Parish of Tunbridge, the seat of Arthur Pott, Esq. a Magistrate for the County, is an elegant modern structure, partly Elizabethan, with a mixture of the cottage style, from a design of Decimus Burton, Esq. The situation is well chosen; the view from the eastern front of the mansion is very picturesque, and the grounds are exceedingly beautiful. Its interior is spacious and convenient, highly finished, and tastefully decorated.

Bentham Hill is distant from Tunbridge Wells about three miles, from Tunbridge the same, and from London 33 miles.

Broom Hill, in the Parish of Tunbridge, the residence of David Salomons, Esq. of Burrswood House, is a handsome modern villa, in the Italian style of architecture, situated two miles north-west from Tunbridge Wells, and distant from London 34 miles.

Southborough Hall, in the Parish of Tunbridge, the seat of Thomas Lotherington, Esq. is situated two miles and a half north from Tunbridge Wells, on the east side of the road from thence to Tunbridge. It is distant from London about 33 miles.

Great Lodge, in the Parish of Tunbridge, the seat of Sir J. F. Colebrook, Bart. is a modern mansion, situated about three miles north-east from Tunbridge Wells. Its site being low, the prospects are limited, though the grounds themselves are very extensive. It is distant from London about 33 miles.

Parsonage, Southborough, in the Parish of Tunbridge, the residence of the Rev. Thomas William Carr, M.A. is situated eastward of Southborough, having a very cheerful prospect in the direction of Somerhill. It is distant from Tunbridge Wells about three miles, and from London 33 miles.

Mabledon Park, in the Parish of Tunbridge, the seat of John Deacon, Esq. was founded by the late James Burton, father of the eminent architect, Decimus Burton, Esq. of Spring Gardens. This elegant castellated structure stands on an eminence, one mile and a quarter south-west from Tunbridge, commanding a most interesting and beautiful prospect, and forming a conspicuous ornamental feature of this part of the county, which is favoured in a high degree with objects of picturesque beauty.

126

Mabledon Park is distant from Tunbridge Wells about four miles, bounding on the west the high road from thence to London.

Somerhill, in the Parish of Tunbridge, the seat of James Alexander, Esq. a Deputy Lieutenant for the County, is a noble mansion, of the time of James I. It stands south-east from Tunbridge, on an elevated site, surrounded by grounds in the highest state of ornamental cultivation and beauty. The park, which is extensive, is well timbered, diversified, and picturesque. In the lower grounds, which can be seen from the Tunbridge and Lamberhurst road, after passing the lodge, is a fine sheet of water, encompassing a woody island. Ascending the hill by the carriage-way, we are struck by the increasing magnificence of the landscape, and at the same time the house, a grand specimen of an old English

mansion, meets the view. The interior is of corresponding splendour: its spacious hall and apartments are fitted up in the most costly style, having recently been re-decorated and beautified by Mr. Salvin, of Somerset Street, Portman Square. It abounds with curiosities and works of art.

Somerhill is distant from Tunbridge Wells about five miles, from Tunbridge two miles, and from London 32 miles.

At the southern part of the Lowy of Tunbridge there was a large district of land, or chase, including an enclosed park, that was anciently called South Frith, and which, Hasted says, was part of the demesnes of the family of Clare, Earls of Gloucester and Hertford, the possessors of the castle and manor of Tunbridge. Gilbert de Clare, the last of this family, died in 8th Edward II. without issue surviving, and his three sisters became his co-heirs; of whom Elizabeth, the youngest, widow of John de Burgh, received, as part of her share of her brother's property, this district of South Frith. Her son, William, who on his grandfather's death became Earl of Ulster, next inherited this estate, and his daughter and heir, Elizabeth, carried it to her husband, Lionel, Duke of Clarence, third son of Edward III. at whose death, in the 43d year of his father's reign, it passed to his only daughter, Philippa, married to Edmund Mortimer, third Earl of March. Edmund, Earl of March, grandson of this last nobleman, bequeathed it at his death, anno 3 Henry VI. to his nephew, Richard, Duke of York, who, having aspired to the throne in the reign of Henry VI. lost his estates by forfeiture, but soon after, on a change of fortune in the struggles of this period, he regained possession of them, and Cecilie, his widow, mother of Edward IV. enjoyed this manor till her death, which happened in the 10th Henry VIII. when it reverted to the Crown. Edward VI. in his 4th year, granted South Frith to John Dudley, Earl of Warwick, afterwards Duke of Northumberland, which he, in the 7th year of the same reign, re-conveyed to the King. Subsequently Queen Mary granted it to Cardinal Reginald Pole, Archbishop of Canterbury, at whose death, in 1558, it again reverted to the Crown, and was afterwards conferred by Elizabeth, in her 14th year, on Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester, for a term of years, at the expiration of which she gave them to Frances, widow of Robert Devereux, Earl of Essex, sole daughter of Sir Francis Walsingham. This lady re-married Richard Burgh, Earl of Clanrickard, who built on this estate the present noble mansion, (which was not finished till the end of the reign of James I.) and gave it the name of Somerhill. Ulick, his son and heir, having espoused the cause of Charles I. lost his estates by sequestration, and the Parliament, in the year 1645, granted

127

this manor for life to their general, Robert, Earl of Essex. At his death, in 1646, they gave it to John Bradshaw, President of the High Court of Justice, who, dying in 1659, was succeeded by his natural son; but he did not long retain it, for at the Restoration it returned to its lawful owner, in the person of Margaret, only daughter of Ulick, Marquis of Clanrickard, above mentioned, who had died in 1659. This lady was at that time married to Charles M'Carty, Viscount Muskerry, who being killed in the engagement with the Dutch in Solebay, in 1665, she re-married John Villiers, Viscount Purbeck, elder brother of George Villiers, Duke of Buckingham, at whose death she married the celebrated Beau Fielding, and living in a very extravagant way, was obliged to sell at different times a great part of the demesne lands. Her son, John Villiers, alienated the seat and park of Somerhill, and the Manor of South Frith, to one Dekins, who dying s. p. bequeathed them to Cave, and he, about the year 1712, conveyed them to Mr. John Woodgate, of Chepsted, in Penshurst, whose descendants possessed this property till within a recent period.

Postern Park, in the Parish of Tunbridge, the property of James Eldridge West, Esq. a Magistrate and Deputy Lieutenant for the County, (who resides at Tunbridge Castle,) is situated one mile south-east from Tunbridge.

Warders, in the Parish of Tunbridge, the property and residence of William Jewhurst, Gent. is a new building, in the Elizabethan style of architecture. Its situation is near the church, on the opposite side of the road from Tunbridge to Hadlow.

TUNBRIDGE. On the left of the high road from hence to Sevenoaks, close to the town, is the residence of Lieut. Edmond Peel.

Mountains, in the Parish of Tunbridge, the residence and property of

S. Turley, Gent. is situated about two miles and a half north-west from Tunbridge, on the left of the main road from thence to Sevenoaks. It is a neat house, with pleasant grounds and shrubberies.

The distance from London is about 27 miles.

The Church at Southborough was built by subscription, from a design of Decimus Burton, Esq. and consecrated on 25th August, 1830. Over the vestry door is a tablet for John Broadley Wilson, Esq. of Clapham, the principal projector of the sacred edifice.

Tunbridge Church is a large edifice, dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul. Of the numerous monuments which it contains, the following are the most remarkable:

In the chancel, north wall, a tablet to the memory of Vicessimus Knox, LL.B. late Master of Tunbridge School, who died Feb. 3d, 1780, aged 49 years; also Ann, his wife, who died 13th April, 1795, aged 62 years: above this, a tablet for Sarah, daughter of Dr. Knox, wife of Robert Clement Sconce, Esq. who died 17th June, 1818, aged 36 years: a monument for the Rev. Henry Harpur, Vicar of this church, who died 5th Oct. 1790, aged 59: a tablet for Thomas Castell, of Tunbridge,

128

who died 8th Sept. 1696, aged 28 years: a monument for the family of Rokeby: a neat tablet for Peter Perchard Le Mesurier, who died 19th April, 1834, in the 16th year of his age: another for Vicessimus Knox, D.D. Master of Tunbridge School, who died 6th Sept. 1821, aged 69; also Mary, his wife, who departed this life May 29th, 1809, aged 61 years: another for Mrs. Anna Maria Meyrick, who died 20th April, 1731, aged 21: another for the Rev. Francis Woodgate, M. A. who died 10th Nov. 1790, aged 84 years; and Mary, his wife, who died 12th Jan. 1785, aged 71: a handsome one, surmounted by a large urn, for Philadelphia Lyttelton, who died 2d August, 1663, aged 32 years. In two recesses, in the south wall, are the ancient figures of a man in armour, and his wife, reclining, for Sir Anthony Denton, Knt. obt. 26th Aug. 1615, æt. 54: an urn tablet for Thos. Panuwel, Esq. who died 21st Feb. 1749, aged 78 years. In the nave, on the north side, a handsome marble monument to the memory of Richard Children, Esq. who died in 1753, at the age of 83 years: another very neat one, that was erected by the inhabitants of Tunbridge as a tribute of respect to the memory of George Children, Esq. of Ferox Hall, in this town, who departed this life in 1818, aged 76 years: another for John Danvers, Esq. who died 12th Dec. 1724, aged 78; also Sarah, his widow, who died 21st March, 1731, in the 74th year of her age. North aisle; a monument for the family of Weller: a tablet to the memory of the Rev. Henry Austen, who died 22d July, 1807, aged 81; also Mary Austen, who died 31st Dec. 1799, at the age of 69 years; and two of their sons: a monument for George Hooper, Esq. who bequeathed the sum of £500 to defray the expenses of repaving and pewing the church; he died 6th March, 1759, in the 33d year of his age. On the south wall, in the gallery, a tablet for Eliza Bradford, wife of Edward Bradford, Esq. who died 23d July, 1829, aged 48 years: another for William Kearsley Kirby, only son of Robert and Sophia Elizabeth Kirby, who died 6th Jan. 1826, aged 14 years. North of the organ there is a monument for Henry Woodgate, Esq. of Somerhill. Richard Burgh, Earl of Clanrickard, Baron Somerhill, Earl of St. Albans, &c. &c. who died in 1636, was buried in Tunbridge Church.

Great Bounds, in the Parish of Bidborough, the seat of the Rev. Sir Charles Hardinge, Bart. is an ancient Elizabethan structure, situated in a beautiful well-wooded park, at the entrance to which is an elegant lodge, that corresponds in style with the mansion. The interior is richly embellished, and contains many curiosities and interesting works of art.

In a very retired part of the park there is a handsome monument, that was erected in memory of Lady Catherine, the wife of Brigadier General Charles William Stewart, and sister to Lord Darnley, who died after a few days illness, in Feb. 1812.

The Manor of Bidborough, from very early times, appears to have been united to the ancient seat of Boons, or Bounds, both which, in the reign of Edward IV. were in possession of the family of Chaun. From these, in the reign above mentioned, they passed to the name of Palmer, one of whom,

John Palmer, in the beginning of the reign of Henry VIII. alienated them to the family of Fane, alias Vane. Sir Ralph Fane, Knt. Banneret, having zealously espoused the interest of the Duke of Somerset, was executed for high treason, on Tower Hill, anno 6 Edward VI.; consequently this manor and seat escheated to the Crown, and remained there till Elizabeth, in her 1st year, granted them to her relative, Henry Carey, Lord Hunsdon, who was succeeded by his eldest son, George, Lord Hunsdon, whose only daughter and heir, Elizabeth, at his death in 1603, carried them to her

129

husband, Sir Thomas Berkeley, K.B. eldest son of Henry, Lord Berkeley, and he soon alienated them to Sir Thomas Smith, second son of Customer Smith, of Westenhanger. In this family they continued down to Sir Sydney Stafford Smythe, Chief Baron of the Exchequer, who dying s. p. in 1778, left them to his widow, Lady Sarah Smythe, the eldest daughter of Sir Charles Farnaby, Bart. of Kippington, who at her death, in 1790, devised them in trust to be sold for the benefit of her nephews and nieces, and they were accordingly purchased by the Rt. Hon. John, Earl Darnley. Lord Darnley's mother, the Dowager Countess Darnley, resided at Great Bounds for many years. Some time after her decease it was occupied by the famous Baron de Roll; and at a subsequent period it passed into the hands of Lord Caledon, of whom it was purchased by the present proprietor.

Bidborough Church is dedicated to St. Lawrence.

In the church-yard is a beautiful sarcophagus, by Bacon, to the memory of Baron de Roll, inscribed, at one end, as follows: "Louis Robert, Baron de Roll, de Emmenhobz in the Canton of Soleure, Count of the Holy Roman Empire, Knight of the Military Order of St. Louis, Adjutant General to his Royal Highness Monsieur Count D'Artois, Major General and Colonel of De Roll's Swiss Regiment, in his Britannic Majesty's service, died at Bounds, in this parish, Aug. 27th, 1813, aged 64."

Green Trees, in the Parish of Hadlow, the seat of Mrs. Kibble, widow of the late Thomas Kibble, Esq. is a very handsome modern house, in the Grecian style, with pleasure-grounds and a beautiful paddock extending from the mansion to the road leading from Tunbridge to Hadlow. It contains some choice works of art, including a fine bust, and a collection of paintings by several of the great masters of the Italian, Dutch, and Flemish schools.

It is distant from Tunbridge nearly two miles, and from Hadlow rather more than two miles.

Fish Hall, in the Parish of Hadlow, the seat of Mrs. Porter, is a handsome modern mansion, situated on the right of the road from Tunbridge to Hadlow.

Fish Hall is distant from Tunbridge about two miles, and from Hadlow the same.

This place was formerly the residence of John de Fisher, who was so named from his being allowed by Gilbert de Clare, Earl of Gloucester, Lord of the Lowy of Tunbridge, the privilege of fishing freely within his jurisdiction. John Fisher, in the reign of Henry VIII. alienated Fish Hall to the family of Fane, or Vane, of whom it was purchased by that of Rivers, of Chafford. A descendant of this family conveyed it, in the reign of Charles II. to Jeffry Amhurst, Gent. who sold it to John France, and he bequeathed it to his youngest daughter, Elizabeth, married to George Swayne, Gent. of whose son, Thomas Swayne, it was purchased by John Porter, Esq. of this parish.

Hadlow Castle, in the Parish of Hadlow, the seat of Walter B. May, Esq. has a very attractive appearance, being an extensive pile of Gothic archi-

130

tecture, floridly decorated. The interior is handsomely fitted up, and richly embellished.

The Manor of Hadlow was a part of the immense possessions of Odo, Bishop of Baieux. It was

afterwards held of the Archbishop of Canterbury by the family of De Clare, Earls of Gloucester and Hertford, Richard de Clare having entered into an agreement with the Archbishop, (who claimed the seignior), in the 42d year of Henry III. to do homage for it. On the death of Gilbert, Earl of Gloucester and Hertford in the year 1313, without issue surviving, this manor was allotted to his second sister, Margaret, wife of Hugh de Audley, whose only daughter and heir, Margaret, married to Ralph Stafford Lord Stafford, inherited it at her father's death; and in their descendants, Earls of Stafford and Dukes of Buckingham, it continued till the execution of Edward, Duke of Buckingham, for high treason, in the 13th year of the reign of Henry VIII. when it was forfeited to the Crown. Henry VIII. in his 16th year, granted it to Sir Henry Guildford, on whose death, in the 23d year of the same reign, it reverted to the Crown. Edward VI. in his 4th year, conferred the Manor of Hadlow on John Dudley, Earl of Warwick, afterwards Duke of Northumberland, who, three years after, exchanged it with the king for other lands. From this time it remained in possession of the Crown, till Elizabeth, in the first year of her reign, gave it to her kinsman, Henry Carey, Lord Hunsdon, whose grand-nephew, Henry Lord Hunsdon, in the following reign, sold it to James Faircloth, M.D. of London, who alienated it to George Rivers, Esq. of this parish. A descendant of this gentleman conveyed it, in the reign of Charles II. to Jeffry Amherst, Gent. of whom, in 1699, it was purchased by John France, who was succeeded in the possession of this property by his daughter Mary, married to Walter Barton, Esq. whose grandson Walter, who had assumed the name of May, inherited it on the death of his father, John Barton, Esq.

The Vicarage, in the Parish of Hadlow, the seat of the Rev. James Monypenny, a Magistrate for the County, is a modern structure, in the Elizabethan style of architecture. It is situated a very short distance north of the church, and about 10 miles from Maidstone.

Hadlow House, in the Parish of Hadlow, the seat of the Rev. Philip Monypenny, of Matham Hall, Rolvenden, is a neat substantial modern structure, well sheltered, and surrounded by beautiful pleasure grounds. It is distant from Hadlow about a quarter of a mile, and from Maidstone nine miles and three quarters.

Hadlow Church contains the following memorials:

In the chancel, north wall, a tablet for Sarah, wife of William Town, of St. George's, Hanover Square, London, third daughter of Mr. Thomas Martin, of Addlested House, who died 4th Feb. 1829, aged 28 years. South wall, a tablet for Thomas Swayne, of Fish Hall, who departed this life 25th Dec. 1800, aged 66 years; also Anne, his wife, who died 21st Jan. 1808, aged 72 years; also John Fellowes Claridge, of Sevenoaks, who died 7th May, 1822, in the 58th year of his age; and Anne, his wife, daughter of Thomas and Anne Swayne, who died 3d March, 1806, aged 46 years. Some of the family of Rivers are also buried in this church.

Hadlow Church is dedicated to St. Mary.

131

Capel Church is dedicated to St. Thomas-a-Becket, the Martyr.

Against the north wall of the chancel is a tablet for Mr. Thomas Martin, of Addlested House, East Peckham, who died 23d June, 1834, aged 59 years. On the door, in the altar rails, is cut the name, Michael Davis, 1682.

The Church of Tudeley is dedicated to all Saints.

In the chancel there is an old monument, but not entire, to the memory of George Fane, and Joane, his wife, and others of this eminent family; one date which it bears is 1545. Here is also a grave-stone for the Rev. Stephen Cowper, vicar of this parish, who died 15th July, 1750, aged 48 years: and a tablet for the Rev. Edward Dering, M.A. Vicar of this parish, who died in 1715, at the age of 39 years. In the nave, a tablet for the Rev. John Hedges, A.M. Vicar of Tudeley for 30 years, who died 1st Aug. 1787, aged 68 years; and Mary Hedges, his sister, who died 4th July, 1779, aged 52 years.

Spring Grove, in the Parish of Pembury, the seat of Alexander Brymer Belcher, Esq. is situated on the east side of Pembury Church. It is a beautiful modern mansion, in the cottage style, highly ornamented, and surrounded by grounds very tastefully laid out and planted.

Spring Grove is distant from Tunbridge about three miles and a half, and from London 33 miles and a half.

Vicarage, in the Parish of Pembury, the residence of the Rev. Stephen Woodgate, is a neat house, very pleasantly situated, a short distance westward from the church, and about 33 miles and a half from London.

Grovehurst, in the Parish of Pembury, is situated on the south of the road from Pembury Green to Tunbridge Wells, and distant from the former less than a mile. Its site being elevated, gives it a command of extensive prospects. The grounds are exceedingly beautiful, and well planted.

Grovehurst is distant from London about 35 miles.

Pembury Church. In the chancel, on a very ancient stone in the pavement, is an inscription in old French, for Margaret, daughter of Sir Thomas Colepeper. North wall, a tablet for Henry Woodgate, Esq. who died 27th Dec. 1818, aged 47 years: another in memory of the Rt. Hon. Lord George Henry Spencer Churchill, third son of George, the fourth Duke of Marlborough, who died at Tunbridge Wells, 30th May, 1828, aged 32. Nave, south wall, a monument for the Rev. John Whitaker, A.M. for fifty years Vicar of this parish, who died 10th June, 1803, aged 80; also Thomas William Whitaker, his son, who died 2d June, 1802, aged 24 years; also for Elizabeth, his wife, daughter of Charles William Rambouillet, Esq. Lieut. Col. of First Regiment of Guards, who died in London 1st Jan. 1814; and several of their children. In the pavement, a grave-stone in memory of Thomas Charles Colebrooke Lillie, third son of Sir John Scott Lillie, Knt. who died 8th May, 1831, at the early age of one year and nine months. Here are also several memorials for the family of Amherst, of Bay Hall, in this parish.

Pembury Church is dedicated to St. Peter.

132

HUNDRED OF BRENCHLEY AND HORSMONDEN.

Court Lodge, in the Parish of Lamberhurst, the seat of William Alexander Morland, Esq. a Magistrate for the Counties of Kent and Sussex, and Deputy Lieutenant for Kent, is a handsome structure of the time of James I. but repaired and altered about 80 years ago. The situation of this house is exceedingly good, commanding a fine view over the adjoining part of Sussex, to the boundary of which county the park extends. The grounds are picturesque and well wooded. The mansion is spacious and convenient, and decorated in the interior with family portraits, by Hudson, Crank, and others.

Lamberhurst, or Lamhurst, was anciently part of the possessions of the eminent family of Crevequer, and was a limb of their Barony of Leeds. That part of the parish in which the manor was included, was held of the Crevequers, in the reign of King John, as half a knight's fee, by Nicholas de Kenith, who gave it to the Abbot and Convent of Robertsbridge, in Sussex, with whom it continued till the suppression of the Abbey, in the 31st year of Henry VIII.; after which the king granted it to Sir William Sydney, and Anne, his wife, and their heirs male. His grandson, Sir Robert Sydney, Earl of Leicester, alienated it to John Porter, Esq. who rebuilt the Court Lodge. The two grandsons of this gentleman dying without issue, the estate passed to his daughter Elizabeth, married to Sir John Hanby, of Lincolnshire, whose daughter Elizabeth carried it in marriage to John Chaplin, Esq. of the same county, and his great-granddaughter Elizabeth, in conjunction with her husband, Edward Ayscough, Esq. alienated it to William Morland, Esq. who then resided at the Court Lodge. The ancestors of the last-named gentleman were originally seated at Morland, in Westmoreland.

Lamberhurst Court Lodge is distant from Tunbridge Wells about seven miles, from Tunbridge nine miles, and from London about 39 miles.

The Vicarage, Lamberhurst, the residence of the Rev. Robert Hawkins, M.A. is a neat house, adjoining the park of the Court Lodge, and consequently situated at the same distance from the places mentioned in the preceding article.

In the neighbourhood of Lamberhurst, within the County of Kent, there was, some few years since, a large iron furnace, which, on account of its having been visited, in 1698, by the Duke of Gloucester, son of Queen Anne, in an excursion from Tunbridge Wells, received the name of the Gloucester iron furnace. Here was cast the magnificent iron balustrade that surrounds St. Paul's Church-yard, in London, the total weight of which, including the seven gates, was 200 tons and 81 pounds, and the cost £11,202. 0s. 6d.

133

Lamberhurst Church. In the chancel, on the north side, is a tablet for Letitia Charlotte Lupton, eldest daughter of Sackville Bale Lupton, Esq. of Thame, Oxfordshire, who departed this life 15th Sept. 1821, aged 39 years: a marble monument to the memory of William Dewe, Esq. of this parish, who died 22d Nov. 1725, aged 68; and others of this family: and an old one for the family of Thomas. In the south chancel, a monument for Margaret Bedingfield, daughter of Henry Bedingfield, Esq. of Suffolk, who died at Scotney, 26th July, 1761, aged 37 years; also her sister Catherine, wife of John Darell, Esq. who died at Scotney, 16th Oct. 1761, aged 25 years: another for Thomas Bridge Hussey, son of Edward Hussey, Esq. of Scotney, in this parish, who died 13th April, 1793, aged 15 years; also Elizabeth Sarah Hussey, wife of Edward Hussey, Esq. above-named, who died 25th May, 1793, aged 37. In the south aisle, a tablet for Daniel Webb, Esq. formerly of Audley Square, London, who died 7th April, 1828, aged 63. In the north aisle, a tablet to the memory of Col. Charles Morland, youngest son of the late Thomas Morland, Esq. of the Court Lodge, in this parish, Aide-de-camp to His Majesty, George IV. and Lieut. Col. of the 9th Lancers; having retained the command of that corps 16 years, he resigned in April, 1828, and died at Paris 14th June in the same year, aged 53: a handsome marble monument to the memory of Ellen Morland, wife of William Morland, Esq. of the Court Lodge, daughter of Sir Thomas Johnson, late of Liverpool, who departed this life 20th Oct. 1750, aged 50; also William Morland, Esq. who died April 9th, 1774, aged 82 years; also Thomas Morland, Esq. who died Jan. 18th, 1784, aged 50 years; and Ann, his widow, daughter and co-heiress of William Matson, Esq. of Titcup, in Lancashire, who died 30th April, 1808, aged 63: adjoining this, a tablet for Mrs. Margaret Matson, late of Sevenoaks, daughter and co-heiress of William Matson, Esq. of Titcup, who died 17th May, 1827, aged 80.

In the porch is buried one Lindridge, who was born in the year 1566. He made a stone causeway here, which still retains the name of Lindridge Causeway.

Lamberhurst Church is dedicated to St. Mary.

Rectory House, in the Parish of Horsmonden, the seat of the Rev. William Marriott Smith Marriott, M.A. a Magistrate for the County, is an ancient house, with modern additions, surrounded by extensive and well-wooded grounds. It has a picturesque appearance, and commands a beautiful view of Goudhurst, and the adjacent country. The interior is decorated with paintings by Canaletti, Schneider, and Opie; also a fine copy from Murillo, and a very curious old picture of "The Rape of the Sabines." Mr. Marriott has likewise in his possession a handsome crimson silk scent-bag of Charles II. with the royal arms and date, 1662, worked on it in gold tissue: it was brought into the family by an aunt of the late Rev. Dr. Marriott, who formerly held the office of housekeeper at Hampton Court.

This seat is distant from Tunbridge Wells about 10 miles, from Tunbridge 12 miles, and from London about 42 miles.

The Manor of Horsmonden appears to have belonged, in very early times, to the See of Canterbury. In the 42d year of the reign of Henry III. it was agreed between Archbishop Boniface, and Richard

de Clare, Earl of Gloucester, that the latter should hold this manor, on the performance of certain

134

conditions. In the beginning of the reign of Edward II. we find it in possession of the family of Rokesle, from which it passed to that of Poynings, the last of whom, Robert de Poynings, was succeeded at his death, in the 25th year of Henry VI. by his daughter Alianore, the wife of Sir Henry Percy, Lord Percy, eldest son of Henry, Earl of Northumberland, in whose descendants it continued down to Henry, Earl of Northumberland, who died without issue, anno 29th Henry VIII. having, the year preceding his decease, conveyed all his estates by deed to the king. Henry VIII. in the 36th year of his reign, granted it to Stephen Darell, Esq. whose son, George, anno 10th Elizabeth, alienated it to Richard Payne, who some time afterwards passed it to William Beswicke, Esq. of Spelmonden, in this parish. His granddaughter, Mary, settled this manor, in her life-time, on Mr. Haughton, descended from the family of that name at Haughton Tower, in Lancashire, whose eldest daughter, Anne, carried it in marriage to James Marriott, Esq. of Hampton, Middlesex, in whose descendants it has since continued.

Horsmonden Church contains memorials of the families of Grothurst, Austen, Courthop, and Campion, once proprietors of estates in this parish.

In the chancel, on the north side, a neat marble monument to the memory of the Rev. James Marriott, LL.D. twenty-four years Rector of this parish, who died July 31st, 1809, aged 65 years: adjoining it, another for Catherine, relict of the above, last representative of the family of Bosworth, of London, who departed this life 9th Jan. 1819, aged 76 years: below this, another for Mrs. Anne Hassell, who died 5th May, 1798, aged 71; also her father, the Rev. William Hassell, M.A. sixty years Rector of this parish, who died 3d March, 1785, aged 90. South side, a tablet in memory of the Rev. Henry Morland, A.M. Rector of this parish, who died 14th Aug. 1821, aged 49: two monuments for the family of Browne, and an old altar-tomb, without inscription. In the south chancel, a tablet for Anne Marriott, spinster, daughter of Hugh Marriott, Esq. formerly of Spelmonden, in this parish, and sister of the late Rev. James Marriott, LL.D. who died in London 5th Jan. 1831, in the 83d year of her age.

Horsmonden Church is dedicated to St. Margaret.

Porto Bello, in the Parish of Brenchley, the property and residence of Stephen Monckton, Esq. is a very neat house, on the approach to Brenchley from Matfield Green.

In the Church of Brenchley are the following monuments:

In the chancel, on the north side, a monument for William Courthop, Clerk, Vicar of this parish, who died 7th Dec. 1772, aged 57. North of the altar, another for John Courthop, Esq. who died 17th Sept. 1649. South of the altar, another for Elizabeth, wife of George Fane, Esq. of Tudeley, who died 6th Sept. 1566, aged 73. In the nave, against one of the pillars on the north side, is a handsome marble monument, with the half figures of a gentleman and lady, to the memory of Walter Roberts, Esq. of Glassenbury, Kent, second son of Sir Walter Roberts, Knt. and Bart. who departed this life 30th Sept. 1652, aged 37 years: another for Stephen Hooker, Esq. of Broad Oak, who died 13th Dec. 1775, aged 70. Against one of the south pillars is another monument for William Collens, Gent. who died 31st Dec. 1797, aged 54; also Hannah Maria Collens, relict of the above, who died

135

31st July, 1804, aged 57; and three of their children. In the north aisle, a handsome altar-tomb for John Hooker, Gent. of this parish, who died 18th Sept. 1717, aged 46; also Elizabeth, his wife, who died 15th Nov. 1755, aged 83 years.

Brenchley Church is dedicated to All Saints. On each side of the church-yard path, leading to the western doors, is a row of yew-trees, which have been cut into fanciful shapes.

HUNDRED OF WROTHAM.

In the Parish of Wrotham is Blacksole Field, famous for having been the scene of an encounter between Sir Robert Southwell, Sheriff of Kent, assisted by Lord Abergavenny, with about 500 gentlemen and yeomen, on the one hand, and Sir Henry Isley and his followers, on the other, partizans of Sir Thomas Wyatt, during the rebellion in the first year of the reign of Queen Mary, on which occasion the rebels were completely routed.

About a century ago a considerable number of British silver coins was found in this parish, through the circumstance of a mole casting up the earth.

The Archbishops of Canterbury had, at a very early period, a palace at Wrotham, which stood adjoining the east side of the church-yard; and here they frequently resided, till Simon Islip (who came to the See in the 23d year of the reign of Edward III.) pulled down a great part of the house, and removed the materials to Maidstone, for the purpose of completing the palace there, which his predecessor, John Ufford, had begun.

Fairlawn, in the Parish of Wrotham, the seat of Miss Yates, is an elegant mansion, situated in a fertile and picturesque park, that slopes with gentle inclination towards the south. The architecture of the house, the costly decorations of the interior, the beauty of the surrounding grounds, and the rich and finely varied scenery that it overlooks, combine to render this place one of the most agreeable residences among the many in this part of the county. The beautiful little church at Shipborne is also the property of Miss Yates.

Fairlawn anciently belonged to the family of Bavent, of whom it was afterwards held by that of Colepeper. At the end of the reign of Henry IV. it was alienated to Chowne, in whose descendants it continued till Sir George Chowne conveyed it to Sir Henry Vane the elder, Comptroller of the Household to Charles I. William Viscount Vane was the last of this family that possessed Fairlawn, who, dying without issue in 1789, bequeathed it to David Papillon, Esq. of Acrise.

136

Fairlawn stands on the east side of the Ightham road, four miles north from Tunbridge, and distant from London about 27 miles and a half.

Rectory House, Wrotham, the residence of the Rev. George Moore, M.A. a Magistrate for the County, is an elegant modern house, built by Samuel Wyatt in 1801-2. Among the interior decorations are paintings by Titian, Claude, Borgognone, Mieris, &c. The grounds are well laid out and planted.

It is situated at the foot of Wrotham Hill, (which shelters it from the bleak north wind,) distant from Maidstone about 10 miles, and from London 24 miles.

Nisell's, Wrotham, in the Parish of Wrotham, the seat of Henry Buttanshaw, Esq. is an ancient house, in the Elizabethan style, situated in the village on the south side of the High Street, from which it is screened by a lofty wall. The principal front opens on the grounds, and here there is an uninterrupted and pleasing view to the south. The interior is spacious, and elegantly fitted up.

Nisell's is distant from Maidstone about 10 miles, and from London 24 miles.

Nisell's, or Nyssell's, received its appellation from a family of that name, who in early times possessed it. In the reign of James I. it was purchased by John Rayney, Esq. of London, a descendant of Sir John de Reignie, who was proprietor of lands in Cumberland in the reign of Henry III. and in this family it continued till the three daughters of Sir John Rayney, Bart. who died in 1705, conveyed it to one Stephenson, who, about the year 1723, alienated it to Captain, afterwards Admiral Nicholas Haddock, son of Sir Richard Haddock, Comptroller of the Navy. At his death, in 1746, he was succeeded by his son, Nicholas, who, dying in 1781, was followed

by his brother, Charles Haddock, Esq. of Canterbury.

Wrotham Church is a large handsome building, dedicated to St. George; the chancel was re-paved and beautified about eighty years ago, at the expense of the Rev. Dr. John Potter, then Rector. In the interior are the following interesting monuments:

Chancel, north wall, a tablet to the memory of the Rev. Charles Tarrant, S.T.P. Dean of Peterborough, and Rector of this church, who died 22d Feb. 1791, aged 67: another for three daughters of the Rev. George Moore, Rector of this parish: another for Nicholas Haddock, Esq. eldest son of Admiral Nicholas Haddock, who died 20th July, 1781, aged 59: an old monument for Robert Rychers, Esq. who died 13th Dec. 1588, aged 76: and a monument for the family of Green. On the south wall, an old one for Dame Vere, wife of Sir John Rayney, Bart. and daughter of Sir Thomas Beaumont, of Grace Dieu, in Leicestershire, who died 7th Dec. 1697; also Dame Jane, second wife of Sir John Rayney, who died 14th Feb. 1700; and Sir John Rayney, Bart. who was born in 1660, and died in 1705; and Jane, his third wife, daughter of Sir Demetrius James, of Ightham, who

137

departed this life 27th Feb. 1714, aged 62: a neat tablet for Elizabeth Bell, of Wrotham Heath, relict of John Bell, Esq. of Harefield, Middlesex, who died 8th August, 1829, aged 79 years: another for Maria Elizabeth, daughter of James, Earl of Errol, and wife of the Rev. George Moore, Rector of this parish, who died June 3, 1804, aged 33 years. In the nave, on the south wall, a monument for Mr. John Know, of Forde, in this parish, who died 10th Feb. 1721, aged 66 years. In the south aisle, another for Nicholas Miller, Esq. of the Oxon Hoath family, A.D. 1661. In the north aisle, a monument to the memory of Helen Betenson, who died 9th Nov. 1788, aged 68 years; she gave by will the munificent donation of £10,000 to each of the following charities, viz. Emanuel Hospital, St. Luke's Hospital, and Bromley College, in addition to several smaller sums to other institutions: another for Sir Richard Betenson, Bart. brother of the last-mentioned lady, and son of Sir Edward Betenson, Bart. who died 15th June, 1786, aged 64: another for Sir Edward Betenson, Bart. grandson of Sir John Rayney, Bart. of this town, who died 24th Nov. 1762, aged 74 years; also Dame Ursula, his wife, who died 11th June, 1763, aged 67: and another for Lucretia, wife of Richard Betenson, Esq. only son of Sir Edward Betenson, Bart. and daughter of Martin Folkes, Esq. of Norfolk, President of the Royal Society.

On Oldbury Hill, in the Parish of Ightham, there are the remains of a very considerable Roman intrenchment, larger even than that at Keston. It is of an oval form, and encompasses an area of 137 acres. In the centre are two fine springs.

The Moat, in the Parish of Ightham, the residence of Mrs. Selby, is an ancient house, surrounded by a moat, that is still flowing with water. It is situated two miles and a quarter south-west from Ightham Church, on the west side of Fairlawn Park.

This manor was possessed, in the reign of Henry II. by Ivo de Haut, whose descendant, Richard Haut, having engaged with the Duke of Buckingham in favour of Henry, Earl of Richmond, was beheaded at Pontefract, anno 1 Richard III. and, consequently, his estates were confiscated. The king then granted this property to Robert Brackenbury, Lieutenant of the Tower of London, on whose death, at the battle of Bosworth Field, it was restored by Henry VII. to the heirs of Richard Haut above-named. In the reign of Henry VIII. the Moat was in possession of Sir Richard Clement, whose niece, Anne, carried it in marriage to Hugh Pakenham, Esq. who, in conjunction with Sir William Sydney, the husband of his only daughter, Anne, conveyed it, in the reign of Edward VI. to Sir John Allen, a gentleman of eminence, and a great benefactor to the City of London. His grandson, Charles Allen, Esq. sold it, at the end of Elizabeth's reign, to Sir William Selby, younger brother of Sir John Selby, of Branxton, in Northumberland, whose nephew, Sir William Selby, dying without issue, bequeathed it (for the sake of name, says Hasted) to Mr. George Selby, of London, who was Sheriff in the 24th year of Charles I. William Selby, Esq. the great-grandson of this gentleman, died in 1773, leaving the Moat to his widow, Elizabeth, who died in 1788, having

survived all her family, upon which this estate devolved on John Brown, Esq. who thereupon took the name of Selby.

Warren House, in the Parish of Ightham, the property and residence of William Taylor, Gent. is situated about half a mile south from the church, on

138

the east side of the high road to Tunbridge, from which town it is distant about six miles.

Oldbury Place, in the Parish of Ightham, the seat of Captain Thomas William Barrow, of the East India maritime service, is a neat, small, modern mansion, standing on a gentle elevation, and surrounded by pleasure-grounds and plantations. It is situated nearly three-quarters of a mile south-west from the church, distant from Tunbridge about six miles, from Maidstone 11 miles and a half, and from London 26 miles.

Rectory House, in the Parish of Ightham, the residence of the Rev. Samuel Wyatt Cobb, a Magistrate for the County, is situated a very short distance south-east from the church. The country immediately around is very pleasant and diversified. The distance from Maidstone is rather more than 11 miles, from Tunbridge about six miles, and from London 25 miles and a half.

Ightham Court, in the Parish of Ightham, the seat of Demetrius G. James, Esq. a Magistrate and Deputy Lieutenant for the County, is an ancient structure, of very interesting and imposing appearance. Here are paintings by Hogarth and Sir Peter Lely; the subject of one by the latter is Ann Wyndham, daughter of Sir Thomas Wyndham, Bart.; also several family portraits by Flemish masters.

Ightham Court is distant from Tunbridge seven miles north, from Maidstone 11 miles westward, and from London about 25 miles.

Ightham, in the reign of Henry III. was held by Hamo de Crevequer, who was succeeded, at his death, anno 1262, by Robert, his grandson, whose son, William, dying without issue, this estate passed to Nicholas de Criol, son of Bertram de Criol, who married Elene, one of the daughters of Hamo de Crevequer, above-mentioned. A descendant of Nicholas de Criol alienated Ightham to William de Inge, at whose death, in the 15th year of the reign of Edward II. it was inherited by Ivo la Zouch, the son of William, Lord Zouch, of Harringworth, who had married his daughter, Joane. In this family it remained till the reign of Henry VII. when it passed to Sir Robert Read, Serjeant at Law, Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, who was succeeded here, at his decease, by Sir Thomas Willoughby, the husband of Bridget, his eldest daughter. Their son, Robert, alienated this manor to William James, Esq. by whose posterity it has since been successively inherited. William James, Esq. was third son of Roger James, Esq. of London, who came into England at the end of the reign of Henry VIII. and who was descended from Jacob Van Hastrecht, of Cleve, near Utrecht. He was at first called, according to the Dutch custom, Roger Jacobs, which surname of Jacobs was finally changed for that of James.

St. Clere, in the Parish of Ightham, the seat of the late Colonel Eveleyn, is an elegant, spacious mansion, pleasantly situated in the bosom of the range of hills that runs from Otford to Wrotham. It is distant from Tunbridge about

139

eight miles, and from London about 24 miles. The present proprietor of this estate is in his minority.

St. Clere, or, as it was more anciently called, West Aldham, was possessed, in early times, by a family named Aldham. Sir Thomas de Aldham dying, in the reign of Edward II. without male issue, was succeeded in this manor by his daughter, Isolda, and her husband, John St. Clere, whose descendants were proprietors of it till the beginning of the reign of Henry VII. when it was alienated

to Henry Lovel, from whom it passed to his daughters, Agnes, who married John Empson, cousin to Sir Richard Empson, the grand projector, and Elizabeth, married to Anthony Windsor. John Empson conveyed his moiety, anno 8 Henry VIII. to Sir Thomas Bulleyn, afterwards created Earl of Wiltshire and Ormond, the father of Lady Anne Bulleyn: and Anthony Windsor, in the 10th year of the same reign, sold his moiety to Richard Farmer, who the same year purchased of Sir Thomas Bulleyn the other part. In the 28th year of that reign, Richard Farmer conveyed the whole to George Multon, Esq. of Hadlow, whose grandson, Robert Multon, Esq. alienated it, in the reign of Charles I. to Sir John Sidley, or Sedley, Knt. and Bart. a younger branch of the Sedleys of Southfleet and Aylesford, of whose posterity it was purchased by William Eveleyn, fifth son of George Eveleyn, Esq. of Nutfield, in Surrey, who was Sheriff of this county in 1723. His son, William Glanvill Eveleyn, Esq. was succeeded by his daughter, Frances, married to Alexander Hume, Esq. of Hendley, in Surrey, brother to Sir Abraham Hume, who, in 1797, received the royal license to take the name of Eveleyn.

Ightham Church. In the chancel, on the north side, under an arch, is a tomb of free-stone, on which is an ancient full-length figure, of excellent workmanship, of a knight in armour, his head resting on two cushions, and a lion at his feet, supposed to be for Sir Thomas Cawne, originally from Staffordshire, who married Lora, daughter and heir of Sir Thomas Morant. On the south side is a handsome marble monument, with the bust of a female, in an oval niche, for Dame Dorothy Selby, relict of Sir William Selby, Knt. who died March 15th, 1641, aged 69 years: another very handsome one, with two male figures, of full proportion, in armour, to the memory of Sir William Selby, of the Moat, in this parish; and others of this family: a neat one for the Rev. George Bythesea, M.A. Rector and Patron of this church, who died 14th Dec. 1800, aged 36: a tablet for Catherine Bythesea, wife of the above, who departed this life 1st Dec. 1807; also George Kemp Bythesea, their only child, who died 6th June, 1800, in the 9th year of his age; and Cecilia, daughter of Catherine, and wife of Lieut. Charles Brome, R. N. who died 30th Nov. 1826. North of the altar, a tablet for the Rev. Thomas Cobb, M.A. Rector of this church, who died 26th Nov. 1817, aged 44 years. Nave, north wall, a very neat monument for Richard James, Esq. of Ightham Court Lodge, Col. of the West Kent Regiment of Militia. South aisle, an old monument for Sir John Howell, Knt, Sergeant at Law, sometime Recorder of London; and Dame Elizabeth, his wife: he died in 1682, aged 77; she in 1683, aged 75.

Ightham Church is dedicated to St. Peter.

140

HUNDRED OF LITTLEFIELD.

Oxon Hoath, in the Parish of West Peckham, the seat of Sir William R. P. Geary, Bart. a Magistrate and Deputy Lieutenant for the County, is a large edifice, situated in a well-wooded park, and commanding extensive prospects over the southern part of the county.

Oxon Hoath is distant from Maidstone about 10 miles, and from London 30 miles.

The Manor of Oxon Hoath, alias Toxenhoath, was formerly part of the possessions of a branch of the family of Colepeper. Sir Richard Colepeper, who died in the 2d year of the reign of Richard III. was succeeded in this estate by William Cotton, Esq. third son of Sir Thomas Cotton, of Landwade, in Cambridgeshire, who had married his daughter, Margaret, whose son, Sir Thomas Cotton, alienated it to John Chowne, Gent. of Fairlawn, and his great-grandson, Sir George Chowne, of Fairlawn, passed it away to Nicholas Miller, Esq. of Horsnells Crouch, in Wrotham. In this family it continued till Sir Borlase Miller, Bart. died without issue, in 1714; after which it came by survivorship to his sister, Elizabeth, married to Leonard Bartholomew, Esq. of Rochester, whose grandson, Leonard Bartholomew, Esq. dying without issue, in 1757, bequeathed Oxon Hoath to the second son, then unborn, of Francis Geary, Esq. of Polesden, in Surrey, (afterwards raised to the rank of Admiral of the Royal Navy, and created a Baronet, Aug. 10th, 1782,) who had married his half sister, Mary, from which second son the present proprietor is lineally descended.

Hamptons, in the Parish of West Peckham, the seat of Maximilian Dudley

Digges Dalison, Esq. a Magistrate and Deputy Lieutenant for the County, and Major in the West Kent Militia, is an elegant modern structure, erected in 1820, of pale brick, with beautifully modelled freestone facings. The portico to the principal entrance is built entirely of stone, and is supported by four Ionic columns. The conservatory, shubberies, and plantations add their respective beauties to the general effect of this delightful place. Among the decorations in the interior are the following paintings: a Magdalen, by A. Caracci; Christ restoring Sight to the Blind, by Leonardo da Vinci; Shipping, by Powell; a Landscape, by Ruysdael; Shipping, by Backhuysen; Col. W. Dalison, by Sir Joshua Reynolds; and other family portraits.

Hamptons commands extensive prospects over the southern part of the county. It is distant from Tunbridge nearly five miles, from Maidstone about nine miles, and from London 30 miles.

This seat, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, was in possession of John Stanley, Gent. of the family of Stanley, of Wilmington, in Lancashire, which were direct descendants of William de Stanley, Lord

141

Stanley and Stourton, anno 10 Richard II. John Stanley was succeeded here, in 1616, by his eldest son, Thomas Stanley, Esq. who died in 1668, leaving an only daughter, Frances, married to Maximilian Dalyson, Esq. of Halling, who in her right became entitled to this property, and in his posterity it has ever since remained.

The family of Dalison is of great antiquity, and of eminent note, several members of it having, in times of disaffection, particularly distinguished themselves by their zealous loyalty. The first ancestor on record is William D'Alanzon, who came to England with William the Conqueror, and whose direct descendant, in the eighth generation, was of Laughton, in Lincolnshire, and first wrote himself Dalyson. Their original residence in this county, was at the Bishop's Palace, Halling.

The Church of West Peckham contains the following interesting monuments:

In the Chancel, south side, a neat marble monument for Thomas Dalyson, Clerk, second son of Thomas Dalyson, Esq. by Isabella, his second wife, daughter of Peter Burrell, Esq. of Beckenham, who died 7th April, 1792, in the 59th year of his age: near this, another for Thomas Dalyson, Esq. son of Maximilian Dalyson, Esq. of Hamptons, who died 16th July, 1736, aged 77 years: near this, another for Maximilian Dalyson, Esq. who died 22d June, 1671, aged 38. In the nave, south wall, a tablet for Lieut. George Buttanshaw, late of the Madras Rifle Corps, son of John and Ann Buttanshaw, of this parish, who died in Gen. Munro's camp, at Hulteed, in the East Indies, 23d May, 1818, aged 22 years: another for the Rev. George Richards, B.A. late Vicar of this parish, who died 2d Feb. 1783, aged 70 years; also Elizabeth, his wife, who departed this life 6th March, 1795, aged 75. In the north aisle, a tablet for Anna, wife of Henry Buttanshaw, Esq. and daughter of the late William Francis Woodgate, Esq. of Somerhill, who died 25th June, 1829, aged 31; also their infant son, Henry, who died July 24th, 1829, aged two months: another for Judith Geary, spinster, second daughter of Admiral Sir Francis Geary, Bart. of Polesden, Surrey, who died 2d Oct. 1796, aged 46: a stone for the family of Bartholomew May, Vicar of this parish, who died 21st June, 1709, aged 59. In the north chancel there is a magnificent marble monument, having the full-length figures of a lady and gentleman reclining on cushions beneath a canopy, and between them is a death's head, laurelled, in memory of Leonard Bartholomew, Esq. only son of Philip Bartholomew, Esq. of Rochester, who died 13th Jan. 1720, aged 64; and Elizabeth, his wife, daughter of Sir Humphrey Miller, Bart. of Oxon Hoath Place, who died 2d May, 1720, aged 56: an old monument, for Sir Nicholas Miller, Knt. of Oxon Hoath, eldest son of Nicholas Miller, Esq. of Horsnails Crouch, Wrotham, who died 20th Feb. 1658, aged 66: a neat tablet, in memory of Sir William Geary, Bart. of Oxon Hoath, who died 6th Aug. 1825, aged 70: he married Henrietta, widow of Edward Dering, Esq. son of Sir Edward Dering, Bart. of Surrenden, and served in Parliament three times as Knight of the Shire for Kent. On each side of the chancel, within the altar rails, is an ancient stone altar tomb.

West Peckham Church is dedicated to St. Dunstan.

Mereworth Castle, in the Parish of Mereworth, the seat of the Baroness Le Despencer, was built in 1748, by John, the 7th Earl of Westmoreland, after a plan of Palladio, that was designed for Paolo Almerico, a noble Vicentine

142

gentleman. It is an elegant structure, situated in a beautiful and finely-wooded park, through which flows a stream that expands in front of the mansion into a large sheet of water. From the eminences in different parts of the park may be seen pleasing and extensive prospects. This house and Foot's-cray Place, the seat of Lord Bexley, are the only instances of the Palladian architecture in the county.

Mereworth Castle is distant from Maidstone, south-west, about six miles, from Hadlow four miles, and from London 30 miles.

Mereworth, at the time of taking the survey of Domesday, was in possession of Hamo de Crevequer, who came over with the Conqueror, and being made Lieutenant of the County, was often called Hamo Vicecomes. In the reign of Henry II. it was held of the Earls of Clare, as two knights' fees, by a family who took their surname from it, the last of whom, John de Mereworth, died without issue, in the 44th year of the reign of Edward III. and it then passed to his heir, John de Malmains, of Malmains, in Pluckley, who, two years afterwards, alienated it to Nicholas de Brembre, citizen and grocer, of London, son of Sir John de Brembre. In the 10th year of the reign of Richard II. Nicholas, or as he was then Sir Nicholas de Brembre, was executed for high treason, and his estates were forfeited to the Crown; soon after which the king granted this manor to John Hermensthorpe, who passed it away to Richard Fitz Alan, Earl of Arundel, Lord Treasurer of England, whose son Thomas, Earl of Arundel, died without issue, in the year 1415, when it passed to his second sister, Joane, who had married William Beauchamp, Lord Abergavenny. From this family it passed in marriage to that of Nevill; afterwards, in the 29th year of Elizabeth's reign, to that of Fane, or Vane, Earls of Westmoreland; and subsequently to that of Le Despencer.

Rectory House, Mereworth, the seat of the Hon. and Rev. Sir Francis J. Stapleton, Bart. of Grey's Court, Oxfordshire, is a handsome house, pleasantly situated on the south-west of the church. The grounds are beautifully diversified with wood and water.

The old parsonage-house stood a short distance north-east from Mereworth Castle; but as it obstructed the view from the front, it was pulled down, by virtue of a faculty, by Lord Le Despencer, and this house erected in its stead, in the year 1780.

The Rectory House is distant from the Castle nearly a mile, from Maidstone seven miles, and from London about 29 miles.

Yotes Court, in the Parish of Mereworth, the seat of the Right Hon. Viscount Torrington, is an ancient mansion, pleasantly situated on the side of a hill, commanding an extensive prospect over the Weald, and sheltered from the north-west by plantations and woods.

Yotes Court is distant from Maidstone about seven miles, from Tunbridge six miles, and from London 29 miles.

143

This place, in the reign of Henry III. was in possession of Fulco de Sharstede, who held it of the Earl of Gloucester. From this family it passed to that of Leyborne, the last of whom was Juliana de Leyborne, who, having survived her three husbands, died without issue, and without any apparent heir, upon which this, with her other immense estates, escheated to the Crown. We find it possessed, soon afterwards, by a family who implanted their name of Jeotes or Jotes upon it, from whom it passed, in the reign of Richard II. to Richard Fitzalan, Earl of Arundel, and then continued in the same descent as the manor of Mereworth till Sir George Nevill, Lord Bergavenny, who died in the

year 1491, bequeathed it to his fourth son, Sir Thomas Nevill, whose only daughter, Margaret, married to Sir Robert Southwell, Master of the Rolls, &c. entitled him to the possession of it at her father's decease, in 1642. In the following year Sir Robert alienated it to Sir Edward Walsingham, of Scadbury, with whose descendants it continued till Sir Thomas Walsingham, at the end of the reign of Charles I. conveyed Yotes Place to James Master, the son of Lady Walsingham, who was the widow of Nathaniel Master, merchant, of London. Martha, one of the daughters of this gentleman, married Lionel Daniel, Esq. of Surrey, by whom she had a son, William, who, at a subsequent period, inherited this estate by bequest, and died s. p. in 1792, having taken the name of Master; and a daughter, Elizabeth, married to George, Lord Viscount Torrington.

Mereworth Church is a neat structure, in the Grecian style, with a tall and elegant spire at the west end, and a semicircular portico, supported by Corinthian columns. It was built by John, the 7th Earl of Westmoreland, and consecrated by the Bishop of Rochester, in the year 1746. The old church stood on the site now occupied by the west wing of Mereworth Castle, and was taken down, when the mansion was rebuilt, to make way for the projected improvements. The interior is handsomely adorned with stencilled ceilings. In a chapel, at the west end of the south aisle, are the following monuments:

A very large and magnificent marble monument, having full-length figures of a lady and knight lying on a tomb; over them are two angels holding a coronet, and above is a projecting portico, supported by four marble pillars with gilt capitals, and surmounted by a tablet bearing the family arms; in front of the tomb is a small desk, on each side of which is a male figure kneeling, in memory of Mary, Baroness Despencer and Burwash, who died 28th June, 1626, aged 72; she was sole daughter and heir of Henry, Baron Abergavenny: it commemorates, also, others of this family. Under a recess lies an ancient marble figure of a knight in armour, his head resting on a helmet. Here is another antique stone monument (that has been repaired), in memory of Sir Thomas Nevell, Knight, some time one of the Most Hon. Council to Henry VIII. The window in this chapel is composed of shields of arms of the Fane family; and the window over the altar is formed also of painted glass.

Mereworth Church is dedicated to St. Lawrence.

144

HUNDRED OF TWYFORD.

Court Lodge, in the Parish of Hunton, the seat of Thomas Turner Alkin, Esq. a Magistrate and Deputy Lieutenant for the County, and High Sheriff for the present year (1838), is an ancient house, surrounded by beautiful grounds, the effect of which is greatly improved by a tasteful display of water.

Hunton Court Lodge is distant from Maidstone about five miles south-west, and from London 34 miles.

The Manor of Huntington, alias Hunton, was anciently part of the possessions of Christ Church, in Canterbury, and at a period almost immediately subsequent to the Conquest, was held of the Archbishop by the family of Lenham, whose descendant, William de Lenham, left an only daughter, Alianor, who carried it in marriage, about the beginning of the reign of Edward III. to John de Gyfford. Of his heirs it was purchased by William, second son of John de Clinton, who married Juliana de Leyborne, the Infanta of Kent, and on his decease it descended to Sir John de Clinton, Lord Clinton, the son of his eldest brother, by whose posterity it was inherited, till Edward Lord Clinton alienated it, in the reign of Henry VIII. to Sir Thomas Wyatt. His son, Sir Thomas Wyatt, being attainted for rebellion in the first year of the reign of Queen Mary, forfeited his estates to the Crown, and the Queen then granted this manor to Sir John Baker, her Attorney-General, whose descendant, Sir John Baker, Bart. of Sisinghurst, sold it, in the reign of Charles II. to Mr. Clarke, of Boughton, who bequeathed it for life to Mr. Thomas Turner, of this parish, with remainder to his own brother, of whom Mr. Turner purchased the reversion, and at his death left it to his nephew, Mr. Thomas Turner, of Hunton. This last gentleman died in 1776, leaving one son, Thomas

Turner, Esq. who succeeded to this property, and four daughters, of whom Mary married the Rev. Thomas Verrier Alkin, Vicar of Lenham.

Jennings, in the Parish of Hunton, the property of Thomas Law Hodges, Esq. M.P. for the Western Division of the County, is a handsome old house, situated in very picturesque grounds, four miles south-west from Maidstone.

Jennings is distant from the Metropolis 33 miles and a half.

Jennings, or Gennings, was formerly the property of one Snatt, of whom it was purchased by Sir Walter Roberts, Bart. of Glassenbury, who rebuilt the mansion. His only daughter, Jane, carried it in marriage to George, Duke of St. Albans, and at her death, in 1778, bequeathed it to Miss Davies, who took possession of it after the decease of the Duke, and subsequently sold it to the Dowager Lady Twysden.

Rectory House, Hunton, the residence of the Rev. R. Moore, is a good house, situated about four miles from Maidstone, and 33 miles and a half from London.

145

Hunton Church. Within the altar rails, on the north side, is a very large and handsome marble monument, having the figures of a knight in armour, and his lady, lying on a tomb, in memory of Sir Thomas Fane, of Buston, Knt. Lieut. of Dover Castle, and Dame Helen Somersett, his wife, both of whom died in 1606. On the south side, another handsome white marble monument, surmounted by a large urn, for Lady Anne Fane, wife of the Hon. Sir George Fane, of Buston, daughter of Sir Oliver Boteler, who died 5th March, 1663. In the chancel, south side, a tablet for Charles Robert, son of the Rev. Robert and Dulcibella Moore, who died 25th Oct. 1837, aged 28 years. North side, a neat one, in memory of Amelia, daughter of the Rev. Robert Moore, above-mentioned, who died 7th Jan. 1823, aged 18 years. North-east corner of the nave, a large and very handsome monument, with the half-figure of a man holding an open book, and a little angel standing on each side of him, for Thomas Fane, Esq. son and heir of Sir George Fane, Knt. only brother to Francis, Earl of Westmoreland, both of whom were the sons of Sir Thomas Fane, by Mary, his wife, Baroness Le Despencer, sole daughter and heir of Henry Lord Abergavenny: he died 5th Sept. 1692, aged 66. In the south aisle, a very neat monument for Thomas Durant Punnett, Gent. many years Deputy Recorder of Maidstone, who died 21st March, 1785, aged 41; also Jane Punnett, his widow, who died 10th July, 1810, in the 69th year of her age; and Mrs. Caroline Hodgson, sister of Mrs. Jane Punnett, who died 17th Oct. 1812, aged 65 years: and a tablet for the family of Turner. Here is also a memorial for Alderman Head, of London, and for one of the eminent family of Clinton, Lords of this Manor.

Hunton Church is dedicated to St. Mary.

Hale Place, in the Parish of East Peckham, the property and residence of Edward Monckton, Gent. is distant from Maidstone nearly eight miles in a south-west direction, and from Wrotham a similar distance south-east. From London it is about 32 miles.

Orchard House, in the Parish of East Peckham, the property and residence of Samuel Vine, Gent. is a neat modern house, situated a short distance north from Hale Place, about seven miles from Maidstone, the same from Wrotham, and 32 miles from London.

Hextle House, in the Parish of East Peckham, the residence and property of Thomas Martin, Gent. is a handsome house, built by the father of Mr. Martin in 1825, and enlarged since by himself. The grounds are very pleasant, and well laid out. The distance from Maidstone is nearly eight miles, and from London about 31 miles.

Hextle, or Hextall's Court, was formerly the residence of a family named Hextall, that was originally seated at Hextall, in Staffordshire, with a female descendant of whom it passed in marriage to William

Whetenhall, Esq. son of William Whetenhall, Citizen and Alderman of London, who resided here at the end of the reign of Henry VI. In his posterity it continued till a few years ago, when it came into possession of John, Earl of Westmoreland, and after his decease, in 1762, devolved on the Right Hon. Thomas, Lord Le Despencer.

146

Leavers, in the Parish of East Peckham, the residence and property of William Golding, Esq. is a handsome modern house, seated on the right of the road from Hadlow to Maidstone, distant from the latter town about nine miles.

Roydon Hall, in the Parish of East Peckham, the property of — Cook, Esq. of Clapham Rise, in Surrey, is an ancient Elizabethan house, in a dilapidated state, occupied at present by a bailiff.

This place was anciently called Fortune, and received the name of Roydon Hall from Thomas Roydon, a descendant of the family of Roydon, of Roydon Hall, in Suffolk, who came into this county in the reign of Henry VIII. and built the present seat. On the death of his three sons, without issue, his second daughter, Elizabeth, received this estate as part of her share of her father's property, and entitled her husband, William Twysden, Esq. of Chelmington, in this county, to the fee of it, in whose posterity it continued till within a very recent period, when it was purchased by the present proprietor.

East Peckham Church contains the following monuments:

In the chancel, north wall, a tablet for the family of Henham. South of the altar, a tablet for Elizabeth Cholmeley, daughter of Sir Hugh Cholmeley, Bart. of Whitby, Yorkshire, and Elizabeth, his wife, daughter of Sir William Twysden, Bart. who died 14th Nov. 1699. In the south chancel, a large handsome marble monument for the family of Twysden: adjoining this, another, in memory of Sir Hugh Cholmeley, of Whitby, who died 30th Nov. 1667, aged 57; also, Elizabeth, his wife, daughter of Sir William Twysden, Bart. of East Peckham, who died 17th April, 1655, aged 55; and Sir William Cholmeley, Bart. their son: a tablet for Heneage Twysden, Esq. second son of Sir William Twysden, Bart. of Roydon Hall, in this parish, formerly Lieut. Col. of the 4th Regiment of Foot, who died 11th Feb. 1826, aged 62 years.

East Peckham Church is dedicated to St. Michael.

Kenwards, in the Parish of Yalding, was for several generations, from the time of Henry VIII. the residence of the family of Kinward, or Kenward. At the death of John Kenward, Esq. in 1749, his daughter and heir, Alicia, carried this, and other estates in the neighbourhood, in marriage, to Sir John Shaw, Bart. of Eltham, a descendant of whom is, we believe, the present proprietor.

Yalding Church. In the pavement of this church there are several large broad stones, a kind of testaceous petrification, that were dug up in the lowlands in this parish. Against the south wall is a very ancient altar-tomb, much defaced, and the brass lost. In the chancel, north side, a handsome marble monument, having the figures of a man and woman kneeling at a desk, for Ambrose Ward, Esq. of this parish, who died 18th Feb. 1637; he gave £50 to the poor of the parish; also Elizabeth Ward, widow of the above, who died 21st Dec. 1679; and Bennet. their eldest daughter, who died 23d Nov. 1656. South side, another, more modern, for the same family: a tablet for Sarah, wife of the Rev. Richard Warde, A.M. Vicar of this parish, and eldest daughter of the

147

late Rev. James Ramsay, Vicar of Teston, who died 11th April, 1832, aged 68; also Anne Rebecca, their third daughter, who died 26th Oct. 1807, aged 16 years; and Henry Douglas, their fourth son, who died 24th July, 1806, aged two years. In the nave, north side, a white marble monument for Aretas Akers, Esq. late of the Island of St. Christopher, who died 15th Dec. 1816, aged 58 years;

also Leigh Douglas, third son of the above, who died 30th Dec. 1810, in the 6th year of his age. South side, a tablet for Rebecca Ramsay, widow of the Rev. James Ramsay, late Vicar of Teston, who died 19th Oct. 1804, aged 65; also Rachel Frith, widow of Thomas Frith, Esq. late of St. Vincent's, who died 24th June, 1806, aged 52, both daughters of Edmund Akers, Esq. of St. Vincent's. Against one of the pillars, a very neat marble monument, on which is represented an angel, transporting a young female to the skies, in memory of Jane Charlotte Akers, eldest child of Aretas and Jane Akers, of London, who died Nov. 7th, 1804, at the age of 8 years and 10 months: a stone for Robert Penhurst, descended from Sir Robert Penhurst, of Penhurst, in Sussex, who died in 1610. In the north cross aisle, an old marble monument for John Ousnam, who died in April, 1716, aged 82; also Mary Waller, who died in Oct. 1732, aged 59; and Mr. Micah Waller, who died in Oct. 1745, in the 84th year of his age. In the north aisle, a monument for the family of Kenward, of this parish. And in the south aisle, south wall, a tablet for the family of Underwood.

On the cover of the font is a neat model of a portico, from which rises a spire.

About a century ago, there existed at Watringbury a singular custom of unknown origin.

A log of wood, about three feet in length, with an iron ring at the top, a square iron spike, four inches and a half long, fixed in the bottom, and four rings at the sides, and dignified with the appellation of the dumb horsholder of Chart, (a manor in this parish,) was always the first called at the Court Leet for the Hundred of Twyford; and its keeper, when answering for it, held it up by a handkerchief put through the ring at the top. This keeper was elected annually, and with the title of the Borsholder's Deputy, claimed liberty over 15 houses in the Precinct of Pizein Well, in Watringbury, and to him every one of these householders was obliged to pay yearly one penny. The powers of this wooden officer appear to have been very extraordinary. The iron spike, above alluded to, was used in the act of breaking open doors; and it seems that the deputy, with this in his hand, might, without the authority of a Justice's warrant, force an entrance into any house within his jurisdiction, where it was suspected stolen goods were concealed.

The last person who officiated as deputy, was Thomas Clampard, a black-smith.

Watringbury Place, in the Parish of Watringbury, the seat of Matthew Prime Lucas, Esq. Alderman of the City of London, is a fine stately house, with beautiful grounds, situated in a rich district of the county, on the north of

148

the high road from Mereworth to Teston, five miles from Maidstone, and eight from Tunbridge. It was built in the year 1707 by Sir Thomas Style. The interior is ornamented with some good paintings.

Watringbury Place is distant from London about 30 miles.

Watringbury, at the time of the survey of Domesday, was in possession of Bishop Odo. It was afterwards held by a family, who from it assumed the surname of Otringeberge, or Watringbury, from whom it passed to that of Leyborne; and at the death of Juliana de Leyborne, the Infanta of Kent, in the 41st year of the reign of Edward III. it escheated, through failure of heirs, to the Crown. In the 50th year of the same reign, the King granted this manor for the endowment of his newly-founded Cistercian Abbey, called St. Mary Graces, near the Tower of London, with which it remained till the dissolution of the Abbey, in the 30th year of the reign of Henry VIII. Six years afterwards, the King gave it to Giles Bridges, citizen and baker, of London, who immediately passed it to Sir Robert Southwell, of Mereworth, and he alienated it to Sir Edward North, Chancellor of the Court of Augmentation, of whom, anno 6 Edward VI. it was purchased by Sir Martin Bowes. This gentleman soon alienated it to Sir John Baker, of Sisinghurst, whose great-grandson, John Baker, Esq. in the 17th year of Elizabeth's reign, conveyed it to Nevill de la Hay; and his son, George de la Hay, passed it to Mr. Wilkinson, of Lenham. From this family it came into possession of Oliver Style, Esq. second son of Sir Humphry Style, of Langley, in Beckenham, who died at

Wateringbury Place, in 1622, in whose posterity it continued until a few years past.

Wateringbury Lodge, in the Parish of Wateringbury, the residence and property of James Woodbridge, Esq. is a neat modern house, standing on the south side of the high road from Mereworth to Teston, about five miles from Maidstone, and 30 miles from London.

Wateringbury Church is an ancient Gothic structure, with a high spire, dedicated to St. John the Baptist. It contains the following monuments:

In the chancel, north side, a large and very handsome marble monument, consisting of an altar-tomb beneath an arch, on which lie the figures of a man in robes and a female; an angel stands on one side holding a coronet, on the other is a skeleton, and in front below, kneeling face to face, are the figures of a man and woman; it was erected 1st Sept. 1628, by Sir Thomas Style, in memory of his parents: near it, a tablet for Mrs. Charlotte Style, second daughter of Sir Thomas Style, Bart. who died 12th Nov. 1787, aged 66. South of the altar, a monument for Sir Charles Style, Bart. who died 24th April, 1774, aged 50 years; he married the Hon. Isabella Wingfield, daughter of Richard, Viscount Powerscourt: below, a tablet for Mrs. Elizabeth Style, eldest daughter of Sir Thomas Style, Bart. who died 3d of October, 1795, aged 79. South wall, a tablet for the Rev. Robert Style, third son of Sir Thomas Style, Bart. who died 6th June, 1800, in the 73d year of his age; also Priscilla, his widow, who died 18th June, 1832, aged 85: another for Thomas Style, Capt. R. N. fourth son of the last-mentioned gentleman, who died 28th May, 1820, aged 32. North wall, a tablet for Lieut. Gen. William Style, Col. of the Third Regiment of Foot, fourth son of Sir Thomas Style, Bart. who died 12th March, 1786, aged 57: another for Sir Thomas Style, Bart. Ensign in the First Regiment of Foot Guards, eldest son of Sir Charles Style, Bart. who died at Irun, in France, 5th Nov.

149

1813, aged 19 years: and another to the memory of Sir Charles Style, Bart. who died 5th Sept. 1804, aged 32.

In the south part of the church-yard there is a handsome tomb in memory of Sir Oliver Style, Bart. who died in 1702.

Smith's Hall, in the Parish of West Farleigh, the seat of Sir Henry Fitz Herbert, Bart. is an elegant ancient mansion, situated about three-quarters of a mile south from Teston.

Smith's Hall is distant from Maidstone about four miles, and from London 31 miles.

This seat, in the reign of Henry VI. came into possession of the family of Brewer, of Brewer's Place, in Mereworth, with whom it continued till Jane, the daughter of John Brewer, Esq. who died in 1724, bequeathed it at her decease, in 1762, to her relative, John Davis, D.D. Rector of Hamsey, in Sussex, and Prebendary of Canterbury, and his son, Sir John Davis, Knt. sold it, in 1774, to William Perrin, Esq.

Court Lodge, in the Parish of West Farleigh, the seat of — Jackson, Esq. stands on the south bank of the Medway, east of the church, surrounded by agreeable pleasure-grounds. It is distant from Maidstone about three miles south west.

The Manor of West Farleigh was given by William the Conqueror to his half brother, Odo, Bishop of Baieux, but he, falling into disgrace in the year 1084, lost all his possessions by confiscation, and this place was then granted to Robert, son of Hamo de Crevequer, whose descendant, Robert de Crevequer, taking part with the rebellious barons, forfeited his estates to the Crown. From this time West Farleigh was held by the Sovereigns of England successively, till Edward I. gave it to Eleanor, his Queen, who, in the 18th year of this reign, exchanged it with the Priory of Christchurch, in Canterbury, for the Port of Sandwich. At the dissolution of the priory, anno 31 Henry VIII. it was granted to Sir Thomas Wyatt, whose son, of the same name, having rebelled against Queen Mary, in the 1st year of her reign, was attainted, and his estates consequently were confiscated. In the

following year the Queen conferred it on Sir John Baker, her Attorney General, whose descendant, Sir John Baker, Bart. of Sisinghurst, alienated it shortly after the death of Charles I. to Mr. Robert Newton, grocer, of London, who conveyed it to Augustine Hodges, Gent. and of him, in the reign of Charles II. it was purchased by John Amhurst, Esq. of East Farleigh Court, who by will, in 1711, bequeathed it to his brother, Nicholas Amhurst, Gent. of West Barming, and in the posterity of this gentleman it continued many years.

West Farleigh Church. In the chancel, south wall, a tablet in memory of the Rev. Francis Taynton, M.A. 15 years Vicar of this parish, and Rector of Trottescliffe, who died 2d Nov. 1794, aged 63 years; also Ann, widow of the above, who died 5th March, 1810, in the 65th year of her age. North wall, a very old monument for Ed. Lawrence, Esq.: and a monument for the Skynner family. East end of nave, south side, a handsome marble monument for Edward Goulston, Esq. of Tutsham Hall, in this parish, who died 2d Sept. 1720, aged 54; also Anne Goulston, relict of

150

the above, who died 2d Oct. 1724, aged 53. North side, a marble monument for Jane Brewer, first wife of Thomas Brewer, Esq. of this parish, who died in 1676; also Thomas Brewer, Esq. who died in 1690, aged 67: a tablet for William Philp Perrin, Esq. of West Farleigh, who died 29th April, 1820, aged 78. North wall, a monument for Jane Brewer, wife of John Brewer, Esq. of this parish, who died 1st Feb. 1716, aged 55: a tablet in memory of Martha Maria Beresford, relict of the Rev. William Beresford, M.A. Rector of Sunning, in Berkshire, who departed this life July 6th, 1833, aged 88. South wall, a monument for John Davis, A.M. who died in 1776, aged 82: a tablet for Elizabeth Kirby, wife of Lieut. Matthew Kirby, R. N. who died March 6th, 1748, aged 29; also the above-named Matthew Kirby, who died 5th Oct. 1781, in the 66th year of his age.

West Farleigh Church is dedicated to All Saints.

The Vicarage, Teston, the residence of the Hon. and Rev. Francis J. Noel, Rector of Nettlested, is situated near Barham Court, on the west.

It is distant from Maidstone four miles, and from London about 30 miles.

Barham Court, in the Parish of Teston, the seat of the Rt. Hon. Lord Barham, is an elegant mansion, consisting of a body and two wings: at the north and east fronts are two porticoes, each supported by 10 Ionic columns. It stands on elevated ground, in a picturesque and well-wooded park, that skirts the high road from Maidstone to Tunbridge on the north. The interior is spacious, and embellished with some rare specimens of art.

Barham Court is distant from Maidstone three miles and a half, from Tunbridge about 10 miles, and from London 30 miles.

Barham, or Berham Court, was formerly the residence of the family of Berham, whose more ancient name was Fitz Urse. Randal Fitz Urse was one of the four knights who murdered Thomas à Becket: immediately after the commission of the crime he fled to Ireland, and changed his name to Mac Mahon, which bears the same signification as Fitz Urse, i.e. the son of a bear. Upon this his relative, Robert de Berham, took possession of the estates in Teston, with whose descendants they continued till Anne, daughter of Thomas Berham, Esq. about the beginning of the reign of James I. carried them in marriage to Sir Oliver Boteler, of Sharnbrooke, in Bedfordshire. The last of this family, Sir Philip Boteler, Bart. on his decease in 1772, without issue surviving, bequeathed one moiety of his property, both real and personal, to his cousin, Mrs. Elizabeth Bouverie, of Chart Sutton, and the other moiety to Elizabeth, Dowager Viscountess Folkestone, and William Bouverie, Earl of Radnor; to the former of whom, on a partition, the seat of Barham Court was allotted.

Teston Church is dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul.

In the chancel, against the south wall, there is a neat tablet in memory of Harriet, third daughter of John Gambier, Esq. widow of the Rev. Lascelles Iremonger, Prebendary of Winton, sister to Admiral Lord Gambier, and niece to Lady Middleton, wife of Sir Charles Middleton, Bart. afterwards

Lord Barham, who departed this life 8th Oct. 1834, aged 70 years; her only child, Georgiana, married Sir William Abraham Chatterton, Bart. of Castle Mahon, County of Cork.

Several of the family of Boteler are also interred in this church.

151

Nettlested Church. This handsome little structure was undergoing a thorough repair at the time we visited it. The painted glass still remaining here is, perhaps, unequalled throughout the county: that in the east window is very fine, but far surpassed by the middle window in the north side of the nave, which is quite perfect, and remarkable for the beauty of the design. The painted glass on the south side of the church was all broken some few years ago by a hail-storm. The following are the principal monuments and memorials:

In the chancel, north side, a tablet for Frances, daughter of Henry Augustus and Hannah Moreland, of Dean Street, Soho, London, who died 26th Aug. 1813, aged 20 years. South side, a small monument for Richard Wood, A.M. son of Michael Wood, Esq. of Tingley House, Yorkshire, six years Curate of this parish, who died 29th Oct. 1818, aged 59. In the nave, east end of the north side, a marble monument, with the figure of a lady kneeling before a desk, for Elizabeth Stafford, daughter of Sir William Stafford, Knt. of Blatherwicke, Northamptonshire, and Dame Dorothy, his wife, daughter of Henry, Lord Stafford, eldest son of Edward, the last Duke of Buckingham; she married first Sir William Drury, of Haisted, Suffolk, and next Sir John Scott, of Nettlested; she was sorely persecuted on account of her religion, and lived in exile during the reign of Queen Mary, but was afterwards made a Lady of the Bedchamber to Queen Elizabeth, and died 5th Feb. 1598, aged 49 years. On the south side, a corresponding one for Katherine, daughter of Thomas Smith, Esq. of London, who married first Sir Rowland Hayward, and next Sir John Scott; she died a widow in the year 1616, aged 56 years.

HUNDRED OF EYHORNE.

Boughton Place, in the Parish of Boughton Monchelsea, the seat of Thomas Rider, Esq. a Magistrate and Deputy Lieutenant for the County, is an ancient Elizabethan mansion, standing in a very picturesque and commanding situation on the brow of the range of hills so conspicuous in this part of the county: but it is, nevertheless, so completely sheltered by the fine timber in the grounds, that it can only be seen at particular points. Some parts of this house are of very ancient date. The interior is spacious and elegant, and embellished with several family portraits.

Boughton Place is distant from Maidstone about four miles, and from London 40 miles.

The Manor of Boughton was given by William, after the conquest, to Odo, Bishop of Baieux. On the Bishop's disgrace it went into the hands of the Monchensie family, from whom it acquired the addition that still distinguishes this place from the other Boughtons. From these it went to the

152

Houghams, of Hougham, in this county, the last of whom, Benedicta, carried it in marriage to John de Shelving, of Shelvingbourne, which family terminated in two female heirs, one of whom, Joan, married to John Brampton, alias Detling, of Detling Court, received as her portion the greater part of this manor. Their daughter, Benedicta, carried this part in marriage to Thomas at Towne, of Towne's Place, in Throwley, whose second daughter, Benedicta, took it in marriage also to William Watton, Esq. of Addington, who, at the end of the reign of Henry VI. sold it to Reginald Peckham, Esq. the proprietor of the other part of the manor. His grandson, Thomas Peckham, Esq. left the whole at his death, anno 12 Henry VIII. to his daughter, who carried it in marriage to Harpur, and he soon alienated it to Sir Thomas Wyatt, who again, shortly after, conveyed it to Robert Rudston, Esq. son of Sir John Rudston, of London. This gentleman's second son, Belknap Rudston, Esq.

dying without issue, left it by will, in 1613, to Sir Francis Barnham, of Hollingbourne, whose great great grand-daughter, Philadelphia, carried it in marriage to Thomas Rider, Esq. a descendant from the Riders of Low Layton, in Essex, in which family it has since continued.

Wierton, in the Parish of Boughton Monchelsea, the residence of Thomas Fairfax Best, Esq. is a modern structure, erected a short distance southward from the site of the ancient mansion. It is surrounded by well-planted grounds, and stands on the same hill as Boughton Place, commanding prospects equally extensive and beautiful. The interior is embellished with portraits of the family of Scott, of Scott's Hall, and with paintings by Canaletti, Panini, Rembrandt, Vernel, Cuypp, &c. &c.

Wierton is distant from Maidstone four miles south-east, and from London 40 miles.

Wierton, or Wiarton, was formerly (in the reign of Henry III.) possessed by a family who took their name from it, one of whom alienated it, at the end of the reign of Richard II. to Robert Purse, whose grandson conveyed it to Richard Norton, and a descendant of this gentleman sold it, in the reign of James I. to Sir Anthony St. Leger, Master of the Rolls, in Ireland, third son of Sir Anthony St. Leger, of Ulcomb. He was succeeded by his only son, Sir Anthony St. Leger, whose heirs alienated this seat to Nathaniel, afterwards Sir Nathaniel Powell, Bart. of Ewhurst, in Sussex. His grandson, Sir Christopher Powell, Bart. died possessed of it in 1742, and after the decease of his widow, Wierton was sold by the trustees to John Briscoe, Gent. of London, who rebuilt the mansion, and, in 1771, conveyed it to Willshire Emmett, Esq. This gentleman, after residing here for some years, sold it to John May, Esq. of Holborough, in Snodland.

Quarry House, in the Parish of Boughton Monchelsea, the property and residence of Martin John Beresford, Gent. is a modern stone building, situated nearly three miles south from Maidstone, and distant from the Metropolis about 37 miles.

Boughton Monchelsea Church is a neat modern structure, dedicated to St. Peter. According to an inscription on a tablet in the interior, the old church was consumed by fire 30th Dec. 1832, and the present building was opened for Divine Service 18th May, 1834. Here are the following monuments:

153

In the chancel, a large and most magnificent marble monument, consisting of a tomb, on which reclines the full-length figure of a man, with a female standing on each side, in memory of Sir Christopher Powell, Bart. of Wierton, in this parish, who died 26th June, 1742, in the 53d year of his age: a monument for Barnham Powell, Esq. eldest son of Sir Nathaniel Powell, Knt. and Bart. of this parish, who died 16th Oct. 1695, aged 33; also Sir Nathaniel Powell, Bart. eldest son of the above, who died 24th April, 1709, aged 22 years; and James, second son of Barnham Powell, Esq. who died 28th Nov. 1708, aged 19 years: a marble monument for Richard Savage, Esq. who died 11th Jan, 1772, aged 52; also Margaret Savage, relict of the above, who died Dec. 10th, 1780, aged 55. In the nave, a tablet for John Braddick, Esq. of Boughton Mount, who died 14th April, 1828, aged 63 years. North aisle, a tablet for Harriot, wife of Richard Cotton, Esq. of Leeds, in Yorkshire, and daughter of Ingram Rider, Esq. of Boughton Place, who died 4th July, 1795, aged 34; also John Arthur Rider, son of the above Ingram Rider, Esq. who died 17th July, 1795, aged 22 years; also Charles, his brother, who died at Jamaica, 19th Sept. 1795, aged 20 years; also the before-mentioned Ingram Rider, Esq. son of William Rider, Esq. formerly of Burston, in this county, who died 5th Oct. 1805, aged 73; and Margaret, wife of J. Rider, Esq. daughter of Ralph Carr, Esq. of Cocken, Durham, who died 11th June, 1815, in the 79th year of her age: another, above which are two beautiful busts of a lady and gentleman, for Elizabeth Barnham, who died 28th Sept. 1631; also Sir Francis Barnham, who died 12th Sept. 1646. In the north chancel, an old monument for Anne Rudston, daughter of Sir Edward Wotton: and a very curious one, for Belknap Rudston, Esq. who died 27th May, 1613, aged 64 years.

Langley Church is dedicated to St. Mary.

In the chancel, on the north side, is a marble monument for Mrs. Anne Waterhouse, granddaughter of Archbishop Lamplugh, who died 2d March, 1744, aged 46 years; also for Jane, relict of the Rev. Benjamin Waterhouse, Vicar of Westwell, who died 24th Dec. 1794, aged 77. On the south side is a corresponding one, with Greek and Latin inscriptions, to the memory of "My beloved Anna," without date or surname; it also commemorates the Rev. Benjamin Waterhouse, Vicar of Hollingbourne and Westwell.

East Sutton Place, in the Parish of East Sutton, the seat of Sir Edmund Filmer, Bart. a Magistrate for the County, and one of the Members of Parliament for the Western Division, is a noble Elizabethan structure, finely situated, on the range of hills mentioned previously, in the article on Wierton, and having a magnificent prospect southward. The park is well timbered, and stocked with deer; and at a considerable descent south of the mansion is a large sheet of water. The present Baronet is making extensive additions to the house, and has already improved the old part with much taste, and at no small expense: the antique carvings in the hall have been renewed, and a corresponding ceiling, modelled after one at Little Charleton, has been put up: on the inlaid screen is the date 1570. Here are several family portraits, by Cornelius Janssen, &c.

East Sutton Place is distant from Maidstone rather more than six miles south-east, and from London about 42 miles.

154

East Sutton, at the time of the survey of Domesday, was the property of Bishop Odo. In the reign of Henry III. it was held of Simon de Montfort by John de Salario; and later in this reign, by Geoffry de Martel. In the beginning of the reign of Edward II. it was in possession of Aymer de Valence, Earl of Pembroke, upon whose death it was allotted to his eldest sister, Isabel, married to John de Hastings, of Bergavenny; and with their descendants, Earls of Pembroke, it remained till the time of Henry IV. when, on failure of issue, it passed to Reginald, Lord Grey, of Ruthyn, the next heir. This nobleman having been taken prisoner in Wales by Owen Glendower, Henry IV. granted a licence for the sale of this and other estates, to raise sufficient money for his ransom; and East Sutton manor was accordingly purchased by Richard Brigge, Lancaster King at Arms, who alienated it, in the third year of the reign of Henry V. to Thomas Buttiler and Thomas Bank. It afterwards passed into the family of Darrell, and in the first year of the reign of Henry VIII. to John York, Esq. of Ramsbury, in Wiltshire, who, five years afterwards, conveyed it to Richard Chetham, Prior of Leeds Priory. In the 20th year of the same reign it was in possession of Sir Henry Guldeford, K.G. Comptroller of the King's Household; of whose heirs, four years afterwards, it was purchased by Richard Hill, Esq. who, at the expiration of five years, alienated it to Thomas, Lord Cromwell. Lord Cromwell soon exchanged it with the Crown for other lands; and the King, in his 37th year, granted it to John Tufton and Stephen Reaves, who, the same year, alienated it to Thomas Argall, Esq. He was succeeded by his son, Richard Argall, Esq. whose son, John Argall, Esq. of Colchester, sold it, in the eighth year of the reign of James I. to Sir Edward Filmer, of Little Charleton, in this parish, who had married his sister Elizabeth, from which gentleman the present proprietor is lineally descended.

Little Charleton, in the Parish of East Sutton, the property of Sir Edmund Filmer, Bart. is an old Elizabethan house, situated less than a mile eastward from East Sutton Place. This is the relic of a fine mansion, it having been formerly the residence of the Filmers, who removed from it when Sir Edward purchased the manor house, as we have noticed in the preceding article.

The family of Filmer, anciently Filmour, were seated at the manor of Herst, in Otterden, as early as the reign of Edward II. which they left in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, when Robert Filmer, Esq. one of the Prothonotaries of the Common Pleas, bought this estate of Little Charleton.

East Sutton Church. The grave-stones and memorials for the Filmers form a complete history of the family from the time of their coming to reside in

the parish: the stone within the altar rails, over Sir Edward Filmer, who died in 1629, is covered with a sheet of copper, on which are beautifully engraved the portraits of himself, his wife, and his numerous issue, with their names and coats of arms. The following are the most remarkable monuments:

Within the altar rails, north side, a handsome marble monument, for Sir John Filmer, Bart. who died 22d Feb. 1797, aged 81 years; adjoining this, a tablet for Lady Dorothy, widow of the above Sir John Filmer, Bart. daughter of the Rev. Julius Deedes, Prebendary of Canterbury, who died

155

5th July, 1818, aged 82 years 6 months. South side, a very neat marble tablet, surmounted by an urn, for Edmund Filmer, Esq. Captain in the 4th Regiment, fourth son of the Rev. Sir Edmund Filmer, Bart. who died at Bath, 30th March, 1810, aged 45. South chancel, a marble monument for Francis Filmer, Esq. of Lincoln's Inn, who died 30th Dec. 1807, aged 78 years: a tablet for Robert Filmer, Esq. of London, fifth son of the Rev. Sir Edmund Filmer, Bart. who died 1st June, 1824, in the 56th year of his age; and Anne his wife, died 17th Nov. 1826, aged 58 years: a handsome marble monument, with figures of a man and his wife kneeling at a desk, for Margaret Randolphe, wife of Edmund Randolphe, Esq. second daughter of Richard Argall, Esq. who died 20th Sept. 1609, aged 38: near this, another monument for Richard Argall, Esq. of this place, who died in 1588; also his widow, married to Lawrence Washeington, Esq. who died in 1605; and his son, Thomas, who died in 1605: a handsome marble monument, in memory of Dorothea, wife of Beversham Filmer, Esq. second daughter of William Henley, Esq. of Gore Court, who died 14th Oct. 1793, aged 67; also her husband, Sir Beversham Filmer, Bart. who died 29th Dec. 1805, aged 87. In the nave, an elegant white marble bust, in memory of Sir Edward Filmer, Bart. who died in 1755. Between the north and the high chancel is an old monument for Robert Filmer, Esq. a Prothonotary to Queen Elizabeth for 20 years, who died 31st Aug. 1585, aged 60 years. At the west end of the south aisle is a superb marble monument, by Ternouth, of Pimlico, having the figures of Faith, Hope, and Charity, beautifully designed, in memory of the Rev. Sir John Filmer, Bart. of East Sutton, who died 15th July, 1834, in the 74th year of his age; also Dame Charlotte, wife of the above, who died 31st July, 1818, aged 58 years.

East Sutton Church is dedicated to St. Peter and St Paul.

Town Sutton, alias Sutton Valence, obtained the latter distinction from having been at one time in possession of the family of Valence, Earls of Pembroke. The situation of this place is exceedingly pleasant, being on the summit of a range of hills, from which there is a very extensive prospect southward.

A short distance eastward from the village, adjoining the parsonage yard, are the remains of Sutton Castle, which was built, Hasted conjectures, by one of the family of Valence, and must have been originally, judging from the present state of the walls, a place of great strength.

Kilburne imagines that the sea flowed up the valley at the foot of these hills; and an anchor was found, many years ago, a little below the Castle.

The Church of Sutton Valence is a modern structure, dedicated to St. Mary.

In the north aisle is a tablet, commemorating the munificence of the Rev. Sir John Filmer, Bart. of East Sutton Park, and the Rev. W. Filmer, Rector of Heyford Purcell, in Oxfordshire, who contributed, the former £1200, and the latter £525, towards rebuilding this church, in 1827. It contains the following memorials: – In the chancel, a tablet to the memory of Stephen Wilkins, of this parish, who died 17th March, 1826, aged 54 years. In the south aisle, another for Mrs. Priscilla Crispe, of this parish, who died 23d Sept. 1823, aged 69: and another for Harriet, wife of William Kingsley, Esq. of Sittingbourne, who died 16th Oct. 1823, aged 64; also the Rev. Joseph Hardy, father of the

156

above Mrs. Kingsley, who died 5th Aug. 1786, aged 63; and William Kingsley, Esq. before men-

tioned, who died 30th June, 1827, in the 67th year of his age.

Chart Sutton, or more properly, Chart by Sutton, deserves notice, as having possessed, at the time of the survey of Domesday, three arpendes of vineyard. That these were plantations of the vine, and not orchards of apples and pears, is decided by the word Arpend, the measure used exclusively for vineyards in France, whence we obtained our vines, and obviously borrowed the term. And that there were vineyards in this county in early times is further proved beyond doubt, by the fact that Hamo, Bishop of Rochester, in the 19th year of the reign of Edward II. sent that Monarch, at Bokinfold, a present of wine and grapes, the produce of a vineyard at his episcopal palace at Halling, near Rochester.

Chart Sutton Church is a modern building, dedicated to St. Michael. The old church was twice set on fire by lightning; and the last time, 23d April, 1779, was totally destroyed. On the south wall there is a marble monument, to the memory of the Rev. Francis Robins, who died 10th Sept. 1720, in the 55th year of his age.

Chilstone Park, in the Parish of Boughton Malherb, the seat of James Douglas Stoddart Douglas, Esq. a Magistrate for the County, and Lieutenant in the Royal Navy, is a handsome substantial mansion, situated in a small but beautiful park, well wooded, and stocked with deer. The interior of the house is spacious and elegant. In the hall are three beautiful groups of sculpture; one by Woiff; a Shepherd and Dog; and two Nymphs, by Skiddaw, one tying her sandal, and the other spinning with a distaff. There are also the following paintings; a Magdalen, by Cignani; a Sybilla Persica; Cecilia; Holy Family, by Raphael Mengs; and a Sea Piece by Snayers. In front of the mansion is a fine sheet of water.

Chilstone Park is 10 miles south-east from Maidstone, and about 45 miles from London.

Chilstone, anciently Childeston, in the reign of Henry I. was owned by William Fitz Hamon, after which it passed to the family of Hoese, or Hussey, with whom it remained till Henry Hussey, anno 31 Henry VIII. sold it to John Parkhurst, Esq. His descendant, Sir William Parkhurst, alienated this manor to Mr. Richard Northwood, of Dane Court, in Thanet, whose eldest son, Alexander Northwood, or Norwood, of St. Stephen's, Canterbury, sold it, after the death of Charles I. to Cleggat, of whom it was purchased by Mr. Manley, of London, who soon after alienated it to Edward Hales, Esq. grandson of Sir Edward Hales, Bart. and his three daughters, in 1698, conveyed Chilstone to the Hon. Elizabeth Hamilton, eldest daughter of John, Lord Colepeper, and widow of James Hamilton, Esq. the eldest son of Sir George Hamilton, of Tyrone. This lady was succeeded

157

here by her second son, William Hamilton, Esq. whose eldest son, John Hamilton, Esq. sold it to Thomas Best, Esq. eldest son of Mawdistley Best, Esq. of Boxley, who rebuilt the house, and considerably improved the grounds. At his death, in 1795, without issue, he bequeathed this estate to his nephew, George, the youngest son of his brother, James Best, Esq. of Boxley and Chatham.

Boughton Malherb Church. Here are several monuments for the eminent and noble family of Wotton, once proprietors of the Manor of Boughton.

One of them, the most handsome, is a large pyramid of black marble, supported by three lions couchant, on a deep base, to the memory of Henry, Lord Stanhope, son and heir of Philip, Earl of Chesterfield, who died in 1635; also his widow, Catherine, Countess of Chesterfield, daughter and co-heir of Thomas, Lord Wotton; also her third husband, Daniel O'Neal, Esq.; and several of her children. In the chancel, on the south side, are two marble monuments for the family of Best, of Chilstone Park: and another elegant one to the memory of George Douglas, Esq. of Chilstone Park. In the south chancel, on the pavement, are two ancient figures, of Bethersden marble; one, a man in armour, lying cross-legged, with his shield and sword, the other a female: here is likewise

a tablet for the Rev. Robert Foote, A.M. Rector of this place, Prebendary of Rochester, Treasurer of Bangor, &c. who died 21st Oct. 1804, in the 47th year of his age; also Anne Foote, relict of the above, who died 19th Oct. 1818, aged 67 years.

LENHAM, or LEANHAM, (i. e. the town of the Len, or Aqua Lena, the spring at Streetwell, at the eastern extremity of the town,) stands on the old Roman way, which ran from Dover through the middle of Kent.

This place has been pointed out by Camden, Lambarde, Gale, and other eminent antiquaries, as the Roman station, Durolevum, which name they say is a corruption of Durolenum, the latter word signifying, in the British language, the water Lenum.

There seems no other foundation for this conjecture than the fancied similarity of the two names, there never having been found here any Roman antiquities that could be adduced in support of it.

Vicarage, Lenham, the residence of the Rev. Charles Parkin, M.A. is situated near the church, on the right of the high road to Charing, from which town it is distant rather more than three miles. To Ashford it is nearly nine miles, to Maidstone 10 miles, and to London 45 miles.

Swadelands, in the Parish of Lenham, the residence and property of George Harrisson, Gent. is a neat modern house, pleasantly situated on the right of the road entering Lenham from Maidstone, distant from the former about half a mile, and from the latter rather more than nine miles.

Lenham Church is a large handsome building, dedicated to St. Mary. At the west end of the high chancel are sixteen stalls, which were formerly appro-

158

priated to the monks of St. Augustine's, when they visited their estate in this parish; and on the south side is a stone confessional chair.

In this church are memorials for the families of Codd, Brockwell, Marshall, Baldock, Dixon, Thomson, Dering, and Perry; of this last was James Perry, Gent. once Principal of Staples Inn, anno 1577; and Anne his wife, daughter of Thomas Turner, of Sutton Valence, anno 1593: another to the memory of the Hon. John Hamilton, 1714. In the nave, south wall, a tablet for Tassell Read, Esq. of Gravesend, obt. Nov. 27, 1792, æt. 75: near it a marble monument for Richard Read, Gent. who died 15th May, 1725, aged 53 years; also Martha his wife, daughter of James and Frances Tassell, of Norton, who died April 17th, 1758, in the 78th year of her age; and Richard Read, of Gravesend, eldest son of the above Richard Read, who died 25th Feb. 1779, aged 63 years. Chancel, south of the altar, a marble monument for certain members of the family of Colepeper: north of the altar, another for Henry Thomson, obt. 1648, æt. 78; and Dorothy, his wife, obt. 1649, æt. 77. In a recess in the wall is a very ancient figure, in long robes, lying at full length. At the east end of the north aisle is a tomb of Bethersden marble, which Hasted conjectures is for Thomas Home, Esq. of East Lenham, whose will is dated 1471.

Several of the families of Honywood, and Hales of Boughton Malherb, are also buried here.

Otterden Place, in the Parish of Otterden, the seat of Mrs. Wheler, proprietress also of Ledstone Hall, in the County of York, is a fine edifice, of imposing appearance, built about the end of the reign of Henry VIII. and in the style of its architecture bears so striking a resemblance to St. James's Palace, that it is thought to have been erected by the same architect. The south front is modern, erected by the late Granville Hastings Wheler, Esq. in correspondence with the old part of the house. The interior is spacious and elegant.

The Library contains a valuable collection of books, and is embellished with portraits of Charles II. by Sir Peter Lely; the Rev. Sir George Wheler, Knt. D.D.; the Rev. Granville Wheler; and Dr. Sharpe, son of Dr. Sharpe, Archbishop of York.

In the Dining Room are portraits of Lady Elizabeth Hastings, of Ledstone Hall, Yorkshire;

Lady Anne Hastings; Anne Curteis, wife of Thomas, son of Sir George Wheler, in a riding dress, a spirited portrait, by Sir Godfrey Kneller; Sir William Wheler, Bart. supposed by Vandyck; Frances, Countess of Huntingdon; the Duke and Duchess of Richmond and Lennox, whole length, by Sir Peter Lely.

In the Drawing Room, those of King Charles I. and Queen Henrietta Maria, by Vandyck; Dechair, by Sir Godfrey Kneller; Mary Tattersall, mother of Mrs. Wheler, by Humphry; George Errington and Elizabeth Ward, brother and sister of Mrs. Wheler, by Romney.

In the Gallery, Lady Catherine Maria Hastings, wife of the Rev. Granville Wheler; George Wheler, Esq. and his Lady, Sibylla Christiana; Grace, wife of Sir George Wheler; Bridget, Lady Higgons; Lady Moyle, by Sir Peter Lely; two of King Charles's Beauties; two well painted portraits, of the time of Elizabeth or James I. entitled, Lord Hervey and Lady, &c. &c.

Otterden Place is surrounded by a pleasant park, and commands a good

159

prospect of the Thames, the Isle of Sheppey, and the intermediate country. It is distant from Faversham about seven miles south-west, from Lenham four miles, from Charing the same, and from London 49 miles.

Otterden, or Ottringden, was one of the almost innumerable manors that William the Conqueror bestowed on his half brother Odo. After the bishop's disgrace, it came into the possession of a family that took their surname from it: with the daughter and heir of Sir Lawrence de Ottringden it went in marriage, in the reign of Edward II. to one Peyforer, from whom it passed to Potyn, and Juliana, the daughter of Nicholas Potyn, carried it in marriage, in the time of Richard II. to Thomas St. Leger, second son of Ralph St. Leger, of Ulcombe. Juliana St. Leger, on her decease, anno 5 Henry V. being then a widow, was succeeded by her daughter Joane, the wife of Henry Aucher, Esq. of Losenham, in Newenden, whose descendant, John Aucher, Esq. left an only daughter, Joane, who married Sir Humphry Gilbert, in the reign of Elizabeth, and entitled him to this manor and seat. He, in the same reign, passed it to William Lewin, LL.D. Judge of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, Chancellor of Rochester, &c. &c. whose grand-daughter, Elizabeth, carried it in marriage to Richard Rogers, Esq. of Brianston, in Somersetshire, and his daughter, Elizabeth, in like manner took it in marriage, first, to Charles Cavendish, Lord Mansfield, eldest son of William Cavendish, Duke of Newcastle, and, secondly, to Charles Stuart, Duke of Richmond and Lennox, of whom, in 1661, it was purchased by George, afterwards Sir George Curteis. This gentleman was succeeded here, at his decease, in 1702, by his only son, George Curteis, Esq. who died in 1710, and his daughter, Anne, afterwards took it in marriage to Thomas Wheler, Esq. eldest son of Sir George Wheler, D.D. Prebendary of Durham, with whose descendants, most of them gentlemen eminent for their scientific acquirements, it has since continued.

Rectory, Otterden, the residence of the Rev. George Dynely Goodyar, is a modern building, in the Elizabethan style, a very short distance west from Otterden Place. Its appearance is handsome, and the situation very pleasant. The interior is tastefully fitted up, and adorned with paintings.

Otterden Church is a neat modern structure of brick, situated in Otterden Park, not a hundred yards distant from the house. It was built in 1753-4, by the Rev. Granville Wheler, patron of the living, with the sum of £400 (which, with interest, had accumulated to nearly £500) that was left for the purpose by his relative, Lady Elizabeth Hastings, sister of George, Earl of Huntingdon, who died in 1739, and £500 added by Mr. Wheler himself. It contains the following; interesting monuments:

In a recess, on the north side, are two handsome old monuments, for the families of Lewin and Curteis: and on the south side, another for Mr. Simon Bunce and his wife. North of the altar, a tablet for the Rev. John Cecil Tattersall, B.A. who died Dec. 8th, 1812, aged 24 years. On the south side of the west entrance, a white marble monument in memory of the Rev. Granville Wheler, son of the Rev. Sir George Wheler, of Charing, who died May 12th, 1770, aged 69 years; he married Lady Catherine Maria, daughter of Theophilus, seventh Earl of Huntingdon, by whom he had two sons,

Theophilus and Granville, and four daughters, Elizabeth Anne, Frances, Silena Margaretta, and Catherine Maria: Lady Catherine Wheler, died January 24th, 1740, in the 43d year of her age; also for Mary, second wife of the Rev. Granville Wheler, who died Aug. 1st, 1763: adjoining this, a tablet for Granville Charles, only son of Granville Hastings Wheler and Jane, his wife, born Sept. 28th, 1810, died Feb. 28th, 1818. North of the west entrance, a white marble monument for Granville Hastings Wheler, Esq. of Otterden Place, and Ledstone Hall, Yorkshire, who departed this life Feb. 3d, 1827, aged 46 years.

Otterden Church is dedicated to St. Lawrence.

Stede Hill, in the Parish of Harrietsham, the seat of William Baldwin, Esq. stands on the summit of the hill from which it derives its name, and which is one of a chain running south-east and north-west from Charing to Woldham. It is a handsome modern mansion, surrounded by very picturesque grounds, and overlooking a magnificent prospect southward. The distance from Lenham is about two miles and a half, from Maidstone nine miles, and from London 43 miles.

Harrietsham, immediately after the battle of Hastings, was given to Odo, Earl of Kent. On his being disgraced, it went to the family of Crescie, or Cressi, and in the reign of Henry III. it appears, fell into the hands of the Crown; for this king, in his 48th year, granted it to his niece, Isabel, the illegitimate daughter of Richard, Earl of Cornwall, a younger son of King John, then the wife of Maurice, Lord Berkely, who, having forfeited his possessions by joining the rebellious barons, left his wife, the above-named Isabel, in great poverty. Soon after this the manor seems to have been divided, and that part which still retained the title of the Manor of Harrietsham, came to the family of Northwood, of Northwood, in Milton, with whom it continued till a sister of John Northwood, Esq. who died in the 4th year of the reign of Henry V. carried one moiety of this part, after her brother's death, in marriage to Sir John Norton, of this county. From him it passed to the name of Peckham, of whom Reginald Peckham, Esq. of Yaldham, conveyed it, in the 15th year of Henry VIII. to Edward Scott, Esq. who soon after transmitted it to John Hales, Esq. of the Dungeon, Canterbury, one of the Barons of the Exchequer, of whose descendant, William Hales, Esq. it was purchased, anno 4 Elizabeth, by Sir Warham St. Leger, of Ulcombe, Chief Governor of the Province of Munster, in Ireland, and he, in the 21st year of the same reign, alienated it to William Stede, Esq. who had before purchased of Laurence Ashburnham, Esq. the other moiety of the manor of Harrietsham. By this family it was possessed for many years, till Edwyn Stede, Esq. who had inherited it on his father's death, in 1735, sold it to William Horsmonden Turner, Esq. of Maidstone, son of Anthony Horsmonden, of Maidstone, who died without issue in 1753, leaving it to his widow, and at her decease, in 1782, it came, by the limitation of Mr. Turner's will, to Charles, afterwards Sir Charles Booth, of the Temple, London. This gentleman died in 1795, leaving no issue surviving, upon which it devolved, by the further entail in Mr. Turner's will, on William Baldwin, Esq.

Harrietsham Church. In the south chancel is a handsome marble pyramidal monument, in memory of Charlotte, wife of William Baldwin, Esq. of Stede Hill, who died April 1st, 1788, aged 26 years; also Charles Booth, son of William and Frances Baldwin, who died 20th Jan.

1794, aged 6 months. In the chancel, a tablet for Catherine Delicia, wife of Robert Walters, Esq. of London, barrister at law, who died 14th May, 1832, aged 40 years; also three of their children: another for the Rev. James Robinson Hayward, A.M. 39 years Rector of this parish, who died 6th Oct. 1812, aged 74 years; also Anne Hayward, mother of the above, who died 31st March, 1780. Here are likewise several memorials for the family of Stede.

Harrietsham Church is dedicated to St. John the Baptist.

Wrinsted Court, in the Parish of Frinsted, the seat of Mrs. Cooke, is a handsome house, modernised in 1810 by the late William Cooke, Esq. It stands on the hills, on the south side of the valley through which runs the high road from Ospringe to Hollingbourne, and commands a beautiful view of the Nore and the Isle of Sheppey. It is distant from Faversham about nine miles and a half south-west, and from London, via Sittingbourne, about 47 miles.

The manor of Frinsted, after the disgrace of Bishop Odo, to whom it had been given by William I. came into the possession of Jeffry de Peverel, and, together with other lands, formed the Barony of Peverel, which was assigned to him for the defence of Dover Castle. In the reign of Henry III. it was held by Nicholas de Gerund, after him by the family of Crombwell, and again, in the reign of Edward III. by that of Gerund. Maud, daughter of Richard le Gerund, carried it in marriage to Sir Henry de Chalfhant, of whose descendants it was purchased by Robert le Hadde, and with his posterity it continued till Arnold Hadde, Esq. in the 25th year of Elizabeth's reign, alienated it to Edward and George Hills, who sold it to Edward Jackman, Esq. of Hornchurch, in Essex, and he, in the 6th year of the reign of James I. passed it to Oliver Style, Esq. of Watlington, who died in 1622. Upon the death of Sir Thomas Style, Bart. in 1702, this manor and seat were allotted to Margaret, his only daughter by his second wife, of whom, in 1716, they were purchased by Mr. Abraham Tilghman, whose grand-daughter, Elizabeth, carried it to her husband, the Rev. Pierrepont Crompe, of Newnham, Gloucestershire, who, dying in 1797, was succeeded in this property by his son, Robert Thomas Crompe, Esq.

Frinsted Church. In the north, or Yokes Court Chancel, (which is in a most ruinous state,) in an arched recess in the north wall, is a very old tomb: here are also memorials for the Thatchers and the Bings, proprietors of Yokes Court. In the high chancel, south side, a tablet for William Cooke, Esq. of Wrinsted Court, in this parish, K.C. who died 14th Sept. 1832, in the 75th year of his age. In the south aisle, a monument for Abraham Tilghman, Esq. who died in 1729. And in the church-yard there is an altar-tomb over a vault, in which lie A. Tilghman, Esq. who died in 1779; and Olivia, his wife; also the Rev. Mr. Crompe; and Henrietta Maria, his daughter.

Frinsted Church is dedicated to St. Dunstan.

Hollingbourne House, in the Parish of Hollingbourne, the seat of Baldwin Duppa Duppa, Esq. a Magistrate and Deputy Lieutenant for the County, is a handsome modern structure of brick, with stone facings. It is

162

beautifully situated on the summit of Hollingbourne Hill, and commands most extensive and magnificent prospects to the south, south-east, and south-west.

Hollingbourne House is one mile north from Hollingbourne, six miles and a half east from Maidstone, and about 42 miles from London.

This estate was formerly called Eyotts, and, in 1609, was in possession of Sir Martin Barnham. He was succeeded by his eldest son, Sir Francis Barnham, who parted with it to Gabriel Levesey, Esq. whose son and heir, Sir Michael Levesey, in 1623, conveyed it to Sir John Hayward, second son of Sir Rowland Hayward, Alderman of London, and twice Lord Mayor, who, in 1632, disposed of it to Cheney Culpeper, Esq. of Greenway Court, and he, in 1652, passed it away to Henry Pelham, Esq. This gentleman, by will, in 1658, bequeathed it to his nephew, George Pelham, Esq. who dying without issue, in 1686, this seat and estate, by virtue of his will, as well as by an entail in that of his uncle, devolved on his brother, Charles Pelham, Esq. who, by will, in 1688, left it to his son, Charles, then an infant, with injunctions to sell it when he came of age, and it was accordingly purchased, in 1705, by Baldwin Duppa, Esq. a descendant from the same ancestors as Brian Duppa, Bishop of Winchester, who died in 1662, and Sir Thomas Duppa, Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod to Charles II. His son, Baldwin Duppa, Esq. rebuilt the house in 1717, and dying unmarried, in 1764, bequeathed it to the Rev. Richard Hancorn, (whose grandmother was eldest sister to the first-mentioned Mr. Duppa,) enjoining him to take the name and arms of Duppa. Mr. Hancorn afterwards quitted the clerical profession, and dying without issue, in 1789, was succeeded here by his

brother, Baldwin Hancorn, Esq. who also then assumed the name of Duppa.

Manor House, in the Parish of Hollingbourne, the residence of Batch. Roper, Gent. is a fine specimen of a building in the Elizabethan style, which cannot fail to attract the attention of the antiquary. It is situated at the foot of Hollingbourne Hill, distant from Maidstone about five miles and a half, and from London 41 miles.

Vicarage, Hollingbourne, the residence of the Rev. Edward Hasted, Vicar, a Magistrate for the County, is a modern house, pleasantly situated close to the north side of the church. The interior is adorned with several family portraits, among which is one of Edward Hasted, Esq. the Kentish historian, father of the gentleman now resident here.

The Vicarage is distant from Maidstone five miles and a half, and from London about 41 miles.

Oakfield, in the Parish of Hollingbourne, the property and residence of Henry Salmon, Esq. is agreeably situated on the north side of the park belonging to Leeds Castle, and on the north side of the high road from Maidstone to Lenham, distant from the former town five miles, and from London about 40 miles.

Eythorne House, in the Parish of Hollingbourne, the property and

163

residence of Richard Thomas, Esq. is an elegant building, situated on the left of the high road from Maidstone to Lenham, four miles and a half from the former, five miles and a half from the latter, and about 39 miles and a half from London.

Hollingbourne Church is a large handsome building, dedicated to All Saints. Belonging to this church is a superb altar-cloth, with a pulpit-cloth and cushion of purple velvet, embroidered with pomegranates and grapes, wrought in gold, by the daughters of Sir John Colepeper, Lord Colepeper, who thus occupied themselves nearly 12 years, during which time their father was absent abroad with Charles II. These valuable relics are kept by the Vicar, and used only on extraordinary occasions.

In the chancel are some beautiful monuments for the family of Culpeper, of Greenway Court; and two for the Lords Culpeper, Barons of Thorsway, one of which is by Rysbrack. On the south side, a monument for Sir Martin Barnham, and his two wives, having their figures kneeling at a desk, and underneath are their children, anno 1610. On the north side, another very noble one, with a lady kneeling, and two figures about to crown her with wreaths, in memory of Dame Grace Gethin, wife of Sir Richard Gethin, Bart. of Gethinge-Groff, in Ireland, daughter of Sir George Norton, Bart. of Abbots Leigh, in Somersetshire, and great-granddaughter of Sir Thomas Culpeper, Knt. of this place; she died 11th Oct. 1697, in the 21st year of her age. In the north aisle are two marble monuments for the family of Duppa; and in the centre of a chapel, at the east end of the aisle, is a white marble tomb, on which lies the full-length figure of a lady, exquisitely carved, in memory of Elizabeth, Lady of Sir Thomas Culpeper, daughter of John Cheney, Esq. of Sussex, obt. 1638. In the south aisle, a tablet for Joseph Oliver, of Maidstone, who died March 16th, 1818, aged 50 years; also Sarah, his wife, who died 31st Aug. 1833, in the 62d year of her age: another for Robert Salmon, Midshipman, R. N. who died near Ceylon, in Feb. 1782, aged 18 years; also Thomas, his youngest brother, Captain of the 7th Royal Fusileers, who died at Belim, near Lisbon, 1st Feb. 1811, aged 41 years. At the west end of the church are memorials for the families of Plummer, Collins, Dyke, and Sedgwick.

Leeds Castle, in the Parish of Broomfield, the seat of Fiennes Wykeham Martin, Esq. Magistrate for the County, and High Sheriff in 1823-4, is a noble pile of building, in the castellated style, surrounded by a broad moat, and seated in a picturesque park. The original fortress, says Kilburne, was raised by Ledan, or Ledian, a Saxon Chief, and principal Counsellor to Ethelbert II.

and from him was called *Ledani Castrum*, which, in course of time, became contracted to Leeds. This structure was demolished by the Danes, and rebuilt in the reign of William II. by Robert de Crevecœur, or Crevequer, son of Hamon de Crevequer, who received a grant of this estate from William I. after the disgrace of Bishop Odo. It was strengthened, and considerable additions were made to it, in the reign of Henry III. and again, in that of Edward II. by Bartholomew, Lord Badlesmere, who, having joined the discontented Barons,

164

the castle was taken by the royal army, under the Earls Pembroke and Richmond, after a siege that caused the ruin of the place. It consequently became the property of the Crown, and in the reign of Edward III. the building was completely restored by William of Wykeham, who was constituted chief Warden and Surveyor of the castle, with power to provide every thing necessary for the reinstatement of it. Subsequently, in the time of Henry VIII. great alterations were made at Leeds Castle, at the King's expense, by Sir Henry Guildford, Constable of the place; again, in the reign of James I. by Sir Richard Smyth, fourth son of Thomas Smyth, Esq. commonly called Customer Smyth, of Westenhanger; and very recently, about 1822, it has been extensively repaired, and, in part, re-edified, by the present proprietor.

The greater part of this structure is in the style of Henry VII, but there are many remains of the time of Henry III. and Edward II. A good summary of its history will be found in Neale's Views, but the catalogue of paintings there requires correction. A short and accurate sketch is also given in the Walk in the Environs of Maidstone, by Mr. Lempriere. Among the costly decorations and curiosities in the interior of this magnificent mansion, the following deserve particular notice: the doublet, shoes, and richly-worked waistcoat of the Parliamentary General, Fairfax; a bust, a painting by Walker, and a miniature, in enamel, of the same; half-length portraits of Villiers, Duke of Buckingham, who was stabbed by Felton; of his son, who married Mary, the daughter of the Parliamentary General, Fairfax, and of Mary, Duchess of Buckingham herself; two miniatures of the same Duke and Duchess; miniature of Captain William Fairfax; small oil paintings of Isabella, Empress of Charles V. and of Philip, Duke of Burgundy, son of John, King of France, taken by the Black Prince at the Battle of Poitiers; of Lord and Lady Culpeper, by Hanneman; Ferdinando, Lord Fairfax, father of the General; Thomas the fifth, Robert the seventh Lord Fairfax; Catherine Lady Fairfax; George I.; the Prince and Princess of Hesse; Richard Fiennes, last Viscount Say and Sele, (great uncle of Mr. Wykeham Martin;) William Humphry Wykeham, Esq. who married the heiress of the Viscounts Wenman, who are now represented by his grand-daughter, Baroness Wenman, and his brother, the Rev. Richard Wykeham, the father of Mr. W. Martin; an unique portrait of Anthony Collins, Esq. the father of the Hon. Mrs. Fairfax, first wife of the seventh Lord; Sir Edmond Cary and his sister, Mrs. Brian Fairfax; Brigadier General Fairfax, Governor of Limerick; some good modern portraits by Reinagle and Sir W. Beechey; a casket, once the property of Queen Anne Boleyn; the looking-glasses, toilet-cushions, and

165

richly worked bed-quilt used by King George III. and Queen Charlotte, when they dined and slept at Leeds Castle, after reviewing the troops on Coxheath, on Tuesday, Nov. 3d, 1779. The handsome carved oak chimney-piece in the great dining-room is supposed to have been constructed by the Smiths, ancestors of the present Viscount Strangford; some curious old fire-dogs, of the date of Henry VIII. are supposed to have belonged to that monarch; a curious frame of panelling, containing 12 heads, elaborately carved, which now forms part of the chimney-piece in the smaller dining-room, was executed by Michael Fox, an

ancestor of Mr. Wykeham Martin's mother, (née Mary Fox,) who purchased Chacombe Priory, Mr. W. Martin's seat, in Northamptonshire, of Henry VIII. on the dissolution of religious houses.

The family of Martin possess this property in right of their descent from Frances, sister of Thomas, Lord Fairfax, (who died unmarried in 1782,) which lady married Denny Martin, Esq. of Loose. The noble family of Fairfax acquired it by the marriage of Thomas, the fifth Lord Fairfax, of Cameron, in Scotland, with Catherine, sole daughter and heir of Thomas, Lord Colepeper, and Margaret his wife, daughter of Signior Jean de Hesse, a noble German, whose ancestor, Sir Thomas Culpeper, of Hollingbourne, purchased it, about 1633, of the sisters of Sir John Smith.

Leeds Castle is distant from Maidstone five miles and three-quarters, and from London about 40 miles.

The Priory at Leeds, commonly called Leeds Abbey, of which nothing now remains, was founded in the year 1119, by Robert de Crevequer, with the assistance of his son Adam, for Black Canons Regular of the Order of St. Augustine, and dedicated to St. Mary and St. Nicholas. It was dissolved in the 31st year of the reign of Henry VIII. when its possessions and revenues were found to amount to £362. 7s. 7d. The church of this priory is said to have been exceedingly beautiful, equal to many of our cathedrals, and contained a celebrated figure of the Virgin Mary, by the side of the altar of St. Catherine.

Leeds Church is dedicated to St. Nicholas.

In the north chancel, which has belonged time out of mind to the proprietors of the abbey, are buried many of the Meredith family, for one of whom there is a very fine monument, richly embellished with arms; viz. Jane, daughter of Sir Thomas Palmer, widow of Sir William Meredith, Bart. of Stansty, in Denbighshire, (the first purchaser of the Leeds Abbey estate,) who married, secondly, John, Earl of Carbery; she died in 1643. In the south chancel there is a handsome monument to the memory of Sir Roger Meredith, Bart.: and a tablet commemorating the founding of Leeds Abbey, that was brought hither when the abbey was taken down in 1790.

166

Chrishmell, in the Parish of Bearsted, the residence of the Rev. St. Leger Baldwin, is situated three miles east from Maidstone, on the left of the high road from thence to Lenham.

Milgate, in the Parish of Bearsted, the residence of Sir John Croft, Bart. of Cowling Hall, Yorkshire, and of Newnham and Dodington, in the County of Kent, K.C.T. & S. D.C.L. F.R.S. F.R.A.S. Ulys. Arm. Bal. and a Deputy Lieutenant for the County, is an elegant mansion, situated in picturesque and well-wooded grounds, distant from Maidstone about three miles eastward, and from London 38 miles.

This seat was anciently possessed by the family of Coloigne, which in later times was called Coluney. In the beginning of the reign of Henry VII. it had become the property of the Stonehouses, from whom it passed, in the commencement of Elizabeth's reign, to Thomas, afterwards Sir Thomas Fludd, Knt. son of John Fludd, Esq. of Morton, in Shropshire, whose son, Thomas Fludd, Esq. alienated it, in 1624, to William Cage, Esq. of Lincoln's Inn, and Farringdon, Hampshire, Barrister at Law, whose descendants retained it till within a few years past.

Bearsted House, in the Parish of Bearsted, the seat of Charles Wayth, Esq. a Major in the Army by brevet, is situated two miles and a half east from Maidstone, and 37 miles from London.

Snowfield, in the Parish of Bearsted, the seat of James Jacobson, Esq, a Magistrate and Deputy Lieutenant for the County, is a handsome modern structure, standing on elevated ground on the west of Bearsted Green, and commanding a good view eastward.

It is distant from Maidstone about two miles and a half, and from London

37 miles.

Bearsted Church. In the Milgate chancel are monuments for the Cage family. In the high chancel, south side, an old marble monument, in a very dilapidated state, having the half-length figure of a man with an open book before him, for Robert Fludd, M.D. who died 8th Sept. 1637, in the 63d year of his age: a memorial for William Godfrey, jun. anno 1690: and for Elizabeth, daughter of Henry Bosville, Esq. of Bradburne, Justice and Clerk of the Court of Wards, married first to Edward Mabb, Gent. of this parish, and secondly to William Godfrey, of Bersted, yeoman; obt. 1614. In the porch is a small monument for Stephen Mason, of Boxley, citizen and vintner, of London, obt. 1560; and Margaret, his wife, obt. 24th Dec. 1552.

Bearsted Church is dedicated to the Holy Cross.

Gore Court, in the Parish of Otham, the seat of the Rev. William Horne, M.A. Patron of the Rectory of Otham, and a Magistrate for the County, (but not acting,) is a very interesting modernised building, part, doubtless, being of

167

great antiquity. The interior is ornamented with ancient and modern paintings. In the hall is a curiously carved chimney-piece, supposed to be of the time of Henry II.

Gore Court is distant from Maidstone about three miles south-east, and from London 38 miles.

This seat, together with lands here called Colyns, (very probably from Richard Colyn, owner of the Manor of Otham in the reign of Edward III.) was once considered part of Otham Manor, and was held by the same proprietors till Sir Henry Isley, in the time of Henry VIII. alienated this estate to Thomas Astrey, who, anno 3 Edward VI. conveyed it by deed and fine to Walter Hendley, Esq. and Thomas Hendley, his son, the latter of whom, the following year, sold it to Ralph Buffkin, Esq. whose descendants, in the reign of James I. alienated it to Mr. Nathaniel Powel, of Ewehurst, in Sussex, and he shortly after conveyed it to Thomas Fludd, Esq. descended from David Fludd, or de Fluctibus, of Salop. Of this family it was purchased, about the year 1712, by Bowyer Hendley, Esq. of Otham, whose youngest daughter, Anne, married the Rev. Samuel Horne, Rector of this parish.

Otham Church contains several memorials for the family of Hendley, of this parish, among which is a good monument, on the north wall of the chancel, for William Hendley, Esq. who died June 2d, 1762, aged 74; and Dorothea, his wife, who died 20th March, 1785, aged 79 years: and another for John Hendley, Esq. who died 30th April, 1676, aged 59. Here is also a monument for Lewin Buffkin, Esq. of Gore Court: and a memorial for John Elys, or Ellis, of Stoneacre, in this parish, who died in 1467.

Otham Church is dedicated to St. Nicholas.

THORNHAM. At the south-eastern point of this parish, adjoining Bearsted Green, is the residence of Bedingfield Wise, Esq. It is distant from Thornham Church about one mile south, and from Maidstone two miles and a half east.

Here is also the residence and property of Thomas Hills, Gent.

About half a mile northward from the church, on the brow of the great chalk hill, stood Thornham Castle, or, as it was formerly called, Godard's Castle, which, says Darell, in his treatise "De Castellis Cantii" was founded by one Godardus, a Saxon. Hasted conjectures that it was first erected by the Romans, and was one of their speculative stations or watch-towers, several Roman urns and other remains having been found about the site of it.

Thornham Church. Here are monuments for the family of Sheldon, of Aldington. Sir Henry Cutt, of Binbury, in this parish, who died without issue in 1603, was buried in the chancel,

erected to his memory by Lady Barbara, his widow; she afterwards married William Covert, Esq. of Boxley, and dying in 1618, was likewise interred here.

Thornham Church is dedicated to St. Mary.

168

Ulcombe Place, in the Parish of Ulcombe, is beautifully situated close to the village, on the top of the quarry hills, commanding extensive prospects.

It is distant from Maidstone about nine miles south-east.

Ulcombe was given by one of the Saxon kings to the Priory of Christchurch, in Canterbury. In the reign of the Conqueror it was held of the Archbishop, by knight's service, by Sir Robert de St. Leger, who came from Normandy with William, and having, in the battle of Hastings, overcome a Pagan Dane who resided at Ulcombe, he took possession of this manor. His posterity continued proprietors of it till Sir William St. Leger, some years prior to his death, which happened in 1642, alienated it to Henry Clerke, Esq. Sergeant at Law, Recorder of Rochester, whose descendants inherited it till Sarah, sister and heir of Gilbert Clarke, Esq. carried it to her husband, Job Hart Price, Esq. of Aldershot, in Hampshire, who, in 1787, took the name and arms of Clarke.

Ulcombe Church. Here are interred many of the eminent family of St. Leger, who were for several years proprietors of the manor; and there are some elegant monuments erected to their memory. Many of the family of Clarke are also buried in this church, the last of whom resident at Ulcombe Place was Gilbert Clarke, Esq. 1725. In the high chancel there is a marble monument to the memory of the Rev. Stringer Belcher, A.M. Rector of this parish, who died 11th Dec. 1739; and Sarah, his wife.

In the church-yard we noticed a remarkably large yew.

Ulcombe Church is dedicated to All Saints.

Stockbury Church is a very ancient building: the pillars, at the north side, are of Bethersden marble.

In the north, or Nettlested chancel, lies the eminent antiquary, John Thorpe, M.D. of Rochester, who died in 1750; and his lady. Dr. Thorpe was, at the time of his death, possessed of the estate of Nettlested, in this parish; and, in the reign of Edward IV. this property was owned by the ancestors of Dr. R. Plot, the great naturalist.

Stockbury Church is dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen.

THE HUNDRED OF WEST, ALIAS LITTLE BARNFIELD,

Is hardly more than a nominal hundred, including only the south-east part of the Parish of Goudhurst, but having neither the village nor church within its bounds.

169

HUNDRED OF MAIDSTONE.

MAIDSTONE, the county town, is very pleasantly situated on the Medway, in a fertile valley, where orchards, hop-grounds, and meadows are thickly interspersed with gentlemen's seats. The old Saxon name was Medwegeston, the town upon the Medwege, as the river seems to have been called from its running across the middle of the county. The position of Maidstone, in the heart of Kent, and on a navigable river falling into the Thames, renders it a place of great traffic. It is well built, cheerful, and flourishing; particularly in repute for its hop-market. Few relics of any very remote times have been discovered

here; and the opinion of Camden, that this place is the Vagniacæ of Antoninus, is by later authors generally rejected.

The buildings at Maidstone most interesting for their antiquity, are the Church of All Saints, the old Archiepiscopal Palace, and the remains of the College, founded by Archbishop Courtenay, in the reign of Richard II. for Secular Priests. The Church, which was greatly enlarged by the same munificent prelate, exceeds in size most of the parish churches in the kingdom. The tower is a low one; the spire which it once supported having been destroyed by lightning about a century ago. The body of the edifice appears very remarkable, both for length and breadth. It stands between the palace and the college, at the south-west corner of the town, on an angle of the Medway; the west end facing the open valley. The several Gothic structures about it, some of them in ruins, and some converted into dwelling-houses, barns, and breweries, give the church-yard an air both venerable and melancholy. The Palace, which belonged to the See of Canterbury from the time of King John till Cranmer exchanged it with Henry VIII. is now in the occupation of two private families. It fronts the burial-ground on the side next the town. The remains of the College are parallel to the opposite or south side of the church; the precinct walls extending considerably beyond it. That portion which is next the church and river displays a high embattled wall and projecting turrets, more castle-like than monastic. This end is now appropriated as a farm-house and yard; the entrance to which is through a tower-gate-way, that shows at the opposite extremity an isolated arch and some antiquated buildings, picturesquely shadowed by a group of large trees. The other end of the college is more ornamentally fitted up as a dwelling-house of antique appearance, the present residence of the relict of the

170

late Dr. Day. This part is commonly, though it seems incorrectly, called the Priory. We read of a priory at Maidstone, which is supposed to have been a convent of Franciscans, or Grey Friars, founded by Edward III. and afterwards transferred to Walsingham, in Norfolk; but no traces appear to be left of it, and the site is uncertain.

The interior of the church is spacious, and kept with much neatness; but its effect to the eye is greatly injured by the low sloping galleries which extend from each side, almost to the centre of the building. In the middle of the chancel is a tombstone, believed to have been placed there in memory of Archbishop Courtenay, (whose remains, however, were probably interred at Canterbury.) It is now laid level with the pavement, and bears no name, but has evidently been at one time inlaid with brass, representing a bishop in his robes and mitre. This prelate made the Church of Maidstone collegiate for the use of his Seculars; the oaken stalls, formerly occupied by his college, are still in good preservation in the chancel, and among their carved ornaments the Archbishop's crest is frequently repeated. Within the inclosure of the altar there is a numerous cluster of monuments to the noble families of Ashley and Marsham. Of these families, the latter, who are represented by the present Earl of Romney, have now possession of the estates once held by the Ashleys, and are the principal proprietors about Maidstone; but the name of their predecessors is most prevalent on the great monuments that attract the visitor's notice in the church.

One of these, which is inscribed to the memory of Sir John Astley, Knt. (obt. 26 Jan. 1639), Master of the Revels, &c. to James and Charles I. is very magnificent. It forms a kind of obelisk, placed against the wall, close to the altar, and is divided into two main stories, in each of which are a male and a female figure, having the tablets between them that contain the epitaphs. Below stands a large marble table, embossed, with the arms of the deceased, in high relief. At the back of the screen, to which three of these memorials are attached, there is an ancient and nameless tomb, that has been once ornamented with brasses; and within the niche in which it stands there are still some interesting remains of paintings in fresco. It is supposed to have belonged to one of the

Widvilles, ancestors of Elizabeth Widville, the beautiful Queen of Edward IV.

The distinguished family of Widville anciently owned the property now in possession of the Earl of Romney, and were seated within a mile of Maidstone, at Mote Park, that nobleman's mansion. Antony Widville, Earl Rivers, the brother of Edward's Queen, was a man of eminent character, both for chivalry and learning, for his political ability, and his polite manners. On Edward's marrying his sister, he forsook the Red Rose, and had a large share in that prince's victories and success. There is recorded of him a romantic action, at a tournament held

171

at Smithfield, in honour of the nuptials between the king's sister, Margaret, and Charles the Hardy, the last Duke of Burgundy; on which occasion, to reflect the most signal splendour on the day, he challenged his kinsman, the Count de la Roche, and overcame him in solemn combat. Earl Rivers was the author of several ballads, one of which is in the Percy collection. He also translated some didactic works from the French, and was a great patron of Caxton, the first English printer, whom he introduced to his royal brother-in-law. On Edward's death, the Earl endeavoured to save the unfortunate princes, his sister's children, from falling into the hands of their murderous uncle. He was consequently conveyed immediately, by Richard's emissaries, to Pontefract Castle, where he was summarily dispatched. The usurper seized the family estates, which were restored by Henry VII. to Earl Rivers, brother of the preceding; but, in default of issue, the property passed, soon afterwards, through the hands of Thomas Gray, Marquis of Dorset, to Sir Henry Wyatt, a man of ability, and high in the king's esteem, from whose predecessor he had suffered great hardships.

Sir Henry Wyatt fixed his seat near Maidstone, at Allington Castle, and there was born his celebrated son, Sir Thomas Wyatt, the friend and poetical associate of the accomplished Earl of Surrey. Sir Thomas early acquired the dangerous favour of Henry VIII.; and, in a court where only the most strenuous powers could venture to contend for the perils of preferment, he was alike distinguished for sagacity and wit, and seemed to enjoy his sprightly ease without apprehension. He knew how to insinuate, in a brief phrase and a light but striking jest, solid counsel and maxims of deep policy. From some of his sayings that have come down to us, we may also infer that he knew how to flatter his master's passions in a way that seemed only characteristic of blunt honesty, shrewdness of sense, and a careless humour. When the royal hypocrite had been suing for a divorce from his brother's widow till he began to be weary of the Court of Rome, "Very strange," exclaimed Sir Thomas, "that a man must not repent of his sin without the Pope's leave!" His vivacity, which appears now and then to have betrayed him to the verge of ruin, enabled him as often quickly to recover his footing. Once the jealous monarch suspected him of an intrigue with Anne Boleyn, who seems to have been fascinated by his manners, and he was accordingly thrown into the Tower. But his adroitness saved him in a situation where innocence alone would probably have been of no avail, and in a few days he was as high as ever in the slippery favour of his sovereign. Yet with all his hilarity, he resolutely preserved a certain gravity of character, which the king himself could not persuade him to overstep; and when Henry urged

172

him to dance at one of his wild masquerades, the dignified courtier refused, observing, that "a man who thought himself wise in the morning should not make himself a fool at night." Towards the end of his career the malignant Bonner contrived to forge against him, out of one of his jests, an accusation of treason, from which he was obliged to clear himself at the bar. He did so with such success, that soon afterwards he was entrusted with a special embassy to

the Court of Spain. In his eagerness, however, to fulfil his mission, he caught a fever, which carried him off whilst he was yet in the prime of manhood.

His son, Sir Thomas Wyatt the younger, was very far from inheriting his good fortune. He excited an insurrection against Mary, to prevent her marriage with the King of Spain, and probably to recall Lady Jane Grey from the prison to the throne. As a Privy Councillor, in the preceding reign (when the Protestants were justly afraid of what might happen upon Edward's death), an oath had been exacted from him, that he would resist to the utmost of his power, every proposal for allying the future queen to any foreign potentate. His conduct seems to have been actuated by high sentiments of honour and public virtue; but his attempt only hastened Lady Jane's execution, and gave a more plausible pretext to the fiery persecutions that followed. Sir Thomas himself forfeited his head and estates.

There is now no monument nor memorial of any kind belonging to this celebrated family in the church at Maidstone, where the stranger is apt to search for their name among the sumptuous tombs of their successors. But at Boxley, and not here, the Wyatts had their place of sepulture. Their ancient castle of Allington has been in a state of dilapidation ever since the time of Elizabeth. It is now partly in ruins and partly occupied as a shabby farm-house, which only gives the whole a more disconsolate appearance. It is situated westward of the town, at the distance of about a mile and a half, on a sequestered reach of the Medway, where the water flows under woody banks, that shut out nearly all more remote prospect. The place makes no great pretensions; the outward walls are tolerably perfect; at one end there are two broken towers; and along the side, next the fields, some attics and gables, belonging to the inhabited tenement, have been built over the original turrets; to which, however, they seem not unsuitable. The only approach to it for horses is by a deep and shady lane; and as no other road runs in the valley, except a towing-path on the opposite side of the river, the idea of seclusion is but seldom interrupted, unless when a mast overtops the battlement while a barge passes on the unseen stream behind.

173

The forfeited property of the Wyatts was granted away to various persons. The manor of Boxley was restored by Queen Mary to the family: the Mote was assigned by Elizabeth to John Nicholas and John Dixon, from whom it passed, through the lines of Rither and Cæsar, to the Tuftons, and was alienated by a female heir of the latter, about 1685, to Sir John Marsham, (son of the learned antiquary and chronologist,) whose descendants still remain seated at the place. Sir Robert Marsham was raised to the peerage in 1716, and his grandson was made a Viscount and Earl of Romney in 1801. A few years afterwards the old mansion at Mote Park was taken down, and one more splendid erected in its room. The whole of the property above-mentioned is now in the possession of this family. Allington having been held by the family of Astley from the time of Elizabeth, was alienated, in 1720, to Sir Robert, in whom also the name of Wyatt may be said to have merged: he married Margaret Bosville, granddaughter of Sir Francis Wyatt of Boxley.

In the unfortunate rebellion of Sir Thomas Wyatt, the town of Maidstone was so much involved, that Mary deprived the people of the charter which her predecessor had but recently bestowed. A new one, however, with more ample privileges, was conferred by Elizabeth.

During the wars of the Parliament, Maidstone gave signal proof of its attachment to the royal cause. A body of 1000 men, belonging to the newly formed Loyal Kentish Association, took post here, (where they were joined by about the same number of the inhabitants,) to defend themselves from the expected attack of Lord Fairfax, who was marching from London with an army of 10,000 to overwhelm them. The forces of the Commonwealth surrounded

the town, and at length stormed the bridge: but for five hours longer the battle continued to be furiously disputed in the streets, till, at 12 o'clock at night, the royalists, reduced by slaughter, and overpowered by numbers, were compelled to take refuge in the church, where they laid down their arms. Clarendon declares this to have been the best contested action throughout the war. The loss on the part of the townsmen was so great, that, for many years afterwards, of the females marrying at Maidstone, by far the largest number are observed to have been widows.

This loyal town, however, happened to produce, in those violent times, one of the most devoted enemies of monarchy. This was Andrew Broughton, (twice Mayor of his native Maidstone,) who, in his capacity of Secretary to the High Court of Justice that sat on the royal trial, pronounced the sentence of the king's death. After the Restoration, being excepted from

174

the general indemnity, he fled with Ludlow and the few others who were distinguished by the same exclusion, into Swisserland. There, on his tomb at Vevay, may be read the record of the clear conscience and religious tranquillity of this fervent regicide; "who," the epitaph declares, "having been banished from his country for delivering the sentence of the King of kings, (Regis regum sententiam,) was content to end his pilgrimage among strangers, and, in his 84th year, suffering only from old age, rested from his labours and slept in the Lord."

Since those times, the history of Maidstone is only varied by a few visitations of plague and tempest. The plague is said to have afflicted this town with uncommon severity. The pest-house might be seen a few years ago, and may probably be standing yet; and at the close of the last century there was a house near the river which still bore a supplicatory sentence, such as, during the rage of that dreadful calamity, people were often accustomed to place over their doors. On the 19th of August, 1763, so tremendous a storm swept over Maidstone, that hailstones were picked up, ten days after they had fallen, which measured four inches and a half round. In January, 1795, the breaking up of the great frost produced an inundation which resembled the dissolution of a Canadian winter. The blocks of ice that were flung over the fields weighed down large trees; the wooden bridges over the river were carried away, and Maidstone Bridge would have gone likewise, if the rapid increase of the flood had not floated the ice fairly over the parapet.

In the vicinity of Maidstone there are two or three remarkable spots, besides what have been already noticed. The most memorable ground in this neighbourhood is Penenden Heath, which has been famous for popular meetings from the earliest to the most recent time. The name of Penenden signifies, in Saxon, the place of penalty. In former ages great judicial assemblages used here to be held. The last of these was the celebrated one convened at the instance of Archbishop Lanfranc, in the time of the Conqueror, to decide on the conduct of Odo, the king's brother, the oppressive governor of Kent, who was summoned before it, and forced to surrender a great number of estates and manors of which he had pillaged the church. Penenden Heath lies on high ground, about a mile and a half north from Maidstone, but the tract is now enclosed. Coxheath, about three miles distant on the opposite side of the town, is also a noted plain, still open, and of considerable extent. Several grand reviews have taken place here, especially one in 1779, when George III. inspected a body of 15,000 men, who had their encampment on that ground. There have also been some splendid military spectacles in the neighbourhood

175

of Maidstone, particularly a great review of the militia, before the same prince, in the Earl of Romney's demesne at Mote Park.

Fant House, in the Parish of Maidstone, the seat of Horatio Pope, Esq. is pleasantly situated north-west of the Medway, between that river and the Maidstone and Tunbridge road, distant from the former town rather more than one mile. It has a very pretty appearance, and is fronted by grounds that are tastefully laid out. In the interior are a few family portraits.

Tovil House, in the Parish of Maidstone, the seat of J. Hepburn, Esq. is situated about one mile south from the old church, and close to Tovil. It is seen to great advantage across the Medway from the Maidstone and Tunbridge road.

Kingsley House, in the Parish of Maidstone, the residence of John Brenchley, Esq. is agreeably situated on the entrance to Maidstone from Linton, rather more than a quarter of a mile south-east from the old church. It is adorned in the interior with paintings by Opie, Houseman, Cooper, Graham, Panini, Canaletto, Diepenbeke, and others.

Near the Priory, in Maidstone, is the residence of Edward Peale, Esq. It is a lofty substantial house, of modern architecture, and belongs to Mr. Peale.

Chillington House, Maidstone, the residence and property of Thomas Charles, Esq. is the mansion of an old manor, so called, that was formerly in possession of the family of Cobham.

From these it passed to the Maplesdens, of Digons, in this town, and continued with them till forfeited to the Crown by George Maplesden, Esq. who had joined in the rebellion raised by Sir Thomas Wyatt. Queen Mary then granted it to Sir Walter Hendley, who soon after alienated it to Nicholas Barham, Esq. whose son, Arthur Barham, Esq. disposed of it by sale to Henry Haule, of Digons; and his youngest grandson, George Haule, dying without issue, about 1650, left it to his sister Elizabeth, married to Sir Thomas Taylor, Bart. Of them Chillington was purchased by Sir John Beale, Bart. of Farningham, whose youngest daughter, Elizabeth, the wife of William Emerton, Esq. of Chipsted, having received this estate as part of her portion of her father's property, sold it, in junction with her husband, to Robert Southgate, fruiterer; and of his son, of the same name, it was purchased, about 1746, by David Fuller, of Maidstone, attorney. This gentleman, dying without issue, bequeathed it to his widow, who, at her decease, in 1775, gave it to her relative, William Stacy, Esq. of Canterbury.

Foley House, in the Parish of Maidstone, the seat of Mrs. Tyssen, stands on gently elevated ground, not quite one mile north-east from Maidstone. The situation of this mansion is particularly pleasant: the grounds surrounding it are very beautiful, and it commands good prospects of the neighbouring country.

Foley House is distant from the Metropolis about 36 miles.

176

Penenden, in the Parish of Maidstone, the seat of Daniel Scratton, Esq. is a modern house, agreeably situated, at the corner of Penenden Heath, distant from Maidstone northward about one mile.

Park House, in the Parish of Maidstone, the seat of E. H. Lushington, Esq. is an elegant structure, built by Sir Henry Calder, Bart. about 1792. It is situated in a small but picturesque park, on the right of the high road from Maidstone to Chatham, distant from the latter six miles and a half, from the former about a mile, and from London about 35 miles.

This estate seems to have been formerly part of the possessions of the See of Canterbury, and was purchased of Archbishop Cranmer by Henry VIII. being then called Le Park. In the reign of Charles II. it was held by Sir Thomas Taylor, Bart. who was succeeded by his son of the same name; and his heirs sold it, about the year 1735, to James, afterwards Sir James Calder, Bart. whose posterity were proprietors of it till a recent period.

Springfield, in the Parish of Maidstone, the seat of William Balston, Esq. is a handsome modern house, situated in beautiful grounds, on the east

bank of the Medway, about half a mile north from Maidstone, and on the left of the road from thence to Rochester.

Great Buckland, in the Parish of Maidstone, the property of the Earl of Aylesford, and residence of the Rev. Robert Pope, is a very ancient building, supposed to have been founded in the reign of Edward III.: the more modern part, as appears from the date in a window, was built in 1665. In the interior of this interesting house there are paintings by the old and modern masters, viz. by Breenburg, Molyneux, Turner, Smith, Jeffreys, Drummond, &c. In the Library (which was the old Hall) are several portraits by Sir Peter Lely, Sir Godfrey Kneller, Hudson, and Jarvis; also many busts, among which is a very curious oaken one of Bishop Latimer, with the Bible and mitre.

Great Buckland stands on the west side of the Medway, distant from Maidstone about one mile north.

The manor of Great Buckland, or Bocland, was granted by Hubert Walter, Archbishop of Canterbury, in the reign of King John, to Alan de Bocland, whose descendants retained it for many generations. In the reign of Henry IV. it had become the property of the College of St. Mary and All Saints, at Maidstone, founded by Archbishop Courtney, in the 19th year of the reign of Richard II. and with this college it remained till its dissolution, anno 1 Edward VI. The king, in his third year, granted it to Sir George Brooke, Lord Cobham, whose grandson, Henry, Lord Cobham, being attainted for treason, anno 1 James I. forfeited his estates to the Crown; but, on his death, this manor was conferred on his widow. Lady Frances (it having been her jointure), with reversion to Sir Robert Cecil, Earl of Salisbury, son of the famous William, Lord Burleigh, who had

177

married Lord Cobham's sister, Elizabeth. Robert, Earl of Salisbury, was succeeded by his only son, William, who, about the year 1618, alienated this estate to several persons; and that part of it which still retained the name of Great Buckland, with the manor, was sold to William Horsepoole, Esq. of whom it was purchased by Thomas English, Esq. of Sussex; and his son Thomas alienated it, about the end of the reign of Charles II. to Sir John Banks, Bart. of Aylesford. This gentleman died in 1699, leaving two daughters, his coheirs; and, on a division of his property, this estate was allotted to Elizabeth, the eldest, married to Heneage Finch, Esq. second son of Heneage, Earl of Nottingham, who, in 1703, was created Baron Guernsey, and in 1714 Earl of Aylesford.

Summerfield House, in the Parish of Maidstone, lately the residence of the Rev. Henry John Parker, is situated one mile from Maidstone, adjoining, on the right, the high road to London.

The old Church of All Saints, at Maidstone, contains numerous memorials, in addition to those already noticed, the most remarkable of which are the following:

In the high chancel, north side, a monument for Griffith Hatley and Anne his wife. South side, a neat one for Sir Charles Booth, Knt. late of Harrietsham Place, who died 26th April, 1795, aged 60 years: he gave £2000 for the purpose of educating poor children of this parish and neighbourhood: a handsome one, with the half figure of a gentleman, for Sir John Tufton. South-east corner of the south chancel, a marble monument, with the half-figures of a lady and gentleman, for John Davy, physician, son of Robert Davy, of Norfolk; and Catherine, his wife, who died 18th Jan. 1631; erected by their children, 25th Sept. 1651. North-west corner, a handsome brass, for the family of Beale. West end of north aisle, a good monument for Edward Hunter, Gent. who died 15th April, 1757, aged 72 years; he built and endowed six almshouses in this parish, and left other charities to different institutions: a neat tablet, of black marble, for the family of Smith. North chancel, a neat tablet for Lieut. Dering Addison, of the 18th Madras Native Infantry, shot by the Burmese, March, 1826, aged 22 years: an old monument, with the figures of a man and woman kneeling at a desk, habited in black, for Thomas Carkaredg, who died 1st Dec. 1639, aged 72 years.

Linton Place, in the Parish of Linton, the seat of the Right Hon. Earl

Cornwallis, is an elegant mansion, commanding an extensive and beautiful prospect over the Weald of Kent. It has been greatly improved by the present noble proprietor: at the south entrance is a handsome portico, supported by six Corinthian columns. The grounds are laid out in the most tasteful way, and possess every beauty that art can bestow. The neat cottages erected by the Earl for his peasantry, are interesting objects in this agreeable spot.

Linton place is rather more than four miles south from Maidstone, and about 39 miles from London.

This seat was formerly called Capell's Court, which name it acquired from its early proprietors, the family of Capell. By one of these it was at length alienated, in the reign of Henry VI. to

178

Richard Baysden, a descendant of whom sold it, in the time of Elizabeth, to Sir Anthony Maney, of Biddenden, whose grandson, Sir John Maney, Bart. passed it away, in the reign of Charles II. to Sir Francis Withens, one of the Justices of the King's Bench, and his only daughter, Catherine, in 1710, carried it in marriage to Sir Thomas Twysden, Bart. of East Peckham. On his death, in 1712, his widow retained possession of this estate, and she soon afterwards carried it in marriage to Brigadier Gen. George Jocelyn, a younger son of Sir Robert Jocelyn, Bart. of Hertfordshire, who alienated it to Robert Mann, Esq.

Clock House, in the Parish of Linton, the property and residence of Thomas Rich Sedgwick, Gent. is an ancient house, situated on very high ground, three-quarters of a mile west from Linton, commanding extensive prospects, both north and southward. It is distant from Maidstone about four miles, and from London 34 miles.

Linton Church contains the following most interesting monuments:

In the north chancel, a beautiful and chaste marble monument, having two urns bearing initials, and on one is a coronet, for Charles James Mann, Viscount Brome, only son of James, fifth Earl Cornwallis, who died 27th Dec. 1835, aged 22 years; and for Jemima Isabella Wykeham Martin, wife of Charles Wykeham Martin, Esq. only daughter of James, fifth Earl Cornwallis, who died 17th Dec. 1836, aged 29: there is also a most elegant marble monument, of exquisite sculpture, (by E. H. Baily, R.A.) in memory of Viscount Brome above-mentioned, representing him lying on a mattress, apparently dead: another elegant monument, having a gentleman sitting in the attitude of grief, leaning against an urn, in memory of Maria Isabella, wife of James Mann, Esq. of Linton Place, who died 16th Jan. 1823, aged 40: another handsome monument, for Eleanor, wife of Robert Mann, Esq. who died 9th Sept. 1751, aged 74 years; also Robert Mann, Esq. who died 18th Feb. 1752, aged 73: a tablet for Robert Mann, Esq. fourth son of Robert and Eleanor Mann, who died 27th March, 1755, in the 47th year of his age: a handsome monument for Edward L. Mann, who died 16th Dec. 1775, aged 74: a monument, representing a gothic screen, to the memory of James Mann, who died 12th April, 1764, aged 49 years: a large, fine old monument, with the figures of a man and woman kneeling, for Sir Anthony Mayne, Knt. and Dame Briggatt, his wife, anno 1615: another, with the half length figure of a man between two females, but without inscription. In the south chancel, a monument for Richard Rich, Gent. who died 14th May, 1788, aged 82; also William Sedgwick, who died 3d Nov. 1790, aged 48 years. Over the pulpit, a monument for John Rich, of this parish, Gent. who died 24th April, 1751, aged 86; and Mary his wife, who died 14th Oct. 1733, aged 66 years. In the nave, a tablet, above which is an urn, let into a recess in the wall, erected by Horatius Walpole, to the memory of Galfridus Mann, who died 20th Dec. 1756, aged 50 years: below this, a tablet for the Hon. Catherine Cornwallis, daughter of Galfridus Mann, Esq. wife of the Hon. James Cornwallis, second surviving son of Charles, first Earl Cornwallis; she died 17th Sept. 1811, aged 70. South aisle, a tablet for John Toke, who died 18th June, 1740, in the 40th year of his age; also Richard Toke, who died 24th Aug. 1762, aged 79 years.

Linton Church is dedicated to St. Nicholas.

The Parish of LOOSE is supposed to take its name from the circumstance

of the stream that rises at Langley losing itself at Brishing, and running underground for nearly half a mile.

Hayle Place, in the Parish of Loose, the seat of Walter Jones, Esq. is an elegant modern structure, beautifully situated one mile south from Maidstone, and surrounded by pleasant grounds. The interior is spacious, and decorated with exceedingly good taste: it contains several paintings, by Sir Joshua Reynolds, West, and others. This seat is seen to great advantage from the opposite side of the valley, above Tovil, from which point the scenery is very picturesque.

Hayle Place is distant from London about 35 miles.

This property was formerly called Le Hayle, and for several generations belonged to the family of Beale, a female descendant of whom carried it in marriage to William Post, Gent. of London.

Hayle Cottage, in the Parish of Loose, the property of Walter Jones, Esq. and residence of Henry Marsham, Esq. Captain in the Royal Navy, is a neat modern structure, situated a short distance south-east from Hayle Place. It commands pleasing prospects of the surrounding picturesque scenery.

Loose Court, in the Parish of Loose, the seat of Edward Penfold, Esq. is a handsome house, beautifully seated on an eminence eastward of the picturesque valley above Tovil. The grounds about this place are particularly pleasant, and enclosed with hedges of gigantic size and height, perhaps unequalled in this peculiarity throughout England. These are for the purpose of protecting (or, as the country people call it, leeing) the hop-gardens and orchards from the cold winds.

Loose Court is about two miles south from Maidstone, and 35 miles from London.

Loose was given by King Ethelwolf, son of Egbert, about the year 832, to a widow named Sueta and her daughter, and they made a donation of it to the Priory of Christchurch, in Canterbury. Two years after the dissolution of the priory, Henry VIII. settled it on the Dean and Chapter of Canterbury, with whom the fee of the manor still continues, the gentleman now in occupation being lessee under that body.

Loose Church. In the chancel, north wall, a monument for Richard Beale, buried at Hamburgh, anno 1702; he augmented this curacy £500: a tablet for Theophilus Jones, Esq. Admiral of the White, of Hayle Cottage, in this parish, second son of the Right Hon. Theophilus Jones, of Leitrim, in Ireland, and Lady Catherine, daughter of the Earl of Tyrone; he died 8th Nov. 1835, aged 77: another for William Post, of Hayle Place, Gent. who died Dec. 1786, aged 85 years; also Mary, his wife, who died Jan. 1768, aged 62; and William Post, Esq. Barrister, son of the above, who died 29th April, 1806, aged 67; and Mary his wife, who died 15th July, 1802, aged 55. Against the south wall is a monument for the Rev. Thomas Frank, Rector of Cranfield,

Bedfordshire, and 60 years minister of this parish, obt. 23 Sept. 1782, ætat. 83; and others of his family.

In the church-yard is an enormous yew-tree, which being in a state of decay, is fenced round with a railing.

Loose Church is dedicated to All Saints.

Beddows Place, in the Parish of East Farleigh, the seat of the Rev. Beale Post, LL.B. was founded, it is conjectured, in the reign of Henry VII. It was possessed by one Vidian and others, in the time of Henry VIII. and by the Westons in the following reigns of Edward VI. and Elizabeth. In 1612 it

was purchased by Richard Beale, Esq. by an alliance with whose descendant it became the property of William Post, in 1747. The ancient hall is now divided into several rooms. There is an apartment in this house that was used as a place of worship, from 1701 to 1746, by a congregation of Baptists, and various texts of Scripture remained legible on the walls, till obscured by papering the room.

Beddows Place is situated on the south bank of the Medway, distant from Maidstone about one mile, and from London 35 miles.

The Priory, in the Parish of East Farleigh, the residence of the late Sir John Deas Thomas, K.C.H. F.R.L.S. Commissioner and Accomptant General of the Navy, is a gothic building, erected by the late Captain Dominicus, on a picturesque eminence, on the east bank of the Medway. The interior of this house, at the time we visited it, before the demise of Sir John, was decorated with paintings by Jan Van Huysum, Panini, Van Goyen, &c.; and there was a small museum of natural history, consisting chiefly of Australian specimens.

The Priory is distant from Maidstone about two miles south-west.

Vicarage, East Farleigh, the residence of the Rev. Richard Isaac Wilberforce, is situated near the church, on the west, about three miles south-west from Maidstone, and 34 miles from London.

Gallants Court, in the Parish of East Farleigh, the property and residence of Israel Lewis, Gent. is a modern house, pleasantly situated on the east of East Farleigh, distant from Maidstone about three miles.

The Manor of Gallants belonged in early times to a branch of the family of Colepeper. It afterwards passed to the Ropers, a descendant of whom, Christopher, Lord Teynham, gave it in marriage with his daughter Catherine to William Sheldon, Esq. whose descendant, Richard Sheldon, Esq. of Aldington, in Thornham, bequeathed it, at his death, to his widow, and she, in 1738, took it in marriage to William Jones, M.D. On his decease, in 1780, it was inherited by his daughters, Mary, married to Lock Rollinson, Esq. of Oxfordshire, and Anne, the wife of Thomas Russel, Esq.

181

East Farleigh Church is a handsome building, particularly neat in the interior. It was enlarged and beautified, A.D. 1835-6. Here are the following monuments:

In the high chancel, several memorials for the family of Amhurst, and two for that of Goldsmith. On the north side, an ancient altar-tomb, for one of the Colepepers, most probably (says Hasted) for Sir T. Colepeper, the reputed founder of this church, who lived in the reign of Edward III: a tablet for Thomas Mercer, Esq. who died 20th Nov. 1829, aged 36: a handsome marble monument, with a male figure in tears, holding an infant, and at his knees stands another, in memory of Agnes Everilda Frances Wilberforce; mortua est xv. Kal. Dec. A. S. 1834. South wall, a tablet for Charlotte Catherine, daughter of Digby Legard, Esq. late of Ganton, Yorkshire, who died 22d June, 1837, in the 32d year of her age. In the south or Pimpe's chancel, is an old plain altar-tomb. On the altar stood two curious antique candlesticks, gilt.

In the church-yard there is a very neat tomb, to the memory of Charlotte Hepburn, daughter of James Hepburn, Esq. of Tovil Place, who died 6th May, 1836, aged 14 years; also Louisa, wife of the above James Hepburn, Esq. who died 29th Aug. 1837, aged 54 years.

At EAST BARMING there were dug up, some years ago, several Roman urns, also pieces of armour, and skeletons; the latter, no doubt, (says Hasted,) being the remains of those who fell in the skirmish at Farleigh Bridge in 1648, between the royalists and parliamentarians; and the former showing that the Roman way through the middle of the county passed near this place.

On Barming Heath, on the right of the road from Maidstone to Watlingbury, in an agreeable and healthy situation, stands the County Lunatic Asylum, a handsome substantial structure, built of the Kentish rag-stone. The impostor Courtenay was confined here for a term of years, instead of being transported pursuant to the sentence passed on him at Maidstone, when convicted of perjury,

in the year 1833.

At Barming, between two and three miles from Maidstone, on the road to Tunbridge, is the seat of James Ellis, Esq. It is a modern house, in a commanding situation, exhibiting an imposing front southward, as seen across the Medway. The neighbourhood abounds with the finest hop-gardens.

Barming Place, in the Parish of East Barming, the seat of Charles Gustavus Whittaker, Esq. is a handsome brick mansion, situated on the north of the high road from Maidstone to Tunbridge, distant from the latter about 12 miles, and from the former two miles. This house was built by John Whittaker, Esq. second son of Thomas Whittaker, Esq. of Trottescliffe.

Rectory, Barming, the residence of the Rev. Charles Henry Barham, is an Elizabethan house, mostly modern, having been nearly rebuilt by the Rev. Mark

182

Noble, at the end of the last century. It is pleasantly situated on the north of the River Medway, overlooking a fertile and picturesque country. The distance from Maidstone is two miles south-west, and from London about 35 miles.

East Barming Church stands embosomed in a grove of noble elms, and when seen from the road, with its tall light spire rising above the foliage, has a very pleasing effect. About fifty years ago the chancel was entirely repaired, and a new altar put up, at the expense of the Rev. Mark Noble, then Rector. It contains the following memorials:

In the chancel, south wall, a tablet for George West, Esq. of Cavendish Square, London, who died 31st March, 1834, aged 71 years. North wall, a tablet for the Rev. Mark Noble, 40 years Rector of this parish, who died 26th May, 1827, aged 72; also Sarah, his wife, who died 23d Dec. 1820, aged 73 years; also their daughters, Charlotte, who died 5th April, 1817, aged 27, and Sarah Juliana, who died an infant; and Sophia, daughter of Mark Noble, Gent. of Great Marlow, Bucks, who died Oct. 1821, aged 11 years: another for Walter Syms, Esq. Col. in H. M. service, who died at East Malling, 28th Jan. 1831, aged 56 years.

In the church-yard is a handsome marble altar-tomb, to the memory of Thomas Harris, Esq. who died 24th April, 1769, aged 77: and a large enclosed vault for the family of Mr. Ellis.

East Barming Church is dedicated to St. Margaret.

Deptling Church. Within the altar rails, south side, is an altar-tomb, above which is a gothic portico, to the memory of Mary Foote, daughter of Robert and Eleanor Mann, of Linton Place, wife of Benjamin Hatley Foote, Esq. of this parish, who died 17th March, 1778, aged 60 years; also B. H. Foote, above-mentioned, who died 9th July, 1791, aged 77 years: a tablet for the Rev. Jos. Sharpe, M. A. Vicar of this parish, who died 10th Jan. 1831, aged 74; he was a benefactor to the poor of Deptling. North chancel, a tablet for Mary, wife of George Rugg, Esq. of Woodgate House, Beckley, Sussex, who died 12th Dec. 1824, aged 48; also the above-named George Rugg, Esq. who died 15th July, 1835, aged 59 years: a neat monument for Robert Rugg, Esq. of this parish, who died 8th Sept. 1791, aged 60; also Ann Rugg, his wife, who died 13th March, 1807, aged 71: a neat tablet for Robert Rugg, of this parish, who died 9th Aug. 1831, aged 64; also Sarah, first wife of the above, who died 30th March, 1797, aged 36; and Elizabeth, daughter of Robert Rugg, and Ann, his second wife, who died 29th Sept. 1814, aged 12 years. At the east end of this chancel there is an old low cross fixed in the pavement against the wall.

Deptling Church is dedicated to St. Martin.

BOXLEY. About a mile westward from the village stands Boxley Abbey, in a low situation at the foot of the chalk hills that cross the northern part of this parish. This abbey was founded some time between the years 1143 and 1146, by William d'Ipre, Earl of Kent, for Cistercian Monks, and dedicated, in common with all religious houses of this order, to the Virgin Mary. The Cistercians (or, as they were called in England, from their habit, White Canons,)

were a sect of the Benedictines, and received that appellation from the town of Cisterium, or Cisteaux, in the Bishopric of Chalons, in Burgundy, where the order were first instituted, in 1098, by Robert, Abbot of Molesme. They were one of the four religious orders (the others being the Templars, Hospitallers, and the Præmonstratensians) who were exempted by the General Council of Lateran, in 1215, from the payment of tithes for lands in their own occupation. This exemption from tithes is continued to these lands at the present day, by virtue of the Act of the 31st Henry VIII. for dissolving the abbey.

It is at present the residence of Lady Maria Finch. In the abbey church was the statue of St. Rumbald, held in great reverence by the vulgar for the miracles feigned to be performed by it.

At Grove, in this parish, a Roman urn was dug up, in 1711, by the workmen employed on the rich vein of fuller's earth on that estate; and there have been since found, both there and at Vinters, other relics of antiquity, and several coins, the latter principally of the reign of Adrian.

Turkey Mills, in the Parish of Boxley, the residence of John Hollingworth, Esq. is situated one mile eastward from Maidstone. The old mills here, known by the above name, were formerly used as fulling mills; but on the decay of the woollen trade in these parts, were converted by Mr. Gill, then the proprietor, into paper mills. Of this gentleman they were purchased by Mr. James Whatman, who, in 1739, rebuilt them on a much more extensive scale, and his son, James Whatman, Esq. sold them to Mr. Hollingworth, in 1794, and retired to Vinters.

Vinters, in the Parish of Boxley, the seat of J. Whatman, Esq. a Magistrate for the County, is a modern house, pleasantly situated in a small but well-wooded park, rather more than one mile eastward from Maidstone, and about 36 miles from London.

In the reign of Edward III. this place was in possession of Roger Vinter, one of a family who had assumed their surname from it. His son, John Vinter, sold it, in the 10th year of the reign of Henry IV. to John, son of Sir Ralph de Fremingham, of Loose, who died two years afterwards without issue, when it came to Roger Isley, of Sundrish, as next of kin, whose descendant, Sir Henry Isley, being concerned in Sir Thomas Wyatt's rebellion, forfeited his estates to the Crown. Soon after, Queen Mary granted this seat to Cutts, who, in the following reign alienated it to Sir Cavaliero Maycott, alias Mackworth, of whom, about the middle of the reign of James I. it was purchased by William Covert, Esq. and his son, Walter, about the commencement of Charles I. alienated it to Sir William Tufton, fourth son of Sir John Tufton, of Hothfield, Bart. This gentleman's second son, Sir Charles Tufton, Bart. disposed of it, in the time of Charles II. to Daniel Whyte, Esq. whose son, of the same name, sold it, in the reign of Queen Anne, to Sir Samuel Ongley, one of the South Sea

Directors, and of his descendants it was purchased, in 1783, by James Whatman, Esq. of this parish, who rebuilt the mansion.

Sandling Cottage, in the Parish of Boxley, the seat of Mrs. Crump, is a neat house, beautifully situated, on the right of the high road from Maidstone to Rochester, distant from the former about one mile. The grounds on this side of the road rise gently towards the east, and from the summit there is an extensive and interesting prospect; about midway in the ascent stands the house, surrounded by ornamental shrubberies. Below the road, westward, the grounds are well-wooded, and slope to the Medway, the graceful windings of which, with the ruins of Allington Castle, render the scene very picturesque.

Sandling Cottage is distant from Rochester about seven miles, and from London 34 miles.

Park House, in the Parish of Boxley, the seat of James Best, Esq. Lieut. Col. of the West Kent Regular Militia, and a Magistrate and Deputy Lieutenant for the County, is an ancient house, situated on the right of the road approaching Boxley from Maidstone. The scenery here is very picturesque.

Park House is distant from Maidstone about two miles north-east, from Chatham about seven miles, and from London 36 miles.

This place was once part of the estate of Boxley Abbey, and, like that, afterwards came into possession of the family of Wyatt, from whom it was forfeited to the Crown by Sir Thomas Wyatt. In the beginning of the last century it was owned by the family of St. John, of whom it was purchased, in 1720, by Maudistley Best, Esq. son of Thomas Best, Esq. of Chatham, and in his posterity it has since continued.

Vicarage, Boxley, the residence of the Rev. John Griffith, D.D. Prebendary of Rochester, is situated on the south side of the church, in beautiful grounds, which are enlivened by a brilliant cascade. This seat has the advantage of the scenery around Boxley House, on the north, and that of Park House on the south. It is distant from Maidstone about two miles, and from Rochester seven miles.

Boxley House, in the Parish of Boxley, the seat of the Right Hon. Viscount Marham, is an ancient mansion, (but enlarged and improved at two different periods,) standing at the foot of the range of hills which here traverse the county from north-west to south-east, in ascending which, the walks, plantations, and summer-houses in the grounds are seen to great advantage. The noble appearance of this mansion is greatly enhanced by the natural beauties of its situation,

185

and by the effect of art in the tasteful disposition of the parterres and shrubberies. The park extends southward as far as the church.

Boxley House is distant from Maidstone about two miles north-east, from Rochester seven miles, and from London 36 miles.

Boxley, at the time of the survey of Domesday, belonged to Odo, Bishop of Baieux. On his disgrace it became forfeited to the Crown, and continued royal property till Richard I. in his first year, anno 1189, gave it to the Abbey of Boxley. The year after the dissolution of the abbey, Henry VIII. exchanged this manor with Sir Thomas Wyatt, of Allynton, for other lands, but it was soon afterwards vested again in the Crown, and again granted to Sir Thomas Wyatt, the son of the former gentleman, who forfeited it in consequence of his rebelling against Queen Mary; but her Majesty was pleased to confer it, after his death, on his widow. Lady Jane, daughter of Sir William Haut, of Bourne. The last of this family, Richard Wiat, Esq. died without issue, in 1753, and by will gave this property to his relative, Robert, Lord Romney.

Boxley Church, before the Reformation, had a rood, called the Rood of Grace, which was held in high estimation for its miraculous powers. It was broken to pieces, by the King's command, at St. Paul's Cross, London, on Sunday, Feb. 24th, 1538. Here are the following monuments:

In the chancel, north side, a tablet for Ann, wife of Samuel Athawes, sen. of this parish, who died 31st May, 1733, aged 54; also Samuel Athawes, who died 16th Dec. 1757, aged 83; and William, son of the above, who died 26th Dec. 1763, aged 54 years: a neat marble monument for Edwin Wiat, Sergeant-at-Law, son and heir of Sir Francis Wiat, of Boxley Abbey, and Margaret, his wife, Recorder of Canterbury, &c. &c.; and others of this family: it also commemorates Sir Henry Wiat, of Allington Castle, Knt. Banneret, descended of that ancient family, who, as the epitaph relates, was imprisoned and tortured in the Tower, in the reign of Richard III. and was fed and preserved in his dungeon by a cat, on which account he is always pictured with a cat in his arms, or beside him; he held offices of great trust under Henry VII. and VIII. South side, a tablet for William Alexander, F.S.A. and L.S. one of the Librarians of the British Museum, born at Maidstone 10th April, 1767,

accompanied the embassy to China in 1792, and died 23d July, 1816. South aisle, a monument for George Charlton, Gent. who died 12th Aug. 1707, aged 58; also Elizabeth Charlton, second wife of the above, who died 21st May, 1750, aged 86: another for the Rev. George Burvill, of Boxley, who died 17th Sept. 1798, aged 73 years; also Juliana, his wife, who died 2d July, 1777, aged 50; also John Burvill, their son, Major in the 60th Regiment of Foot, who died at Port au Prince, in St. Domingo, 15th March, 1796, aged 38 years; and several others of this family. North aisle, a tablet for Hannah, wife of James Best, Esq. of Chatham, who died 9th May, 1816, in the 52d year of her age; also James Best, Esq. who died 10th Dec. 1828, aged 73: another for William Champneys, Esq. of this parish, one of the Hon. Commissioners of H. M. Revenue in Ireland, who died 30th July, 1766, aged 63; also Sophia, his second wife, daughter of Sir Thomas D'Aeth, of Knowlton, who died 22d Jan. 1772: a neat marble monument, with the figure of Hope leaning on an urn, in memory of Frances, eldest daughter and co-heiress of William Champneys, Esq. of Vinters, in this parish, who died 28th Feb. 1800, aged 58: a neat tablet for others of the family of Champneys:

186

a large handsome marble monument for Hannah, wife of William Champneys, Esq. of Vinters, daughter of John Trigge, Esq. of Newnham, in Gloucestershire, who died 17th April, 1748, aged 43; also her son, Sackville, who died 17th May in the same year, aged 6 years.

Boxley Church is dedicated to All Saints.

HUNDRED OF LARKFIELD.

AYLESFORD was the scene of a great battle, fought in 455, between the Britons, under Vortimer, their king, and the Saxons, commanded by the brothers, Hengist and Horsa, in which, after a severe struggle, the Britons were victorious. In the midst of the conflict, Catigern, the brother of Vortimer, and Horsa, the Saxon, meeting in single combat, slew each other. They are both supposed to have been buried in the neighbourhood of the field of battle. Catigern's grave is believed to be about a mile northward from the Village of Aylesford, on a spot where three rude stones, about eight feet high, are set upright, somewhat in the form of the letter H, and a fourth, much larger, laid over the top: this ancient monument is called Kits Coty House, a conjectured corruption of Catigern's name. The burial-place of Horsa is imagined to be about three miles northward from Aylesford, at or near the Village of Horsted, which bears a still more obvious similarity to the name of the Saxon prince. In the fields, near this village, are here and there several large stones, which may also have been intended to commemorate the Saxons slain in the encounter.

Preston Hall, in the Parish of Aylesford, the seat of Charles Milner, Esq. is a spacious mansion, situated in a pleasant park, extending from the Maidstone and London road, on the south, to the River Medway, at Aylesford, on the north. Near the house is an old barn, built of stone, on the window-frame of which is the date 1102, written thus, 11°2, with the letters T. C. below it, and two shields of arms quartered at the corners: the same is also graven on a stone chimney-piece in an outhouse near the barn. In the interior of Preston Hall there is a fine portrait of Sir T. Colepeper, Bart.

This seat is distant from Maidstone about three miles, and from London 31 miles.

The Manor of Preston was possessed, in very early times, by the eminent family of Colepeper, of whom the first on record is Thomas de Colepeper, one of the *Recognitores Magnæ Assisæ* in the reign

187

of King John. The last of them here was Sir Thomas Colepepyr, Bart. who died without issue, in 1723, leaving a sister, Alicia, his sole heir, and she settled this property on her fourth husband, John Milner, M.D. of Yorkshire, descended from a good family, seated at Pudsey, in that county, reserving

to herself only a life estate.

The date above mentioned (which is composed of the figures now in use) is among those which some antiquaries have instanced, in proof that the Arabic numerals were employed in this country long before the earliest period generally assigned to their introduction into Europe, viz. the middle of the 13th century. But, in fact, little can be inferred from figures in such situations; for what can be more likely than that, when a house was repaired, the date of its first erection would be again engraven, and inserted in the building? That in this building, at least, such insertions have been made, (supposing it to be as old as the year inscribed upon it,) is plain, from the quarterings upon the shield at each corner of the window-frame, the custom of quartering coats of arms not having come into use till the time of Edward III.

The Friars, Aylesford, a seat of the Right Hon. the Earl of Aylesford, is a place of great antiquity, situated about a quarter of a mile west from Aylesford, on the north-east bank of the Medway, distant from Maidstone rather more than three miles, and from London 32 miles.

The Priory, more commonly called as above, the Friars, was founded in the year 1240, by Richard, Lord Grey, of Codnor, for Friars Carmelites, and was the first religious house of this order in England. After its dissolution, Henry VIII. granted it, in the 33d year of his reign, to Sir Thomas Wyatt, whose son, of the same name, forfeited it to the Crown, for rebelling against Queen Mary; and Elizabeth subsequently conferred it on John Sedley, son of John Sedley, Esq. of Southfleet. His descendant, Sir William Sedley, Bart. sold this estate, in the reign of Charles I. to Sir Peter Ricaut, whose heir, in 1657, alienated it to Caleb Banks, Esq. of Maidstone, and his granddaughter, Elizabeth, married to Heneage Finch, Esq. on the death of her father, Sir John Banks, Bart. in 1699, received it as part of her portion of her father's property, and entitled her husband to the possession of it.

Heneage Finch, Esq. was second son of Heneage, Earl of Nottingham, some time Lord Chancellor, and was created by Queen Anne, in 1703, Baron Guernsey. In the year 1714, after the accession of George I. he was elevated to the rank of Earl of Aylesford, and made a Privy Councillor and Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster.

At this Priory the first general European chapter of the Carmelites was held, in the year 1245.

Aylesford Church contains the following very interesting monuments:

In the high chancel, south of the altar, a monument for Sir Paul Rycaut, Knt. son of Sir Peter Rycaut, Knt. who died 16th Nov. 1700, aged 72 years; he was a great public character, and filled

188

many important offices. North of the altar, a very handsome tomb, on which lie the figures of a knight in armour and his lady, for Sir Thos. Colepeper, Knt. who died 12th Oct. 1604. North chancel, a most sumptuous marble monument, having in front the figure of a man reclining, habited in the Roman garb; above him is a tablet, surmounted by an urn, on the right side of which stands a male figure, and on the left a female, mourning, over the whole two angels hold a canopy; it is in memory of Sir John Banks, of Aylesford, who died 16th Oct. 1699, aged 72; also Elizabeth, his wife, daughter of Sir John Dethick, of Norfolk, who died 21st Oct. 1696, aged 69 years; and their son Caleb, who died 13th Sept. 1696, aged 37. There are several tattered flags, a sword, and a few old helmets, suspended from the ceiling of this chancel: a tablet for Sir Robert Faunce, Knt.: a marble monument for the Rev. Joseph Milner, D.D. of Preston Hall, in this parish, who died 26th July, 1784, aged 54; also Sarah, his wife, who died 27th Sept. 1803, in the 72d year of her age. North aisle, a tablet for the Rev. William Eveleigh, LL.B. who died 29th Aug. 1830, aged 74, having been 38 years Vicar of this parish; also others of his family. South aisle, a neat marble monument for Elizabeth, wife of William Bowles, Esq. of Fitzharris House, in this county, daughter of John and Rosamond Spong, of Mill Hall, who died 12th Jan. 1814, aged 22 years; also their daughter, Mary, who died 9th Oct. 1813, aged 7 weeks 3 days. At the end of the nave, a monument for John Ward,

who died 10th Aug. 1772, aged 67; and Daniel Ward, who died 4th Oct, 1785, aged 76 years.

Aylesford Church is dedicated to St. Peter.

Allington Church is dedicated to St. Lawrence. There is some good painted glass in the east window.

In the nave is a tablet for Robert J. Chapman, late scholar of C. C. Coll. Cambridge, who was accidentally drowned while crossing the Medway, near this place, 14th Aug. 1833, in the 22d year of his age.

In the church-yard is interred Mr. Drayton, of Maidstone, the botanist.

Ditton Place, in the Parish of Ditton, the seat of John Golding, Esq. is situated south of the London road, about four miles from Maidstone, and 30 miles from London.

This mansion, in the beginning of the reign of James I. was the residence and property of the family of Brewer, from whom it passed by purchase, at the commencement of the last century, to Thomas Golding, Esq. of Leyborne. This gentleman bequeathed it to his nephew, Mr. Thomas Golding, of Ryarsh, who sold it to John Brewer, Esq. Barrister-at-law; and his niece, Mrs. Carney, of West Farleigh, conveyed it back again, about 1735, to Mr. Thos. Golding, with whose descendants it still continues.

Ditton Church. In the nave, north side, a neat monument for Mary Ann Golding, youngest daughter of John Golding, Esq. of Ditton Place, who died 24th Nov. 1805, aged 24 years; also Frances Golding, eldest sister of the above Mary Ann, who died in 1809, aged 34 years: another for John Golding, Esq. of Ditton Place, who died 12th Nov. 1807, aged 80; also Ann his wife, who died 1st Aug. 1807, aged 61 years; and several of their children: another for Thos. Golding, Esq. of Ditton Place, who died 3d Jan. 1818, aged 46: a tablet for Mr. Geo. Luck, of this parish, who died

189

4th Oct. 1771, aged 44 years; and Nathaniel John Luck, his son, who died 26th Dec. 1831, aged 62 years: a marble monument for the family of Brewer. South side, a handsome gothic tablet for Mary Ann, wife of John Golding, Esq. of Ditton Place, who died 22d May, 1837, aged M years.

Ditton Church is dedicated to St. Peter.

Bradbourne, in the Parish of East Malling, the seat of Sir John Twisden, Bart. is a handsome mansion of brick, with stone facings, situated in a park well stocked with deer, and diversified with wood and water. The old walls that surround the park are very perfect, and in some places clothed with Ivy, which gives them a venerable appearance. The interior of the house is decorated with a collection of valuable paintings. The grounds extend southward from the Maidstone and London Road, at Larkfield, nearly a mile, as far as East Malling church.

Bradbourne is distant from Maidstone four miles and a half, and from London thirty miles and a half.

This place, in the reign of Henry VIII. was in possession of the family of Isley, of Sundridge, in this county, of whom Sir Henry Isley, in the 31st year of that reign, exchanged it with the king for other lands. In the time of Elizabeth it was possessed by the family of Manningham, from Bedfordshire, the last of which name, Richard Manningham, Esq. alienated it, about the year 1656, to Thomas Twisden, Esq. Sergeant-at-law, second son of Sir William Twysden, Bart. of Roydon Hall, in East Peckham, who was himself created a Baronet in 1666. This gentleman was the first of the family that spelt his name Twisden, which alteration he made to distinguish this line from the elder one, at Roydon Hall.

Clare House, in the Parish of East Malling, the seat of J. A. Wigan, Esq. is situated on the west of Bradbourn, from which it is separated by the road that leads from Larkfield to East Malling. The house stands on an elevation, surrounded by beautiful grounds, which are intersected by a broad stream of water.

Clare House is distant from Maidstone nearly five miles, and from London about 30 miles.

Rectory, East Malling, the residence of Mrs. Smith, is an ancient house, situated adjoining the southern boundary of Bradbourn Park, close to the church. The distance from Maidstone by the road is about five miles.

Vicarage, East Malling, the residence of the Rev. S. F. Godmond, M.A. is situate opposite the Rectory, joining the church-yard on the west.

East Malling Church is dedicated to St. James. It contains monuments for the Twisden family.

The Abbey at West Malling was founded by Gundulph, Bishop of

190

Rochester, in the year 1090, for nans of the Benedictine order, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary. About a century after its first erection, it was destroyed by fire, together with the neighbouring village, but rebuilt soon afterwards. On its dissolution, in the 30th year of the reign of Henry VIII. it was valued, according to Speed, at the annual rent of £245. 10s. 2½d.

There still exist the venerable gate at the entrance to the Abbey, and the handsome tower of the church. This last is adorned in front with intersecting Norman arches, bordered with zig-zag ornaments, similar to those on the west front of Rochester Cathedral, which was also built by Bishop Gundulph.

New Barns, in the Parish of West Malling, the residence and property of James Graham, Esq. is situated nearly one mile south from West or Town Malling, six miles from Maidstone, and about 30 miles from London. New Barns, before coming into the family of Graham, belonged to a Mr. Alchin.

West Malling House, in the Parish of West Malling, the seat of Edwin Stacey, Esq. is a handsome substantial house, situated on an elevation commanding a most interesting prospect over a finely diversified country. The grounds, which are tastefully laid out, are bounded on the north by the Maidstone and London road, on the west by the road to Malling, and on the south and east by a fertile plain. It is distant from Maidstone about five miles, and from London 29 miles.

West Malling Church is a large handsome structure, with a fine spire. It contains the following monuments:

In the chancel, north side, a tablet for Dame Ffitzjames, wife of Sir James Ffitzjames, Knt. and daughter of Sir John Newton, Knt. who died 20th Feb. 1594, aged 67 years: a monument for Benjamin Hubble, Esq. of West Malling, who died 11th Nov. 1780, aged 66; also Ann his wife, daughter of John Savage, Esq. of Boughton Monchelsea, who died 22d June, 1781, aged 67; and several of their children. South side, a large and remarkably handsome marble monument, having the figures of a man in armour and his wife lying on a tomb under an arch, ornamented with numerous shields of arms, in memory of Sir Robert Brett, Knt. of the ancient family of Brett, of Somersetshire, who died 1st Sept. 1620; also Dame Frances, his wife, daughter of Sir Thomas Fane and Dame Mary, Baroness Le Despencer, who died 27th Aug. 1617; and their only son, Henry Brett, who died 12th Oct. 1609: a neat tablet for the family of Douce. In the nave, south side, a tablet for Robert Thomas Crompt, Esq. of Frinsted, who died 12th Feb. 1808, aged 42 years: another for the Rev. Dale Levett, Curate of this parish, who died 1st Aug. 1797, aged 75: another for the Rev. Richard Husband, A.M. 44 years Vicar of this parish, who died 25th March, 1814, aged 78; also Sarah, his wife, who died 11th Feb. 1814, aged 83 years: a monument for the family of Elliston. North wall, monuments for Chapman and Say, and one for Humphrey Bartholomew, M.D. youngest son of Leonard Bartholomew, Esq. of Oxon Hoath, who died 15th Dec. 1764.

West Malling Church is dedicated to St. Mary.

Fatherwell House, in the Parish of Ryarsh, the seat of Thomas Jones, Esq. is a fine stately mansion, seated on a gentle elevation about three-quarters of a mile west from Town Malling Church. It was erected about sixty years ago, by Oliver Golding, Esq. The grounds are very pleasant, and well planted immediately round the house with ornamental shrubs. In the interior of the house are paintings by Van Diest, Louthembourg, Jacob Moore, George Moore, Hans Holbein, &c.; and from the roof there is a splendid panoramic view of the adjacent country.

Fatherwell House is distant from Maidstone about six miles, and from London 28 miles.

Ryarsh Place, in the Parish of Ryarsh, the seat of Henry Golding, Gent. is a handsome house with agreeable pleasure grounds, situated about half a mile north from the church, distant from Maidstone rather more than six miles, and from London about 28 miles.

Addington Place, in the Parish of Addington, the seat of the Hon. J. W. Stratford, is situated on the north of the Maidstone and London road, which skirts the park for nearly a mile, commencing at the seventh mile from Maidstone. The fine front and rich conservatories of this noble mansion have a very imposing appearance, and from these the eye is agreeably diverted to the picturesque beauty of its situation, amidst lofty timber, above which is seen the tower of Addington Church. At the west corner of the park there is a neat lodge, at the entrance to the carriage road.

Addington Place is distant from London about 27 miles.

Addington, after the disgrace of Odo, Bishop of Baieux, was held by William de Gurnay, and subsequently by his grandchild, Galiena de Gurnay. They were succeeded by the family of Mandeville, and these, in the reign of Edward II. by Roger del Eschequer, (so named from his hereditary office of Usher of the Exchequer,) a descendant of whom by the female line, Nicholas de Dagge-worth, became possessed of it in the reign of Edward III. Before the end of this reign, however, he alienated it to Sir Hugh de Segrave, who conveyed it to Richard Charles, whose grand-nephew, Robert, was succeeded in the proprietorship of Addington by William Snayth, or Snette, the husband of his sister and co-heiress, Alice. Their daughter, Alice, carried this manor in marriage to Robert Watton, who died in 1444, and in his posterity it continued till Elizabeth, the only daughter of Edmund Watton, Esq. carried it in marriage also to Leonard Bartholomew, second son of Leonard Bartholomew, Esq. of Oxon Hoath, whose only surviving son, Leonard, inherited it on his mother's decease in 1775.

Addington Church was built in 1403, as appears by the following quaint inscription on the wall:

In fourteen hundred and none
Here was neither stick nor stone;
In fourteen hundred and three
The goodly building which you see.

In the interior are the following monuments: In the nave, north wall, a tablet for John Petley, Esq. who died 28th June, 1747; also Jane, his wife, who died 6th Sept. 1766, aged 74 years; and Jane, their daughter, who died 10th Feb. 1762, aged 44. South wall, another for William Parry, Esq. Admiral of the Blue, who died 29th April, 1779, aged 74 years. South chancel, east end, a large marble monument, with the busts of a lady and gentleman, and below five children kneeling, in memory of Edmund Watton, Esq. who died Sept. 1527; also Thomas Watton, Esq. his son, who died in 1580; and Thomas, son of the last-mentioned Thomas Watton, Esq. who died 16th Sept. 1622; also William Watton, Esq. who died 28th Oct. 1651. Below this monument, in a stone fixed against

the wall, are the figures, in brass, of a man in armour, and a lady. In this chancel are also an old helmet, and three tattered remnants of flags.

In the church-yard there is an obeliscal tomb for William Locker, Esq. Capt. R. N. Lieut. Governor of Greenwich Hospital, who died 26th Dec. 1800, aged 70; and Lucy, his wife, who died 27th March, 1780, in the 33d year of her age.

Addington Church is dedicated to St. Margaret.

Rectory, Trottescliffe, the residence of the Rev. Edward John Shepherd, M.A. a Magistrate for the County, is situated about two miles north-east from Wrotham. Among the decorations in the interior of this house, is an excellent landscape by Gaspar Poussin.

Trottescliffe Rectory is distant from London about 26 miles.

Trottescliffe Church is dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul.

In the nave, south side, is a tablet for John Morgan, D.B. Rector of Medburn, Commissary of Richmond, and Precentor of St. David's, who died 20th Sept. 1773, aged 73 years; also Mary Philipps, widowed sister of the above; also John Morgan, who died 6th Nov. 1774, aged 70 years; and Francis Lloyd, M.A. late Rector of this parish.

Leybourne Grange, in the Parish of Leybourne, the residence of Joseph Delafield, Esq. F.R.S. and F.S.A. and the property of Sir Joseph Hawley, Bart. is a large elegant mansion, with extensive and well-wooded grounds, situated in the centre of a picturesque district that is enriched by several other noble seats.

The Grange is distant from Maidstone six miles north-west, and from London about 28 miles and a half.

Leybourne Grange, in the beginning of Elizabeth's reign, was the property of Robert Quintin, alias Oliver, whose descendants retained possession of it till Juliana, sole daughter and heir of Robert

193

Oliver, carried it in marriage, in the reign of Charles II. to Edward Covert, of Sussex. His only daughter took it in like manner to Mr. Henry Saxby, whose son, Capt. William Saxby, alienated it, in 1724, to Francis Whitworth, Esq. who rebuilt the house, and his son, Sir Charles Whitworth, transferred it, in 1776, to James Hawley, Esq. M.D. the ancestor of the present proprietor.

Leybourne Church. In the north chancel is a neat monument for James Hawley, M.D. who died at the Grange, 22d Dec. 1777, aged 73 years; also Elizabeth, his wife, daughter of Joseph Banks, Esq. of Revesby Abbey, in Lincolnshire, who died 27th Nov. 1766, aged 47 years; and Dorothy, wife of Henry, son of the above, who died 4th Dec. 1783: a tablet for Anne Bond, daughter of Mr. Charles Bond, of Rochester, who died 30th Oct. 1829, aged 40 years. In the nave, south wall, a tablet for Louisa, wife of the Rev. Tatton Brockman, M.A. youngest daughter of Sir Henry Hawley, Bart. of Leybourne Grange, who died 22d March, 1837, in the 43d year of her age. North aisle, a tablet for Sir Henry Hawley, Bart. of Leybourne Grange, who died 20th Jan. 1826, aged 81; he was the only son of James Hawley, M.D. and was created a baronet in May, 1795.

Leybourne Church is dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul.

Vicarage, Birling, the seat of the Hon. and Rev. W. Nevill, is an elegant small house, situated near the church on the north-east.

At a short distance eastward from this, on an elevation commanding a good prospect, there has lately been erected, as a more suitable residence for Mr. Nevill, a noble structure in the combined styles of Gothic and Elizabethan. It is built of Kentish rag, with facings of Portland, Bath, and York stone, and is certainly one of the finest edifices of this kind in the county. It is not yet so far finished as to be habitable.

Birling Vicarage is distant from Maidstone about seven miles, from Rochester eight miles, and from London 29 miles.

The Manor of Birling has been in the possession of the noble family of Nevill from the time of Sir Edward Nevill, fourth son of Ralph, the first Earl of Westmoreland, by Joane, his second wife, daughter of John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster, who inherited it, in the reign of Henry VI. in right of his wife, Elizabeth, daughter of Richard Beauchamp, Earl of Worcester, Lord Bergavenny.

Birling Church. In the south aisle, a monument for John May, who died 2d Sept. 1805, aged 71; and William May, who died 25th Aug. 1777, aged 41 years; both sons of John and Jane May, of this parish. At the west end of the north aisle, a tablet for the Rev. Edward Holme, Vicar of this parish, founder of the Free Schools at Leybourne and East Malling, who died 7th Jan. 1782, aged 71 years; also Nanny, daughter of the above, who died 1st Jan. 1789, aged 21 years; and Susannah, his widow, who died 17th May, 1801, in the 65th year of her age.

Birling Church is dedicated to All Saints.

In Snodland Church are interred several of the family of Palmer, of the

194

Court Lodge, in this parish. Weever recites a curious epitaph that in his time was on the tomb of Thomas Palmer, who died anno 1407:

Palmers al our faders were
I, a Palmer, livyd here
And travylled till worne wythe age
I endyd this world's pylgrimage
On the blyst Assention day
In the cherful month of May
A thowsand wyth fowre hundryd seven
And took my jorney hense to Heuen.

Snodland Church is dedicated to All Saints.

HUNDRED OF CHATHAM AND GILLINGHAM, AND CITY OF
ROCHESTER.

ROCHESTER is a place of very ancient origin. The Roman road between London and Dover plainly ran through it; parts of this way being still discernible, approaching the town by Cobham Park pales, and beyond it again along the top of Chatham Hill. Under the emperors, Rochester was one of the twelve stipendiary cities in Britain, and was then called Durobrivis, or Durobrivæ, a supposed derivative from the British, Dwr brif, (swift water,) the Medway having here a very brisk current. The name was afterwards shortened into Roibis, in which, (with the addition of the Latin Castra,) the modern Rochester may readily be traced. Bede, however, mentions a Saxon called Hroff, who was lord of the place; and Hroff-ceastre, or the Castle of Hroff, is its appellation in the Saxon chronicles.

The ruins of the present castle, considering its eligible situation, stand, in all probability, on Roman foundations. Various relics of the empire, such as coins from Vespasian to Constantine, lachrymatories, and urns containing human ashes, have often been cast up in digging the ground under its walls. The pile itself is ancient Norman. It stands nobly, at the south-west corner of the town, a little to the right of the bridge, on an eminence which presents a precipice towards the river, and on the other sides was surrounded by a deep fosse, still

195

generally traceable. A very pleasing walk winds up from the Medway through a grove, along the south side of the castle, and by the principal remains. Of the walls round the outer area (which is now a garden,) only fragments are left, though on the east, where the moat is most apparent, there is still a considerable portion, with two or three of the towers, one of which has been converted into a comfortable cottage. But the great tower or keep, which nearly adjoins an angle of the enclosure, on the side next the cathedral, is still, though a picturesque and mouldering ruin, externally almost perfect, and one of the best and most compact specimens that are extant of Norman fortification.

The Keep is a quadrangular building, 70 feet square, and more than 100 high, with walls from 11 to 13 feet thick, a pilaster buttress up the middle of each side, and projecting corner-turrets, that rise considerably above the rest of the battlements. Attached to one side there is a smaller tower, through which the inlet to the fortress opened upon the first floor. Towards this side-tower a gradual ascent (which may once have been a flight of steps,) is built up against the main edifice; and at the top of it, but still in advance of the tower, there are the remains of an arched doorway, and the grooves of a portcullis. Beyond these the approach abruptly terminates before it reaches the entrance; the access was evidently by a drawbridge, now supplied by a few boards. In the entrance of the side-tower there are the grooves of another portcullis and the hinges of a gate; and just within it is a communication (which may have been similarly guarded) into the keep itself. There is now also a lower opening immediately into the keep, in the space between the side-entrance and the staircase or inclined plane that approaches it. But this opening is probably not so old as the other. The interior of the fortress is divided into two parts by a strong wall, in which the intervals of communication, and the hollows left for the beams, show that the whole building was in three stories; but the floors and roof are gone. The partition-wall remains, the higher portion of it consisting of a row of open pillars, that support round arches bordered with zig-zag mouldings. Here were the state-rooms; and on the same level there appears an arched fire-place in each of the outer walls. The chimneys are short, and open backward at the side of the building. The dimensions of the windows increase in proportion to their height from the ground. The lowermost rooms are each lighted only by three small loop-holes. These narrow slits gradually expand inwardly, so as to afford room for a man to couch within and make use of his crossbow; and each recess, to make the point of aim accessible to the archer's eye, seems to have contained about a dozen steep steps, that run up towards the cautious opening in

196

the outer face of the building. A funnel in the south wall ascends from the base to the battlement, and was probably designed for the ready conveyance of ammunition and provisions from the store-rooms below to the upper parts of the fortress. In the partition-wall there is a deep tide-well, the water of which at neap-tides is scarcely fit for use. This well ascends likewise to the summit of the keep, and opens under an arch upon the several stories. Round these are galleries that run in the main wall, and winding staircases in the corner turrets, by which the battlements are still easy enough of access. From thence we look down on the cathedral hard by, and have an interesting view of the broad reaches of the river, the extensive dock-yards of Chatham, and the several fortified heights about the town, which, immediately commanding the castle, now make its position ridiculous in a military light, though it was anciently held to be the second place of strength in the kingdom, and of such security, that in times of confusion, the most important records have been deposited within its walls.

This tower is still known by the name of Gundulph's Castle, from having been erected by the Bishop of Rochester so called, in the time of William

Rufus. That prince, at his accession to the throne, found his turbulent uncle, Odo, (whom the Conqueror on his death-bed had released from confinement, and reinstated in the government of Kent,) confederate with Robert, the elder claimant of the crown. Here the rebellious Odo secured a great part of his plunder of the county, and filled the fortress with refractory Norman nobility, under Eustace, Earl of Boulogne. Soon afterwards he was obliged to surrender himself at the castle of Pevensey, in Sussex. He then agreed to persuade his partizans to deliver up Rochester likewise; and for this purpose William brought him hither, and sent him under a guard into the castle. But as soon as he got in, the guard were made prisoners, and Eustace, pretending forcibly to detain his late chief, they both together set the king at defiance. Rufus was enraged, and finding his strength unequal to reduce the place, he issued a proclamation, that whoever would not be esteemed a "nithing," should hasten to the siege of Rochester. The fear of this term of reproach filled his camp; and, the castle being taken after six weeks' resistance, Odo was forced to abjure the realm for ever. Gundulph and the monks are supposed to have fallen under the king's suspicion; for the bishop was required to build a new tower in Rochester Castle, at his own and his convent's expense. The tower has thus become a lasting memorial of his fame.

In the reign of John this castle was first seized by the barons; soon after

197

besieged for three months, and taken by the king; retaken in the following year by Lewis of France; surrendered, on the death of John, to Henry III.; and, finally, assailed again more furiously than ever by Simon De Montfort, at the head of the still refractory Barons. On this occasion, De Montfort finding, in his attack on Rochester, his passage of the river vigorously opposed, particularly from some wooden towers at the head of the bridge, caused vessels filled with combustibles to be driven against them, crossed it in the confusion of the conflagration, and entered the town. The assault of the castle he continued with the utmost violence for seven days; but hearing that Henry was advancing towards London, he suddenly broke up the siege to meet the king.

The old wooden bridge, a great part of which was then consumed, had been built by Edgar and Abp. Dunstan. The present bridge is a very substantial one, of stone, which was substituted for the other in the time of Richard II. at the joint expense of Sir John de Cobham and Sir Robert Knollys, who, to defray the cost of its preservation, bequeathed certain estates, which still remain for this purpose under the management of trustees. Sir Robert Knollys highly signalized his valour in the wars of Edward III. and spent on this structure much of the wealth he had amassed by the plunder of the enemy. In process of time, what lands were left for keeping the work in repair were forgotten, except by the wardens of the bridge, who came by degrees to be elected by a knot of interested persons, and holding office year after year, made the property their own; till Sir Roger Manwood, in the reign of Elizabeth, in spite of every difficulty, placed the funds under such effective controul, that they have never since been mismanaged. Previously to this, the bridge had well nigh become a ruin; and while it was in this state Abp. Morton, in the reign of Henry VII. we are told, published "a remission from purgatory for forty days for all manner of sins to such as should give any thing to the repair of Rochester bridge."

There are likewise many estates in the county which nominally belong to the Castle, and continue to be held of it by old castle-guard tenure. On St. Andrew's day (the patron Saint of Rochester), a flag is hung out from the house of the receiver of rents, when defaulters are liable to have their payments doubled at each turn of the tide till the whole debt is discharged. This lingering custom would doubtless still have been observed, though the intention had been executed which was entertained some time in the course of the last century, of destroying these ancient ruins for the sake of their materials – an outrage that would have been

almost worthy of an age when monks made a *tabula rasa* of a Cicero to substitute a legend. The castle was indebted for its inviolability to the bare strength of

198

its walls, in one of which, by the way, there is a fearful fissure; but the general solidity of the work discouraged the barbarians from making their meditated attack.

On the east of the castle, and thus facing it with its western front, is the Cathedral; close beside which stands St. Nicholas, the old parish church. The cathedral is a building partly of the same age as the castle, and of the same episcopal architect; but, in its general plainness, suitable to the poverty of a bishopric which, though the oldest in England next to Canterbury, produces a smaller income than many a country rectory. The See of Rochester was founded by the Kentish King Ethelbert, soon after his conversion to Christianity; and the Cathedral was dedicated to St. Andrew, in memory of a Roman monastery, so called, where Augustine had resided; one of whose fellow-missionaries, of the name of Justus, was made the first bishop.

During the Danish troubles the church was nearly overwhelmed. The city was repeatedly taken and rifled; and though it once made a resolute defence – on which occasion it was at last succoured by Alfred, who beat back the invaders to their ships – yet finally, (in 998,) the inhabitants, in a panic at the renewed approach of the marauders, abandoned the town to plunder and ruin; and it seems scarcely to have held up its head for ages afterwards. At the same time it suffered deplorably from the violence of the Saxon princes themselves and their intestine quarrels. Amidst these calamities there was often no man bold enough to undertake the episcopal office. One of the bishops fled, and preferred a very poor living in some less distracted part of the island; another chose to get his bread by teaching church music, rather than remain in such a perilous gap. Paulinus, (an exiled Archbishop of York,) one of the earliest pastors of this church, having accepted the charge of the diocese, was sainted – for his firmness, perhaps, in venturing to do so at a time when there were more wolves than sheep in the fold.

The ravages of war and encroachments of powerful persons so much reduced the scanty endowments of the cathedral, that at the period of the conquest religious worship had ceased to be observed here. The priests, whose number had dwindled to five, were chiefly supported by the charity of the people; and Odo, the rapacious Earl of Kent, made use of the opportunity to lay his hands on most of what remained of their property. The see was on the eve of being suppressed, when, through the vigour of Lanfranc, the Primate, well seconded by Gundulph, (whom he had appointed to be its bishop,) many of the estates belonging to it were wrested out of Odo's grasp, and the place recovered its ecclesiastical dignity.

199

Gundulph rebuilt the cathedral, and (to judge from what remains of his work) in a manner worthy of his architectural fame. The west front, though with its side turrets rather low, (and the latter hardly higher than the wall between them,) is richly adorned in the old Norman fashion; chiefly with small pilasters in thick rows and multiplied stories, that cover the whole of its face, excepting the top of the north corner turret, which has been awkwardly renewed in a more recent but less ornamented style. Occupying a niche of this turret is a mutilated figure, much older than the surrounding masonry, with crosier across the breast, and meant, according to tradition, for Gundulph himself. The entrance arch is semicircular, with a very deep recess; the sides of which are fluted and rounded into numerous pillars, and two of the pillars carved into rude statues of a king and queen, supposed to be Stephen and his wife Matilda – special patrons of Rochester Cathedral: and between the top of the doorway and the

inner rounding of the arch there is an entablature embossed with uncouth sculpture. To this elaborate entrance, (which is probably the work of Gundulph,) the nakedness of the rest of the building, both the body and the tower, is a striking contrast. The interior of the nave is in some parts meagre enough, and in none costly, like the outer front; with which, however, it corresponds in general character. The pillars are short and thick, partly round, partly angular and many-cornered; their arches, (at least with two exceptions,) semicircular, very broad, and distinguished by large zig-zag and waved ornaments; which likewise fill up the blank arches in the wall between the gallery-pillars and the upper windows: and this antique tracery gives a singular air to the whole. No ribs extend from the columns across the roof, which is a bare series of the commonest rafters. The windows of the south aisle are not uniform with those of the north, but much smaller, narrow, and irregularly set. The general effect is gloomy and heavy, but by no means unpleasing. So far the architecture belongs to Gundulph, or at least bears the evident impress of his age. All beyond is less ancient, and, being besides very plain and poor, is far less interesting. These newer portions, however, are more finished than the nave; the roof of the choir is vaulted and plastered over; the arches are all pointed; and their imposts, in the west transept, terminate in corbel heads of frowning monks, which are much better carved than the strange figures that adorn the fine old entrance.

Bishop Gundulph was so distinguished in his day for skill in architecture, military as well as ecclesiastical, that Rufus, who obliged him to build the Castle

200

of Rochester, employed him, likewise, on the Tower of London, in which the principal structure, viz. the White Tower, was of his erection. He was also, though not remarkable for his learning, a man of great ability in the conduct of affairs. Under his management, the cathedral, which previously had scarce supported so many as five of the religious order, was now filled with a fraternity of sixty. Like most of the Norman prelates, he substituted Benedictines for secular priests, and separated his own revenues from those of his priory. Before that era, the bishops and their associated clergy had been content with a common property. In this division, however, strangely enough, with all his prudence, he was very unfair to himself and his successors. He gave the monks so many of the benefices newly recovered from Odo, that the Bishops of Rochester still found themselves barely provided for; till one of them, Gilbert de Glanville, near the end of the next century, at last, after violent litigation, compelled the brethren to surrender some share of their disproportionate possessions. For this they never forgave him; and though he was a munificent prelate, and, to make peace, built them a new dormitory, they so abhorred his memory, that they would fain have excluded his body from interment in his own cathedral: where, notwithstanding, in spite of their malice, by some good chance, he rests to this day beside the altar, in a tomb still adorned with his mitred effigy. They took their revenge, nevertheless: for the unfortunate prelate dying, in the reign of John, while the Pope's ban forbid the observance of christian decencies, the exulting monks hurried him to his grave, just one day or two before the removal of the interdict, and had the satisfaction of burying their bishop like a heathen, within the very sanctuary of the church.

The poverty of this bishopric subjected it, in those times, to some other indignities. It was long held to be a mere dependency on Canterbury. The archbishops claimed the right of nominating to the See of Rochester, and the monks of the place could only make a show of election. On the demise of a bishop they were obliged to send his crosier to Christchurch, where his successor received it again at the hands of the primate, after the ceremony of his consecration. This token of submission was very reluctantly given. The Rochester monks aspired to independence; and at length, in 1410, having chosen Richard

de Wendover, whom the archbishop, not having nominated, refused to consecrate, they appealed to Rome, where the cause was finally decided in their favour. But the Pope only took the power from Canterbury to appropriate it to himself: and by a Bull of Papal provision, after every appointment of a Bishop of

201

Rochester, the Court of Rome continued to reserve the right of naming the next prelate, till Henry VIII. made himself the Head of the Church of England, and sole patron of all her bishoprics.

The Bishops of Rochester, while under metropolitan patronage, were considered the Archbishop's Chaplains, and, indeed, often acted as his representatives, being called upon, in case of his absence or decease, to preside over the cathedral services at Canterbury. Hence this little See had some amends for its strict subjection to the mother-church. The subjection itself became a source of distinction; the bishops, in virtue of so close a connexion, challenging to themselves the privilege of consecrating the primate elect, and thus qualifying individuals for the chief seat in the English hierarchy. Their position seems even to have enabled them, on emergencies, to retaliate on their principal with very sufficient boldness. At least Benedict, Bishop of Rochester, in the reign of John, considering his superior deficient in respect to the Pope, assumed the superiority himself, and excommunicated Archbishop Langton, for refusing to publish a Papal bull against the revolted Barons, (whose cause the Primate had espoused.) And as these little bishops, though partly the creatures of the power above them, were probably as much galled as the monks of their cathedral at the necessity of receiving the pastoral staff from the hands of a haughty metropolitan, one cannot but conjecture, that, on the occasion alluded to, the inferior dignitary felt loyalty to his sovereign and obedience to the Pope to be peculiarly agreeable duties. King John, by the way, soon afterwards proved an ungrateful prince; for, on taking this city from the barons, he let his soldiers pillage the cathedral till "not a pix was left upon the altar," and the horses of his troopers were probably stabled among the stalls of the monks. The poor prelates, however, continued as loyal as before; and on Langton's death, in the next reign, Benedict's successor, Sandford, (who had been particularly harassed about the delivery of his predecessor's staff,) was sent to Rome by the king, to protest in his name against the election of a new primate by the monks of Canterbury. For, as Rochester received its bishops from the metropolitan see, so the patronage of this last, it was always asserted, should be lodged in the Crown; and the contested point long continued to vex the English monarchs, the monks, and the Romish court itself; each of the three parties laying claim to the same right. The king, in this juncture, probably considered that no ecclesiastical ambassador would be more likely to do his best to convince the Pope that Canterbury was at least not independent, than a Bishop of Rochester. Nor was he disappointed. The election of the monks was set aside, and the triumphant negociator was

202

rewarded with the honour of consecrating Richard Wetherside Archbishop of Canterbury, in the presence of Henry III. and a numerous attendance of nobility. The next Bishop of Rochester was the elect of his own fraternity, and the pastoral staff was never again "laid on the altar of Christchurch."

A short time before this event, the east transept and present choir of the cathedral, which were first opened at the consecration of the above-mentioned Bishop Sandford, had been built by William de Hoo, the sacrist, out of the oblations on the shrine of St. William.

This St. William was a Scotch baker, who, about twenty years before, had set out on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land, and passed through Rochester on his way. Going from hence towards Canterbury, doubtless to the tomb of the

recent martyr, St. Thomas, he was robbed and murdered by his servant, and in due time became canonized himself. The good baker, it seems, was famous for his charity, and had been accustomed to give every tenth loaf to the poor, who would therefore be disposed to honour his memory. The body of the murdered man was brought back to Rochester: the monks improved the occasion, pronounced him a martyr as well as St. Thomas, buried him in the cathedral, and soon a rumour spread of miracles performed at his tomb. The churchmen happened at the time to be particularly needy; they had long been quarrelling with their bishop, Gilbert de Glanville, as before related, about presentations to benefices, and were beggared by expensive appeals to the court of Rome. Their distress even forced them, in an evil hour, to strip the silver plate from the shrine of their own peculiar patron, St. Paulinus, a primitive bishop of this see; and ever since the sacrilege, his relics, it was observed, had lost their accustomed virtue, and his shrine was not likely again to be covered with silver plate. Perhaps they would scarcely have ventured to meddle with it, but the splendour of the new saint promised already to eclipse his predecessor. St. William soon filled their exhausted coffers, enabled them to amplify their church, and in little more than fifty years after the pious pilgrim's murder, the grateful Bishop Lawrence went to Rome, and had him regularly inserted in the calendar. The east cross-aisle (which his posthumous merits earned the money to build,) is still distinguished, (at least the north end of it,) as the chapel of St. William; and the old steps, worn by the feet of his devotees, are yet to be seen in the passage between it and the lower transept. In this chapel stands a poor, plain chest of stone, which is supposed to have been the shrine of the saint.

There is another obscure tomb in the church, which, though without ornament of any kind, deserves notice for the sake of Bishop Gundulph, its con-
 203

tured tenant. It stands near the confessional, on the south side, not far from the altar.

On the same side there is a richly-sculptured doorway, which now leads into the library. In this library, it should be noticed, is preserved the *Textus Roffensis* of Gundulph's learned successor, Ernulph: a record which not only contains the archives of the cathedral, but much incidental information besides, on the ancient history of the county. This valuable MS. has twice been nearly lost, and has twice been recovered – once at the expense of a law-suit, after it had fallen into private, and for a long while unknown, hands, in the time of the Commonwealth; again, having been borrowed by Dr. Harris, the author of the *Kentish History*, it sunk in the Thames, along with the vessel that conveyed it, on its passage to London, and has consequently suffered some damage. Ernulph, like his predecessor, was an architect, and built, (besides some other appendages to this cathedral, which have perished,) the cloisters, which still remain a fine monument of his skill. He had before been Prior of Christchurch, at Canterbury, where his genius was employed in a similar way.

There are two more episcopal tombs worth mentioning, both of them in St. William's Chapel, and near each other: one of them, that of Walter de Merton, who died 1277, the founder of Merton College, Oxford; at the expense of which society a new monument here was erected for him in 1598. The other is that of the learned Bishop Lowe, who died in 1467.

Of the prelates who have sat in this cathedral, there were two contemporaries, a Catholic and a Protestant, who deserve universal honour: the martyr Ridley on one side, and on the other his almost immediate predecessor, Bishop Fisher. The name of Ridley awakens due reverence in all such hearts as are capable of being warmed with the memory of the men who kindled "a light in England that shall never be extinguished." But we ought not for this to be either blind or cold to some who were most truly illustrious on opposite ground. Ridley and Fisher were surely brother martyrs. If the title belongs to one who lays

down his life for conscience' sake, no Protestant should grudge to give it to this venerable old Romish zealot.

The least of Fisher's merits was his great learning, and his zeal for the promotion, especially, of theological knowledge. Both our universities are indebted to his literary solicitude. In the earlier part of his life he was chaplain to Margaret, Countess of Richmond, the mother of Henry VII. In consequence of Fisher's instances, she founded Christ's College and St. John's, at Cambridge, and endowed the Margaret Professorships of Divinity both there and

204

at Oxford. She did not live to see the completion of St. John's; but Fisher, as her principal executor and trustee, watched over the work, and had finally the pleasure of opening, with great ceremony, that noble establishment, to which, indeed, he was himself a liberal benefactor. When he afterwards became Chancellor of the University, he used his influence at Cambridge with great earnestness against the dissemination of Protestant sentiments. Yet it does not appear that he is chargeable with acts of harshness towards his opponents. Erasmus, at least, (who was without such devoted energy of purpose, and cannot be accused of any leaning to severity,) at a later period warmly eulogised his dead friend alike for his learning and his modesty, for his integrity and singular humanity and mildness. With his pen, however, he was uniformly zealous in the Roman Catholic cause. Nearly all his works are directed against Luther, or the Lutherans; and he is supposed to have had a principal share in the famous "Defence" that gained Henry the title of "Defender of the Faith" from the Pope, who was so soon to find in the English tyrant a worthy antagonist of papal rapacity and insolence – one full-blown with the pride befitting a true son of the Church of Rome, who, rebel as he was, never forgot his mother.

But Henry, amidst all his savage licentiousness, still seems to have had a sort of brute-instinct of reverence for virtue. He long honoured Fisher, who was now growing aged in the Bishopric of Rochester; where, to the last, he persisted in refusing every offer of higher preferment, with the remark, that he "would not desert his little old wife, to whom he had been so long wedded, for another, because she was richer." He would have been favoured to the end, like his great contemporary, Cranmer, if the integrity of the Roman Catholic had not been of a more inflexible fibre, so far as we can judge, than that of the Reformer.

When Catharine's divorce was in agitation, the King was solicitous to secure in his behalf the opinion of a man of such learning and rigid conscientiousness as Fisher. But the bishop chose the course that was worthy of him, and uniformly contended that the marriage could not in justice and honour be annulled. Other perilous questions were very soon started. The smaller monasteries were about to be condemned, preparatory, as was evident, to the dissolution of the rest. He opposed the design in parliament with great vehemence; which made the Duke of Norfolk tell him that he had better have spared his words, for they only proved that "the greatest clerks were not always the wisest men." "My lord," replied the bishop, "I never knew any fools in my time that proved great clerks." Yet, however this might be, it must

205

be owned that, in his eagerness to prop a crazy church, he fell himself into one very egregious folly: and he did so in company with his philosophical friend, Sir Thomas More. They were both duped by the ravings of the "Holy Maid of Kent:" and Fuller, who never can resist the temptation of a witticism or a pun, (whether good or bad,) is highly delighted to catch "the Fisher in this net of Elizabeth Barton." But who is there that cannot excuse these thoughtful and earnest men for believing, at such an epoch, that heaven denounced ven-

geance on the robber and destroyer of whatsoever they held to be most sacred? The poor visionary impostor, who was then the weak stay of the trembling Romanists, was no flatterer of Henry: and his resentment made him keen enough to detect a deceit that dazzled clearer eyes than his own. The monarch was probably far from displeased to find his simple confessor in the snare, and immediately imprisoned him on the charge of concealing the nun's prediction of his speedy ruin. The bishop was forced to pay £300 to recover his freedom.

Catharine having been now divorced, all men in place were required to repeat their oath of allegiance and swear to acknowledge as the King's heirs the issue of his present union with his "lawful and beloved wife, Anne Boleyn." Fisher preferred going again to prison: "He would swear," he said, "to the allegiance, and to the succession; and he would never again dispute about the marriage, but he could not, in conscience, affirm its validity." Henry now hated him with a rancour proportioned to the value he set upon his opinion; a rancour exasperated by the very esteem which he could not avoid entertaining for his character. The aged bishop was deprived of his dignity, and lay for a year in a wretched prison, where he was scarcely supplied with necessary food and clothing.

During his confinement, the King proclaimed himself the head of the church; and all knew that they would be compelled, on the peril of their lives, to acknowledge his supremacy. Under these circumstances, Sir Thomas More, whose congenial spirit made him intimate with this upright churchman, sent privately to inquire what resolution he had taken on a matter of such moment: that so he might the better be able to steer his own course. Fisher, with great propriety of feeling, declined to express his sentiments, advising his friend to act according to his unbiassed conscience. But though he was so guarded on this dangerous point, when the safety of a friend was concerned – when only his own was threatened, it soon appeared how easily his conscientious simplicity would expose him to the malice of his persecutor.

Whilst the deprived bishop remained in his now precarious condition, the

206

infatuated Pope seems to have imagined, that a Cardinal's Hat would both reward him for his sufferings, and protect his head. The Cardinal's Hat enraged Henry, and he would not let it enter his dominions. Meanwhile the poor Cardinal himself was innocent even of the suspicion of this unseasonable honour. But Rich, the Attorney-General, was sent treacherously to ask him what he would do in case such a preferment were offered him? He replied, that "he had no expectation of such an offer being ever made: he felt himself wholly unworthy of it." But being still pressed on the subject, he answered at once, "Be assured I would make the best use of it in my power for the benefit of the Church of Christ." These words being related to Henry, threw him into a transport of passion. "Ha!" cried the savage, "is he yet so lusty? Then, mother of God, he shall wear the hat on his shoulders, for I will leave him never a head."

The Attorney-General was sent, still more traitorously than before, to draw him into conversation on the fatal subject of the Supremacy, and trick him into a confession of his sentiments by pretending that the King was religiously anxious for his counsel. The bishop, being thus called upon, firmly declared that the King could take no such authority upon himself without greatly endangering his own soul. Nothing more was wanted. He was brought out of the prison to take his trial for high treason, and Rich was the witness against him. With honest indignation the accused protested in vain against such treachery and injustice. The trial was soon concluded; and at evening it was announced to him, in his prison, that on the morrow he was to be brought to the scaffold. In the morning he dressed himself with peculiar care: and when, after the long neglect of his person to which confinement had accustomed him, the attendant

noticed his neat attire with surprise, seeing that in an hour it was to be laid aside for ever, "Dost thou not consider," replied the martyr, "that this is our marriage-day, and it becometh us to be careful of our enrobing." The execution of Fisher was followed by that of his illustrious friend, Sir Thomas More, who suffered in the same cause; and both their heads were exposed on London bridge.

From the just study of such rare examples, whether occurring among Protestants or Catholics, the Church of England, (as well as the whole body of Christians,) might still draw strength and assurance of victory over every enemy. In the light of such names as Fisher and Ridley, (surrounded as they are with a numerous and noble fellowship,) the virtues and distinctions of their later successors for the moment almost vanish. It seems idle to solicit attention to the flowery eloquence of Sprat, or even to dwell upon the princely munificence of

207

Warner. And yet the liberal spirit of this latter prelate does certainly deserve especial honour. At a time when all churchmen were proscribed and plundered, he contrived to disperse more than £8,000 among his humbler brethren, shut out from their churches and means of living like himself. And when restored to his bishopric, he employed its scanty resources, with a charity that made them flow abundantly, in augmenting small vicarages and endowing scholarships, founding a house of refuge for the destitute, and ransoming Christians from bondage among the Moors; besides beautifying cathedrals and enriching learned societies with libraries. His remains are interred under an elegant marble monument in his own cathedral; but his noblest memorial is the college which he built for poor widows, near the palace of the bishops of Rochester, at Bromley . . . There is another (and more than one other) celebrated name in this line of bishops – the ingenious and unfortunate Atterbury. But it is surely not too much to affirm, that it is like going from a church into a theatre, to turn from martyrs and confessors to this devotee and victim of political ambition, the partizan of Sacheverell and rebel advocate of passive obedience, whose plots for the Pretender, and love of a Jacobite tyranny, made him an outcast at length, and about as meritorious a one as Bolingbroke, his fellow-exile in the same cause. He was the friend of Pope, and the delight of all the wits, the theme of the Tatler's praises for his fine discourses and his moving gestures. But was he, (it has been doubtfully asked,) more than a special pleader for religion, who pointed his phrases of professional contempt at the infidel flippancy of an age so lax in every moral requirement, that hypocrisy herself wore her mask but loosely? Perhaps the best story that remains of him (if it only be true) is one that his admirers are loth to credit – the reported tale of his friend Pope: who is said, on Lord Chesterfield's authority, (whatever that be worth,) to have related, that on calling to wish the deprived bishop farewell upon the eve of his banishment, he was surprised to find him with a Bible before him; and still more to hear him affirm his belief in the inspired volume, and recommend to his visitor, while presenting him with the book, (as a memorial of one whom he was never likely to behold again,) the serious perusal of what, it seems, had furnished them both with matter of merriment in their lighter hours. The anecdote, whatever be its credit, is, at all events, affecting and instructive.

His second successor was Bishop Wilcocks, who, in a very exemplary manner, copied the disinterestedness of Fisher and the charity of Warner. To the college of the latter he was a great benefactor; and the memorable words of the former were often in his mouth, and became the rule of his conduct. When

208

opportunities of higher advancement occurred, (and he was offered the Archbishopric of York,) he contented himself with repeating, like Fisher, that he was married to his diocese, and "he would not forsake his poor wife for a richer."

Since the time of Bishop Wilcocks, the learned Zachary Pearce, and the still more eminent prelate, Samuel Horseley, have adorned the See of Rochester.

The Cathedral contains the following memorials, in addition to those above noticed:

In the choir, within the altar rails, on the south wall, under three small arches, are pictures of three Bishops, with their mitres and crosiers. Within the rails, under the north and south windows, are several stone coffins and other remains of Bishops' monuments, but no inscriptions or arms. At the east end of the north chapel, a beautiful marble tomb for Bishop Warner, obt. 1666: another for John Lee Warner, S.T.P. Archdeacon, and the Bishop's nephew and heir, obt. 1679; put up by his son, Henry Lee: a tablet for Lee Warner, Esq. eldest son of the Archdeacon, obt. 1698. In the chapel, south of the choir, are three tombs of the ancient Bishops of Rochester, but much defaced: a memorial for Daniel Prat, A.M. son of Dean Prat, and Rector of Harrietsham, obt. 1723. In the nave, memorials for Christopher Allen, Gent.: for John Gilman, A.M. Prebendary, Rector of Kingsdown, and Vicar of St. Nicholas, Rochester, obt. 1710: for Christopher, son of Richard Fogge, Esq. of Tilmanstone, Capt. of the Rupert, obt. 1708; and Mary, his wife, obt. 1714: for Isaac Rutton, Gent.; and Mary his wife, obt. 1665: a monument and memorial for Francis Barrell, Sergeant at Law, obt. 1679; and Anne, his wife, 1707: another for Francis Barrell, Esq. obt. 1724; and Anne, his wife, obt. 1717: a memorial for Anne, widow of Edmund Barrell, obt. 1710. In the south aisle, a monument for Richard Somers, Gent. obt. 1682; erected by John, his eldest son. In the south transept, memorials for James Thurston, Attorney at Law, son of Hearne, and grandson of George, obt. 1695; and Mary, his wife, obt. 1724; erected by his son, Morrell Thurston. On the east wall, a monument, with his bust in an oval, for Sir Richard Head, Bart. obt. 1689; put up by Sir Francis Head, Bart.: a hatchment for Mary, wife of Capt. Robert Wilford, obt. 1683. In the north transept, memorials for Margaret, widow of John Pymm, Gent. and daughter of Finch Daring, Gent. of Charing, obt. 1684: for Augustine Cæsar, M.D. obt. 1683. On the east wall, a monument, on which is a quaint epitaph, for Augustine Cæsar, M.D. obt. 1677: another for William Streaton, nine times Mayor, and a good benefactor to this city, obt. 1609: a tablet for William Cayley, third son of Sir George Cayley, Bart. of Brompton, Yorkshire, Capt. R. N. who died at Chatham, 3d Jan. 1801, aged 58 years: a neat marble monument for Samuel Baker, Esq. of Boley Hill, many years magistrate of this city, who died Nov. 5th, 1836, aged 75 years: another for John Parr, Esq. Storekeeper of the Ordnance at Chatham, who died 21st March, 1792, aged 76 years. In the chapel of the Virgin Mary, south of the nave, a memorial for John Crompe, Esq. eldest son of Benjamin Crompe, Prebendary, obt. 1718: a monument for Benjamin Crompe, A.M. Rector of Halstow, and Prebendary, obt. 1663: a memorial for Frances, wife of Daniel Hill, Prebendary, obt. 1706: a brass plate for Frances Hill, obt. 1729; placed by Daniel Hill, S.T.P.: a monument for Robert Hill, third son of Daniel and Frances Hill, obt. 1729; erected by Thomas, his brother. In the nave, memorials for Ann and Frances, wives of Francis Barrell, Esq.; the former died 1734, the latter 1736: for Henry Barrell, son of Francis Barrell, Serjeant at Law, and Chapter Clerk, obt. 1754: for Catherine, daughter of William Upcott, Esq. obt. 1727: for Jane, wife of Thomas Faunce, Esq. and daughter of Edmund Barrell, Prebendary, obt. 1739: for Francis, only son of Francis Barrell,

209

Esq. obt. 1755. In the south aisle, memorials for John Benson, A.M. Rector of Halstow, obt. 1753: for Robert Unitt, obt. 1738; Elizabeth, his wife, 1739; and Robert, their son, 1754: for Edmund Strange, Esq. obt. 1756; and Mary, his wife, 1760: a very handsome marble monument, with two female figures, one leaning on an urn, and holding a pelican in its nest feeding her young, the other, standing erect, holds, with extended arm, a laurel crown; above are the words, "Sic itur ad astra;" it is in memory of the Rt. Hon. John, Lord Henniker, created a Baron in July, 1800, who died 18th April, 1803, aged 79: near this, another equally handsome, having an urn placed on a tomb, on one side of which stands a female, on the other side sits old Time; this is to the memory of Dame Ann Henniker, wife of Sir John Henniker, Bart. of Newton Hall, and Stratford, in Essex, eldest daughter of Sir John Major, Bart. of Worlingworth Hall, Suffolk, who died at Bristol, 18th July, 1792, aged 65; also her second son, Major, merchant, of London, who died 3d Feb. 1789, and was buried at Streatham. In the south transept, a memorial for John Denne, D.D. Archdeacon and Prebendary, and Rector of Lambeth, obt. 1767: a marble tablet for Morrell Thurston, obt. 1747: memorials for George Prat, A.M. Curate of Chatham, and Vicar of Boughton Monchelsea, obt. 1747; he is buried

in the same grave with his brother, the Rev. Daniel Prat: for the Rev. Samuel Prat, A.B. obt. 1765, son of George and Mary Prat; and for several of their children: a white mural monument, with a small bust, on the right side of the entrance to the choir, inscribed, "Archetypum hunc dedit Joseph Broke de Satis Arm.:" below is a tablet to the memory of Richard Watts, Esq. a great benefactor to this city, obt. 1579 at his mansion house, on Bully Hill, called Satis; the monument was erected by the mayor and citizens, in 1736, Richard Watts, Esq. then mayor: a neat tablet for John Law, S.T.P. for 60 years Archdeacon of Rochester, and 40 years Vicar of Chatham, who died in 1827, aged 88: a tablet for Elizabeth, widow of Thomas Bond, Esq. of Lambeth, who died 18th Feb. 1800, aged 74 years: a monument for Sir Edmund Head, Bart. who died 21st Nov. 1796, in the 63d year of his age.

St. Nicholas' Church, Rochester, contains the following old monuments and memorials:

In the chancel, a brass plate, for Alice, daughter and heir of John Williams, of Stroud, first married to John Tucke, Alderman, and secondly, to Thomas Robinson, Regist. obt. 1574: a memorial for Robert Bayley, late minister of this parish, obt. 1701. The north window, according to an inscription, was put up at the charge of John Cobham, Esq. and Alderman, in 1624. On a grave-stone, south of the altar, are the arms of Austen, and under it the vault of that family: a monument, with the figures of a man and his three wives, for Thomas Rocke, Gent. Alderman, and four times Mayor, obt. 1625: another, with the figures of a man and woman kneeling at a desk, for George Wilson, Esq. twice Mayor, obt. 1629; and Anne, his wife, obt. 1630. In the nave, memorials for Elizabeth, first wife of Sir Robert Fane, only daughter of Norton Halke, Gent. obt. 1661: and for Elizabeth, his second wife, eldest daughter of Richard Head, Esq. obt. 1633; for Henry, son of Richard Head, Esq. obt. 1673: for Barbara, wife of William Head, Alderman, obt. 1703: a monument for George Robinson, four times Mayor, obt. 1657. In the south aisle, against the south wall, a brass plate for Thomasine, daughter of William Watts, wife of Robert Hall, Mayor, obt. 1575. In the north aisle, a monument for Robert Conny, M.D. only son of John Conny, surgeon, and twice Mayor, the son of Robert Conny, of Godmanchester, in Huntingdonshire, Gent.; he married Frances, daughter of Richard Manley, Esq. of Holloway Court; they both died in 1723: a monument for Philip Bartholomew, Gent. and Sarah, his wife, who both died in 1696; placed by Leonard, their only surviving son.

210

St. Margaret's Church, Rochester. In the reign of Charles II. a coronet, set round with precious stones, was dug up in this church-yard; and it has been said, that one of our Saxon kings was buried here.

In the chancel, a brass for Syr James Roberte Preest, obt. Sept. 24, 1540: a monument for Francis Head, Esq. eldest son of Sir Richard Head, Bart. obt. 1678; he married the only daughter of Sir George Ent. In the nave, a brass for Thomas Cod, Vicar, a benefactor to the steeple of this church, obt. Nov. 1465. In the chancel, south of the Rector's, a monument for Thomas Manly, Esq. third son and heir of George Manly, Esq. of Lach; he married Jane, second daughter of Richard Lee, Esq. of Delce, and left one son and two daughters, obt. 1690. This chancel was built, and long supported by the family of Lee, of Great Delce, whose remains lie here

In a chapel west of the Lee chancel, in the east wall, is the bust of a man, with a coronet on his head, very ancient, and much defaced.

CHATHAM is a populous, but ill-built town, with streets very long and narrow, forming a kind of suburb to Rochester, and connected at the other end with the Townships of Gillingham and Brompton. It has grown out of the various business of the shipping, which gives the place its chief and characteristic interest. The dock-yard extends along the eastern reach of the Medway, which turns abruptly in that direction, after running northward through Rochester. The view of the yard from this distance, with its line of wooden pavilion-like enclosures, each capable of holding the growing fabric of a man of war, has a striking effect. But on closer inspection, a scene of this kind is, in

peaceful times, of course, rather a drowsy one, especially to those who may yet remember the stir maintained here by the demands of a twenty years' war, like the last. We can now only admire the vast, but almost sleeping apparatus, for turning forests into navies that carry the presence of England into every quarter of the globe.

Chatham first began to grow important as a naval station in the time of Elizabeth, when twenty great ships were harboured here, and at the adjacent town of Gillingham. But in the reign of Charles II. it suffered a memorable insult from the Dutch, who, to avenge their previous losses, by a last blow, just before the conclusion of the war, sailed into the Thames, under their great Admiral, De Ruyter, burnt several vessels (besides doing other damage) both here and elsewhere, and after alarming London itself with the rumour of their approach, retired in triumph, with very little injury to themselves.

Since that period, the defensive condition of the place has been better attended to. But most of the military works in the vicinity were raised about the middle of the last century, when the country was threatened with invasion by

211

the French. The Chatham Lines, within which are situated extensive barracks, environ the hill above the dock-yard, and have a wide circumference, embracing the city race-course, and the large Township of Brompton. The heights that face this hill, on the other side of Rochester, are crowned by the Pit and Clarence Forts.

Roome House, in the Parish of Chatham, the seat of James Best, Esq. of Park House, Boxley, is a good residence, situated in a small park, stocked with deer, a short distance south from the High Street, Chatham, on the road to Maidstone.

This was formerly the property of the family of Walker, one of whom alienated it to Commodore Mihell, who sold it to George Hinde, Esq. and after his decease his widow carried her interest in it, in marriage, to George Monroe, Esq. It was subsequently purchased by James Best, Esq. of Chatham, who died in 1782, ancestor of the present proprietor.

Chatham Church is dedicated to the Virgin Mary. The former structure being too small for the inhabitants, was taken down, with the exception of the steeple, in 1788, and the present building raised on its site. The monuments were refixed.

In the chancel, a memorial for William Nurse, Gent. obt. 1702: another for Elizabeth, wife of Thomas Best, of this parish, brewer, and widow of William Nurse, Gent. by whom she had only one son, obt. 1706: a monument for Jeremy Gregory, Esq. Clerk of the Cheque, and son of Major Jeremy Gregory, of London, obt. 1713; he married Mary, daughter of Sir Edward Gregory, and had six children by her: another for Edward Yardley, Gent. of Chatham, obt. 1655; and Dorothy, his wife, 1657; they had six sons and two daughters: another for Sir Edward Gregory, Commissioner of Chatham Yard, obt. 1713; he married, first, Mary, daughter of William Coppin, Esq. of Deal, by whom he left three daughters; secondly, Anne, relict of Sir John Godwin, Commissioner of the Navy, by whom he had no issue. In the nave, two brass plates fixed in a stone, for Steven Borough, born at Northam, in Devonshire, who died in 1584; he discovered Muscovia by the northern sea passage to St. Nicholas, in 1553; at his setting forth from England he was accompanied by two other ships, Sir Hugh Willobie being admiral of the fleet, who, with all the two ships' companies, were frozen to death in Lappia, the same winter after his discovery of Russia, and the adjoining coasts of Lappia, Nova Zembla, and the country of Samoyeda, &c.: he frequented the trade yearly to St. Nicholas, as chief pilot for the voyage, till he was chosen one of the Masters in Ordinary of the Queen's Royal Navy, in which he was employed till his death. A monument for Sir John Cox, a Captain and Commander in the Navy, slain in a sea engagement with the Dutch, in 1672: a memorial for the Fletchers, master carvers of the dock-yard, and their families: another for the Mawdistlys, of this parish: another for Elizabeth, wife of Mr. Thomas Best, of this parish, brewer,

obt. 1702: a monument for Robert Wilkinson, alias Edisbury, Gent. of Denbighshire, obt. 1610. Near the west door, on a pedestal, is the half figure of a man, laying his right hand on a death's head, and holding in his left a book, for Kenrike Edisbury, Esq. of Marchwell, in Denbighshire, Surveyor

212

of the Navy, obt. 1638; he married Mary, daughter and heir of Edward Peters, alias Harding, Gent. of Rochester.

In addition to the above, there are several other monuments, both in the church and church-yard, for the principal officers of the dock-yard and their families.

In the belfry is the figure of a man, habited in the fashion of Queen Elizabeth's time, in the attitude of prayer.

HUNDRED OF SHAMWELL.

COWLING. About a quarter of a mile west from the church stand the ruins of Cowling Castle. Sir John de Cobham, Lord Cobham, having obtained the royal licence, in the 4th year of the reign of Richard II. to fortify his manor-house of Cowling, pulled down the old mansion, and erected this castellated structure in its stead, which henceforth acquired the name of Cowling Castle. Sir John de Cobham was a person of eminence in his day. He founded the College of Cobham, and jointly with Sir Robert Knollys, built the new stone bridge at Rochester. In the 10th year of the reign of Richard II. he was appointed one of the thirteen lords, governors of the kingdom; but being impeached of treason by the lords appellant, he was condemned to die, and forfeit his estates to the Crown. This sentence was commuted by the king for imprisonment for life; but, on the accession of Henry IV. he was restored to his titles and property, and died in the 9th year of that reign. Cowling Castle became afterwards the seat of Sir John Oldcastle, who, in the reign of Henry V. was put to death in a cruel manner for heresy and high treason. He had taken the title of Lord Cobham, in consequence of his marriage with the daughter of the above-mentioned Sir John de Cobham.

The outer walls and towers are sufficiently perfect to give an idea of the strength of the place, and so far ruinous as to wear a strikingly venerable and picturesque appearance: the embattled gate, flanked with round towers, through which was the principal entrance, is still nearly entire, and particularly handsome.

Sir Thomas Wyatt, during his rebellion in the reign of Mary, attacked Cowling Castle with six pieces of cannon; but finding it too strong and well defended to be easily captured, he raised the siege and marched to Gravesend.

213

Cowling Church is dedicated to St. James. It contains the following memorials:

In the chancel, on a stone, two brass plates for Sybell, daughter of Gilbert Thurston, of London, wife of Nathaniel Sparks, who was Rector of this Church 28 years, obt. 1639. In the nave, near the pulpit, a brass, with the figure of a woman, for Feyth Brook, daughter of Sir John Brook, Lord of Cobham, obt. 1508: another for Thomas Woodyear, Gent. of Cooling, who married Mary, daughter of William Linch, Gent. and had one son and three daughters; obt. 1611. South aisle, a neat tablet for Mr. George Comport, of Cliffe.

FRINDSBURY. At the eastern extremity of this parish, on the north bank of the Medway, nearly opposite Chatham dock-yard, stands Upnor Castle, which was erected by Queen Elizabeth, in the third year of her reign. It is one of the many forts that were built on this river, in times of threatened

invasion, to oppose an enemy's progress; but they have nearly all long since been dismantled of their guns.

Almost the only instance in which this castle proved positively useful was in June, 1667, when Major Scott, the Commandant, repulsed the Dutch Vice-Admiral Van Ghent, who had been dispatched by De Ruyter to destroy the defences of the Medway.

Larkin Hall, in the Parish of Frindsbury, the residence of John Oakley, Gent. and property of George Gunning, Esq. of Brighton, is situated three-quarters of a mile north-west from Frindsbury Church, one mile and a half from Rochester, six miles and a half south-east from Gravesend, and about 28 miles from London.

Manor House, Frindsbury, the residence of Ambrose Spong, Gent. and property of Thomson Hankey, Esq. is situated near Frindsbury Church, on the north-east, one mile and a half from Rochester, and about 29 miles from London.

The Manor of Frindsbury, with its appendages, was given to the Church of Rochester, about the year 764, by one of the Saxon princes, before the end of that century. It was wrested from the Church, but finally recovered by Archbishop Lanfranc, in the assembly held on Penenden Heath, A.D. 1076, and allotted by Bishop Gundulph, on the apportionment of the revenues of his church, to the Priory of Rochester. After the dissolution of the Priory, Henry VIII. gave it to the Dean and Chapter of Rochester, with whom the inheritance still continues.

Reed House, in the Parish of Frindsbury, the seat of Lewis Jaquier, Esq. is an elegant modern house, improved by the present proprietor in 1826. Its situation is very good, commanding a fine view, eastward, of Rochester, Chat-

214

ham, the Medway, and surrounding country. The interior is ornamented with paintings by Titian, Murillo, Holbein, De Wit, &c.

Reed House is distant from Rochester about one mile and a half, from Gravesend rather more than five miles, and from London 28 miles.

Little Hermitage, in the Parish of Frindsbury, the seat of Mrs. Penelope Hulkes, is a modern structure, situated on the right of the high road from Rochester to Gravesend, distant from the former about two miles, and from the latter five miles. It was built by David Day, Esq. and considerably enlarged by the late James Hulkes, Esq. son of James Hulkes, Esq. formerly M.P. for Rochester.

Hollywood House, in the Parish of Frindsbury, the residence and property of John Snatt, Esq. is a modern house, erected by the present owner in 1814. The grounds and gardens are well furnished with fruit and forest trees. It is distant from Rochester about one mile and a half north, and from London 28 miles.

Vicarage, Frindsbury, is the residence of the Rev. James Formby, M.A. a Magistrate for the County, and proprietor of Upper Halling Place.

Frindsbury Church. In the chancel, on the north wall, a monument for William Watson, Gent. and Rose his wife, the parents of Robert Watson, Esq.; also Catherine Rebecca, Joane, Mary, and Isabella, wives of the said Robert, placed here by the son and husband, in 1673: a memorial for Robert Mynors, Esq. Governor of Upnor Castle, obt. 1694. In the nave, memorials for the Fowlers, Couchman, Kidwells, Grangers, Aldmonds, Nash, and others. In the south aisle, a monument for Henry Needler, Gent. obt. 1661: another for Robert Oliver, Gent. obt. 1666. On the west wall, a monument for Thos. Butler, who served Queen Elizabeth in England, France, and Spain, &c. anno 1621; Dennis his wife, anno 1607; and Margaret his wife, 1617.

Frindsbury Church is dedicated to All Saints.

Stroud Church. In the chancel, a memorial for the Cæsars. On the south wall, a monu-

ment for Samuel Gibson, A.M. Vicar of Frindsbury, obt. 10th Feb. 1724: a brass plate, with the figures of a man and his three wives, for Thomas Glover, who died in 1444; and Agnes, Alicia, and Joane, his wives. In the south aisle, a stone with the figure of a religious person; and round the edge an inscription in Saxon capitals, for Mariobe and John Creye. Over the door of the chapel, south of this aisle, is an inscription that this chapel was bought and repaired by Captain Richard Wood in 1705.

Upper Halling Place, in the Parish of Halling, the property of the Rev. James Formby, M.A. Vicar of Frindsbury, is an ancient Elizabethan house.

The Bishops of Rochester had formerly a Palace at Halling, the remains of

215

which may still be seen at Lower Halling, near the church: it was founded by Bishop Gundulph.

Halling Church. In the chancel, a brass plate for John Collard, one of the Clerks of the King's Exchequer, and Margery his wife. In the nave, against the west pillar, a brass plate with figures, for Silvester, daughter of Robert Dene, married to William Dalyson, Esq. and afterwards William Lambarde, Gent. obt. 1587; leaving by the first, Maximilian and Silvester; and by the second, Multon, and Margaret, and Gore and Fane, sons and twins.

Halling Church is dedicated to St. John the Baptist.

Cobham Hall, the residence of the Rt. Hon. the Countess of Darnley, is a noble structure, of brick, forming three sides of a square, the extremities of the wings terminating in octagonal towers. The following description of this ancient baronial mansion is taken from a late publication. "From the lawn opens the vestibule, fitted up in the Turkish and Italian styles; the marble chimney-piece is very elegant, having in front a bacchanalian sculpture, surrounded by statues, &c. The small figures of Hercules, the Apollo of the Vatican standing above, and the group of Cupid and Psyche, are exquisitely carved. Leaving this apartment we enter the music-room, the length of which is 50 feet, breadth 40 feet, and height 44: the ceiling is divided into square compartments with a deep oval in the centre, the whole richly gilt and ornamented. The lower part of the sides, between the pilasters, which are painted to imitate Sienna marble, is lined with grey veined marble, and at each end is a gallery, supported by four columns, cased with Sienna marble. The chimney-piece presents full length marble statues, with a sculpture from the story of Phaeton: above is a full length painting of the Duke of Richmond, son of Charles I. and one of his brothers, and over it the arms of Lord Darnley. The furniture, which cost £20,000, is very splendid, and among the ornaments are eight alabaster vases, on pedestals, with statues of the Venus de Medicis and Apollo. The interior of the north wing recently underwent a thorough repair, under the direction of Sir B. Wyattville, and a new gothic arched entrance has been built. This communicates with a vaulted passage leading to the grand staircase, which has also been altered to the gothic taste. Thence you proceed to the picture-gallery, 134 feet long, lined with paintings by the first masters. The four chimney-pieces, in common with all the rest in the old parts of the house, are beautifully wrought in white and black marble, bearing the Cobham arms, and date 1587. In an adjoining chamber Queen Elizabeth was lodged, during her visit to William, Lord Cob-

216

ham, in the first year of her reign, and her arms are still on the ceiling. On the ground floor is the dining room, the chimney-piece of which exhibits a full length statue of Pomona, and under the cornice is an outline engraving of Moses striking the rock. In the apartments of the south wing are many fine

pictures, by Titian, Sir Joshua Reynolds, Salvator Rosa, &c. and a particularly fine and valuable one by Rubens, representing the death of Cyrus.

"The park includes an area of 1800 acres, and is diversified and well wooded. The oaks are remarkably large, and on the south is a magnificent avenue of limes, in four rows, one thousand yards in length. At the south-east extremity of the park, on an elevation called William's Hill, is the mausoleum, erected at the cost of £30,000. It is built of Portland stone, octangular, the columns at each angle supporting a sarcophagus, and the summit terminating in a pyramid. There is also attached to it a chapel, elegantly fitted up."

Cobham Hall stands in a vale, in the Parish of Cobham, distant from Gravesend about four miles and a half south-east, and from Rochester three miles and a half west.

Owletts, in the Parish of Cobham, the residence and property of Mrs. Edmeades, is a good substantial house, situated a short distance north-west from the church, about six miles from Rochester, and four miles from Gravesend. Though of modern appearance, it bears the date of 1648.

This place was for many generations the property and residence of the family of Hayes, till at length the trustees of Mr. Richard Hayes sold it to Henry Edmeades, Esq. son of Mr. Henry Edmeades, of Nutsted, or Nursted.

Cobham Church. In the chancel, north wall, a neat tablet for the Rt. Hon. Lady Sophia Bligh, youngest daughter of John, Earl of Galloway, and wife of the Hon. William Bligh, who died at Funchal, in the island of Madeira, 25 July, 1809, aged 24. In the middle of the chancel is a noble monument of white marble, on which lie the effigies, in full proportion, of Sir George Brooke, Lord Cobham, Governor of Calais, K.G. who died in 1558, and his wife; the figures and names of their children, ten sons and four daughters, were likewise carved in marble round it. It was erected in 1561, by Sir William Brooke, son of Sir George Brooke. This fine piece of sculpture seems once to have had a canopy of marble over it, which, with the pillars that supported it, are now in ruins. Almost the whole of the chancel is paved with the grave-stones of the families of Cobham and Brooke, but several of the brasses were carried off some years back by workmen occupied in the church. The following, however, remain: a brass plate and figure, with French inscription in very ancient capitals cut round the edge of the stone, for Dame Joan de Cobham: south of this a brass plate and figure in armour, with a similar inscription, for Thomas de Cobham, and for Maud, the wife of Sir Thomas Cobham, who died in 13.., 3 Richard 2; south of this another, with the figure of a man in armour, holding a church in his hands, for John de Cobham, founder of this place: south of the last another, with the figure of a woman, and round the verge of the stone a French

217

inscription in brass, for Margaret de Cobham, daughter of the Earl of Devonshire, wife of the Lord of Cobham, builder of this place, obt. 1395: same as the last, the figures of two women, for Dame Maud de Cobham, 13.. the remainder lost: south of this, a brass, with the figure of a man in armour, and inscription in French round the stone, for John de Cobham, obt. 1390: westward of this, on brass, the figures of a man and woman, eight sons, and ten daughters, and round the stone an inscription in brass, for Sir John Brooke, Baron of Cobham, who died in 1506; and Margaret, his wife, daughter of Edward Neville, Lord of Burgavenny, who died in 1500: north of the last, the figure of a man in armour in brass, and an inscription round the stone, for Sir Nicholas Hawberk, husband of Joan, Lady Cobham, heir of John, Lord Cobham, founder of this college; he died at the Castle of Cowling, in 1407; underneath is the figure of a child, and an inscription for John, their son: north of this a brass, with the figure of a woman, six sons, and four daughters, for Joan, Lady Cobham, wife of Sir Reginald Braybrooke, obt. 1433: further north, on brass, the figure of a man in armour, and round the verge an inscription, in brass, for Sir Reginald Braybrooke, husband of Joan, Lady Cobham, who died at Middleburgh, in Flanders, in 1405; on the same stone, the figure of a child, and inscriptions for Reginald and Robert, their sons: northward from this, the figures of a man in armour, his wife, five sons, and six daughters, and round the verge, in brass, an inscription for Sir Thomas Brooke, Lord Cobham, kinsman and heir of Sir Richard Beauchamp; he married, first, Dorothy, daughter of Sir Henry Haydon, by whom he had seven sons and six daughters;

secondly, Dorothy Fowthewel, widow; and thirdly, Elizabeth Hart, by neither of whom he had issue; obt. 1529: a brass for John Sprottle, Master of this college, obt. 1498: on brass, the figure of a man, for Rauf de Cobham, Esq. of Kent, who died in 1402: a brass plate and figure for William, Master of this college, obt. 14...: a similar one for William Tanner, first Master of it, obt. 1418: a stone and inscription for Thomas Webb, Esq. Secretary to James Stuart, Duke of Richmond, obt. 1649. In this chancel are four curious antique helmets, hung against the walls; and the stalls that were formerly appropriated to the Master and Brethren of the College of Cobham, which was founded by John, Lord Cobham, in the 36th year of Edward III. In the nave, a brass figure for Master John Gladwyn, Master of this college. In the north aisle, a brass for John Gery, Fellow of this college, obt. 1447: a brass, with inscription, for several of the Claverings: a tablet for Henry Edmeades Esq. of Owletts, in this parish, who died 7th Dec. 1835, aged 71. South aisle, a monument for Mrs. Anne Westcott, who died 29th Jan. 1760, aged 36; also Richard Chapman, A.M. Vicar of this parish and Frindsbury, who died 26th June, 1762, aged 64; and Elizabeth, his wife, who died 30th Sept. 1780: near it another, for Foss Westcott, Esq. who died 20th Oct. 1765, aged 42; also Mary Ann Westcott, who died 20th Nov. 1771; and Mary Bennett, wife of Foss Westcott, Esq. who died 13th Oct. 1804.

In the church-yard there is a large altar tomb for the family of Hayes, of Owlett, beneath which are interred Elizabeth Hayes, daughter of John Hayes, who died 13th Sept. 1762, aged 31; and Bonham Hayes, Esq. who died 22d June, 1795, aged 72.

Cobham Church is dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen.

HIGHAM. The remains of Higham Nunnery, now called the Abbey, are still visible near the church. The first nunnery in this parish is supposed to have been erected at Lillechurch, about a mile eastward from the former, where it is said King Stephen founded one for nuns of the Benedictine order, and made

218

his daughter, the Princess Mary, Abbess; but at what period the religious were removed to that adjoining the church is not known.

Here was also formerly a ferry across the Thames to East Tilbury, in Essex, which was probably used in the time of the Romans, as there still exist traces of a raised causeway, nearly 30 feet wide, running across Higham, over the far-famed Gad's Hill, (where the doughty knight now figures on a sign post,) to Shorne Ridgeway, and thence to the Watling Street, near the entrance into Cobham Park. Indeed it is asserted by Dr. Thorpe, Dr. Plot, and others, that at this place Plautius, the Roman General, forded the river, when in pursuit of the retreating Britons.

In the reign of Elizabeth there was a fort at Higham for the defence of the river.

On Boley Hill there has been recently erected, by public subscription, a column to the memory of Mr. Charles Larkin, of Rochester, the zealous advocate of parliamentary reform, who lived just long enough to witness the passing of that memorable Act.

Hermitage, in the Parish of Higham, the seat of Thomas Bentley, Esq. is a large old house, of very curious construction, situated on a hill commanding extensive prospects of the Thames and Medway, the Nore, and large tracts of Kent and Essex. The ceilings here are very fine, and there is an apartment on the west side of extraordinary length.

Hermitage is distant from Rochester about two miles and a half, from Gravesend five miles, and from London 27 miles.

This seat was rebuilt by Sir Francis Head, Bart. ancestor of the late Governor of Canada, second son of Sir Francis Head, Bart. of Canterbury, who died in 1768, and who possessed other estates in this parish, and elsewhere in the county; but leaving only female issue, the property became divided, and the Hermitage was purchased by Thomas Bentley, Esq.

Higham Church. In the chancel is a stone for William Inglett, B.D. Vicar of this Parish, obt. 4th Jan. 1659: another for the Rev. Richard Pearson, Vicar here 44 years, obt. April 14th, 1710: under an arch, in the south wall, an altar monument for Anne, wife of Samuel Cordwell, and daughter of Richard Machan, Esq. obt. 1642. In the north chancel, north wall, is an altar monument, having a brass plate, for Elizabeth Boteler, wife of William Boteler, Esq. of Rochester, daughter of Sir William Crayford, obt. 1615, leaving two sons and two daughters, Henry, Thomas, Anne, and Elizabeth: a similar one for Robert Hylton, late yeoman of the guards to Henry VIII. obt. 1529: a memorial for Elizabeth, wife of Robert Parker, of Shinglewell, who died 1670, leaving two sons, Richard and Robert. Here also are interred Sir Francis Head, Bart. above mentioned; and

219

Lady Mary his wife, sole daughter of Sir William Boys, M.D. who died in 1792: also their daughter Elizabeth Campbell Lill, of Rochester, widow of the Rev. Dr. Lill, of Ireland.

Higham Church is dedicated to St. Mary.

CLIFFE is by some supposed to be the place formerly written Clovesho (i.e. Cliff at Hoo) where several Ecclesiastical Councils were held.

Gattons, in the Parish of Cliffe, the property and residence of Mrs. Comport, is a neat house, surrounded by pleasant grounds, situate about one mile south-west from Cowling Castle. The interior is well fitted up, and embellished with a good, though small collection, of stuffed birds. It is distant rather more than four miles north from Rochester, about seven miles from Gravesend, and 29 miles from London.

Cliffe Church is a large handsome building, dedicated to St. Helen. In the chancel there are remains of painted glass, and six stalls that were formerly appropriated to the monks of Christchurch, when they visited their estates in this parish. Here are also the following memorials and monuments:

In the chancel, north wall, a tablet for Charles Burney, D.D. F.R.S. F.A.S. Rector of this Parish, and of St. Paul's, Deptford, Prebendary of Lincoln, and Chaplain in Ordinary to his Majesty, who died 28th Dec. 1817, aged 60; erected by the parishioners as a tribute of respect: opposite is another for the Rev. John Simpkinson, M.A. Vicar of Cobham, in Surrey, and 36 years Rector of this parish, who died 17th March, 1815, aged 80; erected also by the inhabitants. In the nave, round the verge of a coffin-like stone, are the following words, in Saxon capitals, "Jone la femme Johan Ram gyst yci deu de sa alme eit merci +:" on a grave-stone, a brass, with the figures of a man, his two wives, and two children, for Bonham Faunce, Gent. of this parish, obt. 1652, having had one child by each of his wives, Elizabeth and Mary: another, with the figures of a man and his two wives, and six children, for Thomas Faunce, yeoman, who died in 1609; he married two wives, Alice, who died in 1592, and Elizabeth; by the former he had two sons and one daughter; and by the latter one son and two daughters: Thomas, his eldest son, was Mayor of Rochester at his father's decease. In the north aisle, round a stone in the form of a coffin, is this inscription, in Saxon capitals, "Elieore de Clive gist ici deu de sa alme eit merci. Amen par charite." In the south aisle, a brass for Elizabeth Gissome, wife of James Gissome, of this parish, obt. 1688: a memorial for the Baynards, of this parish.

In the church-yard is a handsome monument for the family of Steel; and another, still finer, for the Smiths, of Lodge Hill.

Pipes Place, in the Parish of Shorne, the residence of Richard Whitehead, Esq. and property of Jarvis Noakes, Gent. is a handsome house, situated a short distance south from the London and Dover road, about four miles from Rochester, and three miles from Gravesend. In the grounds behind the house is a mineral spring, which it is believed possesses many estimable qualities.

220

Court Lodge, in the Parish of Shorne, the seat of T. C. Barrett, Esq.

late of the Bengal military service, is situated near the church, on the south-east. It has recently undergone a thorough repair, and is now a very handsome residence. The grounds are laid out with good taste, and the conservatory, which is filled with rare exotics, is heated on an approved principle, lately invented.

Court Lodge is distant from Rochester about four miles, from Gravesend three miles and a half, and from London 26 miles.

In the reign of Henry VIII. the manor of Shorne was purchased of Sir George Nevill, Lord Abergavenny, by George Brooke, Lord Cobham, whose grandson Henry, Lord Cobham, being found guilty of treason, in the first year of the reign of James I. forfeited his estates to the Crown. The King shortly after granted Shorne to Sir Robert Cecil, Earl of Salisbury, son of William, Lord Burleigh, who alienated it to Sir John Leveson, of Whornes Place, whose second son, Sir Richard Leveson, K.B. of Trentham, in Staffordshire, sold it, in the reign of Charles I. to Alderman George Woodyer, of Satis, in Rochester. William Woodyer, Esq. the descendant of this gentleman, at his death, in 1732, left it to his sister's son, Mr. John Taylor, of whom, in 1752, it was purchased by Thomas Gordon, Esq. of Rochester, whose only daughter carried it in marriage to her first cousin, William Gordon, Esq. of Boley Hill. He died in 1776, and left his widow in possession of it.

Shorne Church is a large building, dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul. The font is very ancient: it is of Bethersden marble, octangular, and ornamented in the compartments with sculptures of scriptural subjects.

In the chancel, a brass plate for Thomas Ellys, Vicar of Shorne, obt. 18th March, 1569: another with the figure of a priest, for William Pepyr, Vicar of this church, obt. 31st Jan. 1468: a stone, with brass plates, for George Page, Gent. obt. 1639; he married Elizabeth, daughter of John Somers, of St. Margaret's, Rochester, by whom he had four sons and three daughters: on the north wall, a large monument, with four figures, for George Page, Attorney at Law, who died in 1613; and Isabella his wife; also for Sir William Page, their son, who died in 1626, leaving his widow, Eleanor, daughter of Robert Edoph, Esq. surviving; this lady was a benefactor to the poor of this parish: a tablet for Rachel Pemble, eldest daughter of Jarvis Maplesden, Esq. of this parish, and wife of William Pemble, Esq. of Cobham, who died 2d June, 1798, aged 64; also William Pemble, above named, who died 17th March, 1823, aged 82: another for Mrs. Anna Gunsley Keating, relict of William Cooper Keating, Esq., sister of the Rev. Robert Gunsley Ayerst, who died 24th Aug. 1820, aged 97 years. Opposite, on the south wall, another for the Rev. Robert Gunsley Ayerst, A.M. Rector of Speldhurst, eldest son of the Rev. William Ayerst, D.D. Prebendary of Canterbury, who died 16th Feb. 1816, at the great age of 94 years. North wall, a tablet for Mary, wife of Waxham Graham, Gent. who died 22d March, 1788, aged 56; also Waxham Graham, who died 17th Jan. 1789, aged 63 years. In the nave, a brass, and figure of a man, for John Smyth, obt. 1437: another for Edmund Page, Gent. late of Shorne, obt. 1550, leaving by Eleanor his wife five sons and two daughters; north of this is the figure of a woman in brass, and inscription, for Elynor Allen, only daughter and heir of John Hearnden, Gent. of Shorne, married first to Edmund Page, and afterwards

221

to John Allen, Gent.; she had by her first husband eight sons and five daughters, obt. 1583: another for George Haysden, Gent. of Shorne, obt. 1670, leaving two sons and a daughter: a similar one for Thomas Sharpe, Attorney at Law, obt. 1493. In the north chancel, formerly belonging to the manor of Roundal, in the north-west corner, on a low altar monument, is the portraiture of Sir Henry de Cobham, le uncle Lord of Rondale, armed in mail and cross-legged; and on the margin of the stone a French inscription, in very ancient capitals: a brass for John Herenden, Gent. obt. 1527, whose daughter and heir married Edmund: another for Thomas, son of Edmund Page, obt. 1558: eastward from this, a stone for Eizad, wife of Captain Robert Porten, of the manor of Randall, obt. 1704; and for Captain Robert Porten, of this parish, mariner, obt. 1711. In the north chancel, a brass plate, and figure of a man and woman, for John Smith, who died in 1457; and Marian his wife: a gravestone for Captain Jarvis Maplesden, obt. 1681: another for Mr. Jarvis Maplesden, obt. 1707: and another for Mr. Jarvis Maplesden, obt. 1717.

In the church-yard, on the north side of the church, is a large tombstone which covers the vault of

the family of Baynard.

Cookstone Church contains, as will be seen by the following account, several memorials of the eminent family of Marsham, (now Earls of Romney,) proprietors of Whorne's, or Horne's Place, in this Parish.

In the chancel, within the rails, on the south wall, is a beautiful monument for Anne, daughter of Charles Barret, Esq. of Belhouse, in Essex, married to Sir Robert Harley, K.B. by whom she had Thomas, buried here likewise, obt. 1603; it was repaired by Edward, Lord Harley, in 1723: a memorial for Sir John Marsham, Knt. and Bart. obt. 1685: another for Lady Elizabeth, his wife, daughter of Sir William Hammond, of St. Albans, in East Kent, obt. 1689: an inscription for Ferdinando Marsham, Esq. of the body to Charles I. and second brother of Sir John Marsham, Bart. obt. 1681: another for Sir John Marsham, Bart. son of John, obt. 1692: one for Anne, wife of John, eldest son of Sir John Marsham, Bart. of the family of Danvers, obt. 1672: a memorial for Sir John Marsham, Bart. son of Sir John Marsham, Bart. grandson of Sir John Marsham, Bart. obt. 1696, aged 16; and Hester, his sister: another for Sir Robert Marsham, Bart. youngest son of Sir John Marsham, Bart. and only brother of Sir John Marsham, Bart. uncle and heir of John Marsham the grandson; he married Margaret, daughter and heir of Thomas Bosville, Esq. by whom he left Robert, Elizabeth, married to Thomas Palmer, Esq. Margaret, and Mary; obt. 1703. Under an arch is a large altar monument, with inscription, in brass, for Master John Bultyll, Parson of this Church, and Chaplain to Prince Edward, obt. 1568.

In the church-yard, almost opposite the porch, is an altar tomb, for John Bennet, Gent. obt. 1662.

Cookstone Church is dedicated to St. Michael.

West Court, in the Parish of Chalk, the residence of William Brown, Esq. a Magistrate and Deputy Lieutenant for the County, is situated one mile and a quarter south-east from Gravesend, distant from London rather more than 23 miles.

In the time of the Conqueror Chalk was given to Odo, Bishop of Baieux. Some time afterwards this manor became divided, and that part called the manor of West Chalk, alias West Court, in the

222

reign of Henry III. was possessed by the family of Neville. From these it passed, in the same reign, to John de Cobham, whose descendant, John de Cobham, about the 35th year of the reign of Edward III. gave it to the College of Cobham, which he had then newly founded. In the 30th year of the reign of Henry VIII. the master and brethren of the college, foreseeing their dissolution, sold it to George, Lord Cobham, who soon after gave it to the King. Sir John Brooke, Lord Cobham, possessed this manor, as well as that of East Chalk, in the reign of Charles I. He alienated them to James Stuart, Duke of Richmond, who, at his death, in 1655, was succeeded by his nephew, Charles Stuart; after whose decease they were purchased, in 1695, by Sir Joseph Williamson, who had married Catherine, widow of Henry, Lord O'Brien, only sister of the last Duke. At a subsequent period these manors became vested, partly by right of marriage with the Lady Theodosia Hyde, a female descendant of Lady Catherine Stuart by her first husband. Lord O'Brien, and partly by purchase, in John Bligh, Esq. who was afterwards created Earl of Darnley. This nobleman was succeeded here, at his death, in 1728, by his eldest son, Edward, Earl of Darnley, who dying unmarried, in 1747, was followed by his brother John; and he, in 1781, by his son John, Earl of Darnley.

East Court, in the Parish of Chalk, the residence of William Brown, jun. Esq. is situated about two miles and a quarter south-east from Gravesend, distant from London 24 miles.

After the manor of Chalk had been divided, that moiety called East Chalk, alias East Court, came, in the reign of Henry III. into the possession of John de Burgo, son and heir of Hubert de Burgo, Chief Justicier of England, and Earl of Kent, who, in the 55th year of that reign, gave it to

the Priory of Bermondsey, in Southwark. Two years before the dissolution of monasteries, it was surrendered into the king's hands, and Henry VIII. in his 31st year, granted it to George Brooke, Lord Cobham, whose grandson, Henry, Lord Cobham, being convicted of treason, in the first year of James I. forfeited his estates to the Crown. It was afterwards given by the King to Sir John Brooke, of Heckington, in Lincolnshire, grandson of George, Lord Cobham, above mentioned, who likewise became possessed of the manor of West Chalk; and from this time both these estates have followed in the same line of proprietors, an account of which has been given in the preceding article.

Chalk Church is dedicated to St. Mary. It almost adjoins the London and Dover road on the north, and is a pleasing object, from its being in part overgrown with ivy.

In the chancel is a memorial for Henry Roy, Vicar of Chalk, obt. 1st Feb. 1646: another for Edward Dering, who died in 1698; and Elizabeth his wife. In the nave, a brass for William Martyn, obt. 1416, according to Weever, a good benefactor to the church; and Isabella his wife.

223

HUNDRED OF HOO.

Decoy House, in the Parish of High Halstow, the residence and property of Michael Comport, Esq. is situated about seven miles north-east from Rochester.

High Halstow Church contains the following memorials:

In the chancel are the following brass plates: one for William Palke, Minister of High Halstow, obt. 1618; and Anne, his wife: two for William Groby, Rector, obt. 1398; and William, his father, obt. 1396.

In the church-yard, a tomb for William Somer, of this parish, Gent. set up by William, his son, in 1607; and repaired by Richard Somer, his grandson, Gent. of Clifford's Inn, in 1672.

Halstow Church is dedicated to St. Margaret.

Rectory, St. Mary's, Hoo, the residence of the Rev. Robert Gascoyne Burt, M.A. Rector as well of High Halstow, is situated about seven miles north-east from Rochester.

White Hall, in the Parish of Hoo, the residence and property of Thomas Comport, Esq. is an ancient house, enlarged and much improved in 1818. It is situated six miles north-east from Rochester, and about 33 miles from London.

The Church of St. Mary, Hoo. In the nave is an inscription for Thomas Lokyn, obt. 1412; and Joane, his wife.

The Church of Hoo St. Warburgh. Here are the following inscriptions, on brasses:

In the chancel, two for the family of Plumley, in 1616 and 1642: two for John Brown and Richard Bayly, Vicars; the latter anno 1412. In the nave, one for Stephen and Richard Charlis, obt. 1446: another for John Beddyl, obt. 1600. In the south aisle, one for Thomas Cobham, Esq. obt. 1465; and Matilda, his wife. In the north aisle, one for William Alton, and Gelyane, his wife, by whom he had 16 children. South aisle, a tablet for the Rev. Richard Jordan, M.A. Vicar of Mountfield, in Sussex, Chaplain to the Most Noble Marquis Camden, Senior Minor Canon of Rochester, and 34 years Vicar of this parish, who died 21st Aug. 1835, aged 77: another for Lieut. Charles Jordan, R. N. brother of the above, who was shipwrecked in the North Seas, Dec. 1779, at the age of 22 years: another for the Rev. James Thompson, B.D. Rector of Staplehurst and Vicar of this parish, who died 28th March, 1786, aged 54 years.

In the church-yard there is a handsome altar-tomb for the family of Everist.

Malmaynes Hall, in the Parish of Stoke, the property of the family of Duppa, of Hollingbourne House, is situated rather more than seven miles north-east from Rochester and about 35 miles from London.

The Manor of Malmaynes, after the disgrace of Bishop Odo, to whom it had been given by the Conqueror, came into possession of the family of Malmaines, and from them acquired the name which it still retains. It afterwards passed to Richard Filiot, and from him to the family of Carew. Nicholas de Carew, Esq. of Bedington, in Surrey, sold it, in the reign of Henry V. to Iden, whose descendants conveyed it, at the end of the reign of Henry VIII. to John Parker. His only daughter, Elizabeth, carried it in marriage to John Roper, Esq. of Linsted, the first Lord Teynham, whose grandson, William Roper, Esq. alienated it, in the time of Charles I. to Jones, and his descendants sold it, in the reign of George I. to Baldwin Duppa, Esq.

Stoke Church. In the chancel are these brasses: one for John Wilkins, Gent. born in this parish, who married Elizabeth, daughter of John Copinger, Esq. of Alhallows, obt. s. p. 1575: another for William Cardiff, B.D. Vicar, obt. 1415: and a third for Frances Grimstone, daughter of Ralph Copinger, Esq. and wife of Henry Grimstone, Esq. obt. 1608. South aisle, west end, a monument for Sarah, wife of Jacob Harvey, Esq. who died 11th Nov. 1774, aged 44 years; also Henrietta and Samuel Clay, her children, who died infants; and Jacob Harvey, Esq. who died 7th Dec. 1794, aged 71 years.

Stoke Church is dedicated to St. Peter.

HUNDRED OF TOLTINGTROW.

Camer, in the Parish of Meopham, the seat of William Masters Smith, Esq. a Magistrate and Deputy Lieutenant for the County, is a handsome house, erected in 1716, by George Masters, Esq. great-great-grandfather of the present proprietor. It is distant five miles south from Gravesend, about six miles from Rochester, and six miles from Wrotham.

Meopham Church. Many years ago, when some of the bells of this church were recast, all the memorial brasses, except that upon the tomb of Mr. Follham, mentioned below, were torn from the grave-stones and added to the metal in the furnace. Here are the following memorials:

In the chancel, a memorial for Henry Haslin, Esq. of Meopham, who married Mary, daughter of Sir George Courthope, of Wileigh, in Sussex; and Elizabeth, his wife, obt. 1658: a brass for John

Follham, Vicar here, obt. June 13th, 1456. In the north side is an ancient stone, with Saxon letters cut round the edge, but nothing to tell the name of the person buried beneath it. In the nave, a stone for Christopher Copland, Vicar here 37 years, obt. 12 cal. Jun. 1707.

Meopham Church is dedicated to St. John the Baptist.

Rectory, Luddesdown, the residence of the Rev. William Downes Johnston, is situated near the church, distant from Cobham south-east one mile and a quarter, from Rochester about five miles south-west, and from London 26 miles.

Luddesdown Court, in the Parish of Luddesdown, the residence of Richard Cheeseman, Gent. is an ancient house, situated one mile and a half south from Cobham, and about 26 miles from London.

Luddesdown, or Luddesdon, at the time of the survey of Domesday, was in possession of Bishop Odo. In the reign of King John it had become the property of the family of Montchensie, with a

female heir of which it passed in marriage, in the reign of Edward I. to Hugh de Vere, third son of Robert, Earl of Oxford. It was afterwards transmitted through the families of Valence and Hastings, Earls of Pembroke, to Reginald, Lord Grey, of Ruthin, heir of John de Hastings, Earl of Pembroke, who being taken prisoner by Owen Glendower, this manor was assigned to his feoffees to raise money for his ransom, and it was purchased by the great Thomas Montacute, Earl of Salisbury, who was slain at the siege of Orleans, in France, in the 7th year of the reign of Henry VI. He left Luddesdon to his illegitimate son, John (or James) Montacute, who alienated it to John Davy, Gent. of whom it was purchased by Edward Nevill, Lord Abergavenny, and with his illustrious posterity it continued till George, Lord Abergavenny, alienated it to William Brasier. The descendant of this gentleman, Mr. Petit Brasier, dying in 1770, left it to his widow, who married Mr. Walter, and shortly after it was transferred to John Hilliam, Gent.

Luddesdown Church. In the chancel, a mural monument for Stephen Thornton, Rector of this church 63 years, obt. Aug. 27th, 1744. In the south chancel, in the north-east corner, is an altar monument, above which are two brass plates, one bearing a shield of arms, the other the figure of a man in armour: Hasted supposes this is the monument of James (falsely called John) Montacute, natural son of Thomas Montacute, Earl of Salisbury, who was killed at the siege of Orleans.

Luddesdown Church is dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul.

Nursted Court, in the Parish of Nursted, the seat of William Edmeades, Esq. a Magistrate and Deputy Lieutenant for the County, is an elegant mansion, (having been modernised and improved in 1826,) surrounded by beautiful grounds. The interior is handsomely fitted up. It is distant from Gravesend nearly four miles south, and from Rochester seven miles west.

226

Nursted, or, more properly, Nutsted, was one of the manors conferred by William I. on his half brother, Odo. In the reign of John it was held as one knight's fee of the Barony of Arsic, being part of the lands assigned for the defence of Dover Castle: afterwards it came into possession of the family of De Gravesend, and next to that of Frowick. Thomas Frowick conveyed it by fine, in the 38th year of Henry VI. to Hugh Brent, whose descendants, in the reign of Henry VII. alienated it to John Marten. Two females of this name, Alice, married to John Middleton, and Margaret, to John Rogers, entitled their husbands to a moiety each; John Middleton alienated his share to William Sedley, Esq. of Southfleet, whose grandson, Sir William Sedley, Bart. of the Friars, Aylesford, purchased the other moiety, in the 20th year of the reign of James I. of George Rogers, M.D. a descendant of John Rogers, before mentioned. His son, Sir John Sedley, Bart. conveyed this manor, in 1631, to the trustees of John Adye, Esq. of Doddington, whose grandson, James, dying unmarried, left his estates among his four sisters, and on a partition this was allotted to Elizabeth, married to William Hugessen, Esq. of Provender, in Norton. A descendant of this gentleman, John Hugessen, Esq. conveyed it, in 1767, to Henry Edmeades, Esq.

Nursted Church. In the chancel, north wall, a monument for Susan, wife of Ruish Wentworth, Esq. sister of James Adye, of Barham, obt. 1681: an inscription for Richard Wentworth, Esq. above mentioned, obt. 1686: a mural monument for John Adye, Esq. of Doddington, who had by Elizabeth, his first wife, daughter of Thomas Waller, Esq. of Beaconsfield, three sons and four daughters; and by Mary, his second wife, daughter of Solomon Cole, Esq. (who is buried at Doddington,) two sons and two daughters; obt. 1660: an inscription for Nicholas Cragg, Rector of this church.

In the church-yard are several neat altar-tombs for the family of Edmeades, of Nursted Court Lodge.

Nursted Church is dedicated to St. Mildred.

Ifield Church. In the aisle, a memorial for Jane, wife of Edward Armstrong, Gent. of this parish, obt. 1688: a brass plate for Richard Parker, a great benefactor towards rebuilding the

church in 1596, obt. 1607; and for Elizabeth, wife of Major Robert Parker, obt. 1702. In the chancel, a memorial for George Lauder, Rector of Ifield and Nutsted, obt. April 26th, 1720, with these lines:

Scotia me genuit, docuit, sacraque cathedra,
Et chara ornavit conjuge, prole, lare.
Anglia prostrato miserata, lavavit, et almo
Suscipiens gremio fovit, et ossa tenet.

Within the rails, a memorial for Nicholas Child, Gent. Lord of this Manor, at whose cost, principally, the church was repaired and beautified in 1638; he died in 1638.

Ifield Church is dedicated to St. Margaret.

Parrock Hall, in the Parish of Milton, the seat of Thomas Colyer, Esq. is a beautiful modern house, surrounded by pleasure-grounds, tastefully laid out.

227

It is distant three-quarters of a mile south-east from Gravesend, and 22 miles from London.

The Manor of Parrock was granted by King James I. in his 13th year, to Mr. William Salter, who sold it to Mr. James Crispe, from whom, partly by purchase, and partly by exchange, it went to John Child, and his descendant, Henry Child, Gent. in the 24th year of the reign of Charles II. conveyed the mansion house, with the greatest part of the demesne lands in this parish, to Mr. John Coosens. His descendant, Richard Coosens, Esq. of Westminster, died possessed of it in 1779, leaving one daughter, his heir: but the manor itself, in 1695, became the property of the Corporation of Gravesend and Milton.

Milton Church was repaired and beautified in 1792. Round the walls are painted the crests of the Kings of England, from Edward III. to James I.

In the chancel, south of the altar, is a mural monument for Thomas Chiffinch, Esq. one of Charles II.'s Searchers at Gravesend, obt. 1681: a tablet for Thomas Dalton, Esq. of Parrock Hall, who died at Rome. Within the rails, a memorial for James How, Rector of this parish, obt. Aug. 30, 1766.

Milton Church is dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul.

Cliff Cottage, in the Parish of Gravesend, the residence of William Gladdish, Esq. a Magistrate for the County, is pleasantly situated on the banks of the Thames, half a mile west from Gravesend. This house was erected in 1792, and has been considerably enlarged and improved by the present proprietor. At the foot of the south lawn is a fish-pond, in which the water rises and falls every twelve hours, contrary to the tide in the river, from which it is distant about 150 yards. A few years since, a great quantity of diluvian fossil remains of animals were discovered here, which drew the particular attention of Dr. Buckland, and other Fellows of the Geological Society.

Cliff Cottage is distant from London 21 miles and a half.

Ifield Court, in the Parish of Northfleet. This manor belonged formerly to a family of the same name, from whom it passed to that of Hever, and from these to the Symptons, of Sympton's Place, in Bromley. It was afterwards transmitted through the names of Rikhill, Lymsey, Young, Lymsey, Rainsford, Garth, and Child, to Benedict Garret, or Garrard, who bought it in the reign of Charles I. His descendant, Edward Garrard Esq. left four daughters, his co-heirs, (their brother having died a minor), who, in 1766, sold it to John Tilden, Esq.

Wombwell Hall, in the Parish of Northfleet, the seat of John Brenchley,

228

Esq. is an ancient mansion, pleasantly situated, about one mile and a half south-west from Gravesend, in grounds well covered with ornamental shrubs. The interior is embellished with some good paintings, including three by Panini: in the upper rooms are some curiously painted panels.

Wombwell Hall is distant from London about 21 miles.

The original house was built in the reign of Edward IV. by Thomas Wombwell, Esq. on part of the estate called Derndale, or Dundall. The present structure was erected, in 1663, by James Fortrye, Esq. of Combe, in Greenwich, a descendant of Nicholas de la Forterie, of Lisle, who fled into England in 1567 on account of his religion, and settled at Canterbury, and from whom the Fortryes of Leicester, and on the female side, the Earls Radnor, Aylesford, and Bathurst, have their origin. James Fortrye, Esq. the last of this family here, died without issue, in 1744, and left this seat, together with Derndale, to his sister Mary, with remainder to Thomas Chiffinch, Esq. of this parish, who, on his death, was succeeded by his niece, Mary Comyns, and she carried them to her husband, Francis Wadman, Esq.

Vicarage, Northfleet, the residence of the Rev. Richard Keats, M. A. is a handsome modern house, in the cottage style, seated amid pleasant grounds. The interior is elegantly fitted up. It is distant from Gravesend one mile and a half west, and from London 19 miles and a half.

The Hive, in the Parish of Northfleet, the residence of Mrs. Kirwen, is beautifully situated near the Thames, on an elevation, commanding a pleasing view of that river to a considerable distance, and of the opposite County of Essex. The interior is fitted up with great taste and elegance, and adorned with family portraits by Sir Martin Shee, and others.

The Hive is distant from Gravesend about two miles west, and from London 20 miles.

The Hive (corruptly so called for The Hithe) was possessed, at the commencement of the last century, by Thomas Chiffinch, Esq. grandson of Thomas Chiffinch, Esq. Keeper of the Jewels to Charles II. Comptroller of the Excise, &c. His descendants of the same name retained this property, till Mary Comyns, the niece and heir of Thomas Chiffinch, Esq. carried it in marriage, in 1775, the year of her uncle's death, to Francis Wadman, Esq. Gentleman Usher to the late Princess Amelia.

Hazels, in the Parish of Northfleet, the seat of John Alfred Edmeades, Esq. is a modern house, situated about two miles south from Gravesend, and 21 miles and a half from London.

Crete Hall, in the Parish of Northfleet, the seat of Jeremiah Rosher, Esq. is a handsome structure, situated on the banks of the River Thames, one mile

229

west from Gravesend. It was built by its present owner, in 1818, of chalk, taken from the immense excavations south of the house. The surrounding grounds are laid out with great taste, and well planted. The site of this mansion is much lower than the adjoining country, but sufficiently elevated to give it a good view of the River Thames.

Crete Hall is distant from London about 21 miles.

A plot of ground at the rear of this mansion, containing about 20 acres, has been appropriated for the proposed Kent Zoological and Botanical Gardens, the formation of which is now in a state of considerable forwardness. The spot is surrounded with pleasing landscapes, enhanced by views of the neighbouring river, and promises, when its various arrangements are complete, to prove an

attractive resort.

Northfleet Church is dedicated to St. Botolph. It contains the following memorials:

In the chancel, a brass plate for Margaret Baron, and Nicholas, her son; she died in 1429: another, with the figure of a priest, for Peter de Lacy, Rector of this church, and Prebendary of Swerdes, in Dublin, obt. Oct. 18th, 1375: a stone with a brass, for William Hesilt, Baron of the Exchequer, obt. 1425: a brass plate and figure for William Lye, Rector of Northfleet, obt. Jan. 9th, 1391: a stone for Samuel Golty, Clerk, eldest son of Richard Golty, Rector of Bennington, in Suffolk, obt. 1718. In the north aisle, a monument for James Fortrye, Esq. obt. 1674: a memorial for Elizabeth, wife of James Fortrye, obt. 1715, s. p.: a monument for Susan Bulteel, obt. 1692: a brass for Richard Davy, Esq. Keeper of the Jewels to Henry VI. obt. 1491: a monument for the wife of this gentleman. On the north wall, a monument for three of the daughters of Dr. Edward Browne, one of whom married Arthur Moore, Esq. who lies buried near it: a monument for Edward Browne, M.D. son of Sir Edward Browne, M.D. and President of the College of Physicians, obt. 1708; and for Thomas Browne, M.D. his only son, obt. 1710: several memorials for the Criches, of Greenwich, for the Cripps of this parish, and for the Childs. In the north aisle, a memorial for Thomas Chiffinch, who died in 1727; and Mary, his wife, who died in 1747: another for Alice, wife of William Wangdeford, obt. 1421: one for William Rikhill, Esq. eldest son of Sir William Rikhill, who died in 1400; and Catherine, his wife, who died in 1433: and another for Thomas Bredon, and Joan, his wife, 1511.

230

The Lathe of Scray

CONTAINS THE HUNDREDS OF MARDEN, BARKLEY, GREAT OR EAST BARNFIELD, CRANBROOK, ROLVENDEN, SELBRITTENDEN, BLACKBURN, TENTERDEN, MILTON, TEYNHAM, FAVERSHAM, AND BOUGHTON; AND THE TOWNSHIP OF NEWENDEN.

HUNDRED OF MARDEN.

Bedgbury Park, in the Parish of Goudhurst, the seat of the Right Hon. Lord Viscount Beresford, is a fine mansion, undergoing a thorough repair, and being considerably improved. The stone with which it will be encased, is similar to that dug at Tunbridge Wells, and is supplied from a quarry on the estate. In the style of the improvements, the Ionic order prevails. At the time we visited this place, there was yet very little interior embellishment; but we may notice a curious painting of the old Countess of Desmond, spoken of by Walpole. The scenery here is diversified and picturesque. A fine sheet of water ornaments the grounds, and affords a wide range to numerous swans. On the south-east the park is bounded by extensive woods.

Bedgbury Park is distant from Goudhurst rather more than two miles south, from Cranbrook about four miles south-west, and from London 45 miles.

Bedgbury Park is situated in that part of the Parish of Goudhurst, that forms the Hundred of West Barnfield, in the Lathe of Aylesford.

This seat, in times far back, gave name to its possessors, till Agnes, sister of John de Bedgebury, in the reign of Henry VI. entitled her husband, John Colepeper, to it; a descendant of whom, Thomas Colepeper, Esq. soon after the restoration of Charles II. alienated it to Sir James Hayes, who, in 1688, rebuilt the mansion. At his death, after much litigation, it was awarded, by the Court of Chancery, to Edward Stephenson, Esq. who had a heavy mortgage on it, whose nephew, Edward Stephenson, Esq. next inherited it; and, on his death, in 1782, it passed to his cousin, Captain Edward Stephenson. Captain Stephenson died in the East Indies, and bequeathed this seat to Miss Peach, who soon afterwards sold it to John Cartier, Esq.

Finchcox, in the Parish of Goudhurst, the seat of Richard Springett, Esq. is a noble, substantial mansion, with a large demesne attached. It was erected by Edward Bathurst, Esq. about the commencement of the last century. The

interior is spacious, and embellished with paintings. Finchcox is distant from

231

Goudhurst one mile and a half south-west, from Cranbrook six miles, and from London 43 miles.

Finchcox, or Finchcocks, in the reign of Henry III. was possessed by a family of that name. In the beginning of the reign of Henry VI. it was purchased of them by a gentleman, named Horden, of Horden, from whose descendants it passed, in the reign of Elizabeth, with a female heir, to Mr. Paul Bathurst, of Bathurst Street, in Nordiam, from which name it recently passed by purchase to the present family, who were many years previously in possession of much of the surrounding property.

Mr. Paul Bathurst was descended from Laurence Bathurst, of Canterbury and Cranbrooke, who is also the ancestor of the Bathursts, of Clarendon Park, in Wiltshire; of those of Lydney; and of Lechlade, in Gloucestershire; of those of Oakham, in Hampshire; and Richmond, in Yorkshire; and of the Earls Bathurst.

Vicarage, Goudhurst, the residence of the Rev. William Bagshaw Harrison, A.M. is situated on the east of the church, distant from London 44 miles.

Goudhurst Church. In the chancel, a monument to Thomas Bathurst, of Finchcox, Esq. who died 29th Sept. 1718, aged 77: also one near the altar, to Edmund Roberts, Armig. who died 12th Sept. 1627. On the north wall, a fine monument to Richard Springett, Esq. of Finchcox, in this parish, who died 20th April, 1826, aged 73; also Arice, his wife, who died Feb. 6th, 1809, aged 55; and John, their second son, who died April 9th, 1819, aged 31: a fine monument to Elizabeth, wife of Edward Bathurst, Esq. of Finchcox, daughter of Stephen Stringer, Esq. died 3d June, 1715, aged 30: also a small tablet for William Stringer, late of Ashford, Esq. who died 10th July, 1817, aged 47: another to the family of Lake, of Taywell, in this parish.

Ricd. Lake
Robt. Lake & Joan Hickmott
Robt. Lake & Catherine Lucas
Thos. Lake & Ann Erriot
Thos. Lake & Alice Knill
Thos. Lake & Philadelphia Piers

Launcelot, Arthur, Alice, Philadelphia, Frances, Elizabeth. On the south wall, near the altar, a large monument to William Campion, late of Coombwell, in the County of Kent, Esq. and Rachell, his wife; the which said William departed this life 10th Dec. 1615, and the said Rachell, 18th Nov. 1606: another to Thomas Colepepyr, of Bedgebury, Esq. eldest son of old Sir Alexander Colepepyr, Knt. of the same, which Thomas had two wives; his first, Elizabeth, daughter of Sir William Hawt, of Bishopsbourne, in Kent, Knt.; his second wife, Ellen, daughter and one of the heirs of Sir Walter Henley, of Corsehorne, in Kent, Knt.; he died 13th May, 1558; also Sir Alexander Colepepyr, son of the said Thomas, who had to wife Mary, one of the daughters of the Lord William Dacre, of the North; he died 16th June, 1599: Sir Anthony Colepepyr, son and heir of the said Sir Alexander, which Sir Anthony erected this tomb. On the south wall, a marble monument to Anthony Foul, Armig, obt. 27th Aug. 1672, æt. 69: a tablet to Stephen Groombridge, Esq. F.R.S. S.R.A. of Blackheath, in this county, obt. 30th March, 1832, æt. 77; also Lavinia Martha, his wife, obt. 30th Aug. æt. 65: under the above, a tablet to Mary Susanna, wife of the Rev. Newton Smart, A.M.

232

of Trewhit House, in the County of Northumberland; she died 4th Aug. 1824, aged 29; also Stephen Paris, only son of Stephen Groombridge, Esq. who died 7th Jan. 1803, aged two months: another for Charlotte Affleck Harrison, eldest daughter of the Rev. William Bagshaw Harrison, A.M. Vicar of this parish; she died 7th April, 1812, aged 12. At the east end, a fine marble monument and bust for William Campion, Esq. of Combwell, son of Sir William Campion, Knt. killed at the fatal siege

of Colchester; the above-named William Campion, Esq. married Frances, third daughter of Sir John Glyn, Knt. he died Sept. 20, 1702, aged 63. At the west end, a tablet to Robert Bathurst, who died 15th June, 1731, aged 66; also Elizabeth Bathurst, 22d Nov. 1752, aged 76; Elizabeth Longstaff, Oct. 28th, 1743, aged 40; John Vickers, 16th March, 1744, aged 20; Mary Bathurst, only daughter of the above-named Robert and Elizabeth Bathurst, obt. 7th Aug. 1770, æt. 62: near the last, a tablet to Dorothy Bathurst, widow of Edward Bathurst, Esq. eldest son of Edward Bathurst, Esq. of Finchcox, obt. 3d March, 1794, æt. 78; also Dorothy, daughter of the above, obt. 10th Dec. 1837, æt. 94: another to the Rev. Robert Polhill, A.M. Vicar of this parish for 40 years, obt. 2d June, 1801, æt. 67; erected by his sons, William and J. B. Polhill.

Goudhurst Church is dedicated to the Blessed Virgin.

Marden Church. In the chancel, north wall, a monument to George Maplesden, of Chevening House, in this parish, Esq. who died 1688, aged 75; and Catherine, his wife, (daughter of John Horsemonden, of the Parish of Goudhurst, Esq.) died May, 1719, aged 71; also George Maplesden, eldest son of the above, died March, 1735, aged 64; likewise their youngest son, Edward, of the Society of the Middle Temple, London, Esq.; he was the last of the name and family, who had resided in this parish many centuries. He dying intestate 14th June, 1755, in his 74th year, his estate descended unto Alexander Courthope, of Spinners, in the Parish of Horsemonden, Esq. son of his sister Catherine, and to Charles Booth, of London, son of his sister Anne, at whose joint expense this monument was erected. Above is a tablet to George Maplesden, born Dec. 8th, 1751, buried April 26th, 1805: and near it a small tablet to George Maplesden, who died 2d February, 1708, aged 6: a monument, near the altar, to Edward Cole, Gent. who died 5th April, 1757, aged 64; also Barbara Cole, his wife, daughter of John Courthope, of Spinners, Esq. who died 31st July, 1783, aged 82; and their several children. This monument was erected by the desire of John Cole, late of Spinners, their son. On the east wall, near the altar, a tablet to Mary, wife of the Rev. John Andrews, LL.B. obt. 28th March, 1810, æt. 87; also of the Rev. John Andrews, who died at the age of 83 years, 45 of which he was Vicar of this parish.

HUNDRED OF CRANBROOK.

CRANBROOK was formerly the centre of the woollen trade in this kingdom, and derived from it both wealth and importance. Many families of the county, now of the highest respectability, and some even ennobled, owe their origin to their success in this staple manufacture.

233

The ruins of Sissinghurst Castle, in the Parish of Cranbrook, are the remains of a magnificent mansion, that was built by the eminent Sir John Baker, about the end of the reign of Edward VI. The grounds have been disparked many years, and the house, having been long uninhabited, has been gradually going to decay. It acquired the name of Sissinghurst Castle, from having been a place of confinement for French prisoners, to the number of 3000, during the war with France, in 1756 and seven following years. Sissinghurst was anciently called Saxenhurst, and was possessed by a family of that name.

Angly House, in the Parish of Cranbrook, the seat of the Hon. James William King, Captain in the Royal Navy, and a Magistrate and Deputy Lieutenant for the County, is a handsome house, situated in a small picturesque park. The grounds are well laid out, and adorned with small sheets of water. This is an ancient structure, modernized and improved.

Angly House is distant from Cranbrook half a mile north-west, from Tenterden seven miles, and from London 49 miles.

The manor of Anglye, alias Anglynglie, was a part of the possessions of the Abbey of Battle, from the time of its foundation, till its dissolution, in the 30th year of Henry VIII. The following year the King sold it to Walter Hendley, Gent. whose three daughters, after his death, in the sixth of Edward VI. alienated the estate and farm to the family of Tempest, in which name it continued, till

George Tempest, Esq. in 1785, sold it to Mr. Smart, of London.

Hayelden Cottage, in the Parish of Cranbrook, the seat of Sir Edward William Corry Astley, <e> Bart. Captain in the Royal Navy, and a Magistrate for the County, is a modern building, surrounded by pleasant grounds. The interior is decorated with paintings by the old masters; also with a collection of birds and beasts, from all parts of the world, a variety of Indian arms, and some rare specimens of heathen gods.

Hayelden Cottage is one mile and a half north-east from Cranbrook, on the left of the high road from thence to Maidstone, distant from London 49 miles.

Glassenbury, in the Parish of Cranbrook, the seat of Thomas Walton Roberts, Esq. is an ancient mansion, surrounded by a moat, that is still full of water. The grounds are well planted, and possess some fine timber, among which we observed an oak of huge dimensions. A walk, bordered with laurels and flowering shrubs, that leads northward to a small lake, appears particularly pleasant.

Glassenbury stands between Goudhurst and Cranbrook, about two miles and a half from the latter, and 45 miles from London.

234

Glassenbury, or, more properly, Glastenbury, (so called, says Philipott, from Glastney, the Saxon idiom of inis witrin, i. e. the watery, or glassy place,) was, for many generations, the residence of the ancient family of Rookehurst, alias Roberts, who came to Goudhurst, originally from Annandale, in Scotland, in the 3d year of Henry I. one of whom, Stephen Roberts, alias Rookehurst, marrying Joane, daughter and heir of William Tilley, Esq. of Glassenbury, removed here in the reign of Richard II. and built himself a mansion on the hill, which was pulled down about the year 1473, and another built in the valley. In his descendants it remained (having been confiscated by Richard III. but restored by Henry VII.) down to Sir Walter Roberts, Bart. who died in 1745, leaving a daughter, Jane, who carried it in marriage, in 1754, to George Beauclerk, Duke of St. Albans. The Duchess having been separated from her husband some years before her death, which happened in 1778, bequeathed this estate, by will, to the youngest son of Sir Thomas Roberts, Bart. of Ireland.

Cranbrook Church is dedicated to St. Dunstan Confessor. Adjoining the church is a room, in which there is a dipping-place, that was provided by the Rev. John Johnson, A.M. Vicar, (who died Dec. 15, 1725,) for the use of those Baptists who should desire to be admitted into the Established Church.

In the chancel, a splendid monument to Sir Walter Roberts, of Glastenbury, Bart. descended from an ancient family, settled there and in the neighbourhood for many centuries, as appears by the inscription upon the same, vide Hasted: also a large monument to the Bakers, of Sissinghurst, in this parish, a family considerable for rank and fortune through a succession of several generations, from the time of their first settlement here, in the person of Thomas Baker, Esq. or Richard, his son, about the latter end of the reign of King Henry VII.; the said Richard was father of Sir John Baker, Knt. who was bred to the law. He was, in several parts of his life. Recorder of London, Attorney General, Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Privy Councillor to King Henry VIII. King Edward VI. and Queen Mary; he deceased soon after the accession of Queen Elizabeth, and is, with great probability, supposed to have been deposited here, with a numerous race of descendants and allies. John Baker Dowell, Esq. of Over, in the County of Gloucester, (himself and son being now the only surviving branches of this family, derived from the last Sir John Baker,) to preserve the memory of his ancestors and relations, erected this monument, A.D. 1736. A stone to Walter Roberts, 1580: also one to Thomas Roberts, 1557: a brass to Thomas Roberts, obt. Nov. 1706, æt. 48; and Dame Jane, his wife, 1692: a tablet, on the north wall, to Anne, wife of Robert Watts, M.D. obt. 10th Feb. 1826, æt. 69; also of Dr. Robert Watts, M.D. obt. Oct. 20, 1835, æt. 82, interred at Battle: a small monument near the altar, to Richard Fletcher, who died 12th February, 1585. On the south wall, a marble tablet to Mary Brady Macbean, wife of Samuel Macbean, Esq. who died 4th Nov. 1830: a tablet to John Scott, Esq. of this parish, who died 26th Oct. 1802, aged 50; also Elizabeth, relict of the above John Scott, who died 12th February, 1829, aged 85: another for Charles Nairn, Esq. who

died 3d March, 1797. At the east end, a stone and marble monument, and on it the following inscription: "William Rookehurst, alias Roberts, of Curtesden, in the County of Kent, Esq. being the first English descendant of that name, (the now living Thomas Roberts, Esq.) was a gentleman of Scotland, but leaving his native country, came unto Goudhurst, in Kent, in the first year of King Henry I. and there built and purchased certain lands on a hill in Goudhurst, called Winchet Hill, and afterwards named the lands and Denne Rookhurst after his own name, which Denne retaineth that name to this day: the name and family of Rookehurst, alias Roberts, continued in the Parish of Goudhurst 274 years, and in the reign of King Richard II. Stephen Roberts, third Stephen of that

235

family, marryinge the daughter and heir of William Tylle, Esq. to whom the manor and lands of Glassenburye in right belonged, built a faire sumptuous house on the Hill of Glassenburye, which came, by leneall descent, to Walter Roberts, great grandfather of the now living Thomas Roberts, which house the said Walter, in the year 1472, pulled down; and in the year 1473, with the charge and expence of 18 hundred pounds, erected and builde another moated house in the vallye of Glassenburye, which is now called Glassenburye. This name and family of Rookehurst hath now remained, and continued in the Parish of Cranbrooke, 223 years, accompting from the reign of the said King Richard the II. until the year 1699, in which this monument was erected by Thomas Roberts, from William Rookehurst, alias Roberts, the first ancestor of this family that came unto Kent, reckonynge the now Thomas Roberts for one: there has been already successively, in leneall descent, 13 Esquires, one after another, of that name and progenye, who have, from time to time, dwelt in the Parishes of Goudhurst and Cranbrooke." At the west end, a small tablet to Mary Ellen, wife of the Rev. Charles Davies, B.A. and second daughter of the late Colonel Torre, of Syndal Hall, in the County of York, who died July 23d, 1832, aged 21: also another to the Rev. Joseph Disney, A.M. Vicar of Cranbrook and Appledore, obt. Aug. 3, 1777, æt. 82; this monument was erected by William Disney, B.D. and his sister Ann. Over the altar there is a very fine painted window.

Staplehurst Place, in the Parish of Staplehurst, the seat of Henry Hoare, Esq. is a handsome modern building, surrounded with beautiful grounds. Mr. Hoare married, on 3d May, 1836, Lady Mary Marsham, the third daughter of the Earl of Romney.

Staplehurst Place is distant three-quarters of a mile south from Staplehurst, and 44 miles from London via Maidstone.

Sir Richard Colt Hoare, Bart. of Stourhead, in Wilts, is descended from Henry, third son of Sir Richard Hoare, Knt. who died in 1718, and whose estates in this parish have descended to the elder branch of the family.

Staplehurst Church contains the following interesting monuments:

In the chancel, a large stone monument and brass, no inscription, and the coats of arms are effaced. On the north wall, a tablet to Edward Osborne, of Loddenden, in this parish, Esq. obt. July 9, 1828, æt. 70: near the altar, another to Margaret Williams, who died Oct. 24, 1775, aged 35; also John Taylor, D.D. her uncle, Rector of this parish, who died 30th Dec. 1784, aged 77. In the south aisle a beautiful monument, inscribed as follows: "Sacred to the memory of Henry Hoare, Esq. of Fleet Street, in the City of London, and of Mitcham Grove, in the County of Surrey, who died the 15th day of March, 1828, and whose remains were, by his own desire, deposited in the family vault at Morden, in the above county. He was born at Bury St. Edmunds, in 1750, and in 1775 married Lydia Henrietta Malortie, daughter and co-heir of Isaac Malortie, Esq. In 1777, on the death of his mother, Martha Hoare, he succeeded to an estate in this parish, which had formerly belonged to his father, William Hoare, Esq. and grandfather, Richard Hoare, Esq. eldest son and heir of the original possessor, Sir Richard Hoare, Knt. who died in 1718. He had issue by Lydia Henrietta, his wife, four sons and one daughter, viz. William Henry, of Broomfield House, in the Parish of Battersea, Surrey, who died in 1819; Henry Vilars, who died, unmarried, in 1822; George Matthew, of Morden

236

Lodge, Surrey; Charles James, Archdeacon of Winton; and Lady Elizabeth, wife of Sir Thomas Dyke Acland, Bart. of Killarton Park, in the County of Devon: William Henry married, in 1807, the Hon. Louisa Elizabeth Noel, eldest daughter of Sir Gerard Noel Noel, Bart. of Exton Park, in the County of Rutland, by Diana Baroness Barham, and had issue by her three sons and three daughters, the eldest of whom, Henry Hoare, Esq. succeeded to the family estates on the death of his grandfather, and erected this monument as a just, though imperfect tribute of affection, to the guardian of his early youth, and of respect to the memory of one who, in every relation of life, afforded a bright example of christian excellence.

Staplehurst Church is dedicated to All Saints.

HUNDRED OF EAST BARNFIELD.

Fowlers, in the Parish of Hawkhurst, the seat of James Lambert, Esq. is an elegant modern mansion, erected on the site of the old house, and from its elevated position, commands extensive prospects over portions of Kent and Sussex. It is screened from the road (which forms the southern boundary of the grounds) by a high wall. The air here is considered pure and salubrious.

Fowlers is distant one mile from Hawkhurst church, about four miles south from Cranbrook, and 50 miles from London.

Fowlers is deserving notice as having been the property and residence of the eminent lawyer, Richard Kilburne, Esq. author of the survey of this county, published in 1659, whose family originally was of Kilburne, in Yorkshire. He died in 1678, and his only daughter, Anne, then entitled her husband, Thomas Brewer, Esq. of West Farleigh, to the possession of it. This gentleman was succeeded here by his second son Philip, who died unmarried, in 1721. It then devolved on his elder brother, John, whose daughter Jane, having survived both her husbands, at her death, in 1762, s. p. bequeathed this seat to her relative. Dr. John Davis, and he dying in 1766, was succeeded by his son, Sir John Brewer Davis, Knt.

New Lodge (formerly called Hawkhurst Lodge), in the Parish of Hawkhurst, the seat of John Cobb, Esq. a Magistrate for the Counties of Kent and Sussex, and Deputy Lieutenant for Kent, is a modern house, standing on an elevated site, surrounded by agreeable pleasure grounds. The interior is ornamented with paintings, among which are a portrait of Melancthon, by Holbein; a landscape, by Bolovere; and Madona and Child, by Zuccherelli.

New Lodge is distant from Hawkhurst church nearly one mile north, from Cranbrook four miles south, and from London 50 miles.

237

Hawkhurst Lodge was so named by John Baker, Esq. Receiver General for this County, who, in 1740, succeeded his father George Baker in this property, and rebuilt the seat. He devised it to his brother, Mr. George Baker, surgeon, of Canterbury, who was succeeded by John Baker, Esq. of St. Stephen's, near Canterbury. It was purchased by the present proprietor in 1818.

Hensill, in the Parish of Hawkhurst, the seat of John Rolfe, Esq. is a modern house, built in 1805, and recently enlarged by the present proprietor. The interior is embellished with a collection of paintings by the old masters.

It is situated half a mile north from Hawkhurst church, distant from Cranbrook about four miles and a half, and from London 50 miles.

Hensill was once the property of the Woodgates, of whom it was purchased by Richard Harcourt, Esq. of Wigsell; and with his daughter Elizabeth it passed to William Boys, Esq.

Lillesden, in the Parish of Hawkhurst, the residence of James Strood, Esq. is an old mansion, very pleasantly situated close to the south side of the church, distant from Cranbrook five miles, and from London about 51 miles.

Lillesden, or Lilsden, as early as the reign of Elizabeth, was possessed by the family of Chittenden, eminent clothiers, at Hawkhurst, in which name it continued until a few years past.

Epson's Cottage, in the Parish of Hawkhurst, the seat of the Misses Gregson, is a neat modern house, erected in 1826. Its situation is very pleasant, having a good prospect into the adjoining county of Sussex.

Epson's Cottage stands on the west of the church, distant from Cranbrook five miles, and from London 51 miles.

Ashfield Lodge, in the Parish of Hawkhurst, the residence and property of John Springett, Gentleman, is a new house, very pleasantly situated, not quite one mile west from the church. It is about five miles from Cranbrook, and 50 miles from London.

Hawkhurst Church. In the chancel, a stone to Sir Thos. Dunk, of Hawkhurst, Knt. 1718. On the south side, a small tablet to Jane, wife of Richard Winch, Esq. of Elford, in this parish, who died 27th Nov. 1817, aged 47: near this, a monument to Samuel Boys, Esq. who died 29th Jan. 1753, aged 71; and of his eldest son, Samuel Boys, Esq. who died at Hawkhurst, 16th May, 1772, aged 66; and of his eldest son, Samuel Boys, Esq. who died 1st May, 1796, aged 63. In the aisle, south wall, a tablet to Jesse Gregson, of Moor House, in this parish, Esq. obt. 4th Sept. 1824, æt. 65; interred at Brightling, in Sussex: also one to Catherine, wife of Jesse Gregson, and eldest daughter of Henry Shuttleworth; she died 3d June, 1819, aged 32; interred also at Brightling: a stone to Samuel Boyse, Armiger, obt. 3 June, 1688, æt. 71: a brass to Marie, wife of Samuel Boys,

238

of Hawkhurst, in the County of Kent, Esq. one of the daughters of Wm. Crowmer, of Tunstall, Esq. and of Elizabeth his wife, one of the daughters of Sir John Guildford, of Hempstead, Knight, obt. 26 Oct. 1602: beside it, one to Samuel Boys, Esq. obt. Nov. 8, 1627.

Hawkhurst Church is dedicated to St. Lawrence.

Sea-Coxheath, in the Parish of Etchingam, on the borders of Sussex, the seat of Richard B. Palliser, Esq. Captain in the Royal Navy, and Magistrate for the County of Sussex, was built in 1745, by the celebrated John Grey, head of the Hawkhurst gang of smugglers. It is a handsome structure, surrounded by beautiful grounds. Among the remarkable objects in the interior are a collection of British land birds; two tables, containing specimens of all the ancient and modern marbles, in number 1024, which were collected by Professor Corsi, of Rome, who also formed the museum of ancient marbles at Oxford; several Etruscan vases, &c. &c. Here is also a Pinetum, containing the largest pines, Douglasii, in the country.

Sea-Coxheath is distant from Goudhurst about six miles, from Cranbrook five miles, and from London 49 miles.

HUNDRED OF SELBRITTENDEN.

In the Parish of NEWENDEN (called in Latin, Noviodunum, and in Saxon, according to Lambarde, Nifeldune, i. e. the deep valley), at a small distance N.E. from the present village, stood, some say, the station and city of the Romans, called by Pancirollus, Anderida and Anderidos, by the Britons, Caer Andred, and by the Saxons, Andredceaster, being situated in the immense forest of Andredwald (now the Weald), that extended from hence 80 miles into Hampshire. This was one of the Roman castra riparensia for defending the coast against the Saxon pirates, and was commanded by The Honourable the Count of the Saxon Shore. After the Romans had abandoned this island, it was a principal place of refuge for the Britons, when harassed by the Saxons. At length, after a most determined resistance, it was totally destroyed, and all the

inhabitants put to the sword by Ella, the famous Saxon Chief. Dr. Harris thinks that the exact site of the ancient city of Anderida is the spot now called "Castle Toll."

239

At Losenham, in this Parish, was a Priory of Carmelite or White Friars, which was founded by Sir Thomas Fitz Aucher, in 1241, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary. It continued in existence till the dissolution of religious houses. The Carmelites first settled in England in the year 1240, at Alnwick, in Northumberland, and Aylesford, in Kent: the order was instituted A.D. 1170.

SANDHURST, In this Parish, on an elevation, one mile north-west from the church, stands a handsome modern mansion, the seat of the Rev. William Swete, M.A. commanding extensive prospects over parts of Kent and Sussex. It is distant from Cranbrook about five miles, from Tenterden rather more than seven miles, and from London 52 miles.

Sandhurst Church. In the chancel, north wall, a tablet to the Hodson family. On the south wall, near the altar, a marble tablet to the Rev. Wm. Hussey, Hector of this parish, who died July 27th, 1831: below this, another to Charlotte, widow of the Rev. Wm. Hussey, who died May 14th, 1833; also Mary Anne, their fourth daughter, who died Oct. 2d, 1832, aged 45: another to Harriet, fifth daughter of the Rev. Wm. Hussey, who died 14th Nov. 1823, aged 39, and was buried in All Saints Church.

Sandhurst Church is dedicated to St. Nicholas.

HUNDRED OF ROLVENDEN.

Hemsted, in the Parish of Benenden, the seat of Thos. Law Hodges, Esq. a Magistrate and Deputy Lieutenant, and one of the Members of Parliament for the western division of the county, is a fine old mansion, repaired and altered about fifty years ago. It stands on high ground, commanding fine views over Kent and Sussex, and in the distance a glimpse of the French coast. The park is well wooded, and beautifully diversified, and the grounds immediately round the house are tastefully laid out in walks and groves. The interior is spacious and elegant, and contains a collection of rare paintings.

Hemsted is distant from Cranbrook about three miles, from Tenterden six miles, and from London 52 miles.

Hemsted, in the reign of Henry III. was possessed by Robert de Hemsted, who had adopted his surname from it. In the 7th year of Edward III. it was held by James de Echyngham, of Echingham, in Sussex, and in the reign of Richard II. had passed to Sir Robert Belknap, Chief Justice of

240

the Common Pleas, who having forfeited it to the Crown, it was shortly after granted to William de Guldeford. In his descendants it continued down to Sir Robert Guldeford, Bart. who, in 1718, sold it to Admiral Sir John Norris, of whose grandson, John Norris, Esq. in 1780, it was purchased by Thomas Hallet Hodges, Esq.

Benenden Church. In the chancel, north wall, a neat tablet to Richard Davies, Esq. who died 13th Nov. 1828, aged 72: a fine monument to Thos. Hallet Hodges, Esq. of Hempstead Place, in this Parish, High Sheriff for the County in the year 1786; he died June 23d, 1801, aged 47; and of Dorothy Hodges, his wife (youngest daughter of Wm. Cartwright, of Marnham, in the county of Nottingham, Esq.) who died Jan. 21st, 1800, aged 48; three of their children died in their infancy, and are buried in the same vault with their parents. On the south wall, a tablet to Mrs. Sarah Norris, daughter of the Right Hon. Sir John Norris, who died 19th Jan. 1762, aged 50; her nephew, John Ambrose, of Mount Ambrose, in the county of Dublin, in Ireland, caused this tablet to be

erected: a fine monument and bust of the Right Hon. Sir John Norris, of Hempstead, who, after fifty years' service in the navy, attained the supreme command, with the rank of Admiral of the Fleet and Vice-Admiral of England; P. Scheemakers, sculpt, A.D. 1750: a brass to Edmund Gibbon, late of this parish; he died the last day of Jan. 1607: a tablet to Samuel Lazonby, Esq. surgeon, who died 3d Nov. 1835, aged 43.

Benenden Church is dedicated to St. George.

Hole, in the Parish of Rolvenden, the seat of Thomas Gybbon Monypenny, Esq. a Magistrate for the Counties of Kent and Sussex, a Deputy Lieutenant for Kent, and Member of Parliament for Rye, is a fine Elizabethan structure, standing on the site of an ancient house, and surrounded by beautiful grounds. Its name does not at all accord with its situation, which is rather elevated, and commanding extensive prospects. The interior is embellished with a collection of paintings, including the following: two battle pieces; Fruit, by Vanderneer; Ruins and Figures, by Teniers; the Interior of a Dutch Kitchen, and Fruit, by Mieris; Study, by Rubens; Portrait of a Gentleman, by Sir Godfrey Kneller; Fox-hunt, by A. Hondius; Flowers, Fruit, and Shells, by J. B. 1624; two Sea Pieces, by Vandervelde; and several old Family Portraits: there is also a curious antique sculpture in marble, representing the Judgment of Solomon, and the Hanging of Haman.

Hole is distant from Tenterden about four miles, from Cranbrook five miles, and from London 54 miles.

Hole was, in early times, possessed by a family that took their name from it: Henry at Hole held it in the year 1340. In the reign of Henry VIII. it had become the property of Mr. Robert Gybbon, a wealthy clothier here, in whose descendants it continued down to Phillips Gybbon, Esq. who died in 1762. His daughter and heir having survived her husband, Philip Jodrel, Esq. at her

241

death, in 1775, s. p. gave it in tail to Mrs. Jefferson, who afterwards marrying John Beardsworth, Esq. of London, he, in her right, became entitled to it.

Matham Hall, in the Parish of Rolvenden, the seat of the Rev. Philip Monypenny, is an elegant building, situated in a small well-wooded park. It is distant from Rolvenden church about half a mile south-east, from Tenterden three miles, from Cranbrook six miles and a half, and from London 55 miles.

The manor of Great Maytham, in the reign of Edward I. was possessed by Orable de Maytham and her sister Elwisa. Soon afterwards it became the property of John de Malmains, and from this family it passed to that of Carew, of Beddington, in Surrey. Nicholas Carew, Esq. owned it at the end of the reign of Richard II. and in this name it continued till, by the attainder of Sir Nicholas Carew, in the 31st year of the reign of Henry VIII. it came to the Crown. It was then granted to Thomas Cromwell, Earl of Essex, who also being attainted the following year, it escheated again to the Crown, and the year after was bestowed on Sir Thomas Wyatt, who immediately alienated it to Walter Hendley, Esq.; and his second daughter, Helen, entitled her husband, Thomas Colepeper, Esq. of Bedgebury, to the possession of it at her father's death, in the 6th of Edward VI.: by a descendant of this gentleman it was sold, in 1714, to James Monypenny, Esq. one of an ancient family from Pitmilley, in Scotland. He, in 1721, began to build the present seat, which he named Maytham Hall, and which was finished in 1760 by his eldest son, Robert Monypenny, Esq. who dying unmarried, in 1772, was succeeded by his only surviving brother, James Monypenny, Esq.

Merrington Place, in the Parish of Rolvenden, the seat of Robert Joseph Monypenny, Esq. B.A. is a modern mansion, surrounded with beautifully diversified grounds, and having a pleasing view of Matham Park. It is distant from Cranbrook about seven miles, from Tenterden three miles, and from London 55 miles.

Vicarage, Rolvenden, the residence of the Rev. John Hooper, M.A. is situated on the east of the church. Here is a collection of portraits of the Reformers by Meyer.

Rolvenden Church. In the chancel, east end, a monument to Elizabeth Jordrell, only surviving daughter and heir at law of Phillips Gybbon and Catherine his wife, obt. 13 March, 1775, æt. 57: near it another to Robert Gybbon, Esq. who died Oct. 9th, 1719, aged 77; and Elizabeth his wife, who died Oct. 20th, 1691, in her 43d year, only child of Elizabeth Phillips, widow, here also interred; she died July 13th, 1718, aged 94; Phillips Gybbon erected this monument, and died 11th March, 1762, aged 84; and Catherine his wife, who died 27th Sept. 1733, aged 51: a stone to Edmund, son of Robert and Elizabeth Gybbon, born 19th May, 1677, died 23d March, 1698; also Margaret, daughter of the above, born 4th July, 1690, died 26th June, 1703: another to Elizabeth Phillips, obt. 1718: and another to Catherine, wife of Phillips Gybbon, Esq. who died 27 Sept. 1733, aged 51; and he, in his 84th year, 11th March, 1762. In the north chancel, east wall, a fine monument to James Monypenny, Esq. who died 23d Oct. 1721, descended from an ancient family at

242

Pitmilli, in the shire of Fife, in Scotland; he married Mary, daughter of Robert Gybbon, Esq. of this parish; this monument was erected by Mary his widow, who died June 2d, 1756, aged 71; also Elizabeth, daughter of the above, died July 21st, 1760, aged 43; also of Robert Monypenny, died 29 March, 1772, aged 53; also Mary his wife, died Dec. 4th, 1775, aged 54; also of Robert Monypenny, Esq. late of Merrington Place, in this county, died 14th June, 1834, aged 62 and 11 months; also Elizabeth his wife, died 28th April, 1833, aged 61 and 10 months: a neat tablet to Jacob Monypenny, Armig. obt. 3 June, 1822, æt. 52: another of black marble, to Charlotte, wife of the Rev. Phillips Monypenny, A.M. of Matham Hall, in this parish, and Vicar of Hadlow, in this county, and second daughter of Sir Edward Dering, of Surrenden Dering; she died Nov. 12th, 1836, aged 54 years: also a tablet to James Monypenny, Esq. son of James Monypenny, Esq.; he married Silvestia, daughter of Thos. Blackwell, A.M. Rector of St. Clement's Danes, London; he died 11th May, 1800, aged 79; also Thos. son of the above, died 24th Sept. 1814, aged 51; also Silvestia, relict of the above James Monypenny, Esq. died 13th Feb. 1818, aged 91.

Rolvenden Church is dedicated to St. Mary.

HUNDRED OF TENTERDEN

The Hamlet of SMALLHYTH, or Smallit, now an inconsiderable place, about three miles south-east from Tenterden, was, by the mention of it in old writings, a populous village, and had a chapel for the convenience of the inhabitants. In the license of this chapel, by Archbishop Warham, power is given to bury in the chapel-yard the bodies of those who were shipwrecked on the shore, "infra predictum oppidum de Smallhyth;" which is a sufficient proof that at the date thereof, anno 1509, the sea came up here.

Heronden House, in the Parish of Tenterden, the seat of Mrs. Curteis, is a curious old house, situated close to Tenterden, on the right-hand coming from Rolvenden. The interior is spacious and handsome.

Heronden, or Hernden, was formerly an estate of considerable size, and belonged to a family of the same name; but it has for many years been divided into different parts. That part of it on which was situated the mansion was purchased of the family of Heronden, in the reign of Charles I. by Mr. John Austen, in whose posterity it continued till William Austen, Esq. dying in 1742, bequeathed it to Mr. Richard Righton. His son, Benjamin Righton, Esq. of Knightsbridge, in 1782, conveyed it to Jeremiah Curteis, Gent. of Rye, in Sussex, who, finding the old mansion (which, from a date on it, appears to have been built in 1585) in a ruinous condition, pulled it down.

Finchden, in the Parish of Tenterden, the property of H. Godden, Esq. and residence of the Misses Godden, is an ancient Elizabethan mansion. The

interior is adorned with the following paintings: Shell Fish, by an old master; Portrait of the Hon. Miss Tufton; Portrait of Ralph Wilbraham, Esq. of Woodhay, in the county of Chester; a Family Portrait; and a Sea Piece.

Finchden is rather more than one mile east from Tenterden, and about 57 miles from London.

Finchden was formerly the seat of a family named from it Finchden, the ancestors of its later owners. William Finch (the name having been contracted) died possessed of it in 1637, and in his direct descendants it continued to Mr. William Finch, who died in 1794 s. p. and was succeeded by his brother Mr. Richard Finch.

Kench Hill, in the Parish of Tenterden, the property and residence of Mrs. Weston, is situated about two miles east from Tenterden. Here are some curious specimens of modern art, representing Charles II. in armour, on horseback; the Seasons; and Paris carrying off Helen.

Kench Hill is 58 miles from London.

Kench Hill, or Kenchill, formerly belonged to the family of Guldeford, one of whom, Sir Richard Guldeford, Knt. Banneret, held it in the reign of Henry VIII. His son, Sir Edward Guldeford, Warden of the Cinque Ports, left an only daughter, Jane, who carried it in marriage to Sir John Dudley, afterwards Duke of Northumberland. This Nobleman, about the 30th of Henry VIII. conveyed it to the King, who, in his 36th year, granted it in capite to Thomas Argal. After some intermediate owners, it came into possession of Robert Clarkson, Esq. of London, who sold it, in 1687, to Mr. John Mantell, of Tenterden, by the descendants of whom it was retained until a few years past.

Tenterden Church is dedicated to St. Mildred: the north aisle is curiously ceiled with oak, and ornamented.

In the chancel, south wall, a tablet to Wm. Finch, Esq. of Finchden, in this parish, who died Nov. 30th, 1794, aged 57; also Elizabeth his widow, who died Feb. 7th, 1824, aged 87; also their son William Finch, who died 18th Nov. 1804, aged 28: a monument to Thos. Westen, Esq. one of the Jurats of this corporation, who died June 24th, 1819, aged 73; also Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Wm. Lett, Esq. of Tenterden, who died Oct. 31st, 1828, aged 86. On the north side, a monument to Robert Godden, of Finchden, Esq. in this parish, who died 1st July, 1823, aged 68; Henrietta, wife of the above, died 19th June, 1808, aged 41; and their two daughters and two sons: also a neat tablet to Jeremiah Curteis, late of Heronden House, in this parish, Esq. obt. 11 June, 1828, æt. 76; he was a Jurat of this corporation; erected by his wife Sarah, a daughter of the Rev. Thomas Curteis, D.D. Prebendary of Canterbury, and Rector and Vicar of Sevenoaks, in this county: near the altar, a tablet to Matthew Wallace, Vicar of Tenterden, who was born at Moffat, in Scotland, and died at his Vicarage, on the 14th Nov. 1771, aged 43. In the south aisle, a tablet to Edward Curteis, Gent. obt. Oct. 3, 1777, æt. 65; and others of the Curteis family: another to Wm. Curteis,

of Camberwell, in Surrey, Esq. who died 20th June, 1813, aged 67; also Elizabeth his wife (daughter and heiress of Francis Whitfield, of Bethersden, Esq.) who died Dec. 29th, 1795, aged 43; likewise Mary, widow of the above-named Wm. Curteis, Esq. who died 21st May, 1830, aged 83. On the south wall, a tablet to Richard Curteis, Esq. who died 21st Aug. 1811, aged 76; also Mary his wife, who died 10th April, 1806, aged 66. In the north corner of the church, a monument to Herbert Whitfield, of Tenterden, Esq. descended of the ancient family of Whitfield, in the County of Northumberland; and Martha his wife, who died 26th Jan. 1613; he died 6th Feb. 1622. The woodwork on the ceiling of this church is exceedingly beautiful.

HUNDRED OF BARKLEY.

At BIDDENDEN there is a free Latin Grammar School, that was founded in 1522, by William or John Mayne, Esq.; but it appears of late to have been totally neglected.

Ibornden, in the Parish of Biddenden, the seat of Cook Tylden Pattenson, Esq. Captain in the Rifle Brigade, a Magistrate for the Counties of Kent and Sussex, and Deputy Lieutenant for Kent, is an ancient house, surrounded by extensive and well-wooded grounds. The interior is decorated with some good paintings, one of which, by one of the great masters of the old school, is very fine.

Ibornden is distant from Maidstone 13 miles south-east, and about five miles north-east from Tenterden.

Ibornden, in the beginning of the 17th century, was purchased by Roger Pattenson, clothier, of Yorkshire, who died about 1638. His descendant, Josias Pattenson, was succeeded here by his second son, William, who was again succeeded by his only son, Mr. William Pattenson, in which name it continues at the present time.

Biddenden Church. In the chancel, near the altar, a monument to Harbert Randolph, late of this parish, Gent. and Elizabeth, daughter of George Masters, of Canterbury; Harbert died 8th Sept. 1644, Elizabeth 6th January, 1640: a brass to Wm. Randolph, Gent. and his wife, daughter of Stephen Curtis, of Tenterden, Gent.; he died 6th Dec. 1641, aged 52; she died 16th Dec. 1641, aged 40: near the last, another to Bernard Randolph and Jane his wife, daughter of Wm. Boddenden, Esq. sister unto Sir Wm. Boddenden; he died 6th May, 1628, aged 62: she died 23d April, 1619, aged 48: another to Richard Allarde and his three wives, obt. 3 June, 1593: and another to William Boddenden and his two wives; he died 30th March, 1579, aged 63: also another to Josiah Sellyard and his two wives; he died 1st Nov. 1602, aged 48. A monument on the north side of the altar to

245

Richard Beale and Anne his wife; he died 6th Nov. 1786, aged 69; she died 6th Dec. 1761, aged 42; also of Slaman Beale, only brother of the above, who died 13th May, 1767, aged 46; erected by Richard, his son and sole executor: a tablet to Elizabeth, wife of the Rev. Thos. Kirkbank, who died Dec. 18, 1801, aged 42; he died 21 Nov. 1828, aged 72. On the south wall, a tablet to Richard Beale, of River Hall, in this parish, Esq. who died 4th Dec. 1814, aged 70; Richard Beale, his nephew, erected this monument: another to Richard Beale, of River Hall, Esq. obt. 19 Jan. 1836, æt. 65. At the east end, a tablet to Wm. Trent and his two wives; he died 1737, March 12th, aged 64; his first wife was Maria, daughter of Wm. Dyer; his second Maria, daughter of Richard Beale, of this parish, Esq.: and another to Anne Rebecca, wife of C. Tylden Pattenson, Esq. of Ibornden, in this parish, eldest daughter of T. L. Hodges, of Hempstead, Esq.; she died Feb. 11th, 1836, aged 33.

HUNDRED OF BLACKBURN.

Henhurst, in the Parish of Woodchurch, the seat of John Charles Schreiber, Esq. a Magistrate for the County, is an elegant modern mansion, in the interior of which there are some good paintings. The grounds are tastefully laid out, and well planted.

It is distant from Tenterden about six miles, and from Ashford six miles.

Henhurst formerly belonged to a younger branch of the family of Henhurst, or Enghurst, whose more ancient seat was at Henhurst, in Staplehurst. They continued owners of this property, till the daughter of Sir Thomas Henghurst, in the reign of Henry VII. carried it in marriage to Humphry Wise, whose daughter and heir, Agnes, entitled her husband, Mr. Robert Master, to the possession of it, and in their descendants it continued until a recent period.

Woodchurch Church. On the north wall, a large stone monument and brass to Thomas Harlakenden, Esq. and his two wives, Margaret and Elizabeth, and their ten children. In the chancel, a brass to Martin Harlakenden, who died Jan. 1584; and another to Roger Harlakenden.

The church of Woodchurch is dedicated to All Saints.

Hales Place, in the Parish of Halden, about one mile east from the church, was the original seat of the family of Hales, in this county. Nicholas Hales resided here in the reign of Edward III.

APPLEDORE, centuries back, was a maritime town, to which the sea flowed up the River Rother, or Limene, the channel of which has, for ages,

246

been diverted from its original course. For in the reign of Alfred, anno 893, the Danes sailed up the river, as far as Appledore, with a fleet of 250 sail, and having sacked and razed the village, built a fort, or castle, which they retained as a rendezvous for some time. When this castle was destroyed is not exactly known, but it was probably demolished by the French, in 1380, who, in that year, pillaged and burnt the town.

The chief cause of the Rother leaving its original course is mentioned, by Camden, to have been an overwhelming inundation of the sea, in the year 1286, which swept away villages and their inhabitants, and, in retiring, opened the more direct and present channel of the river.

At Kenardington, south-east of the church, below the hill, are the remains of an ancient fortification, which, Hasted thinks, was thrown up in the wars between Alfred and the Danes.

Shadoxhurst Church. In the chancel, north wall, a fine marble monument to Sir Charles Molloy, Knt. Lord of this Manor, late Captain of H. M. S. Royal Caroline, some time a Director of Greenwich Hospital, and elder Brother of the Trinity House, and Justice of the Peace for this county; after a long and faithful service in the Royal Navy, of nearly sixty years, on the 7th April, 1742, his Majesty, King George II. appointed him his own Captain, on board the Royal Caroline; and afterwards, in a voyage royal of his, being bound for Holland, his Majesty was pleased to confer on him the honour of Knighthood, on the 27th April, 1743: he was twice married; his first wife was Anne, relict of Isaac Elton, Esq.; he afterwards married Ellen, eldest daughter of John Cooke, Esq. of Twitts, near Cranbrooke, in this county: he died Aug. 24th, 1760, aged 76.

Shadoxhurst Church is dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul.

HUNDRED OF BOUGHTON.

Vicarage, Boughton-under-Blean, the residence of the Rev. Thomas William Wrighte, M.A. and F.S.A. Rector of Wichling, and Vicar of this parish, is an old house, situated a very short distance east from the church.

From Faversham it is about three miles, and from Canterbury six miles.

Boughton House, in the Parish of Boughton-under-Blean, the seat of John Pryce Lade, Esq. Major in the East Kent Regiment, and a Magistrate for the County, is a fine old house, situated in pleasant grounds, about one mile

247

south-west from Boughton Street. The interior is adorned with a few family portraits.

Boughton House is about three miles east from Faversham, six miles west from Canterbury, and 49 miles and a half from London.

The manor of Boughton has formed part of the possessions of the See of Canterbury, from a period anterior to the record of Domesday, and has been demised, from time to time, on a beneficial lease of twenty-one years. In the year 1776, John Lade, Esq. of this parish, purchased the remaining term of

Thomas Heron, Esq. of Newark-upon-Trent; since which time it has been renewed to John Pryce Lade, Esq. the present lessee.

Brenley House, in the Parish of Boughton-under-Blean, the seat of Edward Jarman, Esq. is a large ancient Elizabethan house, surrounded with agreeable pleasure-grounds, situated about two miles and a half south-east from Faversham, seven miles west from Canterbury, and about 49 miles from London.

Brenley, or Brinley, alias Butlers, formerly gave surname to its possessors. Sir Laurence de Brinley lived here in the reign of Edward I. one of whose descendants sold it to John Roper, Esq. of St. Dunstan's, who died in 1489, having bequeathed it to his second son, Thomas Roper. His son, John Roper, Esq. dying in 1527, left it to his daughter, Elizabeth, or, as she is sometimes called, Joane, who afterwards carried it in marriage to Robert Eyre, of Derbyshire, from whose posterity it went in marriage to the family of Rowth, from Romley, in Derbyshire, whose descendant, Sir John Rowth, rebuilt the mansion, and died in 1657. His son, Francis Rowth, Esq. next inherited it, and at his death, in 1677, it passed, through his surviving sister, Margaret Boys, widow, and his nephew, John Farewell, Esq. to his nephew's son, George Farewell, Esq. whose son, George, in 1741, succeeded to it. At his death, in 1750, s. p. it remained with his widow for life, and at her decease devolved, by entail, on her husband's relatives, Anne, Margaret, and Elizabeth Wyersdale, and Sarah, relict of John Jarman, Esq. of Bishopshull, in Somersetshire. Anne, Margaret, and Elizabeth Wyersdale, dying unmarried, Nathaniel Jarman, Esq. son of Mrs. Jarman, above-mentioned, inherited it in 1773.

Nash Court, in the Parish of Boughton-under-Blean, is a good house, and situated in a small pleasant park, but having been uninhabited for many years, it is in a very dilapidated state.

Nash, or Nash Court, for many centuries past, was the residence and property of the catholic family of Hawkins. The first of this name, connected with this seat, was Andrew Hawkins, of Holderness, in Yorkshire, who inherited Nash in right of his wife, Joane de Nash, in the reign of Edward III. from whose descendants it has never been alienated. The present mansion was built by Thomas Hawkins, Esq. who died in 1766, aged 92. In the year 1715, during the agitation arising from the rebellion in Scotland, Nash Court was plundered by the populace, and the furniture, pictures, a good library, and the deeds of the estate, were burnt, and the family plate carried off.

Boughton Church is dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul. The north

248

chancel, formerly St. James's Chapel, belongs to Nash Court; and the southern, or St. John's Chapel, to Brenley and Colkins.

In the chancel, on the south wall, a tablet to Anne, wife of John Alleyn, of Stowting, Gent. who died Jan. 12, 1713, aged 78: next to this, another, to George Farewell, Esq. who died 21st March, 1749-50, aged 57: a marble monument to the memory of Sir John Routh, of Brenley, Knt. who died 22d March, 1657, aged 60; also Dame Elizabeth Routh, of Brenley, relict of the above Sir John Routh, who died 3d Nov. 1675, in the 71st year of her age: another to the memory of Henry Pettit, Esq. who died 1607, 11th Nov. aged 55: a small marble monument to the memory of John Pettit, Esq. obt. 3d Dec. 1630; this monument was erected by his nephew, William Pettit. On the north wall, a fine marble monument (the figures in stone) to the memory of Sir Thomas Hawkins; and Anne, his wife, daughter of Cirriack Pettit, Esq.; she died 5th Oct. 1616, aged 64; and Sir Thomas, 10th April, 1617, aged 68: near it a tablet to William Place, and Priscilla, his wife, which William was Minister of this place forty-eight years; he died 3d April, 1637; and she died 15th May, 1627: a stone to Thomas Hawkins, Esq. obt. 19 Dec. 1683, æt. 31: also one to Mary, his wife, obt. 1713, æt. 34: a marble tablet to the memory of John Hawkins, Esq. and Mary, his wife; this tablet was erected by Thomas Hawkins, Esq. On the south wall, in the aisle, a small marble tablet to Sophia Reynolds, daughter of Captain John Irons, who died 19th April, 1833, aged 23: a brass plate for John Best, and Joan, his wife, 1608. On the north wall, north aisle, a marble tablet to the Rev. Henry Beaton, B.D.

late Prebendary of Ely, Master of Eastbridge Hospital, in the City of Canterbury, Rector of Ivye Church, and Vicar of this parish; he died 7th July, 1777, aged 67: next to it, another to the Rev. Wm. Plees, Rector of this parish, obiit Oct. 12, 1752, æt. 77: near it, another to Wm. Pemble, Esq. who died 3d Aug. 1774, aged 54: a stone, at the altar, to the three children of Edward Hales, of Chilstone, in Boughton Malherb, Esq. and Elizabeth, his wife, daughter of Sir John Evelyn, of Godstone, in the County of Surrey, Kt. viz. Martha, third daughter, born 7th Sep. 1662, died Oct. 20th, 1672; Evelyn, fourth son, born 18th June, died the 30th July, 1672; Samuel, born 11th April, died 24 May, 1674: a stone to the memory of Florence Pettyt, wife of Cirriack Pettyt, Esq. obiit 1 April, 1568; also of the said Cirriack Pettyt, obiit 15 Oct. 1591: a stone to the memory of Elizabeth, wife of Michael Lade, Esq. who died 5th Nov. 1766, aged 67; also Wm. Adams, brother of the above, who died 12th May, 1775, aged 72; Hester, wife of John Lade, Esq. who died 21st July, 1778, aged 47; Michael Lade, husband of the above-named Elizabeth, who died 2d Aug. 1778, aged 81; and John Lade, Esq. elder son of Michael Lade, who died 1st May, 1811, aged 77: a stone to the memory of Francis Routh, Esq. only surviving son of Sir John Routh, who died Oct. 3d, 1677, aged 44: a brass to Jno. Colkins, 1405.

Selling Court, in the Parish of Selling, the residence of John Neame, Esq. is an ancient house, belonging to the Rt. Hon. Lord Sondes. It is distant from Faversham four miles south-east, and from Lees Court one mile and a quarter.

Selling Manor was given, about 1045, to St. Augustine's Monastery, in Canterbury, and it remained attached to it till its dissolution, in the 30th year of Henry VIII. In the 36th year of the same reign it was granted to Sir Anthony St. Leger, whose son, Sir Warham St. Leger, sold it to Sir Michael Sondes, of Throwley, who died in 1617. His descendant, Sir George Sondes, Earl of Faversham, left two daughters; Mary, married to Lewis, Lord Duras, afterwards Earl of Faversham,

249

and Catherine, to Lewis Watson, Earl of Rockingham, each of whom, successively, in right of their wives, became entitled to this manor, but the Earl of Rockingham died possessed of it in 1724. His grandson, Thomas, dying s. p. devised it to the Hon. Lewis Monson, who afterwards took the name of Watson, and, in 1766, was created Baron Sondes.

Luton House, in the Parish of Selling, the seat of Miss Neame, is a neat modern house, built in 1806, by the late Thomas Neame, Esq. It is distant from Faversham about four miles south-east.

On the lofty hill, called Shottenton Hill, in the south part of the Parish of Selling, are the remains of an ancient camp, enclosing about one acre and three-quarters of ground, which, Hasted thinks, was a castra æstiva and exploratory fort for the castra stativa in Shellingham Wood, distant hence about two miles south-east, which also appears to have been very strongly fortified.

Selling Church contains the following monuments:

In the chancel, turning the angle from the altar, on the south wall, a marble tablet to the memory of Wm. Chambers, Gent. who died Nov. 14th, 1724, aged 32; also Susanna, his wife, Nov. 5th, 1758, aged 64; likewise Anne, daughter of Wm. and Susanna Chambers, who died Jan. 12th, 1722, aged 8 months: a marble tablet to Thomas Gibbs Hilton, Esq. of this parish, obiit 13 April, 1826, æt. 74; and Ann, his wife, obiit 28 Sep. 1814; also Ann, their daughter, obiit 24 June, 1781, æt. 3^o anno; and Wm. their 7th and youngest son, obiit 23 Dec. 1819, at Bombay, in the East Indies: next to it, another, smaller, to Robt. Hilton, Esq. of Marshes, in this parish, who died 8th May, 1788, aged 61; and Elizabeth, his wife, who died 29th Aug. 1788, aged 64; also Robt. son of Thos. Gibbs Hilton, who died Oct. 14th, 1837, aged 53: near the altar there is a brass, in the wall, to one of the Norwoods. On the north wall, a tablet to Thos. Greenstreet, Yeoman, obiit 1766. The window over the altar contains some beautifully painted glass.

Selling Church is dedicated to St. Mary.

Herne Hill Church. In the chancel, near the altar, a marble tablet to Henry Squire, Gent. of this parish, who died 14th June, 1777, aged 71; and his six children; also Margaret, his wife, who died 13th Feb. 1802, aged 92; erected by their daughter. On the north wall, a tablet to Mrs. Mary Hill, daughter of Thomas Dawes, Esq. who died 6th Dec. 1801, aged 46; erected by her husband. Entering the church-yard from Graveney, a little to the left, is the grave of Courtenay, alias Thom, the lunatic.

Herne Hill Church is dedicated to St. Michael.

250

HUNDRED OF FAVERSHAM.

Lees Court, in the Parish of Sheldwich, the seat of the Right Hon. Lord Sondes, is an elegant structure, built after a design of Inigo Jones, surrounded by an extensive and well-wooded park. The hall is particularly fine, and in a gallery, at one end, is a splendid organ.

It is distant from Faversham about three miles south.

Sheldwich, or, as it is written in old charters, Schyldwic, in 784, was given by Alcmund, King of Kent, to Wetrede, the Abbott, and the Convent of Raculf cestre or Reculver. There is no notice of it from this time, till (under the title of the Manor of Sheldwich) it became the property of the family of Atte-Lese, in the reign of Edward I. who were so named from their mansion of Lees Court. Sir Richard at Lese, who died s. p. in 1394, gave this estate, for life, to his widow, Dionisia; and, at her decease, to John Dane, with remainder to the heirs male of Lucy, his niece, then the wife of John Norton, Esq. by which will it came at length into possession of William Norton, Esq. son of the last-mentioned gentleman, a descendant of whom, Sir Thomas Norton, of Northwood, in Milton, about the reign of James I. alienated it to Sir Richard Sondes, of Throwley, whose son, Sir George Sondes, K.B. after the death of Charles I. rebuilt the mansion, from a design of Inigo Jones. He, in consequence of the losses he sustained, and the persecution he underwent for his firm loyalty during the Commonwealth, was, by Charles II. anno 1676, created Earl of Faversham, Viscount Sondes, and Baron of Throwley, from whom it has descended, by inheritance and intermarriage; through a long line of noble proprietors, to the present owner, the Right Hon. Lord Sondes.

Lords, in the Parish of Sheldwich, the seat of Giles Hilton, Esq. is a neat house, surrounded by beautiful grounds. The situation is very agreeable, in a rich and picturesque district, with the advantage of contiguity to the demesnes of two noblemen.

Lords is distant from Faversham nearly four miles south.

Lords is a manor that formerly belonged to owners of the same name, with whom it continued till the reign of Richard II. when it passed to the family of Giles. With these it remained, till Christian Giles, in the year 1678, married Thomas Hilton, Gent. of Sheldwich, who thereby became entitled to it, from which gentleman this estate has descended, uninterruptedly, to the present possessor.

Sheldwich Church. In the chancel, on the south wall, near the altar, a marble tablet to William Hilton, late of Faversham, Gent. who died 7th Feb. 1780, aged 68; also Gilbert Hilton, his son, by Mary, his wife, who died 4th March, 1765, aged 12; also the said Mary, who died 8th March, 1793, aged 81: another to John Hilton, Esq. late of this parish, who died 8th Jan. 1829, in his 70th year; also Eleanor, wife of the above John Hilton, Esq. who died Dec. 3, 1835, aged 85: under it a small one, by Westmacott, to Mary Eleanor, daughter of John and Eleanor

251

Hilton, of this parish, obt. June 23, 1805, æt. 15. On the north wall, near the altar, a beautiful marble monument to the Right Hon. Lewis Richard Watson, Baron Sondes, of Lees Court, in this parish, and of Rockingham Castle, in the County of Northampton; he died 14th Dec. 1836, in his 44th year, unmarried; he was eldest son of Lewis Thomas, second Baron Sondes, by Mary Elizabeth, only child

of the late Richard Milles, Esq. of Nackington, in this county.

Sheldwich Church is dedicated to St. James.

One mile north from Lords, on the Faversham and Ashford road, immediately opposite Sheldwich Church, is an elegant mansion, the seat of E. I. Bridges, Esq. Captain in the Royal Horse Artillery, The pleasure grounds are very tastefully laid out.

In the Parish of Throwley are lands called Throwley Park, on which, close to the west end of the church, stood the original mansion, in this county, of the family of Sondes, who were anciently settled at Sondes Place, at Dorking, in Surrey. But soon after Lees Court was built by Sir George Sondes, their seat here was pulled down, and the grounds disparked.

At Throwley there was formerly an alien Priory, that was established, in the reign of Stephen, as a conventual cell to the Benedictine Abbey of St. Bertin, at St. Omers. On the site of it was built the Parsonage House. It continued in existence till the general suppression of the alien Priories, in the year 1414. There is also a free school here, that was founded by Sir Thomas Sondes.

Belmont, in the Parish of Throwley, the seat of the Right Hon. Lord Harris, is a handsome modern house, pleasantly situated in a beautiful park, a very short distance from the church. The interior is very elegantly furnished.

Belmont is about two miles west from Lees Court, six miles from Eastwell Park, three miles and a half from Faversham, and about 50 miles from London.

Belmont was originally built in the year 1769, by Edward Wilks, Esq. Storekeeper of the Royal Powder Mills at Faversham, who alienated it, in 1779, to John Montresor, Esq.

Throwley Church contains the following interesting monuments:

In the Sondes chancel, a fine marble monument to Dame Marye Sonds, wife of Sir Michael Sonds, of Throwley, Knt. and daughter and sole heiress of George Fynche, of Norton, Esq. in this county; she was between 65 and 3 score when she died, on the 23d Sept. 1603: next to it, one exactly similar, to Cycylle, the 1st wife of Sir Thomas Sonds, Knt. obt. 18th June, 1584: a handsome plain black marble monument to Sir George Sondes, Earl of Faversham, and Mary, his Countess; the Earl died April 30th, 1677; the Countess, Sept. 15th, 1688; this monument was erected by Catherine Lady Viscountess Sondes: a monument to Captain Sondes, third son of Sir Richard Sondes, by his second lady, daughter of Sir Rowland Hayward; at the age of 17 he went into the Low Countries, where, for

252

eminent services, he had a Company given him, which he commanded above thirty years; in the year 1666 he returned, and was graciously received by his Majesty; he died 13th Oct. 1668, aged 59. In the high chancel, on the south wall, a marble tablet to Henry Cobb, of Town Place, in this parish, who died Aug. 24th, 1808, aged 45; and Elizabeth, his wife, who died 16th Dec. 1824, aged 57; this tablet is erected by seven sons and two daughters of the deceased: next to it a small monument to Stephen Bunce of this parish, Esq. who was one of the ancients of New Inne, and being there, died 10th Feb. 1634: interred in St. Clements, London; he married the daughter of Arthur Barham, Esq. of Maidstone; this monument was erected by his wife, Anne. In Lord Harris's chancel, a fine monument and statue of stone to George, first Lord Harris, Baron of Seringapatam and Mysore, in the East Indies, and of Belmont, in the County of Kent, a General in his Majesty's army, and Knt. Grand Cross of the Bath; the active years of his life were passed in the service of his country, in ungenial climates, but it pleased Providence to return him, in health, to his native land, crowning his military career with the siege and capture of Seringapatam, and, with the thanks of the nation, recorded in the votes of Parliament; he lived for nearly thirty years at Belmont, and died on the 19th May, 1829, aged 84. In the corner of this chancel, a stone monument, with no inscription; on the window above it are the following words, "Pray for the good estate of Alice Martyn, the which did make this window." A marble monument, on the north wall, to the Hon. Charles Harris, third son of the Lord Harris, and Captain in the 85th Regiment of Light Infantry; after service in two triumphant campaigns in

Spain, under the Duke of Wellington, he fell, in the midst of the enemy, when the Americans attacked the lines at New Orleans, on the 23d Dec. 1814, aged 21; it represents Britannia supporting the dying hero, and pointing to heaven: near it, a marble tablet to the Rt. Hon. Ann Carteret, wife of Gen. George, first Lord Harris: she died July 30th, 1833, at Holden, in this county; erected by William George, Lord Harris: next to this, another, smaller, to Mrs. Elizabeth Dyer, who died at Belmont, Nov. 14th, 1814, aged 80; erected by her cousin, George, Lord Harris.

Throwley Church is dedicated to St. Michael.

In Ospringe Street, at the corner of Water Lane, are the remains of a hospital, or Maison Dieu, that was founded by Henry III. about 1235, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary. It was designed for the accommodation of poor travellers and pilgrims, and especially for the relief of poor lepers, the leprosy at that time being very prevalent among the lower orders and the religious, from their accustomed diet of fish. There was a chamber in it wherein the King used to repose when he travelled this way, and thence called Camera Regis. The principal remains of the building are now occupied by the Crown Public-house.

At White Hill, in the Parish of Ospringe, is the seat of Mrs. Bennet Foord, a very agreeable residence, with pleasant grounds. It is distant from Faversham about one mile and a half south-west.

Hasted notices an estate, (which we believe is this,) that was formerly the property of the family of Drayton. After they had become extinct here it passed into the name of Ruck, and then, on failure of lawful heirs, escheated to the Earl of Guildford, as Lord of the Manor.

253

Ospringe Parsonage, the residence of John Abbott, Gent. is a neat house, situated on an elevation overlooking the Hamlet of White Hill, and commanding a good view of the neighbouring country. It is about three-quarters of a mile south from Ospringe Church, and two miles from Faversham.

Ospringe Parsonage belongs to the Master and Fellows of St. John's College, Cambridge, and is let by them on a beneficial lease.

Vicarage, Ospringe, the residence of the Rev. M. W. Jones, B.D. Rural Dean, is situated a very short distance south-east from the church, and rather more than a mile from Faversham.

Chapel House, in the Parish of Ospringe, the residence of Richard Jones, Esq. (proprietor of East Wickham House, in the Parish of East Wickham, near Woolwich,) stands eastward from Ospringe, on the right-hand side of the Great Dover Road, about half a mile south-west from Faversham.

Chapel House is so named from an ancient chapel or oratory that stood adjoining to it, and which was pulled down the latter part of last century. This chapel was dedicated to St. Nicholas, and provided with a priest to say mass for the safety and success of passengers who left acknowledgments for his trouble. From Mr. John Simmons, Chapel House descended to his son, who sold it to Isaac Rutton, Esq. and he alienated it to Mr. Neame.

Ospringe Place, in the Parish of Ospringe, the seat of Sir Thomas Gage Montresor, K.C.B. a Lieut. Gen. and Col. of the Second Regiment of Dragoon Guards, is a handsome structure, pleasantly situated adjoining Chapel House on the west, distant from London 47 miles, and from Canterbury between eight and nine miles.

Ospringe Place was built by Isaac Rutton, Esq.

St. Ann's Cross, in the Parish of Ospringe, the residence and property of William Hall, Esq. is pleasantly situated on the south-west of Faversham. It is a good substantial house, surrounded by beautiful grounds, through which the Ospringe rivulet flows, forming in its progress several small lakes. The pride

of this place is a remarkably large and elegant weeping willow, which lost some of its limbs and much of its beauty in the tremendous hurricane of Nov. 1836.

Syndale, in the Parish of Ospringe, the seat of John Hyde, Esq. a Deputy Lieutenant for the County, is an elegant structure, built after a design of Inigo Jones: the front is relieved with pilasters, crowned with rich capitals. This mansion stands in the centre of a picturesque park, on an elevation commanding extensive prospects, northward, of the Isle of Sheppey, Whitstable Bay, &c. The interior is most elegantly fitted up, and contains, among its costly

254

decorations, the following paintings: two children of Sir Francis Ford, Bart. relieving a beggar boy, by Sir William Beechey; portraits by Copley, Owen, Green, and others, of Nathaniel Hyde, Esq.; John Hyde, Esq. only son of N. Hyde, Esq.; Colville Hyde, a child, by Green; George Anson, Esq. nephew of the first Lord Anson, and father of Thomas, Viscount Anson; George Venables Vernon, afterwards Lord Vernon; the Hon. Mrs. Venables Vernon, daughter of Lord Effingham; the Right Hon. Lady Harcourt, daughter of Sir Thomas Vernon, &c. John Hyde, Esq. purchased this estate, in 1822, of the executors of Sir Samuel Auchmuty.

Syndale is distant from Faversham one mile and a half south-west, from Canterbury nine miles and a half, and from London about 46 miles.

Syndale, or, as it was until lately called, Judde House, in ancient times belonged to the Priory of Rochester; but at the general dissolution, in the reign of Henry VIII. these lands being surrendered to the Crown, the King granted them to his newly founded Dean and Chapter of Rochester. After the death of Charles I. when the Deans and Chapters were abolished and their possessions sold, this estate came into the hands of Daniel Judde, a busy sequestrator of the estates of the royalists, who, thinking his tenure firm, built a mansion about the year 1652. On the restoration of Charles II. when the Dean and Chapter were re-established, Judde was ejected from this estate, and thence it was styled Judde's Folly. More recently it was held in lease under the Dean and Chapter, by Clayton Milbourne, Esq. M.P. whose widow, about 1765, sold her interest in it to James Flint, Esq. who, dying in 1790, bequeathed it to his widow. At a later period it was possessed by Sir Samuel Auchmuty.

On the summit of Judde Hill, within the park, are the faint remains of entrenchments, where some have supposed was the Roman station Durolevum, in opposition to another opinion that places it at Newington. At any rate it is certain that the Romans had a military station on this hill, for when the new road was making, there were dug up quantities of pieces of culinary articles of that nation, and a coin of Vespasian; and in Judde gardens have been found, at different times, coins of Adrian, M. Aurelius, Arcadius, and others.

The Oaks, in the Parish of Ospringe, the seat of Edward Toker, Esq. is a substantial modern house, commanding a good view of the Isle of Sheppey and the intermediate country.

It is about two miles south-west from Faversham, 10 miles from Canterbury, and 47 miles from London.

The Oaks was built, about 70 years ago, by Mr. John Toker, on the site of an ancient house called Nicholas, that formerly belonged to the Drayton family,

Ospringe Church. There was formerly a circular steeple at the west end of this church, built of flints, and supposed to be Danish, which fell to the

255

ground, Oct. 11, 1695, when ringing the bells to celebrate King William's return from Flanders. In the east part of the church-yard stood once a chapel, the foundations of which may still be seen when openings are made for graves.

Near the altar, on the south wall, an ancient marble monument to Robert Streynsham and Frances, his wife. In the south aisle, south wall, a marble tablet to Mrs. Hester Rebecca Brooke, whose remains are deposited in the family vault of John Toker, Esq. obiit 20 Dec. 1831, æt. 81; this monument was erected by her nieces, Clarissa Toker and Fanny Champion Crespigny: adjoining it, another to Chs. Brooke Toker, Esq. of the Oaks, whose death was occasioned by a fall from his horse; obiit 4 Sep. 1832, æt. 22: next to this, another beautiful one to Mary, wife of John Toker, Esq. of the Oaks, obiit 3 March, 1814, æt. 59; also the above John Toker, Esq. obiit Aug. 9, 1817, æt. 71; also Richard, third son of the above John and Mary Toker, Capt. in the 96th Regiment, who died at Antigua, in the West Indies, 20th Sep. 1805, aged 24. In the chancel, south side, a marble tablet to Henry Oldman, Esq. of Faversham, obiit 2 July, 1835, æt. 46: next to it, a marble tablet to James Foord, Esq. of Whitehill, in this parish, obiit 27 April, 1833, æt. 82. North side, a fine monument for James Master, Arm. obiit April 27, 1631, æt. 84. In the north aisle, north wall, a marble tablet to Frances Jackson, wife of the Vicar of this parish, who died 24th Oct. 1809, aged 60: another to Henry Wreight, late of Whitehill, in this parish, Esq. who died 8th April, 1773, aged 83; and Susanna, his wife, who died May 17th, 1726, aged 22; and their four children, Susanna and Jane, who both died under age and unmarried, Henry Wreight, Gent. who died Oct. 1st, 1754, aged 38, and William Wreight, formerly an officer in the 8th Regiment of Foot, who died 25th Nov. 1778, aged 56; also Jane, his wife, who died 26th Jan. 1795, aged 64; and Jane, their daughter, who died an infant.

Ospringe Church is dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul.

FAVERSHAM is a neat little town, eight miles west from Canterbury, its outline presenting the form of an irregular cross, in the centre of which are the Guildhall and market-place. It lies in a hollow adjoining the marshes that bound the East Swale, from which there is a navigable creek up to the town. Faversham is now most noted for its oyster fisheries and the manufacture of gunpowder; the former of which, although but a few years back in good repute, and affording a comfortable subsistence to the dredgers, is now fast declining; and the latter, in this calm of peace, having, moreover, recently been transferred from public to private hands, is not carried on to that extent which, during the last war, so greatly benefited the trading portion of the town. At these mills, notwithstanding every precaution, accidents have occasionally happened by the ignition of the powder. The most dreadful explosion occurred April 17th, 1781, when 7000 pounds of powder blew up in the corning mill and dusting house, causing loss of life to three persons, and doing very extensive damage to the houses in the neighbourhood. At this time the corning mill was situated at the western extremity of the town, but, on rebuilding it, a spot was selected for its

256

site about a mile northward, so that the shock of subsequent explosions has not been so severely felt at Faversham. A considerable quantity of gunpowder (about 1000 pounds) ignited very lately, on 8th November, 1838, by which four persons lost their lives, but the destruction of property was almost exclusively confined to the buildings in which the explosion happened. Faversham is a corporation by prescription, and a place of remote antiquity: in a charter, dated 812, granted by Cenulph, King of Mercia, to the Archbishop of Canterbury, it is styled "the King's little Town of Fefresham;" and, probably, long before this time it formed a part of the royal demesnes, for it is said that, in the earlier years of the heptarchy, the Kings of Kent had a palace here. It appears in these days to have possessed much greater importance than at any subsequent period, for, in the year 930, King Athelstan convened, at Faversham, a Wittanegemot, the national council or parliament. The foundation of an abbey here, about 1148, gave a character to the place that, perhaps, long sustained it from sinking into utter insignificance. The Abbey was founded by King Stephen and his Queen Maud, and the latter was so anxious for the speedy completion of it, that, during its erection, she frequently sojourned at St. Augustine's Monastery

to watch the progress of the work. When finished it was dedicated to St. Saviour, (Sancto Salvatori) and twelve monks, from the Cluniac Priory of Bermondsey, were seated in it, Clarembald, the Prior, being appointed Abbot. To give the history of the abbey during its existence would be but to narrate a series of quarrels, in which the monks were incessantly engaged with the townspeople. Stephen, it seems by his charter of endowment, granted to the Abbot and his successors the Manor of Faversham, and that they, as Lords thereof, should possess the same power and privileges that the Kings of England had in it while it remained in the tenure of the Crown. The monks, armed with this authority, and nothing loath to seize every means of aggrandizement, stretched to the utmost the meaning of their charter, and, in so doing, had frequently recourse to the most tyrannical proceedings. The townsfolk, possessing the indomitable spirit of their ancestors, vigorously opposed the exactions of the stranger monks, but always in vain; and besides the mortification of being eventually forced to succumb, they were, at different periods of the contest, amerced for their pertinacious obstinacy. By these contentions, however, the monks often fared very ill, being reduced at times to the lowest state of poverty. In the beginning of the reign of Edward I. all their estates and revenues were taken possession of by the King, and vested in commissioners appointed by the Crown "for the discharge of their debts, and the affording them a necessary

257

support during that time;" and, in a letter written by one of them to the Sacrist of St. Augustine's, at Canterbury, we read, "that for three weeks past they had not had a grain of barley to support their household; nor could they make any malt, nor sow their lands, for none of their neighbours would let them have any corn upon the credit either of their words or bonds."

The Abbey was dissolved in the year 1538, at which time its gross revenues amounted to £355. 12s. 2d. per annum, and the religious were found to be of the order of St. Benedict, having changed their profession about the commencement of the reign of Edward I. The year following the dissolution, Henry VIII. granted the site of the abbey, (a great part of the monastic buildings having been pulled down by his order,) together with some adjoining land, to Sir Thomas Cheney, Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports, who, about five years afterwards, alienated them to Thomas Arden, of Faversham. This gentleman then took up his residence at the house adjoining the entrance gate of the abbey, and was there most barbarously murdered, on the 15th February, 1550, by the contrivance of his wife, who, with most of her accomplices, afterwards suffered death for the crime, she herself being burned at Canterbury. A detailed account of this atrocious act may be found in Holinshed's Chronicles, p. 1703, and in Jacob's History of Faversham. There is also the well-known spirited tragedy on this subject, entitled, "Arden of Faversham," by some attributed to Shakespeare, but most probably Lillo's. This property passed subsequently into the hands of Sir George Sondes, of Lee's Court, the first Earl of Faversham, who had previously purchased the manor, and by his posterity these estates are still retained.

Of the Abbey nothing remains but portions of the precinct walls: the two entrance gateways were the last relics, and these were taken down about seventy years ago, on account of their ruinous state. Southouse, in his "Monasticon Favershamiense," confidently asserts that King Stephen, Maud, his queen, and Eustace, their eldest son, were buried in the abbey church, and that the king's body was disinterred at the dissolution, "for the gain of the lead in which it was in-coffined," and thrown into the creek. Robert of Gloucester says that the monks here possessed "a pece of the veritable holy cross, which Godfrey Boylon for kyndred had sent to King Stephene." Faversham has several times been honoured with the visits of royalty. Mary, widow of Louis XII. of France, sister of Henry VIII. passed through this town, in May, 1515,

on her return from France, and was entertained by the Mayor and Corporation, at the expense of 7s. 4d. Henry VIII. visited it three different times; first, in

258

1519, with his Queen, Catherine of Arragon, Cardinal Wolsey, and the Archbishop of Canterbury; a second time in 1522, together with a numerous retinue, when he was conducting the Emperor to Greenwich; and thirdly, in 1545, when he tarried one night, in his way to the siege of "Bulleine." In 1573, "Queen Elizabeth (says the chamberlain's book,) came here, and lay two nights in the town, which cost the town £44. 19s. 8d. including a silver cup presented to her, which cost £27. 2s." And in the year 1660, Charles II. dined with the Mayor here; "the expense of his entertainment was £56. 6s." The detention of James II. at Faversham, whither he had been brought from Shellness by some sailors, on his first attempt to quit the kingdom, and his subsequent flight from Rochester, are thus detailed by Jacob, from the narrative of Captain Richard Marsh, who was an eye-witness of most of the events:

"The Faversham sailors, observing a vessel of about thirty tons lying at Shellness to take in ballast, resolved forthwith to go and board her: they went in the evening with three smacks and about forty men, and three files of musqueteers of Faversham Band, all well appointed, of which they made William Amis, some time master of a vessel, their captain. In the cabin of the vessel they seized three persons of quality, of which they knew only Sir Edward Hales, from which three persons they took 300 guineas, and brought them afterwards on shore beyond Oure, (Ore) at a place called the Shoal, on Wednesday, December 12, about 10 a.m. where met them Sir Thomas Jenner's coach, with about twenty gentlemen of the town on horseback, and brought them into the Queen's Arms, in Faversham. I, standing by the coach, seeing the king come out, whom I knew very well, was astonished, and said, 'Gentlemen, you have taken the king a prisoner,' which wrought great amazement amongst them all. Then the gentlemen owned him as their sovereign. Then the king expressed himself in this manner to one of the clergy: 'I see the rabble is up, and I must say with the Psalmist, that God alone can still the rage of the sea and the madness of the people, for I cannot do it, therefore am I forced to fly.' Then the king ordered the money that was taken from them to be divided amongst them that took him. The king wrote a letter to the Earl of Winchelsea to come to him, and let him know that he was at Faversham, in the midst of his enemies; at which my lord came from Canterbury that night, which much gladdened the king, that he had now one with him that knew how to respect the person of a king, and awe the rabble; for those brutish unmannerly sailors had carried themselves very indecently towards him. The king desired much of the gentlemen to convey him away at night in the custom-house boat, and pressed

259

it upon their consciences, and told them, that if the Prince of Orange should take away his life, his blood would be required at their hands; and that now it was in their power to release him, but that shortly it would be out of their power to do him good. The gentlemen would by no means admit of it, saying they must be accountable for him to the Prince of Orange, and it would be a means of laying the nation in blood. He was then carried from the Queen's Arms to the Mayor's house, which was Capt. Thomas Southous's, which is the house that our observator now liveth in, in Court Street, where he continued under a strong guard of soldiers and sailors until Saturday morning following, 10 o'clock. Sir Edward Hales, with the rest of the Popish prisoners, were kept in the Court Hall; only Sir Edward Hales was removed to Maidstone gaol within a few hours after the king's departure. The king sent to the Lords of the Council, to let them know that the mob had possessed themselves of his money

and necessaries, and desired them to send new supplies to him. They forthwith dispatched the Earls of Faversham, Hilsborough, Middleton, and Yarmouth, with about 120 horseguards, besides sumpter-horses, paddnags, and coaches, whose orders were to prevail with the king, if it were possible, to return to Whitehall; but not to put any restraint upon his person, if his resolution continued to go beyond the seas. The Lords came to Sittingbourn on Friday evening, but were met by Sir Basil Dixwell, who commanded the horseguards in the town, under the Earl of Winchelsea, with some other persons of quality, and persuaded the Lords to leave the guards at Sittingbourn, and they would conduct his majesty thither next morning; which was done with much order, peace, and satisfaction, both to the king and people. The king lay that night at Rochester, and went next day to Whitehall, intending to avoid the city, and go over at Lambeth; but when he drew nigh the city, he was informed that the city would receive him with acclamations of joy: then he went through the city, and visited the Queen Dowager by the way; and the general discourse of the people was, 'though we hate his religion, yet we honour his person.' The king sent a letter by the Earl of Faversham to the Prince of Orange, at Windsor; but the prince secured the said earl prisoner in the said castle, alleging he was guilty of high treason, for disbanding the army without order. The prince sent to the king at Whitehall, that he thought it not safe, in this present juncture of affairs, for his majesty to remain there, by reason of the resort of Papists; so he ordered his removal to Ham; but the king rather desired his removal to Rochester, which was granted him, and the prince sent some of his guards with him thither. Then the king desired a pass for France for a gentleman and two

260

servants, without name, which was also granted him. The king, with his natural son, the Duke of Berwick, went out of Sir Richard Head's house at Rochester by a back door, on Sunday, about 3 a.m. and was carried from thence in a barge to Shellness, where lay a small vessel; the master thereof carried and landed them between Calais and Bouloign, in France, on Tuesday, Dec. 25, where they had guards to conduct them to Paris, where his queen was gone before: where I'll leave him to spend the rest of his days in a blind superstitious devotion, for which cause he has deserted three kingdoms, or rather they him."

Faversham possesses a free grammar-school, that was founded by Queen Elizabeth in her 18th year, and endowed by her with lands which had been given to the Abbey of Faversham, anno 18 Henry VIII. by Dr. Cole, a Kentishman, Warden of All Souls' College, Oxon, for the "maintenance of a school, wherein the novices of the Abbey were to be instructed in grammar." This foundation, however, we presume is little esteemed, for, out of the whole population of the town, and a circuit of five miles of the neighbouring country, the number of scholars rarely exceeds six.

Among men of eminence, natives of this town, most conspicuous stands Dr. John Wilson, the celebrated musician, who was born here in 1595. In 1656 he was constituted Professor of Music at Oxford, and in 1662 appointed a gentleman of the Chapel Royal: he died in 1673, at the age of 78, and was buried in the little cloisters at Westminster Abbey.

Mount Ospringe, in the Parish of Faversham, the seat of Lieut. Gen. Gosselin, a Magistrate and Deputy Lieutenant for the County, is a substantial house, situated in the angle formed by the London and Canterbury road, and that branching off at Ospringe towards Faversham. It is distant from Canterbury nearly nine miles west.

Mount Ospringe was built by Mr. Bonnick Lipyeat, who died in 1789, leaving two daughters, his co-heirs, one married to Mr. C. Brooke, of London, the other to Captain Gosselin, of the Life Guards.

Homestall, in the Parish of Faversham, the residence of Mrs. Austin Neame, is a handsome farm-house, the property of the Right Hon. Lord Sondes.

It is distant from Faversham about one mile and a half east.

In Preston Street, Faversham, is the residence of the Rev. Hans S. Mortimer, M.A. Vicar of Throwley. Here are some good paintings, by Adrian Vander Werf, and Cuypp; Cattle, by Angelis; Interior of a Flemish Inn, by Berghem; Interior of a Stable, with Cattle and Figures, by P. Wowvermans; Soldiers drinking at a Tent, by Ostade, &c. &c.

261

In West Street, Faversham, is the residence of James Shepherd, Esq.

Vicarage, Faversham, the residence of the Rev. John Birt, D.D. is situated close to the west end of the church-yard.

Faversham Church is a large and very handsome structure, built in the form of a cross: the steeple is modern, in imitation of that of St. Dunstan's in the East, London, and is a conspicuous object from a great distance around. At the west end of the church, on the south side, under a room that was, till very lately, appropriated for a school-room, is a neat chapel or crypt, with stone arches, supported by three pillars, dividing it in the middle. The body of the church was rebuilt, and the chancel much improved, in the year 1754. Here are the following monuments:

In the south aisle, a small marble monument, with the following inscription, "Here lyeth John Castlock, late Jurate, and twice Mayor of this town, and Captain of the Select Band, who died 26th day of Feb. 1613, aged 89:" facing it, one to Stephen Everard, of this town, M. L. he died 17th Jan. 1738, aged 76: near this, a tablet to the memory of James Lawson, killed in the King's service at the battle of Preston: a brass to Henry Hatch, merchant, of this town, and his lady; dates, 1530 and 1533: another brass, dated 1600. In the south transept, the figures of a man and woman praying, to the memory of Thomas Mendfield, Esq. A.D. 1614. In the chancel, a small tablet to the Rev. Joshua Dix, 18 years Vicar of this parish, and 23 years Master of the Free Grammar School, who died the 15th August, 1832, aged 56 years; this monument was erected by the parishioners. At the foot of the altar, a brass to John Bax, Esq. 1832; likewise his wife Jane, 1829: beside it, a brass to the memory of Edward Hales, Gent. twice Mayor of this town, and Captain of the Select Band, only son of Edward Hales, of Chilham, in Kent, Gent. by Martha, sister of Sir Charles Hales, Knt.; he died the 10th Jan. 1634, aged about 52 years: a beautiful marble monument to Christian, wife of Lieut. Gen. Gosselin, obt. 14 Oct. 1824, æt. 58. The old and beautifully carved oaken stalls for the monks of the abbey still exist here, and bear the date 1238; the ornaments on each are different. Near the altar, a beautiful stone monument, without inscription, nor can the coats of arms be traced to any particular family. In the vestry-room, an old chest, and two pictures of Moses and Aaron, where the altar used to stand; this is the oldest part of the church. In the north aisle, a monument for Thomas Napleton, of Faversham, obt. 1679, æt. 46: another to Richard Hazard, F.R.S. who died 21st Sept. 1784, aged 73; also his sister Mary, who died 9th June, 1724, aged 10. In the north transept is a splendid monument to Edward Fagg, Armiger; it represents him at full length, and his lady in a smaller figure. In this church is a very large thigh-bone, dug from under the old steeple.

Faversham Church is dedicated to St. Mary of Charity.

In the Parish of Preston, next Faversham, adjoining the south-west corner of the church-yard, is Preston House, the residence of Gerard L. Gosselin, Esq. son of Lieut. Gen. Gosselin, of Mount Ospringe.

Preston House formerly belonged to a younger branch of the Finches, of Eastwell, by a descendant of whom, about the end of Charles II.'s reign, it was sold to John Brinkhurst, Esq. of Great Marlow,

262

in Buckinghamshire, whose son, Thos. Brinkhurst, Esq. alienated it to Onslow Burrish, Esq.: he sold it to Stephen Beckenham, Esq. of whose son, of the same name, it was purchased by Thomas

Dawes, Esq. whose son and daughter conveyed it, also by sale, in 1769, to Thomas Smith, jun. Esq. George Smith, Esq. the son of this Gent. sold it to John Bax, Esq. of London, who built the present house.

Preston Church. In the chancel, near the altar, a fine marble monument to Roger Boyle, of this parish, who was descended of the ancient family of the Boyles, in Herefordshire; also Joan his wife; on this monument are the full-length figures of Roger Boyle and his wife; a priest, Dr. John Boyle, Bishop of Cork, &c. kneeling at one end; and a Nobleman, Sir Roger Boyle, Earl of Cork, at the other; and three smaller figures of their children. At the altar, a marble stone to the Right Hon. Richard Boyle, grandson to the Right Hon. Richard Boyle, Earl of Burlington and Cork, and the Lady Elizabeth Clifford, sole daughter and heir of the Right Hon. Henry, late Earl of Cumberland, and eldest son of the Right Hon. Charles Lord Clifford and Dungarvon, and the Lady Jane Seamor, daughter to the late William, Duke of Somerset; he died April 9th, 1675, aged 9: opposite, a small marble tablet, to Charlotte Isabella, daughter of the Hon. Courtenay Boyle, 2d son of Edmund, 7th Earl of Cork and Orrery, and Carolina Amelia his wife, who died 16 June, 1816, aged 7 years and 5 months: a marble tablet to George Scott, Esq. eldest son of the Hon. Michael Scott, of Belvidere, in the Island of Grenada, who died at Sittingbourne, 8th Sept. 1791, aged 23: another to Mrs. Silvester Borough, eldest daughter of Robert Denne, Esq. of Denne Hill, obt. 18 May, 1609, æt. 27, and erected by her husband John Borough. In this chancel there are several brasses, and a tablet to the family of Greenstreet: also a marble tablet to the Rev. Geo. Sykes, M.A. obt. June 9, 1766, æt. 81: and a small marble monument to Bennett Marcott and his wife, who died 16th Feb. 1612; he survived her 72 years. In the south aisle, a small marble tablet to the Rev. Francis Giraud, Vicar of this parish for 45 years, obt. Aug. 19th, 1811, æt. 85; and Elizabeth his wife, obt. Feb. 11th, 1816, æt. 28; also Mary Magdalene, daughter of the above, who died Aug. 24th, 1787, aged 20.

Preston Church is dedicated to St. Catherine.

At DAVINGTON, on the summit of the hill, almost adjoining to Faversham, are Davington Church, and the remains of the Priory, called the "Sisters' House," which last is now converted into a dwelling-house. The Priory was founded anno 1153, in the reign of Stephen, by Fulk de Newnham, for nuns of the Benedictine order, and dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen. The original number of nuns was 26, but, owing to the scantiness of their revenues, they were afterwards, in the reign of Edward III. reduced to 14, and styled the "Poor Nuns of Davington;" and, as the necessities of life became dearer, their poverty became the more extreme, so that their number dwindled away, till, in the reign of Henry VIII. the Priory was entirely deserted, and it then escheated to the Crown. The walls enclosing the court, orchard, and church-yard, are still tolerably entire: they are built of flint and Kentish rag-stone. Davington Church is exempt from the jurisdiction of any ordinary. The west door is a

263

handsome Anglo-Norman semi-circular arch of stone, ornamented with roses, &c. but now fast decaying. There is no service performed here.

On the brow of the hill, near the eastern boundary of the parish, there were found, some years ago, in digging the foundations for some offices for the royal powder mills, above 20 Roman urns and other vessels of various sizes and differently-coloured earths; which, with others previously found about the same spot, and coins of the Emperors from Vespasian to Gratian, lead us to infer that this place was a Roman burial-ground.

In the Parish of Stone, next Faversham, on the north side of the London-road, in the vale between Beacon and Judd Hills, are the ruins of Stone Church or Chapel, which has been desecrated for a length of time: in the walls are several Roman bricks.

Norton Court, in the Parish of Norton, the seat of the Right Hon. Stephen Rumbold Lushington, one of Her Majesty's Privy Council, and a Magistrate

and Deputy Lieutenant for the County, is an ancient house, lately improved and modernized. The interior is ornamented with some valuable paintings, and contains a good collection of natural curiosities, stuffed beasts, implements of Indian warfare, armour, &c. forming a small museum. The grounds are laid out with the best taste.

Norton Court is distant from Sittingbourne about four miles south-east, from Faversham three miles, and from London 45 miles.

The manor of Norton (i.e. North Town, from its situation north of Newnham, both which places belonged to the Bishop) was part of the vast possessions of Odo, Bishop of Baieux. After the Bishop's disgrace it was held by Hugo de Port, whose descendant, William, assumed the name of St. John. We find it then held successively by the families of de Newenham, de Campania or Champion, de Frogenhall, Boteler, and Martin; a descendant of which last, in the reign of Henry VII. sold it to Fynche, whose descendant, George Fynche, Esq. died in 1584, leaving a daughter, Mary. She carried it in marriage to Sir Michael Sondes, of Throwley, who, at the end of Elizabeth's reign, sold it to Mr. Thomas Milles, whose daughter Anne carried it in marriage to John Milles, Esq. of Hampshire, who conveyed it to his brother, Dr. Milles; and he, in the reign of Charles I. alienated it to his relative, Mr. Thos. Milles, of Sussex, of whom, in the reign of Charles II. it was purchased by Baptist Piggott, Gentleman. His daughter Mary entitled her husband, Benjamin Godfrey, of London, (a descendant from the Godfreys of Lyd,) to the possession of this estate. At his death, in 1704, it passed to his son John, who bequeathed it to his nephew, Thomas Godfrey Lushington, Esq. of Sittingbourne. This gentleman settled this property on his daughter Catherine in 1754, on her marriage to John Cockin Sole, Esq. of Bobbing. Mr. Sole died in 1790, and soon afterwards Norton Court was sold, by direction of his will, and purchased by John Bennett, Esq. of Faversham.

Rectory, Norton, the residence of the Rev. Thomas Wodehouse, M.A. Rector of Norton and Stourmouth, and Canon Residentiary of Wells, is a hand-

264

some house, well situated, and surrounded with agreeable grounds. It was almost entirely rebuilt, in 1828, by the present incumbent, with the aid of Queen Anne's bounty. It is distant from Norton Court about half a mile west.

Provender, in the Parish of Norton, the seat of Norton J. Knatchbull, Esq. a Magistrate for the County, is an ancient house, distant from Faversham about three miles west, and from London 46 miles.

Provender anciently gave name to its proprietors. John de Provender held it in the reign of Henry III.; but before the reign of Edward III. this family was extinct here, for it was then in possession of Lucas de Vienna or Vienne. From this name it had passed, in the beginning of Richard II. to that of Quadring; and again, about the end of Henry IV. to the ancient family of Goldwell, of Great Chart. From these it came to the Dryland's of Cooksditch, in Faversham, one of whom alienated it, in the reign of Henry VIII. to Robert Atwater, Esq. who sold it to Sir James Hales, and of his descendant, in the reign of Elizabeth, it was purchased by Thos. Sare. His son, Adye Sare, Esq. next succeeded to it, whose heirs sold it to Mr. James Hugessen, of Dover; and in his posterity it remained till Dorothy and Mary, the two surviving daughters of William Western Hugessen, Esq. at the death of their widowed mother, in 1774, entitled their husbands, Joseph, afterwards Sir Joseph Banks, Bart. of Reavesby Abbey, in Lincolnshire, President of the Royal Society, and Edw. afterwards Sir Edw. Knatchbull, Bart. of Mersham Hatch, to the joint possession of it.

Rushett, in the Parish of Norton, (once part of the demesnes of Norton manor,) the property and residence of John Rigden Neame, Esq. is an ancient house, modernized and improved by its present owner in 1813, having now a handsome appearance. It commands, from its elevated situation, extensive and interesting prospects in all directions.

Rushett is distant from Faversham about four miles south-west, and from London 47 miles.

Norton Church. In the chancel, a marble tablet to the memory of Frances Montresor, of Rose Hill, in Sittingbourne, widow of the late John Montresor, Esq. who departed this life on the 28th June, 1826, aged 83: near it a marble monument to the Right Hon. Mary Elizabeth, Lady Sondes, only child of Richard Milles, Esq. of Nackington, in this county, born 26th May, 1767, died Sept. 29th, 1818; also their two children, John Henry Montresor, born 24th Nov. 1809, died 13th April, 1810, interred in Boughton chancel; and Frances Harriet Montresor, born 7th Feb. 1811, died 16th March, 1811, interred at St. John's Church, Limerick: next to this, a tablet to James Stephen Lushington, of the Bengal Civil Service, who died Sept. 12th, 1832, aged 28, second son of the Right Hon. S. R. Lushington, M.P. late Governor of Madras, and of Anne Elizabeth, daughter of George, Lord Harris; this monument is erected by the society which he adorned as a just tribute to his departed excellence: a fine marble monument to Benjamin Godfrey, of Norton Court, Esq. who died 13th March, 1704, in the 73d year of his age: another to Baptist Pigott, of Norton Court. On the opposite side, a stone monument to George Finch, Esq. obt. 28 Aug. 1584: near it a marble monument to Charles Jassett, Esq. and others of his family.

Norton Church is dedicated to St. Mary.

265

Rectory, Eastling, the residence of the Rev. William Hurdis Lushington, M.A. is an irregular building, the greater part ancient, with modern additions. It is distant from Faversham about five miles south, and from Sittingbourne six miles.

Eastling Church. In the chancel, on the south wall, near the altar, a black marble tablet to the Rev. Edward Cage, Rector of this parish 39 years, and resident minister 43 years, who died 17th July, 1835, aged 70: a large monument to Martin James, Armiger, date 1592. Round the pews there are figures and devices carved in oak. A monument on the north wall, to Whihelmi Wickins, A.M. obt. 8 Sept. æt. 76, Anno Domini M.D.CC.XVIII.

Eastling Church is dedicated to St. Mary.

HUNDRED OF TEYNHAM.

Whitemans, in the Parish of Dodington, is the seat of Mrs. Dodsworth, widow of the Rev. Francis Dodsworth, a Prebendary of York, &c. &c. by whom this ancient house was enlarged and considerably improved. Its situation is very pleasant, and the grounds are well planted and picturesque. In the interior are several family portraits by Sir William Beechey and others.

Whitemans is distant from Faversham nearly six miles south-west, and from Sittingbourne about five miles.

Whitemans belonged formerly to the family of Adye, and afterwards to that of Eve, of one of whom it was purchased, in 1772, by the Rev. Francis Dodsworth.

Vicarage, Dodington, the residence of the Rev. John Radcliffe, M.A. Rector of St. Anne's, Middlesex, Chaplain to the late Bishop of Bath and Wells, and Vicar of Teynham and Dodington, is an ancient house, modernized and greatly improved by the present incumbent in the year 1810. Here we observed two portraits, by Fellowes, of the date 1734. The distances and bearings of this house are the same as those of Whitemans.

Great Sharsted, in the Parish of Dodington, the seat of Mrs. Pincke, is a large old house, and was once, without doubt, a place of some importance. We mention, with some degree of pride, the very polite interview with which we were honoured by the venerable proprietress of this mansion, now in her 98th year.

266

The two full length portraits of the Duke and Duchess of Richmond and Lennox, in the collection at Otterden Place, were presented to the late Mr. Wheler "by his much valued friend, Mrs. Pincke, of Sharsted."

Great Sharsted is distant from Faversham about five miles south-west, and from Sittingbourne the same.

The Manor of Sharsted, or Sahersted, in early times, was possessed by a family that took their name from it: Sir Simon de Sharsted died possessed of it in the 25th of Edward I. From this name it passed by marriage, in the reign of Edward III. to John de Bourne, of this parish, in whose posterity it continued till the beginning of the reign of Charles I. when James Bourne, Esq. alienated it to Mr. Abraham Delaune, of London. To him succeeded his son, Sir William Delaune, whose son, William Delaune, Esq. dying in 1739, s. p. this seat passed by an entail in his will, to his nephew, Gideon Thornicroft, Esq. of Milcomb, in Oxfordshire, who dying in 1742, s. p. devised it to his mother, and she at her decease, in 1744, gave it to her maiden daughters, Dorcas and Anne. After the death of Anne, the survivor, in 1791, this estate came to her nephew, Alured Pincke, son of her sister Elizabeth, Lady Abergavenny, by her second husband.

Dodington Church is dedicated to St. John the Baptist: the chapel on the south side belongs to the Sharsted estate.

In the chancel, on the south wall, is a marble tablet to George Swift, son of Arthur Swift, Esq. Student of Lincoln's Inn; he died from a fall from his chariot, on the 21st April, 1732, aged 25; also his sister, Catharine Swift, who died 14th March, 1747, in the 46th year of her age: a stone to Francis Bourne, of Sharsted, Esq. obt. 21 Sept. 1615: another to Sir William Delaune, Knt. obt. 30 June, 1667: another to Dame Dorcas, first married to Sir William Delaune, Knt. and afterwards to Sir Edward Dering, Knt.; she died October 31st, 1720, aged 84: another for William Delaune, Esq. only son of Sir William Delaune, who died 20th July, 1739, aged 74: another to Anne, wife of William Delaune, Esq. who died in 1731, aged 46; also Anne, their daughter, aged 3 months: and another to Alured Pincke, Esq. his two sons, and his daughter; also Alured Henry Short, Esq. nephew to the said Alured Pincke, who died Oct. 11th, 1807, aged 48: here, likewise, are deposited the remains of Thomas Faunce, Esq. who died Jan. 3d, 1797, aged 90. Near this is a very curious stone, the date illegible. On the south wall, a small marble tablet to Alured Pincke, Esq. of Sharsted, in this parish, who died April 14th, 1822, aged 91; also Edmund Pincke, who died Dec. 18th, 1762, aged 4; and Thomas, who died Feb. 11th, 1785, aged 22, sons of the above-named Alured Pincke, and Mary, his wife: another to Sampson Pierce, Gent. of this parish, obt. Aug. 30, 1759; also Sarah Pierce, his wife, obt. Dec. 26, 1808; and Elizabeth, their daughter, obt. Oct. 7th, 1782. On the north wall, a small marble tablet to John Adye, who died 9th May, 1612, above 66 years old. Near the altar, a marble monument to Daniel Somerscales, A.M. Vicar of Dodington, obt. 30 June, 1727, æt. 79. In the aisle, a stone to Henry Short, A.M. Vicar of Dodington, obt. 1771, æt. 76. On the wall, near the belfry, a tablet to the memory of the Rev. Francis Dodsworth, Vicar of this parish 33 years, obt. 18 Oct. 1806, æt. 75.

Lynsted Lodge, in the Parish of Lynsted, the seat of Charles Henry Tyler, Esq. Lieut. Col. of the East Kent Militia, is an old house, recently altered and

267

improved by the present owner, and having now a very handsome appearance. The principal front looks towards the east, at right angles with which is a fine avenue of lime-trees, forming the carriage approach. The interior is decorated with some good paintings.

Lynsted Lodge is about one mile south-east from the church, five miles west from Faversham, three miles and a half from Sittingbourne, and 44 miles from London.

Lynsted Lodge was built, and the park inclosed, by Sir John Roper, the first Lord Teynham, in the reign of James I. whose grandfather had inherited this property by marriage with Jane, the daughter of Sir John Fineux, Chief Justice of the King's Bench in the reigns of Henry VII. and VIII. Lord

Teynham was a descendant of the ancient and respectable family of Roper, of Eltham and St. Dunstan's, in this county, and had been exalted to nobility by James I. as a reward for services and attachment, having been the first man of note who proclaimed the King in this county. In his posterity, the Lords Teynham, this estate continued till a very recent period.

The old Manor-house of Badmangore became ruinous when the father of Sir John Roper ceased to reside there.

Millar's House, in the Parish of Lynsted, the seat of Samuel Creed Fairman, Esq. is situated between Lynsted Lodge and the church, being about half a mile north-west from the latter.

Nouds, in the Parish of Lynsted, the residence and property of John Barling, Esq. is pleasantly situated, a very short distance south from the London and Canterbury road, rather more than three miles east from Sittingbourne, and about four miles from Faversham.

Nouds, or Nowdes, formerly belonged to the family of Greenstreet, who possessed many good estates in this part of the county, and with them it continued till Peter Greenstreet, in 1703, alienated it to John Smith, Gent. whose daughter having married Mr. T. Barling, that gentleman resided here, and died in 1770, and was succeeded by his son, John Smith Barling, to whom his grandfather, Mr. John Smith, above mentioned, had bequeathed this seat. He died in 1795, leaving one son, John, and two daughters, who became jointly entitled to it.

Lynsted Church. In the Provender chancel, a large monument to James Hugessen, Esq. Merchant, who died 2d day of October, 1646; and Jane, his wife, by whom he had issue, William, John, James, Josias, Peter Waller, and Mary: William had two wives, viz. Elizabeth, daughter to Sir John Hepislye, Knt.; the second was Margery, daughter of Sir William Brockman, Knt. and Mary, the daughter, was married to Robert Everinge, Esq. of Everinge. On the monument are full length figures of him and his wife, and seven of their children. Near it, another to John Hugessen, second son of James Hugessen, Esq. who died Jan. 12, 1634, aged 22: another to Josias Hugessen, who died 20th Nov. 1639, aged 22: a stone to Sir William Hugessen, Knt. and others of the Hugessen family: a marble monument to Anne Delaune, widow, daughter of Sir William Hugessen, of Provender, Knt. first married to Rudolph Weckerlin; then to Gideon Delaune, Esq. obt. Nov. 13, 1719, æt. 84: above

268

this, one to Rudolph Weckerlin, Armiger, obt. Sept. 16, 1709, æt. 73: opposite, one to Catherine, wife of Sir Drue Druege, Knt. Gentleman Usher of the Prime Chamber to Queen Elizabeth; she died 13th Sept. 1601, in the 45th year of her age: another to Martha Hugessen, wife of William Hugessen, of Provender, obt. 15 March, 1733; also the above William Hugessen, obt. 18 June, 1735, æt. 72: another to William Hugessen, Esq. obt. 19 June, 1764, æt. 29: beneath it, a small marble tablet to Annabella Christiana, wife of Edward Knatchbull, Esq. third daughter of Sir John Honeywood, Bart. of Evington; she died April 4th, 1814, and left issue six children, Mary, Norton Joseph, Edward, Charles, Wyndham, and John. In the Teynham chancel, a fine monument to Lord Christopher Roper, Baron, son of John Lord Teynham, obt. 1622, æt. 50; on the monument is a full length figure of Lord Roper, in a recumbent posture, and that of a lady praying: another to Lord John Roper, Baron and Lord of Teynham, obt. 30 Aug. 1618; on this monument are full length figures of Lord Teynham and his Lady, and three smaller figures: near it, a marble tablet, erected by Captain C. H. Tyler, to perpetuate the memory of his uncle, Lord Teynham, who died 6th Sept. 1824, aged 58: beside it another, erected by Captain C. H. Tyler, to the memory of his mother, the Hon. Betty Maria Tyler, obt. 2 March, 1788, æt. 26.

Lynsted Church is dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul.

The Manor of Teynham was given by Cenulph, King of Mercia, at the request of Archbishop Athelard, to the metropolitan church of St. Saviour, at Canterbury, and remained part of the possessions of that See at the Conquest, soon after which it was allotted, by Archbishop Lanfranc, on his division of the revenues of his church, to the maintenance of himself and his successors. By succeeding prelates the Manor-house was enlarged and improved, till it became almost a palace: Archbishop

Hubert Walter lived here in princely magnificence; and here he died, in the year 1205. In the reign of Elizabeth this manor was exchanged by the Archbishop with the Crown for other lands.

HUNDRED OF MILTON.

Torre Hill, in the Parishes of Milsted and Lenham, the seat of Mrs. Osborne Tylden, is a handsome house, standing on an elevation which slopes towards the north, and commanding, in that direction, an extensive and exceedingly interesting prospect. Torre Hill is nearly four miles north from Lenham, and four miles and a half south from Sittingbourne.

Manor House, in the Parish of Milsted, the seat of Sir John Maxwell Tylden, F.R.S. and F.H.S. late Lieut. Col. commanding the 52d Light Infantry, is an ancient Elizabethan structure, situated about three miles south from Sittingbourne. It was formerly designated Hoggeshaws, from Sir Edmund de

269

Hoggeshaw, who built it in the reign of Edward IV. The interior is adorned with paintings by the old masters.

Milsted Manor, in the commencement of the reign of Edward I. belonged to Thomas Abelyn. From this family it passed into that of Sauvage; then to the name of Mocking, and afterwards to Hoggeshaw. A female heir of these last, in the 12th year of Richard II. entitled her husband, Thomas Lovel, Esq. to the possession of it, a descendant of whom sold it to Robert Greaves. Soon afterwards it became the property of Roger Wake, then by marriage of John Barnard, Esq.; afterwards it passed by sale to Sir Thomas Nevyle; and from him, in like manner, to Sir Robert Southwell, who, in the fourth of Edward VI. passed it, by fine then levied, to Thomas Henman. His son, Alan Henman, of Lenham, sold it to Thomas Thomson, of Sandwich, whose daughter, Agnes, entitled her husband, John Toke of Godington, to the possession of it. She surviving her husband, by will, in 1629, gave it to her son, Nicholas Toke, Esq. of Great Chart, who in 1631, passed it away to Edward Chute, Esq. of Bethersden, and he, anno 9 Charles I. conveyed it by sale to Richard Tylden, Gent. of Great Chart; and William Tylden, then an infant, his son, whose ancestors had possessions in Brenchley, Otterden, Kennington, and Tilmanstone, in this county. In their descendants this estate has since continued to the present possessor.

Milsted Church. In the high chancel, a marble tablet to William Collins, obt. 1838: another to the Rev. Richard Cooke Tylden Pattenson, A.M. of Ibornden and Frinsted Place, in this county, obt. March 5, 1819, æt. 59; also the Rev. William Thurston Tylden Pattenson, A.M. obt. Oct. 10, 1821, æt. 27; also Sarah Tylden Pattenson, with her husband and son, obt. April 6, 1824, æt. 69. In the Tylden chancel, a tablet to Richard Tylden, Esq. of the Manor-house, in this parish, who died Feb. 1st, 1832, aged 75; also to Jane, his second wife, who died 13th Sept. 1836, aged 75: another to Osborne Tylden, Esq. of Torre Hill, in this county, obt. Oct. 26th, 1827, æt. 68: here are also some grave-stones for the same family.

Milsted Church is dedicated to St. Mary and the Holy Cross.

Rodmersham Court Lodge, in the Parish of Rodmersham, the seat of William John Lushington, Esq. a Magistrate for the County, is an ancient house, which has been enlarged and modernised. The interior is decorated with a collection of paintings by the most celebrated masters of the Italian, Spanish, Flemish, Dutch, French, German, and English schools.

Rodmersham Court Lodge is distant from Sittingbourne about two miles south-east, from Faversham six miles and a half, and from London 43 miles.

The Manor of Rodmersham was, in olden times, the inheritance of the family of De la Pine, whose seat was at Easthall, in the Parish of Murston. James de la Pine, about the end of the reign of Richard II. sold it to John de Podach, afterwards called Pordage, sprung from the family of De Podach, in Devonshire. His descendant, Sir William Pordage, in the reign of James I. rebuilt the

manor-house, (in which his immediate ancestors had for several years resided,) and named it New House, and dying, s. p. was succeeded by his brother, Thomas Pordage, Esq. whose great-grandson, William Pordage, Esq. about the beginning of Queen Anne's reign, alienated it to Stephen Lushington,

270

Esq. of Sittingbourne. He was succeeded by his eldest son, Thomas Godfrey Lushington, Esq. to whom succeeded his second son, the Rev. James Stephen Lushington, of Bottisham, near Cambridge, Prebendary of Carlisle.

Rodmersham Court Lodge was originally founded by Gerardus, and fenced in and empaled with new orders, by Raimundus a Podio, belonging to the Knights Hospitallers, and called St. John's Hote.

Rodmersham Church. In the high chancel are four seats, with a wooden canopy over them, probably (says Hasted) for the use of the Knights of St. John, when they visited their estate here. Here are also the following memorials.

In the chancel, a neat marble tablet to the family of Bartholomew May, Gent. In the Lushington chancel, a tablet to the memory of James Taylor, Gent. of Church Hill, Dodington, obt. Nov. 27, 1813; also Elizabeth, his wife, obt. 4 June, 1795; likewise their son, Lushington Taylor, obt. 1 Oct. 1804. In this chancel are four brasses, the dates on which are 1568, 1569, 1589, and 1599.

Rodmersham Church is dedicated to St. Nicholas.

It is recorded, that in the year 694, Withred, King of Kent, convened at Becanceld, or Bachanchild (which is supposed to mean Bapchild), a great council of the nobility and clergy, in which he presided, and at which Archbishop Britwald assisted. The constitution of this council, Dr. Stillingfleet thinks, is the first charter ever made among the Saxons, as it bears the first public application of the year of the Christian era. On the north side of the London and Dover road, at the east end of Bapchild Street, are the remains of an oratory, which, it is said, was erected to perpetuate the assemblage of this council. Another council is also said to have been held here, anno 798, by Archbishop Athelard, at which Kenulph, King of Mercia, presided; but some learned men, and amongst them Archbishop Wake, consider both these councils to be spurious.

Bapchild Court, in the Parish of Bapchild, the property and residence of William Gascoyne, Esq. is a modern house, situated on the south-east side of the church, not quite a quarter of a mile from the London and Canterbury road. It is distant from Sittingbourne about one mile and a half.

Morris Court, Bapchild, belonged formerly to a family of that name, but which was extinct here before the end of the reign of Henry IV. when it was alienated to Brown. At the end of Henry VI.'s reign it was in possession of Sir Thomas Brown, of Beechworth, in Surrey, whose son, Sir George Brown, being attainted, anno 1 Richard III. for aiding the Duke of Buckingham, this estate was forfeited to the Crown; but, in the first of Henry VII. it was restored to his heirs. From them it was alienated, probably in the reign of Elizabeth, by Sir Thomas Brown, of Beechworth, to Wolgate, of Wolgate or Wilgate Green, in Throwley, from whom it passed to the name of Kempe, and thence to Thomas Tilghman, who soon sold it to John Castlock, of Faversham. He disposed of it by sale to Robert Master, Gent. of Faversham, who passed it to Mr. John Knowler, of the same town, in

271

whose descendants it continued down to John Knowler, Esq. who died in 1763, whose daughters, Anne, married to Henry Penton, Esq. and Mary, married to Henry, afterwards Earl Digby, joined in the sale of it to Mr. Thomas Gascoyne.

Bapchild Church. In the chancel, a tablet to the memory of Sarah, wife of T. Lake, Esq. and daughter of C. Wildish, Esq. late of Morris Court, obiit 26 Jan. 1788, æt. 26; also her

infant son, who died a short time before her; also the second wife of T. Lake, obiit 11 Nov. 1813, æt. 45; and Elizabeth, their daughter, who died 4th Oct. 1811, aged 18; and two infants, before that time: another, smaller, to Wm. Lake, Yeoman, of Wood Street, in this parish, obiit 18 Sept. 1835, æt. 67.

Bapchild Church is dedicated to St. Lawrence.

The Parish of TONG, in Saxon, Thwang, took its name, according to tradition, from the artifice of Hengist, who, having permission from King Vortigern to take as much land as an ox-hide could encompass, in recompense for his services against the Scots and Picts in the battle at Stamford, cut the hide into strips or thongs, after the example of Dido, and therewith inclosed enough ground to build a castle on, which he named from thence Thwang Ceastre. This tale, in reference to this place, is supported by Leland, Kilburne, Philipott, and others; some, on the contrary, including Camden, affix it to Grimsby, or Doncaster. At this castle, in the year 450, Vortigern first saw and became enamoured of Rowena, as the story narrates; and here, in 461, the horrible massacre of three hundred of the principal nobility of England (Vortigern only being spared) was perfidiously perpetrated at a feast given by Hengist. The castle went to ruin during the heptarchy, but its site is still perceptible on a mount on the north side of the London road, about a quarter of a mile north-east from Bapchild Street.

Rectory, Murston, the residence of the Rev. John Poore, D.D. Rural Dean, and a Magistrate for the County, is an ancient house, seated on rather elevated ground, half a mile eastward from Sittingbourne.

Connected with this place is the following tale in Walker's *Sufferings of the Clergy*, folio volume, page 379, which we here transcribe.

"The Rev. Mr. Richard Tray, Prebendary of Rochester, Rector of St. Mary's in Hoo, and of this parish, was throw'd out of the former of these Livings by the Committee for plundered Ministers, in the year 1641. He was greatly Harrassed by the Soldiers, and Courts of those times. Had his barn, at Murston, with all the Corn in it, burnt to the ground, by order of one Sir Michael Livesey, who thrustred one Broadthick into the Living, but afterwards, upon King Charles the second's Return, Mr. Tray had the quiet enjoyment of them both. He preached a Famous Assize Sermon before Lord Chief Justice Bridgeman, whose interest got him the prebend of Rochester, in 1661."

272

In commemoration of the above, the following lines are engraven on a stone in the wall of the barn, which stands near the residence of Dr. Poore:

"Si Natura negat, facit Indignatio Versum.
The Barn w^{ch} stood, where this now stands,
Was burnt down by the Rebell's Hands:
in Dec^rber 1659.
The Barn w^{ch} stands, where tother stood,
By Richard Tray is now made good:
in July 1662.
All things you burn
Or overturn
But build up nought: pray tell
Is this the Fire of Zeal or Hell?
Yet you do all
By the Spirit's Call
As you pretend, but pray
What Spirit is't? Abaddon I dare say."

Murston Rectory is distant from London about 41 miles.

Glovers, in the Parish of Sittingbourne, the seat of the Rev. Geo. Simpson, M.A. Vicar of Bobbing, and Rector of Warden, in the Isle of Sheppey, Chaplain to the late King, when Duke of Clarence, is an old house, modernised and improved by the present proprietor. The grounds are very neatly and tastefully laid out. It is distant from Sittingbourne about half a mile south, and from London 41 miles.

Glovers lately belonged to Thomas Banister, Esq. who died here in 1791, and afterwards it was possessed by his widow.

Sittingbourne Church is dedicated to St. Michael. There is nothing worth noticing in the interior, all the old monuments having been destroyed by the fire which consumed the building on the 17th July, 1762.

In the year 893, the peace which had continued eight years under Alfred's effective government was broken by the piratical Danes, who, led by their captain, Hastings, entered the Thames with one division of their fleet, (the other, consisting of 250 vessels, sailing up the Rother, to Aplemore,) and, landing at Milton, built themselves a fortress on a place called Kemsley Down, the site of which, being overgrown with bushes, is now named Castle Rough. The foundations of this castle are square, and surrounded by a ditch; and there is still to be seen a raised causeway leading from it to the water side. Opposite to this, on the east side of the creek, Alfred raised another fort, to check the

273

irruptions of the Danes, of which remains may be traced at Bayford Castle, in the Parish of Sittingbourne.

Colshall, in the Parish of Milton, the residence of Richard Goord, Gent. is an ancient house, very agreeably situated about half a mile south from Iwade Church.

Mr. Goord for many years laboured assiduously to improve the Kentish long-woolled breed of sheep, and at last was eminently successful; and of such extraordinary merit are his services in this important branch of farming, that, on Oct. 4th, 1834, there was presented to him, at the Fountain Hotel, Canterbury, a magnificent silver punch bowl, elegantly chased, similar in form to the celebrated Warwick vase. On it is the following inscription:

"Presented by the Noblemen, Gentlemen, and Agriculturists of Kent, to Mr. Richard Goord, of Milton, as a tribute of their admiration of his indefatigable endeavours to improve the long-woolled breed of Kent sheep; and as a memorial of the benefits which the county at large has derived from his meritorious and successful exertions. Sept. 1834."

Colshall is distant about three miles and a half north from Sittingbourne, and 41 miles from London.

This estate of Colshall, or Colsall, alias Chiches, was, in early times, the property and residence of two families, who successively implanted their names on it; that of Colsall dwelt here as early as the reign of Edward III. From these it passed in marriage with a female heir to Ralph Chiche, whose only daughter, Margaret, took it in like manner to Thomas Alefe, who rebuilt the house, and died in 1529. It then went in marriage with his daughter, Catherine, to Richard Monins, Esq. of Saltwood Castle, whose grandson, Sir William Monins, Bart. alienated it to Sir Justinian Lewin, of Otterden, and his only daughter, Elizabeth, at her father's death, in 1620, conferred it on her husband, Richard Rogers, Esq. of Brianston, in Somersetshire. Elizabeth, the daughter of Richard Rogers, Esq. carried it in marriage, first to Charles Cavendish, Lord Mansfield, eldest son and heir of William, Duke of Newcastle, and secondly to Charles Stuart, Duke of Richmond and Lenox, who, anno 14 Charles II. alienated it to Thomas Lushington, Gent. of Sittingbourne, and in his descendants it continued.

Milton Church is a large handsome building, dedicated to the Holy Trinity. From the ceiling is hung a casque of John De Norwood.

In the Norwood chancel there once stood a monument to John De Norwood, but there is none now. Near the pulpit is a beautiful marble monument for William Hopson, Esq. of Rochester, who died 4th Aug. 1819. Near the altar, a curious old brass figure, the inscription effaced. In the chancel, a very ancient marble monument, representing two men and two women praying: a marble tablet to John Hinde, Esq. who died 6th March, 1806, aged 67: also another to the Hinde family.

In a wood, formerly called the Gascoyne Walk, near the ruins of the unfinished mansion of the Crowmers, in the Parish of Tunstall, there were dug up, by a boy,

274

in January, 1738, several hundred pieces of gold, but the person who gained possession of them not being able to keep the secret, was obliged to refund to the Crown 624 of them. Sir John Hales laid claim to the treasure as Lord of the Manor, and with still greater justice, from their having been concealed during the civil wars, immediately after the defeat at Maidstone, in 1648, by his ancestor, Sir Edward Hales, Bart. together with a quantity of jewels, which fact was remembered by a person then living, Mrs. Tysoe, mother-in-law of the Rev. Mr. Tysoe, Vicar of Bredgar, who at the time was visiting at Sir Edward Hales'; but, however, the Crown retained them. The jewels have not been found, although often sought for.

Gore Court, in the Parish of Tunstall, the seat of Francis Dyne Bradley, Esq. a Magistrate and Deputy Lieutenant for the County, is a modern structure, in the Grecian style, erected on the site of an old manor-house: the south front is enriched with a noble portico, supported by four Ionic columns. The interior is ornamented with several old pictures by foreign artists. The grounds are extensive, and tastefully disposed.

Gore Court is distant from Sittingbourne about one mile south, and from London 41 miles.

Gore Court anciently gave name to its proprietors: Henry-at-Gore died possessed of it in the 31st year of Edward III. In this family it continued many generations, till James Gore sold it to Thomas Roydon, of East Peckham, of whose son it was purchased by Mr. Christopher Wood. His great-grandson, Christopher Wood, in 1674, alienated it to Charles Seager, of Tunstall, whose surviving children, in 1723, conveyed it to Edward Mores, Clerk, Rector of this parish, and his son, Edward Rowe Mores, M.A. F.R.S. alienated it to Mr. Charles Stanley. After his death, in 1791, his heirs sold it to Gabriel Harper, Esq. who at a great expense rebuilt the seat.

Woodstock House, in the Parish of Tunstall, the residence of Francis Law, Esq. late of the Bengal Civil Service, is a fine handsome building, seated on a gentle elevation, in a well wooded park. The interior is spacious and elegant, and ornamented with a small collection of paintings by Sir Peter Lely, and others.

Woodstock House is situated about two miles south from Sittingbourne, distant from the Metropolis 42 miles.

Woodstock, anciently called Pitstock, in the reign of Edward IV. belonged to William Robesart, of Minster, in Sheppey, who by will, proved in 1499, devised it to his wife, Cicelie, for life, and afterwards to the Benedictine nunnery of Minster, in Sheppey, for the performance of a solemn obit, &c. It was possessed by this nunnery till the dissolution in the reign of Henry VIII. when it escheated to the Crown. The king soon afterwards granted it to Sir Thomas Cheney, K.G. Lord

275

Warden of the Cinque Ports, &c. whose son, Henry, Lord Cheney, of Todington, in Bedfordshire,

in the 13th year of Queen Elizabeth, alienated it to Richard Thornhill, citizen, of London. His great-grandson, Charles Thornhill, Esq. in the reign of Charles II. sold it to Mr. James Tong, whose ancestors had for some time resided at Pitstock as tenants. Of this family it was at length purchased by that of Hayter; William Hayter, Gent. sold it to Abraham Chambers, Esq. of Bicknor, who built a new house at a small distance north-west from the old one, and, dying in 1782, left it, with his other estates, to his five children, viz. four sons and one daughter, the eldest of whom, Samuel Chambers, Esq. by purchasing the shares of the others, became the sole proprietor of this estate.

Tunstall House, in the Parish of Tunstall, the property and residence of William Murton, Esq. is an old house situated on the south of the church, distant from Sittingbourne rather more than a mile south, and from London about 41 miles.

Tunstall House was for many generations the property of the family of Grove. Hasted conjectures that it was built by Mr. John Grove, steward to Sir Edward Hales, who died in 1678. His grandson, John, dying in 1755, this estate came by gavelkind to his sons, Pearce and Richard, who sold it to the Rev. Thomas Bland, Vicar of Sittingbourne, who died in 1776. At the death of his widow, in 1780, it came to their eldest son, the Rev. Richard Bland, who died in 1794, leaving it to his widow and his two sons.

Tunstall Church. In the chancel, a splendid marble monument to Sir James Crowmer, of Tunstall, Knight; erected by his lady, Martha: near it another, to Sir Edward Hales, of Tunstall, in Kent, Knight and Baronet, who died 6th of October, 1654, in the 78th year of his age; above are hung his helmet and gauntlets. Near the altar, a monument and marble bust to Edward Mores, Clerk, Rector of this parish, at the time of his death aged 60; another, also with a bust, for Robert Cheke, D.D. who died in 1647, aged 78: a marble tablet to Andrew Hawes Bradley, Esq. of Gore Court, in this parish, who died 5th Dec. 1820, aged 64: near it another neat one, to James Bradley, Esq. Commander in the Royal Navy, who died in 1829, aged 38 years; his remains lie interred at Conde-sur-Noireau, in Normandy.

Tunstall Church is dedicated to St. John the Baptist.

At the seat of Sutton, alias Sutton Baron, or Barne, in the Parish of Borden, that excellent antiquarian and natural historian, Dr. Robert Plot, was born in 1641, which estate he inherited from his father, a descendant of the family of Plot, of Stockbury. He died here, April 30th, 1696, aged 55; and in the church there is a handsome marble monument erected to his memory.

In July, 1695, Dr. Plot, when sinking a cellar at Sutton Barne, found several Roman bricks, laid with their edges upward, similar to those dug up at the Roman Sulloniacæ, near Ellestre, in Middlesex.

Borden Church is dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul. It is a very ancient building, and contains a monument to Ralph Sherwood, grocer, of the city of London.

276

In the chancel, a beautiful one to the memory of Robert Plot: a marble tablet to Lieut. Henry Wise, who died in the West Indies, on the 21st of July, 1814, at the age of 23: erected by his mother.

Rose Hill, in the Parish of Bobbing, the residence of William Augustus Munn, Esq. is a modern building, in the cottage style, pleasantly situated on an elevation north of the London and Canterbury road, about half a mile east from Key Street, and 39 miles from the Metropolis.

Bobbing Church. In the chancel, a fine marble monument to the memory of Charles Tufton and Francis Tufton, sons of Sir Humfry Tufton, of Maidstone, Knight and Baronet; Charles died aged 24, in 1652, Francis, aged 21, in 1657. At the foot of the altar are two brass figures. In the vestry, a splendid monument to Henry Sandford, Esq. of Bobbing Court, Receiver General of

the Counties of Kent, Surrey, and Sussex, to James I. Charles I. and II.; in the late years of anarchy he chose rather to part with his office than his loyalty, but he lived to be restored with honour upon his Majesty's happy restoration. He was born Aug. 1596, and died the last day of Oct. 1660.

Bobbing Church is dedicated to St. Bartholomew.

NEWINGTON, in the Saxon Newetone, or the new town, as appears from its name, was certainly built on the site of a more ancient town or village; and that here was a Roman village or station we have abundant evidence from the many vestiges of the Romans in and about the place, such as the remains of entrenchments, the derivation of the names of places, and the innumerable urns and vessels that have at different times been dug up. On Keycol (caii collis) Hill is a field that, from the quantity of pottery discovered there, has acquired the name of Crockfield. Round the neck of one of the largest urns were rudely inscribed the words, "Severanus Pater, &c." An engraving of this and of others is to be found in Hasted, fol. edition, vol. ii. p. 562; and the more curious in such matters may read a particular description of the antiquities discovered at Newington, in Meric Casaubon. Some of our most learned antiquarians, as Somner, Burton, Stillingfleet, Thorpe, and Battely, have fixed at Newington the Roman station called by Antonine, Dorolevum, the distance from Durobrivis, according to the Pentingerian tables, being only seven miles; but, as the different copies of Antonine vary in this particular of distance, (most of them making it 13 or 16 miles, which would carry one to Judd Hill,) so may persons holding a contrary opinion affix it with equal justice at another spot.

Newington Church. In the chancel, a beautifully executed marble monument, by Smith, to James Hudson, who died in consequence of a fall from his horse, on the 2d August, 1837, aged 63: near it another, to the memory of Johannes Brook. In the school-room, a marble monu-

277

ment without inscription. In this church are several brass figures, on square stones, but in many cases the brasses are gone, and the inscriptions illegible. A marble tablet to the memory of Captain Brown; also of his wife and daughter. Near the door, another, to the memory of Johannes Bar-mow, A.M.

Newington Church is dedicated to St. Mary.

In HARTLIP and the neighbouring Parishes the word Dane occurs very frequently in composition in the names of places, fields, &c. which proves the constant intercourse of that people with this part of the county. In "Lower Dane Field," on Maresbarrow farm, about 90 years ago, there were discovered the remains of a building about 60 feet long, and sloping from 3 to 10 feet in depth, the top of which was level with the surface of the ground; the walls were of flint, with two rows of large Roman tiles on the top. Nothing was found among the earth with which it was filled but several bushels of wheat and tares that appeared scorched by fire; some of it, indeed, was reduced to ashes.

Hartlip Place, in the Parish of Hartlip, the seat of William Bland, Esq. is a neat modern house, erected in the year 1813, by the father of the present proprietor. It stands about a quarter of a mile south-west from the church, five miles west from Sittingbourne, and 36 miles from London.

Hartlip Place was the property and residence of the family of Osborne prior to the reign of Edward IV.; but after John Osborne, Esq. who died in 1683, had built Dane House, and removed thither, it stood many years uninhabited, and at last was pulled down. John Osborne, Esq. was succeeded by his son Thomas, whose sons John and Thomas dying s. p. their sister Elizabeth, on a partition of the estates, entitled her husband, Richard Tylden, Esq. of Milsted, to the possession of this property. His widow, surviving him, became proprietress of it; and at her death, in 1766, devised it to her

daughter Mary (married to the Rev. Thomas Bland), who died possessed of it in 1780, upon which, by limitation of her mother's will, this property descended to her younger sons, Thomas and William Bland, the former of whom having sold his interest in reversion to his brother, Mr. William Bland became sole proprietor.

Dane House, in the Parish of Hartlip, the residence and property of Richard Goord, Esq. is a handsome modern structure, erected by Mr. Goord in 1836. The situation is pleasant, and being elevated, it commands extensive prospects. It stands about 200 yards eastward from the site of the former Dane House, built by John Osborne, Esq. and in which he resided until a most daring robbery was committed upon him, when he left it: after this time it remained uninhabited for many years, and was at length pulled down.

Dane House is four miles and a half west from Sittingbourne, and 35 miles from London.

278

Dane House was built about the middle of the 17th century by John Osborne, Esq. of Hartlip Place. His son, Thomas Osborne, Esq. inherited it on his father's death in 1683, whose sons John and Thomas dying s. p. their sister Mary (married to the Rev. Mr. Milway, of Borden) on a division of the estates, becoming entitled to this property, sold it to Tyndale, of Gloucestershire and Bobbing, from whom it descended to William Tyndale, of North Certon, in Gloucestershire.

Hartlip Church. In the chancel, built by W. Bland, Esq. a monument to Mary Coppin, wife of Thomas Coppin, Esq. who died in 1836, aged 24: a neat marble tablet to the memory of William Bland, Esq. of Hartlip Place, who died Dec. 4th, 1835; likewise Elizabeth, his wife, who died Jan. 28th, aged 33 years; this monument was erected by their son: here are also many stones to members of the Osborne family. On the south wall of the church is a marble tablet to the memory of the family of Ruck, of Hartlip.

Hartlip Church is dedicated to St. Michael.

Gore, in the Parish of Upchurch, the residence of William Walter, Esq. is a neat modern house, most pleasantly situated north of the London and Canterbury road, about a mile and a half east from Rainham.

Gore, formerly De la Gare, belonged, in very early times, to a family that took a surname from it. In the reign of Edward I. it had become the property of Roger de Leyborne, whose descendant, Juliana de Leyborne, usually styled, from the vastness of her possessions, the "Infanta of Kent," entitled successively her three husbands to the enjoyment of it; but dying at length, in the reign of Edward III. s. p. and no heir being found to inherit her property, this, with her other estates, escheated to the Crown. Edward III. in his 50th year, granted it to the Abbey of St. Mary Grace's, on Tower-hill, founded by him, with which it remained till the dissolution by Henry VIII. It was then bestowed by the Crown on Sir Christopher Hales, whose second daughter, Margaret, entitled successively her three husbands to the possession of it, the last of whom, William Horden, Gent. alienated it, in the 9th year of Elizabeth, to Mr. Richard Stanley, who soon afterwards sold it to Thomas Wardegar or Wardacre. Of William, the grandson of this gentleman, it was purchased, in the 17th of James I. by Sir Nicholas Tufton, afterwards Earl of Thanet, and in his noble descendant it continues at the present time.

Upchurch Church. Near the altar, two brass figures on a square stone, apparently very ancient; and at no great distance from it is an old monument. In this church there are many more of the same kind, but their inscriptions are entirely effaced.

Beren Grove, in the Parish of Rainham, the residence and property of Thomas Taylor, Esq. is a modern house, situated about a quarter of a mile north-west from Rainham, and 34 miles from London.

Blowers Place, in the Parish of Rainham, the residence of William Smart,

Esq. is an ancient house, situated one mile north-west from Rainham. In the interior is some curious wainscoting, evidently of great antiquity.

It is distant from London about 34 miles.

Blowers, or Bloors Place, was the ancient residence of the family of Bloor: Christopher Bloor, Esq. rebuilt the mansion in the reign of Henry VIII.; and at his death his daughter Olympia entitled her husband, John Tufton, Esq. of Hothfield, to this property, whose descendant, the Right Hon. the Earl of Thanet is the present proprietor.

Rainham Church is a large structure, with a handsome tower at the west end, and contains the following interesting monuments:

In Lord Thanet's chancel, a splendid marble monument with a figure, in military costume, sitting on part of his armour, to the Hon. George Tufton, sixth son of the Right Hon. John Earl of Thanet, by his Lady, Margaret, one of the daughters and co-heirs of Richard Earl of Dorset; he was born 30th June, 1650, at Hothfield, in Kent; being about the age of 15, he travelled into France, and from thence into Germany, to the court of the Prince Elector Palatine of the Rhine, in whose army, near Newstadt, he was wounded, on the 21st Oct. 1666, and after having with great fortitude languished under the pain of his wound, for which neither in France nor Germany he could find any cure, he died 12th Dec. 1670, at Thanet House, in Aldersgate Street, to the great grief of his tender and pious mother, at whose charge this monument was erected to the memory of her dearest beloved son: near it, a large marble monument, with a figure in parliamentary robes, to the Right Hon. Nicholas Tufton, Earl of Thanet, Baron Tufton, of Tufton, and Baron Clifford, of Westmorland and Vipont, Lord of the Honour of Skipton, in Craven, High Sheriff by inheritance of the County of Westmorland, eldest son of John Earl of Thanet, by the Lady Margaret, co-heir of Richard Sacville, Earl of Dorset, by the Lady Anne Clifford, daughter and heir of George Earl of Cumberland: he was a person eminent for his loyalty to King Charles II. in the time of whose banishment he suffered three years' imprisonment in the Tower of London: he married the Lady Elizabeth, third daughter of the Right Hon. Richard Earl of Burlington and Corke, Lord High Treasurer of Ireland, by the Lady Elizabeth, daughter and heir of Henry Lord Clifford, last Earl of Cumberland: he died Nov. 24th, 1679, aged 49; this monument was erected by his Lady: a small marble monument, entering the church, on the right of the altar, to the infant son of Edward and Barbara Norreys, date 1626. On the left of the altar, two coloured marble figures, to the memory of Thos. Norreys, Esq. who died Dec. 19th, 1624. At the foot of the altar are many brasses, among which is one to John Norden, Esq. and his four wives. In this chancel is a curious chest, which appears very ancient.

Rainham Church is dedicated to St. Margaret.

ISLE OF SHEPPEY.

SHEPPEY, in Saxon, Sceapige, is supposed to take its name from the number of sheep that were constantly fed on it. It consists, in great part, of marsh land. The beach at the east end, called Shellness, is so styled, from being composed of fragments of shells cast up by the sea. On the southern side of the island are several tumuli, termed by the country people coterels, which are supposed to cover the remains of Danish chiefs; Sheppey having been the accustomed place of rendezvous and winter quarters for those piratical invaders.

At the north-east extremity stands Sheerness, a place of growing importance, from its extensive dock-yard. It was first fortified on the breaking out of the Dutch war, about the year 1667, for the defence of the Medway, which was then the chief station of the Royal Navy. About two miles and a half south from Sheerness, is Queenborough, anciently called Cyningburg, from having been the property of the Saxon kings, who had a castle here. On the site of this old

fortress, William of Wykeham, by command of Edward III. raised a larger and more noble castle; and when Edward visited it, after its completion, he made the village a free borough, and designated it Queenborough, in honour of his Queen, Philippa, of Hainault. Of this structure nothing now remains; but its situation may be discovered by the moat and well.

Sheppey Court, a seat of Delamark Banks, Esq. a Magistrate for the County, is a modern building, about one mile and a half south-east from Sheerness, commanding a full view of that bustling town and its noble dock-yard.

Sexburga, daughter of Annas, King of East Anglia, and widow of Ercombert, King of Kent, having obtained lands in Minster, in Sheppey, of her son Egbert, founded, between the years 664 and 673, a monastery, and procured endowments for it, for 77 nuns, she herself being the first Abbess. About 675 she resigned the government of it to her daughter, Ermenilda. During the invasions of the Danes, the religious of this monastery were continually robbed and persecuted; and at last the building itself was almost destroyed, and the nuns dispersed by these rapacious Northmen. It continued in a very mean condition, till it was re-edified, in 1130, by Archbishop Corboil, and dedicated to St. Mary and

281

St. Sexburg. It was finally suppressed by Henry VIII. in his 27th year. This monastery gave name to the parish.

Minster Church. In the chancel is an ancient marble figure, which was found in 1833, in the church-yard, five feet below the surface of the earth. Near it another, supposed to be that of a Spanish Grandee: also a monumental one, in marble, to the memory of Sir Thomas Cheyney, who died in the reign of Elizabeth, anno 1559; he was Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports, Governor of Dover Castle, and Treasurer of the Household to Henry VIII.; the coats of arms on this monument are cut out of Purbec marble in a most beautiful and distinct manner. Near the altar, a fine marble monument, on which is placed the figure of Sir Robert de Shurland, who died in the reign of Edward I.; on his right side is the head of a horse, and at his feet lies a smaller figure, supposed to be a page; it is exactly similar to the former, differing only in the position of the legs, those of the large figure being crossed, which denotes that he was a Crusader. For the tradition relating to this monument, see Hasted, fol. ed. vol. ii. p. 661. At the foot of the altar a curious brass, being the two figures of Sir Roger de Norwood and his Lady, Bona; he died in the reign of Henry III. or Richard I. but the precise time is unknown, the date being lost. In the north transept, a tablet to the memory of Eliza Banks, wife of John Banks, Esq. of Halling, near Rochester, who died 22d August, 1829; also of John Banks, Esq. husband of the above, who died 5th Nov. 1835, in his 38 year. This church was built in the year 660, and destroyed in 780, with the exception of the arched doorway, which is Anglo-Saxon.

Minster Church is dedicated to St. Mary and St. Sexburg.

Rectory, Eastchurch, the residence of the Rev. John Barton, M.A. has been lately rebuilt in the Tudor style, and makes now a very handsome appearance. It stands close to the west side of the church, about six miles south-east from Sheerness.

Shorland House, in the Parish of Eastchurch, an old Manor-house of the Shorlands, is situated a very short distance east from the church, about six miles south-east from Sheerness.

The Manor of Shorland, or Shurland, belonged anciently to a family of the same name, the first of whom recorded is Sir Jeffry de Shurland, who lived here in the reign of Henry III.: his grand-daughter, Margaret, carried it in marriage to William, son of Sir Alexander Cheney, Knt. whose descendants, gentlemen of great eminence, retained possession of it till Henry Lord Cheney, of Tuddington, in Bedfordshire, exchanged it with Queen Elizabeth. James I. in his second year, granted it to Philip Herbert, Earl of Montgomery, younger brother of William, Earl of Pembroke, who settled it on his second son, James Herbert, Esq. on his marriage, in 1645, with Jane, daughter and heir of Sir Robert

Spiller, Knt. and in his posterity it remained till a recent period. The Mansion of Shurland was formerly a large noble structure, and was surrounded with a fine park.

Eastchurch Church. On the south side of the altar, a splendid marble monument to Gabriel Livesey, Esq. of Hollingbourne, his two wives, and their two children; it bears date 1622. On the opposite side, facing it, a handsome marble tablet to the memory of Vice Admiral Sir Richard King, Bart. K.C.B. Commander-in-Chief at the Nore, who died of cholera morbus, at the Admiralty

282

House, Sheerness, on the 5th of Aug. 1834, aged 61 years; he distinguished himself in the North Sea as Captain of the Sirius Frigate; he commanded the Achille, 74 guns, at the Battle of Trafalgar, and in 1816 was appointed Commander-in-Chief in the East Indies.

The Church of Eastchurch is dedicated to All Saints.

Warden Court, in the Parish of Warden, a seat of Delamark Banks, Esq. a Magistrate for the County, is a good house, and situated in the most agreeable spot in the Island, commanding extensive and interesting prospects. It is distant from Sheerness about seven miles south-east, and from London 59 miles.

Warden Church is dedicated to St. James. The tower of this church has been recently erected by Mr. Banks, of the stone of Old London Bridge, which bore the date 1176.

In the year 1750, E. Jacob, Esq. of Faversham, discovered, at Leysdown, embedded in the clay, the acetabulum, vertebræ, a scapula, and other parts of an elephant, but in such a state of decay, that they could not be taken up entire.

283

The Lathe of Shepway

CONTAINS THE HUNDREDS OF CALEHILL, CHART AND LONGBRIDGE, FELBOROUGH, WYE, OXNEY, ALOESBRIDGE, NEWCHURCH, ST. MARTIN'S POUNTNEY, LANGPORT, HAM, WORTH, STREET, HEANE, STOWTING, LONINGBOROUGH, AND FOLKESTONE; AND THE FRANCHISE OF BIRCHOLT.

HUNDRED OF CALEHILL.

Rectory, Smarden, the residence of the Rev. Isaac Mossop, is an ancient house, but considerably enlarged and improved by the present Rector. It is situated north-east of the church, rather more than six miles south-west from Charing.

Smarden Church. In the chancel, north wall, a marble tablet to Charles James Otway, Esq. late of Romden, in this parish; and his wife, Lady Bridget Otway, daughter of Bazil, Earl of Denbigh; also Col. James Otway, who was Governor of St. Philip's Castle, in the Island of Minorca, where he died; likewise Bridget Otway, of Ashford, the youngest and last survivor of the above family, obiit 15 Oct. 1804.

Smarden Church is dedicated to St. Michael.

Rectory, Pluckley, the seat of the Rev. Cholmeley Edward John Dering, M.A. Prebendary of St. Paul's Cathedral, London, Rector of Pluckley, Chaplain to the Queen, and a Magistrate for the County, is a handsome modern mansion, in a very beautiful situation, commanding a most extensive prospect over the weald of Kent. It is a very short distance south of the church, about three miles and a half from Charing, and 47 miles from London.

Surrenden Dering, in the Parish of Pluckley, the seat of Sir Edward Cholmeley Dering, Bart. is a fine Elizabethan structure, beautifully situated in an extensive park, well stocked with deer. The interior of this mansion is elegantly fitted up and decorated: the ceilings are unique. There are also some fine portraits, by Sir Godfrey Kneller, Sir Peter Lely, and others.

Surrenden Dering is five miles north-west from Ashford, three miles south from Charing, and from London about 48 miles.

284

The Manor of Pluckley was part of the ancient possessions of the See of Canterbury, and, at the time of Domesday, was held by the Archbishop himself, but soon afterwards the Primate, Lanfranc, granted it to John de Plukele. In the reign of King John, the manor was divided in three parts; the principal part, retaining the name of Pluckley, continued in the family of Plukele, till Agnes, daughter of William de Plukele, entitled her husband, John de Surrenden, to the possession of it. His son, John, about the 44th Edward III. built a new manor-house, which he styled Surrenden, and the manor he called the Manor of Surrenden, to distinguish it from the two above mentioned, that were then known by the names of Malmains and Shurland. Joan, his daughter, anno 20 Richard II. married John Haut, Esq. who thereby became entitled to it, and at his death, about the 9th Henry VI. his eldest daughter, Christian, conferred it on her husband, John Dering, Esq. of Westbrooke in Lid; through the descendants of which ancient and eminent family it has been transmitted to the present possessor.

This estate affords an instance to which we do not know a parallel. From the time of the Archbishop's grant to John de Plukele, in the reign of the Conqueror, it has never been alienated, but has continued, without intermission, in his posterity.

The family of Dering is of very early antiquity, being more immediately descended from Norman de Morinis, whose ancestor, Vitalis Fitz Osbert (who lived in the reign of Henry II.) had married Kineburga, daughter of Deringus, a descendant from Norman Fitz Dering, Sheriff of Kent, who fought on the side of Stephen at the battle of Lincoln, and was there slain: which Norman Fitz Dering derived his origin from the Derings, who, as mentioned in the Textus Roffensis, held lands in Farningham previous to the conquest.

Pluckley Church is dedicated to St. Nicholas.

On the wood-work of the south or Dering chancel there is an inscription, relating that Anthony and Richard Dering erected this chancel in 1475. The window, which is very beautifully painted, was brought from Germany. In the chancel, belonging to Sir Edward Dering, is a tablet to Sir Edward Dering, Bart. of Surrenden Dering, born 1705, died 1762: another to Sir Edward Dering, of Surrenden Dering, Bart. born 1732, died 1808; he married Selina, daughter and co-heiress of Sir Robert Furnese, Bart. who died in 1757; he married, secondly, Deborah, daughter of John Winchester, of Nethersole, in Kent, Esq.: another to Sir Edward Dering, of Surrenden Dering, Bart. born 1757, died 1811; also Anne, wife of the above, who died July 17th, 1830, aged 74: also one to Edward Dering, Esq. born 1785; he was the eldest son of Sir Edward Dering, Bart.: one to Dame Deborah, relict and second wife of Sir Edward Dering, sixth Baronet; she died 20th March, 1818, aged 73: also one to Cholmondely Dering, Esq. brother of Sir Edward Dering, Bart. obiit Nov. 7, 1836, æt. 71: a brass for Marie Dering, daughter unto Sir Henry Goring, of Burton, in Sussex, Knt. who died 30th Dec. 1588; and Jane Dering, her daughter, obiit 13 Dec. 1607: another to Thomas Deringe, 1550; and Margaret, his wife, 1562: a very fine one to one of the Derings: and several others for the same family: also a brass for Julyen Dering, Gentleman, 1526: and a fine one for one of the Malmains, date 1440.

Calehill in the Parish of Little Chart, the seat of Edward Darell, Esq. is a fine substantial mansion, situated on a gentle elevation, and surrounded by fertile and beautiful grounds. Its interior is very elegant; the furniture, in the drawing-room particularly, is superb. Here are also some paintings and family

285

portraits by eminent artists. In the chapel, which forms a part of the building, are two Carlo Dolces and a Correggio. In the stable, which is of the time of James I. there is a Dutch scaling ladder, which was taken in the reign of Charles II. when De Ruyter entered the Medway and attacked Sheerness, which was defended by Major Darell, the Commandant, an ancestor of the present proprietor of this estate.

Calehill is distant from Charing about one mile and a half south, from Ashford six miles, and from London 48 miles.

This manor, in former times, was of such eminence as to give name to the hundred. In the reign of Henry III. we find it possessed by a family named Frene, in whose descendants it remained till Richard de Frene, about the 23d of Edward III. passed it away to Thomas de Brockhull, of Saltwood, whose son, Thomas, anno 12th of Henry IV. enfeoffed John Darell, Esq. in it, who rebuilt the mansion, and died in 1438. The present possessor is a lineal descendant of the last-named gentleman.

The family of Darell, in the various branches, are descended immediately from Wm. Darell, Esq. of Sesay, in Yorkshire, (whose second son was John Darell, Esq. above named;) and he more remotely from one of this name, who is mentioned in the Roll of Battle Abbey.

Little Chart Church is a handsome structure, built of sandstone. It contains the following interesting memorials of the Darell family:

A stone, with inscription, to John Darelle, Esq. of Calehill; he was Gentleman Harbinger to King James and King Charles: 1646. On the north wall, a monument to Sir James Darell, knighted at Tournay, Captain of Hammes, in Artoys, son and heir of Sir John Darell; he died 5th Oct. 1521; and Dame Anne, his wife, who died 12th Jan. 1562: near it, a tablet to Mary Halles, widow of John Halles, late of Tenterden, Esq. in the County of Kent, daughter of Robert Horne, some time Bishop of Winchester; she died 23d Oct. 1629, aged 77: here is also a very ancient figure and monument, but without inscription; on the wall, above it, is written the following, "Here lyeth the body of Sir John Darell, Knt. (Squire of the Body to King Henry VIII.) who died 6th Sept. 1509:" a small marble monument to Geo. Darell, Esq. son and heir of James Darell, Knt. obiit 2 July, 1578; also Mary, his wife, obiit 21 July, 1585: a monument to Richard Camden, Gent. of London, obiit 29 Dec. 1642, æt. 65; Sarah, his second wife, daughter of John Darell, Esq. of Calehill, erected this monument: also a small one, near the altar, to Rhode Camden, wife of Richard Camden, of London, Gent. obiit Oct. 1, 1625. On the south wall of the chancel, a monument of two Sir John Darells, late of Calehill, Knts.; the first had two wives, Elizabeth, daughter of Sir E. Dering, of Surrenden Dering, and Bridget, daughter of Thos. Denne, of Denne Hill, Esq.; the first died 1675, aged 66, the second died 1694, aged 49. On the east wall, a monument to John Darell, Esq. heir of Geo. Darell, Esq.; he died 19th Jan, 1618; also Anne, his wife, daughter of Robert Horne, some time Bishop of Winchester, obiit 4 Jan. 1624: also a large one for Sir Robert Darell, of Calehill, Knt. (he had two wives, Allis Payton, eldest daughter of Sir Robert Payton, Knt. of Knowlton, in East Kent; the other was Jane Toldervy, daughter and heir of Christopher Toldervy, of London, Esq.;) Sir Robert Darell died 23d Feb. 1645, aged 76.

The Church of Little Chart is dedicated to the Blessed Virgin and the Invention of the Holy Cross.

286

CHARING, or Cheringes, as it is written in Domesday, was a part of the most ancient possessions of the See of Canterbury, having been given to Christ Church by the Saxon Kings; and here the Archbishops had a palace, it appears, some time before the conquest, at which, so long as they possessed the manor, they occasionally resided; entertaining also, at different times, with great pomp, our Monarchs in their royal progress through the county. After the dissolution Cranmer conveyed the manor and palace to Henry VIII. and they continued in the tenure of the Crown till the 5th year of the reign of Charles I. since which period they have been possessed by private individuals. The ruins of the mansion

stand on the north-west side of the church-yard, and still form an interesting object.

Pet House, in the Parish of Charing, the seat of George Edward Sayer, Esq. a Magistrate for the County, is situated about three-quarters of a mile east from Charing, and five miles from Ashford. Its distance from London is about 48 miles.

The Manors of Petts and Newcourt appear to have been united since the reign of Edward II. when they were possessed by William-at-Newcourt. When this name had become extinct they were purchased by the family of Hatch, or at-Hatch, by whom they were sold, about the end of Henry VII.'s reign, to William Warham, who, in the reign of Henry VIII. alienated them to Robert Atwater, and his daughter, Mary, carried them in marriage to Robert Honeywood, Esq. of Henewood, in Postling, who died in 1576. In this family they continued till the daughter of Sir Philip Honeywood, in the reign of Charles II. carried them in marriage to George Sayer, Esq. son of Sir John Sayer, of Bourchiers Hall, in Essex, who resided at Pett's, and died in 1718. In this family they at present continue.

Charing Church is a large handsome structure, and contains the following monuments:

In the chancel, a marble tablet to Christopher Dering, of Wickins, Esq. and Elizabeth, his wife; he died Dec. 18th, 1693, aged 69; she died April 19th, 1724, aged 89: opposite, on the south wall, another to Mrs. Sarah Dering, daughter of the late Rev. Edward Dering, Vicar of this parish, who died 23 Oct. 1817, aged 94; near it, a stone to Edward Dering, obt. June 17, 1719: a tablet to Mary, wife of Musshey Teale, Esq. Doctor of Physick, youngest daughter of George Poole, Esq. of this place; likewise her husband, Dr. Musshey Teale, of Maidstone, obiit 6 June, 1760: under it, another to Rebecca, relict of Francis Gilbourne Wheler, Gent. who died 1791, aged 84; also Jane, daughter of the above Francis Gilbourne Wheler and Rebecca, who died 19th June, 1819, aged 92. On the north wall, a marble monument to Eliz. Ludwell, daughter of Geo. Poole, Esq. and relict of John Ludwell, M.D. a great benefactress to this parish; she died Jan. 13th, 1765, aged 86: another to Geo. Sayer, Esq. son of Sir John Sayer, of Boucher Hall, in the County of Essex, and of Catherine Van Hesse Van Piershill, of Zealand. He married Frances, sole daughter and heiress to Sir Philip Honeywood, of Petts. He was Vice Chamberlain to Queen Katherine, consort of King Charles II. and also to

287

Queen Mary, consort to King William III. who made him Sub-Governor and Gentleman of the Bed-chamber to William, Duke of Gloucester. He died 21st May, 1718, aged 63. This monument was erected by his widow. In the north transept, on the east wall, a marble monument to Sir Robert Hollywood, Knt. of Pett's Place, in this county, and of his wife, Frances Vane; he died April 16th, 1686, aged 85, and she 17th Feb. 1687, aged 74; also of Walter Honeywood, Esq. eldest son of Robert Honeywood, Esq. eldest son of the said Sir Robert Honeywood, who died 15th July, 1686: next to it, another to Frances, relict of Geo. Sayer, Esq. who died 2d Aug. 1731, aged 63; erected by George, their only son, who also lyeth near them: another, dedicated by Charlotte Sayer to her beloved husband, John Sayer, Esq. second son of the late Geo. Sayer, Esq. of Pett, who died 1st Feb. 1799, aged 40. In the south transept, on the east wall, a tablet to William Nethersole, Gent. who married Philadelphia, daughter of Christopher Dering, Esq. of Wickins, in this parish, obiit 15 Feb. 1730, æt. 61.

Charing Church is dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul.

HUNDRED OF CHART AND LONGBRIDGE.

The honour of having been the death place of the notorious Jack Cade is contested for by places both in Kent and Sussex. Besides the field on the Manor of Ripple, or Ripley, in Westwell Parish, there is another in the Parish of Hothfield, still called Jack Cade's field, not far from Hothfield Place, where it has been asserted he was slain by Alexander Iden, Esq. who then resided at

Ripley Court.

Hothfield Place, in the Parish of Hothfield, the seat of the Right Hon. the Earl of Thanet, is a magnificent modern structure of Portland stone. It is of a mixed architecture: the north front is embellished with four noble pilasters, crowned with Ionic capitals. The door-jambs, both on the north and east fronts, are ornamented with small pilasters, with rich Corinthian capitals. The entrance to the house, at both fronts, is approached by a double flight of stone steps; and the east windows are similarly decorated with the doors. The out-houses are extensive, and well arranged; the gardens, plantations, and grounds are well and tastefully laid out. There is some good timber; but the park is not well wooded.

Hothfield Place is distant from Eastwell Park about four miles south, from Surrenden Dering two miles east, from Mersham Hatch seven miles north-west, from Ashford three miles, and from the Metropolis 52 miles.

The Manor of Hothfield, from an early date, had for many years the same owners as the Barony of Chilham. Thomas, Lord Roos, for attachment to the House of Lancaster, was attainted, anno 1 of

288

Edward IV. and his estates confiscated; but Margaret, his mother, being possessed of Hothfield for life, it did not forfeit to the Crown till her death, in the 18th year of the same reign. The King then granted it to Sir John Fogge, of Repton, for life, and he died anno 17 Henry VII. Henry VIII. next gave it, at the latter part of his reign, to John Tufton, Esq. of Northiam, in Sussex, who died possessed of it in 1567. His grandson, Sir Nicholas Tufton, was, in the 2d year of Charles I. created Lord Tufton, and, in the 4th year of the same reign, advanced to the title of Earl of Thanet.

The ancestors of the noble family of Tufton wrote themselves originally Toketon, and held property in Rainham as early as the reign of King John.

Godington, in the Parish of Great Chart, the seat of the Rev. Nicolas Toke, M.A. a Magistrate of the County, is a fine old Elizabethan structure, situated in a picturesque well-wooded park. The interior of this mansion is decorated with rare and curious paintings by the first old masters.

Godington is only one mile east from Hothfield, two miles west from Ashford, and 53 miles from London.

Godington was anciently the residence of a family that took their name from it; a descendant of whom, William de Godington, in the reign of Richard II. passed it away to Richard, Simon, and John Champneys, and they, in the 6th year of Henry IV. sold it to Thomas, the younger son of John Goldwell, of Goldwell, in this parish. His son, William, next succeeded to it, and died in the 1st year of Henry VII.; whose daughter, Joane, after the death of her brother Thomas' daughter, s. p. entitled her husband, Thomas Toke, of Westbere, to the possession of it; and in this family it has ever since remained.

The family of Toke, Tooke, or Tucke, as the name has at different times been spelt, derive their immediate origin from Robert de Toke, who was present, with Henry III. at the battle of Northampton, in 1264; and he again is supposed to have descended from Le Sire de Touque, or Toe, or Touke, mentioned in the Battle Abbey Roll as having accompanied the Conqueror from Normandy.

Rectory, Great Chart, the residence of the Rev. Thomas Waite, LL.D. is a neat modern house, beautifully situated south-east of the church, and surrounded with pleasure-grounds. It is distant from Ashford about two miles and a half south-west.

Chart Magna Church is dedicated to the Blessed Virgin.

In the chancel, near the altar, a large monument, with a brass on it, to the Toke family. On the east wall, a marble tablet to Nicholas Roundell Toke, Esq. of Godington, who died Feb. 19th, 1837, aged 72; also Anna Maria, his wife, youngest daughter of Sir Boucher Wrey, of Tavistock, Devon, Bart.; she died Feb. 25th, 1824, aged 69: a brass to Nicholas Toke, of Godington, Esq. commonly called Captain Toke, who had five wives; he died in the 93d year of his age, and was buried 29th Nov.

A.D. 1680; an anecdote of him relates, that being left a widower at the age of 93, he walked to London, to pay his addresses to a sixth lady, but was taken ill, and died suddenly: a fine brass to John Toke, Esq. and Eisle, his wife, daughter of Sir Thomas Kempe, Knt.; he died Nov. 1565, and she died June, 1559: another to John Toke, Esq. of Godington, and his two wives. On the north wall, a

289

tablet to John Toke, of Godington, Esq. who died March 13th, 1746, aged 75; also Susanna, his wife, who died Feb. 14, 1744, aged 64: also one to Sir Nicholas Toke, of Godington, Knt. who died April 15th, 1725, aged 89; also of Catharine, his wife, daughter of Sir Thomas Dyke, Bart. of Horsham, in the County of Sussex; she died Sept. 5th, 1707: under it a large tablet to John Toke, of Godington, Esq. who died July 6th, 1819, aged 82; also Margaret Elinor, their eldest daughter, who died Feb. 28th, 1813, aged 35; and Ann Dorothy, their second daughter, who died Sept. 17th, 1781, aged 7; likewise the Rev. John Toke, their second son, Rector of Harbledown, and Vicar of Beakesbourn, who died Feb. 27th, 1820, aged 53: another to Nicholas Toke, of Godington, Esq. Barrister, who died Dec. 15th, 1757, aged 55; also Elinor, his wife, daughter and sole heiress of John Cockman, M.D. of Charlton Place, in this county; she died June 30th, 1763, aged 49. On the east wall, a small tablet to John Toke, Esq. M.A. and Barrister at Law, who died at Florence, 30th May, 1828, aged 32. There is some painted glass in the windows of this church.

Vicarage, Kennington, the residence of the Rev. Robert Deedes Wilmott, M.A. is a neat house, recently erected on the south-west side of the church. It is distant from Ashford rather more than one mile and a half north.

Kennington Place, in the Parish of Kennington, the seat of Henry William Carter, Esq. M.D. is a handsome modern mansion, beautifully situated on the left of the road going from Ashford to Canterbury, distant from the former about two miles, and from the latter 12 miles.

Mr. Carter, the second son of George Carter, Esq. of Smarden, built a handsome seat on an estate in the Parish of Kennington, that he had purchased of the family of Brett, who had been long resident there. Mr. Carter died in 1782, and was succeeded by his son, the Rev. George Carter.

The ancestors of this family were settled at Winchcombe, in the Parish of Crundal, so early as the reign of Edward II. and were gentlemen of high respectability.

Kennington Church. On the north wall, a marble tablet to the Rev. George Carter, M.A. obiit Jan. 14, 1818, æt. 64; he was the only surviving son of George Carter, Esq. who lies in a vault, at Stone, in the Isle of Oxney; likewise Mary, wife of the Rev. George Carter, obiit Feb. 20, 1805, æt. 56; and their infant daughter. In the old chancel are some stones to the Randolph family; the most ancient is 1664.

Kennington Church is dedicated to St. Mary.

ASHFORD is a respectable market town, possessing a handsome church; but it contains nothing else of sufficient interest to detain the reader.

Ashford Church. In the vestry-room, a marble tablet to William Warren, LL.D.; also his son, Samuel Warren; he died 1744, aged 41. In the chancel, south wall, a monument to Arthur

290

Apsley, of this town, who died Dec. 29, 1719, aged 50; also Arthur Apsley, his father, who died Dec. 4th, 1723, aged 80; also Thomas Apsley, of this town, who erected this monument; he died June 7th, 1736, aged 58; also Ann, relict of Thomas Apsley, who died Feb. 12th, 1741, aged 63. In the Smythe chancel, a splendid monument to Sir John Smyth, of Ostenhanger, Knt. and Elizabeth, his wife, daughter and sole heir of John Fineux, of Herne, in this county; this monument was erected by Sir John Scott, Sir Richard Smythe, and Christopher Tolverde, the executors to the said Sir John Smyth; it is beautifully decorated, and of different coloured marbles; on it are the figures of Sir John

Smythe, and Elizabeth, his wife, and one son and two daughters, viz. Thomas Smythe, Esq. son and heir; Katherine, married to Sir Henry Baker, of Sissinghurst; and Elizabeth, married to Sir Harry Nevell, the younger, of Billingsbree, in the county of Barcks, Knt.; it is enclosed with an iron rail. On the north wall, near the altar, a tablet to Ann Hester Horton, who died July 1st, 1832, aged 71; and of her nephew, Richard Fitch Horton, who died Sept. 1st, 1814, aged 37; also of her sister, Mrs. Harriet Horton, who died July 1st, 1832, aged 71: one to Thomas Hussey, Esq. who died 3d July, 1779, aged 56; likewise three of his children, who died infants; and Ann, widow of the above, who died 26th Aug. 1797, aged 73: underneath, there is a very ancient monument, and an inscription on a brass on the wall. (See Hasted.) On the south wall, a fine tablet to Henry Creed, obiit 7 Aug. 1820, æt. 76; also Martha, widow of the above, obiit 6 June, 1825, æt. 80: a splendid monument, composed of different coloured marbles, and richly decorated, to Thomas Smythe, of Westenhangar, Armiger, obiit 7 June, 1591: a fine monument to Syr Richard Smythe, of Leeds Castle, Knt. fourth son of Thomas Smythe, of Ostenhangar, Esq.; he married three wives, who were widows; first, a daughter of Sir Thomas Scott, of Scott's Hall. He was Rec^r of the Duchy of Cornwall, and Surveyor General and Comissioner for the Revenues assigned to Prince Charles for many years; he died July 21st, 1628, aged 63. On this monument there is the figure of Syr Richard, and smaller ones of his three wives and five children; it is enclosed with an iron railing. A brass on the east wall to the Lady Ellen, wife of Percy Clinton Sydney, sixth Viscount Strangford, Baron Penshurst; she died at St. Petersburg, in Russia, (her husband being then Ambassador at that Court) on the 26th May, 1726, aged 27, and was buried there in the cemetery of Smolensko; also the body of the Hon. Lionel Sydney Smythe, who was the second son of Percy, Viscount Strangford, of Ostenhangar, in this county, and Dame Ellen, his wife; he was born at Constantinople, 5th Aug. 1721, and died in London 13th July, 1734: a tablet to the Rev. Benjamin Davies, Rector of Newchurch, and Vicar of Stalisfield, in this county; he was also Domestic Chaplain to the late Bishop of Dromore, obt. Jan. 6th, 1827, æt. 80. On the west wall, in the chancel, three beautiful tablets to the family of Jemmet; the first to George Elwick Jemmet, Esq. of this town, who died 6th June, 1831, aged 56; also his infant daughter, Ellen, who died 7 Sept. 1824, aged 3 months; and his nephew, John Burt, Esq. who died 11 May, 1831, aged 26: the second to George Jemmet, of this parish, Esq. who died 9th Sept. 1820, aged 77; and Mary, his wife, who died 9th Feb. 1812, aged 62; also Mary, their daughter, who died 2d Feb. 1818, aged 45: the third to William Jemmet, Esq. who died 1828, aged 83; also Ellen, relict of the above, who died 11th Oct. 1829, aged 74. On the west wall, in the south transept, a tablet to the memory of John Norwood, of this place, Gent. who died 15th March, 1825, aged 74; and of Elizabeth, his wife, who died 28th Oct. 1825, aged 74; also of their six children: underneath is a monument to Surgeon James Evans, bearing this inscription, "His late brother officers have erected this monument as a testimony of their regard and esteem, obiit 22 March, 1809, æt. 30." In this part of the church there are several old brasses.

Ashford Church is dedicated to St. Mary.

291

Streetend, in the Parish of Willesborough, for many years the residence of the family of Master, was, in their time, a house of some note. Otway's tragedy of the Orphan is said to have been founded on a melancholy occurrence that, as tradition reports, happened to a member of this family. William Master, at the age of 28, anno 1634, while at dinner, on his wedding-day, was murdered by his younger brother, Robert, (styled by his father his disobedient son,) who, being deeply enamoured of the bride, and stung by the success of his rival, avenged himself on his relative in this inhuman way. The murderer immediately fled, and was never heard of afterwards; but a stranger was seen in the church-yard, and disturbed by some passers-by as he was endeavouring to efface from the grave-stone of William Master the narration of the fact; part, however, he had already erased.

Boys Hall, in the Parish of Willesborough, late the residence of John Oliver, Esq. is a curious gothic building, pleasantly situated on the south of the church. Its distance from Ashford is not quite two miles south-east.

Boys Hall was built in 1616 by Thomas Boys, Esq. of Sevington, with the materials of their ancient

seat, "The Moat." His descendants resided in it till Edward Boys, Gent. removed to a smaller house, that his father had begun to build, but did not live to finish, near the church, and there died in 1796. His son, Edward Boys, then inherited this property. The old mansion is inhabited by cottagers.

Hewetts, in the Parish of Willesborough, the property and residence of Curteis Young Norwood, Esq. is a modern house, in a cheerful and pleasant situation, about one mile east from Ashford, of which town it commands a full and interesting prospect.

Vicarage House, in the Parish of Willesborough, is the residence of the Rev. George Norwood, Rector of Sevington.

Lacton House, in the Parish of Willesborough, the property and residence of Henry Cook, Gent. (who is owner of a very ancient building, opposite to his mansion, called Lacton Hall,) stands on the high road leading from Ashford to Hythe, distant from the latter 10 miles, and from the former two miles.

Willesborough Church has, on the south side of the chancel an old confessionary.

In the chancel, a stone to Robert Masters, Gent. and Margaret, his wife; he died 24th Aug. 1616, aged 77 and 4 months, and she died 28th Nov. 1607, aged 60: a tablet to Edward Boys. East wall, a marble tablet to William Perkins, Commander R. N. late of this parish, who died 5th Feb. 1832, aged 55. The windows bear the marks of antiquity, and are handsomely painted.

Willesborough Church is dedicated to St. Mary.

292

Mersham Hatch, in the Parish of Mersham, the seat of the Right Hon. Sir Edward Knatchbull, Bart. a Magistrate and Deputy Lieutenant for the County, M.P. for the Eastern Division of Kent, and one of Her Majesty's Privy Council, is a noble structure, consisting of a body and two wings, embellished with quoins, and other ornaments of freestone. It is situated in an extensive park, stocked with deer. The interior of this mansion is elegant and spacious, and decorated with paintings by the most eminent ancient and modern artists. By the diversion of the line of turnpike-road, in front of the house, considerable addition has been made to the park, both in extent and beauty. Mersham Hatch is distant from Ashford about four miles south-east, from Hythe eight miles, and from London 57 miles.

The manor and seat of Hatch, or, as it is frequently written in old deeds, Le Hatch, was formerly the inheritance of a family named Edwards, the executors of the last of whom sold it, in the reign of Henry VII. to Richard Knatchbull, whose ancestors were of Limne, in this county. Through the posterity of this gentleman, men of high repute, both in the county and kingdom, for their abilities and learning, it has descended to the present eminent proprietor.

Rectory, Mersham, the residence of the Rev. F. V. Lockwood, M.A. Prebendary of Lincoln, and late Chaplain to the House of Commons, stands about half a mile north from the church. The situation is pleasant, the country around being very fine and fertile. Mersham Rectory is distant from Ashford about four miles south-east.

New House, in the Parish of Mersham, the seat of Miss Hughes, is a handsome substantial house, situated on the east of the Rectory: the interior is spacious and convenient. It is distant from Ashford about four miles south-east, and from Hythe eight miles.

Mersham Church contains the following very interesting monuments:

Near the altar, on the south wall, a small tablet to M. S. F. Chapman, Clerk: next to it, on the

south wall, a monument to Dame Katherine Knatchbull, wife of Sir Wyndham, erected by her husband, Sir W. Knatchbull, in the year 1741; also of the said Sir Wyndham Knatchbull, who died July 23d, 1749, aged 49. In the Knatchbull chancel, on the north side, a tablet for Sir Edward Knatchbull and Dame Alice his wife, daughter of John Wyndham, of Nonnington, in the County of Wilts, Esq. erected by Sir Wyndham Knatchbull, A.D. 1749. On the east wall, a small tablet to Mary Knatchbull, second daughter and co-heiress of Wm. Western Hugessen, of Provender, in the County of Kent, Esq.; she was married to Edward Knatchbull, Esq. only son of Sir Edward Knatchbull, and died May 24th, 1784, aged 25: another to Sir Wyndham Knatchbull Wyndham, Bart. who died 20th Sept. 1763, aged 26: another to Grace, Lady Knatchbull, wife of Sir E. Knatchbull, obt. 16 March, 1788, æt. 58: under it one to Joan Elizabeth Knatchbull, daughter of the first,

293

and only surviving sister of the last Sir Wyndham Knatchbull Wyndham, who died Oct. 1801, aged 71: a marble monument, on the south wall, to Norton Knatchbull, Clerk, who died 5th Feb. A.D. 1684, aged 83: on the north side, a monument to Sir John Knatchbull, Bart. of Meersham Hatch (who was son and heir of Sir Norton Knatchbull, Knt. and Bart. and of Dorothy Westron, his wife), who married Jane, one of the daughters of Sir Edward Monins, of Waldershare, Bart.; he died 15th Dec. 1696, aged 60; also his wife, Jane, who erected this monument, she died 7th June, 1699, aged 59: a small tablet to Margaret Collyns, wife of Wm. Collyns, Gent. born 1570, died 1596. On the south wall, a tablet to Thos. Hodges, Esq. who died 13th May, 1810, aged 77; and of his daughter Elizabeth, who died 24 July 1800, aged 21: another to Mary Dame Hughes, of this parish, wife of Edward Hughes, Gent. who died 18th June, 1810, aged 29: under it another to the Rev. William Cole, D.D. Prebendary of Westminster, and seventeen years Rector of this Parish, who died 25th Sept. 1806, aged 53; Mary, daughter of Sir Wm. Blackstone, and wife of the above, erects this monument: another to Edward Hughes, Gent. of New House, in this parish, who died 25th July, 1825, aged 79: also another to Ann, wife of Turner Marshall, Esq. of New House, in this parish, daughter of George Carter, Esq. who died 15th Sept. 1792, aged 74; likewise of the above Turner Marshall, Esq. who died 21st Feb. 1794, aged 79: a brass of Richard Knatchbull, Esq. who died 22 Aug. 1582, aged 57. In the chancel there are several brasses. On the north wall, a fine monument to Norton Knatchbull, Armiger; also Bridget, his wife, daughter of John Astley, Esq. descended from the ancient family of the Barons of Astley, who died 4 Nov. 1625, aged 55; on this monument there is an ancient sword and helmet, with a figure of himself: also a monument to Richard Knatchbull, who died 20th Jan. 1590, aged 36: a marble tablet to the Rev. and learned John Cooke, A.M. and his two wives; obt. 13 Aug. 1726, aged 81; erected by his last and surviving wife, Hester, daughter of Syr Job Woolrich, Knt.

Mersham Church is dedicated to St. John the Baptist.

In the north part of the parish of Bethersden is found the Bethersden marble, by some called also Petworth marble, there being quarries producing a similar kind at Petworth, in Sussex. This marble was formerly much used in decorating churches and mansions. Most of the ancient tombs and monuments of the Bishops and gentry in the cathedrals of Canterbury and Rochester, and in many of our churches, are made of it; and in our oldest mansions, the chimney pieces and ornamental parts of the state apartments. It is of the grey turbinated kind, hard and durable, and bears a good polish; but it is now seldom used.

Bethersden Church. In the chancel, on the south wall, a monument to George Witherden, Gent. who died July 22d, 1758, aged 44; and Elizabeth his wife, who died Aug. 30th, 1765, aged 50; this monument was erected A.D. 1778, by Ann Witherden, their only child; the said Ann Witherden died 27th Jan. 1812, aged 62, and was buried in the same vault; Bridget Hatch, sister to Thos. Jackson, Esq. of Camberwell, in the County of Surrey, husband of the above-named Ann Witherden, died 6th April, 1836, aged 92: a black tablet for Cicely Hulse, only daughter of Richard Hulse, of Lovelace Place, in Bethersden, who died 6 June, 1679. On the north wall, a marble monument to Sir Geo. Choute, Bart. who died 4th Feb. 1721, aged 58; erected by Edward

294

Austen, Esq. Near the altar, a monument to Samuel Witherden, of Wisenden, Esq. who died 6th Oct. 1761, aged 54; also Elizabeth, his wife, who died 31st May, 1779, aged 79; also their two daughters, Elizabeth, who died 2d April, 1777, aged 37, and Sarah, 3d Aug. 1763, aged 21; erected by their son, Thos. Witherden, 1779: a tablet to Francis Whitfield, Gent. who died 14th Aug. 1782, aged 78; and Sarah, his wife, who died 1778, aged 62; and others of their family. In the aisle, north wall, a beautiful tablet to Thomas Witherden, Esq. of Wisenden, in this parish, who died 7th July, 1800, aged 63; and Anne, infant daughter of the above, who died April 26th, 1804: also a beautiful tablet to the Rev. Whitfield Curteis, M.A. Rector of Smarden, who died 31st July, 1834, aged 56; also Mary Anne Curteis, his sister, who died 2d June, 1835, aged 51. On the south wall, a marble tablet to Edward Wilmott, of Lowood, in this parish, Esq. who died 3d April, 1797, aged 70; and Elizabeth, his wife, who died 13th Jan. 1759, aged 34; and Mary, his second wife, died 19th May, 1793, aged 59; and three sons of the above: another to Mary Dell, who died Aug. 21st, 1756, aged 64; Henry Dell, Vicar of this parish, died 17th Oct. 1763, aged 73; Elizabeth, daughter of the above, died 12th July, 1774, aged 52; also Mary, daughter of the above Henry and Mary Dell, who died 4th Oct. 1776, aged 57: another to Thos. Wilmott, late of this parish, Gent. who died Nov. 24th, 1769, aged 52; also Mary, his widow, who erected this monument; she died 29th March, 1789, aged 70.

Bethersden Church is dedicated to St. Margaret.

HUNDRED OF WYE.

Eastwell Park, in the Parishes of Eastwell, Westwell, Challock, and Boughton Aluph, is a seat of the Right Hon. the Earl of Winchelsea. The mansion itself is in Eastwell: the park is the largest in the county, enclosing upwards of 1,200 acres, and exhibiting in its vast extent of surface every variety of scenery. Its noble avenues and forest-like masses of magnificent timber, tenanted by herds of deer, have a very imposing appearance. The mansion is a handsome substantial modern structure, and the pleasure grounds are extensive and beautifully laid out. Eastwell Park is distant from Hothfield Place about four miles north-east, from Godmersham Park four miles south-west, from Chilham Castle six miles, from Belmont six miles, from Lees Court about the same distance, from Ashford rather more than three miles, and from the Metropolis 52 miles.

Eastwell, at the time of Domesday, formed part of the possessions of Hugo de Montfort, who had accompanied the Conqueror from Normandy. His grandson, Robert, favouring the title of Curthose in opposition to Henry I. rather than be called in question for it, voluntarily exiled himself, and gave up his possessions to the Crown. This manor was afterwards held of the King by a family that took

295

their name from it: it then came into possession of the eminent family of Criol, from which it passed to Thomas de Poynings, and from this name, by a female heir, in the 25th of Henry VI. to the Earls of Northumberland. In the reign of Henry VIII. it was purchased by Sir Christopher Hales, whose three daughters sold it to Sir Thos. Moyle, who rebuilt the mansion of Eastwell Place, and died in 1660. His daughter Catherine carried it as a marriage settlement to Thos. Finch, Gent. afterwards Sir Thos. Finch. The family of Finch, says Philipott, descended from Henry Fitzherbert, Chamberlain to Henry I. Herbert Fitzherbert, about the 10th of Edward I. assumed the name of Finch from his being entire Lord (as was a custom in those days) of the Manor of Finches, in Lid, which he had purchased. To Sir Thos. Finch succeeded his son Sir Moyle Finch, (who, in 1589, enclosed a park of 1,000 acres round the house,) whose widow, Lady Elizabeth, was, in 1623, created Viscountess Maidstone; and in 1628, Countess of Winchelsea, in Sussex: she died in 1633. In the descendants of this illustrious Lady the mansion and property has since continued; but the family name has received the additional patronymic of Hatton, from a connection formed by an intermarriage of a member of this family with a daughter of Christopher, Viscount Hatton.

There is a tradition that Richard Plantagenet, a natural son of Richard III. after the battle of Bosworth, fled to Eastwell, and lived here in obscurity till his death, which happened in 1550. There

is an entry of his burial in the parish registry. The house in which he latterly lived, and in which he died, he built by leave of Sir Thos. Moyle, in a field near Eastwell Place, at the time there was no park. It was pulled down by Heneage, Earl of Winchelsea, who died in 1689.

Rectory, Eastwell, the residence of the Rev. Montagu Oxenden, A.M. has lately undergone considerable repairs, and is now a handsome residence. Among the interior decorations we observed a painting of a Stag Hunt, by Hondius. It is distant from Ashford three miles north-west.

Eastwell Church is a very ancient structure, built of flint, with a border of Ashlar stone round the windows:

In the chancel, a fine monument to the Earls of Winchelsea; the only inscription on it is the following names: – Elizabeth Finch, Katherine Finch, Ann Finch, Theophilus Finch, Heneage Finch, Thos. Finch, John Finch, Heneage Finch, Francis Finch; there are two figures, one of an Earl, the other of a Countess, of Winchelsea; this monument is enclosed with an iron rail: hung up above are three casques. Near the altar, a stone monument, and round it the following names: – Sir Thomas Kemp, Amye Moyle, Sir Thomas Moyle, Katheryn Jordayn, Sir Thomas Ffynche, Katheryn Moyle, Syr Thomas Moyle, Katheryn Jordayn, Syr Robert Darcy, Syr Walter Locombe Moyle; and underneath the names are their coats of arms: also a marble bust and monument to Heneage Finch, no date: near it a monument to Edmund Pell.

Eastwell Church is dedicated to St. Mary.

The little manor of Seaton, in Boughton Aluph, was formerly held by a very singular tenure, viz.: by knight's service in grand serjeantry, to provide one man, called a vautre (from the old French verb vautre, to hunt the boar) whose duty it should be to lead three greyhounds, when the King should travel

296

into Gascony, until he had worn out a pair of shoes of the price of four-pence, bought at the King's cost. John de Criol, in the reign of Henry III. held the manor by this service.

Boughton Aluph Church is a handsome ancient structure, built in the form of a cross. In the south wall is an old stone seat, and the remains of a piscina.

In the Buckwell chapel are interred several of the family of Moyle, who possessed that estate for nearly two centuries; and at the west end is a handsome monument, with a graceful female figure of alabaster, reclining on a cushion, to the memory of Ameye, wife of Josias Clerke, of Essex, Gent. and daughter of Robert Moyle, Esq. of Buckwell; she died in 1631, aged 31.

Boughton Aluph Church is dedicated to All Saints.

WYE, in the time of the Saxons, was a royal manor, and at different subsequent periods, it appears, was honoured by the temporary residence of our monarchs till the time of Edward IV. although the manor itself was possessed by the Abbey of Battle from the time of its foundation till its dissolution. The College or Grammar School of Wye was founded and endowed, in the year 1447, by the eminent Cardinal Archbishop John Kempe, St. Rufina, who was born at Ollantigh, in this parish, in the year 1380. Prior to the dissolution it was of considerable note, and possessed of large estates; and the building itself appears, from the description of it in the survey that was taken in the 1st of Queen Mary, to have been a large, convenient, and handsome structure.

In the Hamlet of WITHERSDEN, in the south part of the Parish of Wye, is the once famous St. Eustace's Well, so named from Eustachius, Abbot of Flai, a man of great sanctity, who came to England about the year 1200, and preached at Wye; and having blessed this spring, its waters, as tradition reports,

miraculously cured all diseases. For further particulars connected with this holy well, see Matthew Paris, p. 201.

Olantigh, in the Parish of Wye, the seat of Col. J. E. Sawbridge, is a large handsome mansion, situated on the banks of the Stour. The park and pleasure grounds are laid out with good taste. It is distant from Ashford about five miles south-west, and from Canterbury nine miles.

Olantigh, in the reign of Edward I. was possessed by Ralph Kempe. In his descendants (of whom one was the celebrated Cardinal of Rome and Archbishop of Canterbury, and another was Bishop of London) it continued down to Sir Thos. Kempe, who, dying in 1607, his four daughters sold it to Sir Timothy Thornhill, and in this family it remained till Major Richard Thornhill, in the 4th of Queen

297

Anne, vested it in trustees to be sold for payment of his debts, when it was purchased by Jacob Sawbridge, Esq. from whom it has lineally descended to the present proprietor.

Major Thornhill, above-mentioned, was the person who, in 1711, fought a duel with Sir Cholmeley Dering, Bart. in Tothill Fields, in which Sir Cholmeley was so badly wounded that he died the same day.

Wye Church was erected by Cardinal Kempe, in the reign of Henry VI. In the year 1685 the steeple fell down and destroyed almost the whole of the high chancel, which was very handsomely built, like the choir of a cathedral; and on each side of it were stalls for the use of the members of the college.

Near the altar, on the south wall, a marble tablet, with the following inscription: "Here lieth interred the bodies of Agnes and Mary Johnson, the former of whom died Jan. 3d, 1763, aged 48, and the latter Aug. 12th, 1767, aged 48; they were daughters and co-heiresses of John Johnson, Esq. of Wye, and of Mary Johnson, descended from Sir Robert Moyle, of Buckwell;" this monument was erected by Susanna and Penelope Woodyers, executrixes to Mary Johnson: near it, on the south wall, a fine monument to Lady Joanna Thornhill, daughter of Sir Bevil Grandvill, who, at the battle of Lansdown, gloriously died in defence of King Charles the Martyr, and sister to John, Earl of Bath, who, with his near kinsman, General Monk, afterwards Duke of Albemarle, was the noble instrument of the happy restoration of the church and monarchy, in the year 1660; she was the second wife of Richard Thornhill, Esq. of Olantigh, in this parish; she was Lady of the Bedchamber to Queen Catherine, and was born 30th Sept. 1635, and died Jan. 7th, 1708: near it a small marble tablet to Captain James Willson, of his Majesty's marine service, who fell in the battle of Algiers, on board the Leander, 24 Aug. 1816; also of Richard Willson, Ensign in the 30th Regiment of Foot, who died at Secunderabad, in the East Indies, 15th Aug. 1825, aged 21: also one similar, to Catherine, widow of Captain J. Willson, she died March 13th, 1825, aged 53; also Mary, her daughter, who died Oct. 1st, 1822, aged 21: a brass in the chancel to one of the family of Brett. On the north wall, a small marble tablet to John Neame, of this parish, who died May 9th, 1814, aged 74; also Sarah, his wife, who died March 16th, 1820, aged 74: another to the Rev. Wm. Morris, A.M. who died Sept. 1, 1832, aged 45; also an infant son of the above: another to the Rev. Robert Parsons, A.M. who died 1st Aug. 1819, aged 62; also Frances, wife of the above, who died 9th March, 1825, aged 67. In the church-yard, a stone monument to Chamberlain Godfrey, Esq. who died 26th Nov. 1766, aged 60.

Wye Church is dedicated to St. Gregory and St. Martin.

On Tremworth Downs, in the Parish of Crundal, about a mile N.E. from Olantigh, there were accidentally discovered, in 1703, the remains of a burial-ground, which is decided to have been a Roman sepulture, from a coin of the younger Faustina, wife of Marcus Aurelius, and from the various Roman vessels and trinkets that were dug up, in 1759, by the Rev. Brian Faussett. At different times there have been subsequently found in the graves, numerous

298

skeletons, urns, pans, bottles, ossuaries, pateræ, and lacrymatories; and one particular part of the cemetery appears to have been used as an ustrina.

Crundal Church. On the north wall, a marble to Ann, relict of Wm. Lewis, Esq. and second daughter of the late Rev. Sir Edmund Filmer, of East Sutton Place, and formerly many years Rector of this Parish; she died 12th June, 1836, aged 70: near the altar, a marble tablet to Annabella Christiana, wife of the Rev. Edmund Filmer, Rector of this Parish, and eldest daughter of Sir John Honeywood, of Evington, Bart. who died Oct. 8th, 1798, aged 70; also the said Edmund Filmer, who was 54 years Rector of this Parish; and on succeeding to the family estates and title, resigned his rectory; he died at East Sutton Place, June 27th, 1810, aged 84. A stone near the altar, very ancient. In the chancel, a stone to Jacob Sawbridge, Esq. obt. Sept. 23, 1763, æt. 63; and others of the Sawbridge family; also to Ann, daughter of Wm. Brodnax, of Godmersham.

Crundal Church is dedicated to St. Mary.

HUNDRED OF FELBOROUGH.

Godmersham Park, in the Parish of Godmersham, the seat of Edward Knight, Esq. a Magistrate and Deputy Lieut. for the County, is a substantial spacious mansion, situated in an extensive and picturesque park, well stocked with deer. Its interior is adorned with paintings, by Canaletti, Rembrandt, and others of the old school. The river Stour flows through the grounds, and greatly improves the otherwise rich scenery. Godmersham Park adjoins the grounds of Chilham Castle. It is six miles north-east from Ashford, and eight miles south-west from Canterbury, and stands in a very beautiful part of the county.

The manors of Ford and Yallande were anciently possessed by the family of Valoigns. With a female descendant of this name they passed by marriage to Thomas de Aldon, with whose posterity they continued some time, and then became the property of Austen or Astyn. Richard Astyn, of West Peckham, conveyed them to Thomas Broadnax, Gent. of Hyth, whose descendant, Thomas Broadnax, Esq. anno 1727, changed his name to May. In 1732 he rebuilt this seat of Ford Place, and in 1738 again changed his name to Knight. In 1742 he inclosed a park round the house, which he, on that account, called Ford Park; but this name it has since exchanged for its present designation. His son, Thomas Knight, Esq. succeeded to the estates, at the death of his father, in 1781, who, dying s. p. in 1794, bequeathed this seat for life to his widow, with remainder to Edward Austen, Esq. of Rolling Place. Mrs. Knight, after a short time, removed to the White Friars, in Canterbury, giving up the possession of Godmersham Park to Edward Austen, Esq.

299

Vicarage, Godmersham, the residence of the Rev. John Manley, A.M. Chaplain to the Marquis of Anglesea, is situated near the church, on the north, about six miles north-east from Ashford.

Godmersham Church is dedicated to St. Lawrence. The chancel is large and handsome.

In the chancel, on the south wall, a tablet to the Rev. Joseph Godfrey Sherer, A.M. Vicar of this parish and Westwell; born April 26th, 1770, died Dec. 22, 1823: another to the Rev. Richard Mun, obiit 23 April, 1682, æt. 74; erected by his widow; another to Jacob Christmas, Rector of Godmersham, and others of his family; he died 1812: under the last, a small tablet to Mrs. Henrietta Townshend, third daughter of the Hon. and Rev. Dr. Townshend, formerly Dean of Norwich; obiit 17 Dec. 1806, æt. 53: another to Sophia, wife of Henry Knight, obiit April 27, 1833, æt. 33: another to Thomas Carter, of Billing, Gent. obiit Sept. 29, 1707, æt. 57: next to the last, a fine tablet to Harriet Knatchbull, daughter of Charles Parry, of Oakfield, Berks, Esq. widow of the Rev. Dr. Wadham Knatchbull, third son of Sir Edward Knatchbull, of Meersham Hatch, Bart.; she died 12th Oct. 1794, aged 83; erected by Catherine, daughter of the above, married to T. Knight, Esq.: a fine monument to Thomas Knight, Esq. of Godmersham Park, who died 23d Oct. 1794, aged 58;

erected by his widow, Catherine, daughter of Wadham Knatchbull, LL.D. Prebendary of Durham: a stone to Willyeam Brodnax, Esq. barrister, of the Middle Temple; obiit 23 Jan. 1609.

CHILHAM was a place of note in the earliest times, and, we have good reason to believe, one of the stations which were fortified by the Britons against the Romans: afterwards it became a *castra stativa* of the Romans, and subsequently one of the *villæ regiæ*, under the Saxon Heptarchy. Widedred, or Wighrid, King of Kent, resided here at the end of the seventh century. The Danes, in one of their incursions, (probably either in 838 or 851) sacked and razed the castle. At Shillingheld Wood, in this parish, where there are extensive remains of fortifications and intrenchments, it is supposed that the Britons, under Cassivelaunus, posted themselves the day after their attack on the Romans, and whence they harassed the foragers under Trebonius. The large barrow of earth on the brow of the chalk hill, opposite Chilham Park, but on the other side of the river, commonly known by the name of Julliberries' Grave, is assigned by Camden as the burial-place of the tribune Quintus Laberius Durus, who was slain in the conflict between the Romans and Britons, the term being corrupted from the words *Julii Laberius*. Dr. Battely, however, in his "*Antiquitates Rutupinæ*," considers the term pure Saxon, and that Julliberries is corrupted from the words *Cilla-byrig*, meaning the grave of Cilla, and of the same Cilla from whom the place takes its name; Cilla-ham, or Chilham, (the Saxon C at the beginning of words being sounded like the same letter with the Italians at present,) signifying, the mansion of Cilla. When this barrow was

300

opened, in 1712, by Heneage Finch, Esq. its length was upwards of 180 feet, breadth about 45 feet, and depth between 7 and 8 feet.

Chilham Castle, in the Parish of Chilham, the seat of James B. Wildman, Esq. a Magistrate and Deputy Lieutenant for the County, was erected by Sir Dudley Digges, in the year 1616, upon the site of a more ancient mansion. It is a noble Elizabethan structure, situated on a commanding eminence, to the west of the banks of the Stour, sheltered from the south-west by stately timber. Near it stands a part of the old Norman keep or castle, a memorial of the antiquity and former grandeur of this interesting place. The park, which is well wooded, and stocked with deer, extends southward from the castle upwards of a mile, to the northern bounds of Godmersham Park. The interior of the castle is decorated with paintings by Claude, Carlo Dolce, Vandyck, &c.

Chilham Castle is distant from Canterbury six miles and a quarter south-west, from Ashford about eight miles north-east, and from London 53 miles.

Chilham, or Cilleham, in the reign of Edward the Confessor was possessed by Sired de Cilleham, a noble Saxon, who fought at the battle of Hastings, on the side of Harold, in consequence of which he forfeited this estate to the Conqueror, who granted it to Odo. Chilham, after Odo's disgrace, was granted to Fulbert, surnamed de Dover, who built the castle, which then became the *caput baroniæ* of the Barony of Fulbert, or Fobert, and was thence called the Honor of Chilham. King John seized upon the castle, in the time of the barons' wars, but restored it, in his 16th year, to Rohesia de Dover, great grand-daughter of Fulbert: he afterwards visited it when he was about to treat on a reconciliation with Langton. John, Earl of Athol, who had inherited this property, in consequence of his traitorously engaging with Scotland in the wars against Edward I. was hanged and beheaded, and his lands confiscated to the Crown, where this castle remained till Edward II. granted it to the great Bartholomew de Badlesmere, who, having joined the discontented barons, was also executed and his possessions seized. The same monarch afterwards gave it to David de Strabolgie, son of the Earl of Athol above-mentioned, in reward for his services, and, on his death, it was granted by Edward III. to Giles de Badlesmere, son of Bartholomew before named. His sister, Margery, entitled her husband, William, Lord Roos, to it, whose descendant, Thomas Lord Roos, being a friend to the house of Lancaster, forfeited it to Edward IV. It was then given for life to Sir John Scott, of Scott's Hall, and on reverting to the Crown, was granted by Henry VIII. to Thomas

Manners, Lord Roos, Earl of Rutland, who sold it back to the king, and he afterwards bestowed it on Sir Thomas Chene, whose son Henry, Lord Chene, of Tuddington, anno 10 Elizabeth, sold it to Sir Thomas Kempe, of Wye. His grand-daughter, Mary, having married Sir Dudley Diggs, that gentleman became possessed of her share, and afterwards of the shares of her three sisters and co-heirs. Sir Dudley, who was descended from Roger de Mildenhall Dictus Digge, who lived in the reign of King John, was a man of eminent abilities and numerous private virtues: he pulled down the ancient mansion, and erected, about 1616, the present fine edifice. In this family it remained till 1724, when Col. Thomas Diggs conveyed it to Mr. James Colebrooke, of London, whose son, Robert Colebrooke, Esq. in 1775 alienated it to Thomas Heron, Esq. of Newark-upon-Trent, who, in 1792, conveyed it to Thomas Wildman, Esq.

301

Vicarage, Chilham, the residence of the Rev. Richard Osborne Tylden, M.A. eldest son of the late Richard Tylden, Esq. of Milsted, is a substantial house, very pleasantly situated, close to the north side of the church.

Chilham Church, is a handsome structure, consisting of a nave, two aisles, a chancel, and two chapels.

On the north side of the chancel is a splendid circular mausoleum, with a cupola at top, for the sepulture of the Colebrooke family; it was built about 1755, under the superintendence of Sir Robert Taylor. In the chancel, on the south side, a monument to Fogg, 1626: another to the Fogs, 1617: a stone to William Fogg, 1616: a curious old stone to Sybil Leech, by her father, and Fynch, by her mother; she died a widow, 18th June, 1502: also a very ancient brass: a beautiful monument, on a base of Portland stone, by Chantrey, to James Wildman, Esq.; born March 20th, 1747, died March 26th, 1816. In the north transept, a curious monument, with the following inscription: "Sir Anthony Palmer, Knight of the Bath, erects this monument as a memorial to D. Margaret, sister of Sir Dudley Diggs, of Chilham Castle, Kt. his late loving wife;" date 1647: another to Thomas Pettit, Esq. obiit 26 Sept. 1625. In the south transept, a beautiful monument, by Westmacott, to Sir Thomas Mantle, Knt. F.A. and L.S.S. who died Dec. 21st, 1831, aged 80. On the north wall, north transept, a small tablet to Elizabeth, wife of Giles Master, Esq. of Canterbury, daughter of William Pettitt, Esq. of this parish, who died Oct. 18th, 1661, aged 77. On the south wall, a small tablet to Vincent Wood, Esq. Surgeon in his majesty's army, who died whilst on a visit to Chilham Castle, 17th Sept. 1814, aged 66: another to William Denne, of this parish, obiit Oct. 14, 1778; also Mary, his widow, obiit 8 April 1785, æt. 76; likewise those of their children, whose remains are deposited in a vault beneath: a marble monument to Caroline Oakley Dick, third daughter of Samuel and Mary Sherson Dick, who died 18th July, 1831, aged 14; also Robert Mantell Dick, obiit 24 Feb. 1832, æt. 18; also Samuel William Dick, second son of the above Samuel and Mary Dick; died at Cheltenham, 30 Dec. 1832, aged 20. On the west side of the church, there is a beautiful stone architectural monument to the Dicks, enclosed with an iron rail; inscription the same as on the tablet. There is some very ancient painted glass in the windows of this church.

Chilham Church is dedicated to St. Mary.

On Chartham Downs, the tract of road which extends along the south side of the high road between Ashford and Canterbury, are the remains of many tumuli, which are called, in ancient deeds, Danes Banks. Several of them have, at different times, been opened, and bodies, both male and female, with various trinkets, found; but to whom they belonged, whether to the Britons, Romans, or Danes, does not appear to be positively known.

Mystole, in the Parish of Chartham, the seat of Sir John Fagg, Bart. is a handsome house, situated in a beautiful park, four miles south from Canterbury, and about 54 miles from London.

Mystole was built in the reign of Elizabeth, by John Bungey, Rector of Chartham and Prebendary of Canterbury, who died possessed of it in 1596. His son, Jonas Bungey, succeeded to it in

302

1696, and in his descendants it continued till it was purchased by Sir John Fagge, Bart. of Wiston, in Sussex, who died in 1700.

Rectory, Chartham, the residence of the Rev. Henry Riddell Moody, M.A. is a handsome and very pleasant residence, on the banks of the Stour. It was erected in 1824, by the present incumbent. It is distant from Canterbury three miles south-west, and from London about 55 miles.

Chartham Church is a large handsome building, and contains the following monuments:

In the chancel, on a stone, a splendid brass figure of Sir William Sat Van, the date about 1400, (see Hasted): also a small monument, of Caen stone, to John Brugeye Clarke, one of the Prebendaries of Christchurch, in Canterbury, and Parson of this parish; born in Norwich, July 7th, 1536; after building the house of Mystoll, he died there, 20th Nov. 1596. In the north transept, a small marble tablet to William Gilbee, late of Chartham Rectory, Esq. obiit Feb. 24, 1810, æt. 59. In the south transept, a tablet to Elizabeth, Lady Fagg, daughter of Abraham le Grand, of Canterbury, Gent. and wife of Sir William Fagg, of Mystole, Bart.; obiit Feb. 27, 1785, æt. 60: also a monument to Sir William Fagg, late of Mystole, Bart. obiit Nov. 14, 1791, æt. 65: also a beautiful monument to the memory of W. and S. Y. Sarah, daughter of Charles Fagg, Esq. of Mystole, in this parish, married to William Young, Esq. 18th July, 1746, died the June following, aged 18: Sir William Young died April, 1788: this monument was brought from Italy. A marble monument, on the south wall, to Johannes Maximillianus De L' Angle, obiit Nov. 14, 1724, æt. 85. (See Hasted.) The painted glass in this church is very ancient and well preserved.

Chartham Church is dedicated to St. Mary.

HUNDRED OF FOLKSTONE.

FOLKSTONE is a small borough town, and a member of the Cinque Port of Dover, possessing an inconsiderable harbour, which is not easily preserved from the encroachments of the sea.

The name of Folkstone, or stone of the people, seems to denote that it was a place of more than ordinary distinction in the Saxon times. In Domesday Book five churches are registered as belonging to it; so that, in all probability, it must then have been more populous than at present; though the inhabitants, who now amount to above 3000, are more numerous than in the reign of Elizabeth, when there were not more than 500 or 600. Lambarde, the Kentish antiquary of that age, gives us a dreary description of the town. "It be-

303

longed," says he, "to Earl Goodwin, who and his sons sore spoiled it, what time they harried the whole coast for revenge of their banishment. And the greater part thereof was eftsoon burnt and spoiled by the Scots and French joining hands against us, soon after the departure of King Edward III. But the continual war which the sea maintaineth against it, hath done more detriment than all the rest. For that violently washeth and by piecemeal wasteth it so, that not only the Nunnery, which stood 28 perches from the high-water mark, is now almost swallowed up, but the castle which Eadbald (or, as some think, William de Albranc, or Avorenche, to whom Folkstone was given,) did build, and four of the five parish churches be departed out of sight also. Only some broken walls, in which are seen great bricks (the marks of British building,) remain, and the name of the Parishes of Our Lady and St. Paul are not clean forgotten."

The Nunnery, here mentioned, (of which some foundations may yet be traced near the church,) was built by Eadwald, the second Christian King of Kent, at the instance of his sister, Eanswith, who became its first prioress, and

was afterwards canonized. It was demolished by the Danes, and lay in ruins till Nigel de Muneville, after the Norman conquest, converted it into a priory of Benedictine monks. But, in less than forty years, the sea, which had been 560 yards from the building, threatened it so closely, that William of Avranches (the same that Lambarde speaks of,) substituted another monastery, as well as church. This church occupied the site of the present one, which is dedicated to St. Mary and St. Eanswith, who seems to have been considered the patroness of the place, as her figure is engraven on the seal of the Mayor of Folkstone, with a pastoral cross in one hand and ten fishes on a hook in the other; this latter part of the device being emblematical of the main occupation of the inhabitants.

The west end of the church was brought down by a tempest in the beginning of the last century, and the building has never been restored to its original length. It contains two or three very ancient tombs, and also a memorial to the Rev. William Langhorne, Curate of Folkstone, who was brother of the translator of Plutarch, and assisted him in the work.

A still more eminent name is connected with Folkstone – Dr. Harvey, the discoverer of the circulation of the blood, who was a native of the place. John Philipott, the author of the *Villare Cantianum*, was likewise born here. He was Somerset Herald, and bore the same arms as Sir John Philipott, who was knighted by Richard II. for his conduct in the insurrection of Wat Tyler, and

304

who afterwards distinguished himself by conquering John Mercer, a pirate that had much infested the neighbouring seas.

At Sandgate, in the Parish of Folkstone, is the marine villa of the Right Hon. the Countess of Darnley. It is a modern mansion, situated on the right hand entering this place from Folkstone, and is the present residence of Mrs. Deedes. It stands on an eminence, commanding an uninterrupted view of the sea; and in clear weather may be discerned the opposite coast, to a considerable extent, east and west. In the interior are some paintings by Vandervelde, and others. This villa is distant from Folkstone about two miles west, from Dover eight miles and a half, from Hythe two miles and a half east, and from London 69 miles.

Here is also another mansion, situated in the Parish of Cheriton, on the sea-shore, half a mile south-west from the last-mentioned villa. It is the residence of Thomas Twisden Hodges, Esq. late M.P. for Rochester, son of one of the present members (T. L. Hodges, Esq. of Hemsted) for the Western Division of the County.

And a third, which is the residence of Edward Drake Brockman, Esq. Barrister at Law.

Folkstone Church. In the north chancel, a square monument to John Pragell, Esq. four times Mayor of this port and town, and sixteen years Lieutenant of his Majesty's Castle of Sandgate, obiit Nov. 1, 1676, æt. 73: also an inscription to William Hagben, obiit 1628, æt. 42: and another inscription to Henry Phillpott, Gent. thrice Mayor of this town, obiit 15 June, 1603, æt. 59. In the chancel, a brass to Joan, wife of Thomas Harvey, who died Nov. 8th, 1605, aged 50. On the north wall, a monument to Joseph Sladen, Esq. who died 27th Dec. 1826; and Elizabeth, his wife, who died 17th Sept. 1811, aged 60; also Hannah, daughter of the above, who died April 26th, in her 21 year: a small tablet for Caroline, wife of Admiral John Clements, who died at Sandgate, Aug. 15th, 1817, aged 56; also Vice Admiral John Clements, who died in London July 1st, 1825, aged 67: also a very ancient stone figure and monument, but without any date: above it, a small tablet to Charles Henry Flower, son of Austin Flower, Esq. of Madras, who died at Sandgate 11th July, 1820, aged 15. On the south wall, near the altar, a monument to Wilhelmi Read, of Folkstone, Gent. born Nov. 1613, died 30th Oct. 1654; also Alicia, his wife, born 2d April, 1586, died 30th Jan. 1669: near it is an ancient black tablet, but the inscription is effaced: also a monument for William Langhorne, A.M. Vicar of this town, who died 1772. On the east wall, a splendid monument for John Hudson, Armig.

obiit 29 March, 1622; it represents two men in armour, praying, and is richly decorated with armorial bearings.

Encombe, in the Parish of Cheriton, the residence of Henry Dawkins, Esq. is a picturesque villa, seated on an eminence, considerably elevated above the coast, but completely sheltered from the bleak winds by a profusion of shrubberies

305

and plantations. In the approach to the house, by the serpentine carriage-road, the scenery is more beautifully developed at every turn in the ascent.

This spot reminded us strongly of the environs of Ambleside and Rydale. Encombe is situated on the west of Sandgate, and so near to it, that its distances, &c. may be considered the same.

Ivy Cottage, in the Parish of Cheriton, the residence of John William Finch, Esq. Lieut. in the Royal Navy, is a pleasant house, situated on the north side of the Hythe road, half a mile west from Sandgate.

Rectory, Cheriton, the residence of the Rev. J. D. Brockman, is a modern building, of a handsome commanding appearance. It is situated near the church, distant from Sandgate, by the footway, not more than one mile northward, from Beachborough two miles south-east, and from Hythe about two miles.

Underhill, in the Parish of Cheriton, is the residence of Frederick Brockman, Esq. The distance of this seat from the neighbouring towns is the same as of the Rectory in this parish.

Cheriton Church. On the north wall, a small tablet to Susanna Sarah, youngest daughter of Henry Dawkins, Esq. who died Oct. 26th, 1818, aged 21: a beautiful monument for Laura Louisa Wainewright, (only daughter of Arnold Wainewright, Esq. late of Calcot Lodge, Berks,) who died at Sandgate, 30th Sept. 1828, aged 19. On the south wall, in the chancel, a marble tablet to Harriet, wife of the Rev. Julius Drake Brockman, Rector of this parish; she died 1st Aug. 1815, aged 44: near the altar, a tablet to the Rev. Joseph Knapp, who died 22d Dec. 1757, aged 55; also Elizabeth, his wife, daughter of Henry Brockman, Esq. who died 3d June, 1795, aged 80. On the south wall, in the aisle, a monument and figure of a woman, very ancient: likewise a tablet to Mary Brockman, eldest daughter of Henry Brockman, Gent. obiit Feb. 25, 1780, æt. 66: near it, another to Alexander Duncan Cameron, Captain in his Majesty's 95th Rifle Regiment, son of Captain Charles Cameron, of Callart Lochabar, who died 8th April, 1804, aged 22; erected by his brother officers.

Cheriton Church is dedicated to St. Martin.

Beachborough, in the Parish of Newington, the seat of the Rev. William Brockman, M.A. is situated in a park of varied and picturesque scenery. The south front of the mansion has two wings; the portico is supported by four fluted pillars of freestone; the vertical dial in the centre bears the date of 1813. The interior is spacious and elegant; in the collection of paintings are our Saviour, on copper, considered very excellent; artist unknown: and a portrait of Sir William Brockman, the celebrated defender of Maidstone, against the attack of General Fairfax, in 1648. The grounds surrounding this mansion are very beautiful,

306

particularly on the south, and between the east front and the road, where they abound with luxuriant shrubs, and are sheltered by majestic cedars. Northward of the house the park terminates in an abrupt declivity, and to the westward is a hill of a globular form as seen from the north and south, but exhibiting a different shape on the east; upon the summit of which is an elegant summer-house, commanding an extensive and varied panoramic view of the surrounding scenery, comprehending in its circle, a part of the Continental coast. Beachborough is

distant from Folkstone rather more than four miles north-west, from Dover about 11 miles, from Hythe two miles and a half north, and from London 67 miles.

Beachborough, anciently Bilcheborough, formerly belonged to the family of Valoigns, with whom it remained till the daughter of Waretius de Valoigns, at her father's death, in the reign of Edward III. entitled her husband, Sir Francis Fogge, to the possession of it. In his descendants it continued till the end of Elizabeth's reign, when George Fogge, Esq. of Braborne, sold it to Mr. Henry Brockman, (a younger son of the Brockmans, of Witham, in Essex,) who most probably rebuilt the seat. His descendant, Sir William Brockman, greatly signalized himself in defending the town of Maidstone, in 1648, against General Fairfax, with his whole strength. From him this estate descended to James Brockman, Esq. who, dying unmarried in 1767, and being the last male heir of this family, bequeathed it to the Rev. Ralph Drake, with an injunction for him to take the name and arms of Brockman.

Newington Church. The case of the font in this church is of oak, ancient, and curiously carved.

In the chancel, a brass with the following inscription, "Here lieth Henry Brockman, of Bickborough, Esq. Lord of this Manor, who departed this mortal life upon the 28th March, 1630:" a brass, with the figures of four women: another for Margaret, wife of William Brockman, and daughter of Humphrey Clerk, Esq. obiit 5th Feb. 1610, æt. 63: and other brasses for the Brockmans. On the north wall, a neat black marble tablet to Maria, wife of Lieut. Gen. Johnson, born 25th Dec. 1765; died 9th Sept. 1825. Near it another to Lieut. Gen. Wm. Johnson, who died 17th March, 1827, aged 58: there is the following inscription on the wall; "Here lieth buried Mary Sandford, who died 15th Sept. 1621:" also an inscription for the Rev. Thos. Booth, who died 2d Feb. 1650: near the altar, a monument to the Rev. Ralph Drake Brockman, B.D. of Beachborough, obiit 11 Nov. 1781, æt. 57: below it, another to James Drake Brockman, Esq. of Beachborough, obiit 28 Jan. 1832, æt. 69. On the south wall, a monument to James Drake Brockman, of Beachborough, Esq. who died 23d Feb. 1833, aged 65: below it, one to Mrs. Carolina Drake Brockman, of Beachborough, who died Nov. 23d, 1801, aged 75: another to James Brockman, Esq. eldest son of James Drake Brockman, Esq. many years Major in the East Kent Militia, whose death was occasioned by a fall from his horse; he died 14th April, 1829, aged 42: a fine monument to James Brockman, Esq. of Beachborough, who dying a bachelor, and being the last male heir of the Brockmans, of Newington, by his will hath transferred his name and estate to his kinsman, Ralph Drake, clerk, B.D.; he died 19th May, 1807, aged 61. On the east wall, near the altar, a marble monument to William Brockman, Esq. of Beachborough, born 4th Sept. 1658; married Mrs. Anne Glydd; he died 27th Dec. 1730. On the north side of the aisle, a small marble tablet to Catherine Mary Brockman, obiit 28 May, 1806, aged 15.

Newington Church is dedicated to St. Nicholas.

307

Dr. Gale, in his edition of the Itinerary of Antoninus, mentions Roman money having been found at the Village of Newington: and at Milkey-down, in this parish, according to Hasted, three human skeletons were dug up, in 1760, together with remains of glass and coral necklaces of various shapes and sizes.

HUNDRED OF LONINGBOROUGH.

Acrise Place, in the Parish of Acrise, the seat of Thomas Papillon, Esq. a Magistrate and Deputy Lieut. for the County, is situated in a fertile and well-wooded park, and surrounded with beautiful shrubberies and walks. This is an ancient house, bearing on its northern front the date of 1649; the eastern front has been modernized, and has a handsome appearance; the principal front is more ancient. Among the interior decorations are paintings of Oliver Cromwell, by Cooper; and a portrait of the Duke of Alva, supposed by Paul Veronese. Acrise Place is distant from Folkstone five miles north, from Hythe between five and six miles north-east, and about the same distance from Broome Park.

The Manor of Acrise, alias Okeridge, was possessed, in the seventh year of Edward III. by Sir Stephen de Cosenton. A descendant from him, Thomas Cosenton, Esq. dying without male issue, in the reign of Henry VIII. this estate devolved on his youngest daughter, Elizabeth, married to Alexander Hamon, Esq. whose grandson, Alexander, dying in 1613, bequeathed it to his daughter Catherine, the wife of Sir Robert Lewknor. This gentleman's grandson, Robert Lewknor, Esq. alienated it, in 1666, to Thomas Papillon, Esq. of Lubenham, in Leicestershire, (the descendant of a family of some note,) in whose posterity it has since continued.

Rectory, Acrise, the residence of the Rev. Kennett C. Bayley, a Magistrate for the County, (second son of the Right Hon. Sir John Bayley, Bart.) is situated about half a mile north-east from Acrise Place, and about 12 miles from Canterbury.

Acrise Church. In the chancel, at the altar, a brass to Mary, wife of Peter Heyman, of Sellinge, in Kent, daughter and co-heiress of William Tirrell, of Beeches, in Essex, Esq.; she died 7th June, 1601, aged 76: another to Alexander Hamon, Esq. obiit 29 April, 1613. On the north wall, near the altar, a fine monument to William Turner, Armig. of Gray's Inn, London; born 1st Dec. 1660, died 24th Sept. 1729; he married Anna Maria, daughter of Thomas Papillon, Armig.

308

On the east wall, a monument to Mrs. Ann Papillon, late wife of Mr. Philip Papillon, of London, merchant, and eldest daughter of William Jollife, of Carsewell, in the County of Stafford, Esq. obiit Feb. 1692-3; Ann, daughter of the above, died 2d March, 1693-4, aged one year twenty days; also Jane, their first child, born 21, died 25 June, 1690.

Acrise Church is dedicated to St. Martin.

In the Parish of Lyminge, a little to the north of Etching Street, is a spring, which takes its course towards North Lyminge, and being joined there by two other springs, (one of which is called St. Eadburg's Well,) flowing from Lyminge Village, forms the stream commonly called the Nailbourn. This stream, at certain times, when the springs gush forth with rapidity, runs on to a large pond, called Brompton's Pot, and thence, by Barham, into the Little Stour at Bishopsbourne, assuming the appearance of a little river, and at such times is considered, by the vulgar, to betoken scarcity: but commonly it flows no further than Ottinge, about one mile from its source. There are many Nailbourns, or temporary land-springs, in this county, east of Sittingbourne.

Sibton, in the Parish of Lyminge, the property of Edward Honywood, Esq. and the residence of Mrs. Emma West, is a neat house, situated in a small park, and having a north-east aspect. This house bears the date of 1602. Its interior is decorated with the following paintings; a portrait, by Sir Peter Lely; a cobbler, by Gerard Dow; two views of Rome, by Canaletto; a sea view, by Vernet; a landscape, by Claude, &c. Sibton is distant from Hythe about five miles north, and from London about 70 miles.

Sibton, or Sibeton, was formerly held of the Archbishop, by knights' service, by the family of Fitzbernard. In the 34th year of Edward I. Ralph Fitzbernard died possessed of it, and was succeeded by his son, Thomas, who dying s. p. his sister, Margaret, carried it in marriage to Guncelin de Badlesmere; whose son, Giles de Badlesmere, dying without issue, anno 12 Edward III. it then came to his sister, Margaret, wife of Sir John Tiptoft. From his son, Robert Tiptoft, Esq. it passed in marriage to Sir Philip-le-Despencer, and afterwards to Roger Wentworth, Esq. a descendant of whom passed it away to Haut. It went then to the name of Allen, and thence to Sir James Hales, of Canterbury, whose grandson, Sir James Hales, in the reign of Elizabeth, alienated it to Salkeld, from whom it passed to Mr. Nicholas Sawkins, and in this family it remained till Mr. Jacob Sawkins, in 1786, sold it to William Honywood, Esq.

Broad Street House, in the Parish of Lyminge, the residence of the Rev.

Robert Fraser, B.A. is situated one mile south from Sibton.

Broad Street House was for many generations the property and residence of the Sloddens, from whom it passed to Mr. William Rigden.

Stone Hall, in the Parish of Lyminge, the residence of Stephen Kelcey,

309

Jun. Esq. is situated on the east side of Stone Street, about half-way between Hythe and Canterbury.

Lyminge Church is a handsome structure of quarry stone. The arches and pillars between the nave and the north aisle are very elegant.

In the chancel, on the north wall, a tablet to Jane, relict of Richard Tylden, Esq. of the Manor House, Milsted, in this county, who died Sept. 13th, 1836, aged 75; near the altar, a tablet to the Rev. Ralph Price, Rector of this parish, who died 7th July, 1811, aged 66; also Albinia, relict of the above, who died 17th Aug. 1827, aged 75: on the south wall, near the altar, another for Mrs. Catherine Hollway, who died Oct. 23d, 1743; also her son, William Hollway, Esq. late Chief Justice of Gibraltar, who died in London, 1st April, 1767; also Mrs. Maria Hollway, widow of the above Wm. Hollway, who died in London, 5th Feb. 1768, aged 44: another for Ralph Honeywood, Esq. of Sibton, in this parish, third son of William and Mary his wife, who died July 30th, 1820, aged 25: one, near it, to Margaret Anne, youngest daughter of Wm. Honeywood, of Sibton, in this parish, Esq. and of Marks Hall, in Essex, obiit 1st Dec. 1831, æt. 30.

Lyminge Church is dedicated to St. Mary and St. Eadburgh.

HUNDRED OF STOWTING.

Westenhanger, in the Parish of Stanford, the ancient seat of the Poynings family, and more recently that of Thomas Smith, Esq. the Farmer of the Customs of the Port of London, and of his eminent grandson, Sir Thomas Smyth, K.B. was a most magnificent mansion; though of its grandeur, in the noon of its day, but an imperfect idea can be formed from its present state. It contained 126 rooms: the hall was 50 feet long and 32 feet wide, and had at one end a music gallery, and at the other a cloister, which led to the chapel. The remains of it, which have been long converted into a farm-house, are very pleasantly situated on the banks of a rivulet, from which the moat was supplied with water.

Stowting Hill House, in the Parish of Stowting, the residence of Benjamin Andrews, Esq. is situated about six miles north-west from Hythe, and about 10 miles south-west from Canterbury.

Stowting Church. On the north wall, near the altar, a marble monument to Thos. Jenkins, of Stouting Court, Gent. who married Eleanor, daughter of Wm. Hawes, of Salehurst, in

310

the County of Sussex; he died 1674, she died 1696; erected by Thos. Jenkins, 1698: also a brass for Thos. Jenkins, Esq. M.D. 1716: also an inscription for Thos. Jenkins, Gent. of Stouting Court, who died 3d Sept. 1657, aged 49.

Stowting Church is dedicated to St. Mary.

The mansion of Evington, in the Parish of Elmsted, the seat of Sir John Edward Honeywood, Bart. is now rebuilding on the site of the old house. It stands in a small park, about nine miles and a half south from Canterbury, and 65 miles from London.

Evington, or the Yoke of Evington, was anciently the possessions of the family of De Evington.

After this name became extinct here we find it held by the family of Gay, or Le Gay, originally from France, by whom the mansion was much improved, and adorned in the wainscots and windows with nosegays, in allusion to their name. Humphry Gay, Esq. in the beginning of the reign of Henry VII. alienated it to John Honywood, Esq. of Sene, in Newington, near Hythe, a descendant of which eminent family is the present proprietor of the estate. The family of Honywood, anciently Henewood, take their name from the Manor of Henewood, in Postling, where they resided as early as the reign of Henry III.

Elmsted Church. In the chancel, on the south wall, a monument for Mary, youngest daughter of Sir William Honywood, Bart. who died 25th May, 1708, aged 25: another to Thomas Honywood; he first married Jane, daughter of Edward Hales, of Tenterden; his second wife was Margaret, daughter of Francis Buller; he died 4th Dec. 1622, aged 64: another for Sir William Honywood, Bart. who died 8th June, 1748, aged 94; also Dame Anna Christiana Honywood, wife of Sir William Honywood, Bart. second daughter of Richard Newman, of Fifehead Magdel, in Dorset, Esq. interred 3d Nov. 1736, aged 79. On the north wall, a tablet to Sir John Courtenay Honywood, of Evington, in this parish, obiit Sept. 12, 1832, æt. 46: a monument, with a bust, for Sir John Honywood, Bart. of Evington, in this parish; his first wife was Annabella, daughter of William Goodenough, of Langford, Berks, Esq.; his second wife was Dorothy, daughter of Sir Edward Filmer, Bart. who died 7th Oct. 1781, aged 70, and is interred here: and another, with the following Latin inscription: "Expectatione Christi Corpus, Gulielmi Honywood, Filius secundus Thomae Honywood, obiit vicessimo septimo Die Junii Anno Domini Millesimo Sexcentesimo Sexagesimo nono." Here is also a square monument, without inscription: and a brass for Maria, daughter of Thomas Godfrey, and wife of John Honywood, of Elmsted, obiit Nov. 7, 1638.

Mount Morris, in the Parish of Monks Horton, formerly the seat of the eccentric Lord Rokeby, is entirely disparked, and the house in a deserted ruinous state. For a further account of this manor, and the genealogy of the Morris or Rokeby family, see Hasted.

Of Horton Priory nothing now remains but a part of the west entrance to the church, which is elaborately and curiously ornamented with the zig-zag mouldings. This priory was founded for a society of Cluniac Monks, at the

311

beginning of the reign of Henry II. by Robert De Vere, Constable of England, who had become possessed of the Manor of Horton in right of his wife, Adeliza, daughter of Hugo de Montfort. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary and St. John the Evangelist. It fell in the dissolution of the lesser houses; and shortly afterwards most of the buildings, which appear to have been very extensive, were wantonly pulled down. The site of the priory is a very short distance west of the road from Stowting to Sellinge.

Monks Horton Church. On the north wall, a monument to Ursula, daughter of Sir Reginald Scott, of Scotts Hall, Knt. On the south wall, a tablet to Mrs. Sarah Morris; also Thos. Morris, Esq. of Mount Morris, in this parish; he died 3d May, 1717, aged 76: a square monument for George Rooke, Esq. On the east wall, near the altar, a monument to the Rt. Hon. Sir Matthew Robinson Morris, Lord Rokeby, of Mount Morris, in this parish; he died a bachelor, 30th Nov. 1800, aged 88.

HUNDRED OF HEANE.

HYTHE is one of the principal Cinque Ports; and its name, signifying, in Saxon, a haven, seems to imply that the place was once considerable. The harbour, however, is now nearly lost, and the sea-beach is more than half a mile from the town; though, in earlier times, the water probably flowed two miles higher up to Lympne, the supposed site of the Portus Lemanis, and where there are still the ruins of the Roman fortress called Stutfall Castle.

The town of Hythe stands just within the borders of Romney Marsh. Leland

states that East and West Hythe together, (the former is the newest, and now the principal place,) possessed four parish churches and an abbey; most of which were, in his time, in ruins. There is at present but one church; an old building, which contains, in a crypt beneath the altar, a large mass of human bones, for the most part skulls, piled in a heap seven or eight feet high and wide, and 28 feet long. Many of the skulls have deep clefts in them; and the tradition is, that the whole are the remains of the slain in some furious battle between the Danes and Saxons. But there is little or no authority to support the story.

On the road between Hythe and Folkstone is the Village of Sandgate, where there is a castle, almost entirely of modern construction, on the foundations of

312

one erected here by Henry VIII.; as that also was built of a still older fortress, of which mention occurs in the chronicles of Richard II.

Hythe Church. On the north side of the chancel, a marble monument for Julius Deedes, Esq. he was thrice Baron of this town and port, and after Mayor and Captain of the Trained Band; he died 3d Sept. 1692, aged 58; also Anne, relict of the above, who died 2d Feb. 1697, aged 58: near the altar, a memorial of Giles Collyns, Gent. 1586. On the south wall, a monument to Mrs. Robinson Beane, wife of Robinson Beane, of Hythe, Gent.; and Mrs. Anne Beane, their daughter. In the south transept, which bears the date of 1751, are six monuments to the Deedes family: one on the east wall for the Rev. Julius Deedes, A.M. Prebendary of Canterbury, and Rector of Mongeham and Dimchurch, son of William Deedes, M.D. who died April 19th, 1752, aged 59; also Mary, his youngest daughter, who died Sept. 21st, 1752, aged 13; also Dorothy, his wife, who died 2d July, 1755, aged 64: near it, on the south wall, one to Julius Deedes, Esq. who was born in this town, Dec. 27th, 1692, died 11th May, 1750; he married Elizabeth, daughter of Ralph Drake, Esq. of Bletchingly in Surrey; she died 2d July, 1755, aged 64: another to Julius Deedes, only child of Julius Deedes, Esq. of this place, who died Oct. 29, 1741, aged 13; also Margaret Deedes, who died 22d Sept. 1762, aged 67: another, on the west wall, for William Deedes, Esq. of Hythe, and of St. Stephen's, Canterbury, son of the Rev. Julius Deedes, A.M. and Dorothy his wife, who died Nov. 16th, 1793, aged 60; also Mary, his wife, daughter of Thomas Bramston, of Skreens, in the County of Essex, Esq.; she died June 26, 1792, aged 57; also four children of the above William and Mary: another for William Deedes, Esq. of Sandling, obiit April 19, 1834, æt. 73; he was, during the French war, Colonel of the East Kent Volunteers, and, in 1807, was elected one of the Barons of this port, and sat for it in Parliament till 1812; he married Sophia, daughter of Sir Brook William Bridges, Bart. of Goodnestone Park, in this county. In the south aisle, a brass for John Bridgman, 1581. On the north wall, in the nave, a marble tablet to Capt. Robert Finnis, a native of this town, who was killed on board His Majesty's sloop of war, Queen Charlotte, which he commanded, on Lake Erie, in Upper Canada, in an engagement with an American squadron of very superior force, under Commodore Perry, on the 10th Sept. 1813, aged 29. In the north transept, on the wall, a marble tablet to Robert Finnis, Esq. one of the Jurats of this town, who died 9 Aug. 1832, aged 79; also Lieut. Stephen Finnis, of the Bengal Army, who died at Dinapoor, in the East Indies, on the 1st Aug. 1819, aged 21.

Sandling, in the Parish of Saltwood, the seat of William Deedes, Esq. a Magistrate and Deputy Lieutenant for the County, is a modern structure, built towards the end of the last century by William Deedes, Esq. under the direction of Bonomi, the architect. It stands on an elevation in the park, at the distance of a mile from the lodge entrance, on the Hythe and Ashford road. The park is well wooded, and exhibits great diversity of scenery. The house has a stately appearance, and is sheltered from the north-west by plantations and shrubberies.

Sandling is about two miles north-west from Hythe, 10 miles from Ashford, and 65 from London.

The estate of Sandling, or Great Sandling, was purchased, in the reign of

313

Queen Anne, by Henry Deedes, Esq. of Hythe, of Richard Musgrave, Esq. Edward Copley, Esq. and Mrs. Ruth Finch.

About a quarter of a mile from Saltwood Church stand the romantic ruins of Saltwood Castle. The Gate-house, built by Archbishop Courtenay, is a noble pile, having two round towers in front, flanking the entrance: on the south side of the area are the remains of the chapel. Gale supposes that a castle was built here by the Romans, to defend the Port of Hythe: and he further says, that there was a prætorian way which led to this castle from Durolevum; and another from Durovernum, cutting the former at the Village of Leming, and running on to Stutfall Castle. In 1580 an earthquake overthrew a great portion of this castle. Saltwood Castle is said, by Kilburne, to have been first built about 500, by Escus, or Oisc, King of Kent, son of Hengist. We read, in Hasted, that it was afterwards rebuilt by Henry de Essex, Baron of Raleigh, in Essex, in the reign of Henry I. who held the Manor of Saltwood of the Archbishop of Canterbury. He being challenged, by Robert de Montfort, as a traitor for his cowardice in a skirmish with the Welsh, in Flintshire, was vanquished in single combat, and then, relinquishing his estates, retired in disgrace to the abbey at Reading. Upon this Thomas à Becket laid claim to the castle in right of his lordship of the manor; but, in consequence of his dispute with Henry II. it was retained by the Crown, and did not revert to the Archbishops till the reign of John. From this time it was for many years the occasional residence of the Archbishops of Canterbury, and was by them greatly improved and enlarged, and surrounded by a park. The exact time of the founding of the castle docs not appear to be certainly known. It is not mentioned in the record of Domesday, although the church is, therefore we may conclude that no castle was standing here at that time; but it must have existed at the time of Thomas à Becket, for here the knights met and concerted their scheme immediately previous to the assassination of that prelate.

Brockhill, in the Parish of Saltwood, the seat of Thomas Tournay, Esq. is situated in a very picturesque part of this district, less than a mile north-west from Hythe. The house, though of no later date than 1611, has recently been handsomely renewed, and now wears a modern appearance. The pleasure grounds are extremely beautiful and romantic.

Brockhill, or Brockhull, alias Thorne, was the ancient residence of a knightly family, who took their name from it; from a descendant of whom it passed, anno 1437, in marriage to Richard Sellyng. With his son's daughter, Joan, it passed in marriage, in 1498, to John Tournay. The estate being divided in 1608, Thomas Tournay, to whom were allotted the lands southward from the old mansion,

314

built thereon, in 1611, a seat, which he called New Buildings, and in this the present proprietor, Thomas Tournay, Esq. resides. The venerable ruins of the original mansion plainly indicate the antiquity and extent of the structure.

Saltwood Church is in part very ancient. The south doorway exhibits remains of Norman workmanship; but the greater part of the building is of the time of Edward III. In the chancel there is a piscina.

In the chancel, a stone for Jane, daughter of Thomas Boyse, of Marsham, Gent. and wife of Thomas Tournay, the elder, of Saltwood; she died in July, 1653. On the south wall, a monument for Thomas Tournay, of the Buildings, in this parish, Esq. who died Feb. 14th, 1810, aged 54. On the east wall, near the altar, a monument to Thomas Tournay, Gent. who died Oct. 17th, 1712, aged 63; and Mary, his widow, who died March 25th, 1722, aged 71; they had issue 10 children, five of whom lie buried here; also Catherine, widow of William Tournay, son of the above Thomas Tournay; she was daughter of Richard Harvey, and died 4th Feb. 1774, aged 78; they had issue four children, three of whom are interred here; one of them, Robert, married Mary, daughter of Edward Andrews, who died 14th March, 1777, aged 43; he died 10th Feb. 1788.

Saltwood Church is dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul.

FRANCHISE OF BIRCHOLT.

The Manor of Hall, in the Parish of Smeeth, from having been for many generations the residence of the eminent knightly family of Scott, obtained the name of Scott's Hall. The original name of this family appears to have been Baliol. William Baliol, brother of John Baliol, King of Scotland, frequently wrote his name William de Baliol le Scot; and it is probable that, after the contest between his brother John and Edward I., William, in order to avoid the anger of that prince, relinquished the de Baliol, and retained the name of Scot only. The family of Scot (now Scott,) was originally seated in the adjoining Parish of Braborne, from which place Sir William Scott, in the reign of Henry VI. removed to Scott's Hall, and his descendants, for many succeeding generations, men of eminent character and great repute, resided here. The trustees of Francis Talbot Scott, Esq. about the year 1784, at length conveyed this property to Sir John Honeywood, Bart.

315

The remains of this once magnificent mansion stand in a pleasant situation, about one mile south-east from the church, on the descent of the hill, overlooking an extensive prospect. The eastern front is modern, but the northern, which was built in the reign of Henry VIII. still exists, and retains much of its original beauty and grandeur.

The family of Best is allied with this of Scott, by Thomas Best, Esq. of Chilston, marrying Caroline, daughter of George Scott, Esq.

Smeeth Hill House, in the Parish of Smeeth, the residence of Edward Hughes, Esq. is a good house, beautifully situated, and commanding an extensive and interesting prospect towards the south. Among the interior decorations are, a painting of Flowers and Insects by Bosschart; representation of a piece of Mosaic from Pompeii; an old painting of the Reformation, with Martin Luther and sixteen others; and some cuirasses which were brought from the field of Waterloo.

Smeeth Hill House is distant from Hythe about seven miles north-west, from Ashford four miles and a half south-east, and from London about 60 miles.

Smeeth Paddock, in the Parish of Smeeth, the residence of George Hughes, Esq. is situated half a mile west from Smeeth Hill House, on the south side of the Hythe and Ashford road, fronting the south, in which direction it has a good prospect.

Smeeth Paddock is distant from Ashford four miles south-east, and from Hythe six miles and a half.

Smeeth Church is dedicated to St. Mary. The great arch at the east end of the south aisle, is a fine specimen of the Saxon style, and is beautifully carved with the zig-zag ornaments. The north chancel belongs to Scott's Hall.

In the chancel, on the north wall, near the altar, a monument to John Scott, Gent. obiit 6 May, 1833, æt. 74: a fine monument to Priscilla Scott, daughter of Thomas Honeywood, of Elmstead, Knt. wife to Robert Scott, of Meersham, Esq. who died 1648, aged 52; also Mary Scott, wife to Robert Scott, Esq. of Meersham, Esq. and daughter of John Moyle, of Buckwell, Esq. who died Dec. 3d, 1652, aged 64, being formerly married to Richard Godfrey, of Wye, Esq. by whom she had 22 children, whereof 16 were baptized, being the first that made Mrs. Honeywood, of Charing, a great-grandmother in the fifth generation, who lived to see 366 issuing out of her loins. On the south wall, a monument to the Rev. David Ball, M.A. who died June 19, 1823, aged 83; also Elizabeth, his wife, who died Oct. 27, 1817, aged 80; erected by their nephew and niece, John and Sarah Scott.

316

HUNDRED OF LANGPORT.

LYDD. Here is the residence of David Denne, Esq, M.A. a Magistrate and Deputy Lieutenant for the County. This mansion is surrounded by pleasant grounds, which are well planted with ornamental shrubs. It is distant from New Romney four miles south-west, and from London 72 miles.

Lydd Church consists of a nave, three chancels, and three aisles. At the west end is a massive tower, ornamented with four pinnacles.

In the chancel a stone to Mary, wife of Thomas Godfrey, Esq. obiit 19 Jan. 1580. A bust, on the north wall, of Sir Thomas Godfrey; Thomas, his second son, and Sarah, his wife, have erected this memorial: a tablet to Mary Murray, daughter of Mark and Mary S. Kinner, who died July 8th, 1829, aged 36: near it another, for Thomas Cobb, A.M. late Rector of this parish, obiit Aug. 26, 1793, æt. 62; also Hester, his wife, obiit April 8, 1800, æt. 93; underneath is a small tablet for Robert Cobb, Esq. of this parish, son of the above-named Thomas and Hester Cobb, obiit 20 May, 1807, æt. 64; also of Amey Cobb, widow of the above Robert, who died April 19th, 1822, aged 80. On the south wall, a tablet to the Rev. Philip Warburton, M.A. Domestic Chaplain to John Moore, D.D. Archbishop of Canterbury, and Vicar of this parish; he died July 7th, 1821, aged 59: another to David Denne, Esq. of this place; he died 8th Feb. 1819, aged 65: also a finely sculptured monument to Ann Russell, wife of Henry Russell, Esq. who died Nov. 25th, 1780, aged 31; and her only child, Henry, who died 15th Feb. aged 4: also a stone figure and monument for Sir Walter Minneys. (See Hasted.)

Lydd Church is dedicated to All Saints.

HUNDRED OF STREET.

LYMNE, or LYMPNE, is universally acknowledged, (except by Somner,) to have been the Roman station called by Ptolemy LIMHN, and by Antoninus, in his Itinerary, Portus Lemanis, a place at that time of great note. The port was situate at the foot of the hill, on a branch of the River Limene, (now called the Rother,) which once ran hither from Appledore, and gave name to the place; and here also the sea once flowed, though for centuries past the course of the river and the haven have been choked up. To this place from Durovernum ran the Roman road called Stone Street. The fort built by the Romans, in which,

317

in the latter Roman Empire, the "Turnacences" were stationed, is now named Stutfall Castle; Stutfall, in Saxon, signifying the strong fortress. Adjoining the church, on the summit of the hill, stands Lympne Castle, as it is called, commanding a view of the whole of Romney Marsh, and the sea beyond. It is an old embattled structure, with a semicircular tower at the west end. The lower, or fundamental part of the walls, appears much more ancient than the superstructure, which is therefore conjectured to have been erected with the ruins of some Roman building, as there are several Roman tiles interspersed throughout it.

In the Parish of Lympne was the Chapel of our Lady of Court-at-Street, notorious for having been, in the reign of Henry VIII. the early resort of Elizabeth Barton, the Holy Maid of Kent, who pretended to hold conferences in this chapel with the Virgin Mary: afterwards, by enthusiastic ravings, aided by fits to which she was subject, she assumed the prophetess, being encouraged in the imposition by Richard Master, Parson of Aldington. However, having practised the cheat for a length of time, and to a most unwarrantable extent, she, with some of her principal abettors, were executed at Tyburn, anno 25th Henry VIII. For a full account of this extraordinary imposture, see Lambarde's Perambulation, ed. 1596. p. 191.

There is a very remarkable hill, called "Collier's Hill," about three-quarters of a mile from Aldington Fright: it is of a conical shape, high, and stands alone. On the top is a large pond, which has no communication with the springs below, nor has it, even in dry summers, ever been without a good depth of water, although the ponds in the neighbourhood have all been empty.

HUNDRED OF NEWCHURCH.

The remains of Bilsington Priory stand half a mile north of the road from Lympe to Ruckinge. The situation is pleasant, commanding a good view southward over Romney Marsh. The Priory was founded about 1253, by John Mansell, Provost of Beverley, and Chancellor to Henry III. for canons regular of the order of St. Augustine, and endowed by him with the Manor of Bilsington Superior. It continued in existence till the year 1535, when the Prior and convent signed their resignation of it into the king's hands, on the 28th Feb.

318

The last Prior, John Moyse, alias Tenterden, had a yearly pension of £10. after the surrendry. The priory, with its appurtenances, is at present part of the possessions of the See of Canterbury. John Mansell, above-mentioned, was in high favour with Henry III. for his courage and wisdom, and was so loaded with preferments and offices of great trust, that he became exceedingly wealthy, his income amounting to 4000 marks per annum. Matthew Paris says, that when he entertained the Kings of England and Scotland, and many nobles and prelates, at dinner, 700 dishes were barely sufficient for the first course.

Not far from Bilsington Church, there is a monument to the memory of Sir Richard William Cosway, Knt. that was erected by his friends and the Reformers of East Kent, A.D. 1835.

HUNDRED OF OXNEY.

The ISLAND OF OXNEY, Oxenai, Oxene, or Oxenel, at the south-west boundary of this county, adjoining Sussex, is formed by the windings of the River Rother. The name is, by Somner and Lambarde, supposed to be derived from "its foul and miry situation." Drayton, in his Polyolbion, Song 18, calls it "gross, black, and homely." Others, however, think that it received this appellation from the large number of oxen fed on it; which opinion is, in some measure, supported by the sculptures on the old altar that had for years remained in the church of Stone, in this island. This altar was removed from the church and turned into a horse-block, by which it was much defaced and damaged; but, about the year 1760, the Rev. Mr. Gostling, Vicar of Stone, through his respect for antiquity, caused it to be repaired, and placed in the fence of his garden. On each side of the altar, (which was square), was an ox carved in relief; and on the top a hollow that was blackened as if by the fire of sacrifices. There was no inscription on it.

The village of Stone was pillaged and burnt by the Danes in 991.

319

HUNDRED OF ST. MARTIN'S POUNTNEY.

The Town of ROMNEY takes its name from its situation within the fertile tract of pastures called Romney Marsh. The name, Romney, originally written Rumen-ea, is Saxon, and signifies a watery level.

Old Romney is now a very inconsiderable village, and some miles from the sea shore, which has here no vestige of creek or inlet of any kind; though there was formerly a harbour, which, in the time of Alfred, admitted a Danish fleet of 250 vessels. In the reign of the Confessor it seems to have performed the

service of a Cinque Port. But the haven going rapidly to decay, probably about the period of the Conquest, its privileges were transferred to

New Romney. Here likewise the harbour is now entirely lost. Its destruction was completed by a violent change in the course of the River Rother, which had previously skirted the north of the Isle of Oxney, and ran by this town into the sea. "In the reign of Edward II." says Camden, (and again in the next reign, according to Lambard,) "an irruption of the sea over the whole of Romney Marsh, forced the river out of his wonted channel, and opening a nearer outlet for it at Rye, by little and little its waters totally forsook this town." "Rumeney," says Leland, "hath been a metely good haven, in so much that within remembrance of men, ships have come hard up to the town, and cast anchors in one of the churchyards. The sea is now two miles from the town, which is so sore thereby decayed, that, where there were three great parishes and churches sometime, is now scant one well maintained." The single church which remains is a large and ancient building, in great part of Norman architecture.

Romney Marsh would be overflowed by every tide, if it were not for the great embankment called Dymchurch Wall, (from the village of that name,) on the top of which runs the high road from Romney to Hythe. The length of this barrier is upwards of three miles; its height varies from 12 to 18 or 20 feet; at the top it is from 15 to 30 feet wide, and its base towards the sea slopes out to a distance of 100 yards, or more.

The Towns of Romney and Lydd, along with the other parishes included in the Marsh, were incorporated by Edward IV. under the name of Bailiffs, Jurats, and Commonalty of Romney Marsh. This charter still entitles the inhabitants to several immunities, then first granted to them with a view of encouraging settle-

320

ments in a district which, though singularly exuberant under good management, is considered very far from salubrious.

Between Romney and Hythe, near Lympne, is Shepway Cross, which, though now an insignificant village, gives name to this division of the county. Here formerly all causes connected with the Cinque Ports were tried, their affairs in general transacted, and the Lord Warden instituted to his office.

New Romney Church. In the chancel, a brass to Thomas Lamberd, of Romney: also a large stone monument and brass for Thomas Smyth, one of the Jurates of this town, with Elizabeth, his wife, and Elizabeth and Mary, his two daughters; he died 3d Jan. 1610, aged 63: a handsome black marble and stone monument for Thomas Tookey, Gent. obiit 28 March, 1653, æt. 53: also a monument to Richard Baker, 1637. On the north side, a stone monument for John Pix, late of this town, Gent. obiit 4 Dec. 1629, æt. 42. On the south side, a tablet to Odiane Coates, one of the Jurats of this corporation, obiit 5 Feb. 1798, æt. 55. On the east wall, a tablet for Isaac Warquin, M.D. who was born at St. Quentin, in Picardy, in France; he fled from persecution, and found refuge in New Romney, in 1689; he died June 17th, 1725, aged 61: another to Thomas Lancaster, who was Captain of the Militia many years, and Mayor of this Corporation many times, and supported the canopy over Queen Caroline at her coronation; he died 9th Dec. 1728, aged 52; also Mary, his wife, daughter of Mr. Whitfield, of Beddenden; she died 16th May, 1722, aged 47: a monument for Richard Baker, Gent. Jurate, and eight times Mayor of this Corporation; he died 27th April, 1725, aged 74. On the west side, a small tablet for George Children, Esq. who died 12th April, 1812, aged 40: below it, another, to Margaret Children, wife of George Children, Esq. who died 28th May, 1809, aged 49. On the north wall, in the aisle, a monument to Anne, wife of Nicholas Darant, Jurat of this town; she died 23d June, 1722.

New Romney Church is dedicated to St. Nicholas the Bishop.

321

The Lathe of St. Augustine

CONTAINS THE HUNDREDS OF WHITSTABLE, BLEANGATE, WESTGATE, BRIDGE AND PETHAM, KINGHAMFORD, DOWNHAMFORD, RINGSLOW, PRESTON, WINGHAM, EASTRY, CORNILO, AND BEWSBOROUGH; AND THE CITY OF CANTERBURY.

HUNDRED OF WHITSTABLE.

WHITSTABLE is a small but populous village, inhabited chiefly by persons engaged in the oyster fishery and other maritime occupations. There is a brisk trade carried on here in coals, for the supply of Canterbury and its neighbourhood; and hoys sail weekly for the conveyance of agricultural produce to the London market. The church stands on an eminence about half a mile south-east from the village, and gives the name of Church Street to the few adjacent houses.

In the channel between Whitstable and Herne Bay is the celebrated Pan Rock, which has acquired this name from the great quantities of Roman earthen utensils which have been found there by the dredgers. It is traditionally said, and it appears with great probability, that a vessel laden with earthenware was wrecked on this rock; although Governor Pownall endeavoured to shew that it had been the site of a Roman pottery.

Whitstable Church contains, among others, the following memorials:

In the chancel, at the east end, an inscription to Edw. Goneston, Clerk, and Margaret his wife; also Thos. Carlell, Gent. son of William Carlell, Gent. by the said Margaret, daughter of Richard Gaunt, Gent. to whose memory the said Thomas apoynted this inscription, and dyed 14th June, 1680, aged 67. In the north aisle, on the north wall, a tablet to John Knott of this Parish, Gent. who died April 5th, 1829, aged 66. In the south aisle a brass to Joane, daughter of John Meadman, whose first husband was Christopher Goulson, and her second was Thos. Gold; obt. Jan. 8, 1629.

322

HUNDRED OF BLEANGATE.

HERNE BAY stands on a point of the coast about midway between Whitstable and Reculver, two miles north from the village of Herne, and six miles from Canterbury. Attempts have been made within these few years to render this place popular as a summer resort; but hitherto the efforts of its patrons have not been proportionately successful. Its principal feature is the pier, which stretches out three-quarters of a mile into the sea. There is also a handsome clock tower, which was erected at the expense of Mrs. Thwaites, a lady whose philanthropic beneficence has in many other ways greatly benefited the place.

Broomfield House, in the Parish of Herne, the residence of Wm. Cutforth Esq., who erected it in 1829, is a handsome house standing in a commanding situation. The grounds are well laid out and ornamented. Broomfield House is distant from Herne Bay one mile and a half south-east, and from Canterbury about seven miles.

Strode House, in the Parish of Herne, the seat of Geo. May, Esq. a Magistrate and Deputy Lieutenant for the County, is a fine old mansion, situated close to Herne. Its interior is ornamented with paintings of the Italian and Flemish schools. Strode House is distant from Herne Bay one mile and a half south, from Canterbury about six miles, and from London 61 miles.

Herne Church is a large handsome building, with a square tower at the west end. The vicarage of Herne was the first cure of the pious martyr Ridley, to which he was collated in 1538 by Cranmer.

In the chancel, on the south wall, a monument for Samuel Milles, Armig: he married Ann, daughter of Sir Thomas Hales, Bart. and died 1727, aged 70. On the east wall, a monument for Gilbert

Knowler, Esq. of Hern, who died Feb. 23d, 1737, aged 45; and Mary his wife, daughter of William Blandford, citizen of London, who died 28th June 1735, aged 40: also Mrs. Barbara, wife of Gilbert Knowler, of Hern, Esq. who died Jan. 6th, 1805, aged 37; also Gilbert Knowler, Esq. who died Aug. 5th, 1808, aged 77: a fine monument for Robert Knowler of Hearne, in the county of Kent, Gent. and Susan his wife, daughter of Robert Pordage, of Ospringe, Gent. in the same county; she died 18th June, 1631, aged 57, and he died 3d May, 1635, aged 62: a monument for the Rev. Charles Milles, M. A. fourth son of Samuel Milles, Esq., late Rector of Harbledown, in this county, and Minister of Great and Little Walsingham, in the county of Norfolk, who died 24th June, 1749, aged 42; he married Ruth daughter of Robert Brooke, Esq. of Margate, in this county, who likewise is interred here with her two daughters, Catherine and Anne. On the north wall, a very fine monument, enclosed

323

with an iron rail, for Christopher Milles, Armig: he had four wives; Alicia, daughter of Robert Sanders, of Maidstone; Sarah, daughter of Samuel Disbrow; Margaret, daughter of John Boys, of Betshanger; Elizabeth, daughter of Cheney Colepeper, of Leeds Castle, Esq.; he died 10th Dec. 1670, aged 31: near the last a monument for Sir Wm. Thornhurst, Knt. son and heir to Stephen Thornhurst, of Foorde, in this county: the said Sir William married Ann, daughter of the Rt. Hon. Thos. Lord Howard, Viscount Howard, of Bindon, and died 24th July, 1606, aged 31: also a tablet to John Palmer, of Stroud, in this parish, who died 31st Aug. 1803, aged 68. In the chancel are also a brass for John Fineux, Esq. and Margaret his wife, daughter of Thos. Morley, of Glyne, in the county of Sussex; she died 9th Dec. 1591, and he died the July following, 1592: another for Elizabeth, wife of John Fineux, another brass with the figures of a man and woman, very ancient (see Hasted): another for John Seas, of Underdown, in this parish, Esq. who took to wife Martha Hamond, daughter of Thos. Hamond, of St. Alban's Court, in East Kent, Esq.; his second wife was Sarah Boys, daughter of Thos. Boys, of Barfreestone, Gent. obt. 23d Feb. 1604.

Herne Church is dedicated to St. Martin.

At WESTBERE is a handsome house and grounds, the residence of John William Thomas Fagg, Esq. It is situated in the parish of Westbere, distant from Canterbury about four miles north-east, and from London 59 miles.

Westbere Church. In the chancel a stone to George Knatchbull, son of Richard Knatchbull, late of Mersham, Esq. which George married Joane, daughter of Thomas Gilbert, late of Sandwich, Gent. and died 18th Dec. 1619. In the middle aisle, on the north wall, a tablet to the Rev. Wheeler Twyman M.A. Rector of Luddenham and Vicar of Sturry, who died Nov. 25th, 1779, aged 65. A monument for Henry Twyman, of Rushborne; he married Ann, daughter of Anthony Hammond, of St. Albans, and died Sept. 11th, 1677, aged 43: and another for Mr. Anthony Twyman, Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge, and Master of the Revels in Ireland; he died Sept. 1722, aged 42; and Hammond Twyman, Gent. of Rushborne, who died 20th Feb, 1722, aged 61.

Westbere Church is dedicated to All Saints.

Old Tree House, in the parish of Hoath, the residence of James Collard, Esq. is situated one mile north-west from Chislett Court, three miles from Herne Bay, and between six and seven miles north-east from Canterbury.

Chislett Court, in the parish of Chislett, the residence of Thos. Wood, Esq., is situated near the church, distant from Ramsgate rather more than 10 miles west, from Herne Bay about five miles south-east, and from Canterbury seven miles.

The manor of Chislett, or Cistelet, was given by King Ethelbert to the monastery of St. Augustine, at the time of its foundation in the year 605. It continued in possession of the Abbot and convent till the dissolution; after which Henry the Eighth granted it to the Archbishop of Canterbury, and by his successors the

324

fee of it is still inherited. The demesne lands and the Court Lodge are from time to time demised on a beneficial lease.

Grove Hill, in the Parish of Chisleth, the seat of Mrs. Frances Denne, widow of Thos. Denne, Esq. is situated near Ferry Hill on the west, and commands some good views over land and sea. This is a handsome substantial mansion, with beautiful gardens and extensive grounds, beneath the southern boundary of which flows the river Stour. In the interior of the house are some excellent family portraits by Sir Peter Lely and others. It is distant from Canterbury about six miles north-east.

This mansion was built by a brother of Thomas Denne, Esq. of Chisleth, about the year 1769; which Thomas Denne, Esq. afterwards succeeded to it, and at his death bequeathed it to his only son and heir, Thos. Denne, Esq. of Grove Hill, who married the daughter of Geo. Slater, Esq. M.D. of Margate, a gentleman who stood high in his profession, and was most exemplary in discharging the several duties of life.

We may here remark, that the family of Denne claims a very early antiquity, the present Geo. Denne, Esq. son of Mrs. F. Denne, of Grove Hill, being lineally descended from Robert de Den or Dene, surnamed Pincerna, who was butler or sewer to Edward the Confessor. Several of the posterity of Robert de Den stand conspicuous in history for eminent services rendered their country, both in the senate and the field. Ralph de Dene, Lord of Buckhurst, grandson of Robert, was the founder of Bayham Abbey, and his immediate descendants were also great benefactors to that monastery. The history of Sir Alured de Denne (who lived in the time of King John) is too familiar to the readers of Kentish annals to need a recapitulation here, which at most would be necessarily very brief.

Ferry Hill, in the Parish of Chisleth, the residence of Mrs. Mary Denne, is a handsome house, pleasantly situated on the left of the Canterbury Road, entering Upstreet from Ramsgate. It is the same distance from Canterbury as Grove Hill.

Chisleth Church. In the chancel a stone to Edward Owen, M.A. Vicar of this Parish and of Walmer, in the county of Kent, and Archdeacon of St. David's, son of Edward Owen, Esq. of the Royal Marines, and Anne his wife; born Aug. 25th, 1784, died April 27th, 1833. In the chancel, on the south wall, a tablet to Ann, wife of John Wise, and only daughter of John Denne, Esq. of Chisleth Court, who died Dec. 21st, 1811, aged 27; also John Denne, Esq. eldest son of the above-named John Denne, who died 10th Feb. 1812, and lies buried at Funchall, in the Isle of Madeira, aged 29: below this, one to Anne, widow of Edward Owen, Esq. Major in the Royal Marines, and daughter of John Barker, Esq. Rear Admiral of the White, who died 26th April, 1825, aged 80; erected by her only son, Vicar of this parish: another to Sarah, widow of John Wood, Esq. relict of

325

Austin Neame, Esq. who died Dec. 23d, 1835, aged 91: another to John Wood, Esq. Captain of the 4th or King's own Regiment; he died at Manfra, in Portugal, Jan. 10th, 1811, and was buried at Torres Vedras, aged 32: a monument for Stephen Hunt, late of this parish, Gent. and eldest son of Jonas Hunt; he died 4th Aug. 1680, aged 39. On the north wall, a monument for Elizabeth, wife of Thos. Jones, of Chisleth Court, Esq. who died May 4th, 1724, aged 69; also Mary Jones, daughter of the above, who died 11th Oct. 1728, aged 31; also Wm. Jones, Gent. son of the above Thos. Jones, who died Dec. 2d, 1739, aged 38: a fine monument for Thos. Jones, Esq. late of Chisleth Court, who died 1st June, 1760, aged 90; also Martha, wife of Thos. Jones, Esq. who died Oct. 8th, 1770, aged 93: another for Geo. Denne, Esq. formerly of Chisleth Court, and late of the Paddock, Canterbury, who died 31st March, 1819, aged 34: a tablet for Jane Denne, late wife of John Denne, of Chisleth Court, Esq. who died 12th March, 1800, aged 55; also John Denne, Esq. who died 26th Aug. 1813: and a mural monument to the family of Denne, of Grove Hill. In the middle aisle, on the north side, a tablet to Austin Neame, formerly of this parish, but late of Chatham, who died Dec. 1st, 1813, aged 64.

Chisleth Church is dedicated to St. Mary.

HUNDRED OF RINGSLOW, OR THANET.

Vicarage, Monkton, is the residence of the Rev. Rich. Peter Wish, M.A. Vicar of Monkton, with the chapel of Birchington and Acol annexed. It stands a very short distance north-west from the church.

Walters Hall, in the Parish of Monkton, is the residence of John Jessard, Esq. This house was erected by Capt. Proud about the year 1700. It is distant from Ramsgate about six miles west, from Margate between six and seven miles, and from Canterbury 11 miles.

Cleve Court, in the Parish of Monkton, the property and residence of Benjamin Bushell, Esq. is a pleasant house well sheltered from the west by fine timber, which is the more remarkable in this situation on account of the scarcity of wood throughout the island. It is distant from Ramsgate five miles west, and from Margate about as far.

Cleve Court formerly belonged to the family of Quekes, of Birchington, and from them it passed in marriage, in the reign of Henry VII. to that of Crispe. By descendants of these it was sold to one Ruish, a daughter of whom carried it in marriage, in the reign of Chas. I. to Sir George Wentworth, and with a female heir of this line it passed in like manner to Thomas Lord Howard, of Effingham, who about 1723 sold his estates in this island, and Cleve Court came into the hands of Mr. James

326

Ruck, of London, who built the present seat. His son sold it about 1748 to Mr. Josiah Farrer, of Doctors' Commons, Proctor, who died in 1762, and his son, Josias Fuller Farrer, Esq. then inherited it.

Monkton Church is dedicated to St. Mary Magdalene. There still remain in the chancel 12 old stalls.

In the chancel, on the south wall, a tablet to James White, Gent. late of the Parsonage in this parish, who died 2d Mar. 1801, aged 59; also Margaret his wife, daughter of John Collard, Gent. of Bromfield, in the parish of Hearn, who died Sept. 12th, 1823, aged 75. In the middle aisle, south wall, a monument to Thomas Denne, of the Ville of Sarr, who died 16th Mar. 1821, aged 54; he married Mary, only child of the late Henry Collard, Esq. of Gore Street, in this parish, who died June 18th, 1800, aged 34, by whom he had issue one son, who died Apl. 13th, 1797, aged 11 mos. and two daughters, Mary Eliz. married to the Rev. John Hilton, and Jane, who died Nov. 14th, 1817, aged 23; his second wife was Mary, daughter of Geo. Slater, Esq. of Margate. In this aisle there is a brass to the memory of Tebbir Orchard. In the vestry room, on the west wall, is a brass for Nicholas Robinson, Gent. who died 23d June, 1594: and one for Christopher Blackenden, and Margaret his wife, 1554.

The Church of St. Nicholas-at-Wade is a good building. Between the nave and the south aisle are three beautiful Saxon arches. Of the monuments we select the following:

In the chancel, on the south wall, a fine monument to Mary, daughter of Thos. Cullen, Gent. and wife of Moses Napleton, Gent. of this parish, who died Oct. 9th, 1669, aged 32; and others of this family: near this another to Thos. Gillow, Esq. who died 16th Sept. 1824, aged 68; also Elizabeth his wife, daughter of the late Edw. Bridges, Esq. of this parish, who died 6th Nov. 1831, aged 70; and Edward their son, who died 8th Aug. 1821, aged 19: and a small tablet to other members of the Gillow family. In the north chancel, south side, a tablet to Thos. Bridges, Esq. In the south aisle, on the south wall, a fine monument to Edw. Hannis, Esq. late of this parish, son of Chas. Hannis, of St. Andrew's Holbourn, in the county of Middx. Gent. who died 23d Mar. 1750, aged 55; he married Eliz. daughter of Michael Terry, of Ospringe, Gent. who died 2d June, 1756, aged 49; they had issue five sons, Edw., Charles, John, James, Charles; and three daughters, Eliz, Mary, and Maria, who are interred in the same vault. In the middle aisle, south side, a monument to Stephen Jessard, late of this parish, who died 3d Sept. 1768, aged 80; also Mary his wife, daughter of Mary and Henry

Collard, of Chislett, who died 10th July, 1761, aged 69; also Henry Jessard, grandson of the above, who died Oct. 18th, 1805, aged 53; and Mary Jessard, sister of the above Henry Jessard, who died 1st Feb. 1821, aged 66: a fine monument to Thos. Bridges, Esq. who died 16th Dec. 1777, aged 62; also Anne his second wife, who died 16th May, 1758: a tablet to Thos. Everden, of Bartletts, in this parish, who died 20th June, 1820, aged 70; also Mary his wife, who died 19th Jan. 1825, aged 76. In the chancel, on the north wall, an old monument to Margaret, daughter of Wm. Willoughby, and wife of Thos. Paramore, 1627: a fine monument to John Bridges, of St. Nicholas Court, Esq. who died 7th Apl. 1823, aged 63; also two sons of the above; Eliz. his wife, daughter of Thos. Denne, of Monkton Court, Esq. caused this monument to be erected: another to Thos. Paramor, who had four wives; he died 9th Oct. 1593, aged 67.

327

Birchington. Adjoining the shore of this parish is Hemming's Bay, most probably so named, says Hasted, from the Danish chieftain Hemming, who with his companion Anlef, landed their forces in this island in the year 1009.

Birchington Place, in the Parish of Birchington, the seat of John Friend, Esq. a Magistrate for the County, and also for the Cinque Ports, is a handsome mansion, having been considerably enlarged and beautified by the present proprietor. The interior is exceedingly elegant and well furnished. In the hall are some family portraits; and in the drawing-room a curious antique cabinet, in the centre of which is a fine mosaic landscape, with cameos, supposed to be more than 300 years old. The furniture is of oak, curiously carved, and apparently of the same age. Birchington Place stands on the left of the Margate road entering the village of Birchington: its distance from Margate is about three miles west, from Ramsgate six miles, from Canterbury 13 miles, and from London 68 miles.

Quex Park, in the Parish of Birchington, the seat of John Powell Powell, Esq. is of greater extent, as a park, than any other in the Isle of Thanet. In the park are several ornamental buildings, and among them a tower, in which is an harmonious chime of bells, and some of the guns of the Royal George. The house is spacious and handsome, and contains some good paintings, several busts, including a laughing Democritus, &c. &c. Quex Park is distant from Margate nearly four miles south-west, from Ramsgate rather more than five miles north-west, from Canterbury about 13 miles, and from London 68 miles.

The manor of Quex or Quekes was anciently the seat of a family who gave name to it: from them it passed by marriage in the reign of Henry VII. to the eminent family of Crispe, a descendant of whom died in 1680, leaving four daughters, his co-heirs, when this seat, on a division of their inheritance, became the property of Richard Breton, Esq. who had married Maria Adriana, the eldest of them. He sold it immediately to Edwin Wiat, Esq. who alienated it to John Buller, Esq. of Morvall, in Cornwall, whose son William dying without issue, the reversion of it (his widow being entitled to it for life) was sold to Sir Robert Furnese, Bart. and his daughter Catherine, Countess of Guildford, sold it in 1767 to Henry Fox Lord Holland. Lord Holland transferred it to his second son, the Honourable C. J. Fox, and he passed it away to John Powell, Esq. who rebuilt the greater part of the seat. Mr. Powell died without issue, and his sister, the wife of William Roberts, Esq. then inherited it, and to them succeeded their son Arthur, who thereupon assumed the name of Powell. At this house King William III. was accustomed to stay while waiting for a favourable wind to embark for Holland, and his chair is still preserved here. There was formerly a vineyard in the gardens of Quex Park.

Birchington Church consists of a nave, two aisles, and three chancels. The east window is large and handsome. The north chancel is the chapel of the ancient estate of Quex. In this church are the following interesting monuments:

328

In the Quex chancel, on the south side, a fine monument to Marie, eldest daughter of Syr Anthony Colepepyr, of Bedgebury, descended of the honourable family of the Lords Dacre; she married Henry

Crispe, of Queax, Esq. A. D. 1618. On the north wall, a large monument to Dame Ann Powle, only daughter and heiress of Sir Nicholas Crispe, of Quex, Knt. and relict of Sir Richard Powle, K.B.; she died Dec. 1707, leaving issue John Powle, of Lincoln's Inn, Esq. who died unmarried 21st Feb. 1740; also to Sir Nicholas Crispe, of Quex, Knt. who died Nov. 1654; he was the only son of Henry Crispe, Esq. of Quex, who died 1663; also to Henry Crispe, Esq. formerly of Dover, who died 1678; also to Thomasine, daughter of Thomas Denne, of Denne Hill, Esq. and wife of Sir Nicholas Crispe, of Quex, Knt. who died Mar. 1679; and to Thomas Crispe, Esq. who died Jan. 1757: another to Anna Gerbury Crispe, fourth daughter and one of the co-heiresses of Thomas Crispe, Esq. of Quex, who died 230 Mar. 1708, and who by her will, dated Feb. 13th 1707, devised to the overseers and the poor of Birchington and Ville of Acoll, and their successors for ever, 47 acres of land in Birchington and Monkton, then on lease at £18. per ann. to pay to Ellen Window for life £3. to the clerk of the parish, £20. to keep clean the aisle and monuments belonging to Quex; to three widows of Birchington £3. to two widows of Acoll £2. for wearing apparel to appear at church; to keep at school with dame or master 12 boys and 12 girls, to give to each at leaving the school a Bible; the overseers to take yearly 10s. to dispose the remaining money for binding a schoolboy apprentice; that the overseers fix up a yearly account of receipts and payments, and pass the same before a Justice of Peace. This monument, pursuant to the will, erected by Frances Wiat (wife of Edwin Wiat, of Boxley, Serjt. at Law) her sister and executrix. A fine monument, with six busts, and under each an inscription, for Sir Henry Crispe, of Queaks, and John Crispe, Esq. his son and heir, and Sir Henry Crispe, of Queaks, only son of John Crispe aforesaid; Sir Henry, the grandfather, married first one of the daughters of Thos. Scott, of Scott's Hall, Esq.; Sir Henry married also for his second wife, Ann, daughter of John Haslehurst, Esq.; he died 1575. John, son of Sir Henry Crispe, first married Margaret, daughter of Thos. Harlackenden; she died 1576; his second wife was Elizabeth, daughter of Thos. Roper, of Eltham, Esq.; she died 1626. Sir Henry Crispe, of Queaks, Knt. married Ann, daughter of Thos. Nevin, Esq. of Eastrie, and she died 1609. Sir Henry Crispe, Knt. married his first wife, Marie, daughter of Sir Edward Monings, of Waldershare, near Dover; she died 1606. A curious old stone monument, with two full length figures recumbent, in excellent preservation, but no inscription: a stone to Anna, only daughter and heiress of Sir Nicholas Crispe of Queax, Knt. and widow of Sir Rich. Powle, Knt. of the Bath, who died 27th Dec. 1707: another to Anne, wife of Roger Smith, Gent. and third daughter of Sir Anthony Colepepyr, of Bedgebury, Knt. who died Feb. 26th, 1636. In the north aisle, on the west wall, a monument to John Friend and Mary his wife; he died Aug. 4th, 1792, aged 71, and she died Oct. 26th, 1784, aged 61; also Mary, wife of John Friend, jun. who died 20th Sept. 1803, aged 40; also Mary, daughter of the above John and Mary Friend, who died 18th Mar. 1801, aged 17; also Sarah, daughter of Geo. and Phœbe Friend, who died Mar. 3d, 1807, aged 22; also the Rev. Henry Friend, late Vicar of East Farleigh, in this county, who died Aug. 5th, 1811, aged 53; also Phœbe, wife of Geo. Friend, who died May 14th, 1812, aged 52; also Geo. Friend, Esq. who died Nov. 5th, 1813, aged 66; and John Friend Esq. of Brooks End, in this parish, who died Apl. 3d, 1817, aged 64. On the north wall, another to Elizabeth Friend, of this parish, who died 23d Feb. 1827, aged 70; also Mary, wife of E. Taddy, Esq. of Margate, and daughter of the above, who died 31st Oct. 1828, aged 70; also Geo. Friend, Esq. of London, formerly of this parish, who died July 31st, 1831, aged 41; and Sarah, relict of Upton Jennings, Esq. and sister of the first named, who died Mar. 4th, 1834, aged 51.

Birchington Church is dedicated to All Saints.

329

Margate, like most of the sea bathing places in the kingdom, which chiefly depend on the resort of summer company, has grown into a considerable town since the middle of the last century. It was previously little more than a fishing village, though from an early period a member of the port of Dover; and even in Leland's time there was a pier, which he speaks of as being "sore decayed."

The pier was built to protect the lower part of the town, as well as the harbour, after the sea had worn away the sides of the little creek which formerly gave shelter to the fishing vessels. This work, in the time of Elizabeth, was maintained by the levy of certain duties upon the merchandize imported. But the exaction of these was afterwards so much neglected, that several acts of Parliament became requisite to enforce their payment and otherwise provide for

the security and improvement of the haven. Under the acts of 1787 and 1799, the pier was rebuilt with stone and extended so as considerably to enlarge the harbour; and the increased traffic of the place now employs about 100 vessels of various kinds, steam packets, boats, hoys, &c. Great quantities of corn from the Isle of Thanet are shipped here for the London market, which is also supplied from hence with an abundant variety of fish.

About the middle of the last century the town began to wear a gay and fashionable appearance, and as its visitors grew numerous, handsome buildings were soon ready for their accommodation. Cecil Square, (from the name of one of the gentlemen who built it on speculation), was the first to rise, about 1769. Here are the assembly rooms – an elegant stone building of the Ionic order, adorned with a piazza; and adjoining to it is the Royal Hotel, suitably furnished for the highest company. Soon afterwards was erected Hawley Square on a field belonging to Sir Henry Hawley, Bart. near which is the Theatre Royal. Every year adds something to the splendour and extent of the place.

The bathing rooms are near the harbour, facing the fine level beach, which extends several miles under the cliffs, and forms, when the tide is out, one of the fashionable promenades of the town. But the favourite walk is the pier; which, while the season is at its height, is often crowded on the fine summer evenings with a motley company of all ranks, enjoying the bustle of the harbour and the frequent fresh influx of visitors from the numerous packets and steam boats that ply daily between Margate and the metropolis.

On one part of the pier a marble tablet records the memorable preservation of the York East Indiaman, which, in a storm on the 1st of Jan. 1779, was forced from her anchors, (when lying homeward bound in Queen's Channel,) and

330

driven close up to the pier, on which the passengers and crew were all safely landed. The ship was got off and afterwards repaired.

The situation of Margate so much exposes it to the north and east, that it has often received considerable injury from tempests. The harbour, it is observed, so directly fronts the Northern Ocean, that a ship, steering north half east, may run from hence to the coast of Greenland, a course of 1385 miles, without touching land.

The heights, on which a small battery has been erected, just above the town, commands extensive and beautiful views.

The church stands high on the east side of the town. It is a spacious edifice, and evinces by its antiquity that Margate must long ago have been no inconsiderable place. Some of the arches are semicircular, and ornamented in the Norman style.

Grove House, Dandelion, or Dent de Lion, in the Parish of St. John, Margate, is the residence of William Charles Lever Keene, Esq. barrister at law, and Justice of the Peace for the Cinque Ports, and the property of J. P. Powell, Esq. of Quex Park. It is a good house, and very pleasantly situated; and possesses a degree of interest as having been the residence, during the latter part of his life, of that gallant officer Sir Thomas Staines, K.C.B. Here are a few pictures by the old masters, among which we observed, more particularly worthy of notice, a landscape, by Both; Holy Family, by Caracci; Group of Reptiles and Insects, by Otho Marcellus; Landscape, by Teniers; Warrior's Head, by Salvator Rosa; Boar Hunt, by Hondius; and a River View, by Van Goyen. Mr. Keene has also two suits of ancient armour, and several clubs and other weapons used in warfare by the native tribes of Africa and America.

Nothing remains of the old mansion of Dent de Lion but the gate house, which stands at some little distance from Mr. Keene's residence, and forms the entrance to the farm. It is built with alternate courses of brick and flints, embattled, and has a small square tower at each angle. Over the archway is a shield of the arms of Dent de Lion. In 1703, there was discovered, under one

side of the gate, a room capable of containing eight or ten men, and under the opposite side a well prison.

Dent de Lion was the seat of the ancient family of that name, who flourished here in the time of Edward I. and who were called at different later periods Danndelion, Daundelyoun, and Daundeleon. John Dandelyon, the last male heir of the line, died in 1445, and this estate then passed in marriage with his

331

only daughter to the family of Pettit. Subsequently it was purchased by Henry Fox Lord Holland, who transferred it to his second son the Hon. Chas. J. Fox, and he shortly afterwards conveyed it to John Powell, Esq. with whose descendants it has since remained.

Harts-down House, in the Parish of St. John, Margate, is the residence of Chas. T. Hatfield, Esq. The situation is very pleasant, and the grounds are well laid out. It is distant from Margate about one mile south-west, from Ramsgate four miles north-west, from Canterbury 16 miles, and from London 71 miles.

At Union Crescent, Margate, is the residence of Mrs. Turner Brown.

At Fort Crescent, Margate, is the residence of the Rev. Francis Barrow, M.A. a Magistrate for the County and for the Cinque Ports, and Chaplain to the Most Noble the Marquis of Huntley.

North Down Hall, in the Parish of St. John, Margate, the residence of Thos. Blackburn, Jun. Esq. is situated near North Down House, on the south. It stands in a sheltered situation, so much below the general level of the country hereabouts, as not to be seen but on a very near approach. Its distance, bearing, &c. is the same as of North Down House.

North Down House, in the Parish of St. John's, Margate, is the seat of Major Sir John Whale, by whom it was considerably enlarged and improved about 18 years ago. Amongst the paintings are a Clelia crossing the Tiber, by Balen; The Burning of Cupid's Arrows, by Guido; Duke of Richmond in the time of Charles the First, (artist not known), &c. Sir John Whale entered the service in 1780, was Captain for many years in the Life Guards, and after the Battle of Waterloo he was promoted to a Majority in the 16th Lancers. North Down House is situated one mile and a half south-east from Margate, three miles and a half north from Ramsgate, and about 72 miles from London.

The Church of St. John's, Margate, contains, among others, the following memorials:

In the chancel, on the south wall, a monument to Wm. Hunter, Surgeon of H.M. Forces, who died Feb. 1785, aged 75; also Margaret, his wife, daughter of Peter Smart, Esq. of Hall Place, East Barming, who died Sept. 1792, aged 75; likewise their son, Robt. Edwd. Hunter, M.D. who died 6th June, 1824, aged 69; also Maria, his wife, who died 23d May, 1813, aged 48; also Robt. Edwd. Hunter, Lieut. R. N. who died 30th June, 1824, aged 39; and Margaret Hunter, daughter of Robt. Edwd. and Maria Hunter, who died in her infancy: a tablet to Mary, wife of Edwd. Boys, Esq. of Salmstone Grange, in this parish, who died 5th June, 1792, aged 44: above this, one to Letitia, wife of Robt. Brooke, Esq. of Margate, who died 12th Aug. 1823, aged 40: another for the Rev. Wm. Chapman, A.M. who died 17th Sept. 1810: a monument for Henry Crisp, Esq. of Quex, 1588: another for Paul Cleybroke, of Nash Court, in this parish, and Maria, his wife, daughter of Richd. Knatchbull, of Meresham, in Kent, Esq.; he died 24th Aug. 1622, she died 9th Oct. 1624:

332

another for Wm. Payn, of this parish, and of the family of the Payns, of Shottenden, in this county, who died 12th Feb. 1716, aged 55; erected by Ann, his sister. On the north side, a tablet for Ann Turner Brown, only child of the late Jas. Brown, of Chapel Hill House, Esq. and Ann his wife; she died 5th Mar. 1838, aged 68: near this, one to Ann, wife of Jacob Sawkins, Esq. relict of Jas. Brown, Esq. daughter and sole heiress of Capt. David Turner, formerly of Nash Court, in this parish, who died 1st Feb. 1810, aged 58; also the above named Jacob Sawkins, Esq. who died in London, Jan. 30th,

1819, aged 65, and was interred at Camberwell, in Surrey: another for Francis Foster, Esq. of this parish, who died 24th Feb. 1835, aged 63: a monument to Robt. Brooke, Merchant, and Sarah his wife, daughter of Gilbert Knowler, of Strood House, in Hearn, in this county, Esq.; he died 30th Sept. 1767, aged 83; erected by their daughter, Ann Brooke: a tablet to John Jarvis, Lieut. R. N. who died 25th Aug. 1789, aged 54; and Ann, his wife, who died May 15th, 1800, aged 63: another to Daniel Jarvis, Esq. M.D. who died 18th Mar. 1833, aged 67: a monument for Valentine Petit, late of this parish, Gent. and Mary, his wife, daughter of Thos. Clyve, Gent.; he died 3d July, 1626, she died 28th Apl. 1609. On the east wall, a tablet to Ann, daughter of Jacob and Ann Sawkins, who died 21st Feb. 1818, aged 32; erected by her sister, Ann Turner Brown: a monument to Henry Petit, of Dent de Lion, and Ann, daughter of Thos. Finch, of Coptre, Esq. wife of Henry Petit; obiit 6 Jun. 1656, æt. 31: another to Capt. John Petit, of the ancient family of this name, of Dent de Lion, who died Feb. 7th, 1700. In this chancel is also a brass to the Norwood family, 1557. In the south chancel, on the north side, a most beautiful monument to Sir Thos. Staines, of Dent de Lion, in this parish, a Post Capt. in H. M. R. N. K.C.B. Knt. Commander of the Royal Sicilian Order of St. Ferdinand and Merit, a Knt. of the Imperial Order of the Crescent, who died 13th July, 1830, aged 56; also Sarah Tournay Bargrave, widow of the above, and wife of Geo. Gunning, Esq. of Dent de Lion and Frindsbury, in this county, who died 25th Jan. 1832, aged 47. In the south aisle, on the south wall, a tablet to Dame Eliz. Rich, relict of the late Sir Rob. Rich, who died 22d July, 1788, aged 48, wife of Jas. Walker, Esq. of this place, who erected this to her memory. On the north wall a tablet to Nathaniel Hodges, Esq. who died 29th Sept. 1806, aged 63; also James, his eldest son, who died at Bengal, in the E. Indies, Oct. 21st, 1804, aged 24: another to Eliz. relict of the late John Leach, Esq. of Stamford Hill, Middlesex, who died Oct. 12th, 1825, aged 69: and one for Lewis Agassiz, Esq. late of this parish, who died Sept 29th, 1807, aged 70; and Mary, his widow, who died June 22d, 1810, aged 69. In the nave, on the south side, a tablet to Thos. Walker, Esq. of this parish, who died 7th November, 1815, aged 63: another to Thos. Clements Eyeham, Esq. of this parish, who died 26th Sept. 1837, aged 75; and Genevieve Eliz. his wife, who died 23d June, 1835, aged 66: a monument to Jas. Taddy, Esq. of the Dane, in this parish, who died Oct. 17th, 1764, aged 54; and Sarah his wife, who died Oct. 23, 1793, aged 77; and others of this family: and a tablet to John Gore, Esq. who died 7th Apl. 1836, aged 59. On the north side a neat monument for Lieut. Col. John Robert Coghlan, K.T.S. 61st Regt. of Infantry, who after having distinguished himself in the battles of Talavera, Vittoria, the Pyrennees, Nivelle, Nive, and Orthes, fell gloriously leading on his regiment to the heights of Toulouse, 10th Apl. 1814; he was born July 29th, 1782; erected by his brother Robert: another for Frances, wife of Geo. Slater, Esq. who died 20th Apl. 1817, aged 75; also Geo. Slater, Esq. son of the above named G. Slater, Esq. who died 28th Oct. 1817, aged 44; and Geo. Slater, Esq. who died 1st Dec. 1822, aged 84: a tablet to John Garden, Esq. eldest son of Sir John Craven Garden, Bart. of Ireland, who died 10th Aug. 1794, aged 18: another to Eliz. wife of Wm. Phelps, Esq. of London, who died Oct. 8th, 1828, aged 73: and one to Edward Dering, Esq. of this town, who died 10th June, 1836, aged 57; and Margaret Dering, sister of the above, and daughter of the late Edwd. Dering, Esq. of Doddington, in this county.

333

St. Peters. In the eastern part of this Parish, near the cliffs, about mid-way between the North Foreland Lighthouse and Kingsgate, are two large barrows or tumuli, called Hackenden Banks, which tradition says, mark the graves of the English and Danes who were slain in battle here: probably, as Lewis conjectures, in that battle, fought A.D. 853, between the Danes, who had invaded the island with a considerable force, and Alcher, Earl of Kent, assisted by Earl Huda with the men of Surrey, which ended in the discomfiture of the Danes. In 1743 the larger one of these barrows was opened, and a little below the surface of the ground, cut out of the solid chalk, were found several graves containing skeletons of men, women, and children, and three large urns of very coarse earth, that crumbled on being exposed to the air. In 1765 the smaller one was opened by order of Lord Holland, and in it were found numerous small graves as in the larger, but no urns.

We may here remark, that the contents of these tumuli, if the account given above is correct, go far to disprove the popular tradition: for it appears improbable that the skeletons of women and children should be intermingled with those

of men slain in battle.

Sackett's Hill House, in the Parish of St. Peter's, the seat of Sir Richard Burton, is situated three-quarters of a mile north-west from Dane Court. Standing on an elevated site, it commands extensive and interesting prospects. Amongst the interior decorations are four fine paintings of the battles of Prince Eugene, by Vander Meulen; the battle of Trafalgar, by Huggins; Charles 1st, by Vandyck; Oliver Cromwell, an original painting; two family portraits, by Sir Godfrey Kneller, &c. Sackett's Hill House is distant from Margate not quite two miles south-east, from Ramsgate three miles north-west, and from London about 72 miles.

Dane Court, in the Parish of St. Peter's, the seat of Robt. Sackett Tomlin, Esq. is a handsome ancient mansion, in a low situation, well sheltered by lofty timber, and surrounded with highly ornamented grounds. Lewis, in his History of Thanet, written 100 years ago, states Dane Court to be a gentleman's seat of good antiquity. Dane Court stands near St. Peter's Church on the west, distant two miles south-east from Margate, rather more than two miles north from Ramsgate, 17 miles from Canterbury, and from London 72 miles.

Dane Court was in very early times the seat of a family that took their name from it. In the reign of Henry VIII. we find it possessed by the family of Norwood, one of the descendants of which, Pane Norwood, about the year 1666, alienated it to Richard Smith, whose nephew, Robert Smith, sold it in 1686 to John Baker. He alienated it to Robert Hammond, who sold it to his brother Thos. Hammond,

334

of Deal, whose sons joined in the conveyance of it to Peter Bridger. Sarah, the eldest daughter of this gentleman carried Dane Court in marriage to Gabriel Neve, of whom it was purchased by Richard Sackett, Esq. of East Northdowne, and he bequeathed it to his grand-daughter, Sarah, the wife of Robert Tomlin, Esq.

Kingsgate Castle, in the Parish of St. Peter's, the property of Robt. Holford, Esq. is a modern building in the castellated style, with a square tower, and two round ones of different altitudes. From the sea it has a good appearance, and is a striking feature in the scenery of the coast. It is situated on the cliffs close to Kingsgate on the south-east.

The Convent, in the Parish of St. Peter's, the seat of Captain Cotton, is situated to the south-west of Kingsgate, and distant from it less than a quarter of a mile. Its style of architecture, and appearance altogether, accord well with its designation.

North Foreland Lodge, in the Parish of St. Peter's, the seat of Captain Isacke, of the Honourable East India Company's service, is situated north of Stone House, and near the North Foreland, the easternmost point of Kent. It possesses great beauty of situation. The grounds are well laid out, and planted with a rich variety of shrubs. North Foreland Lodge is distant from Kingsgate three-quarters of a mile south, from Canterbury about 19 miles, and from London 74 miles.

Stone House, in the Parish of St. Peter's, the seat of James D. Alexander, Esq. is finely situated in a very pleasant part of this interesting district. Its position, like that of Pierremont House, is elevated, and its range of prospect similar. The mansion itself is beautiful, and the grounds extensive and well laid out. Stone House is distant from Pierremont House one mile north, from Kingsgate one mile, from Ramsgate three miles, from Margate three miles, and from London about 74 miles.

Pierremont House, Broadstairs, in the Parish of St. Peter's, is a large handsome house, the seat of Edward Fletcher, Esq. and was the residence, in 1829, of the present Queen, when Princess Victoria, accompanied by her royal mother the Duchess of Kent. It is beautifully situated in a small park at the entrance of Broadstairs from St. Peter's, and from its elevated position commands

most extensive prospects both of sea and land.

Pierremont House is distant from Margate three miles south-east, from Ramsgate two miles, and from London 73 miles.

Ogle House, Broadstairs, in the Parish of St. Peter's, is the residence of Mrs. Browne.

335

Chandos Place, Broadstairs, in the Parish of St. Peter's, is the residence of James Trecothick, Esq. a Magistrate for the County, and for the Cinque Ports.

Dumpton, in the Parish of St. Peter's, the seat of Robert Crofts, Esq. is situated in a small park, to which there is a neat lodge entrance from the road leading from Ramsgate to Broadstairs and St. Peter's. It is a handsome residence, tolerably well sheltered with wood, and surrounded with pleasure grounds. The front commands a view of the full expanse of the ocean. Dumpton is due north of Ramsgate, distant one mile and a quarter, one mile south-west from Broadstairs, three miles south-east from Margate, and 72 miles from London.

East Cliffe Lodge, in the Parish of St. Peter's, is the beautiful seat ____ Sir Moses Montefiore, who was one of the Sheriffs of London for the year 1837. It is one mile north from Ramsgate, the same distance south from Broadstairs, and 72 from London.

St. Peter's Church is a neat structure, very handsomely fitted up inside. The nave is Norman. On the east and west sides of the tower are the marks of a fissure from top to bottom, which, it is said, was caused by an earthquake that occurred in the reign of Elizabeth

In the chancel, on the north side, near the altar, a fine monument for Eliz. widow of the Rev. George Lovejoy, Clk. a benefactress to this parish and other places; Lennard Diggs, of Chilham Castle, Esq. one of her executors, caused this monument to be erected: on the east wall, an old tablet to James Shipton, Clk. On the south wall, near the altar, a fine monument for George Lovejoy, who died 9th Jan. 1685; also Eliz. his wife, 1687-8. In the nave, on the south side, a monument for Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Elijah and Elizabeth Mockett, of this parish, and wife of Edwd. Boys, Esq. of Salmston Grange, who died 28th Aug. 1810, aged 41 yrs: another to Annabella Bunbury, daughter of Sir Wm. Bunbury, Bart. and wife of George Boscawen, Esq.; born Feb. 14, 1746, died Sept. 24th, 1818: another for Ann, wife of Robt. Brown, Esq. of Belvidere House, Broadstairs, who died 25th June, 1812, aged 41; also three of her children, who died in their infancy: a tablet for Charlotte, daughter of the late David Stuart, Esq. of Brompton, Middlesex, relict of Jas. Cockburn, Esq. of Lime Street Square, London, who died 11th July, 1822, aged 50: near this, one to Anthony Calvert, Esq. who died 20th Nov. 1808, aged 75: another to Catherina James, relict of Edmund James Esq. of Ham Common, Surrey, who died at Broadstairs, 31st July, 1815, aged 60: also another to Thos. Sheridan, Esq. A.M. author of Lectures on Education, delivered at the University of Oxford, and divers other works, all tending to enlighten mankind; his son was the Rt. Hon. Rich. Brinsley Sheridan: this tablet was put up in 1823, by a passenger through the Isle of Thanet, in admiration of the intellect, though a stranger to the blood, of the Sheridan family. In the south aisle, on the north side, a monument for Capt. Rich. Burton, of H.M. 54th Regt. son of Sir Rich. Burton, of Sackett's Hill House, who died at Trichinopoly, in the East Indies, 8th July, 1822, aged 27; also John, eldest son of Sir Rich. Burton, who died Feb. 3d, 1833, aged 29. At the west end, a monument to the memory of the Underdown family. In the north aisle, a square monument for Robt. Huggett, Gent.

336

sole heir of the Paulyns, an ancient family of Stone, in this parish; he married Sarah, daughter of Roger Omer, of Northdown, Gent. and died 21st Aug. 1751, aged 70; also Sarah his wife, who died 6th March, 1737, aged 53; and Paulyn, their youngest son, who died 23d Oct. 1751, aged 29. On the south side, a monument for Elizabeth, wife of John Dekewer, Esq. of Hackney, Middlesex, daughter of Alexander St. Barbe, Esq. of Bittirn, in the county of Southampton, who died 8th Aug. 1814; also the above named John Dekewer, Esq. who died 18th Aug. 1818, aged 83: near this, one to Mary,

wife of John Dekewer, Esq. of Hackney, Middlesex, who died 11th Dec. 1748, aged 53; also the above named John Dekewer, Esq. an especial benefactor to this parish, who died 20th Nov. 1762, aged 76: near this last, another for John Alexander Dekewer, son of John and Eliz. Dekewer, of Hackney, Middlesex, who died 26th Feb. 1778, aged 10 yrs. and 1 mo. and 22 dys.; and Mary, his sister, who died 11th Jan. 1767, aged 5 yrs. and 1 mo. On the north side, a monument to the Rev. Roger Huggett, M.A. late Vicar of the King's Free Chapel of St. George, Windsor, and of Hartley Waspail, Southampton, eldest son of Robt. Huggett, Esq. of Stone, in this parish, sole heir of the Paulyns, an ancient family; he was born there, 8th Oct. 1710, and died at Hartley Waspail, 27th July, 1769; this monument was erected by John Huggett, his only surviving brother; also to Mary, wife of the said John Huggett, who died 13th July, 1780, aged 43; and the said John Huggett, who died 8th Mar. 1783, aged 63: another for Sarah, wife of Samuel Lancaster, of London, who erected this monument to her memory; she died 17th Mar. 1792, aged 26: and another to the Norwoods, of Dane Court, 1636; above it hangs an ancient casque. In this aisle there is also a brass for John Sackett, 1623: and one for John Michael Webbe, obt. 15 Jun. 1587.

RAMSGATE, as appears from the maritime survey in the 8th of Elizabeth, consisted at that time of no more than 25 houses; and but 14 vessels, from three to 16 tons burthen, belonged to the port. After the accession of William III. the inhabitants embarked much in the increasing trade with Russia and the East, which greatly benefited the place. But most of its increase is the result of the important improvements in the harbour since the middle of the last century.

In the winter of 1748, a violent storm demonstrated the peculiar utility of a sufficient harbour in the precise situation of Ramsgate for ships driven from their anchorage in the Downs. The winds which most distress vessels lying in that open road would carry them directly to this very port; from which, besides, the Downs are exactly at such a distance as to allow a ship time to get properly under sail in order to make the harbour. Accordingly, in the storm just alluded to, a number of ships were saved by taking refuge here, notwithstanding the deficiency of the shelter. This circumstance excited the attention of the public, and an Act was passed to make the harbour serviceable for vessels of and under 300 tons burthen.

The trustees immediately commenced the construction of two new piers, to supersede the old one, which was very inconsiderable, having been built merely by the fishermen of the place. The east pier, it was resolved, should be built of stone, the west pier of wood. For three or four years the work had proceeded

337

with alacrity, when a difference of opinion took place in the committee, the majority deciding that the harbour should be contracted to an area of 1,200 feet. This, it was justly complained, would have the effect of making it in great measure useless to the public; and the dispute had the effect of putting an entire stop to the work till 1769, when the previous resolution was reversed, the contracting walls were removed, and operations recommenced with great spirit. But about 1773 it appeared, that under the angles that had been formed at the head of the piers, in order to bring their extremities nearer to each other, the sand accumulated so rapidly, and in such quantities, that the harbour was likely to be entirely filled. After struggling in vain for a few years longer against this new obstruction, the directors were thoroughly discouraged, and advised, in their published report, that nothing more should be done at the harbour till Mr. Smeaton, (the celebrated builder of the Eddystone Lighthouse,) or some other very able engineer, should have an opportunity of surveying it.

Indeed, at this time the harbour was in so forlorn a state, that the public reprobated the idea of spending any more money on so useless a labour. When Mr. Smeaton undertook the survey, he observed, that at low water there was no water to be seen in the harbour, except a small roundish area just within the pier heads, and at spring tides none, but what lay immediately between the heads. At this period two barges were always employed, which indeed is still the case, with

10 men in each, to remove the sillage. Mr. Smeaton ascertained that, at this rate, in 12 years the harbour would not be cleared, even supposing that no fresh sand were continually depositing. As at Ramsgate there is no river to keep an open channel, he recommended that a large basin should be formed, and furnished with sluices to receive and take in the sea water, and transmit it at proper intervals against the mud. The material part of his proposal was acted upon. The whole of the inner part of the harbour was converted into a basin, for the purpose thus suggested; and in 1779 the sluices were opened, and their success far surpassed the general expectation. Such force had the rush of water, that for a mile beyond the pier head the sea was observed to be clouded with the mud, which was dislodged in vast quantities. Indeed, so violent was the current, that in some places it tore up large masses of the chalk rock, upon which the silt had embedded itself at the bottom of the harbour.

This advantage, however, was found to be accompanied, on the other hand, with considerable inconvenience. The swell of the sea being broken by the wall across the harbour, that formed the inner part into a basin, the waters of the outer harbour became in rough weather dangerously restless. To remedy the

338

mischief, 2 or 300 feet of this wall was taken down, and from the shortened end another was carried up towards the cliff; so that at one side the whole length of the harbour was left unobstructed. To obtain a still freer passage, an interval of 80 or 100 feet was likewise made in the middle of the timber pier. By these means the agitation of the water was materially diminished. But as it was still found very considerable in strong gales, especially from the east and south-east, the head of the east pier, agreeably to the opinion of the most experienced pilots and seamen of Ramsgate, was prolonged in a south-easterly direction; and a store-house and dry dock being completed about the same time, for the supply and repair of damaged vessels, the utility of the harbour became more and more apparent, in the increasing number of ships that here sought shelter. A new stone lighthouse was afterwards erected on the head of the west pier, the basin wall was widened into a wharf, the wooden pier has since been rebuilt with stone, about the close of the last century a military road was constructed for the embarkation of troops from the pier head, and great additional improvements have been made. During the storm of December 1795, more than 300 vessels were sheltered here at once, some of them of 500 tons burden and upwards. In 1780 not more than 29 vessels had recourse to this harbour. Subsequently the number rose to the amount of 5, 6, 7, and even 800.

The harbour has now a depth of about 19 feet at spring tides. Its area is nearly circular, and comprises about 46 acres. The piers are about the breadth of 26 feet, and built of Portland and Purbeck stone; mostly of the latter. <e> The east pier extends 2000 feet in a straight line; the west, including its angles, has a length of 1200 feet. A large sand-bank stretches across the harbour, leaving a free channel under the east pier. This bank, so far from being an inconvenience, is of great use to ships in bringing up upon it in stormy weather, when deprived of their anchors and cables, as well as for supplying them with ballast on leaving the harbour.

The mouth of the harbour being so far advanced into the open sea, the entrance of a ship in boisterous weather, amid the rolling and spray of the waves, is an imposing spectacle; and during the fashionable season the east pier becomes a favourite promenade.

The Ville of Ramsgate, as it is legally termed, is an appendage to the neighbouring Parish of St. Lawrence. Since it has become a fashionable watering-place, a large Chapel of Ease has been built. Its other accommodations for visitors resemble those of Margate, but are hardly perhaps on a scale of equal splendour.

Ramsgate Church contains the following memorials:

On the south wall, in the south aisle, a stone and marble monument for Sir William Curtis, Bart. who died January 18th, 1829, aged 76; also Anne, relict of the above, who died 7th August 1833, aged 70; their remains are deposited in the family vault in the Church of Wanstead, Essex; a marble monument to Christopher Tennant, Esq. of this place, who died 13th April, 1836, aged 81: another to William, son of Eliza and William Hutchinson, R. N., who died 14th March, 1826, aged 17; also Eliza Lucy, daughter of the above, who died in her infancy: one for Henry Richards, only son of Stephen Richards, Esq. of Tavistock Square, London, who died 18th June, 1838, aged 17: a tablet for Elizabeth Blowfield Carlile, daughter of Edward and Eliza Carlile, of Hampstead, in the County of Middlesex, who died at Ramsgate, 19th August, 1830, aged 22: a monument for Thomas Templeman, Esq. of Conyngham House, in this town, born 5th November 1746; died 18th September 1833: also one for Anne Bland, wife of the Reverend Miles Bland, D.D. Rector of Lilley, Herts, and Prebendary of Wells, youngest daughter of Thomas Templeman, Esq.; she was born November 2d, 1759, and died 26th August, 1831; also Samuel Winter Bland, born 15th June, 1827, died May 16, 1830; Louisa Villiers Bland, born May 6th, 1825, died Nov. 20th, 1830; and Joseph Charlton Bland, born Feb. 1st, 1831, died Aug. 19th, 1831: a tablet for Judith, wife of Medmer Goodwin, who died 11th Nov. 1829, aged 73; also the above Medmer Goodwin, who died 25th Sept. 1834, aged 79. At the west end, a marble monument for H. Dawson, Esq. of this place, who died 26th April, 1834. On the north wall, in the north aisle, a monument for Sir James Sam. Wm. Lake, Bart. who died 4th Nov. 1832, aged 61; also his two children, Caroline Jane, born Dec. 28th, 1818, died Oct. 16th, 1820; Sophia, born Jan. 15th, 1823, died Dec. 4th, 1829: a black marble tablet for Susanna wife of Thos. Smith, Esq. R. N., and second daughter of the late John Toker, Esq. of Oaks Ospringe, Kent, who died 3d Jan. 1836, aged 51: also another tablet for Percival Lewis, Esq. of Downton House, Radnorshire, obiit 26th July, 1838, æt. 48. On the east wall, near the altar, a beautiful marble monument to Thos. Fawcett, Esq. in the Cambridgeshire regiment of militia; he was born at Wisbech, in the Isle of Ely, on the 31st Dec. 1768, and died here 6th Dec. 1830. Entering the church, in the porch there is a monument, which was erected by the parishioners to Mrs. Henry Dawson, in gratitude for the munificent donation of the clock, placed in the tower of the church.

West Cliffe Lodge, in the Parish of St. Lawrence, is the seat of George A. Warre, Esq. This mansion is most delightfully situated near the cliffs, and commands extensive and beautiful prospects of Dover Castle, the sea, and French coast. It is one mile south-west from Ramsgate Pier, from Canterbury 16 miles, and from London 61 miles.

Vicarage St. Lawrence, the residence of the Rev. George Wilson Sicklemore, is situated on the north side of the church, and is little more than half a mile west from Ramsgate.

Southwood House, in the Parish of St. Lawrence, formerly the seat of the late Samuel Winter, Esq. and now of his widow, is a good house, elegantly fitted up, and decorated with paintings by Berghem, Morland, &c. The front com-

mands a beautiful and extensive prospect of the Downs, Dover Castle, the French Coast, and, towards the west, of Canterbury and its cathedral. The grounds are exceedingly well laid out, and adorned with groves and shrubberies. Southwood House is less than a mile from Ramsgate Pier, from Canterbury it is 15 miles north-east, and from London 60 miles.

Nether Court, in the Parish of St. Lawrence, is the seat of the late T. Garrett, Esq., Lieut. Colonel of the East Kent Yeomanry, which station we understand he occupied upwards of 30 years. Nether Court has a handsome modern appearance, though it is supposed to have been built 150 years ago. It is situated in a small park, well sheltered with lofty trees, and surrounded with pleasure grounds. The interior is elegant and commodious: the drawing-room

is lined with Dutch embossed leather, in good preservation. Nether Court is distant from Ramsgate one mile west, from Canterbury 16 miles, and from London 70 miles.

Nether Court was anciently part of the possessions of the family of Sandwich. After these had become extinct here, it passed to the family of Goshal, of Ash, from whom it went in marriage, in the reign of Henry IV. to that of St. Nicholas. Subsequently being transmitted through the names of Dynley, Maycott, Lucas, and Johnson, it came by purchase, about Queen Anne's reign, to Edward Brooke, Gent. who rebuilt the mansion. After this the manor was divided in moieties, one of which became vested in Mr. Mark Sellers Garrett, the other in the name of Moses, of whose two children Mr. Garrett purchased their moiety, and thus became possessed of the whole. He died in 1779; and the estate devolved on his son, Thomas Garrett, Esq.

Pegwell Cottage, in the Parish of St. Lawrence, the seat of Baron Garrow, is situated on the Cliff, distant from Ramsgate Pier one mile south-west, from Canterbury 16 miles, and from London 61 miles.

St. Lawrence Church is a large building, consisting of a nave, two aisles, and three chancels, with a square tower, which rises from four massive columns between the nave and high chancel. The tower and part of the body are Norman; the outside of the former is ornamented with ranges of small semi-circular arches, springing from plain octagonal pillars. Here are the following monuments:

In the chancel on the east wall, a marble tablet for Mary Rebecca, second daughter of Col. Cony, of Walpole Hall, Norfolk, who died 27th Feb. 1836, aged 60; also John Siclemore, Esq. of Wetheringsett, Suffolk, who died 5th Feb 1837, aged 81. On the south wall a monument for Nathaniel Austen, of Ramsgate, Esq. obiit 4 Aug. 1818, æt. 73: a beautiful marble monument to Margaret,

341

wife of the Rev. Martin Read, and daughter of John and Mary Curling, of Chilton, who departed this life 16th Dec. 1753, aged 44; also two infant children of the above; also Capt. Martin Read, who died 21st Dec. 1792, aged 83; likewise Mary, wife of the above Capt. Martin Read, who died 16th May, 1806, aged 63; also Catherine, wife of J. G. Snowden, and daughter of Mary and Ric. Tomson, who died Aug. 24, 1837, aged 30: another for Capt. Martin Long, who died May 6th, 1751, aged 65; also Mrs. Elizabeth Long, sister of Capt. Martin Long, who died 27th Aug. 1753, aged 58; also Catherine Abbot, widow of Mr. W. Abbot, who died 2d January, 1779, aged 87; and Martin Abbot, son of the Rev. W. Abbot and Jane his wife, who died March 17th, 1793, aged 17; also Elizabeth Long Abbot, youngest daughter of the Rev. Wm. Abbot and Jane his wife, born Feb. 13th, 1783, died Sept. 6th, 1810: a beautiful black marble monument to Capt. Thos. Redwood, obiit March 14, 1754, æt. 83; also Thomasin, wife of the above, obiit March 28, 1755, æt. 82. On the north side, a marble tablet to Robert Smith, Esq. of Upton House, Kent, who died 25th May, 1810, aged 32: a monument for Sarah, wife of Mr. Adam Spencer, who died July 2d, 1745, aged 57; also the above Mr. Spencer, merchant, who died 23d May, 1757, aged 68; also Anne Spencer, relict of Capt. Geo. Spencer, youngest son of the above Adam Spencer, who died 6th Dec. 1821, aged 95; also Geo. Hardy, Esq. who died 18th Aug. 1786, aged 67; and Ann his wife (daughter of Mr. Spencer), who died 1st March 1795, aged 76; also two infant children of Geo. Inkner Hardy, Esq.: below this a tablet to Ann, wife of Wm. Spencer, Esq. and daughter of the above Geo. and Ann Spencer, who died 25th March, 1823, aged 64: a monument to the Rev. Wm. Abbot, B.D. of Ramsgate, Prebendary of York, formerly Fellow and Tutor of St. John's College, Cambridge, obiit 15 Jan. 1826, æt. 92; also Jane his wife, obiit 28 March, 1814, æt. 72: also a tablet to Ann, wife of Gilbert Bedford of Newlands Grange, who died 23d March 1837, aged 48. In the nave, a brass for Adam Sprakeling, Gent. 2d son of Sir Adam Sprakeling, Knt. obiit 1615: another for Sir Adam Sprakeling, Knt. son of Rob. Sprakeling, Gent. obiit 7 April, 1610, æt. 58: a stone for the Rev. Peter James, M. A. late of Greenwich, Kent, Rector of Ightham, who died July 15, 1791, aged 53. On the north side a tablet for Jane, wife of Francis Freeling, Esq. who died 4th May, 1796, aged 33. Another neat tablet to Elizabeth, 6th daughter of Geo. Wade of Dunmow, Essex, Gent. and Frances Barbara his wife, who died 13 March, 1819, aged 16, at the house of her uncle-in-law, the Rev. Ric. Hardy, Vicar of this

parish. On the south side, a small tablet for Mary Kemp, who died 4th Dec. 1828; she bequeathed the following legacy, viz. the sum of £1000 three per cent. consols unto her executors, John and Rob. Garrett, their executors, administrators, and assigns, upon trust to receive the dividends thereof, and distribute them yearly, on the 15th January, in equal proportions, to six of the most deserving poor persons, either male or female, being of the age of 65 or upwards, residing in the Parish of St. Lawrence: another for John Earl of Dunmore, who died 25th Feb. 1809, aged 78; he was the son of Wm. Earl of Dunmore, grandson of John Duke of Athol, the eighth in descent from John Earl of Athol, eldest son of the marriage of Jane, Q. of Scotland with James Stuart, Lord of Lorn; Q. Jane was grand-daughter of Edward III. King of England. Charles Murray, the first Earl of Dunmore's mother, was Amelia Stanley, Lady of the Isle of Man, daughter of James Earl of Darby and of Charlotte De la Tremoille, the daughter of Charles of Nassau and of Charlotte of Bourbon, Princess of the Blood Royal of France. On the north side of the north aisle, a tablet for the Rt. Hon. Elizabeth Baroness Conyngham, who died Oct. 31st, 1814, aged 83: another for Harry Farnall, a Captain in the Royal Navy, who died at Ramsgate, 29th March 1806, aged 30: below this one to the Hon. Catherine Fermor, relict of the Rev. John Thurley Fermor, obiit April 3, 1814: a black marble tablet to Lady Augusta Murray, second daughter of John fourth Earl of Dunmore, married at Rome, the 4th April, 1793, to his Royal Highness Prince Augustus Frederick Duke of Sussex; and died at Ramsgate, March 4th, 1830: also a monument for Alexander Brymer, Esq. of Bathwick, in the

342

county of Somerset, formerly one of his Majesty's Councils for Nova Scotia, obiit 7th Aug. 1822, æt. 76: a tablet to Henry Crathorne, Esq. of Crathorne, in the County of York, born 1st January, 1757, and died 5th Dec. 1797: another for Peter Thoroton, LL.B. born 1763, died 1817: also one to Captain Joseph Norwood, R. N. obiit 10 May, 1793, æt. 66: a monument for Frances Coppin, daughter of Robert Brooke, of Nacton, in the county of Suffolk, Esq. wife of Thomas Coppin, Esq. obiit 1667, æt 54: also one for Rear-Admiral Wm. Fox, obiit Dec. 3d, 1810, æt. 77; this monument is erected by H. R. H. Prince William Henry, Duke of Clarence and St. Andrew's, and Earl of Munster, K.G. and K.T. Admiral of the Red Squadron and of his Majesty's Fleet, from a sincere regard for the character of the late Rear Admiral, and from the uninterrupted friendship which subsisted for 31 years: a brass, the figure of a man in armour, for Nicholas Manston – 1441. On the west wall, in the south aisle, a tablet to Samuel Vince, M.A. F.R.S. Archdeacon of Bedford, and Plumian Professor of Astronomy in the University of Cambridge, obiit 28 Nov. 1821, æt. 72. On the south wall, in the aisle, a marble tablet for Henry Stephenson Ashton, Esq. of Walthamstow, Essex, who died 23d Jan. 1823, aged 36: a monument to Mary, wife of John Gibson of Ramsgate, and daughter of George Curling, Esq. of Essex, who died 21st Aug. 1785, aged 26: a tablet for Elizabeth Colingridge, who died 14th Feb. 1833, aged 60. On the north side, a tablet to Richard Warburton Lytton, F.R.S. of Knebworth Park, Herts, and of this place; he was born 6th September, 1745, and died 29th Dec. 1810: another for Thomasine Girdler, widow, last surviving daughter of the late Bellingham Mantevrici, of London, Esq. who died 3d March, 1833, aged 75: a monument for Martha Shorte, widow of Darell Shorte, jun. Esq. of Wadhurst, in Sussex, and daughter of Sir Robert Kemp, Bart. late of Upperston, in the County of Suffolk, who died 27th Sept. 1789, aged 77: also a tablet for Anna Eliza Wilson, daughter of William Worcester Wilson, D.D. late Vicar of Deptford; she died 26th March, 1792, aged 26.

Minster. The tradition of the founding of St. Mildred's Abbey, (which gave name to this parish,) by Domneva, niece to King Egbert, about the year 670, is briefly this: – Egbert, at the instigation of one of his courtiers, named Thunor or Tymor, having murdered Ethelred and Ethelbright, the sons of his father's elder brother, that he might retain undisturbed possession of the throne, sent, by advice of Archbishop Theodore, to their sister Domneva, who had taken the vow of chastity, offering in expiation for the crime, according to the custom of the times, to grant "whatever she should ask." Domneva thereupon requested sufficient land in Tenet, (Thanet,) on which she might build a monastery to the memory of her brothers; and being asked what quantity she required, replied, "as much as a tame deer could run over at one course;" which on trial embraced about 10,000 acres. The tract of the deer, according to Thorn, was marked by the broad bank or lynch since called St. Mildred's Lynch. He was turned loose at Westgate, on the coast, in the Parish of Birchington, and stopped not till he

came to the place now called Sheriff's Hope, near Monkton. During the course of the stag, Thunor, who had ridiculed the lavishness of the King, endeavoured to impede or divert its progress, "at which Heaven being offended," says the above-named chronicler, "the earth suddenly opened, and swallowed him up in his career, and he went down with Dathan and Abiram into hell." The spot

343

where this happened was called, to perpetuate his punishment, Thunor's Leap, and is now, no doubt, says Lewis, the old chalk pit called Minster chalk pit, which may have been sunk when the abbey was built. The monastery, after having been several times pillaged by the Danes, was in 978 entirely burnt by them, together with the nuns, the clergy, and many people who had fled hither for sanctuary. Leofrune, the Abbess, only survived, and she was carried away prisoner. It acquired the title of St. Mildred from the daughter and successor of Domneva, a woman of remarkable sanctity, and of "suche godlyke virtue, (says Lambarde,) that when landing at Ippedsflete, on her return from Fraunce, the very stone whereon she first stepped received the impression of her foote, and retained it for ever."

At EBBSFLEET or Ipyids-flete, which is in the south-eastern part of this Parish, Hengist and Horsa first landed, about 449, on the invitation of Vortigern.

Thorne, in the Parish of Minster, is stated, in Lewis's History of Thanet, to have been the seat of a family who took their name from it. There is at present a respectable house here, the residence of Mrs. Wootton. It is distant from Ramsgate westward rather more than three miles.

Thorne, as mentioned above, was anciently the seat of a family that assumed their name from it. Henry de Thorne resided here in the year 1300. After this line had become extinct it passed to the name of Goshall, from whom it went by marriage to the family of St. Nicholas, and with a female descendant of these it passed in marriage also to John Dynley, Esq. of Charlton, in Worcestershire. It came at length into the possession of the family of St. John, by the marriage of John Viscount St. John with Anne, eldest daughter of Sir Rob. Furnese, whose grandson, George Viscount Bolingbroke, in 1790, alienated it to Mr. Henry Wootton.

Minster Church is a handsome structure, built in the form of a cross. It exhibits different styles of architecture: the nave, which is Saxon, is the most ancient part, and is divided from the aisles by short massive columns supporting the round arches. The chancel is Gothic, and is vaulted with stone. There are 18 old collegiate stalls in this church; and in the north wall of the transept, under a pointed arch, is an ancient tomb with the following inscription in Norman French, now mostly illegible; "Ici gist Edila de Thorne que fust dna del Espine." An engraving of this may be found in Hasted, fol. ed. vol. 4. pa. 324. The learned Dr. Meric Casaubon was at one period of his life Vicar of Minster.

In the chancel, south side, a tablet to Mr. Henry Wootton, of Thorn, in this parish, only son of John and Eliz. Wootton; he was born at Alland Grange, 26th Sept. 1754, and died at Thorn: another to Mary, daughter of Robt. Knowler, Gent. of Herne, in this county, and wife of John Lewis, Vicar of

344

this church, who died Dec. 1719, aged 44: a monument to Wm. Belsey, Esq. late of this parish, who died Mar. 16th, 1727; and Mary his wife, who died Nov. 18th, 1750, aged 70; also Wm. their son, who died Sept. 20th, 1787, aged 79; likewise Eliz. his wife, daughter of Francis and Mary Tomlin, who died Apl. 5th, 1796, aged 86; and two sons and one daughter of the above, viz. Will. Eliz. and Thos.; also Mary Belsey, who died Aug. 21st, 1825, aged 89, daughter of the first-mentioned Will. and Eliz. being the last surviving issue of this family. On the North wall, a monument to Charlotte Louisa, wife of Geo. Hannam, Esq. and daughter of the late John Bristow, of Calcutta, who died

Nov. 24th, 1831, aged 45; also Frederic, son of the above, who suddenly lost his life by a fall from his horse, 13th Oct. 1835, aged 21: another to Joshua Harry, second son of Edw. Synge Cooper, Esq. M.P. for the county of Sligo, by Anna, eldest daughter of the late Harry Verelst, Esq. born June 25th, 1799, died Feb. 5th, 1819: a tablet to Harry Verelst, Esq. of Aston, in the county of York, formerly Governor of Bengal, who died Oct. 24th, 1785, aged 54; he married Ann, co-heiress of Josias Wordsworth, of Wadsworth, in the county of York, and of Sevenscore, in this parish: and a memorial for the Hon. Col. James Pettit, who died Jan. 21st, 1729-30, aged 42. In the middle aisle, on the south side, a monument to Bartholomew Saunders, Gent. and Marie his wife, daughter of Henry Oxenden, late of Wingham, Esq.: Henry Saunders, Esq. their eldest son, married Jane, the eldest daughter of Thos. Paramore, Esq. and hath caused this monument to be erected. In the north transept, on the west wall, a monument to Thos. Paramore, Esq. sometime mayor of the city of Canterbury: he had two wives; his second was Marie, widow of Thos. Garth, of London, Esq.; he died 7th July, 1621.

Minster Church is dedicated to St. Mary.

Stonar was written anciently Eastanore and Eastanores, meaning perhaps the Eastern Ore, in contradistinction to the other place of the same name near Faversham, still called Ore, both which belonged formerly to the Monastery of St. Augustine at Canterbury. After the water had retired from Ebbsfleet, Stonar became the common place of debarkation in the Isle of Thanet; and during the three centuries immediately succeeding the Conquest, it was a considerable place. Dr. Harris quotes a manuscript of Dr. Plot, dated about 1693, which says, that "the ruins of Stonar, till within the memory of man, took up many acres of ground, but were lately removed to render the ground fit for tillage." its prosperity however, we may presume, was checked by the growth of the opposite haven of Sandwich, and by the alteration in the course of the Wantsume. In the 39th year of the reign of Edward III. a sad disaster befel the town in "a terrible inundation of the sea," which overwhelmed a great part of it: and in the year 1385, it was entirely destroyed by the French, who, after having pillaged it, burnt it to the ground.

Camden and Dr. Plot are of opinion that the Portus Rutupensis was at Stonar, which at that time stood in the same situation with respect to the city of Rutupiæ, that Leith does now to Edinburgh.

Besides the piratical attack of the French mentioned above, this port was on two preceding occasions the landing place of an invading enemy; in the year

345

1009, of Turkill, the Dane; and in the last year of King John's reign, of Lewis, the Dauphin, who brought with him a numerous army.

South Stonar House, in the ancient Parish of Stonar, the residence of J. Wood, Esq. is situated at the southern point of the Isle of Thanet, distant from Sandwich not quite half a mile north.

HUNDRED OF WINGHAM.

Brooke Street, in the Parish of Ash, the seat of J. Godfrey, Esq. a Magistrate of the County, is a handsome house, of very beautiful architecture. It is distant from Sandwich about two miles north-west, from Canterbury 10 miles, and from London 65 miles.

This house was for many centuries the residence of the family of Brooke, one of which name, John Brooke, Esq. inhabited it as early as the reign of Elizabeth.

Guilton House, in the Parish of Ash, the residence of Mrs. Hudson, is distant from Sandwich rather more than three miles west, and from Canterbury nine miles.

Pedding, or Great Pedding, in the Parish of Ash, was formerly the property of the respectable family of Solly, descendants of whom are now settled at Sandwich and about that neighbourhood. As far back as the reign of

Elizabeth one of this family, named Stephen Solly, resided at Pedding.

Ash Church is a large handsome structure, built in the form of a cross.

Of the numerous monuments in the interior the following are the most worthy of notice:

In the chancel, on the east wall, a monument for Mrs. Elizabeth Cartwright, widow, who died 2d Dec. 1713; also Gervas Cartwright, Esq. her only son, who died April 6th, 1721; and Mrs. Eleanor and Mrs. Ann Cartwright, her daughters, who died, the one Jan. 20th, the other Feb. 19th, 1727; at their desires this chancel was beautified and adorned, and by their order a charity-school was erected in this parish, and munificently endowed forever: another for Henry Roberts, Esq. grandson of Sir Wm. Roberts, of Wilsden, in Middlesex, Bart. who died Feb. 25th, 1718; also Mrs. Eleanor Roberts, his sister, who died Feb. 1st, 1719; and Mrs. Susanna Roberts, wife of the above Henry, who died 11th Feb. 1730, aged 44. On the north side of the altar a very ancient stone figure in armour, the feet crossed, resting on a lion; there is no inscription, but Hasted says it is for one of the family of Leverick: also another, similar in every respect, but apparently more ancient than the former, and below it is the figure of a woman; these, by the same authority, are for Sir John Goshall and his wife. On the south wall, a tablet to Edward Solly, Esq. of London, a descendant of the Solly's, formerly of Pedding and the Moat, in this parish, who died 30th March,

346

1792, aged 63; also Samuel Solly, Esq. of London, his brother, who died 5th Jan. 1807, aged 79; and Sarah, wife of Samuel Solly, who died 14th Nov. 1805, aged 59: a monument for Sir Thomas Septvans, alias Harflete, of Moland, in this parish, and the Lady Bennet, his wife (daughter of Michael Beresford, of Westerham, in Kent, Esq.); he died July, 1612, aged 46: also a statue to the memory of John Tebb, D.D., Bishop of Limerick; erected by the friends of religion in England, Ireland, and America, in commemoration of benefits conferred by his life and writings upon the universal church of Christ, nat. Sept. 27, 1775, ob. Dec. 9, 1833. On the north side, a monument for William Brett, Captain R. N., late of Guilton, in this parish, who died Jan. 19th, 1769, aged 51; Frances, his wife, who erected this monument, died Jan. 11th, 1773, aged 39; Frances, their daughter, died July 14th, 1778, aged 23: and another, with two marble figures of a man in armour and woman, the man's feet resting on a lion; Hasted conjectures that this tomb also is for one of the family of Harflete. In the chancel is also a brass for Walter Septvans, alias Harflet de Cheker, in the parish of Ash, Armig. who was born 1567, and died 4th June, 1642; and Jane his wife, daughter of John Challoner, of Fulham, Armig. born 23d July, 1576, died 4th Dec. 1626. In the north transept, a tablet to Vincent St. Nicholas, whose wife was Maria, daughter of Edward Brockhill, Armig. obt. 20 Aug. 1589, æt. 58. In the south transept, on the south wall, a monument to Richard Hougham, Gent. late of Weddington, in this parish, and Eliz. his wife, who was the daughter of Edward Sanders, of Norbon, near Sandwich, Gent.; also their son Michael, and daughter Ann; this monument was erected by the will and testament of the aforesaid Ann Hougham, deceased, who was baptized the 17th Jan. 1601, and died 9th June, 1661. On the west wall, a handsome monument for Mary Lowman, daughter of Gregory Butter, Gent. of Northumberland, wife of Henry Lowman, of Dortnued, in Germany, Esq. who died in 1737, aged 84; he died in 1743, aged 93; also Christopher Ernest Kien, Esq. Lieut. Colonel of the Horse Guards, who died in 1744, aged 61; and Jane his wife, daughter of Henry and Jane Lowman, who died in 1762, aged 80; and Evert Geo. Cousemaker, Esq. who died in 1763, aged 44. In the aisle, on the south wall, a monument to Joseph Westbeeche, Esq. Captain R. N. who died in this parish, 9th Nov. 1811, aged 53, erected by his brother: another to John Fuller, late of Molland, in this parish, who died 10th Feb. 1797, aged 84; Eliz. his wife, daughter of Thos. Boteler, of Eastry, Gent. died 20th June, 1785, aged 77; also Mary and Thomas, son and daughter of the above; Elizabeth their only surviving daughter, widow of Thomas Godfrey, of Brook Street, in this parish, Esq. has erected this to their memory. In the north aisle, a brass to Samuel, son of Thos. Nicholas, born Aug. 1614, died Oct. 1624: also a stone to Whittingham Wood, Armig. 1656.

Ash Church is dedicated to St. Nicholas.

Wingham House, the property and residence of Stephen Elgar, Esq. stands on the site of an old mansion which belonged to the late Rev. Dr. Hey. It is

situated on the east side of the church, and is distant from Canterbury six miles east.

The College founded in Wingham church by Archbishop Peckham, in 1286, having been suppressed in the 1st year of the reign of Edward VI. the mansion that belonged to the Provost was in the 7th year of the same King, together with the church and tithes, granted to Sir Henry Palmer; one of whose descendants, Mrs. Frances Palmer, by will, in 1770, devised the fee of this estate to the Rev.

347

Thos. Hey, afterwards D.D. the eldest son of the last Lady Palmer by her last husband.

Deane Park, in the Parish of Wingham, the property of Sir Henry Chudleigh Oxenden, Bart. and the present residence of Mrs. Gipps, is a fine ancient mansion, situated in a small picturesque park, well wooded and sheltered. The eastern front is in the Elizabethan style: the southern and western fronts have a more modern appearance. The interior is spacious, and altogether the house has a striking and venerable air. Deane Park is distant from Canterbury six miles south-east, and from London 61 miles.

The Manor of Deane, or Dene, was anciently the inheritance of a family who took their name from it, but who, in the reign of Edward III. were extinct. We find it next in the family of Hussey, then in that of Wood; and at the end of the reign of Henry VI. it had passed by sale to the ancestors of the present proprietor.

Wingham Church is a handsome building, consisting of two aisles and three chancels. On each side of the high chancel are seven old stalls, which were formerly appropriated to the members of the college. In the middle of the south chancel is a costly pyramidal monument, with inscriptions, for several of the Oxenden family. Here are the following memorials:

In the chancel, on the south wall, near the altar, a monument to Thos. Palmer, Knt. he married Margaret, daughter of Herbert Pelham, of Sussex, by whom he had issue Thomas and Herbert; Herbert took holy orders, and was Master of Queen's College, Canterbury; Thomas, on the decease of his grandfather, married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Thomas Shirley, of Iffield, in Sussex, and was buried April 20th, 1656: a fine monument for Geo. Oxenden, LL.D. Dean of the Arches, and Vicar General of the province of Canterbury, Regius Professor of the Civil Law, and Master of Trinity Hall, in the University of Cambridge, third son of Sir Henry Oxenden, Bart.; he died Feb. 1702; Elizabeth his wife, daughter of Sir Bazil Dixwell, of Broom, Bart. died Sept. 1704; Sir Henry Oxenden, Bart. son of the last named George, died 15th June, 1803, aged 81, at Broome, in the parish of Barham, the mansion house of the estate left to the family by his great uncle, Sir Bazil Dixwell; he lies buried here; Dame Margaret, wife of the said Sir Henry Oxenden, Bart. and daughter and co-heiress of Sir Geo. Chudleigh, Bart. of the county of Devon, died 30th March, 1803, aged 79; and others of the Oxenden family: this monument is beautifully sculptured, and was erected in the year 1628, in memory of those of that family of Oxenden, seated at Deane, who lie interred here, whose ancestors have flourished in this county for several ages: a monument to Carolus Tripp, ob. 12 Jan. 1624: another to dame Mary, wife of Sir Henry Oxenden, Bart. of Broome, in the parish of Barham, and of Dean, in this parish; she was fifth daughter of John Graham, Esq. of St. Lawrence House, near Canterbury, Lieut. Colonel in his Majesty's Forces, and Governor of the Province of Georgia, in North America; she died 9th Dec. 1814, aged 42: a fine monument, near the altar, for Thomas Palmer, Knt. and Bart. of Wingham, and dame Margaret his wife, daughter of John Poley, of Badley, Esq. of that ancient family in Suffolk; this place was the seat of his inheritance, but not of his descent, he being lineally extracted from the house of Augmering, in Sussex; he died 7th Jan.; she died the August following, 1625; his age 86; her's 83. In the aisle,

348

on the south wall, a monument for Thos. Ginder, Gent. who died 5th March, 1716, aged 52; also

Dorothy his wife, daughter of Vincent Denne, Esq. who died 2d May, 1736, aged 82. On the west wall, a monument to Wm. Newton, son of Wm. Newton, Minister of this place, who died April 16th, 1737: also a tablet to John Boys, formerly of Betshanger, and late of Each House, in this county, who died 16th Dec. 1824, aged 75.

Wingham Church is dedicated to St. Mary.

Goodnestone Park, in the Parish of Goodnestone, is the seat of Sir Brook William Bridges, Bart. a Magistrate and Deputy Lieut. for the County. The mansion stands on an inclined plane, nearly in the centre of a well-wooded park, and is effectually sheltered, towards the west, by a grove of lofty trees. In front the ground sinks into a hollow, and gently rises again towards the eastern confines of the park, which are bordered with young plantations. The interior is adorned with paintings by Salvator Rosa, Paul Bril, Le Sueur, a copy from Correggio, &c. &c.

Goodnestone Park is distant from Dover about 10 miles north-west, from Canterbury rather more than seven miles, and from London 62 miles.

The Manor of Goodnestone was part of the possessions of the famous Godwin, Earl of Kent, afterwards, probably, of his son King Harold, and on his death it fell into the hands of the Conqueror. In the reign of Henry VIII. the mansion with part of the demesne lands had passed to the family of Edingham, or Engeham, a descendant of whom, Sir Thomas Engeham, about the reign of Queen Anne, alienated it, together with the appropriation of the benefice, to Brook Bridges, Esq. who rebuilt the seat. This gentleman dying in 1717, was succeeded by his eldest son Brook, who was shortly afterwards honoured with the title of Bart. His grandson, Sir Brook Bridges, Bart. rebuilt the seat and improved the park; and at his death, in 1791, was succeeded by his second son, Sir Brook Wm. Bridges, Bart. who, on the demise of his elder brother, had taken the name of Brook.

Goodnestone Church appears, by an inscription at the west end, to have been in great part built by the benefactions of the family of Boys, of Bonnington, in this parish, very many of whom are interred in the north chancel, which belongs to that estate, as well as in the other parts of the church.

In the chancel, a brass to Thomas Engham, Esq. and Elizabeth his wife, 1558: and another to Vincent Boys and Mary his wife. On the south wall, a monument for Sir Thomas Engham, Knt.; he married Priscilla Honiwood; 1621. In the aisle, on the north wall, a monument for Gabriel Richards, Esq. of Rowling, in the parish of Goodnestone: also a fine monument for Sir Edward Engham and his wife; he died 15th May, 1636, aged 65; she died 12th June, 1635, aged 52. Against the east wall is a monument for Brook Bridges, Esq. second son of John Bridges, of Harcourt Hall, Worcestershire, Esq.; he married, in 1672, Mary, daughter of Sir Justinian Lewin, of Otterden, and having purchased an estate in this parish, built on it a mansion for his successors; he died Dec. 16th, 1717, aged 74.

Goodnestone Church is dedicated to the Holy Cross.

349

St. Alban's Court, in the Parish of Nonington, the seat of William Osmund Hammond, Esq. a Magistrate and Deputy Lieut. for the County, was, with the Manor of Estwalt, or Easole, an eleemosynary grant from Nigellus de Albini to the monks of St. Alban's Abbey, Herts. A curious old deed, confirming this grant, by King Stephen, is in the possession of Mr. Hammond, as also the deed of conveyance, by Thos. Colepepyr to Thos. Hamon, ancestor to the present proprietor. The mansion bears the date of 1555: its present façade is modern. The interior is decorated with a fine collection of paintings, chiefly by Flemish masters, and of family portraits, by Cornelius Janssen, Sir Peter Lely, and other eminent artists. There are also two curious chimney-pieces, worthy of particular notice. St. Alban's Court is pleasantly situated, being

sheltered on the east and west by gently rising grounds, and by groves of lofty trees on the south, which give the spacious north front of the mansion a picturesque effect, as seen in the approach from Knowlton Court, from which it is distant only one mile. About the same distance southwards is Fredville, and very near it, on the north-west, is Goodnestone Park.

St. Alban's Court is about nine miles north-west from Dover, from Canterbury about as far south-east, and from London 64 miles.

This manor, anciently called Eswalt, and afterwards Easole, was part of the possessions of Bishop Odo. After his disgrace it was granted by the Conqueror to William de Albineto, or Albini, surnamed Pincerna, from Normandy, whose son, of the same name, Earl of Albemarle, gave it, by the name of Eswelle, to the Abbot of St. Alban's, in Hertfordshire, whence it acquired the name by which it is still known. It continued in possession of the Abbey till the 30th year of the reign of Henry VIII. when the Abbot sold it, together with the tithes belonging to it, then in the occupation of John Hammond, to Sir Christopher Hales, whose three daughters becoming his co-heirs, two of them sold their shares to Alexander Culpeper, who had married their sister. This gentleman soon after alienated it to his elder brother, Sir Thomas Culpeper, of Bedgbury, who, in the third year of the reign of Philip and Mary, disposed of it by sale to Thomas Hammond, Gent. who resided here, and who was the direct descendant of John Hamon, or Hammond, that dwelt here as tenant to the Abbot, in the reign of Henry VIII. as above mentioned.

From a younger branch of this family sprung Hammond, the elegiac poet.

Fredville Park, in the Parish of Nonington, is the seat of John Pemberton Plumtre, Esq. one of the Members of Parliament for the Eastern Division of Kent, and a Magistrate and Deputy Lieut. for the County. The mansion is ancient, but was enlarged and modernized by the late John Plumtre, Esq. about the year 1790. It has now an elegant appearance, overlooking a beautiful park, which is fertile and well wooded. The timber is remarkably fine, particularly the oaks, which are the largest in this part of the county. On the

350

south-east side of the mansion stands one of extraordinary circumference, called the Fredville Oak. Amongst the pictures, perhaps the most pleasing, is a good copy of the Holy Family, from Raphael.

Fredville Park is distant from Dover eight miles north-west, from Canterbury eight miles, and from London 63 miles.

Fredville, or Froidville, in the reign of Edward I. was possessed by John Colkin, of whose posterity it was purchased, at the end of the reign of Richard II. by Thomas Charleton. He, anno 2 Henry IV. passed it to John Quadring, whose descendant, Joan, carried it in marriage to Richard Dryland, who, about the end of the reign of Edward IV. alienated it to John Nethersole; and he, in the 2d year of Richard III. conveyed it to William Boys, Esq. of Bonnington. The descendants of this Gentleman, having suffered much by sequestration of estates, on account of their loyalty in turbulent times, sold this property, in 1673, to Denzill, Lord Holles, from whom it came lineally to Thomas Holles, Duke of Newcastle. The Duke, in 1745, sold it to Margaret, sister of Sir Brook Bridges, Bart. of Goodnestone; and this Lady carried it in marriage, in 1750, to John Plumtre, Esq. of Nottinghamshire, who almost rebuilt the seat.

Nonington Church. Near the altar, a memorial of Alys, daughter and heire of William Simpson, Esq. 1581. On the south wall, a tablet to W. Hammond, Esq. of St. Alban's Court, in this parish, who died Nov. 20th, 1821, aged 70: below this another to Fanny Ann Charlotte, daughter of W. O. Hammond, Esq. and Mary Graham his wife, who died 28th March, 1830, aged 4. On the north wall, a monument for Maria, wife of John Bode, and daughter of Edward Boys, obt. 1 June, 1615: another for Edward Boys, Armig.: a tablet to John Plumtre, late of Fredville, Esq. nat. Sept. 18, 1766, obt. Nov. 7, 1829: another to Elizabeth, widow of the late Polydore Plumtre, Esq. Barrister-at-law, daughter of Kingsmill Eyre, Esq. of New House, Wilts, who died 5th March, 1812, aged 84: another to Christopher Robert Pemberton, M.D. who died 24th July, 1822, aged 57;

also John James Pemberton, son of the above, who died 8th April, 1824, aged 28. In the south aisle, a memorial for Wm. Hammond, obt. 1717, æt. 64: another for John Hamon, and Margaret and Mary his wives, 1526: and others for the same family.

Nonington church is dedicated to St. Mary.

Womenswold Church. At the altar, a large monument to Thomas Marsh, Esq. who was Lieut. Colonel of the Militia, Captain of Sandown Castle, and of the militia troop of horse, and Deputy Lieut. of Dover Castle; he was descended from Anne, sister of Sir Francis Nethersole, of Nethersole House, in the parish of Wymingswold: during the civil wars he returned to Pollesworth, in Warwickshire, and died in 1659. On the north wall, in the chancel, a monument to John Marsh, Esq. Counsellor-at-Law, who died 3d Dec. 1752, aged 70. In the aisle, on the south wall, a beautiful tablet for Annetta, Lady Montresor, wife of Lieut. General Sir Henry T. Montresor, K.C.B. of Denne Hill, and only child of the Rev. Ed. Cage; she died 12th June, 1827, aged 34: near the last, a monument for General Sir Henry Tucker Montresor, of Denne Hill, K.C.B. and Grand Cross of the Hanoverian Guelphic Order, who died 10th March, 1837, aged 69: also a fine monument to Mrs. Elizabeth Nethersole, daughter of Stephen Nethersole, of this parish, Gent.: and one to W. Nethersole, 1654.

Womenswold Church is dedicated to St. Margaret.

351

HUNDRED OF PRESTON.

Elmstone Court, in the Parish of Elmstone, the property of Wm. Delmar, Esq. is situated two miles north-east from Wingham, from Canterbury eight miles, and from London 63 miles.

Elmstone was a part of the possessions of the Convent of St. Augustine, and is entered in Domesday-book under the general title of the Abbot's lands. Towards the end of the reign of Charles I. it was purchased of Mr. Wm. Gibbs by Robert Jaques, of London, whose two daughters inheriting it jointly, part of the demesne lands were allotted to Rebecca, the youngest, married to John Whitfield, of Canterbury, Gentleman, but the manor itself, with the advowson, became the property of Henry Partridge, Esq. of Berkshire, the husband of Joane, the eldest daughter, in whose descendants it continued till a recent period.

Preston Court, in the Parish of Preston-next-Wingham, the property and residence of Samuel Elgar Toomer, Esq. is a modern house, erected by the father of the present proprietor. The grounds are ornamented with shrubberies and a small sheet of water. It is situated on the north side of the church, and is distant from Wingham two miles in a northern direction, from Canterbury nearly seven miles, and from London about 62 miles.

Preston Court, with the manor, was, in early times, part of the possessions of the Convent of St. Augustine. In the 8th year of the reign of King John it was held of the Abbot by fee-farm by John Capel, but was subsequently confirmed to him. He soon after passed it away to William, son of Sir Roger de Leyborne, whose grand-daughter, Juliana, commonly called the Infanta of Kent, entitled successively her three husbands, John de Hastings, Thomas le Blount, and Sir William de Clinton, afterwards Earl of Huntingdon, to the possession of it: but she at last dying a widow, anno 41 Edward III. and without any heir whatever, this estate escheated to the Crown. Richard II. granted it to Sir Simon de Burley; but he being attainted and beheaded, it vested again in the Crown, and the king, in his 11th year, settled it on the priory of Chiltern Langley, in Hertfordshire, with which house it remained till the dissolution by Hen. VIII. This monarch granted it, first to Richard, Bishop Suffragan of Dover, and afterwards, in capite, to Sir Thos. Moyle, whose daughter, Amy, carried it in marriage to Sir Thomas Kempe: Sir Thomas dying in 1607, his second daughter, Anne, gave the possession of it to her husband, Sir Thos. Chicheley, and his son alienated it to Mr. Spence, of Baukham, in Sussex, of whose descendants, in 1769, it was purchased by Nathaniel Elgar, of

Sandwich. On the death of Mr. Elgar, in 1796, one of his nieces then entitled her husband, S. Toomer, Esq. to the possession of it.

352

HUNDRED OF DOWNHAMFORD.

The town of FORDWICH was, in former times, of much greater importance than it has been for many years past. At the time the sea flowed up to it from Reculver it was the great resort of all the shipping that frequented the Stour; and these were so numerous in the time of the Saxons, that a collector of the customs and droits, arising from the lading and unlading of vessels at its quay, was appointed by the king, and was continued for several centuries afterwards. Scarcely any thing, however, remains, but history, to tell of its former flourishing condition. The town now is small and mean, and is a lonely, unfrequented place. The manor was given by Edward the Confessor, in the year 1055, to the Abbot and Convent of St. Augustine, from which it was not separated till the dissolution of the monastery. Fordwich gives the title of Viscount to the Earls Cowper.

Hermesland House, in the Parish of Fordwich, the seat of Major General Evatt, adjoins Fordwich on the south, and is distant from Canterbury rather more than two miles.

Hermesland, in Elizabeth's reign, belonged to Simon Harlestone, the descendant of a family from Suffolk. It was afterwards purchased by the Osbornes, one of whom, William Osborne, A.M. Rector of Fordwich, alienated it to Vice-Admiral John Graydon, who rebuilt the seat. His eldest son, John, succeeded him, in 1727, but dying, s. p. in 1774, the estate devolved on the Admiral's second son, Benjamin, whose son, of the same name, inherited it on his father's death.

Fordwich Church. In the chancel, on the north wall, a monument for Friend Tomlin, Esquire, Senior Jurat of this town, who died 27th Feb. 1819; also Margaret Norton, widow of the above, who died 27th May, 1827, aged 67; erected by their only son, Mayor of this town. At the altar, a brass for Catherine Norton, late wife to Valentine Norton, of Fordwich, and sole daughter and heir of William Wickham, of South Mimms, in Hertfordshire, Esquire, who died 16th Jan. 1610, aged 21. In the middle aisle, on the south wall, a tablet to Anthony Jennings, Esquire, who died 15th May, 1830, aged 74. A brass in the middle aisle to Aphra Hawkins, wife of Henry Hawkins, Gent. and daughter of Thomas Norton, Esquire; she died 16th Jan. 1605, aged scarcely 21 years. In the north aisle, on the north wall, a tablet to the late Major Thomas Scott, who died at Fordwich House, 28th Dec. 1834, aged 46; erected by his brother officers, to record their esteem of the worth, talent, and virtues that so eminently distinguished his character.

Fordwich Church is dedicated to St. Mary.

353

The lands called Trendley Park, at the west extremity of the Parish of Wickhambreaux, now accounted a manor, appear to have been the first enclosed park in England, even having the priority of that of Woodstock. It is called "a park" in the survey of Domesday, and belonged at that time, together with the manor of Wickham, to Bishop Odo. Attached to the instrument of an exchange of some land in this park for some other belonging to Archbishop Lanfranc, is the seal of Odo, representing him, on one side, on horseback, with a sword and spurs, as an earl, on the other, as a bishop, with his pastoral staff. This is, perhaps, the only seal of that celebrated personage at this time extant.

When the enclosures of this park were destroyed it is not known.

Wickhambreaux Church is dedicated to St. Andrew. There are some remains of painted glass in the windows of this church.

In the chancel, on the south wall, a monument for Alexander Young, B.D. Rector of this parish and Vicar of Eastchurch, who died 21st March, 1753, aged 86; he rebuilt this parsonage-house and repaired that of Eastchurch; this monument was erected to his memory by Mary Young, his niece. On the north wall, a monument for Mary Young, niece to the Rev. Mr. Young, who died 8th May, 1767; she left to the wainscoting and ornamenting this chancel, to the Small Pox and Foundling Hospitals, £100 each, and the bulk of her fortune to her cousin, John Young, Esquire, of Harehatch, in Berks, who, in gratitude, erected this monument. Here is also a brass to the Rev. Henry Welde, Rector of this parish, 1420.

Elbridge House, in the Parish of Littlebourne, the seat of Denne Denne, Esquire, is a handsome modern house. The grounds are laid out with great taste, and the situation is sheltered and picturesque. Through the grounds flows a stream, that expands in front of the mansion into a fine sheet of water, in the centre of which is a sylvan isle. It is distant from Canterbury nearly four miles north-west, and from London 59 miles.

Rectory, Littlebourne, the residence of Captain Charles James, is distant from Canterbury nearly four miles west, and from London 59 miles.

Littlebourne Church is a neat building, consisting of three aisles and a chancel.

In the middle aisle are several memorials for the family of Denne. On the south wall, a tablet to Elizabeth, wife of Henry Denne, of Court Lodge, Esq. who died 8th Jan. 1780, aged 53; likewise to John, son of Henry and Elizabeth Denne, who died 29th Sept. 1793, aged 34; also the said Henry Denne, who died 20th April, 1794, aged 72.

Littlebourne Church is dedicated to St. Vincent.

Owlets, in the Parish of Beakesbourne, the elegant seat of the Rev. George

354

Gipps, M.A. a Magistrate for the County, is beautifully situated a short distance westward from Lee Priory, distant from Canterbury three miles west, and from London 58 miles.

Howlets, or Owlets, was formerly the seat of the family of Isaac, of Patricborne. In the 1st year of Elizabeth it was possessed by John Dorante, whose descendant, of the same name, alienated it to Sir Henry Palmer, who, dying in 1611, gave it by will to his son-in-law, Sir Isaac Sidley, Bart. This gentleman conveyed his right in it to his brother-in-law, Sir Henry Palmer, and he, about 1620, alienated it to Sir Charles Hales, of Thannington. During the life-time of his great-great-grandson, Sir Thomas Hales, the seat fell down, and the family removed to another. His descendant, Sir Philip Hales, Baronet, in 1787 alienated the site of it, together with the gardens and offices, to Isaac Baugh, Esq. who built the present mansion, and, in 1799, sold it to Cholmely Dering, Esq.

Beakesbourne Church is a long, narrow, ancient building, dedicated to St. Peter.

In the chancel, on the south wall, a monument for Henry Palmer, 1611: another for Richard Fogg, Esq. descended of the ancient family of Fogg, of this county, who died 15th Aug. 1681, aged 81: another for John Peckham, Esq. youngest son of Robert and Mary Peckham, late of Patricbourn Court, in this county; he died Jan. 5th, 1792, aged 67: one for Robert Peckham, Esq. of the Archbishop's Palace, in this parish, who died 31st Dec. 1795, aged 71; his remains are deposited with those of his brothers in the vault beneath. In the south transept, on the east wall, a monument for Sir Thomas Pym Hales, Baronet, representative of the Port of Dover; he died 18th March, 1773; Mary, daughter of Gervas Hayward, widow of the above, erected this monument. On the south wall, a tablet to Sir Philip Hales, Bart. who died 27th May, 1824; at his death the title, which was granted to his ancestors in 1660, became extinct; also to Dame Elizabeth Hales, his widow, daughter and heiress of Thomas Smith, Esq. of Nottinghamshire, who died 17th May, 1833;

and Elizabeth, their only child, who died 5th March, 1836. On the north side of the aisle, a monument for Maria, wife of the Rev. R. Phillips Brandon, LL.B. who died 4th Feb. 1780, aged 47: another for the Rev. William Bedford, M.A. Vicar of this parish and Smarden, who died 11th Oct. 1783, aged 82; he married Susanna, daughter of Gilbert Knowler, of Hearne, Esq. by whom he had fifteen children, eight of whom, with their mother, (who died 8th June, 1768, aged 60) are here interred: also a tablet to Lady Yates, relict of the late Mr. Justice Yates, and of Dr. Bishop, of Rochester; she died April 9th, 1808, aged 71.

Lee Priory, in the Parish of Ickham, the seat of Sir John William Egerton Brydges, Bart. Lieut. in the army, is a fine specimen of gothic architecture. It contains a good collection of paintings, including Herodias' Daughter, by Carlo Dolce; several portraits, by Vandyck, &c. &c. &c.

Lee Priory is distant from London 59 miles.

Lee, anciently Legh, formerly belonged to a family that took their name from it. Richard de la Legh was owner of it in the reign of Edward I. At the end of Edward IV.'s reign it had passed to the family of Stoks, or Stokys, and in the reign of James I. it became the property, by purchase, of Sir William Southland, whose grandson, Thomas Southland, Esq. in 1676, alienated it to Paul Bar-

355

rett, Esq. who was afterwards honoured with knighthood. On the death of his grandson, Thomas Barrett, Esq. in 1757, this estate devolved on his son, Thomas Barrett, Esq. who, dying in 1803, bequeathed it to his nephew, Thomas Barrett Brydges, Esq. eldest son of S. E. Brydges, Esq. of Denton.

Ickham Church is dedicated to St. John. The north chancel belongs to the estate of Lee Priory.

In the Lee chancel, on the east wall, a monument to Sir William Southland, of Lee, in this parish, Knt. who married Anne, daughter of Michael Berisforde, of Westerham, in Kent, Esq.; bom 18th Oct. 1578, died 1st May, 1638: in this chancel are also interred several of the family of Barrett. In the middle aisle, on the south side, a monument to John Word, of Bramling House, in this parish, Esq. Post Captain in the Royal Navy; he married, 26th Aug. 1789, Ann, daughter and co-heiress of John Bennet Alexander, Esq. R. N. and died 24th June, 1820, aged 54. In the south wall there is an old stone figure, without inscription; and in the north wall under an arch, is an ancient monument with a figure in stone, which Hasted thinks is in memory of Richard de la Legh, of Legh.

Woodlands, in the Parish of Adisham, is the property (jointly) of Commander John Harvey and Lieutenant H. W. Harvey, both of the Royal Navy. The house was erected by John Dilnott, Esq. uncle to the present proprietors, about thirty-one years ago, in the modern style. In the interior are three portraits, by Janssen, and a Bandit, by Vander Meulen, which were presented to John Dilnott, Esq. by the Baron De Montesquieu. The young plantations about the house contribute to its modern aspect.

Woodlands is distant from Dover 10 miles north-west, from Canterbury five miles, from Deal about 10 miles, and from London 60 miles.

Staple Church is dedicated to St. James. The north, or Groves chancel, has a circular roof.

In the Groves chancel, a tablet to Grace, daughter of the Rev. John Squier, late Rector of Barns, near London, by Grace, his wife, eldest daughter of Mr. John Lynch, of Groves in this parish, where she was born, Nov. 24th, 1652; she died at Harrietsham, in this county, Feb. 12th, 1664, aged 12. On the south side, a monument to John Clark, son of John Clark, M.D. and Sarah, daughter of Gratian Lynch, Arm. obt. Feb. 1691: another to Gratian Lynch and Rebecca, his wife; he died Jan. 1691, and she died Feb. 1674; and another to Sir William Lynch, who died 25th Aug. 1785: here are also other monuments to the Lynch family. On the north wall, in the aisle, a tablet to the

Rev. John Lynch, LL.D., Archdeacon of this diocese. Prebendary of Canterbury, and Rector of St. Dionis Backchurch, in London, who died May 1st, 1803, aged 68; he was the youngest son of the Rev. John Lynch, brother to the Right Hon. Sir William Lynch, K.B. and grandson of Archbishop Wake; his niece, Catherine Elizabeth, wife of James Drake Brockman, of Beachborough, in this county, Esq. erects this monument: a tablet to the Rev. William Tatton, D.D. Prebendary of York and Canterbury, Rector of Rotherfield, in Sussex, and of St. Dionis Backchurch, London, son of Lieut. Gen. Tatton; he died Feb. 11th, 1782, aged 62; also Sarah his wife, daughter of the Rev. J. Lynch, D.D. who died May 1st, 1777, aged 45; William, their son, died 22d April, 1775,

356

aged 12; Catherine Elizabeth, wife of James Drake Brockman, of Beachborough, Esq. erects this monument to the memory of her parents: also a tablet to Terry Marsh, Esq. of Boughton-under-Blean, in this county, who died 24th April, 1789, aged 36; and Roberta Catherina, who died July 8th, 1821, aged 69.

HUNDRED OF WESTGATE.

The Ville of the Hundred of Westgate, alias Dunkirk, was formerly "the king's ancient forest of Blean," and was a chase of very great extent. So late as the reign of Henry VI. wild boars were hunted in these woods; and for the protection of beasts of chase, a regular keeper of the Blean was appointed by royal patent. When ferine sports began to be discontinued, our monarchs made separate grants of certain tracts of these woods, so that at present they are in the hands of various proprietors; but the cathedral church of Canterbury possesses a very considerable portion.

Hales Place, in St. Stephen's parish, the uninhabited mansion of the family of Hales, is a noble structure, situated in an extensive and beautiful park, about one mile north from Canterbury. The building of it was begun in the year 1768. In the house is a chapel, where service, according to the rites of the Roman Catholic church, is performed every Sunday.

The Manor of Haghe, or Hawe, now Hall, was one of Bishop Odo's almost innumerable estates. This property has, at different periods, been possessed by the following eminent individuals and their families; Bellamont, or Beaumont, Earl of Leicester; Simon de Montfort; Edmund, Earl of Lancaster, second son of Henry III.; Sir Roger Manwood, Chief Baron of the Exchequer in the reign of Elizabeth; Sir Peter Manwood, and Sir Thomas Colepeper. Thomas Colepeper, Esq. son of the last-mentioned gentleman, sold it, in 1675, to E. Hales, Esq. afterwards Sir E. Hales, Bart. eldest son of Sir E. Hales, Bart. of Tunstall, who, in 1678, with the king's license, enclosed a park, the old one having been for some time disparked. His great-grandson, Sir Edward Hales, Bart. pulled down the ancient Place House, built by Sir Roger Manwood, and instead of it erected, in the park before named, the present magnificent edifice, which he named Hales Place.

St. Stephen's Church is built in the form of a cross. The south transept was erected by Sir Roger Manwood, who at the same time also repaired the other parts of the structure. In this church, prior to the Reformation, there was an image of its patron saint, the offerings to which were so numerous, that they formed a chief part of the maintenance of the Vicar.

357

In the chancel, on the east wall, a tablet to Johannes Bradcock, A.M. 1719, æt. 64. On the south wall, a monument for Richard Ibbetson, Rector of the Parish of Lambeth, in Surrey, Precentor of the Cathedral Church of Exeter, and Archdeacon of Exeter, who died 1st Sept. 1731, aged 52: a memorial to Walter Aylworth, Esq. who died 10th June, 1614; another to Edward Aylworth, Esq. High Steward of the Liberties of George, Archbishop of Canterbury, who died 12th Sept. 1625, aged 73: a very fine monument for Sir Roger Manwood, with his bust dressed in official robes as Chief Baron, and below it his skeleton, obt. 1592. On the north side, a monument for William Alcock, Esq. who

died 21st Feb. 1616, "to whose memory Alfrey, his wife, daughter of William Boyce, of Denton, hath erected this monument." In the middle aisle, on the north side, a tablet to Jane Baker, wife of John Baker, Esq. M.P. for Canterbury, who died 20th March, 1815, aged 66. Near the porch, a memorial for Lady Manwood, wife of John Manwood, daughter of Sir John Ogle, Knt. sometime a Colonel in the Netherlands, and Governor of Utrecht.

The Hospital of Harbledown, or as it was in earlier times called the Hospital of the Forest of Blean, with the adjoining church of St. Nicholas, was founded and endowed by Archbishop Lanfranc, about 1084, for the relief of persons afflicted with leprosy. Among the benefactions which it afterwards received was one from Henry II. of 20 marks a-year out of his fee-farm from the City of Canterbury, which payment is still continued by the Chamberlain of that city. The first body of statutes was given to the brethren by Archbishop Winchelsea. Subsequently Archbishop Parker, in 1560, gave them another code of laws, and this has since been altered and enlarged by succeeding prelates. Archbishop Islip, in 1355, confirmed to this hospital, jointly with that of St. John in Canterbury, £160 per annum payable from the parsonage of Reculver, their endowment having previously been given from various sources, as the primate for the time being decreed. This, at the period alluded to, was a very liberal allowance; but by the decrease in the value of money, notwithstanding their additional benefactions, the brethren were troubled to subsist on their income. At the present time, we believe, the hospital is supported chiefly from the temporalities of the See, the Parsonage of Reculver being incapable of yielding the sum allotted. The establishment, says Hasted, "is a master, 15 in-brothers, and the like number of sisters; one of the former being called the Prior, and one of the latter the Prioress: the same number of out-brothers and sisters, and a reader, who is a clerk in orders." The members lived at first in the conventual manner, but scantiness of income appears to have obliged them to take the common course of life. The church is considered to be the original Norman structure: it has an intermixture of circular and pointed arches.

In the orchard of the hospital is a well, called Prince's Well, but how it

358

gained that name cannot be correctly ascertained, though there are several traditions connected with it.

Before the Reformation, one of the brethren of the hospital, according to Erasmus, usually brought out to the better order of passengers travelling on the road the upper part of a shoe, set in copper and crystal, that belonged to Thomas à Becket, and which they would devoutly kiss as a sacred relic.

The Mint, or Claverings, adjoining the church-yard of St. Nicholas, is an extra parochial district, and part of the premises with which Archbishop Whitteley, in 1371, endowed a chantry priest, (who should be one of the brethren of the hospital) to celebrate divine service for the hospital. At the dissolution of the chantry, anno 2 Edward VI. it consisted of a messuage, garden, and tenement, called Claveringe Hospital.

Hall Place, in the Parish of Harbledown, the seat of Lieut. Colonel Webb, is situated on the right of the road from Canterbury to Faversham, at the distance of one mile from the former. The grounds are finely diversified with wood; and though the mansion stands very near the road, it is entirely screened from it by lofty trees and a profusion of lower shrubs. The interior is superbly furnished. There is a beautiful painting of a Lady and Child, by Sir Joshua Reynolds; and another of the Opening of the Trenches before Luxembourg, by Vander Meulen. Hall Place is distant from the metropolis 54 miles.

Hall Place was formerly called also Beverley, from a family that for many generations resided at it, whence they removed to Fordwich. From these it passed through the names of Norton, Merseday, Richardson, and Cornish, to Mr. Joseph Roberts, whose grandson, William Roberts, of London,

dying in 1746 unmarried, devised it to his half-sister, Mary, who, having survived her husbands, bequeathed it, in 1774, to her only daughter, Mary. This lady carried it in marriage to Sir Robert Mead Wilmot, Bart. of Chaddesden, in Derbyshire, the descendant of a family of great eminence, who, dying in 1793, left it in possession of his widow.

Hepeburn, in the Parish of Harbledown, the residence of the Right Hon. the Countess of Athlone, and property of Colonel Webb, is situate opposite Hall Place, separated from it only by the London and Canterbury road; Hall Place being on the north, and Hepeburn on the south side of it.

This seat belonged formerly to the family of Roberts, of Hall Place, and afterwards to that of Tiddeman; then by intermarriage it returned to the Roberts', and subsequently passed to George Gipps, Esq. M.P. of Canterbury, by his marriage with Elizabeth Johanna, only daughter of John Roberts, Esq.

359

Harbledown Church. In the chancel, on the south wall, a monument for Henry Pratt, Esq. of Harbledown, who died Sept. 22d, 1794, aged 66: another for Mary, daughter of Thomas Teddeman, Esq. of this parish, wife of John Roberts, of the City of Canterbury, Surgeon, and mother of Thomas Teddeman, Mary and Elizabeth; she died 29th May, 1736, aged 25; also Mary, her daughter, who died Aug. 28th, 1733, aged 8 months; and Thomas Teddeman, aged 8 years and 7 months; Elizabeth Johanna, daughter of John and Mary Roberts, and wife of George Gipps, of Canterbury, died 28th Aug. 1775, aged 41; Sarah, daughter of Samuel and Mary Stanton, and second wife of George Gipps, died 2d June, 1789, aged 41: a tablet to George Gipps, Esq. who died 11th Feb. 1800, aged 72, having represented the City of Canterbury in four successive Parliaments; he left surviving him his third wife, Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Lawrence, M.D. many years President of the Royal College of Physicians, London. On the east wall, a monument for John Horsley, Gent. of this parish, who died 31st Jan. 1825, aged 72; and Sarah, his wife, who died 9th March, 1822, aged 61; also John Thomas, their eldest son, Major in the 59th Regiment of Foot, who died 6th April, 1815, at Llanbedrog, North Wales, aged 31; likewise Edward their youngest son, Captain of the 9th Regiment of Bengal Cavalry, who died at Neemuch in the East Indies, 1st Oct. 1829, aged 26.

Harbledown Church is dedicated to St. Michael.

The ancient Place House, or St. Dunstan's Place, in the Parish of St. Dunstan's, near Canterbury, opposite the church, which is now a brewhouse, was the earliest residence in this county of the eminent family of Roper, from one of whom Christopher Roper, Esq. who resided at Linsted, about 1530, are descended the Ropers, Lords Teynham and Dacre. The old gate entering from the street still exists in its unmodernized originality, and cannot fail to attract the eye of the passenger.

St. Dunstan's Church, is a handsome building, with a tower-steeple at the south-west corner. The south chancel belongs to the old Place House, and contains many memorials of the Roper family. In the vault underneath is interred Margaret, daughter of Sir Thomas More, and wife of William Roper, Esq. This lady having affectionately preserved the head of her father, of which she had privily obtained possession after its ignominious exposure on London Bridge, desired that at her death it might accompany her to the grave; and accordingly it was deposited in this vault in a hollow in the wall, near her coffin, and secured by an iron grating.

In the chancel, on the south wall, two old stone monuments without inscription: a tablet to Lieut. Col. Charles Webb, formerly of St. Thomas' Hill, in this parish, who died 11th June, 1786, aged 68; also Sarah Webb, relict of the above, who died 16th May, 1811, aged 84. On the north wall, a fine monument for Thomas Rooper, obt. 1 Jan. 1597. In the south aisle, on the south wall, a tablet to William Carter, M.B. formerly Fellow of Oriel College, Oxford, who died March 13th, 1799,

aged 88; also Anne, his wife, who died July 22d, 1803, aged 84; also Anna Maria Carter, who died

360

Jan. 6th, 1816, aged 57; and George Carter, who died Jan. 2d, 1833, aged 75: a monument for Claudius Rondeau, Esq. his Majesty's Resident at the Court of Russia, from the year 1730 to the year 1739; he was born March 28th, 1695, and died at St. Petersburg, Oct. 5th, 1739; also his posthumous daughter, Claudia Rondeau, born May 8th, 1740, and died the 31st of the same month. In the north aisle, on the north wall, a monument for Daniel Hall, twice Mayor of Canterbury; his first wife was Leah Rigden, who, with her three children, lie buried near this place, obt. Oct. 3, 1742; æt. 81; also his son, Daniel, obt. 20 Feb. 1740, æt. 24.

CANTERBURY, the Durovernum of the Romans, appears, even in their time, to have been a considerable place. Many traces of their settlement, such as vessels, tessellated pavements, and various remains of building, have been often discovered here. Roman bricks are a frequent material in the city walls; and three gateways, entirely Roman, were standing till near the end of the last century. The Roman road, called the Watling Street, passes through the town, and here branches off in two directions to Dover and Sandwich. Canterbury owes its modern name to the Saxons, who called it Cant-wara-byrg, (the castle of the Kentish men.) During the Heptarchy it was the capital of the Kingdom of Kent, and became so populous, that at the time of the Norman conquest, according to Brompton, it contained more houses than London.

Nothing remarkable occurs in its history previous to the event that gave this city its grand ecclesiastical importance. In 596 Augustine, accompanied with forty monks, having landed at Ebbsfleet, in the Isle of Thanet, Ethelbert, the King of Kent, gave them there a solemn hearing; and, by their persuasions, was so far disposed in favour of the new doctrine, that he allowed its free promulgation, and invited its teachers to take up their abode in his capital. Ethelbert had married a christian princess, of France, named Bertha, whose influence was very serviceable to the missionaries. She had here been allowed the public exercise of her religion in the church of St. Martin, which had been erected in the Roman times. This she now opened to the strangers; and the christian faith spread so rapidly, that the king's attention was more and more excited, till at length he also professed himself a convert. He then resigned his palace at Canterbury to the use of the monks, and fixed his own habitation at Reculver. Augustine turned the palace into a convent, where he and his brethren lived together, without distinction of property; a mode of life which for many centuries his successors were contented to adopt. The Norman, Lanfranc, was the first to appropriate an income and a palace to himself.

The success of Augustine soon extended considerably beyond the limits of Kent. He received the dignity of Archbishop from his patron, Gregory, and

361

founded a cathedral, which, with the priory attached to it, he dedicated to the name of Christ, styling them the priory and cathedral of Christchurch. With the assistance of Ethelbert he also commenced in the suburb the building of the abbey, which, after his death, took the name of St. Augustine. Burials within town walls were not then permitted; and the abbey was designed as a place of sepulture for the kings of Kent and the metropolitan prelates. Here, accordingly, were interred Ethelbert and his queen Bertha; Augustine, himself; and several generations of Saxon princes and primates. This secondary establishment proved, in its day, a very powerful one, and rivalled the neighbouring priory; the abbots repeatedly obtaining the right of wearing the pontifical mitre, though the jealousy of the Archbishops generally prevented its use.

Augustine died in 605, nine or ten years after his arrival in England. He is described as a tall and graceful person, of noble and commanding deportment;

and Gregory perhaps regarded him, therefore, as so much the better qualified for his mission; especially as the "angelic" beauty of the English captives (according to the well known anecdote) first impressed the pontiff with the wish to convert their countrymen. The imagination is so willing to reverence the idea of the Apostle of England, and there is something so pleasing in many of the circumstances attending his labours, that we cannot, without reluctance, admit the fact which the history of the time makes but too probable; viz. that, with all his zeal, he was arrogant, ambitious, and vindictive. His influence having extended itself through several portions of the Heptarchy, he aspired further to the dominion of the old British church, in Wales, and summoned its bishops to repair to him, and acknowledge his higher authority, and the supremacy of Rome. The fame of the great preacher was imposing, and they asked the advice of a venerated hermit. "If the stranger is from God," said the hermit, "he will shew the meekness of his master; and in that case it is fit that you should obey his directions. Go to him, as he desires; and if, at your approach, he rises to greet you, pay attention to his words: but if he remains sitting, be warned by his posture to have no further concern with him." They made the experiment: the haughty dignitary kept his seat; and the Welch ecclesiastics, abruptly quitting the conference, were followed by his anathemas and menaces. Augustine did not live to see the consummation of his vengeance; but he stirred up against them a confederacy of the Saxon kings, who soon afterwards invaded Wales, and put the independent bishops to the sword.

Notwithstanding these early pretensions, however, it was long before the superiority of Canterbury was fully established, even over the English dioceses.

362

And the grand struggle between the two archiepiscopal sees for pre-eminence on one side, and equality on the other, continued so late as the middle of the fourteenth century, and strange instances are recorded of its violence. Lambarde tells a story of an Archbishop of York, who, disappointed in his hope of being chosen instead of his rival of Canterbury, to crown King Henry II. took the vexation so fatally to heart, that he mixed poison in his chalice at the mass, and died from the effects of the draught. Soon afterwards, it appears, a synod broke up in confusion, in consequence of the two archbishops having come to blows in the presence of Pope Alexander's Cardinal Legate, upon a dispute about priority of place. And in the time of Edward III. according to the same author, a Parliament, which had been summoned to York, was prevented from assembling by the refusal of Stratford, the Archbishop of Canterbury, to appear himself, or allow the attendance of his bishops, where he was apprehensive that he would not be suffered to hear up his cross in due state. Upon this the king determined that, in future, each of the primates should be free to bear up his cross in the other's province; but that he of York should for ever, in token of subjection, within two months after being enthroned, offer on the shrine of St. Thomas the Martyr the golden image of an archbishop bearing a cross, or present some other jewel worth £40. So duly was the example followed of the man who first taught the English to reverence the cross.

The seventh successor of Augustine was Theodore, a learned native of Greece, who brought with him a large library. Lambarde mentions, that Archbishop Parker had shewn him several very ancient books; the Psalms, and sundry Homilies in Greek, a Homer, and some other Greek authors, beautifully written, with the name of this Theodore prefixed to them. He founded a college at Canterbury, which was the pattern of the one that Sigebert, King of the East Angles, established soon afterwards – as some antiquaries have contended, at Cambridge. Theodore was also the first who divided the country into parishes, procured a fixed provision for the clergy, and encouraged the building of churches, by appointing their founders to be the perpetual patrons.

The abbey of St. Augustine had now enjoyed, for nearly a century and a half,

the exclusive right of giving interment to the fathers of the English church. At a time when archbishops might be sainted, when saints were worshipped, and worshippers were munificent, such a right was worth contesting; and Cuthbert, the eleventh in the line, procured the pope's authority to transfer it in future to the cathedral. From this Cuthbert we may date our practice of burying in towns, which now first became lawful. He was himself buried within the precincts of

363

the cathedral, but in a very private manner, lest the monks of the abbey should insist on their usual privilege. At the death of the next prelate they determined to be not so easily balked; and their abbot, Jambright, (or Lambright,) presented himself at the gates of the priory, with armed men, to enforce the claims of his society. But not thus succeeding, he went to Rome, and was there so assiduous, that the monks of Christchurch made him archbishop, to prevent his further prosecution of the cause. He, nevertheless, bequeathed his body to his old monastery, which thenceforth, however, was no more the depository of such venerable dead. In the time of Jambright, an archbishop's pall was obtained for Lichfield by Offa, King of Mercia, who made an attempt to deprive Canterbury of its metropolitan dignity. But Kenulph, his successor, gave up the design, distinctly allowing the higher claims of the City of St. Augustine.

Soon afterwards appear the two most imperious primates of the Saxon period, Odo and Dunstan. Odo was a Dane, who, in consequence of his embrace of Christianity, had been disowned by his family. But by this time the church had prizes to offer, which might more than compensate an ambitious aspirant for the displeasure of his natural friends. The "constitutions of Odo" command "the king, and all in authority under him, humbly to obey the archbishops and bishops, who have the keys of the kingdom of heaven:" and all men are warned to "lay no impost on the clergy, who are the sons of God; and if any man taxes them, he must be more impudently wicked than the crucifiers of Christ." This was enough to confound impudence itself, and strike common blasphemy dumb.

Whilst the primate thus magnified the church, Dunstan was equally or still more powerful as Abbot of Glastonbury. By his sway over the mind of King Edred, he became, in fact, the ruler of the realm; and, during his ascendancy, contrived to make his favourite order of Benedictine monks so extensively powerful, that, on his banishment by Edwy, (the succeeding sovereign,) it was probably their discontent that produced a civil war, which ended in the formal division of the kingdom. Edwy seems from the moment of his accession to have made Dunstan his enemy, by charging him, whether justly or not, with being more attentive to ecclesiastical interests than to the rights of property, in his execution of the late king's will, who had left him his principal trustee. Moreover, the young prince, in defiance of his spiritual directors, had either wedded, or was bent upon wedding, the beautiful Elgiva, who seems to have been related to him within the degrees which, by the canons of the Romish church, make marriage unlawful. On his coronation-day he offended the nobles and principal clergy by abruptly quitting the banquet-hall to enjoy her more attractive society.

364

Dunstan, in company with some other ecclesiastics, forced him rudely back into the assembly; but was compelled, the very next day, to seek safety abroad from the resentment his violence had incurred. The king, however, was unable to protect the unhappy object of his affections. The brutal Odo caused her to be seized and branded in the face, to make her infamous and destroy her charms. She was then banished to Ireland, where, notwithstanding what she had suffered, she gradually recovered her beauty. Meanwhile a rebellion broke out in the province of Mercia, instigated, as most historians have inferred, by Odo and the monks, the partizans of the exiled abbot. In this state of affairs Elgiva

ventured back to England, but, on her way to rejoin Edwy, was overtaken and put to a most cruel death "by a troop of Mercians," according to one old writer; "by the servants of Odo," according to another, or, as he is pleased to phrase it, (with reference to this ferocious priest,) "the servants of the man of God;" the probable fact being, that the Mercians were stirred up by Odo's machinations, and thus became the instruments of his barbarity./* Half the nation having placed itself under the sceptre of the king's rival brother, Edgar, the latter recalled the Abbot of Glastonbury, and, on Edwy's death, which misfortune seems to have hastened, promoted him to the metropolitan chair, whence Brithelm, (who, a short time before had succeeded Odo,) was removed to make room for the triumphant Dunstan.

Here he reigned more absolute than ever. One of his main objects had long been the oppression of the secular clergy, all of whom that refused to divorce their wives and take the monkish cowl, were now expelled from this and the other cathedrals and large monasteries. And, but for the death of Edgar, and the speedy assassination of the boy Edward, (whom the primate's power had placed next upon the throne,) he would probably have completed the ruin of this persecuted class. Dunstan died in 988, but his influence did not terminate with his life. The name of St. Dunstan conjures up a cloud of miracles, which now, indeed, (since monks have ceased to illuminate them,) obscure his fame, and

/* These quotations may be read in Dr. Lingard's note upon the subject. The story which that author produces of the joint depravity of Elgiva and her mother, seems surely as improbable as it is monstrous, and unsupported by any detail of circumstances. Even the malignant and polluting testimony of the scandalous monkish writer on whose authority he most insists, implies Edwy's intention to make one of them his queen. He was but a youth of sixteen; and is it likely that the mother either would or could be the daughter's rival? But Dunstan and Odo (those "men of God,") were to be cleared of the guilt of blood; and for that purpose the unfortunate lovers were to be covered with measureless infamy.

365

make the wonder-worker appear as unsubstantial as the wonders. Not that all of the latter were really contemptible: the man who, presiding over a solemn assembly, could preserve himself and his friends untouched, in the very house where part of the fabric, by falling on the heads of his opponents, decided the cause at issue in his favour, must certainly have had formidable powers at his command. The meeting which thus terminated was held at Calne, in Wiltshire: Dunstan himself made the previous arrangements, and the catastrophe is supposed to have been neither miraculous nor accidental. The question to be settled was the unlawfulness of the marriage of priests. The truth is, the exemption of ecclesiastics from domestic ties was necessary for the accumulation of wealth and power to the church, for imposing on the people, and for the greater compactness and devotion of the whole sacred phalanx in the cause of her aggrandizement. The battle upon this vital point of celibacy long continued undecided, and, in a later age, was renewed with double vigour by Lanfranc and Anselm, the first two of the Norman primates. Lanfranc again drove the seculars out of his cathedral, who had crept back after the death of Dunstan; and Anselm caused all the married clergy to be condemned and excommunicated in a great council of the bishops of the kingdom, in spite of a dispensation which he had received from the pope, to allow the marriages of the "untractable" English priesthood.

But while the earlier archbishops were thus laying deep the foundations of an exorbitant tyranny, the nation and the church together, long harassed by the Danes, seemed now in great danger of being entirely overwhelmed with this second influx of heathens. The City of Canterbury had already suffered from them severely; for, as they frequently wintered in the Isle of Thanet, it lay particularly exposed to their ravages. They took it in the year 851, and again in 918. On this latter occasion they were driven out by the warlike daughter of

Alfred, Elfleda, "the mighty lady of Mercia," but not till after a furious conflict, in the course of which the city was reduced to ruins. In 1009, it is said to have redeemed itself, for a brief interval, with a sum of £30,000. Within two years it was again attacked by the inexorable Danes, who, after a siege of twenty days, having set many of the houses on fire by their flaming arrows, forced an entrance while the inhabitants were distracted between the necessity of quenching the conflagration and defending the walls. The conquerors committed horrible atrocities, and ended with butchering 8000 (nine out of every ten) of the captive people. Elfeg, the archbishop, they carried off to their station at Greenwich; and there, on his repeated refusal to tax his exhausted citizens and tenants for an enormous ransom, they beat him to death, in one of their drunken revels,

366

with the horns and bones of the oxen on which they had been feasting; the last merciful blow being given, it is said, by one Thurkill, whom the archbishop had baptized but the day before. Horrified by these events, Elfeg's successor, Livingus, fled out of the kingdom, and remained abroad till Canute the Dane was on the throne, whose countrymen were then no longer at war with their English fellow-subjects. During the struggle of centuries, indeed, the Danes had in great measure gradually assimilated themselves to the people they came to oppress; numbers of them had adopted the same faith, and, by long settlement, many of their hordes were incorporated with the Saxon nation. Canute was a munificent patron of the church; rebuilt the cathedral which had been ruined at the late storming of the city; and having won the character of a most religious prince, he still figures in its painted windows, with other venerable and sainted kings, who appear there along with the forms of prophets and apostles.

The last primate of the Saxon line was Stigand, a man of energetic character, and a true-hearted Englishman; consequently the Normans have blighted his name. When Earl Godwin and his sons demanded of the Confessor to be reinstated in their country, (which thereupon would be delivered from the objects of their hatred, the Norman interlopers,) it was Stigand (then Bishop of East Anglia) who convinced the reluctant king that his soldiers would not fight for foreign court-favourites against the Saxon patriots. It was Stigand who presided over the Witenagemot, whose vote restored those patriots. And, on the consequent flight of the Norman archbishop with the rest of his countrymen, it was Stigand who entered boldly on the office of primate, though the papal authority was with his fugitive predecessor. It was Stigand who placed the crown on Harold's head, and affirmed that the oath which this prince had once been seduced and forced to swear – to the effect that the kingdom should be delivered up to the Duke of Normandy – had not only been treacherously extorted by that duke, but was void, because it was unlawful for Harold to observe it; and because the nation's own chosen king was called by God to defend his country from the Norman pretender. And when gloomy forebodings prevailed, Stigand still cheered up his countrymen, and roused them to feel that the cause they fought for was not sacrilegious and forbidden, but just and therefore hopeful – sacred, whatever fortune awaited it. After the battle of Hastings he still stood forth the unflinching antagonist of the Conqueror; and ere the Normans could reach London, he had encouraged nobles and people to proclaim Edgar Atheling their king. And if the Saxon prince had possessed half the spirit of the Bishop,

367

William perhaps might never have been known by any other epithet than the Bastard. Stigand, however, though unable to rescue his country, has the credit of having effectually imposed some little restriction on her conqueror. The monkish story places him at the head of the commons of Kent, when, interrupting

the invader's march towards the capital, they made him (as it is said) promise to respect those privileges of Gavelkind which are still famous in the county. But though it is likely enough that the archbishop may have gathered such a band, it is not at all likely (as it has been justly observed) that he would have approved of any such capitulation. Disappointed by it (more probably) – if in reality it took place – perhaps from the scene of this convention he hastened back to London; where, on the approach of the Normans, he certainly was, labouring to collect sufficient power for another battle. There he awaited the Conqueror's arrival – whom he refused to crown. It was soon remembered that, on his preferment to the see of Canterbury, not caring to wait in vain for the pope's investiture, he had dared to endue himself with the pall which Robert the Norman had left behind him in the hurry of his flight; and Stigand's patriotism was rewarded with deprivation and a prison, where he ended his days in Normandy.

Lanfranc (whom the new monarch appointed in his room), unlike his predecessor, who is said to have been "not remarkable for learning," was so famous for it, (as his works yet extant may show), that at Caen, and also at Bec, where he had formerly been Abbot, his school of theology was renowned throughout France. Only Berengarius, the Archdeacon of Angers, rivalled him as a philosophical teacher. With him Lanfranc, before he came to England, had a grand controversy on the subject of transubstantiation – a doctrine which the latter strenuously maintained. While he held the primacy he is said to have corrected with great diligence the faulty transcripts then in use of the Old and New Testament. This prelate had likewise a bold practical genius, and made the power of the Church of England as absolute as his patron made the monarchy. Yet it must also be acknowledged that he eventually lost the despot's favour, by honestly urging him to amend his oppressive and perfidious conduct towards his English subjects. Till then he had enjoyed a high place in his master's confidence. At his instance, William's powerful brother, Odo, Bishop of Baieux and Earl of Kent, was, for his intolerable exactions, summoned to an account before the great meeting upon Penenden Heath. Odo, in his government of this province, had laid his hands on whatever was within his reach, especially of the property of the Church, which, as a churchman himself, he could manage to get possession of with the

368

less difficulty. He was now obliged to refund his ill-gotten booty, to restore twenty-one manors which had belonged to the See of Canterbury, besides several others that he had taken from Rochester. When William afterwards meditated to imprison this dangerous brother, but feared the displeasure of the pope, the logical Lanfranc suggested that his holiness might be assured, it was the Earl of Kent, not the Bishop of Baieux, that was arrested. The Earl of Kent was arrested accordingly.

The era of the Normans was distinguished by their superior architecture. Lanfranc took down the Saxon cathedral – an example followed by many of the bishops of his time – and reared on its foundation a much nobler pile. Its further improvement was not neglected during the turbulent primacy of his successor, Anselm, when the skill of the priors, Ernulph and Conrad, (both of Christchurch), was employed in renewing or greatly beautifying the choir. In due time the glory of St. Thomas overspread the new cathedral. Three or four years after his martyrdom the choir and some other parts of the church were destroyed by fire, and rebuilt at the expense of the pilgrims, who already flocked to his tomb. Fifty years later, Becket's remains were pompously enshrined, under the direction of Stephen Langton. This was the primate whose appointment by the pope, in place of another whom the king, conjointly with the monks of Christchurch, had already chosen, provoked the resentment, and hence occasioned the excommunication, the submission, and the vassalage of John to the papal see; and at the same time gave his barons the opportunity of laying the foundations of English

liberty. When John complained of the insulting conduct of his holiness, he was reminded that he would do well not to impugn a cause for which the blessed St. Thomas had shed his blood. But, to the honour of Langton, it should be noted that the pope mistook his man when he fixed on him for his creature. Langton was an Englishman, and proved his English blood: he protested against the act by which his sovereign professed to hold the crown of England at the pope's will; interdicted the publication of the bull that should have overawed those who were in arms against the vassal of the holy see; and, in spite of the pope, confederated with the barons, whose counsels he seems in great measure to have directed, and insisted on the Magna Charta.

The grandeur of the cathedral was now fully answerable to the fame of its new patron saint; and Augustine would have beheld a marvellous contrast to the humble building in which he cradled his infant church. The Saxon edifice seems, from the descriptions left of it, to have consisted merely of a body, without aisles or transepts, and with a single tower at the western end. At first,

369

perhaps it was hardly superior, even in size, to the little church (still in use) of St. Martin-on-the-Hill.

This unpretending place, where Augustine opened his ministry, seems, before we go into the cathedral, to claim a brief notice, as the parent of every religious house in the land, and an object disposing the mind to imagine the circumstances of its early consecration. Not that it can be supposed to be the identical building which we are told was a bishop's seat during the Roman empire, and in which, afterwards, the first Saxon Christians were actually assembled. But the spot is the same, and it is evident that, in great part, the materials are so too; Roman or British tiles appearing wherever the plaster has frittered from the walls. Within there is a curious old stone font, which rather ungraciously resembles a barrel set on end and half sunk in the earth, engraved with Norman or Saxon architectural ornaments. The church is no otherwise remarkable, except it be for its very small dimensions; there are one or two large monuments by the altar; every thing besides is of the most rustic appearance. Such plainness, coupled with the idea of its antiquity, gives it so much the greater interest; which is increased by the retirement of its situation on a green knoll, about half a mile from the city. It stands directly east of the cathedral, with which, as well as with the intermediate remains of the abbey of St. Augustine (both of them rising out of the plain below), it appears in very pleasing and appropriate combination. Only the harmony of the prospect is somewhat jarred by the dreary, and yet garish, neighbourhood of a new county-jail and sessions-house that have recently been built within the old monastic precincts. There is little else to interrupt the almost linked connexion in which three objects, historically associated together, are here presented to the view. The humble church upon the hill appears like a living witness of the primitive simplicity; and beyond the few mouldering ruins of the abbey, the grand cathedral rises proudly before her "ancient mother."

The present cathedral is in the form of a double cross, with a tower at each side of the western entrance; one of these is being now rebuilt, and nearly completed in a style superior to the original, and exactly correspondent with its fellow, the Oxford or Chichely Steeple, at the south corner. The Chichely Steeple takes its name from the archbishop at whose expense it was erected. A higher tower, of great beauty, rises between the wings of the west transept, and is called the Bell Harry, from a ponderous bell that has its place there, the gift of Henry VIII. The intervening wall of the nave displays a range of large windows, divided by graduated buttresses, that finish in double rows of pinnacles along the roof; and the towers are adorned still more richly in a similar manner.

370

All this western portion of the church, including the first transept, is in the pointed English style; and its stately uniformity is strikingly at variance with the irregular, but, perhaps, more picturesque and very interesting character of the old Norman architecture beyond, where we find the work of Lanfranc, though not without several interpolations of a later date. In this elder part of the building the windows are generally smaller, without mullions or transoms, and of various shapes and sizes, some circular, (in which the glass is sustained by inter-twisted hoops of iron,) some long and narrow, others very broad and in double and triple rows, one above another, but the series much interrupted. The wall here is belted with numerous small pilasters (about four feet in height), whose arches intersect each other, and in some places these ornaments entirely cover it. The cathedral terminates in a semicircular form, and attached to its east end is the building called Becket's Crown. This was intended to support a lofty spire; but the dissolution of religious houses having put a stop to the work in the time of Henry VIII., it now appears beset with buttresses disproportionately large, and a very cumbrous battlement.

The south precinct is entered at the west end by a rich gateway entirely covered with sculpture, principally of winged figures bearing armorial shields. On this side the view of the church is unimpeded. About midway, across the ground, there is left standing a solitary Norman arch, called the Cemetery-gate; beyond which, probably in the situation of the monkish burial place, is a grove of elms, where glimpses of the grey cathedral walls are caught at intervals between the branches. On the north the view is obstructed by the houses of the prebendaries, surrounding the Green Court; between which and the church itself are the library, chapter-house, and cloisters. The latter enclose a small sequestered burial ground, and have a finely groined roof, adorned at the intersection of the arches, with a vast number of sculptured coats of arms belonging to different benefactors of the place. On the same side stood formerly the priory, and the Stranger's Hall: the latter was somewhere about the site of the present schools. The archbishop's palace, with its various offices, of which there are still some remains, extended from thence nearly as far as to the unfinished tower at the corner.

The principal entrance to the cathedral, in common use, is by a highly ornamented portico at the south-west angle. The nave within is spacious and lofty; the clustered columns running up into the roof without interruption, and spreading their branches over it and around the upper tier of windows, which are almost as large as those of the aisles below. A flight of steps leads up into the choir, in

371

front of which a richly wrought stone screen presents a line of kingly statues in coroneted niches, three on each side of the opening. One of them, supposed to be Ethelbert, holds forth the image of a Saxon church. The space occupied by the stairs is immediately beneath the great central tower that rests on four vast pillars, strengthened by stone braces or stretchers; one of which stretchers happens to be particularly disagreeable; striking right across the magnificent open arch between the two foremost of the pillars, and vainly affecting to be ornamental. The tower is open overhead to a height of more than sixty feet above the rest of the church, the sides are pierced with large windows, and the fanwork of its roof is splendid.

The roof of the choir is rather plain. The large columns have foliated capitals, and the small gallery pillars are of black marble. A high canopied wainscot and heavy altar-screen, which formerly incumbered this part of the church, were removed some years ago at the suggestion of Dean Percy; and the choir is now only divided from the aisles by a glazed frame-work, consisting of a series of small pointed arches that just overtop the back of the stalls, and at the upper extremity bend round in a semicircle behind the altar. The splendour of the adjacent parts of the cathedral is thus thrown upon the choir itself, and

through the glass-screen there comes a very pleasing softened glimmer from the rich oriels of the still more remote eastern sanctuary that partially reveals itself beyond.

Between the stalls and the altar-steps this screen is interrupted on either side by a stately line of several monuments of the elder archbishops, which (since the removal of the wainscot that once excluded them) contribute greatly to the interest and magnificence of "Conrad's glorious choir." Most of these monuments consist of effigies reposing on altar-tombs, under canopies of stone. On the right hand lie Archbishops Kemp, Sudbury, and Stratford; on the left, Bourchier and Chichely. The most sumptuous in appearance is the tomb of the latter. Several of them betray faint traces of having once been painted; but the colours of the Chichely monument have recently been renewed, at the expense of All Souls College, (of which he was the founder;) and their brilliancy, as soon as the sight gets reconciled to the novelty of the effect, fascinates the eye. It reminds one of a fine illumination in a monkish manuscript, and gilds the "glorious choir" with an unexpected radiance. The idea also expressed by the sculpture, (which is said to have been designed by the archbishop himself, in whose life-time the tomb was erected,) possesses a peculiar pathos, and the moral impression is rendered still more forcible by

372

the ostentation of the painting. The primate lies, as it were, in state, under a purple starry canopy, in his scarlet robes and gilded mitre; while the slab on which the effigy reposes being supported by open arches, between them, underneath, there appears the figure of a livid corpse, emaciated almost to a skeleton, with barely the rag of a winding sheet about it.

In the middle of the marble pavement, above the steps of the altar, was the burial-place of Dunstan. In the reign of Henry VII. his grave was opened, in the presence of several distinguished witnesses, to put an end to the pretences of the monks of Glastonbury, who (concluding, their old patron might well be spared at the church of St. Thomas,) spread a report, that in the year 1002, his body had been translated to their own abbey. It was found here, with a leaden plate upon the breast, inscribed, "Hic requiescit sanctus Dunstanus archiepiscopus."

The aisles of the choir sweep round on either side into the semicircular chapel of the Holy Trinity behind the altar-screen. Here are two royal tombs: – one of alabaster, belonging to Henry the Fourth, whose effigy, with that of his queen, Joan of Navarre, lies upon it: – the other is Edward's, the Black Prince; on which lies a fine brass figure of the prince in armour; and above it, on a rude beam fixed across the pillars, are hung his gloves, his tabard of arms, and his surcoat of leopard skin. Round the pillar, at his head, has been written a long epitaph, now illegible, and nearly obliterated, which was composed by the monks in old French verse. It makes no mention of Cressy or Poitiers – for how could such things be thought of so near the shrine of Becket? – but the dead is introduced, bewailing the humiliation of the grave, and imploring, in piteous accents, the prayers of the charitable for his soul. The lines, of which the following are a specimen, have been quaintly but feelingly translated by old Weever.

"Great riches here I did possess,
"Whereof I made great nobleness.
"But now a caitiff, poor, am I:
"Deep in the ground, lo! here I lie.
"For God's sake pray to th' heavenly king,
"That he my soul to heaven may bring.
"All they that pray and make accord
"For me unto my God and Lord,
"God place them in his paradise,
"Where no wretched caitiff lies."

Such strains, from the tomb of the Black Prince, sound peculiarly mournful on a spot once thronged with multitudes who, little heeding, perhaps, either the memory of the hero, or the prayer of the suppliant, were only eager to indulge

373

their veneration for the relics of the all-worshipped martyr. And now it seems more than merely amusing to look at the void place where those relics were once displayed, and mark, at the same time, how every cranny still stirs the fretted leopard-skin over the sepulchre of Edward the Black Prince.

In the centre of the chapel, between these tombs, was situated the famous shrine; so laden with riches, that at the time of its spoliation, the gold and jewels that had covered it "filled two great chests, such as six or seven strong men could do no more than convey one of them at once out of the church." The only vestige of it that now remains appears in a slight depression just traceable in the marble pavement nearly all round the space which it must formerly have occupied. The indentation is attributed to the knees of his worshippers, though it rather appears as if it may have been caused by the continual pressure of some outward railing. The body of the martyr was originally buried in the crypt; "whence," says Gervase, "the miraculous virtue that radiated from it, though, at first, confined to the immediate circle round his tomb, gradually embraced the church, the city, and the kingdom, till it touched foreign shores, and finally comprehended all Christendom. While such was its efficacy," adds this veracious witness, "that it not only gave sight to the blind, hearing and voice to the deaf and dumb, and made the lame leap; but the very dead were awakened, and even brute creatures restored to life by its application." His miracles were "so well attested," that throughout every christian nation an annual mass was celebrated in honour of the new saint. His merits were considered so transcendent, that whilst, in one particular year, the altar of Christ received nothing, and that of the Virgin only £4. 1s. 8d.; the offerings at the shrine of the blessed St. Thomas amounted to £954. 6s. 3d. About fifty years after the martyrdom, his relics were translated with great pomp into the chapel of the Holy Trinity, which, consequently, soon took the title of St. Thomas' Chapel. Gradually the cathedral itself caught, likewise, the contagion of his name, and was popularly known as the church of St. Thomas; so that here, at Christchurch, says Lambarde, "the name of Christ was clean forgotten." On the occasion of the translation, the joyous monastery made all the conduits flow with wine. Every fiftieth anniversary of the ceremony was kept at Canterbury as a year of jubilee and papal indulgence; and at one of these periods, 100,000 votaries contributed to deepen that hollow in the pavement, which is now the only token that remains to attract a modern pilgrim's admiration of the glory of St. Thomas the Martyr. The very vacancy of the place, however, is, of itself, sufficiently striking.

From this spot the grandeur of the cathedral is very well displayed. The

374

floor of the chapel being elevated to a level with that of the altar, allows the spectator to look above the low interposing screen, which, besides, is transparent, and offers no hindrance to the view. The organ, too, has been boldly removed from over the screen at the lower end of the choir to a side gallery, whence the music itself, perhaps, seems sublimer, because the instrument (which possesses a very fine tone,) is invisible. And thus, from the east end of the building, the eye commands its entire length, and the perspective of the nave is open to the gorgeous western window; while the small circular windows of the chapel, with their opaque but almost gem-like lustre and inexplicable imagery, give a splendid solemnity to the place where the observer stands; and the whole effect of this expansive view is the more surprising, because he feels himself, at the same time,

in what may be called the most retired sanctuary of the church.

The chapel contains, besides the monuments already mentioned, one to Dr. Wotton, the first Protestant dean, who is represented in the attitude in which he died, kneeling at a desk; another, very costly, (generally considered a cenotaph) to Archbishop Courteney: near to which last, and on the same side with the magnificent tomb of the Prince, there is a strange rough coffin-like shell, composed of brick and plaster, enclosing the remains of Odo Colignie, a French cardinal, who came into England in the time of Elizabeth, to make (it is said) a profession of the Protestant religion, but died, as the report adds, of poison, given to him to prevent the fulfilment of his purpose. At his death it was supposed that his friends in France would have sent for the body; which, in the mean time, was placed in this uncouth receptacle, where it has ever since remained neglected.

The Chapel of the Trinity is open between the pillars of its semicircular aisle to the round building beyond it, called Becket's Crown; in the midst of which stands alone the plain ancient stone-chair wherein the archbishops used to be solemnly enthroned; a venerable ceremony, now generally undergone by a proxy.

There is nothing else in this recess except the solitary tomb of Cardinal Pole, which stands against the wall at the right side of the patriarchal chair. It can scarcely be called a monument; it has neither ornament nor inscription; the railing that fenced it has been removed, and a brass fillet is likewise gone, which bore the words, "Depositum Cardinalis Poli." Its appearance is only less negligent than that of the dreary-looking mass of brick and mortar that covers the ashes of poor Colignie in the adjoining chapel.

Pole was the last of the Romish archbishops; and it may also be added, that perhaps he was the best of their line. At all events, his character deserves

375

respect. Though a near kinsman of Henry VIII. and, in his youth, not only favoured, but courted by that monarch, he resolutely protested against Catherine's divorce, and was consequently obliged, for the rest of the reign, to shelter himself abroad from the anger he had thus incurred. Some of his Protestant censors, however, have discovered an interested or a passionate motive for his conduct. He hoped, they say, to be the king's son-in-law, and presumptive heir to the matrimonial crown: if the Princess Mary was made illegitimate, his ambition was blighted. So that, it seems, he forfeited the favour, and drew upon himself the powerful hostility of the father, to secure the unavailing gratitude of the mother and the daughter; whose disgrace, too, he must have felt, no argument of his could avert; whose destiny was fixed in a most despotical breast. That, in fact, he did indulge the hopes here alluded to, may be readily granted. But it does not seem to follow (especially considering the moderation of his temper, and the soundness of his judgment) that, for the pursuit of wild chimeras, he would have left the high road to certain and splendid preferment, without being actuated by some higher principle than a vain ambition, or a ruinous resentment: – ruinous indeed, as it must have seemed likely to prove, even to the very hopes, (in such circumstances beyond measure extravagant,) to which alone, it is pretended, he sacrificed whatever he possessed, and every reasonable worldly expectation besides. nAll his friends pressed him to comply with the royal wishes; and he has left what seems to be a very candid account of his last interview with Henry, who had required on the subject his explicit opinion. He would then have forced himself, he says, to deliver one consistent with his safety and interest, but could find no utterance till he spoke the honest sentiments of his heart. While he thus delivered his mind, he was frequently alarmed by observing the king's hand, though he suppressed any more open symptoms of emotion, impatiently grasping his poniard. This ominous action, and his knowledge of the monarch's temper, made him hasten his flight into Italy.

His foreign conduct is stigmatized by unfriendly hands as inexcusably trai-

torous; and one bitter critic of his life (Mr. Ridley) is shocked at his ingratitude to a benevolent master, who had loaded him with favours, who had offered to make him an archbishop at once, and only demanded in return – that he should sacrifice his integrity and pander to that master's vices in the name of religion and honour. In the quality of ambassador from the pope, he repeatedly laboured to unite the sovereigns of France and Germany in a league that should oblige their apostate brother of England to submit himself again to the renounced authority of the Church of Rome. The subversion of her established power was,

376

in his view, the ruin both of prince and people. He proceeded on his mission, no doubt, with a hearty good will; and his zeal against the master to whom he owed so much was probably quickened by his sense of the injuries inflicted, for his sake, upon his family at home. His aged mother, the Countess of Salisbury, was put to death upon the scaffold for the crime of writing to her son, and most of his relations shared the same fate. Himself an outlaw – his estates, of course, had been long ago confiscated; his subsistence was sometimes precarious; and his life was more than once in danger from the hand of assassins, the secret emissaries of his royal enemy.

During the many years that he remained abroad he chiefly resided in Italy, where he was made a cardinal, and honoured as the destined restorer of the church in his native land. His eloquence and learning, the simplicity of his life, and the modesty and sweetness of demeanour that tempered his abilities, made him a general favourite, and the chief ornament of a splendid society. At the same time his princely birth and apparent self-devotion to a great and outraged cause combined to render his name so illustrious, that perhaps it may be doubted (considering what such conduct was likely to do for him, the consequence it gave him, the animating prospects which it opened, and the powerful supporters among whom it threw him) whether, with such views before him, the abandonment of his immediate expectations in England had really been so great a sacrifice as otherwise it seems. His virtue had nearly been rewarded with the papal chair. Possibly, if his virtue had been less, the reward would have been obtained. But the general influence he possessed seems altogether to have been exerted with too honest a purpose to allow the college of cardinals to feel particularly desirous of declaring such a man their superior, and making him the keeper of the vineyard where they revelled.

The pope himself, however, well knew the importance of securing to the utmost the services of one whose character was so conspicuous, as well for humanity and moderation as for catholic piety and submission. The grand panacea that was to cure all the wounds of the church at this period was a general council; which Pole fairly urged upon his holiness the necessity of assembling; and strongly expressed his dissatisfaction at the composition of it, when at last one was assembled. For a short time the English cardinal presided at the Council of Trent; where he earnestly advised, though without effect, that religious doctrines should not be more strictly defined than they already were, but that the great object should be the reformation of ecclesiastical manners.

Throughout his long exile he continued faithful to the vision of his youth,

377

and was only a cardinal deacon until Mary's marriage with the King of Spain presently after her accession. He then took priest's orders, was appointed legate, and returned to England, as soon as the Emperor Charles allowed him to leave his dominions; which was not before the celebration of the nuptials, lest he should still have chanced to prove a rival to his son. Here he soon succeeded Cranmer in the see of Canterbury. But still his counsels were for peace: heretics, he thought, should be won back to the church by mildness and a

christian example. He is accused, nevertheless, and apparently with too much justice, of weakly giving way to the fiery Gardiner; and several persons suffered at the stake within the archbishop's diocese in the course of the persecution. We shall do well, however, to remember that, let what may be alleged against Pole on the subject of consenting to these horrible proceedings, his predecessor is chargeable with the same compliances, and, in more than one instance, with not only authorizing but peremptorily urging the perpetration of the like atrocities.

The momentous question, in the previous reign, of that divorce on which so many mighty changes were destined to depend, proved also to be of lasting consequence to the fortunes of both these celebrated men. Indeed, the moral colour of their lives seems to have been affected by their respective decisions on this single point. One zealously promoted what the other thoroughly condemned. With regard to the transaction itself, viewed in the court of conscience, it must be pronounced iniquitous and profligate; but there were arguments enough in the schools to justify and to urge it; and to blind the eyes, (as it appears,) of a wise and good man to the licentiousness, injustice, and cruelty to which he made himself a party, to which he lent the sanction of religion, and linked the dishonoured cause of a purified faith and church. Surely all Protestants who would vindicate the honour of that faith, ought fairly to acknowledge that there is much at least to wonder at in the conduct of the Reformer, and at least something to admire in the opposite course pursued by the Roman Catholic. Cranmer deserves reverence and gratitude, and the errors of his life every candid extenuation. But let equal candour be shown towards the man whose virtues, (it may be suspected,) rather than his faults, have made him, with some authors, an object of peculiar and virulent dislike.

Cardinal Pole died just the day after his unhappy patroness, Queen Mary; and here he seems to have been silently buried in the most retired, though once the most hallowed, part of the metropolitan church. No archbishop has since been interred within its walls. No Protestant primate disturbs the peace of St. Thomas's successors. After viewing their numerous and costly monuments, we come at length to this nameless tomb of the last Roman Catholic prelate.

378

Of those older memorials, such as have not yet been noticed, are, for the most part, ranged along the south aisle of the choir. The one above the steps that go up towards the Trinity Chapel is supposed to be Theobald's, (the predecessor of Becket,) and this is probably the most ancient in the church. A little below are the tombs of Meopham, Bradwardine, Hubert Walter, and Reynolds; of which the most remarkable is Meopham's, that forms part of a screen to the chapel of St. Anselm.

In the north aisle of the choir there are no monuments of any kind. The most attractive object on that side is the Baptistry, (near the north end of the transept,) a little octagon cell, where the windows shed a mellow crimson twilight on a richly sculptured font in the centre. Formerly the nave of the cathedral was partly floored with ancient tombstones, which, when a new pavement was to be laid down, some thirty or forty years ago, were irreverently removed and broken up as materials for building.

But the places most crowded with sepulchral ornaments are the chapels of St. Michael and the Virgin, which open respectively into the two ends of the west transept, below the choir. St. Michael's, or the Warriors' Chapel, (as the attendants interpret the name) contains a great many memorials to men of military distinction. The most modern, perhaps, is a small cenotaph to Sir George Rooke, the admiral; which is just above a plain old stone chest, supposed to hold the remains of Archbishop Langton. The centre of the chapel is occupied by a princely tomb, on which lie the effigies of three persons: Mary, daughter of Thomas Holland, Earl of Kent, between her two husbands, John Beaufort, Earl of Somerset, and Thomas, Duke of Clarence, second son of

Henry IV.

The Virgin's Chapel, on the north side, is a beautiful sanctuary. The fine shell-work of the roof gives it an enchanting, grotto-like air, and the border of sculptured vine-leaves and tendrils round the window is delicately fanciful. A figure on one of the monuments within it, fixes the attention: it represents Dean Boys, as sitting in his study, with a book in his hand; in which position he suddenly expired. Its appearance tells at once the story of a sudden death: and most of the effigies in the cathedral being recumbent, it is the more striking, and has at first almost a startling effect; which is aided by the small size of the chapel, suggesting the idea of a private study or oratory. Another tomb here, (Dean Fotherby's,) is more fantastical than impressive; the top of it seems to rest on a pile of human bones, which are sculptured in picturesque confusion at the corners. From the number of deans interred in this place, it is generally called the Deans' Chapel. It was built by Prior

379

Goldstone, the younger, who was buried in it; his grave is unmarked, but the chapel itself is his best monument. There were two priors of Christchurch, called Goldstone, who were both of them persons of architectural skill, and concerned in improvements of the cathedral. The motto and rebus of this name (two stones or,) are worked into the ornaments of the stretcher that braces the pillars of the great tower.

The Deans' Chapel opens into that part of the transept which is still styled the Martyrdom. It was here that Becket was murdered on his way from the cloisters towards the choir to perform, as usual, the morning mass. He had previously refused to suffer the cathedral gates to be closed, though acquainted that the ruffian knights, who arrived in the town the evening before, had uttered threats of their intended violence. Upon his entering by the north door they hastened forward from the other side of the church, crying aloud, "Where is the traitor?" "Here am I, your archbishop," said Becket, presenting himself, "but no traitor." One of them rudely laying hands on him, he shook him forcibly off. Swords were then immediately drawn, and a chance blow nearly severed the arm of a priest who interposed to save him. Their victim received his death kneeling before the altar of St. Benedict: and the stones bespattered with his blood were held so sacred, that a monk of Christchurch was afterwards promoted to the Deanery of Peterborough, mainly, it appears, because he had it in his power to build an altar there of these rich materials. A small angle has been cut out of a slab of the pavement; and the visitor is told, that as the piece was spotted with Becket's blood, it was sent as a precious relic to the pope. The Martyrdom has evidently been a favourite place of burial with the archbishops. It contains several flat grave-stones, that bear the impression of pontifical brasses; and against the wall are two fine monuments: one of them dedicated to Wareham, (Cranmer's predecessor,) and the other to Archbishop Peckham. The effigy of the latter is of oak, as black as ebony; but "before the time of Oliver Cromwell," the head, we are told, was cased in a silver mitre, and it was otherwise ornamented with the same metal. "Oliver Cromwell" is sure to be the thief on all these occasions. He carried off the silver mitre in the Martyrdom; he made himself master of the sword of Edward the Black Prince in the Trinity Chapel; he tied up his horse in the south porch, where the ring may yet be seen that held the bridle.

The Martyrdom is terminated with what, in the days of this same worthy, was denounced as a "great idolatrous window." Poor Becket, it seems, made a grand figure in it; and consequently it became such an eye-sore to the Puritans, that, under the power of a parliamentary commission, its best or worst part

380

was demolished for their edification. At the head of the smashers was their zealous minister, Richard Culmer, (since branded with the flagrant alias of Blue Dick;) who, in his "News from Canterbury," which gives a triumphant account of the whole affair, first sets before us, in glowing colours, all the pageantry the luckless window displayed: for instance, "Seven several glorious appearances of the Virgin, as of the angels lifting her into heaven, with the sun, moon, and stars under her feet," &c.; "but, above all, their prime cathedral-saint most rarely painted in full proportion, with cope, rocket, mitre, crozier, and his pontificalibus:" and after he has thus half convinced us of his possessing the very soul of a virtuoso, and, with his provoking gusto, made the eyes water of every worshipper of idolatrous windows, his enthusiasm waxing more sublime, he boasts how, when nobody else would venture so high, he mounted on the top of the town ladder, with a pike-staff in his hand, (and the warmest satisfaction at his heart,) "rattling down proud Becket's glassy bones." But the most lamentable matter is, that, after all, the doomed martyr might have escaped this "unkindest cut of all," and the window, perhaps, had remained safe in its multifarious and unintelligible emblazonment, if the officious pen of the loving antiquary, Somner himself, had not, in his "Description of Canterbury Cathedral," (published but a short time before,) betrayed all its mysteries to the profane vulgar, and impious iconoclasts. We should be grateful, however, for the tenderness with which they treated it. Edward IV. it is said, and his beautiful queen, with all his family, including the two ill-fated princes, are imparadised in it to this day: though in truth it must be a cunning eye that can make them out: – and, on the whole, the window makes, now, but a poor appearance compared with the one that faces it at the other end of the transept: though the wounds inflicted by the pike of Culmer have been healed, as nicely as possible, with heads and arms set on the wrong shoulders, and a fine patchwork of heraldic shields, the gleanings of painted glass from obscurer corners of the church.

This puritanical rage for demolition had probably its due effect, in those troublesome times, upon the loyalty of the king's good city of Canterbury; which, during the civil wars, gave signal though fruitless evidence of its zeal against the enemies of monarchy and cathedrals. Some of the Round-heads had insulted a number of the inhabitants, while engaged at church in the regular observance of Christmas day, and a riot was the consequence. It was soon quelled by the local authorities; but the Parliament was not content without causing several persons that had been concerned in it, (especially such as favoured the royal interest,) to be apprehended and put upon their trials for sedition. The jury gave a verdict of acquittal; which, when they were sent back to re-consider

381

it, they repeated. Such resolution, so near the centre of the popular government, had not been expected, and the republican party broke into bitter invectives. These were resented: the people of Canterbury met, and agreed to petition the House of Commons to disband the army and treat with the king. The House threatened to have their memorial suppressed. The petitioners were only the more inflamed, met a second time, and declared that they had a right to deliver their sentiments, and they would march to London "with the sword in one hand and the petition in the other." On the day fixed for presenting their address, they prepared to execute the threat. They assembled in arms, and announced themselves as "The Loyal Kentish Association." An explosion so close to the parliamentary head-quarters was alarming, and Fairfax was sent from London with 10,000 men to overpower them. The Kentish royalists, expecting to increase their numbers as they advanced, marched forward in two bodies. But the issue was unfortunate. One detachment took post at Maidstone, where it maintained a gallant contest, but was at last entirely vanquished. The other crossed into Essex: but the country did not rise as had been hoped; and this division, having thrown itself into Colchester, and endured a siege of eleven

weeks, was likewise obliged to yield. And thus ended this spirited but abortive effort of Kentish loyalty.

After the king's death all the cathedrals in the land – and this in particular – were marked to fall. An estimate was made of its materials. But, whether the cost of destroying such a work was discouraging, or some compunctious visitings interposed, it remained, after all, substantially untouched till better times; though in a very desolate condition, pillaged of its lighter ornaments, and miserably defaced. The six and thirty altars, indeed, which the church once boasted, had been cleared of their gold and silver vessels, (whatever became of the altars themselves,) by the zeal of a former age; and probably the silver images of the apostles had likewise long ago vanished from the recesses where they stood within the arch that opens through the screen into the choir. But still there was wealth and pomp, which was now all swept away. There was brass, at least, to be torn from the prelatial tomb-stones; and if that was not enough, the very graves might be ransacked, (as Sumner says they were,) and the bones of the dead scattered and tossed about. Many a rich window adorned the nave (where now the side windows are all plain); there was one, for instance, on which Archbishop Courteney had spent £30 to the honour of St. Alphage: but at the same time that the painted Becket was so cruelly treated in the Martyrdom, most of them were gloriously smashed in like manner – perhaps

382

by the boys, who must certainly have been fired by Master Culmer's brilliant example. A whole calendar of saints, too, were knocked out of their niches: every niche is empty but those that hold the six kings in the screen before the choir. Only the Kings escaped, (for a wonder,) without a broken crown or a lost head among them. And yet so indiscriminate was the persecution of images, that even the fine old assassins of Becket, who, though "not for their honour," (as we are carefully told by one of the antiquaries,) figured over the costly entrance-porch, fared no better than the abhorred popish martyr himself, and were broken to pieces like his "glassy bones." But happier days came round again: after a gloomy vacancy Juxon was, under better auspices, seated in the chair of Laud, and the stalls were filled with a comfortable dean and chapter as before. – And now, is there any vengeance again impending over "our Holy and Beautiful House?"

The most thorough sense of the grandeur of this edifice is obtained, perhaps, in its noble Crypt, which has its entrance from the west transept by a door at each side of the steps into the choir, and thence extends beneath the entire eastern portion of the church. After viewing the whole cathedral, the stranger may easily feel a sort of astonishment on suddenly finding himself in another, under ground – the dreary skeleton, in a manner, of the rich and goodly superstructure. At first he has almost to grope his way among the dim pillars, and is in danger of stumbling over great blocks of stone that cover the broken, unpaved floor; and as the aspect of the place begins to grow somewhat more distinct, and the correspondence of its general frame and arrangements with those of its upper counterpart gradually unfolds, the effect of the mighty difference, at the same time, becomes even more powerful still. For the long and lofty perspective, here are aisles that at once seem dismally contracted, and yet immense in the darkness. And under the lowering roof, (though still of ample height,) with its broad round arches, and amidst the utter nakedness of this vast and massive structure, the idea of the superior temple returns upon him in its beautiful majesty, with its glorious windows, its solemn music, and illustrious sepulchral monuments. When at last he reaches the extremity, by the little light of here and there an unglazed window, (narrow slips hardly rising above the outer surface,) he perceives that he is in a dull semicircular aisle, opening behind into a round recess, and reminding him of that Chapel of the Trinity above his head, where "kings lie in glory."

There are but three tombs now numbered in this place of darkness; and truly

they seem here to be in the very house of death, mouldering in forgetfulness like the once distinguished persons whose ashes they cover. Two of these were

383

ladies: Isabel, a Countess of Athol, who died in 1292; and a Lady Mohun, of the time of Richard II. Archbishop Morton was the third. Many of the archbishops are known to have been buried here besides, but their graves have perished. The three remaining tombs lie near together, in the south end of the transept, or thereabout: the ladies opposite to each other; the prelate a little below, under a rich archivault much obliterated by time and damp. The monument of the Countess, (once, apparently, very elaborate also,) is attached to the outer part of the screen that divides the Virgin's Chapel from the aisle. The other tomb is situated under an arch in the main wall, and hardly traceable for want of light. The effigies of the dead have a fine effect amidst the obscurity and paleness of the place.

The forlornness of the crypt is not the less striking for the recollection that this chapel of the Virgin was once a most brilliant place, illuminated with a row of silver lamps. The iron rings remain that suspended them from the roof, which is all over mottled with spots of fresher whiteness in the stone where it was once thickly studded with ornaments of enamel. The offertory here was the richest (next to Becket's shrine) of any belonging to the cathedral. Erasmus, who was at Canterbury a short time before the plunder of the church, says that the Virgin's image in the crypt, guarded by an iron grate, sparkled through the gloom with a profusion of jewellery beyond almost any thing he had ever seen. Just in front of it was the spot where Becket was originally buried – hastily, on the night of the murder, for fear that the assassins (though they instantly fled after committing the crime) should return and forcibly possess themselves of the body. The situation is immediately under the elevated space before the great altar in the choir.

An aisle, formed by smaller columns than the very massy ones that stand more remote upon its right and left, extends from the lower end of the undercroft up to this central chapel, where it terminates in an open screen, the arches of which contain some slender tracery like gothic window-frames. All the rest of this subterranean building, though exactly regular, is of the plainest and most substantial architecture. Only on the capitals of the smaller middle columns there are some figures, rudely carved; on one a serpent, on another a combat between two horsemen; and each capital bears a different device.

The east end of the crypt is the darkest, where the few scanty windows are bricked or boarded up to the turn of the arch. At the other end one or two of a larger size have been broken out and glazed, to fit the place for the reception of a congregation; this part of it having been granted by Elizabeth to the

384

protestant refugees of France and Flanders. These people began to settle at Canterbury in the time of Edward III. and introducing their silk manufactures, compensated the city for the abolition of the famous pilgrimages. A vestry-room, at the west end of the undercroft, still serves as a place of worship to the very few of their descendants who are now among the inhabitants of the town. In this little church the character of the crypt is entirely lost; it is fitted up with pews, whitewashed, and full of day light. But surely the reflection is a grateful one, that the very cathedral where more, perhaps, of ecclesiastical pride and abject superstition was displayed than any where else in Christendom, (unless at Rome itself,) thus opened her bosom to the humblest children of Protestantism, and apportioned a house of prayer for the Pilgrims of no shrine – for strangers and fugitives who boasted neither of a liturgy nor a priesthood. Do any of us grudge to remember that the welcome of fellowship was here given to a fold that owned

no bishop but that "Shepherd and Bishop of their souls, to whose only care the truly catholic unromanised St. Peter congratulates the wandering sheep that they have at last returned? Even fancy itself finds pleasure in the idea, that the unobtrusive worship of these "two or three" is still carried on, in a quiet meeting-place, within walls resounding with the most solemn services of our dignified Church. The congregation, however, (exclusive of the domestic flock of their pastor,) has dwindled to a single family; and the interest that might be felt at the first report of a faithful few thus clinging to the observance of their forefathers, is sadly diminished when we learn that the custom is kept up because certain estates are dependent on its continuance.

A little to the east of the cathedral, (which is itself situated near the east end of the town) are the ruins of its ancient rival, the Abbey of St. Augustine. At the dissolution of religious houses, the monks are said to have refused to surrender this proud monastery, till a couple of cannon were pointed at it from the neighbouring heights. It was afterwards granted away to various persons, till it became the property of Lord Wotton, in whose time Charles I. celebrated here his nuptials with Henrietta of France; and at the Restoration, the place gave entertainment to his son, when on his way to London to be crowned. The widow of Lord Wotton long continued to make it her residence, and hence it grew to be called Lady Wotton's Palace. The beautiful gate that looks toward the cathedral is still commonly known by the name of the Palace Gate, while the plain one on the same side the people call St. Augustine's. These two gateways are among the principal remains, and, in fact, the only parts that bid fair to hold out much longer. They are both of them built in the same form, with a slender turret at each

385

corner, rising considerably above the battlement; but the Palace Gate (now used as a brewery) is splendidly ornamental. Adjoining to it is a public-house, partly built out of the ruins, with gardens in the precinct behind, and drinking-booths that mimic the old architecture in the most insulting fashion. A high wall, which is all that remains of the abbey church, bounding one side of this garden, is found very convenient for tennis-ball and shooting; and accordingly its face is adorned with a huge blue and green circle, that stares at every one and forces exclusive admiration. At the west end of this dishonoured wall there was, till lately, a large gable, called Ethelbert's Tower; not, by any means, so old as the name implies, but a remarkably rich specimen of early Norman building. A few years ago, a heavy snow brought a great portion of it down; and last winter, the destruction was nearly completed by the same cause. The remainder it has since been deemed advisable to remove. The pelted wall, and all that yet lingers of the church, can best be viewed (and with least to jar an antiquary's nerves) from the opposite side, in the enclosure belonging to the new infirmary, which, as well as the gaol, (a far less kindly intrusion) has lately been built within the precincts. These precincts appear to have been extensive; and the wall still surrounds, in a great measure, two of the adjacent fields, and reaches nearly to the church (already noticed) of St. Martin-on-the-Hill.

Between the abbey and the cathedral ran the town-ramparts, of which, indeed, opposite to the Palace-gate of St. Augustine, and thence extending northward, there are still very noble ruins, with several great towers, both round and square, in the wall. The ditch hereabout is occupied by carpenters' and builders' yards, cottage-gardens, orchards &c.; from the midst of which the huge wall rises very picturesquely; in many places, covered with ivy and vines, and overhung by the groves belonging to the cathedral, with the lofty Bell Harry Tower appearing above them.

To the north-east of this spot, about half a mile from the town, stand the Infantry and Horse Barracks; just beyond which the ground rises; as in fact it does in a sweeping circle nearly all round Canterbury. Part of the upland here is an open down, commanding a fine view of the cathedral, with some

broken hints of the adjacent abbey. The hill runs eastward as far as to St. Martin's; and the little low church-tower looks over the shoulder of a sloping pasture, with a retired path winding up to it behind a screen of trees.

But to return to the town walls. From Northgate, (where there is a gate no longer) the wall has been broken down as far as Westgate, the only one of the city gates that has been suffered to stand; a distinction, probably owing to its

386

convenient use as a debtors' prison, (though not secure enough for criminals.) The London road enters Canterbury by this gateway. It is a lofty and solid structure, with broad round turrets at the corners, and a battlement, such as is termed machecollated, i. e. made so prominent as to allow of vacant intervals beneath it, for boiling water, melted lead and pitch, or such like terrible fluids, to be poured through them on the heads of the assailants.

Southward of this gate the wall runs low, till it reaches what is called the Castle: the mere shell of a large square tower, or castle-keep; roofless, and its upper part hardly accessible: the roots, and little more, are left of some of the winding staircases in the corners. It now forms a yard for the waterworks belonging to the gas company.

A little beyond is the Dane-John Mount; an artificial eminence, supposed to have been thrown up by the Danes during their furious siege of Canterbury, in the time of Archbishop Alphege. It is now just within the rampart, which is observed to swerve a little from the right line, as if for the sake of enclosing it. It seems, however, about as likely to have been aided for the defence of the city as for its overthrow; or more so, perhaps, considering that, opposite to it, on some rough ground, without the wall, there are marks of similar mounts having been formed for the apparent purpose of carrying on a battery against the one within.

Dane-John (as a heathen Dane is not likely to have been called John) seems to have risen from a confusion of ideas between some fading recollection of a Donjon-tower, (which no doubt once fortified the summit,) and the traditional horror of those fatal Danes, whose name, without a shadow of its by-gone power, will yet probably haunt the ground for ever. The old designation, we may conclude, was the Dane's Donjon.

The place is now a gay promenade. A spacious lawn, interspersed with groves and flower-beds, is skirted by the wall; on which a broad walk along the battlement leads to the Mount itself, that rises out of the level below, a trim turfy cone, with a gravel path winding round it to the top, and crowned with a circle of seats, whence an ample prospect, both of town and country, may be contemplated at leisure.

The cathedral, which from this point presents its southern side, and consequently its entire length, is the one grand object in the view. The several churches around it appear insignificant in its presence; in fact, they are all of them very mean buildings and the like must be said of the town in general: though the curious investigator will find the narrow old-fashioned streets full of antiquarian interest, and many an obscure house here still looks religious. It would be strange, therefore, if the churches, notwithstanding their meagre aspect, did

387

not share a double portion of the same venerable character. Under wretched plastered roofs, propped with old wooden pillars, may be seen fine gothic window-frames, with some painted glass, that would not disgrace the cathedral itself. Rusty helmets, and iron gauntlets on the walls, frequently remind us of forgotten warriors: and there are tombs and noble effigies, besides, that have a strangely sumptuous appearance in such homely or neglected buildings.

Perhaps the grandest of these old tombs is a large one, in St. Margaret's, of a reddish-veined marble, with a robed figure lying upon it, finely sculptured. It occupies the corner of the church by the altar. Near it there is a brass tablet, to

the memory of William Sumner, (who is buried beneath,) the learned historian of this his native city. The tablet was placed here by his widow. Between it and the great monument there is a window, containing a small but beautiful specimen (which he himself inserted) of old painted glass, in a sober style of colouring, but the figures remarkably well drawn and grouped. A graven brass effigy, which escaped the ravages of the puritans, on one of the flat stones in the aisle, he is recorded to have cherished with peculiar fondness; taking pains to protect it with a mat, when he could not get the churchwardens to have any compassion for it at all. The stone, whether from kindness for it or him, is now kept covered; and (according to the simple old sexton) with the identical mat that Mr. Sumner himself bequeathed to it. When the republicans broke the cathedral windows, the antiquary gathered up the fragments with reverential care, and, at the grand Restoration, restored them, as well as possible, to their just places.

St. Margaret's, though there is nothing stately in the building, is styled the cathedral's sister church; and here the archbishop, when he holds his consistory court, first sits before he adjourns thither. On these occasions his place is under the monument in the corner, at a shabby table there, which is then decked with a pompous finery that must put the poverty of the edifice to shame.

This church is not far from Christchurch-gate, the beautiful entrance to the cathedral precinct. The narrow intermediate street, called Mercery Lane, consisted, formerly, of little else than a range of hostels, for the entertainment of the pilgrims. Many of the present houses in this quarter are built, it is observed, over remarkably capacious cellars. But the Chequers, where Chaucer indulged his genius, seems to be no longer in existence, though said to have been standing not many years ago.

Of the sixteen churches of Canterbury, only one is modern. The three that, exclusive of the cathedral, are, perhaps, the most interesting, are situated beyond the wall: the church of St. Martin, (already spoken of), St. Paul's, and St. Dun-

388

stan's. The latter stands on the London road, and deserves particular mention, because, within it, is said to be preserved the skull of Sir Thomas More. The story is, that his head, after it had been fixed, as a traitor's, upon London Bridge, was stolen away by the contrivance of his favourite daughter, Margaret Roper, and, on her death, placed, as she desired, within a niche beside her coffin, in the vault belonging here to her husband's family.

St. Paul's church is chiefly interesting as the burial-place of the Admiral Sir George Rooke and several of his ancestors; to one of whom, Sir William Rooke, there is a large mural monument that records the sufferings he sustained for his loyalty to King Charles I. Sir George's father was seated near Canterbury, at St. Lawrence, originally a religious hospital endowed by the abbot and monks of St. Augustine, for the sustenance of leprous brethren of their abbey. Its more modern proprietor, in playful allusion to his own name, good-humouredly called it the Rook's Nest. It was the birth-place of his distinguished son, who likewise lived there during many of his latter years. The house, which is now demolished, was situated on the Roman Watling Street, not far from the town.

Still nearer, on the same road, stood the Nunnery of St. Sepulchre, founded by Archbishop Anselm, which has also been removed. Just before the dissolution, Elizabeth Barton, the Holy Maid of Kent, was taken from a rustic station and made one of the sisters of this community, because her wild predictions gave courage to the trembling monasteries. The attention paid to such ravings, considering the character of those times, can be no matter of surprise. Unfortunately, this very neighbourhood has exhibited a recent instance of far more strange infatuation, in the affair of the pretended Sir William Courtenay. The facts are fresh in the public recollection, but they are instructive, and deserve to be briefly recapitulated.

This impostor, whose true name seems to have been Toms, was born in Cornwall, about 1798, and had been a wine merchant in that county, some time before his appearance (in 1832) at Canterbury. Here he pretended first that he was the Baron Rothschild; but, before he became much known under that designation, he changed it for the name of Courtenay; and in the latter character, taking advantage of the obscurity in which the late Earl of Devon had been living abroad, passed himself off for his heir. Possessing much fluency of language and self-confidence, and being a man of showy manners and appearance, he contrived to make an impression, even in educated society. To draw more attention, he commonly wore a splendid eastern dress; and the excitements of the general election at

389

the time, with all the hubbub of reform, favouring his impositions, he presented himself on the hustings in this fantastic garb, and had nearly been chosen a member for the city. On this occasion his volubility was overwhelming, and his demeanour shewed the most impetuous vivacity. While his antagonist was speaking, he would sit eyeing the prey, with his head couched between his arms outspread upon the board, and then spring over the table to answer him, with a bound like a wild-cat. His feats as a candidate won him golden opinions: the meteor was now blazing, and both high and low were dazzled. Of the rich he borrowed larger sums than would well bear stating; and the mob he intoxicated with speeches full of extravagant promises. He was the true heir, he told them, of great estates, to which he pointed, in the neighbourhood, and he would justify his rights, and then the people should have all theirs; he would reform the world; he would bring in the millennium. To spread the wildfire, he published a weekly farrago of religious and political nonsense; at the same time charming the multitude with his profusion, and the parade of his strangely gotten wealth. The mystery about him was increased by his affecting a rigid abstinence, contrasting well with his brilliant oriental appearance, that made him look like some being of another sphere. When he walked the streets, he was followed by a wondering, and almost adoring crowd; at other times he was to be seen, in a dashing style, driving his chariot and four through the town. But in the midst of his magnificence he was still as familiar with them all as if he was one of themselves. Never had they supposed there was so grand a man: he was grand in the ridiculous itself. Among his other accomplishments, he possessed extraordinary strength, agility, and daring; and many a time the people were delighted to see the great and rich Sir William, who spent his money among them like a prince, jump upon the back of an untamed colt, and scamper, without saddle or bridle, round the market. Thus driving both himself and his followers more and more into a fearful frenzy; jumbling together, with the usual inconsistency of madness, the lofty and the low, the absurd and the awful, he at length took up, along with all this wildness, the sacred character of the Messiah: and more strongly to impress his devotees with the same idea, he scarred, probably with only skin-deep wounds, the palms of his hands.

Whether after or before his fully ripening into this last audacity, he was stopped short in the midst of his career by an arrest for perjury, which he had committed to procure the acquittal of some smugglers: and, on his conviction, his insanity being evident, he was sent for seven years, the term of his sentence, to the County Lunatic Asylum, on Barming Heath. Unhappily, before the period

390

expired, he was released by the interference of gentlemen who still relied on his representations, and in vain became answerable, for his conduct. For some time afterwards, however, he seems to have proceeded with caution; forbearing to make, at least so openly, the same reckless assertions. But, in proportion as his sphere of action was contracted, a stronger madness was probably concentrated

within him. He now, for the most part, (as his higher acquaintances, it may be supposed, had become rather shy,) confined himself to the meaner people; whose understandings he could more grossly pervert, and consequently his own along with them. He gathered about him a troop of choicer spirits; whom he worked upon, (as the issue shewed,) and doubtless on himself also, more frantically than ever. It is plain there was rooted in them a firm persuasion of his supernatural power; and whatever was done by him was, in their eyes, a sacred act. In about six months it became egregiously necessary for the magistrates to interfere, and a warrant was issued to apprehend him; but the constable who attempted its execution he publicly shot dead, on the morning of May 31, 1838. After the act he retired, rather triumphantly than from fear, with a company of thirty or forty persons, to Bosenden Wood, (about four miles from Canterbury, on the London side.) There he seems to have determined to make good his ground; and nearly a hundred of the military were called out to effect his capture. On the arrival of this party, Lieutenant Bennett, (who was but a volunteer in the affair,) stepping forward to seize the murderer, was immediately shot by him. The affray then began, and these poor fanatics seemed to meet the fire of the soldiers like people assured that no harm could touch them. Altogether, twelve persons lost their lives on the occasion, including Mears, the constable, Lieutenant Bennett, and Courtenay himself, who, as his victim fell, was shot by a soldier. The delusion caused by this wretched man may, very likely, even still be obscurely cherished: for some time at least after his death many of the people he had so strangely crazed continued eagerly to maintain that he would speedily re-appear alive.

In addition to the monuments already noticed in the Cathedral of Canterbury, are to be found the following in that and three/* of the other churches.

In the Cathedral. In the Martyrdom, a monument for Dr. Alexander Chapman, a prebend here, who died 6th Sept. 1629, aged 52. In the Deans' Chapel, a monument to Dean Rogers, 1597: another, with his portrait on copper, by Janssen, to Isaac Bargrave, who died 1667, aged 74:

/* We regret that some untoward circumstances have prevented us from receiving a fuller account of the Canterbury monuments.

391

another to Dean and Alexander Bargrave, two brothers: and above the last, a monument for Dean Turner. In the Warriors', or St. Michael's Chapel, a monument for Lieut. Col. William Prude, slain at the siege of Maestricht, 12th July, 1632: another for Sir Thomas and Lady Thornhurst; he was slain at the battle of Ree, in Spain, 17th July, 1627: another to Sir Stephen and Lady Thornhurst; she was sumtyme the wife of Sir Richard Baker, of Sissinghurst, Kent, 1609: another for Lady Dorothy Thornhurst: one for Miss Ann Milles, styled the beauty of Kent, who died 23d Dec. 1714, aged 20; another to Sir James Hales, who died on his passage from Portugal to England, in 1596: one to Francis Godfrey, valet to Prince George of Denmark: a tablet to Richard Edwards, Esq. Admiral of the Blue, who died 3d Feb. 1795, aged 76. In the nave, on the south side, a monument, by Rysbrack, for John Simpson, Arm. who died 3d Jan. 1748, aged 63. On the north side, a monument for Captain John Purvis, wounded at the siege of Bergen-op-Zoom on 8th March, 1814, and died 16th of the same month, aged 44: another to Lieut. Col. John Stuart, who fell at the head of the 9th Regiment of Infantry, 17th Aug. 1808, aged 32, at the battle of Roleia: a tablet to William Ayerst, D.D. Prebendary of this church, who died 9th May, 1765, aged 81: a memorial to the Rev. Dr. John Boys and Dr. Isaac Bargrave: a tablet to Robert Macpherson Cairnes, killed at the battle of Waterloo, 18th June, 1815, aged 30: a monument to Orlando Gibbons: a tablet to Thomas Lawrence, M.D.: another to the Rev. William Welfitt, D.D. Prebendary of this cathedral, who died 3d Feb. 1833, aged 87: another to Henry Boswell Bennett, who fell in the manly and strict discharge of his duty at Bosenden Wood, in the Ville of Dunkirk, 31st May, 1838, aged 29; erected by his brother officers: another to Lieut. Gen. Sir William Inglis, K.C.B. Governor of Cork, and Col. in the 57th Regiment, who died at Ramsgate, 19th Nov. 1835, aged 72: a monument to John Boys, of Fredville, who died in 1612, aged 77.

The Church of the Holy Cross, Westgate. In the chancel, on the south wall, a monument to James Six, M.A. Fellow of Trinity College, in the University of Cambridge, who died at Rome, Dec. 14, 1786, aged 29, and was buried in that city; James Six, F.R.S. died Aug. 25th, 1793, aged 62; Mary, his wife, died March 19th, 1801, aged 68: another, very ancient, for Abraham Colph, Mayor of Canterbury: and another for Robert Deane, who died Sept. 6th, 1818; he founded, in conjunction with James Six, Esq. a Sunday school in this parish, and erected, at his own expense, a gallery and organ in this church.

St. Margaret's Church. In the chancel, near the altar, a monument for George Barrett, Esq. 1719: a fine monument, and full length figure, for George Newman, 1627: above the altar, a monument and bust to John Watson, who was Maior, Chamberlain, and Sherriffe of this City of Canterbury, obt. 19 April, 1633; he left two tenements and one meadow in the charge of the Chamberlain for the time being of this town, to the poor, to cloathe them; also to Leonard Cotter, once Maior and Sherriffe of this town, who hath left three tenements, for two sisters and one brother, in Mainord Spittle Cantor, for ever. In the middle aisle, on the south wall, a tablet to John Delmar, fourth son of Mr. Delmar, of this city, who fell by a shot, which instantly deprived him of life, while displaying the British colours at the Puerto de Maya, in the first battle of the Pyrenees, on the 25th July, 1813, aged 19: a monument to Anna Maria Lukyn, eldest daughter of John Lukyn, Esq. by Anne, daughter of Anthony Oughton, Esq. who died July 21st, 1806, aged 83; also Anna Maria Lukyn, eldest daughter and last surviving child of the Rev. Anthony Lukyn, and Elizabeth, his wife, who died April 17th, 1835, aged 83. In the north aisle, on the north wall, a monument to Paul Lukin, and his wife; he died 11th June, 1716, aged 72; she 20th Nov. aged 58: another for Anthony

392

Oughton, Gent. descended from an ancient family of that name at Felloughley, in Warwickshire, but for 66 years an inhabitant of this parish; also Anne, his wife, daughter of Sir James Bunce, of Kemsing, by Dorothy, daughter of Sir William Hugessen, of Provender, both in this county; he died 27 Aug. 1750, aged 87; she died March 12th, 1732, aged 66: another for Richard Halford, Gent. buried 6th May, 1766, aged 48; he was son of the Rev. Richard Halford, A.M. and was for many years Auditor to the Dean and Chapter of the Cathedral in this city; also one to Richard Halford, Esq. who died 26th Nov. 1823, aged 70; he was Alderman and Chamberlain of this city; also Major George Halford, of the 59th Regiment of Infantry, his second and youngest son, who died 10th June, 1823, aged 43; also Elizabeth, widow of the above Richard Halford, Esq. who died 5th Nov. 1835, aged 80: a monument for William Somner, the antiquarian, and author of the History of Canterbury; born March 30th, 1606, died March 30th, 1669.

St. George's Church. In the chancel, on the south side, a monument for Ann, daughter of John Polley, or Polhill, of Otterford, Gent.; she was wife of Thomas Milles, of Davington, Gent. who was her third husband, obt. 20 Oct. 1624: and another to Lieut. Col. Robert Gordon, of the Hon. East India Company's service on the Bombay Establishment, and from 1798 until 1814, he was Adjutant-General of the Bombay army; he died 1st Aug. 1835, aged 72.

In the suburbs of Canterbury, on the right hand side of the road to Dover, is the Paddock, the seat of Richard Halford, Esq. It is a handsome house, surrounded by pleasant grounds, and screened from the road by a wall and plantations.

HUNDRED OF BRIDGE AND PETHAM.

Bridge Place, in the Parish of Bridge, was formerly a magnificent structure: it was built in the reign of Charles I. by Sir Arnold Braems, a descendant of a Flemish house. The expense of erecting it so impoverished the family, that his son's heirs, about 1704, were obliged to sell it, and it was purchased by John Taylor, Esq. of Bifrons, whose descendants possessed it till a recent period.

An idea may be given of the extent and grandeur of the original building by

mentioning that John Taylor, Esq. pulled down the greatest part of the mansion, leaving only one wing standing, which was itself of sufficient size for a gentleman's residence.

Bridge Hill House, in the Parish of Bridge, the residence of the Rev. Edward Gregory, is distant from Dover 11 miles, from Canterbury four miles south-east, and from London 59 miles.

393

Bridge Church has several remains of Norman architecture about it, particularly at the west entrance. It is dedicated to St. Peter.

In the chancel, a monument to Joane, second daughter of Walter Harflet, of Beakesbourne, Esq. wife of Sir Arnold Braems; also Elizabeth, second daughter of Sir Dudley Diggs, Knt. of Chilham Castle, Master of the Revels, second wife of Sir Arnold Breams; she died 27th May, 1633: above this a portrait and memorial of Robert Bargrave. On the south wall, a tablet to John Hartley, Gent. of this place; born Sept. 1763, died March 13th, 1833. On the north side of the middle aisle, a tablet to Mrs. Martha Baldock, sister to the late Wm. Baldock, Esq. of Petham, who died May 31, 1826, aged 74: a tablet to the memory of Baron Montesquieu, of this parish, who died 19th July, 1824, aged 74. Here is a curious piece of stone let into the wall, with sculptures carved on it representing the sacrifices of Cain and Abel, the murder of Abel, the devil, in the shape of a cormorant, tempting Adam and Eve, and the angel driving them out of Paradise.

Higham, in the Parish of Patricxbourne, the seat of the Rev. Charles Hughes Hallett, M.A. is an elegant modern house, built on an elevated part of a small but very beautiful and well wooded park, and overlooking Barham Downs, from which it is separated only by a sunk fence. Its high situation gives it the command of extensive prospects.

Higham is distant from Canterbury four miles south-east, from Dover 11 miles, and from London 59 miles.

Higham, in the 13th year of Edward III. was owned by Nicholas de Higham. It soon after passed into the name of Bourne, and next into that of Haut, in which family it remained till Elizabeth, daughter of Sir William Haut, of Bishopsbourne, carried it in marriage to Thomas Colepeper, Esq. of Bedbury, who, in the 34th year of Henry VIII. alienated it to Sir Anthony Aucher. His descendant, Sir Hewit Aucher, Bart. in 1726, bequeathed it to his sister, Elizabeth, married to Dr. John Corbet, of Shropshire. On the death of Dr. Corbet it came to his five daughters, the husband of one of whom, Ignatius Geohagan, Esq. rebuilt the seat about 1768, and about 1781 alienated his fifth part, as did also the heirs of three other of the daughters who were deceased, to James Hallett, Esq. who afterwards purchased the remaining fifth part of the heirs of Lady Hardres, and thus became possessed of the whole.

Bifrons, in the Parish of Patricxbourne, the baronial mansion of the Marchioness of Conyngham, is situated on the north of Bridge, in a sheltered and beautiful part of the country. The park and pleasure-grounds are laid out with great taste.

Bifrons is distant from Dover rather more than 12 miles, from Canterbury three miles south-east, and from London 58 miles.

Bifrons was originally built by John Bargar, or Bargrave, one of a family that resided in Bridge. His grandson, John Bargrave, Esq. sold it, in 1662, to Sir Arthur Slingsby, Bart. whose son, Sir Charles, in 1677, alienated it to Mr. Thomas Baker, of London. On his death it passed to William Whotton, of London, and he, in 1680, conveyed it to Thomas Adrian, Esq. This gentleman, in 1694,

394

alienated it to John Taylor, Esq. whose eldest son, Dr. Brook Taylor, next inherited it, but dying without male issue, his brother, the Rev. Herbert Taylor, became possessed of it in 1731. His eldest

son, Herbert, succeeded him, and he dying unmarried, in 1767, was followed by his brother, the Rev. Edward Taylor, who rebuilt the seat with two fronts, and placed on the principal front this motto in honour of his lady; "*Diruta ædificat uxor bona, ædificata diruit mala.*" In 1798 the Rev. Mr. Taylor was succeeded by his eldest son, Edward Taylor, Esq. of whom we believe it was purchased by the late King, George IV.

Patricbourne Church is undoubtedly a very ancient edifice, and is by some thought to be but little more modern than Barfristone Church, to which in some points it bears a near resemblance. The chief entrance, on the south side, under the steeple, is circular, and sculptured with Saxon emblematical figures: at the east end is a small round window. There are also some good remains of painted glass in the windows.

In the chancel, on the north side, a monument for Henry, Marquess Conyngham, Earl of Mountcharles, Viscount Slane, and Baron Minster, of Minster Abbey, in this county, K.P. G.C.H. born Dec. 26th, 1766, died Dec. 28th, 1832. In the south transept, on the west side, a tablet to the Rev. Herbert Taylor, Rector of Hunton and Vicar of this parish, who died 29th Sept. 1763, aged 65: another to Olive, wife of John Taylor, of Bifrons, Esq. who died 7th April, 1716, aged 60; also Margaret, their third daughter, who died in 1738; Elizabeth, Lady Young, relict of Sir William Young, Bart. who is interred at Chartham with his first wife, Sarah, daughter of Charles Fagg, Esq. lies entombed without this wall with her aunt, Mrs. Mary Taylor; she was the only surviving issue of Brooke Taylor, of Bifrons, LL.D. and F.R.S: one for John Taylor, Esq. who was born Dec. 7th, 1655, and died April 4th, 1729; he purchased an estate in this parish, Sept. 29th, 1694; afterwards another in Bridge, and when he had improved them, and raised a beautiful garden to Bifrons, he settled the whole upon his family: his eldest son, Brooke, LL.D. F.R.S. dying in London, was buried in St. Ann's Church-yard by his own order: another to Captain Watkinson Taylor, R. N. son of the Rev. Edward Taylor, of Bifrons, born Sept. 25th, 1777; his death was caused by the upsetting of his boat off Brindini, in the Adriatic, whilst in command of H. M. S. Apollo; he had the honour of sharing in the victories of the 1st of June, 1794, and of the Nile on the 1st Aug. 1798: beneath the last, a tablet to Edward Taylor, of Bifrons, A.M. On the south side of the aisle, a tablet to Edmund Barham, Esq. who died Oct. 21st, 1787, aged 80. On the north side, a tablet to John Burton, Esq. late of Renville, in this parish, eldest son of Sir Richard Burton, of Sacketts Hill House, in the Isle of Thanet, who died Feb. 3d, 1833, aged 38; he is buried in the family vault at St. Peter's; erected by his widow: a monument for Elizabeth, wife of Thomas Deane, of this parish, Gent. and only child of John Alleyan, Gent.; obt. 4 Sept. 1701: a tablet to John Peckham, Esq. descended of the ancient family of Peckham, of Chart Sutton, in this county; he was youngest son of Robert and Mary Peckham, of Court Lodge, in this parish, where he resided; he died Jan. 5th, 1792, aged 67. On the east side, a tablet to Frances, eldest daughter of the Rev. Hughes Hallett and Frances Anne, his wife, who died April 25th, 1835, aged 24.

Patricbourne Church is dedicated to St. Mary.

Nackington House, in the Parish of Nackington, the residence of William Delmar, Esq. is situated on the right of the road to Petham from Canterbury.

395

The lawn in front of it extends to the road, from which it is separated by a sunk fence. At this point the mansion is finely displayed; in every other direction it is embowered in wood. The house contains some good paintings by eminent masters. It is distant from Canterbury little more than one mile south-east.

Nackington House, in the reign of Charles I. was the residence of Captain John Nutt. His descendant, Edward Nutt, Esq. died in 1708 without male issue, and it then came by entail to his brother, William Nutt, who sold it to Thomas Willys, Esq. This gentleman, in 1726, succeeded to the title of Baronet, and dying the next year, s. p. devised this estate to trustees, who soon afterwards sold it to Christopher Milles, Esq. of Canterbury, a descendant of a good family.

Heppington House, in the Parish of Nackington, is the country residence of the Rev. Dr. Faussett. It possesses some paintings, of which we have had no opportunity to obtain the particulars.

Heppington House is distant from Canterbury little more than two miles south, and from London about 56 miles.

Heppington, in the reign of Henry II. was possessed by William de Delce. In the reign of Edward III. we find it in the family of Talbot: it then passed to the Chiches, of the Dungeon, and afterwards to the family of Fogge. Sir John Fogge, of Repton, anno 6 Henry VII. devised it to his son, Sir Thomas Fogge, whose two daughters and co-heirs conveyed each their moieties, in 1558 and 1561, to Thomas Hales, Esq. of Thanington, whose son, William Hales, jointly with his son William, in 1640, conveyed this estate to Thomas Godfrey, Esq. the younger, of Lid, who was knighted in the following year. His widow, in 1699, bequeathed it to her great-nephew, Henry Godfrey, Esq. whose only daughter, Mary, carried it in marriage to Bryan Faussett, Esq. of Rochester, who, in 1750, was succeeded by his son, the Rev. Bryan Faussett. This gentleman died in 1776, and his son, Henry Godfrey Faussett, Esq. inherited it on his mother's decease in 1787.

Nackington Church is dedicated to St. Mary. In the chancel are several memorials for the family of Godfrey.

In the chancel, on the east wall, a monument to the Rt. Hon. Mary Elizabeth, Lady Sondes, relict of the late Lewis Thomas, Lord Sondes, and only daughter of Mary Elizabeth and Richard Milles, Esq. of this parish and of North Elham, Norfolk; she died 29th Sept. 1818, aged 52; she married a second husband, Lieut. Gen. Sir Henry Montresor: another to Richard Milles, Esq. of this parish and of North Elham, Norfolk, who died Sept. 24th, 1820, aged 86; also Mary Elizabeth, relict of the above Richard Milles, who died 14th Aug. 1823, aged 77: also one to Mary Milles, eldest daughter of the late Christopher Milles, of Hearn, in this parish, Esq. who died 31 Aug. 1822, aged 90; also Catherine Elizabeth, fourth daughter of Sir John Henry Palmer, Bart. of Carlton, in Northamptonshire, who died at Ramsgate, 4th Sept. 1822, aged 1 year. On the west wall of this chancel, a monument to the Rev. Bernard Astley, B.A. late Rector of Little Snoring, in Norfolk, and of Bratton, in Somersetshire; he was second son of Sir Edward Astley, of Melton Constable, Norfolk, by Anne, daughter of Christopher Milles, Esq. of this parish; nat. 31 Aug. 1764, obt. Nov. 25, 1788; erected by his widow: another to Christopher Milles, Esq. of Nackington, in this county, who died

396

Jan. 17th, 1742, aged 45: also one to Mary Milles, relict of Christopher Milles, Esq. and eldest daughter of the late Richard Warner, of North Elham, in Norfolk, Esq. she died 27th Oct. 1781, aged 69.

Along the eastern boundary of the Parish of Petham runs the Stonestreet way, the old Roman road from Canterbury to Hythe and the Portus Lemanis.

In the north part of this parish, extending about two miles from east to west, are the Swerdling Downs, over which are scattered many remains of intrenchments; and beyond them, further northward, is Iffin's Wood, which is supposed, from the fortifications in it, to have been the strong hold of the Britons, mentioned particularly by Cæsar as rendered almost impregnable by nature and art. After this position was forced, the Britons intrenched themselves below the wood, and Cæsar finding them there, gave them battle and fought his decisive engagement.

From a pond in the village there sometimes, though but rarely, flows a nailbourn, which runs northward towards Shalmsford, and then, changing its course, goes westward into the river Stour.

Street-end House, in the Parish of Petham, the residence of Mrs. Jane Bell, is situated three miles south from Canterbury, about 14 miles from Dover, and 56 miles from London.

Street-end House formerly belonged to the Spracklyns, of Thanet. It was next possessed by the

Whitfields, and from them passed to H. Fonnereau, Esq. who rebuilt it and laid out the grounds; after which he sold it to James Tillard, Esq.

Kenfield, in the Parish of Petham, the seat of Miss Sarah Thomson, has a handsome substantial appearance. The grounds are richly wooded, and the timber, particularly the oak and ash, generally well grown. The house is situated on the slope of a hill fronting the north, from which direction it is seen to the greatest advantage.

Kenfield is distant from Canterbury rather more than four miles south-west, from Dover about 15 miles, and from London 55 miles.

Kenfield, or Upper Kenfield, in the reign of Charles I. was possessed by Henry Thomson, Esq. a descendant of a family originally of Sandwich. Thomas Thomson, Esq. who died in 1762, devised this estate to his second son, the Rev. Henry Thomson, entailing it, on failure of male issue by his three younger sons, on that branch of the family settled at Somersham, in Huntingdonshire.

Petham, in the Parish of Petham, the seat of William Henry Baldock, Esq. a Magistrate and Deputy Lieutenant for the County, is an elegant modern

397

structure, situated in a small park adorned with young plantations. There are paintings by Van Goyen, Louthembourg, the elder and younger Mieris, Murillo, and some of the Flemish school. The house has a striking appearance on the approach to it from Canterbury. Its situation is higher than that of the village, and as the plantations are yet young, the building presents its whole front. Behind it the ascent continues, and being clothed with wood, forms a noble background to the picture.

Petham is distant from Canterbury about five miles south-west, and from London 56 miles.

Petham Church contains the following memorials:

In the chancel, on the south wall, near the altar, a monument to Johannes Thompson, A.D. 1645: another to Henry Thompson, A.D. 1732: a tablet to Wm. Hammond, Esq. of Stone House, in this parish, who died 5th May, 1820, aged 63. In the south aisle, on the south wall, a tablet to Thos. Randolph, A.M. Rector of Saltwood and Vicar of this parish. In the aisle, on the west wall, a tablet to Elizabeth, relict of the late John Thomson, Esq. of Chartham Deanery, in this county, who died 12th Nov. 1828, aged 84. On the south wall, a monument for John Thomson, Esq. late of Chartham Deanery, in this county, third son of Thos. Thomson, Esq. of Kenfield, in this county; having passed the greater part of his life in the Hon. E. I. Company's service, he was promoted by them to the situation of Master Attendant at Fort St. George; he died 23 Aug. 1799, aged 56; also for his son, John Buck Thomson, who died 22d Feb. 1802, aged 14. In the north aisle, on the north wall, a monument to the Rev. Henry Thomson, Rector of Lower Hardres and of Badlesmere with Leveland, in this county; the former the gift of the King, the latter on the presentation of Lord Sondes; he died May 11th, 1809, aged 78: another to Edward Thomas Thomson, of Kenfield, in this parish, who died 10th July, 1815, aged 21; erected by his friend and relation Sarah Thomson: another to Anne, daughter of the Rev. John Edward Wilson, of New Romney, in this county, who died 5th Jan. 1786, aged 23: a tablet to the Rev. Charles Graham, M.A. who died June 22d, 1837, aged 60; also Charles, his only son, who died at Oxford, 20th Nov. 1832, aged 19: a tablet to Lucy Lefroy, daughter of Thos. and Phœbe Lefroy, who died 17th July, 1784, aged 69; also Anthony Lefroy, her brother, who died in Tuscany, 14th July, 1779, aged 75: a monument to Thos. Lefroy, of Canterbury, who died 3d Nov. 1723, aged 43; of a Cambresian family, who preferred religion and liberty to their country and property, in the time of Duke Alva's persecution; also to Phoebe Lefroy, his wife, daughter of Thos. Thomson; she died 31st March, 1761, aged 81: another to Thos. Thomson, of Kenfield, in this parish, Esq. who died 4th Oct. 1762, aged 68; also Mary, his wife, daughter of Thos. Hodges, Esq. of Warehorn, in this county, who died 16th March, 1778, aged 76; and a tablet to the five daughters of Thos. Thomson, Esq. of Kenfield, viz. Frances, Charlotte, Mary,

and Elizabeth, and Catherine, who died in her infancy.

Petham Church is dedicated to All Saints.

In the eastern part of the Parish of Lower Hardres, close to the Stone Street road, is a farm and pond, called Hermansole, which name is thought by some to

398

be derived from the Saxon idol, Ermensewl; – by others from the Roman way, on which it stands, 'Herman,' in Saxon, signifying military, and 'sole,' a pond.

Lower Hardres Church. In the aisle, on the south wall, a tablet to Mary, wife of James Tillard, Esq. of Street End House, in the Parish of Petham, who died 3d Feb. 1821, aged 65: below the last, one to James Tillard, Esq. of Street End House, who died 1st Sept. 1828; at his expense this church was rebuilt, and he contributed to the erection, enlargement, and repairs of other churches in this neighbourhood, and was a liberal benefactor to many charitable institutions. On the wall, a tablet to Daniel Gregory, Esq. fourth son of George Gregory, Esq. of Harlaxton, in Lincolnshire, Esq. who died 9th June, 1819, aged 71; also Elizabeth Catherine, his wife, second daughter of Stephen Beckingham, of Bourne Place, in this county, Esq. who died 4th Sept. 1833, aged 81.

Lower Hardres Church is dedicated to St. Mary.

Hardres Court, in the Parish of Upper Hardres, was formerly the seat of Thomas Hardres, who was present, with Henry VIII. at the siege of Bullein, in France, and, for his great services there, was permitted to bring away the gates of that city, which, in Hasted's time, remained in the garden wall opposite to the church. On his return the king stayed here two nights, and when departing, as a mark of his favour, left his dagger, "which," says the author above cited, "is still preserved in the house."

The Manor of Linsore, or Linchesore, in the south-east part of the same parish, is connected with a singular tradition. Sir Edward Dering, Bart. into whose possession it had come in the reign of Charles I. describes it as having no mansion at that time; but that, in the middle of Linsore Wood, there were the foundations of a chapel, called Sir Thomas Garwinton's Chapel (from a family that possessed this estate about the reign of Richard 11.); and that, by common report, it was all open land till the contest between the houses of York and Lancaster drew away the inhabitants, and none being left to cultivate the ground, it became overgrown with wood.

Upper Hardres Church is dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul. The high chancel runs the whole length of the building.

In the chancel, on the south wall, a fine monument to Thomas Hardres, of Upper Hardres, Knt. who married Elenor, daughter and heire of Henry Thorsby, Esq.; he died 17th March, 1628, aged 55: another for Sir William Hardres, Bart. who died 31st Aug. 1764, aged 46, being the last Baronet of the ancient family of Hardres; he married Frances, daughter of John Corbet, Esq. of Bourne Place, and grand-daughter of Sir Anthony Aucher, of Bourne Place; she died Feb. 23d, 1783, aged 66. On the north wall, a monument to Sir Thomas Hamon, Knt. who was the youngest son of Wm. Hamon, of Acris, in this County of Kent, Esq. he died A.D. 1634; he had two wives, Elizabeth and Dorothy,

399

one of whom (Dorothy) lies buried in this chancel: another to the Rev. David Jones, A.M., A.D. 1744, aged 75, on the 23d Oct. In the aisle, on the north wall, a monument for Mrs. Elizabeth Denward, relict of the Rev. Thomas Denward, and second daughter of Dr. Corbet, of Bourne Place; while living she erected and endowed a charity school at Stelling, and repaired and beautified the parish churches of Hardres and Stelling. By her will, 9th July, 1805, she left, for certain charitable purposes, sums

invested in the funds, the annual interest of which is £99. 19s. She died 16th April, 1807, aged 92. There is also a beautiful monument in the chancel, but the inscription is effaced.

HUNDRED OF KINGHAMFORD.

Bourne Place, in the Parish of Bishopsbourne, the residence of Mrs. Kenrick, and property of Mrs. Beckingham, of the Marine Parade, Dover, is a fine ancient mansion, situated in an extensive park, which is enriched with stately timber and ornamented with a sheet of water formed by the Bourne stream, as it flows before the north front of the house. The mansion is a beautiful and striking object from the Dover and Canterbury road, which skirts the park for nearly a mile.

Bourne Place is distant from Dover nearly 12 miles, from Canterbury about four miles south-east, and from London 59 miles.

Bourne Place, formerly called Hautsbourne, at the time of the survey of Domesday, was possessed by Godric de Burnes. Helen, daughter of John de Bourne, carried this estate in marriage to John de Shelving, of Shelvingborne, whose grandson, of the same name, died anno 4 Edward III. at which time this manor was called, from them, Shelvington. Benedicta, daughter of the last-mentioned John de Shelving, carried it in marriage to Sir Edmund de Haut, of Petham, whose son, Nicholas, gave it to William, his youngest son. From him it descended to Sir William Haut, in the reign of Henry VIII. whose daughter, Elizabeth, carried this estate, as her share of her father's property, to her husband, Thomas Colepeper, and he immediately passed it away to Sir Anthony Aucher, of Otterden, who was descended from Duke Ealcher, or Aucher, the first Earl of Kent, eminent for his bravery against the Danes in 853. Sir Anthony, at his death, gave it to his second son, Edward, whose great-grandson, Sir Anthony Aucher, was created a baronet in 1666, and resided here: his two sons dying unmarried, the title became extinct, but this estate devolved by will on his eldest daughter, Elizabeth, who, about 1726, carried it in marriage to Dr. John Corbet, and he dying in 1736, left it to his five daughters, four of whom, in 1752, sold their shares to Stephen Beckingham, Esq. the husband of the fifth and eldest.

Charlton, in the Parish of Bishopsbourne, the seat of Lieut. General Sir Frederick William Mulcaster, K.C.H. Inspector General of Fortifications,

400

Colonel Commandant of the Corps of Royal Engineers, and a Magistrate and Deputy Lieutenant for the County, is a handsome house, situated in a small park adjoining the Dover and Canterbury road, at the side of which it has a lodge entrance, whence the distance to the house is half a mile. In the interior are a few good paintings, and a collection of shells, chiefly from the islands in the Indian Ocean. The drawing-room is a splendid apartment, 40 feet long, 36 feet wide, and 21 feet high.

Charlton is distant from Dover about 11 miles north-west, from Canterbury five miles, and from London 60 miles.

Charlton belonged formerly to a family named Herring, with whom it continued till Wm. Herring, anno 3 James I. conveyed it to John Gibbon, of Bethersden, whose son William died possessed of it in 1632; and his heirs then passed it to Sir Anthony Aucher, Bart. His son, Sir Hewitt Aucher, Bart. in 1726, bequeathed it to his sister, Elizabeth, who carried it in marriage to John Corbet, LL.D. of Salop. At the death of Mrs. Corbet, in 1764, she being then a widow, it came to her five daughters, who (excepting Frances, married to Sir William Hardres, Bart.), sold their respective fifth parts the following year to Francis Hender Foote, Clerk. Mr. Foote died in 1773, leaving a widow, Catherine, at whose decease, in 1776, these shares descended to their eldest son, John Foote, Esq.; and he, in 1784, purchased of the heirs of Lady Hardres, above-mentioned, the remaining fifth part, and so became possessed of the whole estate.

Rectory, Bishopsbourne, the residence of the Rev. Charles Oxenden, B.A.

is a handsome ancient house, situated a short distance south-east from the church.

Bishopsbourne Church is a large handsome structure, dedicated to St. Mary. It has been lately undergoing considerable alterations.

In the chancel, on the east wall, a tablet to Eliza Catherine, wife of the Rev. Charles Oxenden, and daughter of the Rev. George Holcombe, D.D. who died May 29th 1829, aged 36; also Catherine Mary Moore, daughter of the above, who died 9th June, 1829, aged 5. On the south wall, a tablet to the Rev. John Beckingham, of Bourne Place, in this parish, Rector of Upper Hardres, who died 14th Oct. 1807, aged 52: also one to Dorothy, wife of Stephen Beckingham, of Bourne Place, who died Feb. 24th, 1798, aged 68; also Stephen Beckingham, Esq. who died Oct. 12th, 1813, aged 83: another to Dorothy Charlotte, widow of the Hon. John George Montagu, eldest son of John Viscount Hinchinbrook, and only child of Stephen Beckingham, Esq. who died 10th Aug. 1821. In the chancel is also a brass for John Gibbon, who died Aug. 1617, aged 60: and memorials of Sir Anthony Aucher, Mareschall of Callice, Governor of Guisnes, Master of the Jewelhouse in the times of Henry VIII. Edward VI. and Queen Mary; he was slain at the loss of Callice; also of Anthony Aucher, Knt. and Bart.; and Eliz. Hatton and their son, and others of the Aucher family; likewise to the memory of Dr. Corbet, of Bourne Place, and Elizabeth his wife, sister and co-heiress of Sir Anthony Aucher, Bart. On the south side of the middle aisle, a monument to John Foote, Esq. who died 5th Sept. 1800, aged 45; this monument is erected by Robert Foote, Esq. of Charlton Place, in this parish. In the south aisle, on the south wall, a tablet to Sir Wm. Howe Mulcaster, Capt. R. N. Companion of the Bath, and Knt. Commander of the Royal Hanoverian Guelphic Order, who died

401

12th March, 1837, aged 53, after long suffering from a wound received in action: another to Mary Juliana Mulcaster, wife of Major General Frederick George Mulcaster, of the Royal Engineers, who died 15th Nov. 1830, aged 80; and of her daughter, Ann Tucker, wife of Colonel G. P. Tucker, who died 7th Dec. 1830, aged 48. On the north wall, a monument to John Cockman, Dr. of Physick, of Charlton, son of the Rev. Mr. Cockman, Rector of Cowden, in this county; he had two wives, Margaret, daughter and heiress of Sir Felix Wylde, Bart.; and Eliz. second daughter of Sir Thomas Dyke, Bart. who erected this monument: also a monument, with his bust, dressed in a black gown and square cap, to the memory of Richard Hooker, Rector of this parish, author of the "Ecclesiastical Polity;" ob. 1600.

BARHAM DOWNS, so named from being situated partly in the parish of Barham, is a fine open plain, extending four miles in length, from Bridge to Denne Hill, and about half a mile wide. It is chiefly known at this time as the ground on which the county races are annually held; but in earlier days it was the scene of many stirring events, and great encampments. On that part of the Downs within the parish of Kingston are still visible many remains of Cæsar's works, particularly of one of his advanced camps, facing Kingston church, to the south-west, which is square, with a single agger and vallum on three sides of it, the north side being left open. There are also several tumuli scattered over the downs, from which, at different periods, has been taken a great quantity of Roman antiquities, with coins, umboes of shields, human ashes, and bones, &c. Twine, in his "De Rebus Albionis," says that in the reign of Henry VIII. Master William Diggs opened an immense tumulus on Barham Downs, and found therein a very large urn, filled with human ashes and exceeding large bones; and beside it lay several brass and iron helmets and shields, of an extraordinary size.

Watling Street, the Roman military way, runs along the lower side of the Downs the whole length, in a direct line from Canterbury towards Dover.

In the year 1213 King John encamped on Barham Downs with an army of 60,000 men, to oppose Philip, King of France; and, while here, Pandulph, the Pope's legate, who was then at the Preceptory of the Templars, at Swingfield, sent two knights of that order to persuade the king to come to Swingfield, with which he complied, and, to his everlasting shame, there surrendered the crown to the Pope's representative, in presence of his principal nobles and bishops.

In the reign of Henry III. Simon de Montford, General of the discontented barons, assembled a large army on these downs, to oppose the landing of Queen Eleanor, whom the king had left in France.

Barham Court, in the Parish of Barham, the seat of George C. R. Dering, Esq. is situated on the north side of the church, nearly half a mile

402

distant from the Dover and Canterbury road, and about seven miles south-east from Canterbury.

Barham Court, in Henry II.'s time, was held of the Archbishop of Canterbury, by knight's service, by Sir Randal Fitzurse, one of the four knights who murdered Archbishop Becket, anno 1170. Immediately after the perpetration of the crime, Sir Randal fled to Ireland, and changed his name to Mac Mahon; and one of his relations took possession of this estate, assuming from it the name of Berham. In this family it continued till Thomas Barham, Esq. in the beginning of the reign of James I. alienated it to the Rev. Charles Fotherbye; from whom it descended to his son, Sir Charles Fotherbye, who died in 1666; and his son Charles, who died in 1720, bequeathed it to his eldest daughter, Mary, who married, first, Henry Mompesson, Esq. and, secondly, Sir Edward Dering, Bart. of Surrenden. The eldest son of Lady Dering, Charles Dering, Esq. succeeded to it at the death of his mother, in 1775.

Broome, in the Parish of Barham, is the magnificent Elizabethan mansion of Sir Henry Chudleigh Oxenden, Bart. There is here a fine collection of paintings, by the most eminent Italian and Flemish masters, amongst which may be mentioned Bacchus and Ariadne, by Nicolo Poussin; Homer singing his poetry, by the same artist; Holy Family, by A. Del. Sarto; Our Saviour disputing with the Doctors, by Pordenone; Ruben's wife, by himself; Holy Family, by Carlo Maratti; Dutch Kitchen, by Tilborgh; Virgin and Child, by Vandyck, after Titian; Roman Slave, by Correggio; Two Madonas, by Salsa Ferata; Landscapes, by Orizonti, Berghem, Gaspar Poussin, Francesco Mille, Kierings, J. Ostade, Bega, Salvator Rosa; a Sea Storm, by Vander Velde; Entombing of Christ, by Rothenhamer; St. Stephen the Martyr, by Cortona; Our Saviour bearing his Cross, by Ph. Lauri; Battle Piece, by Borgognone; Pieta, by Lan Franco; View near Tivoli, by Gaspar Poussin; Reposo in Egypt, by Nicolo Poussin; Design, by Guido; View of the Ponte Mole, by Both, &c. The park is very extensive, and well wooded; but here, as at Knowlton, vast numbers of trees were destroyed by the hurricane of November, 1836. The extent of this park, from north to south, is nearly one mile and a half, and at each of these extremities it is considerably elevated, which contributes very pleasingly to vary the surface.

Broome is distant from Dover about eight miles north-west, from Canterbury eight miles, and from London 63 miles.

This Manor, in course of descent, came, in 1535, to Leonard Diggs, Esq. a lineal descendant of Roger de Mildenhall, alias Digg, or Diggs, the first of this eminent family, whose original residence in this county was at the neighbouring seat of Outelmestone, or Diggs Court. Leonard Diggs sold Brome to Basil Dixwell, Esq. (second son of Charles Dixwell, Esq. of Coton, in Warwickshire), who

403

built the mansion about 1622. He was knighted, and afterwards created a Baronet, by Charles I. At his death, in 1641, he bequeathed it to his nephew, Mark Dixwell, whose son, Basil Dixwell, was, anno 12 Charles II. created a Baronet. His only son, Sir Basil Dixwell, Bart. died in 1750, and devised this estate to his kinsman, George Oxenden, Esq. second son of Sir George Oxenden, Bart. of Dean, in Wingham, enjoining him to take the name and arms of Dixwell, for which an Act passed anno 25 George II.; but he dying soon after, unmarried, devised it to his father, Sir George Oxenden, who settled it on his eldest and only surviving son, Sir Henry Oxenden, Bart.

May Deacon, in the Parish of Barham, the residence of Thomas Papillon, Esq. of Acrise Place, and the property of Sir H. C. Oxenden, Bart. adjoins the southern boundary of Broome Park.

May Deacon, or, more properly, Madekin, was so called from a family who were formerly owners of it. In Queen Elizabeth's reign the daughter of James Brooker, Esq. at that time the proprietor of this estate, carried it in marriage to Sir Henry Oxenden, of Wingham, whose grandson, Sir Henry Oxenden, Bart. sold it, in 1664, to Edward Adye, Esq. Rosamond, one of the daughters of this gentleman, subsequently entitled her husband, George Elcock, Esq. to it; and their daughter Elizabeth carried it in marriage to Captain Charles Fotherby, whose eldest daughter, Mary, entitled successively her two husbands, Henry Mompesson, Esq. and Sir Edward Dering, Bart. to the possession of it. On the decease of Lady Dering, Madekin devolved on her eldest son, Charles Dering, Esq.

Barham Church. In the chancel, on the south wall, a monument to Wm. Barne, who died 16th June, 1766, aged 64. In the Broome chancel, a tablet to Sir Henry Oxenden, Bart. of Broome, in this parish, who died Sept. 22d, 1838, aged 82; also of his wife, Mary, Lady Oxenden: a monument to Sir Basil Dixwell, Bart. who died 26th March, 1750, aged 84, leaving his estate, as he had no heirs of his own, to George Oxenden, second son of his nephew, Sir George Oxenden, of Deane, in this county, Bart. who, by virtue of an Act of Parliament, took the name, and arms and crest of Dixwell; also to Heardson Dixwell, who died May 30th, 1661; also Sir Basil Dixwell, Bart. who died May 14th, 1668; also his children, Dorothy and Basil; also Alice, daughter of Mark Dixwell, Gent. who died an infant; also Sir Basil Dixwell, Knt. and Bart. who was nephew and heir of John Heardson, of Folkstone, Esq. and was buried 12th Jan. 1642; also to the memory of the above Mark Dixwell, nephew and heir of the above Sir Basil Dixwell, who died Feb. 8th, 1643: a small tablet to Graham Oxenden, fifth son of Sir Henry Oxenden, born Jan. 23d, 1802, died Dec. 8th, 1826. On the north side of the middle aisle, a monument to the Rev. Charles Fotherby, S.T.P. who died 3d Aug. 1720: another to the Nethersole family, of this parish: and another to Lucy, wife of Charles Bean, Vicar of Lidd, daughter of the Rev. James Sessions, who died 27th Oct. 1715, aged 30; and her two infant daughters.

Barham Church is dedicated to St. John the Baptist.

Ieldon, in the Parish of Kingston, the seat of Robert Ballard Johnstone, Esq. adjoins Barham Downs, with which it communicates by a lodge entrance. The house is situated in the lowest part of the park, and can only be seen upon a near approach.

404

Ieldon is distant from Dover 10 miles north-west, from Canterbury five miles south-east, and from London 60 miles.

Ieldon, Ileden, or Ilding, was anciently part of the possessions of the family of Garwinton, a female descendant from whom, in the 11th year of Henry IV. carried it to her husband, Richard Haut. Their only daughter, Margery, took it in marriage to William Isaac, Esq. of Patribourne, whose descendant, James Isaac, about the middle of the reign of Henry VII. alienated it to Diggs, of Diggs Court, in which family it staid till the reign of Queen Elizabeth, when it was sold to Sir Thomas Wilsford, who rebuilt the seat. To him succeeded his son Sir Thomas Wilsford, whose third son, Edward, was in holy orders, and moreover, captain of a troop at the battle of Worcester; he was one of those who opposed the republican army at one gate of that city while the king escaped at another; and, in consequence of his bravery and loyalty, the University of Oxford afterwards conferred on him the degree of D.D., and the king gave him the vicarage of Lid. Sir James Wilsford, a descendant, sold this seat, in 1668, to Sir Robert Faunce, of Maidstone, who, in 1679, alienated it to John Cason, Esq.; and he, about 1690, passed it to Thomas Turner, of London, whose grandson, Thomas Turner, having changed his name to Payler, next possessed it. His son, Thomas Watkinson Payler, Esq. succeeded to it in 1771, and from him it passed to his son of the same name.

Denne Hill, in the Parish of Kingston, the seat of the late General Sir Henry T. Montresor, K.C.B., G.C.H., and K.C. is now the residence of his widow, Lady Montresor. This mansion was built by R. Adams, Esq. Architect, but has been altered and enlarged by various possessors. It was purchased by Sir Henry in 1824. The house is furnished with great elegance, and contains many fine family portraits, by eminent masters; likewise a full-length picture of George III. and Queen Charlotte. In the drawing-room are two superb pier tables of Ferara marble, supported by figures, the busts of which are taken from Canova's Beatrice, and executed in a masterly style. There is a small museum, containing a curious and valuable collection of Egyptian, Roman, and Indian antiquities, among which are a large white marble sarcophagus, and a massive bust of Julius Cæsar, in the form of a medallion. The grounds exhibit a beautiful variety of woody scenery: the shrubberies are extensive; and the green, well-sheltered walks afford the most delightful rambles, particularly on the terrace, which is half a mile in extent, commanding a fine prospect of the valley below and of the opposite hills.

Denne Hill is distant from Dover rather more than eight miles, from Canterbury about seven miles south-east, and from London 62 miles.

Denne Hill received its name from the eminent family of Dene, or Denne, who possessed it in early times. A descendant of this family, Sir Alured de Denne, was so highly esteemed for his wisdom, that in the forty-second year of Henry III. he was joined with Henry de Bath and Nicholas de Handloe in compiling the laws of Romney Marsh. From him this estate descended uninter-

405

ruptedly to Thos. Denne, Recorder of Canterbury, at whose death, in 1655, his youngest daughter, Mary, carried it in marriage to Vincent Denne, Esq. of Canterbury, one of the younger branch from the same ancestry. It next devolved on the four daughters and co-heirs of this gentleman, the husband of one of whom, Robert Beake, Esq. purchased of his three sisters-in-law their respective shares; and his heirs, in 1725, sold it to Lady Hester Gray. She conveyed it to her eldest son, Sir James Gray, Bart. who, dying prematurely, was succeeded by his brother, Lieut. General Sir George Gray, Bart. and at his death, soon afterwards, it came again to Lady Hester Gray and her daughters Elizabeth and Carolina, who conjointly sold it to John Morse, Esq. of London. This gentleman, after having greatly improved the seat and grounds, alienated the property to Hardinge Stracey, Esquire.

Kingston Church. On the north wall, in the middle aisle, a tablet to Charlotte Payler, wife of Thomas Watkinson Payler, of Ileden, and daughter of William Hammond, Esq. of St. Albans, who died 2d June, 1798, aged 60. Above this tablet hangs an ancient helmet.

Kingston Church is dedicated to St. Giles.

Wootton Court, in the Parish of Wootton, is the seat of Sir John Head Brydges. The house stands in a small park, tolerably well wooded. The situation is elevated, and commands a view of the high ground of Broome Park and Denne Hill.

Wootton Court is distant from Canterbury nearly nine miles south-east, from Dover eight miles, and from London 64 miles.

Wootton, about the middle of the reign of Henry III. was held by Ivo de Woditon. From this time till the year 1530 it was divided, and then we find that William Harfield did homage to Archbishop Warham for the whole of it. His descendant, Andrew Harfield, alienated it, in the last year of Henry VIII. together with the advowson of the church, to Leonard Diggs; whose son, Thomas Diggs, Esq. (father of Sir Dudley Diggs) conveyed it, in 1573, to Thomas Arundel, Esq. of Cornwall, who parted with it to Richard Vincent. After the death of this gentleman it was sold to Edward Gage, of Bentley; and he, with his son-in-law, John Crispe, conveyed it, in 1606, to John Coppin, of Bekesbourne, a descendant of whom dying without issue, in 1701, devised it to his two sisters,

Susan and Dorothy. Dorothy, the youngest, settled the reversion of her moiety on John Bridges, Esq. (a descendant of Sir John Bridges, who was created by Queen Mary, in 1554, Baron of Chandos), at whose death his eldest son, John, inherited this moiety; and Edward, the second son, on the decease of Susan Coppin, alias Garret, above mentioned, by virtue of her will, took the other moiety. John Bridges, Esq. dying first, his brother Edward became possessed of the whole estate; and he, in 1780, devised it to his widow, Jemima, the daughter of William Egerton, LL.D. who was the grandson of the second Earl of Bridgewater. This lady, the following year, conveyed it to her eldest son, the Rev. E. Tymewell Brydges.

406

HUNDRED OF EASTRY.

SANDWICH, or Sond-wic, (as the Saxons spelt it, the name meaning a Sandy Creek) is built upon the River Stour, or rather, upon that branch of it which, formerly called the Wantsum, divides the Isle of Thanet from the mainland.

The harbour, which in the Roman times, under the name of the Portus Rutupiensis, was the most celebrated of any on the British shores, has become so insignificant, as hardly to deserve the name of a harbour at all. What remains of it is now, if the distance be measured by the windings of the shrunken stream, three or four miles below the town, and the water almost stagnates in a heavy bed of still accumulating sand.

This town seems to have been one of the first that were distinguished by the privileges of a Cinque Port. But, notwithstanding its old Roman fame, only five ships were usually required as its contingent, while Dover and Hastings furnished twenty-one vessels a-piece. It long continued, however, to be a considerable port; and at the period of the English expeditions into France, was frequently the place where our princes embarked and landed their armies.

As one of the Cinque Ports, Sandwich attracted the special hostility of the French, who, meditating an attack in the time of Richard II. prepared, it is said, a quantity of timber, ready to be put together as a bulwark, three thousand paces long and twenty feet high, to facilitate their siege and protect them from the English archers. A great part of this wooden wall, however, having been taken in two large vessels, and set up here to serve, if occasion should require, as an additional defence against its contrivers, the invasion was not then attempted. But, in the reign of Henry VI. the French twice plundered Sandwich, and, a third time, landing a force of 4000 men in the night, after an obstinate contest, they once more got possession of the town, and entirely destroyed it. In the course of the civil wars, shortly following, it was again ruined by the Earl of Warwick. But, under the patronage of Edward IV. who rebuilt the walls, and otherwise encouraged the interests of the place, it speedily recovered, and grew so prosperous, as to yield £17,000 annually to the customs; at the same time there were nearly one hundred vessels belonging to the port, and 1500 seamen. Yet, a very few years afterwards, occurs the first notice of the decay of its harbour, in a petition to Richard III. for means to repair it; and, in

407

the reign of Henry VIII. a large carack having sunk in the middle of the stream, contributed, by gathering the sand about it, very much to choke up the passage. Several attempts were made to effect its restoration, but, in the time of Elizabeth, the work was abandoned as hopeless. Not more than fourteen vessels then continued to belong to it, and the trade of the people had so diminished, that Sandwich would have been totally ruined, but for the seasonable influx of the French and Flemish Protestants, who hither, as well as into other places, importing their fresh manufactures, rendered it again a moderately thriving town. Yet, though the place was so much indebted to the industry of these foreigners, the native

inhabitants were jealous of their prosperity, and the corporation made them purchase, at a dear rate, the liberty of pursuing their occupations.

The situation of Sandwich, in a picturesque point of view, is extremely uninviting. The town itself possesses some features of interest, particularly in its three ancient churches, the largest of which, St. Clement's, has a fine old tower, adorned, after the Norman fashion, with several tiers of small columns, displayed in relief upon its face.

But the most remarkable object in this neighbourhood is the great Roman ruin called Richborough Castle, situated about three miles from Sandwich, on a gentle elevation that swells out of the dead level of the surrounding country. These remains form three sides of a square, containing a field of about six acres. On the east, where the building abutted on the bank, it is entirely thrown down. On the south there are several breaches, and the outer facing of the masonry is quite gone; the basement too is much undermined, and the whole wall deeply honey-combed; the hollows running in parallel horizontal lines, that show where the long tiles, employed, like cases, to support the rubble-work in Roman fabrics, were once inserted. The north wall, that looks towards Ramsgate, is the most perfect, where these layers appear in several regular bands, at intervals of four or five feet from each other. On the same side is the Porta Decumana, at almost the only tower that seems to have varied the uniformity of the plan; though now, indeed, the continuity is otherwise broken, especially on the west, by frequent fractures and large chasms. The summit is throughout very ragged, and overgrown with grass; else it is a bald, naked ruin, with scarcely a root of ivy clinging to any corner of it. The country children seem fond of searching about the stones for Roman coins, which they call castle-pieces. The walls are about ten feet thick, and, in one place, upwards of twenty feet high. Near the north-east end, within the inclosure, there appears just above the surface, and distinguished by its grassy scurf from among the stubble, a piece of horizontal

408

stone-work, in the shape of a rude cross, that has just the effect of having been intended for a mark of consecration – as if it were a sign, amid the vestiges of a pagan power, that the land had become christian. It probably formed part of the basement of some building: possibly it was connected with, (left, it may be, as some memorial of) a church of St. Augustine, which, in Leland's time, was standing within the castle walls. "The shaft, running north and south, is eighty-seven feet long and seven and a half broad; the traverse is twenty-two feet in breadth and forty-six in length." It rises from the centre of an extensive pavement under ground, "one hundred and forty-four feet long, two hundred and four feet wide, and five feet thick." These measurements are quoted from Mr. Brayley; but recent experiments, we are told, have ascertained that the depth is far greater; on one side it has been traced downward to a level with the foot of the bank, and no entrance has yet been discovered to this apparently solid foundation.

The Rutupian city is supposed to have occupied the rest of the hill; which, in Camden's time, still showed, as he reports, some tokens of the draught of streets, "where the corn grew thin, by reason of the rubbish underneath." These lines the country people, he says, used to call St. Augustine's crosses. On the crown of this little hill, about a field's length from the south-west end of the castle, the ground dips into a fair circular hollow, about seventy yards in circumference, with an opening in one place, and a smaller circle in front of it like a vestibule to the large one. The antiquaries are pleased to call it a Roman amphitheatre, but it seems at least as likely to have been an old marl pit, duly rounded, in the course of time, by the repeated action of the plough.

At the period when it is supposed these fields were occupied by the Roman city, there is reason to think that great part of the plain below was covered with the waters of the sea; and probably, in consequence of their gradual retire-

ment, the present town of Sandwich grew up, where it now stands, much nearer to the main shore. But whatever may have been the exact site of the Urbs Rutupiensis, there can be no doubt that Richborough Castle was the military station of Rutupium, which gave its name to some chief city hereabout, and to an ample harbour that has long ago nearly disappeared. All the neighbouring coasts were Rutupian: the Rutupian shores, a poetical phrase for Britain itself, are celebrated by Lucan, Juvenal, and Ausonius; and every Roman epicure appreciated the peculiar delicacy of the Rutupian oyster.

The dull stream of the Stour labours through a swamp at a little distance before the walls of Richborough. The whole of its channel between this place

409

and the opposite outlet at Reculver, is supposed by Archdeacon Batteley to have formed the Rutupian Harbour. In those times it had some title to be called an arm of the sea. Bede speaks of it as an estuary three furlongs broad; and by the shallow vessels of the Saxons and Danes it was certainly easily navigable. The fleet of Earl Goodwin, for instance, in 1052, is described as proceeding from Sandwich directly to Northmuth, (its northern mouth) and hence into the Thames, without doubling the North Foreland. So lately, indeed, as in the age of Camden, John Twine, (a contemporary whose learning he commends,) mentions with great particularity, that "eight credible men were then living, who affirmed they had often seen this passage performed, not only by boats, but by large loaded vessels." At present it is only almost possible, as a mere feat, in a punt holding half a dozen men; who, in one place, must draw their conveyance over land.

Each end of this important thoroughfare, constituting the double entrance into the Rutupian Harbour, was protected by a Roman garrison. The castle at Richborough was clearly the principal one of the two, and far more extensive than the other at Reculver, (the ancient Regulbium.) This last was built upon the site of the present church. Very little now remains of it; only so much of the wall as leans against the bank on the land side of the church-yard: so that whoever would see here anything of the Roman fortress, must look for it under the hedge. This fragment of wall appears to cleave to the declivity without a foundation; the space beneath being thoroughly scooped out by rabbits and other animals that have burrowed there, children, probably, among the rest.

The position of Reculver, like that of Richborough, is a small eminence, over looking (in the direction of Thanet) a marshy flat. The mouth of the Wantsum, which it is supposed to have guarded, is, in fact, more than a mile distant; though another branch of the Stour, connected with it, (but principally flowing from Canterbury,) runs into the sea immediately below. These petty streams are neither of them more noticeable than ordinary water-drains.

Reculver is chiefly interesting for its ancient church and double spire. The situation of this now deserted and ruined little edifice is deplorable – close to the sea, on the last and lowest point of a steep but crumbling coast, so rapidly encroached on by the waves, that the inhabitants of the village can remember when houses were standing considerably within the present high-water line. The advance of the sea in this quarter (while it retires, as we have observed, from the opposite shore at Sandwich) so nearly threatens the building, that when the fabric was in use, a few years ago, but needed repair, it was determined to abandon the spot; and accordingly the new church appears upon a hill, a mile

410

or two further inland. The two spires were blown down by a storm about twenty years ago; but as they formed a useful sea-mark, the whole ruin, after its abandonment by the parish, was purchased by the Corporation of the Trinity House; at whose expense (as a tablet on the wall informs us) the wooden frame-work was erected that surmounts each of the towers by way of

substitute for the spires that had crowned them before. Groins, also, have been laid down by the same Society against the sea-beaten side of the church-yard to prevent its being further undermined. The washing of the tide has exposed, under the broken verge, a number of human bones, that may be seen sticking out of the soil, or strewn among the pebbles of the beach beneath: and the melancholy place is no longer in use as a burial ground. One aged inmate, however, of a cottage hard by, unable, it seems, to "lie comfortably" elsewhere, was buried here, a short while ago, at his particular request; and his widow is equally determined to lie by her husband.

Some of the east end and side walls of the church have been left standing, but only the west front is now kept in repair; and this, under the care of the Trinity House, has been rendered as ugly as possible: "the wooden substitutes" being merely a pointed cap, while the plain little towers are mended much like a couple of chimneys, but well whitewashed to make them more distinguishable at sea. So that they wear an incongruous effect of newness, notwithstanding a veritable "Saxon arch" over the doorway, to which the stranger's attention is sure to be directed by an antiquarian youth in a spruce sailor's dress, with telescope in hand, who is generally to be seen lingering on the spot. The idea of the little church, given up by its own people to the sea, and to the tender mercies of the Pilot's Company – the church of the worn-out but beautiful legend of the Shipwrecked Sisters, thus forsaken – is certainly altogether a moving one. Accordingly our romantic citizens walk hither from Herne Bay, and for half the year, at least, it is truly "haunted ground." The ladies take sketches of "the Sister Spires," and the gentlemen grow as wise as the youthful antiquary in the blue jacket about the genuine "Saxon arch."

About a mile to the south of Reculver, in a spot shut out from all prospect, is Brook House – nothing more than a small farmer's cottage, but, according to local tradition, the place to which Ethelbert, the King of Kent, retired from Canterbury, after his conversion to Christianity. The neighbouring people believe that the house which the present owner took down, (and built a better in its room,) was itself the king's palace; and such popular fancies are amusing, however idle. Out of respect for his ancient regal predecessor, the farmer has

411

left before his garden a little old-fashioned brick gateway, now sorely battered; his lads being plainly determined that this last relic of a Saxon palace shall, as soon as may be, share the fate of the rest.

St. Clement's Church, Sandwich. In the chancel, on the south wall, near the altar, a monument for Francis Rampston, obiit March 24, 1611. On the east wall, a monument to the Rev. William Bunce, LL.B. Vicar of this church, and Rector of St. Peter's, in this town, obiit 12 June, 1766, æt. 53; and Martha, relict of the above, daughter of Stephen Odierne, Gent. of Northiam, in the County of Sussex, obiit 14 Dec. 1783: a tablet to William Chichley Bunce, Esq. British Resident at Muscat, in Arabia, for the Hon. East India Company, to which appointment he was promoted in Sept. 1809, and died on the 7th Dec. following, aged 23. On the north wall, a monument for William Boys, Armig. obiit 15 March, 1803, æt. 68. In the north aisle, north wall, a monument for George Boys, youngest son of William Boys, Esq. late of this town, obiit Nov. 9, 1828, æt. 48: also a tablet to William Wyborn Bradley, Esq. one of the Jurats of this town, obiit Jan. 6, 1789, æt. 30; also three children of the above; and Eliza Catherine, relict of the above, obiit 24 March, 1820, æt. 70: below the last-mentioned tablet is one to William Wyborn, late a Jurate of this town, obiit 8 March, 1764, æt. 86: also John Bradley, Esq. late a Jurate of this town, obiit 5 July, 1758, æt. 40; also Mary, his wife, daughter of the above-mentioned William Wyborn, Esq. obiit 31 March, 1776, æt. 58; likewise Mr. Stephen Bradley, youngest son of the above John and Mary Bradley, obiit 29 Oct. 1787, æt. 29; and two of his children, who died in their infancy. In the aisle, south wall, a monument for Valentine Sayer, Gent. thrice Mayor of this town, obiit 18 July, 1766, æt. 78; also Mary, his wife, obiit 25 Nov. 1777, æt. 80; and others of the Sayer family. In the south aisle, north wall, a monument for Rear Admiral George Sayer, Companion of

the most Hon. Military Order of the Bath, born in this parish 13th Nov. 1773, died 29th April, 1831; he was son of Benjamin Sayer, Esq. of this town: also one for Gervas Shelly, of this town, Gent. obiit 5 July, 1726, æt. 61; also for Elizabeth, his wife, obiit 25 Oct. 1735, æt. 61; also for Mary, wife of Mr. William Wyborn, obiit 12 May, 1730, æt. 49; also for Joshua Wyborn, Lieut. R. N. obiit 31 May, 1745, æt. 25: a tablet to Ann Hawley, wife of Captain John Reynolds, R. N. obiit 11 April, 1829, æt. 43; a monument for George Reynolds, Captain R. N. obiit 25 Dec. 1822, æt. 53; also Caroline Frances Reynolds, relict of the above, obiit 18 March, 1830: a brass to Elizabeth Spencer, wife of Nicholas Spencer, Gent. 1583. In the middle aisle, north wall a monument for Lieut. William Woodcock, R. N.

St. Peter's, Sandwich. In the chancel, south wall, a monument for Captain Valentine Teken, and his wife; he died 1678; he was Mayor of this town: also one for Catherine Harvey, youngest daughter of Samuel Harvey, Esq. and Catherine, his wife, obiit 28 May, 1807, æt. 23; also for Anne Isabella, wife of Lieut. Col. Harvey, and daughter of William Pinder, Esq. obiit 4 Feb. 1807, æt. 28; also for the above Lieut. Col. Harvey, of the 79th Regiment of Foot, Colonel in the British Army, Brigadier General in the Portuguese Service, and a Knight Commander of the Portuguese Order of the Tower and Sword, who died at sea 10th June, and was buried in the Atlantic Ocean, lat. 45° 37', long. 9° 42': likewise one for Samuel Harvey, Esq. late one of the Jurates of this town, obiit 2 Aug. 1813, æt. 67; also for Catherine, wife of the above, obiit 18 Nov. 1835, æt. 79. On the north wall, near the altar, a tablet to William Clowes, of the Royal Navy, who died at Jamaica, 26th Sept. 1814, aged 23: also one to Frances, wife of William Wodsworth, A.M. Rector of this parish, obiit 1813, æt. 29; also Ann Dudley, daughter of William and Elizabeth Wodsworth, who died

412

in 1820, aged 3 years and 6 months. On the east wall a beautiful monument for John Ferrier, Esq. Admiral of the Blue Squadron, and a native of this town; he was born 14th Jan. 1759, and died 27th Jan. 1836: a tablet to Robert Curling, Esq. one of the Jurates of this town, obiit 30 Nov. 1810, æt. 42; also Fanny, his wife, daughter of the late Captain George Harvey, R. N. obiit 6 July, 1825, æt. 55: below it, one to Mary, wife of the Rev. James Boys, M.A. third daughter of the late Robert Curling, Esq. who died and was buried at Secunderabad, in the East Indies, 24th April, 1825, aged 24. In the north aisle, north wall, a black marble tablet to John Kite, Esq. one of the Jurates of this town, obiit 16 May, 1788, æt. 72; also Elizabeth, his wife, who died 9th July, 1803, aged 71: another to John Conant, A.M. On the south wall, a monument for Henry Wise, Esq. obiit Aug. 15, 1769, æt. 62; and Elizabeth, his daughter, obiit Nov. 24, 1761, at. 23; also Mary, his wife, obiit 28 April, 1772, æt. 62: another for John Matson, Esq. of this town, obiit 1817, æt. 76; also Mary, his wife, daughter of Henry Wise, Esq. obiit 6 March, 1797, æt. 62: a black marble tablet to Solomon Ferrier, Esq. obiit 19 April, 1773, æt. 65; also Mrs. Jane Ferrier, obiit 15 June, æt. 83; also Mary, daughter of the above Jane Ferrier, obiit 7 April, 1772, æt. 22: also a tablet to Mrs. Anne Nayer, obiit 4 Feb. 1806, æt. 53; also Jane Sarah, daughter of the above, obiit 2 Nov. 1793, æt. 16: another to Samuel Ferrier, Gent. obiit 27 April, 1838, æt. 80; also Kitty, wife of the above, obiit 7 Sept. 1838, æt. 82: a marble monument to Solomon Kelley Ferrier, Gent. who died 3d June, 1826, aged 39; also Solomon Kelley Ferrier, Gent. uncle of the above, who died 24th Dec. 1829, aged 73; and Elizabeth Ferrier, widow, who died 1st Dec. 1830, aged 76. In the middle aisle, north wall, a marble tablet to George Baker, Esq. obiit Nov. 1, 1790, æt. 76. In the aisle, a brass to Thomas Gilbert, Gent. who had to wife Katherin, daughter of Robert Filmer, of East Sutton, in Kent; 1597.

St. Mary's, Sandwich. In the chancel, south wall, a monument for Mrs. Mary Stewart, wife of Joseph Stewart, Esq. of this town, obiit 6 Dec. 1775, æt. 41; also Jane Stewart, only daughter of the above, obiit 6 Aug. 1828, æt. 60: below it a fine monument for Sarah, relict of Duncan Campbell, Esq. of North Britain; she died at Sandwich, 20th August, 1814, aged 77; also for Euphemia, her daughter, widow of John Snipe, Esq. M.D. who died at Canterbury, 3d March, 1836, aged 61; erected by Francis Campbell, of Oswestry, in the County of Salop, Esq. in memory of his mother and sister. On the north wall, an old stone monument for Abraham Rutten, and Susanna, his wife; he died 16th Sept. 1608, aged 43: near it is a tablet to the Rev. John Rutten, a descendant of Abraham Rutten, obiit 28 July, 1763, æt. 85, after having been Rector upwards of 50 years: also one to Thomas Kite, Esq. obiit 22 April, 1778, æt. 65; and others of his family: and a beautiful marble monument for Joseph Stewart, Esq. a Magistrate of this his native town, obiit 27 Jan. 1828,

æ. 66; erected by his widow. In the south aisle, south wall, a monument for Solomon Hougham, Mayor of this town in 1639; he died 27th Nov. 1658, aged 59; and Mary, his wife, who died Jan. 19th 1641; also Richard Hougham, his eldest son, who died April 26th, 1662; and Solomon, his second son, Merchant of London, and High Sheriff of the County of Kent in 1696, who died 16th March, 1696, aged 73; Solomon Hougham, heir and sole executor to the last deceased, caused this monument to be erected; he died Oct. 24th, 1714, aged 58: a tablet to Peter Rainier, Esq. obiit 4 Jan. 1771, æ. 61; and to Sarah, his wife, obiit 17 Sept. 1781; also to their son, Daniel Rainier, Esq. obiit 18 Feb. 1802, æ. 62; and Margaret, his wife, obiit 7 Dec. 1801, æ. 55: below the tablet last noticed is a beautiful monument to John Spratt Rainier, Esq. Rear Admiral of the Blue Squadron, obiit 13 Nov. 1822, æ. 45. On the east wall, a monument for Peter Rainier, Esq. Admiral of the Blue; he was a native of Sandwich, and died one of its representatives in Parliament, April 7th, 1808, aged 66.

413

In the Parish of Woodnesborough, at a short distance from the Church, there is an artificial mount, called Woodnesborough Hill; but for what purpose it was thrown up appears to be unknown at this distant period. It is by some supposed to be the place on which was celebrated the worship of the Saxon idol, Woden, from whom this parish took its name. Some, again, say, it is the burial place of King Vortimer, who died in 457, and who desired to be interred near the place where the Saxons were accustomed to land, superstitiously thinking that his bones possessed the power of repelling those invaders. And others maintain that it was raised over the bodies of those who fell in the battle between Ceoldred and Ina, that was fought in 715, at Woodnesbeorh, which name, Dr. Plot conjectures, is the same as Woodnesborough. A few sepulchral remains were found on the top some years ago. This place was certainly of some note during the Heptarchy, for the parish abounds with names that are plainly of Saxon origin. In 1514 a very fine large gold medal was found in Ringleton Field, in this parish, bearing on one side the figure of a young man in armour; and on the reverse, that of Victory, with her sword pointing downwards.

Marsborough, in the Parish of Woodnesborough, the residence and property of Thos. Gillow, Esq. is situated on the right of the road from Woodnesborough to Ash, half a mile from the former, and one mile and a half from the latter. It is distant from Canterbury 11 miles east, and from London about 65 miles.

Ringleton, in the Parish of Woodnesborough, the residence of Thomas Collett, Jun. Esq. is situate about one mile south-east from Ash.

Ringleton, or Ringston, after the disgrace of Bishop Odo, was granted to William de Albini, surnamed Pincerna, a Norman. He was succeeded by his son, (who was created Earl of Arundel anno 15 Stephen) of whose successors it was held by the Countess of Ewe, and of her again by knight's service by the family of Perot. From these it descended, in the same way as the Manor of Knowlton, to John de Sandhurst, whose daughter carried it in marriage to William de Langley, and his heirs passed it to Robert White, a descendant of whom, Sir John White, of Canterbury, died possessed of it anno 9 Edward IV. From his descendant, Thomas White, it passed through the families of Boteler, Neame, and Spencer, to that of Hughes, and by a female heir of this line it was carried in marriage to Justinian Champneis, Esq. of Westenhanger, (who died in 1748,) on whose descendants it afterwards devolved in certain proportions as was limited by his marriage settlement. At present it is the property of Thomas Collett, Esq. of Upton House.

Vicarage, Woodnesborough, the residence of the Rev. Charles Frederick Rogers Baylay, M.A. is distant from Sandwich one mile and a half south-west, from Canterbury 11 miles, and from London 66 miles.

Woodnesborough Cottage, in the Parish of Woodnesborough, the residence and property of John Willis, Esq. is a neat house, situated about a quarter

414

of a mile north-east from the church; distant from Sandwich one mile and a half, and from Canterbury 11 miles.

Woodnesborough Church. In the chancel, north wall, near the altar, a fine monument for Thomas Godfrey, of Brooke House, in the Parish of Ash, Esq. obiit 7 March, 1810, æt. 58; he served the office of High Sheriff for the County of Kent, and at the time of his death was one of the Barons in Parliament for the Town and Port of Hythe: he married Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Fuller, of Ash, Gent. who surviving him, has caused this monument to be erected. Near it, on the east wall, a monument for John Cason, Esq. obiit 4 Feb. 1718, æt. 70; also Mary, relict of the above John Cason, obiit 18 Aug. 1723; also John Cason, Esq. eldest son of the above John and Mary, obiit 9 March, 1755, æt. 77: another for Thomas Blechenden, Armig. 1661: also one for Elizabeth, wife of Benjamin Shrubsole, obiit Nov. 1710, æt. 48. On the south wall, an old stone monument for Nicholas Spencer, Armig. obiit 3 Oct. 1593: a brass to John Hills, Gent. of the Parish of Nassall, in Staffordshire, obiit 1 Nov. 1605.

Woodnesborough Church is dedicated to St. Mary.

Upton House, in the Parish of Worth, the residence and property of Thomas Collett, Esq. was built by Robert Small, Esq. about 32 years ago. It is situated on the left of the Sandwich road to Deal, distant from the former one mile and a half south, and from the latter about four miles.

Felderland, in the Parish of Worth, the property and residence of William Henderson, Esq. is distant from Sandwich one mile and a half south, and from Deal about four miles and a half.

Worth Church. In the middle aisle, north wall, is a tablet for Richard Baker, obiit 27 Jan. 1812, æt. 50; erected by Elizabeth, his wife.

Worth Church is dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul.

EASTRY, in the time of the Saxons, according to Simon of Durham, was part of the royal domains, or "*villæ regiæ*," and a place of considerable importance, a confirmation of which appears in the fact of its giving name to the Hundred. Egbert, who possessed it about the year 670, is reported to have here murdered his two cousins, Ethelred and Ethelbright, the sons of his father's elder brother, and to have buried them in the king's hall, in the palace, "under the cloth of estate." Their bodies were afterwards removed to the chapel, and interred under the altar, but subsequently were translated with great pomp to Ramsey Abbey.

In 1792, Mr. Boteler, of Brook Street, discovered here, when digging a

415

cellar in a cottage garden, near Eastry Cross, an ancient burying ground, which had apparently been in use during the latter time of the Roman Empire in Britain. On opening some of the graves there were found, with the skeletons, fibulæ, beads, knives, umbones of shields, &c.; and in one a glass vessel.

Statenborough, in the Parish of Eastry, was a seat of the late Falk Greville, Esq.

Statenborough, in the reign of Henry III. was the property of a family who wrote themselves Statenberg. We find it afterwards possessed successively by the families of Cooke, Bryan, Kennett, Hales, Dodmore, and Paramor; one of which last, John Paramor, Esq. who died in 1750, bequeathed his entire property to his three nieces, to one of whom, Jane, married to William Boys, Esq. of Sandwich, this estate was allotted on a subdivision of their inheritance in 1774.

Walton House, in the Parish of Eastry, the seat of James Rae, Esq. is situated close to Eastry on the north, on the right of the road from thence to

Sandwich. It was built by the late Edward George, Esq. about the beginning of the present century. Amongst the paintings may be noticed a portrait of Lady Gage, by Janssen; and a copy of Sir Joshua Reynolds' Strawberry Girl. Walton House is distant from Sandwich rather more than two miles south-west, and from London about 66 miles.

Harnden, in the Parish of Eastry, the residence and property of Henry Wise Harvey, Esq. was erected in 1766. Here are some interesting memorials connected with our naval history, and bearing a particular value to the members of this family. Among these are three drawings, representing His Majesty's Ship Brunswick, commanded by Captain J. Harvey, (father of H. W. Harvey, Esq.) in the action of the 1st June, 1794; and another of the wreck of His Majesty's Ship Apollo, 1804, by F. Pocock; the Destruction of the Spanish Fire Ships, 7th of June, 1780, by Serres; a Portrait of the above-mentioned Captain J. Harvey, by Stewart, 1787; a Painting of His Majesty's Ship Panther, commanded by Captain John Harvey, the senior Naval Officer at that period; &c. It is foreign to the purpose of the present work to treat of pedigrees; but there is something in the connection of this family with the wooden walls of old England particularly interesting. If we are right in our recollection, Henry Wise Harvey, Esq. is the eldest son of the above Captain John Harvey; the late Admiral Sir John Harvey, K.C.B. was the second son; Captain Edward Harvey, of the Royal Navy, is a brother; and the late Lady of Sir Thomas Harvey, K.C.B. was a sister. Harnden is distant from Canterbury 10 miles east, and from London 65 miles.

416

Harnden, alias Heronden, or Hardenden, was the ancient residence of a family of that name, from whom, after many years' possession, it passed, in Richard II.'s reign, to the name of Boteler, or Butler, one of whom, about 1570, rebuilt the mansion. A descendant of this family, Thomas Boteler, of Rowling, directed in his will, that that part of the estate, together with the mansion, which he possessed at the time of his death, should be sold: it was accordingly purchased, in 1657, by John Kelly, of Ash, whose grandson, in 1766, pulled down the old house, and built the present residence on its site, and, in 1784, he alienated it to Capt. John Harvey, R.N. of Sandwich.

Eastry Church is a handsome building, and of great length, measuring 147 feet from the east to the west end, exclusive of the tower. Here are the following monuments:

In the chancel, north wall, a tablet to Mrs. Christian Kirk, obiit 28 Feb. 1796, æt. 78; she was the eldest and last surviving daughter of Isaac and Christian Bargrave: the Rev. Claudius Clerke was her first husband; her second was Robert Kirk, Esq. Capt. R. N. obiit 28 May, 1802, æt. 70: near it is a tablet to Francis Broadley: also a tablet to Charles Bargrave, Esq. obiit Nov. 1713, æt. 62; Elizabeth, his wife, obiit Dec. 1732; also Dame Francis Leigh, relict of Sir Francis Leigh, of Hawley, in this county, obiit, Feb. 1726, æt. 60; and others of the Bargrave family. On the south wall, near the altar, a monument for Margaret, wife of the Rev. Dr. Pennington, Rector of Tunstall, in this county, daughter of the Rev. Dr. Carter, of Deal, born Oct. 17th, 1725, died Feb. 18, 1798: below it a memorial for Edward George Boys, the infant son of Edward and Elizabeth Boys, born 17th Jan. died 15th July, 1801: a fine monument for Jane, daughter of John Paramor, of this parish, Gent. and Jane, his wife, and wife of John Hayward, of Sandwich, Gent. who died 15th April, 1720, aged 24; also for Jane, wife of the said John Paramor, who died 3d May, 1732, aged 57; also John Paramor, Gent. of this parish, who died 25th April, 1737, aged 65: a monument for Thomas Fuller, Gent. obiit 24 June, 1748, æt. 79; and Mary, his wife, obiit 16 Nov. 1748, æt. 78; also for their two sons, John Fuller, Gent. of Eastry, obiit Oct. 12, 1760, æt. 67; and Thomas Fuller, Esq. of Statenborough, obiit 17 May, 1773, æt. 64; and for Mary Fuller, a daughter of the last-mentioned Thomas, obiit 28 March, 1754, æt. 18; also for Mary Fuller, of Eastry, daughter of the last-mentioned Thomas Fuller, obiit 11 July, 1783, æt. 86: also a most beautiful monument for Capt. John Harvey, late Commander of H. M. S. Brunswick, who died from the wounds he received on the memorable 1st June, under Lord Howe, at Portsmouth, on the 30th of the same

month, aged 53; the House of Commons unanimously voted him a monument in Westminster Abbey; his untimely death, only, prevented him from being honoured in the flag promotions which took place on that occasion; also for Judith, his wife, daughter of Henry Wise, Esq. of Sandwich, obiit 4 Sept. 1817, æt. 75; this monument is inscribed and railed by their surviving children, John, Edward, Mary, Fanny, and Sarah: a tablet to the Rev. Richard Harvey, obiit 6 March, 1772, æt. 42; also Catherine, his wife, obiit 25 May, 1805, æt. 85: a brass near the altar, date 1590. In the north aisle, north wall, a tablet to Thomas Boteler, Esq. Commander, R. N. fifth son of the late William Boteler, of Eastry, Esquire, who died off the Old Calabar River, on the western coast of Africa, 28th Nov. 1829, aged 32: near it a beautiful monument for Sarah, wife of Thomas Boteler, of this parish, daughter of Thomas Fuller, Esq. of Statenborough, obiit Jan. 9, 1777, æt. 29: also a monument for William Boteler, Armig. S.A.S. In the nave, south side, a monument for Robert Bargrave, Esq. obiit 17 Dec. 1779, æt. 84; and Elizabeth his wife, daughter of Sir Francis Leigh, of Hawley, in this county; she died 2d July, 1737, aged 32; Robert Bargrave, their only son, Proctor in Doctors'

417

Commons, died 14th Feb. 1774, aged 39: a tablet to Thomas Pettman, born 1733, died 1809, erected by his son: a monument for the family of Pettman. North wall, a monument for Edward George, Esq. of Statenborough House, in this parish, obiit April 19, 1810, æt. 69; also for Mary George, relict of the above, obiit April 28, 1820, æt. 50. In the south aisle, south wall, a monument for Thomas Boteler, late of this parish, Gent. obiit 21 Sept. 1768, æt. 54; also Richard, his son, obiit 29 Jan. 1773, æt. 33; also Elizabeth, wife of the said Thomas Boteler, and daughter of Salmon Morrice, Esq. of Great Betshanger, obiit 6 Aug. 1775, æt. 65: likewise a large monument for the Rev. Drue Astley Cressener, A.M. obiit 27 Sept. 1746, æt. 82: another for William Dare, Esq. of Penderland, in this parish, obiit 7 Sept. 1770, æt. 35; also Eleanor, his wife, obiit Jan. 6, 1806, æt. 73; and Mary Read, sister of the above Eleanor, obiit April 27, 1812, æt. 76: another for Mrs. Ann Harvey, daughter of Solomon Harvey, Gent. obiit 12 April, 1751, æt. 64; and Mary, widow of Mr. Henry Ellis, youngest daughter of the said Solomon Harvey, obiit 8 Aug. 1776, æt. 73. On the north wall, a tablet for John Springett Harvey, obiit 1 Aug. 1833, æt. 80; also Matilda, his wife, obiit 28 Dec. 1835, æt. 76. In the aisle, a brass for the Boteler family, 1580; another for William Boteler, Esq. obiit 22 May, 1614, æt. 50.

Eastry Church is dedicated to St. Mary.

Updown House, in the Parish of Ham, the occasional residence of John Bayley, Esq. of 118, Pall Mall, London, eldest son of the Right Hon. Sir John Bayley, Bart. is situated in a small but pleasant park. The ground is irregular, but well clothed with fine wood. There are two lodge entrances to the park, one on the north, from Sandwich, and the other on the south, from Dover. From the former place it is distant three miles and a half, south-west, from the latter nine miles, and from London 66 miles.

Updown House formerly belonged to Richard Thompson, of Waldershare. Capt. Thomas Fagg, of Dover, who succeeded Mr. Thompson, first fitted it up for a gentleman's residence; and at his death, in 1748, it was purchased by Sir George Oxenden. This gentleman conveyed it to his son, Henry Oxenden, Esq. who passed it to Matthew Collet, Esq. and his widow, in 1778, alienated it to John Minet Fector, Esq. of Dover, who added considerably to the estate.

Betsanger House, in the Parish of Betsanger, the seat of Frederick Edward Morrice, Esq. a Magistrate for the County, is a modern structure of very beautiful architecture. It is situated in a small park. The plantations about it, though not yet mature, are varied and flourishing: the disposure of the ground is judicious, and the landscape well exhibited. Betsanger House is distant from Dover about eight miles north, from Canterbury 11 miles, and from London about 66 miles.

The manor of Betsanger, or Great Betsanger, about the year 1605, came into the possession of John Boys, afterwards Sir John Boys, of Canterbury, in different branches of whose family it re-

mained till 1706, when Edward Grotius Boys, Esq. bequeathed it to his relative, the Rev. Thomas Brett, and he, about 1713, alienated it to Capt. Salmon Morrice, R. N. a descendant of whom is the present proprietor.

Betsanger Church. In the chancel, on the south wall, near the altar, a monument to Lætitia, second wife of John Boys, Esq. of Betteshanger, in Kent, who was eldest of the two daughters and co-heirs of Thomas Jefferay, of Chittingley, in the county of Sussex, A.D. 1660: a tablet to John James, M.A. Rector of this parish, and of Deal, who died Nov. 27th, 1775, aged 57; also Sarah, his wife, who died Sept. 30th, 1782, aged 57. On the north wall, a monument to Edward Boys, of Betteshanger, Esq.; he was born March 25th, 1636, and married Anne, eldest daughter of George Dyke, of Cossington, in this county, Esq. and died 3d April, 1691: another to Mrs. Elizabeth Boys, wife of John Boys, of this parish, Esq. and one of the daughters of Nicholas Tompson, of Chichester, in Sussex, Gent.; she died 24th Jan. 1640, aged 31. On the east wall, a monument to Edward Boys, of Betteshanger; he was the son of Vincent Boys, of the family of Fredville, and had three wives; obt. 23 Oct. A.D. 1649: another to John Boys, of Betteshanger, Esq. son of Edward Boys, of this parish, Esq.; he had three wives, and died 21st Oct. 1678, aged 72. In the middle aisle, on the south wall, a monument to John Boys, Esq. a native of this parish, who died at Wingham, 16th Dec. 1824, aged 76; he was the only surviving son of William Boys, Gent. of Great Mongeham, who, with his father, William, and grandfather, Robert, are all three buried in the middle chancel of this church; they were descended from Thomas and Thomasine Boys, of Bonnington, in Goodnestone; a tablet to John Boys, late of this parish, Gent. who died 9th Dec. 1799, aged 73; also Mary, his wife, who died 18th Jan. 1790, aged 49; a monument for Edward Boys, Esq. late of Upton, in Word, and formerly of Salmstone Grange, in Thanet, a lineal descendant of that numerous family whose remains are interred in this church, and a commander in the navy; he died 11th Nov. 1827, aged 66. On the north side, a tablet to William Boys, of this parish, Esq. who died 17th July, 1781, aged 68; also Anne, his wife, who died Sept. 5th, 1792, aged 69: another to William Morrice, Esq. late of Bettshanger, who died 3d Oct. 1758, aged 50; also Mary Morrice, relict of the above, daughter and heiress of Robert Chadwick, Esq. Capt. R. N.; she died 29th Aug. 1813, aged 91; also William Morrice, Esq. their eldest son, late of Bettshanger, and Lieut. Col. of H. M. 10th Regt. of Dragoons, who died 22d Sept. 1787, aged 49. On the east wall, a beautiful monument, with a bust, by P. Scheemaker, for Salmon Morrice, Esq. Vice Admiral of H. M. White Squadron, who died 21st March, 1740, aged 68; also Elizabeth, his wife, daughter of William Wright, Esq. late one of the Commissioners of H. M. Navy, who died 22d Sept. 1733, aged 48. On the west wall, one for the Rev. James Morrice, A.M. late Rector of this parish, and Vicar of Flower, Northamptonshire, who died 9th Jan. 1815, aged 77; also Mary, relict of the above, and daughter of Adrian Cotter Ducarel, Esq. who died, 12th Sept. 1824, aged 92; erected by their son Frederic.

Betsanger Church is dedicated to St. Mary.

Knowlton Court, in the Parish of Knowlton, is the fine old Elizabethan seat of the D'Aeths, and the present residence of the Rev. Richard Wright. The south part of the mansion was built by Sir Thomas Peyton. In the interior are portraits of Sir John Narborough, Bart. and his Lady; Sir Thomas D'Aeth, and his Lady; Sir Cloudesley and Lady Shovel; Lady Hyndford, &c. The name of Shovel is associated with a recollection of that melancholy catastrophe on the rocks of Scilly in Queen Anne's time, – the total wreck, on 22d Oct.

1707, of the squadron commanded by her admiral, Sir Cloudesley Shovel, who there perished, with many of his relatives and friends, amongst whom were the young Sir John Narborough, James Narborough his brother, and others. Whoever visits this house from curiosity should not omit seeing the interior of the church, abounding as it does with interesting memorials of the former inheritors of this property. Knowlton Park is tolerably well wooded, but it suffered

great damage by the high wind of Nov. 1836, which prostrated large quantities of its fine timber, and materially thinned its plantations.

Knowlton Court is distant from Dover about nine miles north-west, from Canterbury nine miles, and from London 64 miles.

After the disgrace of the Bishop of Baieux, the manor of Knowlton was granted to William de Albineto, of Normandy, of whom and his descendants it was held for some time, by knight's service, by the family of Perot, or Pyrot, who afterwards became proprietors of it. It then passed through the family of Sandhurst to that of Langley, and lineally from them to the Peytons, of which family it was purchased by Sir John Narborough, whose only daughter, after the death of her two brothers, entitled her husband, Thomas D'Aeth, Esq. of North Cray, (afterwards Sir Thomas D'Aeth,) to the possession of it. He, in 1715, partly rebuilt the mansion, and, at his death, was succeeded by his son, Sir Narborough D'Aeth, who was followed by his son of the same name.

Knowlton Church claims particular attention, on account of the highly interesting memorials which it contains, and which we here briefly notice.

In the chancel, on the east wall, a monument to Johannes Peyton, A.D. 1560: another to Johannes Langley, Armig. of Knolton, A.D. 1519; erected by Thomas Peyton. On the south wall, a monument to "Samuel Peyton miles baronettus Thomæ militis, fil. et hæres; Maria uxor eius Andreae Stewart baronis, A.D. 1623;" erected by order of Thomas Peyton, their son: a fine monument to Mrs. El-kannah D'Aeth, relict of Thomas D'Aeth, Esq. an eminent Italian merchant, of the City of London, whose ancestors, till the unhappy civil wars, were of Charles Place, Dartford, in this county; she was daughter of Sir John Rolt, of Milton Earnest, in the county of Bedford, by Dame Anne, daughter of Sir Nathaniel Barnardiston, of Kelton, in the County of Suffolk; she died 22d Feb. 1737, aged 86; also Thomas D'Aeth, Esq. who died 12th Oct. 1708, aged 78; also Sir Thomas D'Aeth, of this place, Bart. who died 3d June, 1744, aged 66, who erected this monument; also Sir Narborough D'Aeth, Bart. who died 8th Oct. 1775, aged 65; also Dame Anne, widow of the above Sir Narborough D'Aeth, who died 14th May, 1795, aged 85; also Lady Elizabeth D'Aeth, daughter of that famous admiral, Sir John Narborough, Knt. sister and heir to those two unfortunate young gentlemen, Sir John Narborough Bart. and James Narborough, Esq.; she was the wife of Sir Thomas D'Aeth, Bart. and died 24th June, 1721, aged 39; also Sir John Narborough, Knt. who died 24th May, 1688; also Ann, his daughter, by Elizabeth, his second wife, who died 6th Nov. 1683; and Isaac, their son, who died 8th March 1686-7. On the north wall, a monument to Sir Narborough D'Aeth, of Knowlton Court, Bart. Col. of the East Kent Militia, and a Col. in H. M. Army, who died 6th April, 1808, aged 59: another to Sir John Narborough, Bart. and James Narborough, Esq. the only surviving sons of Sir John Narborough, Knt. Admiral of the Fleet in the reigns of Charles II. and James II. who, with their father-in-law, Sir Cloudesley Shovel, Knt. Rear Admiral of Great Britain, and

420

Admiral and Commander-in-chief of the Fleet under her present Majesty, Queen Anne, were unfortunately shipwrecked on the rocks of Scilly, 22d Oct. 1707; Dame Elizabeth, their disconsolate mother, hath caused this monument to be erected; on the monument is sculptured the representation of the melancholy event: and another to "Thomas Peyton Eques Amatus Johannis Peyton fil: primogenitus, A.D. 1610, ætatus 70." In the chancel there is a stone to Thomas Peyton, only son of Sir Thomas Peyton, Bart. who died 15th Dec. 1667, aged 18.

Knowlton Church is dedicated to St. Clement.

Dane Court, in the Parish of Tilmanstone, the seat of Edward Rice, Esq. a Magistrate and Deputy Lieutenant for the County, and one of the Members of Parliament for Dover, is situated in a small picturesque park, in the vale north of Waldershare Park, and eastward from Knowlton Court. From the road which bounds the park on the west, the upper part of the house is seen with happy effect, through an avenue of very beautiful trees; and from a road through the park, passing the south front, the mansion appears in full view. The interior

contains paintings by Carlo Dolci and other eminent masters.

Dane Court is distant from Dover seven miles north, from Sandwich four miles and a half south-west, from Canterbury 11 miles, and from London 66 miles.

This manor, after passing through the families of Tilmanstone, Sandhurst, Langley, Fennel, and Cox, we find, about 1724, in possession of the great great grandson of Sir John Fogge, of whom Major Richard Harvey, of Elmington, bought it, and rebuilt the mansion. His grandson, in 1763, alienated it to Gervas Hayward, of Sandwich, who sold it to Michael Hatton, Esq. by whom this seat was improved and enlarged. After the death of his widow, in 1791, their niece, Hannah Lilly, carried it in marriage to Rawson Aislabye, Esq.

Eythorne, a little to the north-east of the rectory, is the residence of the Rev. James Minet Sayer.

Rectory, Eythorne, is the residence of the Rev. George Henry Teale Farbrace, M.A. Rector of Eythorne. The house stands close to the church on the east. It is adorned with a small collection of paintings, by Spoele, Cleveley, Rembrandt, Elmer, Morland, Bega, &c. It is distant from Dover about seven miles north-west, from Canterbury rather more than 10 miles, and from London 66 miles.

Eythorne Church. In the chancel, on the south wall, near the altar, a tablet to the Rev. John Minet, Rector of Eythorne, who died 13th Nov. 1771, aged 77: another to the Rev. Philip Papillon, M.A. third son of the late David Papillon, of Acrise Place, Esq. and 25 years Rector of this parish; he died 29th Jan. 1809, aged 50. On the north wall, a tablet to the Rev. Francis

421

D'Aeth, youngest son of the late Sir Thos. D'Aeth, of Knowlton, Bart. who died 29th Jan. 1784, aged 58: another to Peter Fector, Esq. of Dover, and of this parish, who died 30th June, 1814; also Mary, his wife, daughter of the Rev. John Minet, who died 21st Oct. 1794, aged 66; also Wm. Fector, their son, who died 23d Dec. 1805, aged 41; and Mary Eliz. Fector, their daughter, who died 4th Dec. 1814, aged 67. In the aisle, south wall, a tablet to Thos. Sayer, Esq. of this parish, who died 26th Sept. 1796, aged 64; also Henrietta, his wife, daughter of the Rev. John Minet, who died 20th Feb. 1800, aged 61; also James Minet Sayer, their son, who died 23d Jan. 1768, aged 11 months; also Wm. Sayer, their son, who died at Paris, 1st July, 1785, aged 19; and John Sayer, their son, who died at Oporto, 28th March, 1791, aged 21. On the north wall, a monument for Susanna, wife of Wm. Sankey, and daughter of Richard Boteler, Gent. late of this place, who died 15th May, 1799, aged 52: a tablet to Charles Wellard, Esq. of Dover, who died 21st March, 1811, aged 65; also Alicia Hughes Wellard, his wife, daughter of Peter Fector, Esq. who died 9th Nov. 1820, aged 68. In the north aisle, a stone for Henrie Grant, obt. Jan. 1598. On the south side, a monument for Richard Harvey, Esq. of Dane Court, in the parish of Tilmanstone, who died July 1st, 1732, aged 78; he married four wives of this neighbourhood; erected by his son John: a tablet to John Harvey, Esq. of Dane Court, in the parish of Tilmanstone, who died Dec. 3d, 1759, aged 63; also Margaret, his wife, who died March 22d, 1778, aged 78; and Mary, daughter of the above, who died 1st Aug. 1813, aged 77. In the church-yard there is a tomb to the memory of Thomas Harvey and Julian, his wife; which said Thomas died Feb. 1580, and she died Sept. 1613.

Eythorne Church is dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul.

At the southern extremity of Barfriston parish are a number of Roman tumuli, which join the entrenchments at the end of Eythorne parish.

Barfriston Church. This curious little structure is commonly considered a genuine specimen of Anglo-Saxon architecture, and one of the first founded churches in Britain. It consists of a nave and chancel, which communicate by a semicircular arch that rises from wreathed columns. The exterior is abundantly ornamented with sculptures, and on every side are niches for statues. The east end is very peculiar: in the upper part of the wall there is a large circular

window; below this are three narrow lancet windows, separated from each other by niches, and beneath these the wall projects, and is supported by two large round arches springing from short pillars, thus forming two recesses. The doorway at the south or principal entrance is carved with rows of figures, which appear to have been well executed, but the devices are now with difficulty deciphered.

In the chancel, on the south wall, a monument to the Rev. Robert Eweil, A.D. 1638. On the north wall, another to Thos. Boys, obt. 1599, æt. 72. In the aisle, north wall, a tablet to Richard Harvey and Eliz. his wife; he died 10th Feb. 1798, aged 83, she died 14th Jan. 1799, aged 82; also Frances and Robert, children of the above, who died infants.

422

Denton Court with the Manor was part of the possessions of Bishop Odo. In the 56th year of Henry III. it was held by Simon de Danitone, by knight's service, of Gilbert Magminot. Soon after it came into possession of a family named Earde, or Yerd. John de Earde held it at the end of King John's reign, as did his descendant, Thomas Yerd, Esq. about King Henry VII.'s reign, whose only daughter, Joan, carried it in marriage to Thomas Peyton, Esq. of Iselham, in Cambridge; and his grandson, Sir Hobert Peyton, alienated it to John Boys, Esq. second son of John Boys, Esq. of Fredville. His son, William Boys, Esq. rebuilt the mansion about 1574, and was succeeded by his eldest son, Edward, who sold it to Richard Rogers, Suffragan Bishop of Dover; and his son John conveyed it to Roger Twisden, Esq. of Chelmington, who sold it to Sir Francis Swan; and his son, Edward Swan, alienated it to Sir Anthony Percival, of Dover. His eldest son, John, parted with it in 1658 to Phineas Andrews, of Hertfordshire; whose son Thomas, in 1679, conveyed it to Wortley Whorwood, Esq. son of Sir William Whorwood, of Sturton Castle, in Staffordshire. His son, Thomas Whorwood, dying in 1745, left it by will to his widow for life, and afterwards to his relation, Mrs. Cecilia Scott, of Canterbury, which last lady dying unmarried, it devolved, by the same will, on Lady Sarah Markham, widow of Sir James Markham, Bart. of Lincolnshire; and she, in 1792, conveyed it, with the advowson of the rectory, to Samuel Egerton Brydges, Esq. F.S.A. second son of Edward Brydges, Esq. of Wootton, who much improved both the mansion and grounds.

Denton Church. In the chancel, on the south wall, an inscription for Wortley Whorwood, Esq. son of Sir William Whorwood, of Sturton Castle, Staffordshire, who was Lord of the Manor and patron of this church; he married Anne, daughter of Sir Edward Dering, of Surrenden, Kent, Bart. and died April 16th, 1703, aged 53. On the north side, a monument to the Rev. Phineas Andrews, who died 22d Sept. 1661; also John Andrews, son and heir of the above, who died 1667. In the chancel are also a brass for Hanna, one of the daughters of Sir Adam Sprakeling, Knt. wife to John Pettit, of Dandelion, in the Isle of Thanet, Gent.; she died Jan. 1641: another for Henry Pettit, son and heire of Valentine Pettit, of Dandelion in Thanet, Gent. who died 13th Feb. A.D. 1624: and another for John Boys, Esq. late patron of this church, Attorney General to the King, and Lord of his Hon. High Court of Chancery. In the aisle, on the north wall, an inscription for Mrs. Catherine Warley, who died 23d Feb. 1717, aged 73.

Denton Church is dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen.

Waldershare Park, partly in the Parish of Waldershare and partly in that of Coldred, is a baronial seat of the noble family of Guildford. The present edifice was erected in the year 1700, by Sir Henry Furnese, after a design by Inigo Jones. It is a spacious and magnificent structure, fitted up in the most elegant style, and adorned with the rarest specimens of art. The house stands in the parish of Waldershare. The park, which is extensive, well-wooded, and stocked with deer, contains about 700 acres of fine land, laid out in noble avenues, with great variety of picturesque effect. The more immediate precincts of the mansion are enriched by pleasure grounds and shrubberies. The Belvedere tower, on the south borders of the park, affords, from its lofty summit, a

423

rich, extensive, and varied view of the surrounding scenery, including the Nore and the French coast.

Waldershare Park is distant from Broome Park five miles east, Fredville Park three miles south-east, St. Alban's Court three miles and a half, Goodnes-tone Park five miles, Knowlton Court four miles, Dane Court two miles and a half, from Dover rather more than five miles, from Canterbury 11 miles, and from the Metropolis 67 miles.

The Manor of Waldershare was part of the immense possessions of the Bishop of Baieux. After his disgrace it was assigned to Gilbert Magminot, and of his descendants it was held by the eminent family of Malmains. The first of this name on record is John de Malmains, who was a standard bearer in the Norman army at the battle of Hastings. Alice, daughter of Henry Malmains, who died 26 Edward III. carried part of this manor in marriage to Henry Holland, of Polton, near Dover; and he dying without male issue, in the 19th year of the reign of Richard II. his daughter, Jane, conferred it on her husband, Thomas Goldwell, of Chart, whose grandson, in the beginning of Henry VI.'s reign, alienated this part to John Monins, or Monyn, Esq. (a descendant of Sir Simon de Monyn, of the Castle of Mayon, in Normandy), who had inherited part in right of his wife. From John Monins it descended regularly, through Sir William and Sir Edward Monins, Bart. and the families of Knatchbull, Powlet, and Henley, to Susan, wife of Peregrine Bertie, whose two daughters, in the reign of William and Mary, sold it to Sir Henry Furnese, Bart. His son, Sir Robert Furnese, Bart. next inherited it, and by his daughter, Catherine, it passed in marriage to Francis, Earl of Guildford, in which noble family it has since remained.

Waldershare Church is dedicated to All Saints. On each side of the chancel there is a curious building, appropriated for a monument room, which communicates with the church by doors broken through the walls.

In the room south of the chancel, a monument enclosed with an iron railing, on which are two full-length figures in marble, to the memory of the Hon. Susan Bertie, fourth daughter and co-heiress of Sir Edward Monings, of Waldershare, in the county of Kent, Bart. by Eliz. his wife, daughter of Sir Thomas Styles, Bart. of Watlingbury, in the said county, and wife to the Hon. Peregrine Bertie, second son to Montague, Earl of Lindsey, Lord Great Chamberlain of England; she died at Rochester, 30th Dec. 1697; this monument was erected by the Hon. Peregrine Bertie above mentioned, who was a volunteer at the famous siege of Arras, in the year 1664, under Marshal Turen, and afterwards a Captain of a troop of horse in the Earl of Oxford's regiment, when Charles II. was restored. His father, Montague, attended Charles I. in all his trouble, and in his imprisonment in the Isle of Wight, and at last was one of the Lords who were loyal, not only unto, but after death, by attending his sacred Majesty to his grave, and giving him christian burial at Windsor, after his barbarous and horrid murder. Above this monument is an ancient helmet. In the high chancel, a stone to Sir William Monins, of Waldershare, in this county, Bart. who died 24th March, 1642: another to Lady Jane Monins, daughter of Roger Twisden, of Peckham, Esq. and wife of Sir Wm. Monins, of Waldershare, Bart. who died 27th March, 1639; also Edward Monins, eldest son of Sir Edward Monins, Bart. who died in 1640. On the south wall, a monument for Sir Edward Monins, of Waldershare, Knt. and his wife, Elizabeth, daughter of Thos. Lovelace, of Hever, in Kent, Esq.;

424

the said Sir Edward was buried 27th Nov. 1602; he was son of Sir Richard Monins of Waldershare, Bart. who died 24th Feb. 1642, and of his wife, Jane, daughter of Roger Twisden, Esq. of Roydon Hall, Peckham, in Kent; also for Eliz. second daughter of Sir Wm. Monins, who died 23d Feb. 1624; also Wm. Monins, Esq. fourth son of Sir Wm. Monins, who died 26th Jan. 1647. In the room north of the chancel, a fine monument for Sir Henry Furnese, Knt. and Bart. Alderman of the city of London; he first married Anne, daughter of Robert Bough, Esq. by whom he had one son, Robert, who, to the memory of his father, erected this monument. His second wife was Matilda, daughter of Anthony Balam, Esq. by the daughter of Sir Thos. Vernon; he died 30th Nov. 1712, aged 54. Matilda Furnese was married to Richard Edgecombe, Esq. of Mount Edgecombe, in the county of Devon. Also for the Lady Anne, daughter of Anthony Balam, Esq. and wife of Sir Robert

Furnese, Bart. who died May 29th, 1713, aged 25; also for Sir Robert Furnese, Bart. Knight of the Shire for the County of Kent; he was born 1st Aug. 1687, and died 14th March, 1733; his first wife was Anne Balam; his second wife was the Lady Arabella Watson; his third wife was the Lady Ann Shirley, daughter of Robert, Earl of Ferrers, who survived him, by whom he had issue Ann, who died an infant, and Selina, who married, in 1755, Edward, eldest son of Sir Edward Dering, Bart. Lady Ann Furnese died Feb. 25th, 1779, aged 72, and was buried in Audley Chapel, St. George's, Hanover Square. Also for Arabella Watson, sixth daughter of Lewis, Earl of Rockingham, by Katherine, daughter of George, Earl of Feversham, born 15th March, 1693, died 6th Sept. 1727: her son, Sir Henry Furnese, Bart. died on his travels, at Marseilles, 17th March, 1735, aged 19, and lies interred under this monument. Katherine, heiress to Sir Henry, her brother, married Lewis, Earl of Rockingham, son of Edward, Lord Viscount Sondes, and grandson to Lewis, Earl of Rockingham, who died 4th Dec. 1745: her Ladyship was married on the 13th June, 1751, to Francis, Lord North and Guildford, since created Earl of Guildford, and died 22d Dec. 1766, aged 52; she was interred at Wroxton, in Oxfordshire.

In the church-yard is the mausoleum of the noble family of Guildford.

HUNDRED OF CORNILO.

Northbourne Court, in the Parish of Northbourne, is the seat of Henry Pett Hannam, Esq. This is a very interesting place, the remembrance of its former grandeur being kept alive by the remaining relics. The house is an ancient structure modernised. The grounds are extensive, well planted, and picturesque; and the situation very pleasant.

Northbourne Court is distant from Deal about three miles west, from Sandwich four miles, and from London 70 miles.

Northbourne is said by Leland to have been the residence of the Saxon king Eadbald, who, in the year 618, gave it to the monastery of St. Augustine. James I. soon after his accession, granted the

425

manor in fee to Sir Edwin Sandys, in the descendants of which eminent family it remained till 1796, when the several parties interested in it sold it to different purchasers; James Tillard, Esq. of Canterbury, buying Northborne Court Lodge and lands. The old mansion of Northborne Court was pulled down in 1750.

Northbourne Church. In the south transept there is a most beautiful monument, which was erected by him during his lifetime, for "Edvinus Sandys, de Northbourne, Eques, Amat. Edvini Sandys, Archiepiscopi Eborac. filius natus secundus A.D. M.D.C.XXIX. Epitaphium per duo scude prætermissum inscripsit monumentum refecit generis et nominis hæres Edvinus Sandys, cognomine Lumsdaine, de Lumsdaine. In agro bervicensi jure uxoris notatus De Hardres, Mag. cum Stelling in hoc com. Rector anno salutis humanæ M.D.CCC.XXX."

Northbourne Church is dedicated to St. Augustine.

Cottington Court, in the Parish of Sholden, the residence of George Hooper, Esq. is situated on the right of the road from Deal to Sandwich, about one mile west from Sholden church. In the dining-room there is a painting of Themistocles seeking refuge at the court of Admetus, by an unknown artist.

Cottington Court is distant from Deal, by the road, rather more than two miles north-west, though considerably less by the footpath, and about 70 miles from London.

Cottington, or Cotmanton Court, was, in early times, part of the possessions of the eminent family of Criol. About the middle of the reign of James I. it was purchased by Sir Thos. Smith, of London, from whose descendants it was conveyed to the Governors of Bethlehem Hospital, or Bedlam, in

trust for that charity, and they are at this time possessed of it.

Sholden Lodge, in the Parish of Sholden, the seat of Vice Admiral Sir Thomas Harvey, K.C.B. stands on the right of the Sandwich road to Deal, one quarter of a mile north-west from the church of Deal, and close to that of Sholden, on the opposite side of the road. The pleasure grounds, though of limited extent, are beautiful, and contain some very choice specimens of uncommon plants. In the house, besides the usual decorations, are several paintings, including a fine one, by Garth, of the destruction of the Spanish Squadron, at Trinidad, July, 1797: here is also a curious collection of Indian armour. The roof of the house is surmounted by a cupola, glazed all round, and fitted up as an apartment, from which is presented the finest panoramic view that can well be imagined, of the Downs, Ramsgate cliffs, the Isle of Thanet, and surrounding scenery.

426

Sholden Church. In the chancel, north wall, a tablet to Captain Christopher Wilson, who died at Madagascar, 12th June, 1811, aged 32: also one to Eliza, wife of Henry Deane Boyle, Esq. and second daughter of James Wyborn, Esq. of Hull, in the Parish of Sholden, obiit 2 Sept. 1833. On the south wall, a tablet to Captain Edward Kittoe, R. N. obiit 16 Feb. 1823, æt. 55.

Sholden Church is dedicated to St. Nicholas.

DEAL, or Lower Deal, as it is called to distinguish it from Upper Deal, (which, though the original place and containing the parish church, is now a mere village, about a mile to the west,) is built upon an open beach, defended from the sea by a bank of pebbles thrown up by the waves themselves. It owes its prosperity to the circumstances of its situation, which make it a principal place of provision for all the shipping that anchor in the opposite roadstead of the Downs. A time of war, therefore, is particularly favourable to its traffic; that channel being then the frequent rendezvous, not only of merchant vessels, but of large squadrons of the royal navy.

The Parish of Deal, as an ancient member of the Port of Sandwich, was long governed by a deputy and assistants, selected by the corporation of that town; till, in 1658, the inhabitants, notwithstanding the violent opposition of their neighbours, obtained a charter and corporation of their own.

The people are mainly engaged in maritime pursuits, (among which must be reckoned smuggling to a great extent,) or in supplying ships with necessaries. Here (as at Dover and the Isle of Thanet) there is an establishment of pilots, who are particularly needed for the steerage of vessels through the dangerous passage of the Downs. A number of seamen also, called Hovellers, make it their special business to succour vessels in distress, and are a bold, active body of men, who perform many important services, but, at the same time, are said to be most egregious plunderers.

The Downs extend for about eight miles between the mainland and the Goodwin Sands. The width of this anchorage ground is about six miles, and its depth varies from eight to twelve fathoms. It is the common rendezvous for the East Indian and other fleets, both on their outward passage and their return; and in certain states of the wind nearly 400 sail have been known to ride at anchor here at one time. The crowd of shipping frequently renders the Downs, as viewed from the neighbourhood of Deal, a prospect full of interest and animation. And when the East and West India fleets have been assembled there together, and a royal navy besides, the spectacle, particularly at sunrise, is described as truly splendid.

The Goodwin Sands, though often fatal, are yet of considerable service, as,

427

when the wind is easterly, they form a breakwater, and thus constitute the Downs a road for shipping. The surrounding shoal banks are more pebbly, and have a harder bottom. But the Goodwin is of so yielding a quality, and at the same time so close and tenacious, that the largest vessels, if driven upon it, would in a few days be totally buried. At low water it is in many places dry, and people often land upon it; but before the tide reaches it, the sand becomes soft and fluid. Some years ago the Corporation of the Trinity House intending to erect a lighthouse here, the sand was bored to a great depth, but no foundation for building could be discovered. A floating light, however, is kept always burning on the east side of the North Sand-head.

According to the old extravagant tradition, the Goodwin Sands were formerly a fertile island, called Lomea, belonging to Earl Goodwin, which, on account of his tyranny and avarice, the divine vengeance suddenly overwhelmed. Lambarde's tale, on the authority of Boethius, is that this drift of sand took place during the great inundation that, in the reign of William Rufus or Henry I. drowned a large part of Holland, and did much damage likewise to our own shores. Somner, with more probability, supposes that, instead of an island being then covered with the sand, a sand-bank, perhaps, then first emerged from the waves; the gradual recession of the sea from several points of the adjacent coast being, indeed, very observable.

Deal is generally supposed to have been the landing place of Julius Cæsar; who tells us he first drew near to a bay of lofty rocks, which finding to be well guarded by the natives, he coasted along for eight miles further, till he came to a low shore. As he set sail from the Portus Iccius, (the modern Calais or Boulogne,) Dover was probably his first point of approach; from which Deal is about eight miles distant, and situated on a level just at the termination of the cliffs. Certain remains of entrenchment that were still visible on the shore in the time of Camden, and then called Romeswerke, that antiquary supposes to have marked the camp in which Cæsar says he enclosed his ships before he marched into the interior.

Deal Castle was built, at the same time with those of Sandown and Walmer, in this neighbourhood, and several others in different situations on the coast, by Henry VIII., when the displeasure of the pope and the emperor, at his divorce from Catharine, made him apprehensive of a hostile coalition.

Walmer Castle, which stands a little to the left of the road from hence to

428

Dover, is the appointed residence of the Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports, and consequently belongs at present to the Duke of Wellington, who usually spends a part of the year there.

The Oaks, in the Parish of Deal, the seat of Lady Harvey, widow of the late lamented Admiral Sir John Harvey, K.C.B. is situated at Upper Deal, near the church and rectory. This is a very pleasant residence: the lawn, at the east front, is particularly beautiful, and ornamented with shrubs in the greatest luxuriance of growth. The view from this front is interesting and grand, commanding the Downs, with its ever-varying marine scenery, and the coast of France, on which Calais is frequently distinctly visible. The interior of this mansion is no less interesting. There is a beautiful model of his Majesty's ship *Canada*, 74 guns, which was commanded by Sir John Harvey; and paintings of the Grand Fleet at Spithead, on the occasion of the Spanish Armament, 1790, by Garth; some family portraits; and the best private museum of birds, shells, &c. we have seen, collected principally by Lady Harvey and her daughter.

The Oaks is distant from London 71 miles.

Rectory, Deal, was the residence of the late Rev. John Barnes Backhouse, M.A. Rector of Deal and Little Chart, Rural Dean of the Deanery of Sandwich,

and a Magistrate for the County: it is situated at Upper Deal, close to the church on the south. This house has a very neat appearance, its interior is handsome, and there are some good paintings, particularly a family portrait by Sir Peter Lely. Its distance from the town of Deal is one mile south-west, and from London 71 miles.

Middle Deal House, in the Parish of Deal, is the residence and property of H. W. Harvey, Esq. R. N. who is proprietor, (jointly with his brother, Commander John Harvey, R. N.) of Woodlands, in the Parish of Adisham, which is more particularly described in its proper place. Middle Deal House is situated on the west of Deal, at a distance of not quite half a mile, and from London nearly 72 miles.

Deal. A house here formerly belonging to the justly celebrated authoress, Mrs. Elizabeth Carter, the translator of Epictetus, is now the residence of her nephew, the Rev. Montague Pennington, M.A. a Magistrate for the County, Vicar of Northbourne with Sholden, and Perpetual Curate of Deal Chapel. A landscape, in water colours, drawn from a scene in Italy, by the late Miss Catherine Talbot, and a small drawing of the Tomb of the Horatii, by the late Lady Beaumont, are amongst the pleasing ornaments of this place.

429

Upper Deal Church contains the following monuments:

In the chancel, north wall, near the altar, an old monument for Edward Bulstrode, late of Tewkesbury, in the County of Gloucester, and Mary his wife; he died 2d Dec. 1718, aged 67; he was son of Sir Richard Bulstrode, Knt.: a tablet to Mrs. Mary Sole, obiit 28 March, 1812, æt. 80; erected by her niece, Mrs. Sarah White: another to Lieut. Col. Peter Hayes Petit, of his Majesty's Regiment of Foot, son of John Lewis Petit, M.D. deceased, who died at Deal, aged 37, of a wound received before Flushing, Sept. 2d, 1809: a monument for Sir John Harvey, Knt. Commander of the Bath, Admiral of the Blue Squadron; he was the second son of Captain John Harvey, who so nobly distinguished himself when in command of H. M. S. Brunswick, in the great naval victory on the 1st June, 1794, closing his career by the chief command of the naval forces on the Leeward Station; he died at his residence, The Oaks, Upper Deal, 17th Feb. 1837, aged 64. On the south wall, near the altar, a tablet to the Rev. William Backhouse, D.D. Archdeacon of this Diocese, Master of Eastbridge Hospital, Canterbury, Rector of Ickham and of this parish; obiit Sept. 29, 1788, æt. 58; erected by J. B. Backhouse, his nephew: below it a tablet to Lieut. G. L. Backhouse, of his Majesty's 30th Regiment, third son of the Rev. J. B. Backhouse, A.M. who died at Madras, in the East Indies, 15th May, 1827, aged 29. On the west wall, a monument for John Cannon, Esq. of Middle Deal, obiit 23 Dec. 1806, æt. 34; also Anne, his wife, obiit 11 March, 1816, æt. 43; this monument was erected by their only child, Eliza Anne, wife of Captain Edward Harvey, R. N.: a tablet to Lieut. J. W. Backhouse, of his Majesty's 95th Regiment of Rifles, son of the Rev. T. B. Backhouse; he died of a wound received before New Orleans, in America, 8th Jan. 1815, aged 21.

Upper Deal Church is dedicated to St. Leonard.

Lower Deal Church is a chapel of ease. It was consecrated by Archbishop Wake, in June, 1716.

In the chancel, north wall, a monument for John Carter, Esq. who died at his house, at Deal, 22d Sept. 1810, aged 87: a tablet to Mary, wife of the Rev. Montague Pennington, Perpetual Curate of this chapel, obiit March 24, 1830, æt. 68. On the south wall, near the altar, a tablet for Commander David Ross, R. N. raised by King William IV. as a testimonial of his Majesty's sincere regard for a meritorious shipmate, whose welfare and promotion had been objects of his solicitude; born Sept. 16th, 1758, died Jan. 18th, 1836: another to James Urmston, Esq. of the Hon. East India Company's service, obiit 24 Nov. 1815, æt. 70: another to Captain Robert England, R. N. obiit 29 Jan. 1821, æt. 55: also one to John James, Lieut. Col. obiit 21 March, 1826, æt. 61. On the east wall, a tablet to Elizabeth Carter, a native of this town, daughter of the Rev. Nicholas Carter, born Dec. 16th, 1717, died Feb. 19th, 1806: and another to Thos. Bateson, Esq. late Col. in the 12th Light Dragoons,

obiit 28 Sept. 1809, æt. 21.

This church is dedicated to St. George the Martyr.

Mongeham Church. In the north chancel, a fine monument for Edward Crayford, Esq. of Great Mongeham, who had to wife Anne, daughter of Sir Rowland Hayward, thrice Lord Mayor of London; he died 28th Sept. 1615; erected by Anne, his wife: a monument for Mr. Edward St. Leger, descended from a family of great honour and antiquity, the founder of it being Sir Robert De

430

Santo Leo-degario, who came in with William the Conqueror, and settled at Ulcomb, in the County of Kent; he married Elizabeth, daughter of Charles Bargrave, of Eastry, Esq. by whom he had six children, four of whom lie buried here; he died 17th Nov. 1729, aged 63. In the middle aisle, a tablet to John Noakes, Gent. late of Upper Deal, obiit 30 July, 1820, æt. 64; also Elizabeth, widow and relict of the above; and Joseph Noakes, obiit 5 Sept. 1833, æt. 76. South wall, a tablet to Samuel Shepherd, Esq. obiit 21 Dec. 1770, æt. 70; also Anne, daughter of Samuel Shepherd, Esq. wife of Thomas Smith, Esq. of Preston next Faversham, obiit 3 Jan. 1731, æt. 42: also one to Benjamin Edwardes, Esq. he was third son of Sir Henry Edwardes, Bart. of Shrewsbury, Major of the 11th Regiment of Foot, obiit Jan. 29, 1777, æt. 40.

Mongeham Church is dedicated to St. Martin.

Government House, Royal Naval Hospital, Deal, (but in Walmer parish,) is the residence of Edward Harvey, Esq. Captain in the Royal Navy. This house has the same advantages of prospect as those around it, and which are more particularly described in the articles immediately following. It is distant from London 72 miles.

Cottage on the Beach, in the Parish of Walmer, is the residence of Andrew Atkins Vincent, Esq. Captain in the Royal Navy, Knight of the Royal Hanoverian Order of Guelph, and a Gentleman of the Privy Chamber to her Majesty the Queen Dowager, at the time she was the consort of William IV. This mansion, which is of modern architecture, having been built in 1830, is situated on the beach, near the castle of Deal. It fronts the Downs, and consequently commands a beautiful prospect of the shipping, and of the French coast. Among the paintings are a Madona; a painting of game, &c. &c. &c. It is distant from London 72 miles.

The Cottage Walmer, in the Parish of Walmer, the residence of Henry William Brooke, Esq. a Magistrate for the County, (not acting,) is a modern house, built in 1824. We were here much gratified by the sight of several objects of real curiosity, and should have been glad of permission to describe them. Among the paintings is a portrait by Velasquez, of his Mistress, and another of Gentel Bernard, the French poet, from the gallery of M. M. Tolozan, &c.

Liverpool House, in the Parish of Walmer, is the seat of Geo. Leith, Esq. This mansion is situated very near Walmer Castle: the grounds are well laid out, and the residence appears a most agreeable one. Amongst the paintings are two Sea Pieces, by Vander Neer; a painting of Birds, by Cunliffe; a Winter Piece, by Van Leyden; and a Sea Piece, by Brockeny. There is also a small but interesting collection of stuffed birds. Liverpool House is distant from

431

Deal about one mile and a half south, from Dover seven miles, and from London 72 miles.

Walmer Cottage, in the Parish of Walmer, the residence of John Gaunt, Esq. is a beautiful specimen of cottage architecture, and is furnished with much taste. There is a very curious painting of a head by an unknown artist, which

has the appearance of being very ancient; also some modern paintings. Walmer Cottage is situated very near the Shrubbery, on the opposite side of the road.

Walmer. The late Admiral Sir Richard Lee, K. C. B. and of the Tower and Sword of Portugal, resided here in a good house, but whether any member of his family still retains the house we have not ascertained. There were some good paintings by V. Weldt and others.

The Shrubbery, Walmer, in the Parish of Walmer, is the seat of Rear Admiral Sir Thomas Baker, K.C.B. This mansion is very pleasantly situated. Its eastern front commands a fine prospect of Walmer Castle, the Downs, &c. The grounds are well laid out, abounding with a rich variety of plants and shrubs. There is here a painting by Stroling; a bust, by Bystrom; and pictures of two naval actions. The Shrubbery is distant from Walmer Castle about half a mile west, from Deal not quite two miles, and from the Metropolis about 72 miles.

Walmer Church contains, among others, the following interesting memorials:

In the chancel, north wall, near the altar, an ancient monument for William L'isle, one of the Esquires of the Body of King James; also Edmond L'isle, his brother, Sewer of the Chamber to Queen Elizabeth, King James, and King Charles, having been twenty-one years Captain of Walmer Castle; lineally descended from the Lords De L'isle and Rougemont, and from Sir John L'isle, one of the first founders of the Hon. Order of the Garter: the said William departed this life, Sept. 1637; and the said Edmond 1st Oct. following, and are here interred, leaving Nicholas L'isle, their brother, in possession of the ancient inheritance of Wilburgham L'isles, in the County of Cambridge, who caused this monument to be erected. On the south wall, a monument for Captain Richard Budd Vincent, R. N. who was made a Companion of the Hon. Military Order of the Bath, with appropriate augmentation to his arms, for his gallant conduct in defending a valuable cargo in the Mediterranean, while in command of His Majesty's Sloop Arrow; he married, July, 1805, Philippa, youngest daughter of the late Captain Richard Norbury, R. N. of Droitwich, in the County of Worcester, and died at Deal, 18th August, 1831, aged 64; erected by his widow. In the aisle, south wall, a beautiful monument for Sir Henry Harvey, Knight of the Bath, Admiral of the White Squadron; he eminently distinguished himself on the 1st June, 1794, and was, without solicitation, appointed Commander in Chief of the Leeward Islands Station; and for his services there, his Majesty was graciously pleased to confer upon him the Most Hon. Order of the Bath; he died 28th Dec. 1810, aged 74; also Dame Elizabeth, relict of the above; she died 7th March, 1823, aged 85: below it a tablet to Robert, who died 16th Aug. 1820, aged 19; and Ellen Elizabeth, who died 10th Feb. 1831,

432

aged 20, children of W. Harvey, and Jane, his wife, and grandchildren of the above-mentioned Sir Henry Harvey: another for Mary Jane, second daughter of William and Jane Harvey, obiit 10 July, 1837, æt. 23: above the last-mentioned tablet is a monument for Henry and Richard, sons of Admiral Sir Henry Harvey; Henry, aged 20, was drowned in His Majesty's Ship Rose, off the Coast of Newfoundland, while acting as Lieutenant: Richard, aged 23, Lieut. of His Majesty's Ship Ardent, was lost in the Mediterranean, April, 1794; the vessel was supposed to have taken fire by accident, and the whole crew perished: also one for Lieut. Col. Robert Gordon, who, for thirty-two years, served the East India Company in the Bombay Establishment, and from 1798 until 1814 was Adjutant General of the Bombay army; he died 1st Aug. 1835, aged 72; he was buried in the church of St. George the Martyr, Canterbury. On the west wall, a monument for Mary, wife of Captain Henry Matson, R. N. who died 18th March, 1815, aged 22; also for the above-named Captain Henry Matson, who died at Walmer, 31st May, 1827, aged 52. On the east wall, a monument for Andrew Gram, Esq. obiit 13th April, 1806, æt. 58; he was a native of Drontheim, in Norway, and came to England at an early age, where he realized an ample fortune; but he had scarcely completed a mansion-house for himself, when he suddenly expired by the breaking of a blood-vessel; also for Eleanor, his widow, obiit 28 Dec. 1828, æt. 79. In the east aisle, east wall, a neat tablet to Sir Richard Lee, K.C.B. Admiral of the Blue Squadron, obiit 5 Aug. 1837, æt. 73: also one to Mary Fuller, wife of Rear Admiral Edward Walpole Browne, and daughter of William Boys, Esq. obiit 27 Sept. 1837, æt. 68. In the church-yard is a monument for Catherine, widow of Duncan Macintosh, Esq. late Col. in the

60th Regiment, who died at Walmer, 31st July, 1835, aged 61: and another for Captain Richard Budd Vincent, R. N. similar to the one in the church.

Walmer Church is dedicated to St. Mary.

RIPPLE. A short distance north from the church, are the remains of a camp, which, Hasted supposes, was thrown up by Cæsar, on his route to Barham Downs. And near Walmer there is another entrenchment, called Dane Pits, of an oblong form, and covering an area of about half an acre.

Ripple House, in the Parish of Ripple, the residence and property of Ambrose Harnett, Esq. is a substantial building, having an extensive prospect westward. It is distant from Dover rather more than six miles, and from Deal about two miles and a half south-west.

Ripple Court, in the Parish of Ripple, the seat of John Baker Sladen, Esq. a Magistrate for the Cinque Ports, was erected by him upon the site of an ancient house, supposed to have been of the time of Henry VIII. The present structure is handsome, and the interior is elegantly fitted up. Ripple Court is distant from Dover about six miles, from Deal three miles south-west, and from London 73 miles.

Ripple Court is a manor, and was a part of the ancient possessions of the Convent of St. Augustine, appropriated to the clothing of the monks; but since the dissolution of that monastery, it has been the property of private persons. From the family of Gookin, which possessed it about the end of the reign of William III. this estate passed by sale to Sir Abraham Jacob, of Dover. His son, Herbert Jacob, Esq.

433

bequeathed it to his nephew, John Denew, whose sister Dorothy, wife of the Rev. Julius Deedes, Prebendary of Canterbury, next inherited it; and to them succeeded their grandson, W. Deedes, Esq. of Hythe, who, in 1793, was followed by his son of the same name.

Ringwould House, in the Parish of Ringwould, the seat of the Rev. John Monins, M.A. a Magistrate for the County, is a handsome modern structure. It was erected in 1813, and the name of the architect, Sir John Soane, is sufficient to recommend the style of building. The plantations are yet young, but the grounds are well laid out. There are portraits of Sir Edward Monins, Knt. (painted in 1575, the twentieth year of Elizabeth's reign); and of John Monins, Esq. (dated 1630) who was Lieut. of Dover Castle. Mr. Monins has in his possession a very curious document, and miniature cross belonging to it, which is an indulgence granted to John Monins, to carry a portable altar on his necessary journeys, having attached to it the seal of Pope Sextus IV. bearing date 1474. Ringwould House is distant from Dover five miles north-east, from Deal three miles south-west, from Walmer Castle not quite two miles, and from London about 73 miles.

Ringwould Church. In the chancel, north wall, a monument for Mrs. Ann Jubb, wife of Marchant Jubb, Esq. of the Island of Jamaica, obiit 26 June, 1777, æt. 55: another for John Monins, Esq. late Patron of this living, and of the Archbishop's Palace, Canterbury, obiit 11 May, 1806, æt. 63. On the south wall, near the altar, a monument for Richard Danlinge; he had two wives of good families; Elizabeth, daughter of John Toke, of the family of the Tokes, of Godington, in Kent; and Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. Richard Tylden, of Milsted, in the said county; he died 1679, aged 63: another for the Rev. Richard Monins Eaton, Patron and Rector of this parish, and of Charlton, near Dover, obiit Feb. 28, 1770; and for his sisters, Catherine, wife of John Woodward, Esq. Captain in the 70th Regiment of Foot, Jan. 29th, 1759; Grace Monins, Feb. 18th, 1764; and Maria Monins, April 1st, 1769; also Catherine Ann, daughter of John Woodward, Esq. by Catherine, his wife, Feb. 21, 1764; also Ann, wife of Lieut. Holingberry Mann, Jan. 19th, 1789, aged 53. In the middle aisle, a very ancient brass for John Upton. On the north wall, a tablet for George Gipps, A.B. many years Rector of this parish, obiit 2 March, 1802, æt. 41. On the south wall, a tablet for Mrs. Sarah

Taylor, obiit 26 April; 1835, æt. 81.

Ringwould Church is dedicated to St. Nicholas.

Sutton Church. This is but a small building, part having fallen, through the shock of an earthquake, April 6th, 1680.

On the south wall, a tablet to the Rev. Thomas Pennington, D.D. Rector of Tunstall, in this county, and one of the six preachers of the Cathedral Church of Canterbury, and formerly perpetual Curate of this parish; obiit Nov. 26, 1802, æt. 75.

Sutton Church is dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul.

434

HUNDRED OF BEWSBOROUGH.

Oxney Court, in the Parish of Oxney, the seat of Richard Roffey, Esq. is built in the castellated style. Its eastern tower, as seen above the trees, on the road from Deal, has a picturesque effect. The approach from the lodge is through an avenue of remarkably fine laurels, and opens upon the lawn, forming a circle before the north front of the mansion. In the dining-room are portraits of Sir Edward Banks, and his two youngest sons. The staircase is lighted by a beautifully painted window. Oxney Court is distant from Dover four miles north-east, and from Deal four miles; from either of which towns may be computed the distance to London.

The manor of Oxney, in Henry VII.'s reign, was possessed by John Sedley, Esq. of Southfleet, one of the Auditors of the Exchequer. His descendant, Sir Charles Sedley, Bart. of Nuthall, in Nottinghamshire, sold it to Rose Fuller, Esq. of Sussex, who, at his death in 1777, bequeathed it to his nephew, John Trayton Fuller, Esq.

In a very beautiful situation, in the Parish of West Langdon, about a quarter of a mile east from the village, stood Langdon Abbey, which was founded in the fourth year of the reign of Richard I. by Sir William de Auberville, of Westenhanger. It was dedicated to St. Mary the Virgin, and St. Thomas the Martyr, and appropriated to a society of Premonstratensians, who were brought hither from Leyston, in Suffolk. Langdon Abbey was dissolved in the 27th of Henry VIII. and at that time the religious consisted of an abbot (William Sayer) and ten monks.

In the Parish of Sibertswould is a down called, from three large tumuli on it, Three Barrow Down. Here are also remains of ancient entrenchments.

Sibertswould House, in the Parish of Sibertswould, the residence of Mrs. Potter, is a fine substantial building, after a design of Inigo Jones. It fronts the church, eastward, from which it is distant half a mile; from Dover it is seven miles, from Canterbury nine miles, and from London 65 miles.

Sibertswould Church. In the chancel, on the south wall, a monument to John Lowndes, Esq. of Place House, in this parish, and of Overton and Lea Hall, in Cheshire, who died 30th June, 1734, aged 52; also Ann, his wife, daughter of Mr. William and Mrs. Sarah Merryweather, of Sibertswould, who died the November following, aged 48; Sarah Lowndes, their only

435

surviving daughter, wife of Abraham Churchill, Esq. of Henbury, in Dorsetshire, caused this monument to be erected. On the north wall, a memorial for Ann, wife of Paul Petit, of Dent de Lion, in Thanet, Gent. eldest daughter of John Merryweather, of Shephardswell, Gent.; she died 12th Nov. 1676, aged 60: a large stone monument, on the east wall, for the family of Merryweather. In

the aisle, on the south wall, a tablet to Mrs. Elizabeth Boteler, who died 21st Jan. 1816, aged 72. On the east wall, a tablet to Dudley de Chair, who died 12th April, 1793, aged 2 yrs. and 6 mos.; Julia, who died an infant; and Peregrine Edward, who died 21st Jan. 1795, aged 2 yrs.; Osmund Blackett, who died 12th June, 1801, aged 12; Henry William, a Lieut. in H. M. Ceylon Regiment, who died 23d Jan. 1826, at Douglas, in the Isle of Man, and was there buried, aged 37; John, A.M. Vicar of Brixworth, in Northamptonshire, who died 11th April, 1832, aged 40; and Isabella, wife of the Rev. Richard Blackett de Chair, LL.B. Vicar of this parish, who died 28th Aug. 1832, aged 71.

Sibertswood Church is dedicated to St. Andrew.

The Parish of Coldred is supposed to take its name from Ceoldred, King of Mercia, to whom, also, is attributed the formation of the ancient fortification, within the area of which stands the village church. Ceoldred, it is said, came into this county in the year 715, to aid the Kentish men to resist the oppressions of Ina, King of Wessex; and that same year, according to the Saxon chronicle, the two kings fought a battle at Woodnesbeorh, or Woodnesborough. The fortification alluded to above is somewhat in the form of an oval, and covers nearly three acres of ground. It is crossed by the high road, on the north-west side of which is the church, and on the opposite side an artificial mount. At the north-east extremity, in the centre of the road, a well was accidentally discovered, some years ago, by the falling in of the ground.

Coldred Church. In the chancel there is an inscription for William Fyntch, Gent. 1615; he married Bennet, daughter of Christopher Hunniwood, Gent. In the aisle, on the south wall, a monument for Edward Pettit, A.M. Vicar of Sybertswell; he married Susanna, daughter of Stephen Pilcher, and died 10th June, 1709, aged 55.

Coldred Church is dedicated to St. Pancrase.

In the Parish of Poulton, about three miles south-west from Dover, are the remains of St. Radigund's, or Bradsole Abbey. This abbey was founded (but by whom it is not certainly known) about the year 1191, for monks of the Premonstratensian order. Its first endowments are recorded as having been very large, and these were afterwards so much increased, that in the reign of Edward I. its abbots were considered of sufficient importance to be summoned to Parliament. In the year 1319, it was honoured with a visit by Edward II. Leland says of it,

436

"The monaster ys at this time netely mayntayned; but yt appereth, that yn tymes past the buildings have bene ther more ample than they be now. The quier of the chyrch ys large and fayr; there ys on the hille a fayre wood, but fresch water laketh sumtyme." These ruins stand on elevated ground, and have a somewhat picturesque appearance. The walls of the entrance gateway are of great thickness, and tolerably perfect, and are richly mantled with ivy. In the farm-yard adjoining is a large pond, which was formerly of much greater extent, and is said to have given the abbey the designation of Bradsole, i. e. broad pond.

Archer's Court, in the Parish of Whitfield, is the very healthy and agreeable residence of George Stringer, Esq. a Magistrate and Deputy Lieut. for the County. It is distant from Dover, by the road, about three miles, though by the nearest foot-path it is little more than two miles. It is distant from London 69 miles.

This manor derived its name from a family named Archer, or l'Archer, who possessed it in the first year of Edward II. After passing through several hands, it came into the possession of Thomas Doilie, Esq. by one of whose descendants it was, in Henry VIII.'s reign, exchanged with the crown, and that monarch, in his 36th year, granted it to Sir James Hales. Of this family it was purchased by

one Lee, who passed it away to Sir Hardress Waller, of Dublin, and he, with others, in the year 1657, alienated this manor to Mr. Thomas Broom, of London, one of whose descendants, of the same name, sold it to Richard Rouse, of Dover, and his daughter carried it in marriage to Phineas Stringer, Esq. of the same place.

Whitfield Church. On the north wall, a marble monument for Mrs. Lucy Stringer, wife of George Stringer, Esq. of Archer's Court, in this parish, who died 1st Jan. 1821, aged 53; also Lucy, their daughter, wife of the Rev. George Simpson, A.M. who died at Glover's House, in this county, 10th Sept. 1828, aged 33; a tablet to Harriet Latham Stringer, wife of John Henry Latham, Esq. of Dover, and only child of Edward Broderip, Esq. M.D. and Affra, his wife; she died at Eltham, 5th March, 1825, aged 31; her remains are interred in the vault of George Stringer, Esq. in the church-yard of this parish; also to her father, Edward Broderip, Esq. M.D. who died at Dover, 16th April, 1836, aged 78.

Whitfield Church is dedicated to St. Peter.

East Langdon Church. In the chancel, north wall, an ancient monument for Thomas Marsh. In the middle aisle, east wall, a tablet for the Rev. Thomas De Lannoy, 43 years Rector of this parish, obiit 19 March, 1830, æt. 75; also for three sons and one daughter of the above, namely, Maria Anne, Lieut. Frederic George, Thos. Robert, and John M'Cormac.

East Langdon Church is dedicated to St. Augustine.

437

The Church of St. Margaret at Cliffe is an ancient structure, evidently of Norman origin. The nave is separated from the aisles by massive columns, which support semicircular arches; and it is divided from the chancel by a large handsome arch of the same kind. The circular west doorway is finely ornamented.

In the north aisle, east wall, is a black marble tablet, for the Rev. John Marsh, A.M. Vicar of this parish, obiit Sept. 1, 1771, æt. 69; also for Richard Marsh, A.M. the preceding Vicar, and father of the said Rev. John Marsh.

The Manor of West Cliffe, in the parish of the same name, was formerly the property and residence of the family of Gibbon, ancestors of the celebrated historian of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire.

Kersney Court, in the Parish of River, is the seat of Mrs. Fector. This mansion was erected by the late J. M. Fector, Esq. in the monastic style. It is seated on the banks of the small river Dour, and, as seen from the London road, has a picturesque and beautiful appearance.

Kersney Court is distant from Dover nearly three miles north-west, and from London 68 miles.

This manor was anciently part of the barony of Saye. At the end of the reign of Edward I. it was possessed by the family of Paganel, or Painall. Afterwards it was held by Elias de Bocton by knight's service, under the name of La Kersony; and next by the Norwoods. It then passed to the Ropers, of St. Dunstan's, of whom it was purchased by Best, of Canterbury, who alienated it to Capt. Nicholas Toke; and from him it passed to the Fotherbyes one of whom, of Crixall, in Staple, alienated it to William Richards, of Dover; and he, in 1701, devised it to John Sladden, of the same place. This gentleman gave it to his sister Mary, wife of Mr. Thomas Fagge, of Dover; from whom it passed to Wm. Andrews, of London, who, in 1788, devised it to Thomas Biggs, Esq. of Dover.

Old Park, in the Parish of River, is the seat of John Every, Esq. a Magistrate for the County. The house commands an extensive and very interesting prospect of Dover Castle, the ocean, and the French coast. It is distant from Dover two miles north-west, and from London 69 miles.

Buckland Church. In the chancel, on the south wall, a tablet to Lady Louisa Field, wife of Sir Charles Ventres Field, Knight, late of Campton, in the county of Bedford, who died 20th Aug. 1789, aged 48. On the west wall a monument to Sir John Bentley, Knt. Vice-Admiral of the White: in his youth he served under the Admirals Hadcock and Mathews. In the action off Cape Finister, 3d May, 1747, he was Captain of the Prince George, on board which ship Lord Anson had his flag. In the action of Oct. 14th, in the same year, under Sir Edward Hawke, he distinguished himself as Captain of the Defiance; and in the battles of 1769, off Cape Lagos, under Admiral

438

Boscawen, he signalized himself as Captain of the Warspite, and had the honour of knighthood conferred upon him for his gallant behaviour: after which he had, in the same year, a share in the engagement of Belle Isle, when the French fleet was defeated by Sir Edward Hawke: he died 3d Jan. 1772, aged 69. On the north wall, near the altar, a tablet to Josias Cocke, Esq. of Camborne, in the county of Cornwall, but late of this parish; he died 19th Nov. 1821, aged 39; erected by his widow, Maria; also Maria, relict of the above, and wife of Wm. Slater, Esq. of Alkham Rectory, in this county, who died 19th July, 1831, aged 47. On the east wall, in the aisle, a marble tablet to Frances Ashington Pemberton, who died at Dover, 24th July, 1817, aged 39; erected by Thomas Pemberton, Esq. her husband. On the south wall, a marble tablet to Captain Thickness Horn, R. N. who died 26th Aug. 1826, aged 44.

Buckland Church is dedicated to St. Andrew.

In the Parish of Charlton, or Carlentone, and to the north of Dover Castle, is a wide deep space, called Knight's Bottom, from the circumstance of the knights of the castle having been accustomed to exercise there. The situation of this place, its description by ancient writers, and the remains that have been found, appear to authorise, says Hasted, the supposition of its having been the Portus Dubris of the Romans.

Charlton Church. In the chancel, on the south wall, a marble monument for Mr. Peter Monins,, Merchant, of Dovor, one of the Jurats of that corporation, and Mayor thereof in 1836, obt. 11 Dec. 1738, æt. 40; Mary, daughter of the above, and widow of the Rev. Wm. Batteley, of Dovor, erects this monument; she was buried at Mildenhall, in the county of Suffolk. On the west wall, a tablet to John Ward, Esq. formerly of Cowes, Isle of Wight, and late Collector of his Majesty's Customs at Dovor, who died 16th June, 1834, aged 69. On the north wall, a monument, near the altar, for the Rev. Richard Monins, M.A, Patron of this church and Ringwood, for thirteen years Head Master of the King's School, Christchurch, Canterbury, and Rector of Rottlesden and Drinkston, in the county of Suffolk, and Prebendary of Bristol; he died 12th July, 1750, aged 57; Mary, wife of the Rev. Richard Monins erected this monument, and died 1762, aged 49; she was daughter of the Rev. John Daulinge, M.A. late Vicar of Alkham.

Charlton Church is dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul.

In the east part of the Parish of Hougham, or Huffam, (in Domesday, Hicham,) there is an open unenclosed space or downs (across which runs the high road from Folkstone to Dover), that stretches to the sea, above which the chalk cliffs rise to a great height. At the bottom of these cliffs are three holes, called Lydden Spouts, from which as many subterraneous streams empty themselves on the beach. "The popular belief is," says Hasted, "that the waters of the Nailborne, at Drelingore, in Alkham, four miles distant, communicate underground with these spouts, and that, as the springs heighten by wind and weather, they gush forth more copiously." Over these spouts, in the middle

439

of the cliff, are two large square rooms, cut out of the chalk, one within the

other; they are called the Coining-house. There is means of access to them, but it is very difficult.

The spot of ground in this parish called The Graves, received its name from the dead buried here when the plague raged at Dover, in 1665 and 1666.

Hougham Church is a small ancient structure: it is dedicated to St. Lawrence.

In the chancel, on the south wall, a memorial to Mary, wife of Peter Nepven, Merchant, who died 1st Jan. 1648, aged 50: a small marble tablet to William Forbes, fourth son of Major General James Lord Forbes, who died at Maxton, in this parish, 10th March, 1805, aged nine months. On the north wall, a marble monument for William Hannington, Esq. and his wife, daughter of William Monings, Esq. sometime Lieutenant of Dover Castle: he died March 10th, 1607, aged 92; she died Sept. 24th, 1574. On the north side of the altar, a fine marble monument and bust, for Peter Napven, Gent. a native of France, who came over to England on the edict of Nantes, and brought with him a very plentiful estate, and purchased Elms, in this county: he died 1658, aged 56; also Mary, his wife; and others of his family. On the north wall, in the north aisle, a tablet to Henrietta, wife of George Mathias, Captain in his Majesty's 79th Regiment, who died 8th Oct. 1832, aged 36.

The Town of DOVER appears for the most part confined within a narrow and deep valley, at the head of a small bay; but its outskirts run to a considerable length under the chalk cliffs that face the open shore. The situation, in itself a striking one, is rendered still more so by the bold appearance and position, as well as the antiquity and importance, of the Castle, that immediately overlooks it.

This vast miscellaneous pile, crowning the hill to the north-east, presents above the town a wall of great extent, with many towers in it at irregular distances, but most numerous towards the end furthest from the sea. In that quarter, on the summit of the hill, stands the Keep, encompassed with a high inner wall; and in the outer one, a little below, appears another very large structure, called the Constable's Tower, pre-eminent among a crowd of turrets thickly clustered about it.

This grand tower formed the Norman entrance into the castle, and was built by Sir John de Fiennes, the first constable under the Conqueror. It contains the Governor's apartments: and sash windows with Venetian blinds have here and there taken place of the old gloomy loop-holes. But notwithstanding this partial incongruity, the lofty bastions, planted in the ditch and still flanking a drawbridge, wear a sombre and impressive character of feudal sternness.

The outer wall, or curtain, includes an area of thirty-five acres, and surrounds

440

the castle on every side but that of the sea, where the precipice forms a sufficient security. The wall is defended by a deep dry moat; and, from the corner near the Constable's Tower, where the ground is less steep than elsewhere, an additional rampart and fosse run round the north-east angle of the fortress, out of sight of the town.

The whole of the curtain-wall was the work of the Normans. With John de Fiennes were associated eight knights, who were made landholders of the castle on condition that they and their heirs should keep here perpetual watch and ward, each knight in rotation, for about a month every year, with his military retainers; the numbers being so divided, that about 150 men thus garrisoned the place at a time. The eight knights, after the example of their chief, built each a tower in the wall, and each tower long preserved its builder's name. These warlike old titles, though now nearly obsolete, are still remembered. Towards the town, in a line from the edge of the cliff, are the several towers of Rokesley, of Fulbert de Dover, of Hirst, of Arsic or Saye; together with the Peverel, Beauchamp or Marshal's Tower; and, beyond John de Fienne's gateway are

the towers of Clopton, Godsfoe, and Crevequer, with a multitude besides of contemporary or later building.

The present Entrance is remote from the Norman one, and faces the town at the corner next the sea. It was constructed during the last war, when the castle was made more serviceable for the purposes of modern defence, and has a draw-bridge, with several redoubts in advance of it. The new military approach turns out of the Deal road, about half way up the hill, and proceeds by a gradual ascent that would expose an enemy to the whole fire of the flanking wall above. As the stranger draws near, he passes the old tower of Fulbert de Dover, now a miserable jail for debtors, who tinkle a bell to attract his attention to a charity-box set upon a pole by the way-side, and fastened to a rope that hangs from their prison-grate across the ditch. Within the gates (that are still considerably below the top of the hill) the road runs close along by the outer rampart, and almost on a level with its battlement, towards the north end and principal part of the fortress, which is entered by an arch under the Marshal's Tower, that crosses the way, and was formerly secured with a gate and portcullis. Beyond it there is an open court, between the upper wall that encompasses the Keep, and the lower one in which, (with many others of inferior size) stands the Constable's Tower. And here, in the thick walls and towers, as well as in those of the Keep-yard, above, the soldiers of the garrison are lodged.

In the centre of this open space there is a raised entrance into numerous

441

subterranean passages, partly old, but of late years made more extensive, and altogether ranging far beneath the castle walls. These secret avenues descend from one depth to another by dark well-like staircases, and are barred by frequent gates; the latter being flanked with sulphur-chambers, to suffocate an enemy, and underlaid with trap-doors, to give way beneath his feet and precipitate him into still deeper unexpected gulfs below. A caponniere, with intervals in the wall for opening a fire in the ditch, is built across the bottom of the moat, and carries one of these souterrains beyond the outworks of the castle, to terminate in a sally-port near the foot of the hill.

From the lower court there are steps leading up to the Keep-yard, which is narrow and gloomy; the wall about it begirt with buttress-towers, and very high and massy, though to all appearance singularly loose in its consistence, having, outwardly at least, no cement between the stones. It is a very old work; tradition would even have it to be ancient British; at all events, two of its northern towers used to be called King Arthur's Hall and his queen Gueniver's Chamber.

"Arthur," says Camden, "is reported to have conquered here, I know not what rebels." The Keep itself is mostly of the age of Henry II. and is still frequently called The Palace. It often lodged the Plantagenets, when about to embark for France, or on their return home: its battlements gave them a view of their foreign conquests and dominions, of Calais, and the hills beyond Boulogne almost to the plains of Cressy and Agincourt. It is a vast square tower, upwards of 100 feet in height; the walls below are 24 feet thick, and even at the summit their breadth is not less than 13 feet. It is now principally used as a powder magazine; and the roof, of solid masonry, has been made bomb-proof, and of the same thickness as the upper part of the wall. The whole is divided into three stories. The winding staircases in the corners were formerly guarded at the several landing-places with portcullises, and have concealed galleries within the circle of the turrets for archers. The Vestibule, and King John's Chapel (as it is called), upon the first floor, to which there is an exterior ascent by steps at the back part of the building, contains some massy pillars, adorned in the Norman style, with zig-zag mouldings round the circular arches.

On another summit of the hill, at the back of the Keep-yard, and aloof from the inhabited parts of the castle, are the ruins of an ancient church, with a Roman Pharos or lantern-tower attached to its west end. These remains are

left upon a high circular mount, open to a prospect of the sea, and surrounded with a grassy parapet and a deep fosse; the long neglected work of Saxon, or of yet earlier times. Apparently they occupy the site of the original citadel of the

442

castle. The church has a tower and a transept; the roof is gone, and on the side next the sea the walls are much broken, and the ground strewn with great blocks of the ruin. On the same side there are two or three forlorn-looking graves (one of them rather recent) of soldiers that have died in the garrison. The masonry is full of Roman tiles, but put together without any regularity. The adjoining Pharos, however, is plainly of Roman workmanship: here the tiles are in regular layers, at intervals of four or five feet asunder. Their corners, in many instances, are turned up and grooved, so as to fit into each other; and the under-sides frequently furrowed, in order to make the cement adhere to them the more closely. The form of the Pharos is octagonal, with a sloping top, surmounted by a turret of smaller circumference, and apparently less ancient.

Between these ruins and the Keep there are two or three decayed and isolated towers besides. The whole of this deserted portion of the castle looks down exactly upon the new entrance; and the steep intervening declivity is much intersected with rough-grown mounds, ditches, and a deep winding way that leads up by the broken towers to a postern in the Keep-yard. Here seems to have been once the main approach to the fortress; the modern entrance probably nearly occupying the place of a very old one that was superseded by that of the Normans, at the Constable's Tower: which latter, indeed, was often called Newgate, to distinguish it from the now forgotten gate of the Saxons.

The ruined church above-mentioned is certainly of great antiquity. A building is said to have been erected here for Christian worship in the earlier period of the Roman government of Britain. It was afterwards profaned by the idolatrous rites of the Saxons, and finally re-consecrated by Augustine. The present edifice was in use for the garrison at a period subsequent to the Reformation. Under the Heptarchy, there was a college of monks belonging to it, who resided in the castle till Widred, King of Kent, removed them to his church of St. Martin, now a ruin in the town.

In the sloping space between the Pharos and the edge of the cliff, extensive lodgments under ground, (like those already mentioned at the other end of the castle,) have been excavated in our own times for the security of the soldiers in case of an attack; and apertures are made in the face of the precipice below for the discharge of small arms or artillery. From hence a shaft, sunk in the rock to the depth of 300 feet, communicates with a fort, called Moat's Battery, which was erected by Henry VIII. at the foot of the cliff. At the top of the hill, the existence of these casemates beneath the surface is indicated only by a few chimneys or funnels, a little raised above the turf, some of them designed for the admission of light

443

and air. Near the verge of the steep is placed a beautiful piece of copper ordnance, richly enchased, and 30 feet in length, called Queen Elizabeth's Pocket Pistol. It was presented to her by the States of Holland, in memory of the assistance she had rendered them in the vindication of their freedom.

On the whole, Dover Castle is almost a singular instance, in this country, of a feudal fortress preserving to the present day so much of its military consequence and dignity. It exhibits a curious amalgamation of ancient and modern strength, which is strikingly contrasted with its crown of ruins, that connect the place with the very earliest period of British history. Those relics of Roman power, along with the remains of an almost primitive church, are affecting objects in the midst of a citadel still so formidable, and once the most impregnable stronghold of the kingdom. Its historical interest, its old and actual importance, and its

proud position, (confronting the shores of France, and commanding a view of the once subject Calais,) make this vast assemblage of towers rise into extraordinary grandeur, and the past appears here to mingle with the present. Altogether, a noble air of antiquity pervades it; disturbed, indeed, but yet much enlivened, and its age-worn features brought out, perhaps, into bolder relief, by the presence of the soldiery and the stirring accessories of a modern garrison. The battlements are mounted with a numerous artillery – the drum beats to arms – military figures are grouped about – and animate a scene where, in spite of the scarlet uniforms, the Norman pride seems still "in grim repose:" – a place where there is ample room and opportunity either to mix with a stream of sight-seers, or to wander at pleasure into solitary retirements and among melancholy ruins. But with such an open view surrounding all, the effect of every thing is exhilarating. Let the visitor look down from the Roman mound upon the wide circumference of battlements far beneath him, though still they beetle so high above the expanse of sea: thence let him mark where the sentinels are pacing to and fro upon the rampart, and gay summer parties enjoying the breezes and the prospect. The town lies in its deep hollow, confined between steep fortified heights; the white houses of Calais may be just seen to glisten between the cliffs of France, that correspond with ours in faint white lines on the horizon; while, beneath the eye, the very sheep that feed in the green moat, give this warlike ground a more quiet charm than if it were some nameless hill that never rang with the old shouts of St. George and St. Dennis.

For a long period after the naval power of the nation had become firmly established, the fortifications of Dover castle remained in a very neglected state; and previously to 1745, when the modern accessions to them were commenced by

444

the Duke of Cumberland, it seemed in danger of gradually falling into total ruin. The wars of the last and present century caused it to regain something of its early consequence. It was put in a condition to withstand any violent assault; the ancient ramparts were protected with extensive additional breastworks; the rock was hollowed into vast galleries and chambers, and accommodations were provided for a garrison of 4000 men.

When Napoleon's mighty preparations for invasion were accumulating on the opposite shores, and "camp after camp spread along them," while the forces of Britain were ordered to the coast, and the armies of the two nations were displayed within view of each other, at the same time that the ships of Nelson were both seen and heard bombarding the ports of France, and the inhabitants of Dover often crowded the adjacent cliffs to look as well as listen – Dover must surely have been a heart-stirring place. All the show and the bravery ended, as we know, on Buonaparte's side, in his setting up the great pillar, (the memorial of the vanity of his power,) which is now a notable little object, on a clear day, in the view from Dover Castle. But, for several years afterwards, the people must still have been much in the habit of standing a-tip-toe on the hills. In 1804, the hero of the place, Sir Sidney Smith, (with other enterprising commanders,) made various attacks, particularly on the ports of Calais and Boulogne. The conflicts generally took place after dark, when the distant roar was so spirit-rousing, that, according to a lively describer,/* many persons have spent the whole night in restless walking on the cliffs. At the same time, the enemy's privateers, as they hovered about, gave proofs enough of activity and daring; dashing at our merchant vessels, even under the guns of the castle, and sometimes pursuing them so close that the shots have dropt on shore. The batteries always opened on them; but whether the Frenchmen were not so bold as they looked, or our gunners were unlucky, the balls, we are told, seemed often to dip very near indeed, but seldom or never exactly to hit them. Late in the evening was the usual time for such encounters, when the garrison frequently beat to arms, and assembled on the beach. It was then curious to see

men, women, and children running in multitudes, as eager to see the skirmishing, as if it were mere amusement: none dreaming of fear – till now and then the sudden firing of the British field-pieces, has made them, all at once, take to their heels, and "scamper behind the houses."

At last came the grand year, 1814, when the Emperor of Russia and the

/* Mr. Batcheller, in his New Guide to Dover, &c.

445

King of Prussia, with Blucher and Platoff and "a noble train of heroes" besides, landed at Dover, and were saluted with the whole thunder of the artillery, cliff answering cliff, amid the cheers and the shouts that still ring in our ears at such names, associated as they are with British glory and the Duke of Wellington. The old Castle that had so lustily, as in ancient times, been arming himself at all points, seemed now to have been long big with preparation – "pride, pomp and circumstance" – only to welcome, after all, the splendid consummation of the strife and the fair return of peace. The great guns were fired off at last to good purpose; and thenceforth Queen Elizabeth's Pocket Pistol might just as well typify them all; – that beautiful piece of ordnance, (ever sacred to freedom,) that cannot discharge a shot; though, in a flourishing Dutch motto about the touch-hole, it boasts of its mighty doings, how that

"Off with a vengeance bangs my ball,
Crash through the tottering tumbling wall!"

The walls of this famous castle itself, imposing as they are, would probably not be proof against any very serious attack. The position is commanded by the opposite heights, which have consequently been extensively fortified; and during the war, the works there were greatly strengthened. The Heights (as they are called by way of eminence,) are trenched all round, except next the sea; and within the enclosure there are large barracks. Above these is the Grand Redoubt; and the Citadel crowns the summit, containing space enough for the reception of a numerous army. The barracks are readily approached by a military shaft, that has been sunk in the hill, to communicate with the town below. It contains an ascent of one hundred and forty steps, that wind round a large cylindrical tower, open at the top for light and air.

From all these hills the view of the Castle is magnificent. Compare it with the opposite new Citadel – and the latter seems to crouch before the towers which it boasts of commanding. What a bold and lofty front the old English fortress exposes to the foe, and looks every one stoutly in the face – while its modern scientific rival sinks its head, as it were, (to avoid blows,) between its breast-works and the huge backward-slanting shoulders of its cautious bastions; so that, in fact, little can be seen of it, but a monstrous yawning ditch, even on the spot where it stands – or rather where it couches, like a place for skulkers, though on the top of a hill. So much wiser are we than our stalwart forefathers, with all their coats of mail and fortresses like the rock with which their walls incorporate.

In earlier times, when adjacent hills were not such dangerous neighbours to a

446

military fortress, and when a strong place at home was of more consequence to England than it is now, the castle at Dover was considered the very Lock and Key "Clavis et Repagulum" of the island. Here it has stood from time immemorial. Built, as it is, on most redoubtable ground, and so near the most exposed point of land in the kingdom, it is likely enough to have existed, in some form or other, long before the birth of the first British historian. Its origin is involved in all the mystery of fable: tradition has been especially busy in

doing the highest honour to its antiquity. The old church within its area has been ascribed to a christian king, Lucius, of the second century, (who probably owes his being to the head of some dreaming monk); and the original castle was, with equal certainty, the work of one Caractacus, (who is not to be confounded with his mighty namesake,) or Arviragus, as he is otherwise called – a shadowy sort of monarch – though, it is true, he must have been somebody, for the scornful Juvenal challenges Nero to hurl, if he dares, the British Arviragus out of his chariot of war. Here the hero set the Emperor Tiberius at defiance, and refused the tribute of Julius Cæsar. A less patriotic legend makes Julius himself the castle-builder: and, indeed, in Leland's days, they shewed here a cask of old wine, and some other provisions, which Cæsar brought with him. His very sword, also, with a brazen horn that had summoned his legionaries to the field, used, till a much later time, to be exhibited in the Constable's Tower. And somewhere within the walls was Julius Cæsar's Well; though this, too, is now an almost forgotten mystery.

But whatever might be the date of the building, (and it is plain, from what remains, that the Romans were not idle here) it had certainly become a famous place before the Norman conquest. The Saxon Ditch, and the Saxon Citadel, seem to be authentic names for the inner moat, and the site of the present Keep. Earl Godwin, among other great offices, held the command of Dover Castle, and built, a tower or set of towers – one at the north-east corner, that continued to be known by his name till removed not long ago. And when his son Harold, in the Confessor's reign, rashly venturing into Normandy as a simple guest, had thus put himself in the power of the crafty William, the latter detained him there till he submitted to take an oath, that on the death of the English king, he would promote the duke's pretensions to the succession, and especially deliver up to him "the castle at Dover, with the well of water in it." This famous well, for which William so thirsted, is now almost as obscure as Julius Cæsar's: perhaps it was the same: its situation, however, is supposed to have been within the thick wall, in the north-east turret of the Keep.

447

After the blow at Hastings had stunned the whole kingdom, this castle offered only a faint resistance; but the Conqueror hanged its governor for pretending to resist at all. In the course of his subsequent tyranny, the provoked inhabitants of the town, with the assistance of Count Eustace, of Boulogne, made a vain attempt to recover the place by surprise. The Norman garrison kept close, and seemed fast asleep, till the assailants reached the foot of the wall: then, in an instant, a sally port was thrown open, and the party that believed themselves already victorious, were presently all put to the sword, or driven headlong from the rocks.

But the most celebrated siege of Dover Castle occurred in the reign of John. At Dover it was, (or somewhere near it), that this prince placed his crown under the foot of the pope's legate, (who is said to have literally spurned it back to him in the pontiff's name.) Having thus secured himself, he gave a loose to his treachery and violence, till the desperate barons were driven to offer their fealty to Lewis, the son of Philip, of France, and brought a great part of the kingdom to accept his authority. London welcomed her foreign master with acclamations; and from Rochester to York the country was soon almost entirely his own. Amid the general defection in the south of England, this fortress, under the command of Hubert de Burg, (whom Shakspeare, by the way, has, on other grounds, so unjustly defamed,) was nearly solitary in its resistance. Yet Philip was so sensible of its importance, that without its submission, his son, he affirmed, had "not even foot-hold in England." When first attacked, it had only a garrison of 120 men; and the governor armed his whole household to assist in the defence. He was soon succoured by Stephen de Pincester, who, while the French were occupied at the opposite quarter, led in a body of 400 horse through

a secret sally-port under the Godwin Tower, (adjacent to one that still bears, or ought to bear, this Stephen de Pincester's name.) The resolution of the besieged provoked Lewis to swear, that he would not quit the walls till he had taken the place, and hanged one and all of its defenders. He was consequently detained before it for several months, very happily for the kingdom; and, in the meanwhile, King John died. The Constable, being thus freed from his allegiance, the French prince hoped to prevail upon him to transfer it to himself; and sent him a deputation, with splendid offers on condition that he would surrender his trust. But Hubert was as staunch as his castle, and rejected the propositions in presence of his assembled officers. The approach of winter at last obliged the enemy to break up the siege, and retire to London.

On the death of John, the spirit of the nation awoke, and prepared to shake

448

off the invaders. The Cinque Ports, that had hitherto sided with the revolted barons, now combined against the French, and cut off a large fleet of theirs on its way to England with reinforcements. Hubert spent the winter in strengthening his fortifications. The besiegers had directed their main efforts against the Constable's Tower and the whole north end of the castle, where the hill is least difficult. Here he added an outer rampire, and formed those passages for secret sallies and subterranean communication, which, in our own times, have been greatly extended. In the following year he was attacked once more. But Lewis soon raised the siege in haste, on hearing of the defeat of his forces at Lincoln. The hopes of the French party now rested entirely upon a fresh armament, which was equipped at Calais in a fleet of 80 sail. With half that number of vessels, which he collected from the Cinque Ports, Hubert de Burg determined to intercept it. The die was a hazardous one; and he knew, besides, that his life was forfeited if he fell into the hands of his enraged enemy. Before setting forth, he solemnly took the sacrament with all his chief officers; and having strictly enjoined, that in case of his captivity, the castle should not be surrendered even to redeem him from death, he set sail from Dover with his forty ships. The French were met upon the way: their English antagonists, making a show of intending a descent on Calais, first allowed them to pass, in order to gain the advantage of the wind; then suddenly bore down with an impetuous onset, and, throwing quick lime in their enemies' faces, grappled with their ships, and plied so well their arrows and their battle-axes, (hewing the very rigging in pieces,) that the French not only suffered a signal overthrow, but only fifteen of their vessels escaped either capture or destruction. This was one of the most splendid actions that are recorded in the history of the Cinque Ports. Lewis was soon afterwards glad to capitulate, and leave the kingdom.

The remaining fortunes of Hubert de Burg deserve a few words. In consequence of his great exploits he was appointed to several high offices, both military and civil, which he filled, at one and the same time, with great capacity, but probably with very imperious and merciless severity. He lived to find himself a ruined man, to be a prisoner in the tower, and to take refuge in sanctuaries; till he was suffered, at last, to die in quiet and privacy at Bansted, in Surrey. During the meridian of his fame he was Grand Justiciary of the Kingdom, and also exercised a general superintendence over many of the great royal fortresses; while at the same time he continued to be the Constable of this – the castle of his glory – at Dover.

He made here an important change in the system previously followed for the

449

protection of the place. His experience had shown him that the military castle-tenants were not to be depended on for any punctuality of personal service; which henceforth was consequently dispensed with, and they were required,

instead, to contribute an annual sum for the maintenance of a fixed and probably more numerous, as well as, doubtless, a better disciplined garrison. His regulations continued in force till the reign of Henry VIII. when the king took it upon himself to defray the necessary expenses of his own castle; and this has ever since continued to be the practice.

The works thrown up by the French, under the conduct of Lewis, chiefly against the bulwarks adjacent to the Constable's Tower, were remaining till very lately, and were called the Port Dyke. A small portion of them is yet left near the upper north corner of the grounds belonging to Lauriston House: the rest was cut away about the beginning of the present century, to make room for the formation of the new military road. The outer rampart, constructed by the great Hubert, sweeps round the walls to the north and east, and still makes a formidable appearance.

The castle has never since been assailed by any foreign foe. But, in 1642, this "Key of the kingdom" was wrested out of the hands of Charles I. by the boldness of a republican merchant of Dover, called Drake, or Blake, (very auspicious names,) and a party of a dozen men; who, with ropes and ladders, scaled the precipice next the sea, where there was neither guard nor wall, (the place has now been made thoroughly inaccessible,) and pushing at once into the fortress, threw open the gates and struck such amazement, that before the morning betrayed the insignificance of their number, without a blow being struck, the castle was their own. The news was immediately dispatched to a parliamentary force at Rochester; the place was promptly secured, and the king attempted its recovery in vain.

The martial interest that is thrown over Dover by the old renown of its castle is well supported by the ancient character of the town, as one among the once honourable brotherhood of the Cinque Ports; whose barons, in old time, were worthy to sit (as they did) in parliament among the proudest of the feudal lords and nobles of the land, before the vulgar commons were yet deemed worthy of any seats at all, much less of an honourable house to themselves. The Cinque Ports have not now, perhaps, the most agreeable odour in all people's nostrils. Yet the name, (however we may choose to spell it, or whatever corruption it may imply,) is embalmed in our history, and should still awaken some grateful en-

450

thusiasm. They nursed the robust infancy of our Hearts of oak, and exercised in many a rough encounter with our old friends, the French, the growing strength of the children of the sea. And in this brave fraternity, (if in courtesy it may still be so called,) Dover should surely be allowed the most distinguished place. Since the days of the Conqueror, the Constable of its castle has almost always been, at the same time, the Lord Warden of the Ports. And be it remembered, that the present Ducal holder of these high titles, (the crown of all that he has won besides), might certainly, if any one might, both for soldiership and statesmanship, awaken the very spirit of old Hubert himself, who of yore reflected so much lustre, as well on the ports as on the castle.

The town of Dover was among the first places ennobled with the privileges and duties of a king's harbour. It seems to have been thus incorporated, along with Romney and Hythe, at least as early as the reign of the Confessor. Its usual contingent to the royal service amounted to nineteen or twenty ships; a proportion only equalled by the number afterwards required from Hastings: while the rest of the associated ports generally furnished about five vessels a piece. On particular emergencies, however, the Cinque Ports jointly fitted out much larger fleets; especially for some of the great expeditions of the Plantagenets. Of their warlike services one distinguished instance has already been given, and their history may be said to teem with the like. Whatever may be the French version of these affairs, our own is a glorious one. Our neighbours, indeed, made frequent reprisals; or rather, attempted them; for if ever they suc-

ceeded, there was some concurrence of circumstances in their favour, particularly unfortunate for us. Twice in one reign (and that the reign of Edward I.) the town of Dover, it must be owned, was severely handled by them; in fact nearly destroyed. But on one of these occasions the fleets of the Cinque Ports were absent, attending on the king's march along the coast of Scotland; and on the other the town deemed itself secure in consequence of the presence of two legates from the pope, who were here mediating a peace between France and England. Nevertheless, while France and England were at peace, the French and the Cinque Ports were often at war. For a long period devastations were carried on along both sides of the Channel, with almost unabating vigour: though in the case just mentioned, perhaps the peculiar sanctity of the ambassadors made the enemy's invasion sacrilegious and scandalous. No doubt the insult was amply revenged. During the same reign of Edward, (if we may take for granted all that Lambarde tells us,) a hundred sail, belonging to the Cinque Ports, fought

451

with a French fleet of just double that number; "all which they took or destroyed, and slew so many of the mariners that France was in a manner left destitute both of shipping and seamen."

Edward I. was, from first to last, one of their best patrons; though both he and his father, Henry, had found them apt upon occasion to exert their valour as well on friends (or countrymen at least) as upon foes. In the time of his predecessor they sided with the revolted barons; less, perhaps, from patriotism than because they had thus the fairest opportunity or pretence for plunder. They became mere nests of pirates, and made prize of every merchantman, English or foreign, they could lay their hands on. And so wildly at that time did these haughty little ports lord it over every coast-town which had not the honour to belong to their society, that some of their freebooters having been hanged at Portsmouth, (a place of no mark at all compared with Dover or Sandwich) they sent out a whole horde of marauders, who burnt Portsmouth to the ground. Their charters provided that no freeman of theirs should be arraigned in any but their own special courts – unless, perhaps, for the grand crimes of high treason and piracy; but in that turbulent age the ports probably looked upon the latter as no crime at all. Edward, who was then Prince of Wales, reclaimed them to their duty at last, not by punishment of their offences, but by a great enlargement, as well as confirmation, of their privileges.

Before the end of his reign, he possibly found cause, occasionally, to regret his indulgence. Many of their immunities were very invidious, oppressive to the other maritime towns, and consequently a fruitful source of heart-burnings and mischief. At Yarmouth, in particular, (which at that time was the largest seaport of the kingdom,) they were not only authorized to share the herring fishery, but to appoint a resident officer, with the sole power of deciding in all cases of disagreement between the mariners of that place and their own. The consequence, of course, was a continual feud between them and the men of Yarmouth; and the latter (who felt themselves aggrieved, besides, by the exclusion of their town from the honours of a Cinque Port) could only solace their wounded pride by the glory of being the antagonist and rival power. This, indeed, seems to have been so soothing, that (long after the struggle had become quite insignificant) Camden declares, he had seen a tablet hanging up in the Town Hall at Yarmouth, which recorded (probably in perennial brass) their memorable "Wars with the Lestoffenses and Portuenses." The first of these sonorous appellations must be assigned to their neighbours, the inhabitants of the little seafaring village of Lestoff: the latter belongs to the redoubtable commonwealth of confederated ports.

452

These wars were sometimes carried on with a high hand; for the people of

Yarmouth looked on the Portuenses to be full as much their "natural enemies" as the French themselves. Indeed, the French were, on one occasion, exceedingly beholden to the two parties for choosing to run down each other's ships instead of steering up together against the foreigners; and the disaster occurred to the very king, (Edward I.) who had done the most to nurse up the power of these unruly ports – for once, at least, as the event proved, against himself. It happened, as he was hovering with a large armament near the coasts of France, off Helvoet Sluys: a furious broil broke out between the rival squadrons; and the royal presence and authority was unable to prevent a regular battle. Nineteen of the Yarmouth ships were destroyed, along with their crews, and the whole fleet was so crippled and disordered, that Edward returned to England with its shattered remains, leaving unattempted the purpose of his expedition.

This, however, was certainly the palmy period of the naval Brotherhood: they flourished amain under the glorious Plantagenets. The dishonour of the occurrence at Helvoet Sluys was afterwards well retrieved there by Edward III.'s great victory at sea, in which the fleets of the Cinque Ports had a noble share. And to the enterprise that ended in the battle of Cressy and the conquest of Calais they contributed eighty or a hundred vessels. Many of their equipments, indeed, in those times, were evidently entirely voluntary, designed for the achievement of objects altogether their own; when, for instance, their spirit was roused to retaliate some hostile insult, or to intercept a train of tempting prizes. Thus, in the succeeding reign, we hear of their sweeping into their own harbours a rich fleet of 200 or 300 merchantmen at once.

But they had now more than reached their grand climacteric. With the splendid age of the Conquerors of France the æra of their glory passed away. The coronation of Henry VI. at Paris, was followed by a train of reverses abroad and distractions at home: and when the kingdom emerged out of the confusion, Columbus was about to open the gates of the world to the enterprise of all nations, and above all to the ascending spirit of our own. The loadstone had now emboldened the mariner, and the ships of England were growing too big for the nursery. As the royal navy advanced, the small barks of the Cinque Ports, each with its crew of twenty-one men and a boy, (though doubtless exclusive of soldiery,) became ridiculous. The discovery of the new world made the British Genius spread his wings. The brave ships that were to carry Drake and Raleigh round the globe – that were to disturb the Spaniard in his distant Eldorado, and create the vast Anglo-American republics – the mighty men-of-war

453

that sprang up, as if at the smell of gunpowder, and made ready for more mighty battles – vessels that were now big with thunder which was to second the heavens themselves in making the Invincible Armada a name to be laughed at for ever – such portentous fabrics were not to be launched from the little insolent places that had gloried over Yarmouth and Portsmouth. The Harry Grace de Dieu was not to tower out of a puddle-dock at Dover. The castle-ships of Henry VIII. and Elizabeth, The Monarch, or The Sovereign of the Seas, was not to come proudly into the Rutupian wash-pot, with her hundred and twenty guns and a prize as big as herself in her strong gripe. And that huge sea-beast which our brothers the Dutch (who were presently to give us so many a frank welcoming and fraternal hug), the monster which they hailed with such stout-hearted admiration as The Golden Devil, was too much of a leviathan to float at large in the Stygian ouze of Sandwich, and slumber there on the fat Lethean wave of the creeping Wantsum. The Thunderers and Tornados that were to be animated with the valour of Blake and offer their broadsides to the Van Tromps and De Ruyters, were not to lie sulking in a sink-port among grimy barges and grumbling colliers. When the Nemesis of Britain reposed, it was to be in royal rivers and broad bays, where the deep sea loves to come himself, that he may calm his troubled waters. In such ocean-sanctuaries were to rest the

great arks of our national independence. Thence flew abroad those winged messengers that were, like living creatures, to astonish savages, and are yet destined, perhaps, (bad angels as they have been,) to carry light into the earth's dark corners and liberty into the habitations of cruelty. The Britannia was to come forth out of the bosom of her King of Floods. Chatham and Plymouth became busy; the Thames and the Medway began to display their dock-yards. Yarmouth and Portsmouth rejoiced over "the king's ancient towns," which meanwhile decayed with age and dwindled into insignificance – the sea itself deserting their shores and the sand sealing up their harbours. Let us trust that their ignominy is not prophetic of any eclipse of the British naval glory itself, of whose rising greatness one of the earliest effects was to make them fade away. The Wooden Walls, (if no dry rot destroys them,) may still continue firm till the very globe and all that it inherit shall depart and leave not a wreck behind.

Poor Dover first began to pine, according to Lambarde, upon the loss of Calais; and now she and her sister-ports hug their senseless privileges – in love with the rottenness of honours that have corrupted into a foul disgrace, and hang dropping about them, a dead and melancholy weight. Those boasted liberties that made them so tyrannous – liberties, the gift of a tyrant, to make

454

them more capable of performing his pleasure and of extending his power, were by the same power made instrumental to degrade and enslave, most of all, the privileged possessors themselves. Those rights, which involved so much wrong, were only bestowed to trick the men who plumed themselves upon them. The king's favoured ports were allowed the opportunity of domineering over their less distinguished neighbours, and might indulge a dream of lordly freedom while exercising their petty tyranny; but in the mean time their own Lord Warden, in his royal castle, held the community in a state of special subservience to the master who deputed him to maintain a sovereignty there in his name.

This officer embodied almost all authority in himself: the Cinque Ports were under a separate jurisdiction; and he was at once high sheriff, lord-lieutenant, lord high admiral, and military commander. As he assumed the right of nominating and recommending to each of the ports one of the two persons whom they were severally to elect their representatives, his tyranny grew more obvious and galling when, in process of time, it became matter of anxiety with the court to procure submissive individuals to serve the king's interest in parliament. This recommendation of the Warden had always, as a matter of course, been acceded to, till the year after the revolution of 1688; when, an act having passed expressly to prohibit the abuse, from that time forth, instead of one of the members being nominated by the Warden, both were virtually returned by the overwhelming influence of the Treasury. A very few years before, the freemen of the ports – without spirit to defend even the rotten charters they so dearly loved – surrendered them one and all, or nearly all, to their then Warden, Colonel Strode, at the arbitrary command of Charles II. The documents thus parted with were never restored. King Charles issued a new charter, in which, among other privileges which he took to himself, he was careful to provide that in future the common clerks and recorders of these servile bodies should be appointed by the crown. After this the freedom of the ports, (which conferred the elective franchise,) became so rare an honour, that, of all the persons who had really a right to its benefits, the local dispensers of it were accustomed to choose but very few as worthy of sharing it. And of those few, it is observable that a large proportion, (so disinterested was the public virtue of these societies, and such their contempt of worldly attractions,) instead of being thus distinguished for their wealth and influence, were carefully adopted from among the necessitously poor. The corporations were equally cautious in admitting to a membership with their own immaculate body: so that, instead of the just number of twelve jurats in each town, there were seldom more than three or four. These nicely selected juntas were always

extremely scrupulous to provide for their fellow townsmen the most worthy representatives. At Dover, particularly – to guard the spotless purity of elections – they were invariably held, from the time of Elizabeth till 1826, within the church itself – the Church of St. Mary; and the oath, which the *Religio Loci* scarcely ever omitted to exact, was regularly administered – doubtless to give it greater sanctity – at the sacramental table. – So much for the honour of the Cinque Ports, and for the peculiar religious decency with which patriotic duties were wont to be conducted at Dover. Whether the late parliamentary and municipal reforms have cleared out at all, or opened to any good purpose these stagnant harbours of corruption, that infected the very sanctuaries with perjury, must be left for the wise men of the times to determine.

It is curious to trace the strict co-operation of physical and political causes in the gradual decline of places whose name and memory alone can now claim from us veneration or gratitude. The tide of affairs and the tides of the sea have here worked together. The waters have shrunk away from the idle harbours. At the best they could never have been receptacles for the strength of a modern squadron, and they grew literally less as our ships grew larger. At the same time the increasing power of the nation – coincident in a manner with the loss of its Norman dominions and the abandonment of all the profligate glory of our French conquests – obviated the necessity for a line of watchful sea-ports along the points most adjacent to the continent. It was no longer needful, for the sake of such a position, to give a primary importance to second and third-rate havens. When events had abolished the propriety of the institution, nature herself (as if in kindness to their fair fame) hinted and urged their dissolution; almost obliterating some of them by means of her own provision. In the mean time, as their duties grew obsolete, most of their privileges likewise, fast as they might mean to hold them in their sleepy fondness, slipped into oblivion in spite of them, and disappeared among dreams and fragments of past ages. Of their old rights of judicature, they have hardly a trace. The whereabouts of their Court of Shepway cannot well be ascertained: only their obscure courts of Brotherhood and Guestling are now and then held in a corner; and still their Warden's prison-officer, the Bodar, confines the debtors in a melancholy tower of the castle. One inglorious immunity the freemen of the ports may now enjoy – an exemption, (only honourable to the naval claims of their forefathers,) from serving in the militia. Their barons also may yet boast of carrying the pompous canopy over the head of the new crowned sovereign. But in spite of their Lord Warden himself, (their living Lord Warden,) what a bye-word of contempt the places have become

– what shame covers their pride! what a mockery is the praise of the ports that guarded "the Saxon coast!" The ocean seems half inclined to renounce them: they are neither royal nor national: he no longer greets them like British harbours, nor claps his hands upon their shores as heretofore. Even where there were copious inland streams to prevent the bed of waters from becoming beds of mud, the case seems equally or still more forlorn. From Romney and Hythe the old river has long since (as if by forecast) turned away his course: and that, not merely by gradual desertion; for, in the reign of the Edwards, both the first and the third, when the Cinque Ports were in the zenith of their glory and on the point of culminating to their decline, the sea broke forth and pushed aside the Rother till the current was forced into a new outlet. At Sandwich the great Roman harbour presents a poor creek for fishermen and colliers: and The Wantsum – so scanty now that modern etymologists have fancied the want of water is implied even in its Saxon name – the channel that carried sweeping into the Thames the formidable fleets of Danes and Saxons, the pirate sea-kings, the power of Goodwin

and of Harold, the dragon-ships of Hastig and Canute – is now a mere reptile brook, a mud-stream that may be almost leapt across.

Dover itself, the *Portus Dubris*/* of the Romans, (though not anciently so famous as its old neighbour, the Rutupian,) may at present boast of a fairer haven than any of the other Kentish Cinque Ports are possessed of. But even here the harbour is laboriously preserved by artificial means, and must once have been far superior to what it now appears. When wells are sunk, considerably above its present basin, the labourers come to layers of mud and beach-stone at some depth below the surface; and anchors and fragments of old ships have been dug out of the ground as far up the valley as Charlton, now three miles from the shore. The diminution of the harbour, however, must have been observed very early; for there is an idle old story that its first injury was owing to a dam with which Arviragus, it seems, would have closed it against Tiberius Cæsar. But for long after the fame of Arviragus had become a forgotten fable, Dover continued to be a flourishing sea-port. Its decay seems to have been first seriously noticed in the time of Henry VII.: and it is observable, by the way, that this prince was the first who established a permanent navy to supersede altogether the services of the Cinque Ports. At that time a petition for its repair complains that on one side of the bay, (since occupied by Woolcomber Street), it had become entirely useless: an observation that shows, the size of the harbour must have been diminishing. Soon afterwards Henry VIII. in one of his mag-

/* From the British, *Dwyrrfha*, a steep high place.

457

nificent humours, when the Emperor Charles had unexpectedly landed here on a visit highly flattering to the English monarch, spent £60,000 upon his "mighty pier at Dover." This was finished by Elizabeth, in consequence of the representations of Sir Walter Raleigh. But since then the accumulation of beach has oftener than once threatened the very extinction of the harbour; and new works, as they became necessary, were supplied from time to time, especially towards the conclusion of the following century. These had scarcely been completed and the place once more made capable of accommodating vessels, when, in 1688, the reception it afforded saved seventy sail of merchantmen that were driven into it at once by stress of weather, and must otherwise have been cast away or captured in the enemy's ports.

The harbour comprises two basins, which are both of them dry at low water, but at high tides have a depth of eighteen or twenty feet; about equal to what it possessed in the age of Elizabeth. In the same reign sluices were first provided for it, which hold up the waters in the inner basin till the tide runs rapidly down, and then send forth a strong contracted current against the bank of beach that is always collecting in the mouth of the harbour. By means of a moveable turn-water the stream is directed immediately against the head of the obstacle, and thus a tolerably clear passage is generally preserved; though the piers and jetties themselves, while they check the gathering of the sand from without, have necessarily, at the same time, a tendency to detain within the harbour such matter as they cannot hinder from getting into it. And the obstinate though shifting bar of shingle across its entrance is still found so inconvenient, especially when the wind blows fresh from the south-west, that sometimes all ingress is prevented when shelter is most needed. It is, nevertheless, a good artificial haven, though not equal to that of Ramsgate, which is constructed on similar principles.

The fortunate position of Dover, on one of the principal roads to the continent, and the superior character (of such long standing) which its castle has established for the town, concur, with the grandeur of its cliffs and heights, to make it still a lively, flourishing, and attractive place; and probably these days of peaceful travel are particularly favourable to its prosperity. It seems, however, to have suffered, in the times of our forefathers, a long period of decay,

after the diminished consequence of its port and fortress. And of the seven churches which it boasted, previously to the Reformation, St. John's, St. Peter's, and St. Nicholas's, exist only in name: a fragment of ruin, overlooking the market-place, is yet left of St. Martin's-le-Grand; but St. James's and St. Mary's are the only two ancient churches of the place that still remain in use. To

458

these has been added the new church of Trinity, which was built under the authority of the Act for building and endowing Churches.

Part of the church of the Maison Dieu, a hospital endowed by Hubert de Burg for poor pilgrims, has also been allowed to stand, because it was found that it might be usefully converted into a prison, a sessions-house, and a town-hall; otherwise it would have been demolished, not many years ago, without mercy.

Near the Maison Dieu are the remains of Dover Priory, founded in 1132 by Archbishop Corboil, and called St. Martin-the-Less, as being connected with the collegiate church of St. Martin-le-Grand, the revenues of which had been assigned to the above-named prelate by Henry I. It is situated in the fields, just out of Dover, and forms a detached farm-house and yard, in that branch of the valley which runs towards Folkstone. The old precinct-wall nearly surrounds it; the front gateway remains, and two of the barns are monastic buildings. One of them, supposed to have been the refectory, contains two or three fine Norman arches and pillars. The foundations of the church, in the adjacent field, stand out in jagged points under an old grove of ash trees; and the platform of the edifice, or of one compartment of it, may easily be traced.

There are several religious ruins about Dover: Langdon Abbey, and still more particularly, St. Radigund's, are noted places. The Templars had a house in the town, which, with the Preceptory belonging to the same order, at Swingfield (nine miles distant), and with a chapel of theirs, whose foundations were discovered in 1806 on the heights above the town, disputes the honour of being the place where John laid his crown at the feet of Pandolph, the Pope's legate.

Among the antiquities of Dover should not be forgotten the name of Our Lady of Pity's Chapel, which stood on the sea shore, at the east of Archcliff Fort. It was built, says tradition, by some northern nobleman, on the spot where he had been saved from shipwreck. In 1576 it was washed away by a storm, but the place is still called Chapel Plain, though few of the people, probably, know the cause of its designation.

Archcliff Fort is one of those erected by Henry VIII. It stands rather low, to the south-west of the town, near the point where the great line of circumvallation that traverses the heights runs down into a ravine towards the sea. Upon the strand below this fort Sir Sidney Smith built himself, some years ago, a characteristic seaman's villa, roofed with boats strongly bound together, with their keels uppermost. Beyond this hollow the line of the coast rises again into a steep point, which they call the Shakspeare-cliff, where the visitor may listen

459

to the surge against its base, which the poet tells us, rather too sublimely, "can scarce he heard so high." The cliff, however, is of a crumbling kind, and if not in Shakspeare's time, at all events in King Lear's, we may imagine it was a prodigious eminence. They are boring a tunnel through one end of it for the projected railway between Folkstone and Dover, and the work has brought down large fragments of the rock.

The walks about this town display, as will generally be admitted, a great deal of splendid, and even majestic scenery: and, in fine summer weather, the white cliffs, in harmony with glancing sails, and set off by a bright blue sky and sea, have an uncommonly brilliant and cheerful effect. Of Dover itself, the new part

is elegant and airy; and the ancient town, (wedged and squeezed together as it is, within the crooks of the valley) though it had only the shadow of the castle to protect its honour, would deserve as much (superficially speaking,) as any place in England. Round the heart of the original Dover there are still a few tokens of the Roman town-walls. Much of the foundation at least may yet be traced; and most of the line can be fairly conjectured from the different points at which gateways were standing, some of them not very long ago. One of these gates was called Severus's; who built it, says Darell, "A.D. 209, four years after he had erected a castle at Reculver:" (antiquaries are so particularly exact.) Its position was close to the new bridge. Another was the Adrian-gate; and the lover of the antique may still walk in an ignoble Adrian Street, (where the gate once stood,) and bethink him of Emperors and Prætorian footsteps. But our British barbarians here had no notion of respecting the Cæsars: Adrian and Severus could not save their imperial gates; they grew inconvenient, and were taken down, as well as Cow-gate, Butchery-gate, Biggin-gate, and other gates of vulgar name, but equal pretension to a classical antiquity. The tower of Butchery-gate was demolished so lately as 1819, and part of Biggin-gate in 1827, to make room for a public-house. There were also Snare-gate, Fisher's-gate, St. Martin's-gate St. Helen's-gate, and Eastbrook-gate; and one or two of their memories have been honoured with tablets at the corners where they stood, to inform us of the date of their removal.

But in the pride of the surrounding fortifications, both new and old, the rubbish of Roman walls is forgotten; and amidst the gaiety of modern Dover an antiquary's dotage is put to shame or to sleep. It is now Waterloo Crescent and the Esplanade, Liverpool Terrace and the Marine Parade that display the still expanding splendours of Dover. There can be no need to say any thing complimentary of buildings so handsomely entitled. Their range, from the harbour

460

to the castle-cliff, "encircling the margin of the delightful bay," is "grand and beautiful," stately and superb. The honours of the place must be performed by a more eloquent pen. Here Dover, looking out upon the waves – with her back to the cliff "and her face to the foe" – smiles upon Calais, and Calais upon her – no longer, indeed, foes, but friends; mutually the prouder and the gayer for each other, gilding and brightening each other's looks, and drinking to each other's health across "the broad," (or rather the narrow,) intervening sea. Meanwhile the ramparts of the castle are brilliant with a splendid assemblage, with blended companies of "the brave and the fair." "Mountain and valley, land and water, rural and marine beauties" are all mingled in the cup of enchantment that Dover holds forth to the wealthy, the tasteful, and the gay! And Dover – the charming, the salubrious, the romantic Dover – deserves at once and promises to become one of the most fashionable watering-places, as it is one of the fairest and most glowing spots, "in Albion's happy Isle!" – In conclusion, the author begs to acknowledge his obligations to the Guide-books.

The Church of St. James, Dover. In the chancel, on the south wall, a marble tablet to Frederick John Pigou, Esq. who died at Dover, 26th Feb. 1830, aged 63: below it, one to Jane Atkins, daughter of Hugh Atkins, Esq. of London, merchant, who died 7th Nov. 1833, aged 76; also her sister, Mary, who died 20th Dec. 1835, aged 84; also Letitia Ridley, sister of the above, and relict of Nicholas Ridley, Esq.; she died at Battersea, the 15th Jan. 1836, aged 76, where her remains are deposited; and the last surviving sister, Sarah Atkins, who died 18th Nov. 1837, aged 76: a marble monument to Caroline Jane, wife of Lancelot Baugh Allen, of Dulwich, in Surrey, who died Feb. 10th, 1831, aged 49: under this, a tablet to Margaret, wife of Captain Alexander Robinson Gale, late of the 17th Infantry, who died 19th Sept. 1837, aged 51: an ancient monument for Edward Kempe, Jurate, twice Mayor of this towne and Porte of Dover, and once Bailiffe of the towne of Great Yarmouth, who married Alice, the widow of John Tench, some time Mayor of this towne; he died the last year of his Mayoralty, 28th March, 1613, aged 64; also Alice,

wife of Edward Kempe, who died 30th Nov. 1613, aged 63. On the east wall, a tablet to Frances Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Abraham Elton, Bart. and Elizabeth his wife, who died 18th Oct. 1821, aged 24; another to Peter James Fector, Esq. who died 19th Jan. 1804, aged 45; also two children of the above, Minet, who died an infant, 20th Jan. 1801, and Anne Elizabeth, who died 18th March, 1806, aged 11. Above the altar, a fine marble monument for Capt. Henry Blinston, of this town, who died 28th Sept. 1729, aged 63; this monument was erected by Mrs. Judith Chesterton, who also lies here; she died 25th April, 1758, aged 85: also another fine one for Alicia Percival, daughter of Edward Kempe, Armig. and wife of Anthony Percival, Armig. obt. 14 Sept. 1637, æt. 24. On the north wall, a monument for Samuel Powell, Esq. of Upper Harley Street, London, and Brandle-some Hall, Lancaster, who died 15th June, 1834, aged 74: near the last, one for Elizabeth, wife of Benjamin Barnard, Esq. of Ham Common, Surrey, who died at Dovor, Jan. 18th, 1832, aged 57: below this, a tablet to Forbes de Voeux, Esq. second son of Sir Charles de Voeux, Bart. who died at this place, 31st Aug. 1829, aged 23: near the altar, another to the Rev. Charles St. John Mildmay,

461

M.A. Fellow of Merton College, who died 16th Jan. 1830, aged 36; he was fourth son of Sir Paulet St. John Mildmay, of Dogmersfield Park, Hants; and one to Charles de Voeux, Esq. eldest son of Sir Charles de Voeux, born April 29th, 1802, died at Brussels, 9th Aug. 1833, where he was attached to the British Embassy. In the south aisle, a stone for Symon Yorke, who died 3d Feb. 1682, aged 76 and 11 months; also Alice, his wife, who died 1663, aged 52. On the south wall, a tablet to St. Andrew St. John, Esq. of Gayton, County of Norfolk, son of the Hon. and very Rev. St. Andrew St. John, late Dean of Worcester, who died at Dovor, Nov. 2d, 1836, aged 70: another to John Trevanion, Esq. who represented Dovor in several Parliaments; he died 21st April, 1810: another to Robert Walker, Esq. many years one of the Jurates of this town, who died 28th March, 1834; and John Walker, fourth son of the above, born 11th April, 1804, died 24th March, 1833. In the north aisle, south side, a fine marble monument for George Collard, Esq. late of this parish, who died 18th April, 1782, aged 65; erected by his wife: a tablet to Lieut. Samuel Watson, who died 29th April, 1795, aged 67. On the north wall, a monument for Mrs. Latham, wife of John Latham, Esq. who died 19th Feb. 1797, aged 82; also the above John Latham, Esq. who died 27th May, 1801, aged 78; also Ann, wife of Samuel Latham, Esq. who died 5th March, 1827, aged 64; also the above Samuel Latham, Esq. who died 11th Oct. 1834, aged 82: a black marble tablet to Mrs. Susanna Mitchell, wife of Thomas Mitchell, Esq. who died 10th Dec. 1795, aged 42; also George Collard Mitchell, son of the above, who died 5th May, 1797, aged 18; a marble tablet to Thomas Tournay, B.A. Pastor of Hougham, and of this parish, who died 4th March, 1795, aged 67; also Elizabeth, his widow, who died 6th Aug. 1798, aged 63; William Tournay, D.D. the successor of his father in the Rectory and Vicarage of Hougham, Prebendary of Westminster and Peterboro, and nearly 25 years Warden of Wadham College, Oxford, died 19th July, 1833, aged 71, and was buried in the Cathedral Church of Peterborough: under this a tablet to Vice Admiral John Bazeley, who died 21st March, 1828, aged 61; also Harriet, his wife, who died 3d April, 1835, aged 62; also Lieut. John Bazeley, R. N. son of the above, who died 8th Oct. 1835, aged 34: a monument to Sir Nathaniel William Wraxall, Bart. of Wraxall, in Somerset, who died at Dovor, on his route to Italy, 7th Nov. 1831: also a monument for Peter Fector, Esq. of Dovor, who died 30th Jan. 1814, aged 91; interred at Eythorne. On the south wall, a monument for Michael Hodgson, Gent. who died 20th April, 1730, aged 21; also Cuthbert Hodgson, Gent. who died 26th April, 1751, aged 73; also Mary, wife of Cuthbert Hodgson, who died 1st June, 1775, aged 85: also Captain John Willson, who died 18th Oct. 1756, aged 37: a tablet to Mrs. Mary Lane, wife of T. B. Lane, Esq. who died 13th Nov. 1807, aged 72; also William Blackwood, Esq. and Susanna, his wife, daughter of the above; he died 22d Nov. 1793, aged 44; she died 2d Aug. 1806, aged 46; also their two infant children; and of the above Thomas Bateman Lane, who died 13th Aug. 1820, aged 85.

The Church of St. Mary, Dover. In the chancel, on the south wall, near the altar, a monument to Mrs. Stringer, wife of Phineas Stringer, Esq. who died 16th April, 1800, aged 61; also the above Phineas Stringer, Esq. who died 18th June, 1801, aged 71; also Mrs. Lucy Stringer, wife of George Stringer, Esq. whose remains are interred at Whitfield: a fine monument for Henry Rice, Esq. of Brambling, in this county, who died March 19th, 1797, aged 53. On the west wall, a monument to the family of Broadley, of this town. On the north side of the south aisle, a tablet to Robert Winthrop, Vice Admiral of the Blue, who died at his residence at Dovor, May 10th, 1832;

Sarah Lambe, his wife, died at Bruxelles, April 27th, 1825: near it a monument to George Farbrace, Esq.; Elizabeth Anne, his widow, erects this monument; also to her father, James Teale, Esq. who died 15th Oct. 1787, aged 61. On the south side of the middle aisle, a monument to Mr. Charles

462

Churchill, the poet, who died at Boulogne, in France, aged 32, and was buried in this town, 1764; erected at the expense of J. Underwood: another to James Hammond, Esq. several times Mayor of this corporation, who died 21st Nov. 1790, aged 76; and Christian, his wife, who died April 27th, 1789, aged 74; and others of the family. On the north side, a tablet to the Rev. John Rudman Drake, eldest son of the Rev. John Drake, of North Church, Herts; he died at Boulogne Sur Mer, 6th June, 1837, aged 28: below the last, a monument to Thomas Broadley, jun. Esq. one of the Jurats of this town, who died 18th Sept. 1777, aged 46; also Mary, his widow, who died 16th Dec. 1814, aged 79; and Susanna, their daughter, who died 5th Dec. 1814, aged 48: another to Capt. Alex. Kenton, who died 11th Sept. 1719, aged 54; also Mrs. Margaret Kenton, his wife, who died Jan. 6th, 1733, aged 65: a black marble monument for James Gunner, Esq. who died 29th June, 1825, aged 75: below, one to Sarah Hussey Gunner, who died 4th May, 1825. In this aisle there is a fine brass to Wm. Jones, of this town and port, and Katherine his wife; she died 21st Dec. 1636, aged 72; he died 14th June, 1638, aged 75. In the north aisle, on the south side, a marble tablet to Patrick Simpson, Esq. of this town, who died 25th July, 1813, aged 60: a marble monument to Mrs. Susanna Rouse, wife of Richards Rouse, Esq. Jurat of this town, and Deputy Lieutenant Governor of Dovor Castle, who died 3d Aug. 1758, aged 53; also the above Richards Rouse, Esq. who died 4th July, 1766, aged 64: another for Mr. Isaac Minet, of this town, merchant, who died 8th April, 1745, aged 85; and Mary, his wife, who died 30th Nov. 1738, aged 68; also Mr. Isaac Minet, of this town, merchant, son of the said Mr. Isaac Minet, who died 11th Oct. 1731, aged 35; and Frances, his wife, who died 20th Jan. 1766, aged 69; and Mr. Wm. Minet, of London, merchant, who died a bachelor, 18th Jan. 1767, aged 63. On the west wall, a very large monument to Peter Eaton, Esq. whose remains are deposited with his ancestors, inhabitants of this Town of Dovor for ages past; he being the last male issue of his family, departed this life 31st Jan. 1769, aged 49; Mrs. Hannah Markland, his cousin and heir, in testimony of her regard to his memory and the rest of the Eaton family, caused this monument to be erected. On the north wall, a tablet to Mrs. Susannah Luck, wife of Thomas Luck, Esq. who died 11th March, 1809, aged 39; also George John Luck, who died 1st April, 1834, aged 29: a monument for Anne Thatcher, second daughter and at length co-heir of John Vickry Clerk, Vicar of Milton-Abbot, in the County of Devon, who died 24th Oct. 1809, and was buried at Dovor; also Elizabeth Thatcher, who died 22d June, 1803; also Christopher Thatcher, who died an infant; also Francis Thatcher, of Dovor, M.D. who died 23d Nov. 1820: and a monument to the Jeken family.

463

INDEX OF PLACES, SEATS, &c.

Abbey, The, West Malling 189
 Acrise Place 307
 Acrise Church 307
 Addington Place 191
 Addington Church 191
 Allington Church 188
 Angly House 233
 Apperfield Lodge 67
 Appledore 245
 Archer's Court 436
 Ash Church, near Kingsdown 81
 Ash Church, near Sandwich 345
 Ash Grove 96
 Ashfield Lodge 237
 Ashford 289
 Ashford Church 289

Ashgrove Cottage 68
Ashurst Lodge 118
Ashurst Park 118
Aylesford 186
Aylesford Church 187

Baldwins 69
Bapchild 270
Bapchild Court 270
Bapchild Church 271
Barfreestone Church 421
Barham Court, Teston 150
Barham Court, Barham 401
Barham Church 403
Barham Downs 401
Barming Heath 181
Barming Place 181
Baston 65
Bearsted House 166
Bearsted Church 166
Beachborough 305
Beakesbourne 354
Beckenham Church 33
Beckenham Place 30
Beddows Place 180
Bedbury Park 230
Beachmont 96
Belle Vue 96
Belmont 251
Belvidere 38
Benenden Church 240
Bentham Hill 125
Beren Grove 278
Bethersden 293
Bethersden Church 293
Betshanger House 417
Betshanger Church 418
Bexley Church 50
Bexley Manor House 48
Bickley 34
Bidborough Church 129
Biddenden 244
Biddenden Church 244
Bifrons 393
Bilsington Priory 317
Birchington 327
Birchington Place 327
Birchington Church 327
Birling Church 193
Bishopsbourne Church 400
Bishop's-down Grove 119
Blackbrook 36
Blackheath 13
Blackhurst 124
Blendon Hall 46
Blowers Place 278
Bobbing Church 276
Borden Church 275

Bottings 116
Boughton Church 247
Boughton House 246
Boughton Place 151
Boughton Aluph Church 296
Boughton Malherb Church 157
Boughton Monchelsea Church 152
Bourne Place, Bexley 48
Bourne Place, Bishopsbourne 399
Boxley Abbey 182
Boxley Church 185
Boxley House 184
Boys Hall 291
Bradbourne, Sevenoaks 94
Bradbourne, East Malling 189
Bramblebury 43
Brampton Place 45
Brasted Church 104
Brasted Place 104
Brenchley Church 134
Brenley House 247
Bridge Church 392
Bridge Hill House 392
Bridge House 48
Bridge Place 392
Bridgen Place 47
Broad Street House 308
Brockhill 313
Brockley House 24
Bromley Church 36
Bromley College 36
Bromley Common 36
Bromley Hill House 26
Bromley House 35
Bromley Palace 35
Brooklands 18
Broome 402
Brook Street, Ash 345
Broom Hill 125
Broomfield House 322
Broughton House 91
Buckland Church 437
Burrswood House 117

Calehill 284
Camden Place 56

464

Camer 224
Camps Hill 23
Canterbury 360
Capel Church 131
Catford Hill House 24
Chalk Church 222
Chandos Place 335
Chapel House, Sevenoaks 95
Chapel House, Ospringe 253

Charing 286
Charing Church 286
Charlton, Bishopshourne 399
Charlton, near Dover 438
Charlton Church, near Dover 438
Charlton Church, near Woolwich 18
Charlton House 17
Chart Sutton 156
Chart Sutton Church 156
Chartham Downs 301
Chartham Church 302
Charts Edge 106
Chatham 210
Chatham Church 211
Chelsfield Church 62
Chelsfield Court Lodge 61
Chelsfield Rectory 61
Chepstead Place 89
Cheriton Church 305
Chevening Park 88
Chevening Church 90
Chiddingstone Park 113
Chiddingstone Church 114
Chilham 299
Chilham Castle 300
Chilham Church 301
Chillington House 175
Chilstone Park 156
Chislehurst Church 57
Chislehurst Common 55
Chrishmell 16t)
Chislett Court 323
Chislett Church 324
Church of All Saints, Maidstone 177
Church of Hoo St. Warburgh 223
Church of St. Alphage, Greenwich 15
Church of St. John's, Margate 331
Church of St. Margaret at Cliffe 437
Church of St. Mary Cray 59
Church of St. Mary, Greenwich 15
Church of St. Mary, Hoo 223
Church of St. Nicholas at Wade 326
Church of St. Paul, Deptford 2
Church of Sutton Valence 155
Clare House 189
Clay Farm 29
Cleve Court 325
Cliff Cottage 227
Cliffe 219
Cliffe Church 219
Clock House, Linton 178
Cobham Church 216
Cobham Hall 215
Cold Harbour House 73
Coldred 435
Coldred Church 435
Colshall 273
Comb Bank 102

Cookstone Church 221
Coopers 55
Convent, The 334
Cottage, The, Walmer 430
Cottage on the Beach, Walmer 430
Cottingham Court 425
Court Lodge, Darent 73
Court Lodge, Hunton 144
Court Lodge, Lamberhurst 132
Court Lodge, Shorne 220
Court Lodge, West Farleigh 149
Cowden Church 116
Cowling 212
Cowling Church 213
Cranbrook 232
Cranbrook Church 234
Crayford 41
Crayford Church 42
Crete Hall 228
Croft House 83
Crofton Hall 59
Crundal Church 298

Danson 45
Dane Court, St. Peter's 333
Dane Court, Tilmanstone 420
Dane House 277
Darent 74
Darent Church 74
Dartford 68
Dartford Church 69
Dartmouth Lodge 24
Davington 262
Deal 426
Deal, Rev. M. Pennington 428
Deane Park 347
Denne Hill 404
Decoy House 223
Dent de Lion 330
Denton Court 422
Denton Church 422
Deptford 1
Deptling Church 182
Ditton Place 188
Ditton Church 188
Dodington Church 266
Dover 439
Down House 63
Down Lodge 63
Dumpton 335
Dunkirk 356
Dunstall Priory 87

Eagle Cliff 76
East Cliffe Lodge 335
East Combe 15
East Court, Chalk 222
East Barming 181

East Barming Church 182
East Farleigh Church 181
East Hall 59
East Langdon Church 436
East Lodge, Bexley 49
East Malling Church 189
East Peckham Church 146
East Sutton Church 154
East Sutton Place 153
East Wickham Court 43
East Wickham House 43
Eastchurch Church 281
Eastling Church 265
Eastry 414
Eastry Church 416
Eastwell Park 294
Eastwell Church 295
Ebbsfleet 343
Edell's House 116
Eden Lodge 32
Eden Park 32
Elbridge House 353
Elm Cottage 25
Elmer Lodge 32
Elmsted Church 310
Elmstone Court 351
Eltham 27
Eltham Church 30
Eltham Lodge , 28
Eltham Park 28
Encombe 304

465

Epson's Cottage 237
Erich Church 40
Everlands 90
Evington 310
Eyhorne House 162
Eynsford Castle 86
Eythorne 420
Eythorne Church 420

Fairlawn 135
Fairy Hill 26
Fant House 175
Farningham Church 84
Farningham Hill House 83
Farningham House 83
Fatherwell House 191
Faversham 255
Faversham Church 261
Fawkham Church 80
Felderland 414
Ferry Hill 324
Finchcox 230
Finchden 242
Fish Hall 129

Foley House 175
Folkstone 302
Folkstone Church 304
Foots Cray Place 53
Foots Cray Church 54
Fordwich 352
Fordwich Church 352
Forest Hill 25
Fort Crescent, Margate 331
Fowlecs 226
Franchise of Birchoit 314
Franks Hall 81
Fredville Park 349
Friars, Aylesford 187
Frindsbury 213
Frindsbury Church 214
Frinsted Church 161
Frognall 54

Gad's Hill 218
Gallants Court 180
Gascoyne Walk 273
Gattons 219
Giffords 82
Glassenbury 233
Glovers 272
Godington 288
Goddington 80
Godmersham Church 299
Godmersham Park 293
Goldie Lee 43
Goodlands 56
Goodnestone Church 348
Goodnestone Park 348
Gore 278
Gore Court, Otham 166
Gore Court, Tunstall 274
Goudhurst Church 231
Government House, Deal 430
Great Bounds 128
Great Buckland 176
Great Chart Church 288
Great Culverden 124
Great Lodge, Tunbridge 125
Great Sharsted 265
Greatness 94
Green Trees 129
Greenhith 76
Greenwich 3
Greenwich Hospital 7
Groombridge Place 117
Grove, Boxley 183
Grove Hill 324
Grove House, Dent de Lion 330
Grovehurst 131
Guilton House 345

Hadlow Castle 129

Hadlow Church 130
Hadlow House 130
Hale Place 145
Hales Place, Halden 245
Hales Place, St. Stephens 356
Hall, The, Charlton 18
Hall Place, Bexley 49
Hall Place, Leigh 108
Hall Place, Harbledown 358
Hallcot 49
Halling Church 215
Halstead Place 87
Halstead Church 88
Hamptons 140
Harbledown Church 359
Hardres Court 398
Harnden 415
Harrietsham Church 160
Hartlip 297
Hartlip Place 297
Hartlip Church 297
Hartsdown House 331
Hawkhurst Church 237
Hawley House 71
Hayes Church 66
Hayes Common 65
Hayes Place 65
Hayle Cottage 179
Hayle Place 179
Hayselden Cottage 233
Hazels 228
Hemsted 239
Henhurst 245
Hensill 237
Hepburn 358
Heppington House 398
Hermitage, Higham 218
Hernhill 249
Herne Bay 322
Herne Church 322
Heronden House 242
Hermesland House 352
Hever Castle 115
Hever Church 115
Hewetts 291
Hewitts 62
Hextle House 145
High Elms 63
High Halstow Church 223
High Street House 47
Higham, near Rochester 217
Higham Church 218
Higham, Patrixbourne 393
Highlands 73
Hill Park 105
Hive, Northfleet 228
Hole Park 240
Holland Farm 118

Hollingbourne Church 163
 Hollingbourne House 161
 Hollies, The 45
 Holly Hill 40
 Hollydale 64
 Hollywood House 214
 Holwood 64
 Homestall 260
 Homewood Lodge 56
 Hook Green House 79
 Horsmonden Church 134
 Horton Kirby Church 83
 Horton Priory 310
 Hospital, Sevenoaks 101
 Hospital of Harbledown 357
 Hougham 438

466

Hougham Church 439
 Hothfield Place 287
 Hulswood Villa 70
 Hundred of Axtane 71
 Hundred of Barkley 244
 Hundred of Bewsborough 434
 Hundred of Blackburn 245
 Hundred of Blackheath 1
 Hundred of Bleangate 322
 Hundred of Boughton 246
 Hundred of Brenchley and
 Horsmonden 132
 Hundred of Bridge and Petham 392
 Hundred of Bromley and Beck-
 enham 30
 Hundred of Calehill 283
 Hundred of Chart and Long-
 bridge 287
 Hundred of Chatham and Gil-
 lingham 194
 Hundred of Codsheath 86
 Hundred of Cornilo 424
 Hundred of Cranbrook 232
 Hundred of Dartford and Wil-
 mington 68
 Hundred of Downhamford 352
 Hundred of East Barnfield 236
 Hundred of Eastry 406
 Hundred of Eyhorne 131
 Hundred of Faversham 250
 Hundred of Felborough 298
 Hundred of Folkstone 302
 Hundred of Heane 311
 Hundred of Hoo 223
 Hundred of Kinghamford 399
 Hundred of Langport 316
 Hundred of Larkfield 186
 Hundred of Little and Lesnes 38
 Hundred of Littlefield 140

Hundred of Loningborough 307
Hundred of Maidstone 169
Hundred of Marden 230
Hundred of Milton 268
Hundred of Newchurch 317
Hundred of Oxney 318
Hundred of Preston 351
Hundred of Ringslow 325
Hundred of Rolvenden 239
Hundred of Rookesley 45
Hundred of Selbritten 238
Hundred of Shamwell 212
Hundred of Somerden 108
Hundred of St. Martin's Pount-
ney 319
Hundred of Stowting 309
Hundred of Street 316
Hundred of Tenterden 242
Hundred of Teynham 265
Hundred of Toltingtrow 224
Hundred of Twyford 144
Hundred of Wachlingstone 117
Hundred of West Barnfield 168
Hundred of Westerham and
Edenbridge 105
Hundred of Westgate 356
Hundred of Whitstable 321
Hundred of Wingham 345
Hundred of Wrotham 135
Hundred of Wye 294
Huntley's Tower 124
Huntley's Villa 124
Hunton Church 145
Hurst House 48
Hythe 311
Hythe Church 312

Ibornden 244
Ickham Church 355
Ieldon 403
Ifield Church 226
Ifield Court 227
Ightham Church 139
Ightham Court 138
Ingress Abbey 76
Iron Furnace, Lamberhurst 132
Island of Oxney 318
Isle of Sheppey 280
Ivy Cottage 305

Jack Cade's Field 287
Jennings 144
Joyce Hall 78
Judde Hill 254

Kelsey 32
Kelsey Cottage 32
Kemnal House 56

Kemsley Down 272
Kenardington 246
Kench Hill 243
Kenfield 396
Kennington Church 289
Kennington Place 289
Kent Zoological Gardens 229
Kenwards 146
Kersney Court 437
Keston 63
Keston Church 65
Keston Lodge 64
Kevington 59
Kingsgate Castle 334
Kingsley House 175
Kingston Church 405
Kippington 95
Kirby Hall 82
Knockhold Lodge 77
Knockholt House 68
Knole 97
Knowlton Church 419
Knowlton Court 418

Lacton House 291
Lamb Abbey 46
Lamberhurst Church 133
Langley Church 153
Langley Farm 33
Langley Park 32
Langton 118
Larkin Hall 213
Lathe of Aylesford 117
Lathe of Scray 230
Lathe of Shepway 283
Lathe of St. Augustine 321
Lathe of Sutton at Hone 1
Leavers 146
Lee Church 22
Lee Grove 22
Lee House 22
Lee Priory 354
Leeds Abbey 165
Leeds Castle 163
Leeds Church 165
Lees Court 250
Leigh Church 109
Lenham 157
Lenham Church 157
Lesnes 39
Lesnes Abbey 38
Lewisham 23
Lewisham Church 26
Leybourne Church 193
Leybourne Grange 192
Leysdown 282
Lillesden 237
Linsore 398

Linton Church 178

467

Linton Place 177

Little Charleton 154

Little Chart Church 285

Little Hermitage 214

Littlebourne Church 353

Liverpool House 430

Longfield Church 86

Loose 178

Loose Church 179

Loose Court 179

Lords 250

Losenham Priory 239

Lower Deal Church 429

Lower Hardres 397

Lower Hardres Church 398

Luddesdown Church 225

Luddesdown Court 225

Lullingstone Church 85

Lullingstone Park 84

Luton House 249

Lydd 316

Lydd Church 316

Lydden Spouts 438

Lyminge 308

Lyminge Church 309

Lympne 316

Lynsted Church 267

Lynsted Lodge 266

Mableden Park 125

Maidstone 169

Malmaynes Hall 224

Manor House, Beckenham 31

Manor House, Crayford 41

Manor House, Frindsbury 213

Manor House, Hollingbourne 162

Manor House, Lee 22

Manor House, Milsted 268

Marden Church 232

Margate 329

Mariners 106

Marsborough 413

Matham Hall 241

May Deacon 403

May Place 42

Meopham Church 224

Mereworth Castle 141

Mereworth Church 143

Merrington Place 241

Mersham Hatch 292

Mersham Church 292

Middle Deal House 428

Milgate 166

Milkey Down 307

Mill House, Farningham 13
Millar's House 267
Milsted Church 269
Milton Church (near Gravesend) 227
Milton Church (near Sitting-
bourne) 273
Minster, Sheppey 280
Minster Church 281
Minster, Thanet 342
Minster Church 343
Moat, The, Ightham 137
Mongeham Church 429
Monks Horton Church 311
Monkton Church 326
Montreal 95
Morden College 18
Mottingham Hall 27
Mount Mascal 51
Mount Morris 310
Mount Ospringe 260
Mount Pleasant, Wilmington 70
Mountains 127
Mystole 301

Nackington Church 395
Nackington House 394
Nash Court 247
Nether Court 340
Nettlested Church 151
New Barns, West Malling 190
New Church, Blackheath 18
New Cottage, Kingsdown 81
New House, Mersham 292
New Lodge 236
New Romney Church 320
Newenden 238
Newington 276
Newington Church 276
Newington Church (near Hythe) 306
Nisell's, Wrotham 136
Nonington Church 350
North Cray Church 53
North Cray Place 52
North Cray Rectory 52
North Down Hall 331
North Down House 331
North End, Southfleet 78
North Foreland Lodge 334
Northbourne Church 425
Northbourne Court 424
Northfleet Church 229
Norton Church 264
Norton Court 263
Nouds 267
Nursted Church 226
Nursted Court 225

Oakery, The 31

Oaks, The, Ospringe 254
Oaks, The, Deal 428
Oakfield 162
Oakfield Lodge 70
Oakland House 81
Ogle House 334
Olantigh 296
Old Park 437
Old Tree House 323
Oldbury Hill 137
Oldbury Place 138
Orchard House 145
Orpington Church 60
Ospringe 252
Ospringe Church 254
Ospringe Parsonage 253
Ospringe Place 253
Otford 90
Otford Church 91
Otford Court 86
Otham Church 167
Otterden Church 159
Otterden Place 158
Ovenden House 103
Owlets, Beakesbourne 353
Owletts, Cobham 216
Oxney Court 434
Oxon Hoath 140

Paddock, The 392
Parish and Ville of Brasted 104
Park House, Maidstone 176
Park House, Boxley 184
Parkhurst 47
Parrock Hall 226
Parsonage, Knockholt 68
Parsonage, Southborough 125
Patricbourne Church 394
Paul's Cray Church 58
Paul's Cray Hill 57
Pedding 345
Penenden 176
Pegwell Cottage 340
Pembury Church 131

468

Penenden Heath 174
Pennis House 80
Penshurst 112
Penshurst Castle 109
Penshurst Church 112
Perry Hill House 24
Pet House 286
Petham 396
Petham Church 397
Pheasant Grove 55
Philippines 104

Pierremont House 334
Pipes Place 219
Plaistow Lodge 34
Pluckley Church 284
Plumsted Church 44
Porto Bello, Brenchley 134
Postern Park 127
Poulton 435
Preston Church 262
Preston Court 351
Preston Hall J86
Preston House 261
Priory, East Farleigh 180
Provender 264

Quarry House 150
Quex Park 327

Rainham Church 279
Ramsgate 336
Ramsgate Church 339
Rands House 81
Ranger's Lodge, Greenwich 14
Rectory, Acrise 307
Rectory, Barming 181
Rectory, Beckenham 33
Rectory, Bishopsbourne 400
Rectory, Brasted 104
Rectory, Chartham 302
Rectory, Cheriton 305
Rectory, Chevening 89
Rectory, Cowden 116
Rectory, Deal 428
Rectory, East Malling 189
Rectory, Eastchurch 281
Rectory, Eastling 265
Rectory, Eastwell 295
Rectory, Eythorne 420
Rectory, Fawkham 80
Rectory, Great Chart 288
Rectory, Horsmonden 133
Rectory, Hunton 144
Rectory, Ightham 138
Rectory, Littlebourne 353
Rectory, Luddesdown 225
Rectory, Mereworth 142
Rectory, Mersham 292
Rectory, Murston 271
Rectory, Norton 263
Rectory, Otterden 159
Rectory, Paul's Cray 58
Rectory, Penshurst 111
Rectory, Pluckley 283
Rectory, Smarden 283
Rectory, Southfleet 79
Rectory, St. Mary's, Hoo 223
Rectory, Trottescliffe 192
Rectory, Wrotham 136

Reculver 409
Redleaf 111
Reed House 213
Richborough Castle 407
Ringleton 413
Ringwould Church 433
Ringwould House 433
Ripple 432
Ripple Court 432
Ripple House 432
River Hill 97
Riverhead 95
Rochester 194
Rochester Cathedral 208
Rodmersham Church 270
Rodmersham Court Lodge 269
Rolvenden Church 241
Romney 319
Roome House 211
Rose Hill 276
Roydon Hall 146
Rushett 264
Rust Hall 119
Rusthall House 119
Ryarsh Place 191

Sackett's Hill House 333
Saltwood Castle 313
Saltwood Church 314
Sandgate 304
Sandhurst 239
Sandhurst Church 239
Sandling 312
Sandling Cottage 184
Sandwich 406
Scadbury 55
Scott's Hall 314
Sea Coxheath 238
Seal Church 93
Seaton 295
Selling Church 249
Selling Court 248
Sevenoaks Church 101
Sevenoaks School 101
Severndroog Tower 29
Shadoxhurst Church 246
Sheldwich Church 250
Sheppey Court 280
Shepway Cross 320
Sholden Church 426
Sholden Lodge 425
Shooter's Hill 28
Shoreham Church 87
Shorland House 281
Shorne Church 220
Shortlands 33
Shottenton Hill 249
Shrewsbury House 44

Shrubbery, Walmer 431
 Sibertswould Church 434
 Sibertswould House 434
 Sibton 308
 Sidcup 54
 Sissinghurst Castle 233
 Sittingbourne Church 272
 Smallhyth 242
 Smarden Church 283
 Smeeth Church 315
 Smeeth Hill House 315
 Smeeth Paddock 315
 Smith's Hall 149
 Snodland Church 193
 Snowfield 166
 Somerhill 126
 South Darenth 82
 South Park, Penshurst 112
 Southborough Church 127
 Southborough Hall 125
 Southborough Lodge 36
 Southend Hall 25
 Southend Park 25
 Southfield Park, Tunbridge 124
 Southfleet 78
 Southfleet Church 79
 Southwood House 339
 Speldhurst Church 119
 Spring Grove 131

469

Springfield 176
 Squerries 106
 St. Alban's Court 349
 St. Ann's Cross 253
 St. Blaze's Well 35
 St. Clement's Church, Sandwich 411
 St. Clere 138
 St. Dunstan's Church 359
 St. Dunstan's Place 359
 St. John's 72
 St. Julian's 97
 St. Lawrence Church 340
 St. Margaret's Church, Rochester 210
 St. Mary's Church, Sandwich 412
 St. Nicholas' Church, Rochester 209
 St. Peter's 333
 St. Peter's Church 335
 St. Peter's Church, Sandwich 411
 St. Radigund's Abbey 435
 St. Stephen's Church 356
 Staple Church 355
 Staplehurst Church 235
 Staplehurst Place 235

Statenborough 415
Stede Hill 160
Stockbury Church 168
Stoke Church 224
Stonar 344
Stone, near Faversham 263
Stone Castle 74
Stone Church 75
Stone Cottage 74
Stone Hall 308
Stone House 334
Stone Pitt 92
Stone Wall 114
Stowting Church 309
Stowting Hill House 309
Street End House 396
Streetend 291
Strode House 322
Stroud Church 214
Stutfall Castle 317
Summerfield House 177
Sundridge, Bromley 34
Sundridge 102
Sundridge Church 103
Surrenden Dering 283
Sutton Church, near Dover 433
Sutton at Hone Church 73
Sutton Place 72
Sutton Barne 276
Swadelands 157
Swanscombe Church 77
Swerdling Downs 396
Sydenham 25
Syndale 253

Tenterden Church 243
Teston Church 150
Teynham 268
Thornham 167
Thornham Church 167
Thorne, Minster 343
Throwley 261
Throwley Church 251
Tong 271
Torre Hill 268
Tovil House 175
Town Sutton 155
Tremworth Downs 297
Trendley Park 353
Trottescliffe Church 192
Tudeley Church 131
Tunbridge 120
Tunbridge, Lieut E. Peel 127
Tunbridge Castle 121
Tunbridge Church 127
Tunbridge Wells 122
Tunstall Church 275
Tunstall House 275

Turkey Mills, Boxley 183

Ulcombe Church 168

Ulcombe Place 168

Underhill 305

Union Crescent, Margate 331

Upchurch Church 278

Updown House 417

Upper Deal Church 429

Upper Halling Place 214

Upper Hardres Church 398

Upton House 414

Vale, Mascal 51

Vicarage, Bexley 50

Vicarage, Birling 193

Vicarage, Boughton under
Blean 246

Vicarage, Boxley 184

Vicarage, Chilham 301

Vicarage, Darent 74

Vicarage, Dodington 365

Vicarage, East Farleigh 180

Vicarage, East Malling 189

Vicarage, Farningham 83

Vicarage, Faversham 261

Vicarage, Frindsbury 214

Vicarage, Godmersham 299

Vicarage, Goudhurst 231

Vicarage, Hadlow 130

Vicarage, Hollingbourne 162

Vicarage, Horton Kirby 82

Vicarage, Kennington 289

Vicarage, Lamberhurst 132

Vicarage, Lenham 167

Vicarage, Monkton 325

Vicarage, Northfleet 228

Vicarage, Ospringe 253

Vicarage, Pembury 131

Vicarage, Rolvenden 241

Vicarage, St. Lawrence 339

Vicarage, Teston 150

Vicarage, Westerham 106

Vicarage, Willesborough 291

Vicarage, Woodnesborough 413

Village Place 31

Vinters 183

Waldershare Church 423

Waldershare Park 422

Walmer 431

Walmer Castle 427

Walmer Church 431

Walmer Cottage 431

Walter's Hall 325

Walton House 415

Warden Church 282

Warden Court 282

Warders 127
Warren House 137
Wateringbury 147
Wateringbury Church 148
Wateringbury Lodge 148
Wateringbury Place 147
Well Hall 29
West Cliffe 437
West Cliffe Lodge 339
West Combe 14
West Court, Chalk 221
West Farleigh Church 149
West Heath House 40
West Hill House 69

470

West Langdon Abbey 434
West Malling Church 190
West Malling House 190
West Peckham Church 141
West Wickham Church 67
Westbere 323
Westbere Church 323
Westenhanger 309
Westerham Church 107
White Hall 223
White Hill House 252
Whitemans 265
Whitfield Church 436
Whitstable 321
Whitstable Church 321
Wickham Court 66
Wickham Place 66
Wickambreaux Church 353
Wierton 152
Wilderness 92
Willesborough Church 291
Wilmington Church 71
Wilmington Common House 70
Wingham Church 347
Wingham House 346
Withersden 296
Wollet Hall 52
Wombwell Hall 227
Womenswold Church 350
Woodchurch Church 245
Woodlands, Greenwich 15
Woodlands, Chelsfield 62
Woodlands, Adisham 355
Woodnesborough Church 414
Woodnesborough Cottage 413
Woodnesborough Hill 413
Woodside House 74
Woodstock House 274
Woolwich 19
Woolwich Church 21
Wootton Court 405

Worth Church 414
Wrinsted Court 161
Wrotham 135
Wrotham Church 136
Wye 296
Wye Church 297

Yalding Church 146
Yotes Court 142

471

INDEX TO THE VIEWS.

Canterbury Cathedral to face
the title page.
Ashurst Lodge 118
Beachborough 305
Birchington Place 327
Blackhurst 124
Bourne Place 399
Bradbourne 94
Broome 402
Broughton House 91
Camer 224
Charlton 399
Charlton House 17
Chelsfield Rectory 61
Chepstead Place 89
Chilham Castle 300
Chilstone 156
Cobham Hall 215
Court Lodge, Lamberhurst 132
Crete Hall 228
Dane Court 420
Denne Hill 404
East Sutton Place 153
East Wickham House 43
Eden Park 32
Elbridge House 353
Elmer Lodge /* 32
Eyhorne House 162
Fairlawn 135
Fatherwell House 191
Finchcox 230
Fredville 349
Glovers 272
Godmersham Park 298
Goodnestone Park 348
Gore Court 274
Great Culverden 124
Grove Hill 324
Grove House, Dent de Lion 330
Hadlow Castle 129
Hamptons 140
Hawley House 71
Hayle Place 179
Hole Park 240

Hunton Court Lodge 144
 Ingress Abbey 76
 Kenfield 396
 Knole 98
 Lee Grove 22
 Lee Priory 354
 Leeds Castle 163
 Little Charleton 154
 Liverpool House 430
 Lynsted Lodge 266
 Mableden Park 125
 May Place 42
 Nursted Court 225
 Otterden Place 158
 Oxney Court 434
 Penshurst Castle 109
 Perry Hill House 24
 Petham 396
 Quex Park 327
 Redleaf 111
 Ringwould House 433
 Ripple Court 432
 River Hill 97
 Rose Hill 276
 St. Alban's Court 349
 St. John's 72
 St. Julian's 97
 Sheppey Court 280
 Shrewsbury House 44
 Somerhill 126
 Stede Hill 160
 Sutton Place 72
 Swadelands 157
 Syndale 253
 The Oakery 31
 Village Place 31
 Waldershare 422
 Wombwell Hall 227
 Wrinsted Court 161

/* This seat was destroyed by fire on the evening of Thursday, April 11, 1839.

472

ERRATA.

Page 45, line 16, for name read manor.

Page 67, line 21, for Cristy read Christy.

Page 67, line 26, for Maurinot read Maminot, in two instances.

Page 85, line 8, for of substitute to.

Page 233, line 22, omit Bart.

Page 338, line 22, for the sentence, "The east pier extends 2000 feet in a straight line; the west, including its angles, has a length of 1200 feet," read, "The east pier, including its angles, has a length of nearly 2000 feet; the west extends about 1500 feet in a straight line."

J. DENNETT, PRINTER, UNION BUILDINGS, LEATHER LANE.

A LIST
OF THE
NOBILITY, CLERGY, AND GENTRY OF KENT, &c.

Who have, on the Author's application, personally assisted his inquiries in such necessary particulars as could not otherwise have been so accurately obtained, and who have, without exception, patronized the work in no case to a less extent than the Volume for the County.

- Abbott, John, Esq, Ospringe Parsonage.
 Adams, Edw. Richards, Esq. F.S.A, Elmer Lodge,
 Beckenham.
 Airy, Geo. B. Esq. (Astronomer Royal) M.A. F.R.S.
 F.R.A.S. Royal Observatory Greenwich.
 Alexander, James, Esq. a Deputy Lieutenant for the
 County, Somerhili.
 Alexander, J. D. Esq. Stone House.
 Alkin, T. T. Esq. Magistrate, Deputy Lieut. and High
 Sheriff of the County, Court Lodge, Hunton.
 Allfree, T. R. Esq. Romanoff House, Tunbridge Wells.
 Angerstein John, Esq. Woodlands.
 Andrews, Benjamin, Esq. Stowting Hill House.
 Armstrong, William Wingfield, Esq. North End.
 Astley, Sir Edward W. C. Capt. R. N. and a Magistrate
 for the County, Hayselden.
 Atkins, John, Esq. Halstead Place.
 Austen, the Rev. John, M.A. and a Magistrate for the
 County, Chevening Rectory.
- Backhouse, (the late) Rev. John B., M.A. Rural Dean,
 and Magistrate for the County, Upper Deal.
 Bailey, Rev. W. North Grove House, Tunbridge Wells.
 Baillie, David, Esq. Hill Park, Westerham.
 Baily, Samuel, Gent. Knockhold Lodge.
 Baker, Admiral Sir Thomas, K. C. B. Shrubbery,
 Walmer.
 Baker, A. St. John, Esq. Mount Calverley Lodge.
 Baldock, William Henry, Esq. Magistrate and Deputy
 Lieutenant, Petham,
 Baldwin, the Rev. F. S.
 Baldwin, William, Esq. Stede Hill.
 Balston, William, Esq. Springfield.
 Banks, Delamark, Esq. a Magistrate for the County,
 Warden Court, Sheppey.
 Barham, the Rev. Charles Henry, Barming Rectory.
 Barling, John, Esq. Nouds.
 Barne, Mrs. Sarah, Manor House, Crayford.
 Barrett, T. C. Esq. Court Lodge, Shorne.
 Barrow, Rev. Francis, M.A. Magistrate for the County
 and Cinque Ports, Fort Crescent, Margate.
 Barrow, Thomas William, Esq. Oldbury Place.
 Barton, Rev. J., M.A. Eastchurch Rectory, Sheppey.
 Baylay, the Rev. Charles Frederick Rogers, M.A.
 Woodnesborough Vicarage.
 Bayley, J. Esq. Updown House, and Pall Mall.
 Bayley, the Rev. Kennett C. a Magistrate for the
 County, Acrise Rectory.

Beckingham, Mrs. Bourne Place, Bishopsbourne.
 Bell, Mrs. Jane, Street End House.
 Bentley, T. Esq. a Magistrate, Hermitage, Higham.
 Berens, Joseph, Esq. Magistrate, and Chairman of the
 Quarter Sessions for the Western Division of the
 County, Kivington.
 Berens, Henry, Esq. Barrister at Law, Sidcup.
 Beresford, Martin John, Esq. Quarry House.
 Beresford, the Right Hon. Viscount, Bedgbury Park.
 Best, J. Esq. Lieut. Col. West Kent Regular Militia, a
 Magistrate, and Deputy Lieutenant for the County,
 Park House, Boxley.
 Best, Thomas Fairfax, Esq. a Magistrate and Deputy
 Lieutenant for the County, Wierton.
 Bird, George Martin, Esq. Dartmouth Lodge.
 Birt, the Rev. John, D.D. Vicarage House, Faversham.
 Blackburn, Thomas, Esq. North Down Hall.
 Bland, William, Esq. Hartlip Place.
 Board, the Rev. R., B.A. Vicarage House, Wester-
 ham.
 Bourne, the Rev. R. Burr, M.A. Rectory, Paul's Cray.
 Boyd, Robert, Esq. Plaistow Lodge.
 Boyd, (the late,) Walter, Esq. Plaistow Lodge.
 Bradley, Francis Dine, Esq. (late High Sheriff,) Ma-
 gistrate and Deputy Lieutenant, Gore Court.
 Bradshaw, William, Esq. Phillipines, Brasted.
 Brandram, Thomas, Esq. Magistrate for the County,
 Lee Grove.

474

Harnett, Ambrose, Esq. Ripple House.
 Harris, Mrs. Goddington, Chelsfield.
 Harrison, Rev. W. B., M.A. Vicarage, Goudhurst.
 Harrisson, George, Esq. Swadelands, Lenham.
 Harvey, Henry Wise, Esq. Harnden, Eastry.
 Harvey, (the late) Admiral Sir John, K.C.B. the Oaks,
 Upper Deal.
 Harvey, Admiral Sir Thomas, K.C.B. Sholden Lodge.
 Harvey, Captain Edward, R.N. Government House,
 Royal Naval Hospital, Deal.
 Harvey, Henry Wise, Lieut. R.N. Middle Deal House.
 Harvey, Commander John, R. N. Woodlands.
 Hasted, the Rev. Edward, a Magistrate for the County,
 Vicarage, Hollingbourne.
 Hatfield, C. Esq. Hartsdown House, Isle of Thanet.
 Hatfield, James, Esq. Eastry House.
 Hawkins, Rev. Robert, M.A. Vicarage, Lamberhurst.
 Hawkins, William, Esq. Crofton Lodge, Orpington.
 Hayward, John, Esq. Hulswood, Wilmington.
 Heathcote, Sir Gilbert, Bart. Durdans, Surrey.
 Henderson, William, Esq. Felderland Farm.
 Herries, the Right Honourable John Charles, one of
 her Majesty's Privy Councillors, St. Julian's.
 Hill, Thomas Sharp, Esq. Greenhithe.
 Hills, Thomas, Esq. Thornham.
 Hilton, Giles, Esq. Lords, Sheldwich.
 Hoare, Henry, Esq. Banker in Fleet Street, Staple-

hurst Place.
Hoare, P. R. Esq. Banker in Fleet Street, Kelsey Park.
Hoare, William H. Esq. M.A. Ashurst Park.
Hodges, T. Law, Esq. Magistrate and Deputy Lieut.
and M.P. for the western division of the County,
Hemsted.
Hodges, Thos. Twisden, Esq. late M.P. for Rochester,
Sandgate.
Holbrooke, Frederick, Esq. F.S.A. Parkhurst, Bexley.
Hollingworth, (the late) John, Esq. Turkey Mills,
Maidstone.
Honywood, Sir John Edward, Bart. Evington, Elmsted.
Hooper, George, Esq. Cottington Court, near Deal.
Hooper, the Rev. John, A.M. Vicarage, Rolvenden.
Home, the Rev. William, M.A. a Magistrate for the
County, (not acting) Gore Court.
Howell, John, Esq. Wickham Place.
Hudson, Mrs. Guiton House.
Hughes, Edward, Esq. Smeeth Hill House.
Hughes, George, Esq. Smeeth Paddock.
Hughes, Henry, Esq. Bradbourn, Sevenoaks.
Hughes, Miss, New House, Mersham.
Hulks, Mrs. Penelope, Little Hermitage, Frindsbury.
Hyde, J, Esq. a Deputy Lieut. for the County, Syndale.

Isacke, Captain Hon. East India Company's service,
North Foreland Lodge.

Jackson, Wm. H. Esq. Brockley House, Lewisham,
Jacobson, James, Esq. Magistrate and Deputy Lieu-
tenant for the County, Snowfield.
James, Demetrius G. Esq. Magistrate and Deputy
Lieutenant for the County, Ightham Court.
James, Captain Charles, Littlebourne Rectory.
Jaquier, Lewis, Esq. Reed House, Strood.
Jarman, Edward, Esq. Brenley House, Boughton.
Jeffryes, Samuel, Esq. Well Hall, Eltham.
Jenner, Herbert, Esq. Kelsey Cottage, Beckenham.
Jessard, John, Esq. Walters Hall, Isle of Thanet.
Jewhurst, William, Gentleman, Warders, Tunbridge.
Johnston, Mrs. Anna, Danson, Bexley.
Johnston, Rev. W. D. Rectory House, Luddesdown.
Jones, Rev. M.W., B.D. Rural Dean, Vicarage House,
Ospringe.
Jones, Richard, Esq. Chapel House, Ospringe, Owner
of East Wickham House.
Jones, T. Esq. Fatherwell House, near West Malling.
Jones, (the late) Walter, Esq. Hayle Place, Maidstone.

Keats, Rev. Richard, M.A. Vicarage, Northfleet.
Keene, Wm. Chas. Lever, Esq. Barrister at Law, and
Magistrate for the Cinque Ports, Grove House,
Dent de Lion, Thanet.
Kelcey, Stephen, Esq. Stone Hall, Lyminge.
King, David, Esq. M.D. Rose Cottage, Eltham.
King, Honourable James William, Captain R.N.
Angly House.
Kirkpatrick, (the late) George, Esq. Hollydale, Keston.

Kirwen, Mrs. Eliza, The Hive, Northfleet.
Knight, Edward, Esq. Magistrate and Deputy Lieutenant, Godmersham Park.
Knight, Edward, Esq. a Magistrate and Deputy Lieutenant for Hants, Chawton House, Hants.
Knight, the Rev. William, M.A. Rectory House, Steventon, Hants.
Knatchbull, J. N. Esq. a Magistrate for the County, Provender.

Lade, John Pryce, Esq. Major in the East Kent Regiment, and a Magistrate for the County, Boughton House.

Lambert, James, Esq. Fowlers, Hawkhurst.
Law, F. Esq. Woodstock House, near Sittingbourne.
Lawford, Edward, Esq. Solicitor to the East India Company, Eden Park, Beckenham.
Lawson, Charles John, Esq. a Magistrate for the County, Vale Mascal.
Lee, Henry, Gentleman, Camps Hill, Lewisham.
Lee, (the late) Admiral Sir Richard, K.C.B. and Tower and Sword of Portugal, Walmer.
Leigh, Richard, Esq. Hawley House, Sutton at Hone.
Leith, George, Esq. Liverpool House, Walmer.

475

Lewin, Thomas, Esq. Magistrate and Deputy Lieutenant for Kent and Hants, the Hollies.
Lewis, Israel, H. Esq. Gallant's Court, East Farleigh.
Lockwood, the Rev. F. V., M.A. Prebendary of Lincoln, Mersham Rectory.
Lotherington, Thomas, Esq. Southborough Hall.
Lushington, E. H. Esq. Park House, Maidstone.
Lushington, the Right Hon. Stephen Rumbold, one of her Majesty's Privy Councillors, Norton Court.
Lushington, William John, Esq. a Magistrate for the County, Rodmersham Court Lodge.
Lushington, Rev. W. Hurdis, M.A. Rectory House, Eastling.

Malcolm, John, Esq. Lamb Abbey, Bexley.
Manley, Rev. John, M.A. Vicarage, Godmersham.
Marsdin, W. Esq. Mount Pleasant, Tunbridge Wells.
Marshall, John, Esq. Eden Lodge, Beckenham.
Marsham, Right Honourable Viscount, a Magistrate and Deputy Lieut for the County, Boxley House.
Marriott, Rev. William Marriott Smith, M.A. a Magistrate for the County, Rectory House, Horsmonden.
Martin, Thos. Esq. Hextle House, East Peckham.
May, George, Esq. Magistrate and Deputy Lieutenant for the County, Strode House.
May, Walter B. Esq. Hadlow Castle.
Mayow, Misses Mary and Fanny Wynell, Sydenham.
Meade, Lady M. Bloomfield Cottage, Tunbridge Wells.
Meriton, Walter Allen, Esq. Hurst House, Bexley.
Milner, Charles, Esq. Preston Hall, Aylesford.
Monckton, Edward, Esq. Hale Place, East Peckham.

Monckton, (the late) Stephen, Esq. Portobello, Brenchley.
Monins, the Rev. John, M.A. Ringwould House.
Monson, the Rt. Hon. Lord, D.C.L. Magistrate and
Deputy Lieutenant for Surrey, Gatton Park, Surrey.
Montrésor, (the late) General Sir Henry T., K.C.B.
G.C.H. and R.C. Denne Hill.
Montrésor, Gen. Sir Thomas, K.C.B. Ospringe House.
Monypenny, the Rev. James, a Magistrate for the
County, Vicarage, Hadlow.
Monypenny, R. J. Esq. B.A. Merrington Place.
Moody, Rev. Henry Riddell, M.A. Chartham Rectory.
Moore, Rev. George, M.A. a Magistrate for the County,
Rectory House, Wrotham.
Moore, James, Esq. Mottingham Hall, Eltham.
Morgan, George, Gent. Oakland House, Kingsdown.
Morland, W. A. Esq. Magistrate for Kent and Sussex,
and Dep. Lieut. for Kent, Lamberhurst Court Lodge.
Morice, John, Esq. F.S.A. West Wickham.
Mossop, Rev. Isaac, Rectory House, Smarden.
Mortimer, Rev. Hans S., M.A. Faversham.
Muggeridge, Mrs. Giffords, South Darent.
Mulcaster, Lieut. Gen. Sir Frederick William, K.C.H.
a Magistrate and Deputy Lieut. for the County,
&c. &c. Charlton, Bishopsbourne.
Mumford, Mrs. Anne E., St. John's, Sutton at Hone.
Munn, Wm. A. Esq. Rose Hill, near Sittingbourne.
Murton, William, Esq. Tunstall House.
Murton, Miss, Preston Street, Faversham.

Neame, Mrs. Austin, Homestall, Faversham.
Neame, John, Esq. Selling Court.
Neame, Miss, Luton House, Selling.
Neame, John Rigden, Esq. Rushett, Norton.
Nettleship, Samuel, Esq. North Cray Place.
Nevill, the Hon. and Rev. W. Birling Vicarage.
Newell, Rev. J. Edward, M.A. Blackbrook, Bromley.
Newington, Charles, Esq. Ticehurst, Sussex.
Noakes, Jarvis, Gent. Pipes Place, Shorne.
Noel, Hon. and Rev. Francis J. Vicarage, Teston.
Norman, George Ward, Esq. Bromley Common.
Norwood, Curteis Young, Esq. Hewetts, Willesborough.
Notley, Samuel, Gentleman, Stone Cottage.

Oakley, John, Esq. Larking Hall, Frindsbury.
Offley, William, Esq. Monson House, Tunbridge Wells.
Oliver, John, Esq. late of Boys Hall, Willesborough.
Oxenden, Rev. Charles, B.A. Rectory House, Bishops-
bourne.
Oxenden, Sir Henry C. Bart. Broome Park.
Oxenden, Rev. Montague, A.M. Eastwell Rectory.

Palliser, Richard Bury, Esq. Capt. H. P. and a Ma-
gistrate for Sussex, Sea Coxheath.
Palmer, John, Esq. Herne Common House.
Palmer, Thomas Carey, Esq. Shortlands, Beckenham.
Papillon, (the late) Thomas, Esq. Magistrate, and De-
puty Lieutenant for Kent, Acrise Place.
Paramor, John, Gent. Sheriffs Court, Isle of Thanet.

Parkin, Rev. Charles, M.A. Vicarage, Lenham.
 Parkin, Hugh, Esq. Ashurst Lodge.
 Parker, Rev. H. J. Rocky Hill, Maidstone.
 Pattenson, Cooke Tylden, Esq. Magistrate for Kent and
 Sussex, and Deputy Lieut. for Kent, Ibornden.
 Peale, Edward, Esq. Maidstone.
 Peel, Edmund, Esq. Lieut. H. P. Tunbridge.
 Penfold, Edward, Esq. Loose Court, near Maidstone.
 Pennington, Rev. Montague, M.A. a Magistrate for
 the County, Deal.
 Perkins, Charles, Esq. Southend Park, and Birtley
 Hall, Durham.
 Perkins, Frederick, Esq. Chepstead Place.
 Petley, Charles Robert Carter, Esq. a Magistrate for
 the County, Riverhead.
 Piggott, Zach. Esq. Hook Green House, Southfleet.
 Pincke, Mrs. Great Sharsted, Dodington.
 Plumptre, John Pemberton, Esq. a Magistrate, and
 Deputy Lieut. and M.P. for the Eastern Division
 of the County, Fredville.
 Polhill, George, Esq. Sundridge.

476

Poore, Rev. John, D.D. Rural Dean, and a Magistrate
 for the County, Rectory House, Murston.
 Pope, Horatio, Esq. Fant House, Maidstone.
 Pope, Rev. Robert, Great Buckland, Maidstone.
 Porter, Mrs. Fish Hall, Hadlow.
 Post, Rev. Beale, LL.B. Beddowes Place, Maidstone.
 Pott, A. Esq. Magistrate for the County, Bentham Hill.
 Potter, Mrs. Elizabeth, Sibertswould House.
 Powell, Baden, Esq. a Magistrate for the County,
 Langton, Speldhurst.
 Powell, John Powell, Esq. Quex Park, Isle of Thanet.
 Price, Edward, Esq. Down Lodge.

 Radcliffe, Rev. John, M.A. Vicarage House, Dodington.
 Rae, James, Esq. Walton House, Eastry.
 Ramsden, Rev. William, Ashurst Mount, Ashurst.
 Rashleigh, Rev. George, M.A. Vicarage, Horton Kirby.
 Rice, Edward, Esq. a Magistrate and Deputy Lieut.
 for the County, and M.P. for Dover, Dane Court.
 Rice, Henry, Esq. Fairy Hill, Mottingham.
 Rice, William, Gent. Kemnal House, Chislehurst.
 Rider, Ingram, Esq. Kirby Hall, Horton Kirby.
 Rider, T. Esq. Boughton Place, Boughton Monchelsea.
 Roberts, Thomas Walton, Esq. Glassenbury.
 Robertson, D. J. Esq. Bishopsdown Grove, Tunbridge
 Wells.
 Roffey, Richard, Esq. Oxney Court, near Dover.
 Rolfe, John, Esq. Henshill House, Hawkhurst.
 Roper, B. Esq. Manor House, Hollingbourne.
 Rosher, Jeremiah, Esq. Crete Hall, Northfleet.
 Round, Richard, Esq. Stone Pitt, Seal.
 Rowland, Alexander, Rosenthal, Lewisham.
 Russell, George, Esq. Wilmington Common House.
 Rycroft, Sir R. C. H. Bart. Everlands, Chevening.

Salmon, Henry, Esq. Oakfield, Hollingbourne.
 Salomons, David, Esq. a Magistrate for Kent and
 Sussex, Burrswood House, Speldhurst.
 Salway, Rev. Richard, B.A. Rectory House, Fawkham.
 Sayer, Rev. James Minet, Eythorne.
 Schreiber, John Charles, Esq. a Magistrate for the
 County, Henhurst, Woodchurch.
 Scratton, Daniel, Esq. Penenden, Maidstone.
 Scudamore, Edward, Esq. M.D. Richmond House,
 Tunbridge Wells.
 Sedger, The Rev. Thomas, B.A. Cowling.
 Sedgwick, Thomas Rich, Gent. Clock House, Linton.
 Shepherd, James, Esq. Cold Harbour House, Sutton
 at Hone.
 Shepherd, Rev. Edward John, M.A. a Magistrate for
 the County, Rectory House, Trottescliffe.
 Shepherd, (the late) James, Esq. Faversham.
 Sicklemore, Rev. George Wilson, Vicarage, St. Lau-
 rence, Isle of Thanet.
 Sim, John, Esq. Penhill, Bexley.
 Simpson, Rev. George, M.A. Glovers House, Sitting-
 bourne.
 Skerritt, J. M. A. Esq. Lieut. Col. Knockholt House.
 Sladen, John Baker, Esq. Ripple Court, Ripple.
 Smart, William, Esq. Blowers Place, Rainham.
 Smith, George, Esq. Brooklands, Blackheath Park.
 Smith, Mrs. Rectory House, East Malling.
 Smith, William Masters, Esq. Magistrate, and Deputy
 Lieutenant for the County of Kent, Camer.
 Snatt, John, Esq. Hollywood House, Frindsbury.
 Solly, George, Esq. St. Mary's, Sandwich.
 Spong, Ambrose, Gent. Manor House, Frindsbury.
 Springett, John, Gent. Ashfield Lodge, Hawkhurst.
 Springett, Richard, Esq. Finchcox, Goudhurst.
 Squire, Richard Day, Esq. The Hall, Blackheath
 Park.
 Stacey, Edwin, Esq. West Malling.
 Stansfeld, Josias, Esq. Magistrate for the County, Clay
 Farm, Eltham.
 Staples, John, Esq. Highlands, Sutton at Hone.
 Stapleton, Hon. and Rev. Sir Francis, J. Bart. Rectory
 House, Mereworth.
 Stephens, Rev. W. Wilkin, M.A. Southfield Park.
 Stephens, William, Gent. Nepeker House.
 Stone, G. Esq. Banker in London, Coopers, Chislehurst.
 Stone, John, Esq. Mount Ephraim, Speldhurst, Tun-
 bridge Wells.
 Streatfeild, Henry, Esq. Magistrate and Deputy Lieut.
 for the County, Chiddingstone Park.
 Streatfeild, Rev. Thomas, F.S.A. Charts Edge, Wes-
 terham.
 Stringer, George, Esq. Magistrate, and Deputy Lieut.
 for the County, Archer's Court.
 Strood, James, Esq. Lillesden, Hawkhurst.
 Sutcliffe, Rev. James, M.A. Parsonage, Knockholt.
 Swann, F. D. Esq. Capt. in the Army, Lee Priory.
 Swete, Rev. William, Sandhurst.

Swinford, John, Esq. Minster Abbey, Isle of Thanet.

Tarleton, Rev. J. Edward, D.C.L. Chelsfield Rectory.

Tassell, Robert, Esq. East Malling.

Taylor, G. L. Esq. Trafalgar Square, London.

Taylor, Thomas, Esq. Beren Grove, Rainham.

Taylor, William, Esq. Warren House, Ightham.

Taylor, W. S. Esq. Howard Lodge, Tunbridge Wells.

Thomas, Richard, Esq. Eyhorne House, Hollingbourne.

Thompson, John, Esq. Belmont Lodge, Isle of Thanet.

Thompson, Jonathan, Gent. Oak Lodge.

Thomson (the late) Sir John Deas, K.C.H. and F.R.L.S.
Farleigh Priory.

Thomson, Miss Sarah, Kenfield, Petham.

Thrall, Miss S. A. Ashgrove Cottage, Knockholt.

Toke, Rev. Nicolas M.A. a Magistrate for the County,
Godington Park.

Toker, Edward, Esq. the Oaks, Ospringe.

477

Toker, R. E. Esq. Kenfield, Petham.

Tomlin, R. Sackett, Esq. Dane Court, Isle of Thanet.

Toomer, S. Elgar, Esq. Preston Court, near Wingham.

Toone, Francis Hastings, Esq. Keston Lodge.

Tournay, Thomas, Esq. Brockhill, near Hythe.

Trecothick, James, Esq. a Magistrate for the County
and the Cinque Ports, Chandos Place, Broadstairs.

Turley, S. Esq. Mountains, Tunbridge.

Tylden, Sir John Maxwell, F.R.S. F.H.S. Milsted
Manor House.

Tylden, Mrs. Osborne, Torre Hill, Lenham.

Tylden, Rev. R. Osborne, M.A. Vicarage, Chilham.

Tyler, Charles Henry, Esq. Lieut. Colonel East Kent
Militia, Linsted Lodge.

Tweedy, George, Esq. Lieut. Colonel Bombay Army,
Bromley House.

Twining, Rev. G. Brewster, M.A. Vicarage, Newnham.

Twisden, Sir John, Bart. Bradbourn.

Vincent, Andrew Atkins, Esq. Capt. R. N. &c. &c.
Cottage on the Beach, Walmer.

Vine, S. Gent. Orchard Cottage, East Peckham.

Waite, Rev. Thomas, LL.D. Rectory, Chart Magna.

Walter, William, Esq. Gore, Upchurch.

Ward, John, Esq. Magistrate and Deputy Lieut. for
the County, Holwood, Keston.

Ward, Samuel Nevil, Esq. Baston, Hayes.

Warde, (the late) John, Esq. a Magistrate for the
County, Squerries, Westerham.

Waring, Thomas, Esq. Hewitts, Chelsfield.

Wayth, Major Charles, Bearsted House, Bearsted.

Webb, N. Esq. Lieut. Col. Hall Place, Harbledown.

Wells, John, Esq. Magistrate, and Deputy Lieut. for
the County, formerly M.P. for Maidstone, Bickley.

Wells, William, Esq. Redleaf, Penshurst.

Wells, John Joseph, Esq. Southborough Lodge.

West, James Eldridge, Esq. Magistrate, and Deputy
 Lieut. for the County, Tunbridge Castle.
 West, Mrs. Emma, Sibton, Lyminge.
 Weston, Mrs. Kench Hill, Tenterden.
 Whale, Major Sir J. North Down House, Isle of Thanet.
 Wheler, Mrs. Otterden Place.
 Whish, Rev. Richard Peter, M.A. Monkton Vicarage,
 Thanet.
 Whittaker, Charles Gustavus, Esq. Barming Place,
 near Maidstone.
 Whittaker, Mrs. Mariners, Westerham.
 Wilberforce, Rev. R. I. Vicarage, East Farleigh.
 Wildman, James B. Esq. a Magistrate, and Deputy
 Lieut. for the County, Chilham Castle.
 Wilgress, Rev. John Thomas, M.A. Chapel House,
 Riverhead.
 Williams, Mrs. Forest Hill, Lewisham.
 Willis, John, Esq. Woodnesborough Cottage, near
 Sandwich,
 Wilmott, Rev. R. Deedes, M.A. Vicarage, Kennington.
 Wilson, the Right Hon. Samuel, Lord Mayor of
 London, a Lieut. of the City, Magistrate of the
 City of Westminster, and of the Counties of Kent
 and Middlesex, Village Place, Beckenham.
 Wilson, Ford, Esq. Blackhurst, Tunbridge Wells.
 Wilson, Sir T. Maryon, Bart. Magistrate, and Deputy
 Lieut. for the County, Charlton House.
 Winston, Rev. Benjamin, LL.B. Vicarage, Farningham.
 Winter (the late) Samuel, Esq. Southwood House,
 St. Laurence.
 Wise, Bedingfield, Esq. Thornham.
 Wood, John, Esq. South Stonar House, Stonar, near
 Sandwich.
 Wood, Thomas, Esq. Chislett Court, Chislett.
 Woodbridge, James, Esq. Watringbury Lodge.
 Woodgate, Rev. Stephen, Pembury.
 Wodehouse, Rev. Thomas, M.A. a Canon Residentiary
 of Wells, Rectory House, Norton.
 Woodhouse, Colonel W. a Magistrate for the County,
 Edells, Cowden.
 Wootton, Mrs. Mary, Thorne, Minster, Isle of Thanet.
 Wreford, John, Esq. Broughton House, Otford.
 Wright, Rev. Richard, Knowlton Court.
 Wrigte, Rev. Thomas William, M.A. F.S.A. Vicarage
 House, Boughton.

 Yates, Miss, Fairlawn Park, near Tunbridge.
 Yates, Mrs. Penshurst.

478

LIST OF RESIDENTS AND PROPRIETORS NOTICED IN THE WORK,
 WHOSE NAMES DO NOT APPEAR IN THE PRECEDING LIST.

Amherst, the Right Hon. Earl, Montreal, Sevenoaks.
 Athlone, the Countess of, Hepeburn, Harbledown.
 Austen, Henry, Esq. Belle Vue, Sevenoaks.
 Austen, Thos. Esq. Kippington, Sevenoaks.

Aylesford, the Rt. Hon. the Earl of, the Friars, Aylesford.
 Baily, Thomas Farmer, Esq. Hall Place, Leigh.
 Barham, the Right Hon. Lord, Barham Court, Teston.
 Baring, Sir Thomas, Bart. Manor House, Lee.
 Belcher, Alexander B. Esq. Spring Grove, Pembury.
 Bexley, the Right Hon. Lord, Foot's Cray Place.
 Bishop of Rochester, the Lord, Bromley Palace.
 Brandram, F. H. Esq. Bettings, Cowden.
 Brockelbank, Thomas, Esq. West Combe, Greenwich.
 Brydges, Sir John Head, Wootton Court.
 Buckingham, the Countess of, East Combe, Greenwich.
 Camden, the Most Noble Marquis, Wilderness, Seal.
 Castendeick, John, Esq. Lewisham.
 Cator, John, Esq. Beckenham Place.
 Colebrook, (the late) Sir J. F. Bart. Great Lodge, Tun-
 bridge.
 Conyngham, the Marchioness, Bifrons.
 Cook, — Esq. Roydon Hall.
 Cotton, Capt. R. N. the Convent, St. Peter's.
 Currey, Benjamin, Esq. Eltham Park.
 Darnley, the Right Hon. the Countess of, Cobham Hall.
 De Lisle and Dudley, the Right Hon. Lord, Penshurst
 Castle.
 Deedes, William, Esq. Sandling.
 Denne, Mrs. Mary, Ferry Hill, Chislelett.
 Dering, G. C. R. Esq. Barham Court, Barham.
 Douglas, Mrs. Brasted Place.
 Dyke, Capt. East Hall, Orpington.
 Dyke, Sir Percival Hart, Bart. Lullingstone Castle.
 Evelyn, — Esq. St. Clere, Ightham.
 Faussett, the Rev. Dr. Heppington House, Nackington.
 Fector, Mrs. Kersney Court.
 Fleet, William, Esq. Darent.
 Fletcher, E. Esq. Pierremont House, St. Peter's.
 Gibbs, Lady, Hayes Common.
 Gipps, the Rev. George, Owlets, Beakesbourne.
 Godfrey, J. Esq. Brook Street, Ash.
 Golding, John, Esq. Ditton Place.
 Goodheart, E. Esq. Langley Park, Beckenham.
 Gosling, Richard, Esq. Wollet Hall, North Cray.
 Gregory, the Rev. Edward, Bridge Hill House.
 Guildford, the Right Hon. Earl, Waldershare.
 Halford, Richard, Esq. Paddock, Canterbury.
 Harris, the Right Hon. Lord, Belmont, Throwley.
 Hardinge, the Rev. Sir Charles, Bart. Great Bounds,
 Bidborough.
 Harvey, the Rev. T. Rectory, Cowden.
 Hawley, Sir Joseph, Bart. Leybourne Grange.
 Hepburn, J. Esq. Tovil House.
 Holford, R. Esq. Kingsgate Castle.
 Holland, Launcelot, Esq. Langley Farm, Beckenham.
 Honeywood, Edward, Esq. Sibton, Lyminge.
 Hulse, Lady, West Heath House, Erith.
 Jackson, — Esq. Court Lodge, West Farleigh.
 Jenner, Sir Herbert, Goodlands, Chislehurst.
 Kibble, Mrs. Green Trees, Hadlow.
 King, Venerable Archdeacon, Woodside House, Stone.
 Knatchbull, the Right Hon. Sir E. Bart. M. P. Mer-

sham Hatch.
 Lambarde, Wm. Esq. Beechmont, Sevenoaks.
 Le Despencer, the Baroness, Mereworth Castle.
 Lloyd, — Esq. South Park, Penshurst.
 Long, Colonel, Bromley Hill House.
 Lucas, Matthias Prime, Esq. Watlingtonbury Place.
 Marsham, Capt. H. Hayle Cottage, Loose.
 Martin, Mrs. Camden Place, Chislehurst.
 Mildmay, H. St. John, Esq. Otford Court, Shoreham.
 Minet, — Esq. Baldwins, Dartford.
 Montefiore, Sir Moses, East Cliff Lodge, St. Peter's.
 Monypenny, the Rev. Philip, Hadlow House.
 Moore, the Rev. R. Rectory, Hunton.
 Morrice, Frederick, E. Esq. Betsanger House.
 Papillon, Thomas, Esq. May Deacon, Barham.
 Percival, the Misses, Crofton Hall, Orpington.
 Plymouth, the Right Hon. the Countess of, Knole.
 Sawbridge, Colonel J. E. Olantigh.
 Saye and Sele, the Right Hon. Lord, Belvidere, Erith.
 Sayer, George E. Esq. Pett House, Charing.
 Scott, Sir Samuel, Sundridge, Bromley.
 Selby, Mrs. the Moat, Ightham.
 Sondes, the Right Hon. Lord, Lees Court, Sheldwich.
 Sophia Matilda of Gloucester, Her R. H. the Princess,
 Ranger's Lodge.
 Stainton, Henry, Esq. Lewisham.
 Stanhope, the Right Hon. Earl, Chevening Park.
 Stratford, the Hon. J. W. Addington Place.
 Sydney, the Rt. Hon. Viscount, Frognall, Chislehurst.
 Tasker, Mrs. Wilmington.
 Thackeray, John, Esq. Priory, Lewisham.
 Thanet, the Right Hon. Earl, Hothfield Place.
 Torrington, the Right Hon. Viscount, Yotes Court,
 Mereworth.
 Trail, Miss, Hayes Place, Hayes.
 Tyssen, Mrs. Foley House.
 Vanaghen, — Esq. Brampton Place, Bexley.
 Warre, G. A. Esq. West Cliff Lodge, St. Lawrence.
 Whatman, J. Esq. Vinters, Boxley.
 Wheatley, — Esq. Lesnes, Erith.
 Whitton, Mrs. Stone Wall, Chidingstone.
 Wigan, J. A. Esq. Clare House, East Malling.
 Winchelsea, the Right Hon. Earl, Eastwell Park.
 Wynford, Rt. Hon. Lord, Pheasant Grove, Chislehurst.