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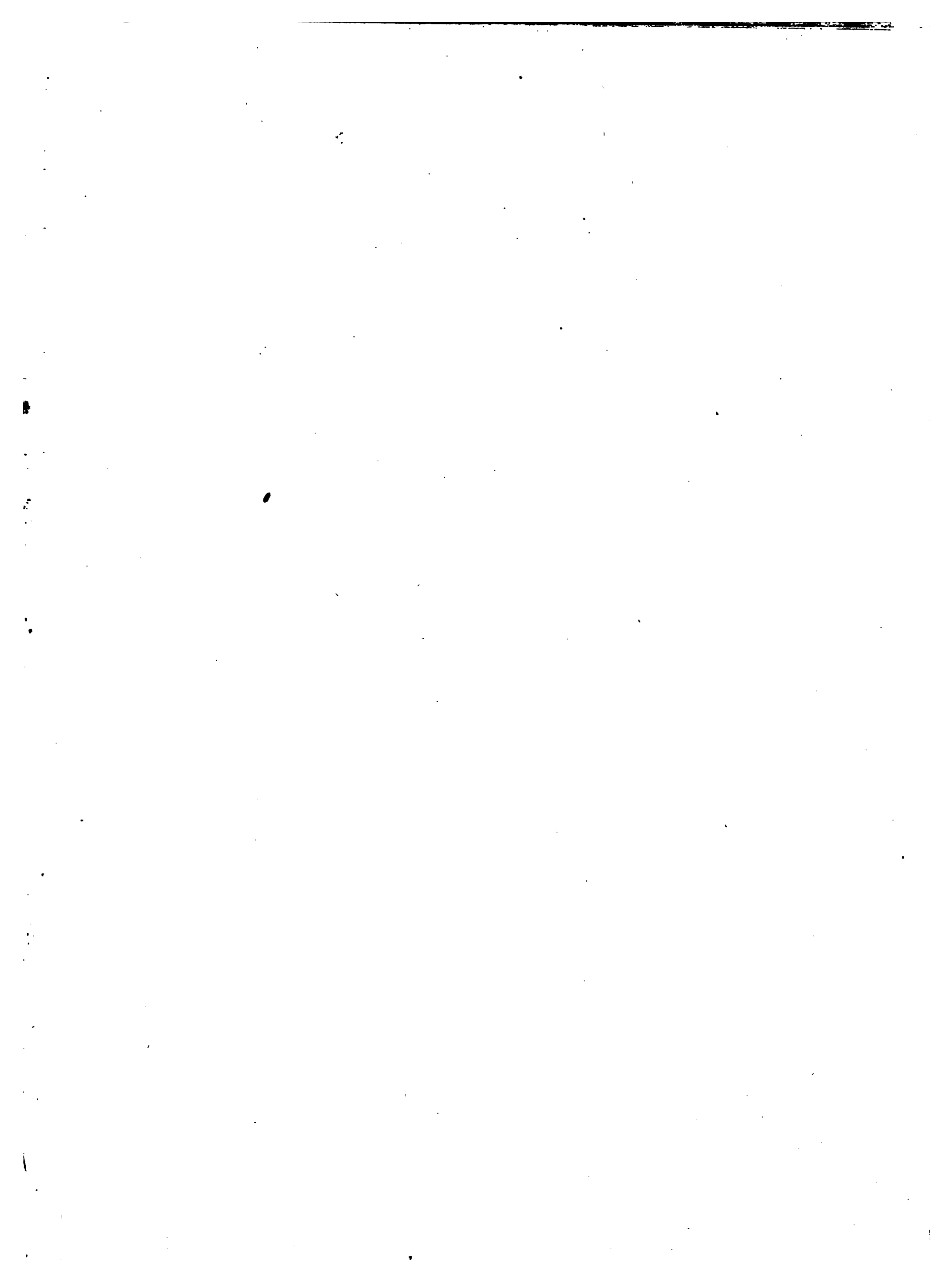


FROM THE
BRIGHT LEGACY

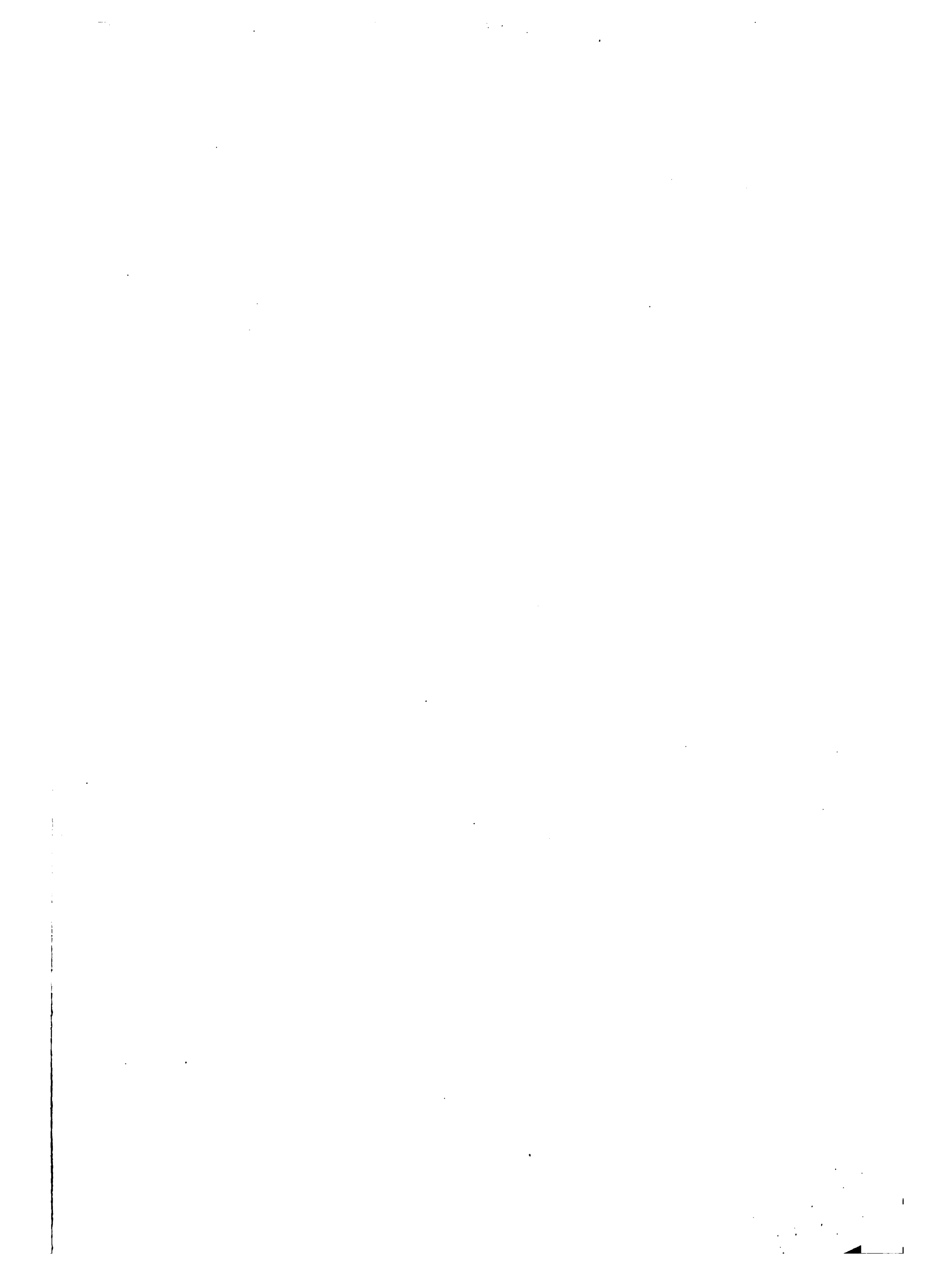
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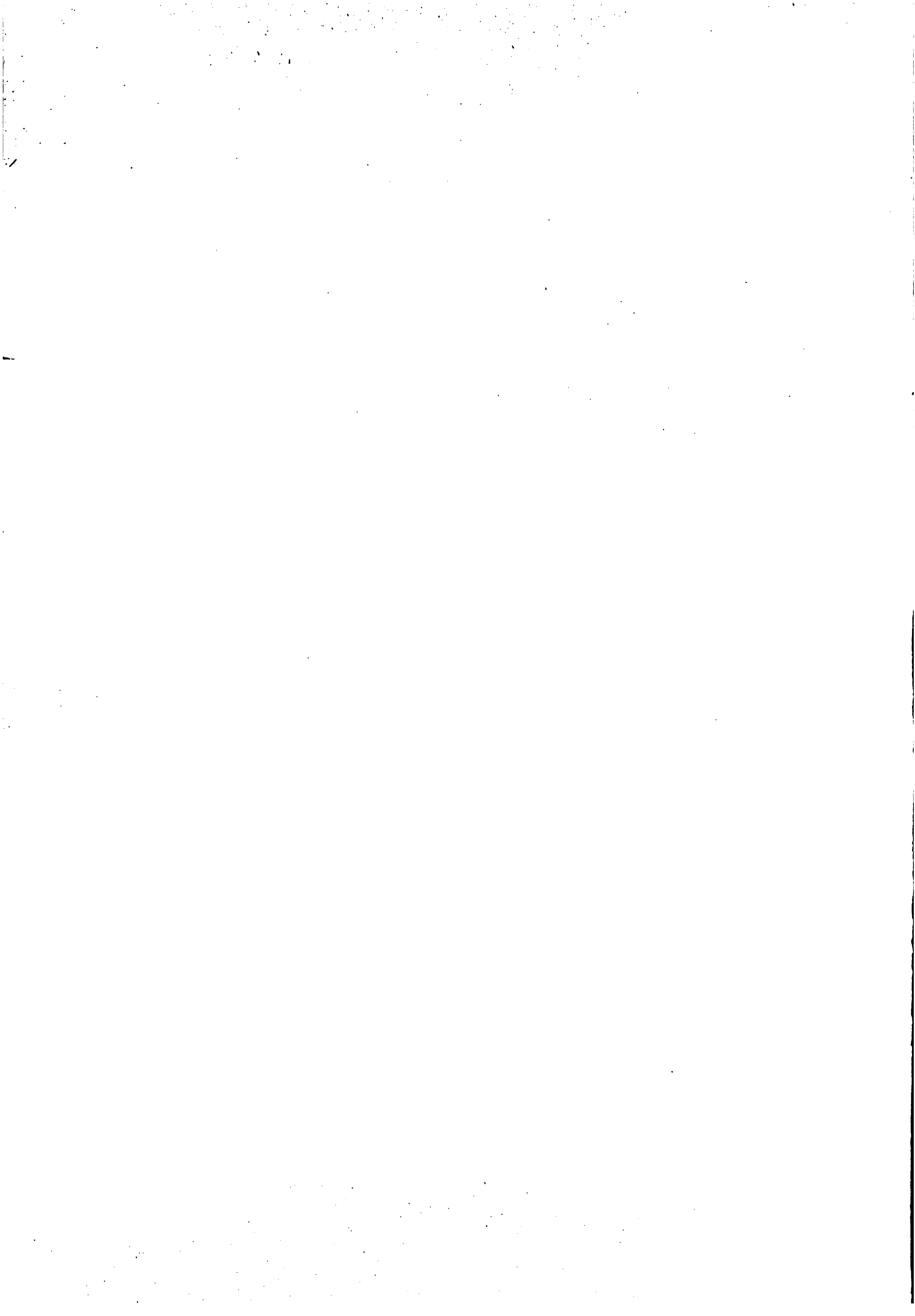
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Dedicated, by Express Permission, to H. R. H. the Prince of Wales.

"Remember the days of old; consider the years of many generations."—*Deuteronomy xxxii. 7.*

"As nations grew polished, history became better authenticated."—*Horace Walpole.*

THE
HISTORY OF NORFOLK:

FROM
ORIGINAL RECORDS AND OTHER AUTHORITIES PRESERVED IN
PUBLIC AND PRIVATE COLLECTIONS.



By R. H. MASON, F.R.HIST.SOC.,

AUTHOR OF "NORFOLK PHOTOGRAPHICALLY ILLUSTRATED," &c., &c.

PART V.—ACLE to BARFORD.

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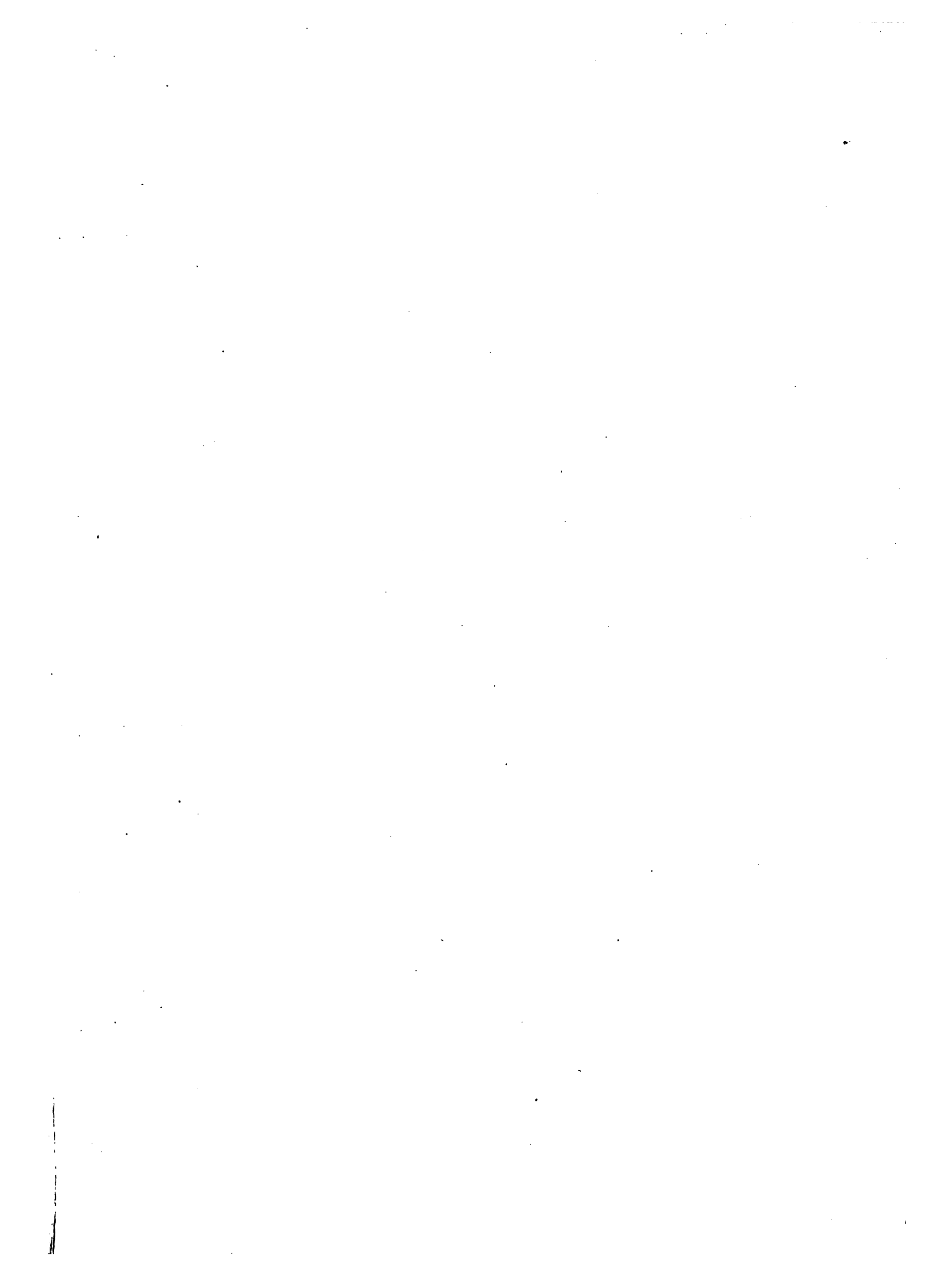
No more published. See letter of W. H. Hunt, Nov. 15, 1929 in Oids

NOTE.—In the Parishes, the History of which is recorded in the present Part, a variety of matter has been introduced, which, though relating to the several places under which it falls, has an almost equal interest for most of the rural districts of the County, as illustrative of the condition of local affairs at different periods; and in most cases, therefore, the several details have been given with greater fulness than it would be desirable to continue throughout the Work. Among these may be instanced the details given of Roger North's Estate, at Ashwicken (p. 65); and in the case of the Monastic Institutions, the final half-year's account of the Income and Expenditure given of Bromholme Priory (pp. 134 to 138). Similar remarks apply to most of the Notes.

It has not been deemed desirable to give, except in occasional instance, the arms borne by the families who were Lords of Manors or chief residents in the several parishes—a course that would involve needless and objectionable repetitions;—but when the Work is completed, a more convenient arrangement, and one no doubt more generally acceptable, will be to have a List of the principal Norfolk Families to whom Arms have been granted, with authentic particulars of the several grants.

Particular attention is directed to the arrangement of Parochial Statistics, by which a great variety of information is gathered under many headings, showing at a glance those relating to all the Parishes in the County in their alphabetical order (see pp. 10, 11; 110 to 113, etc.).

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NORWICH CASTLE.

After a Drawing in the early part of the 18th Century.

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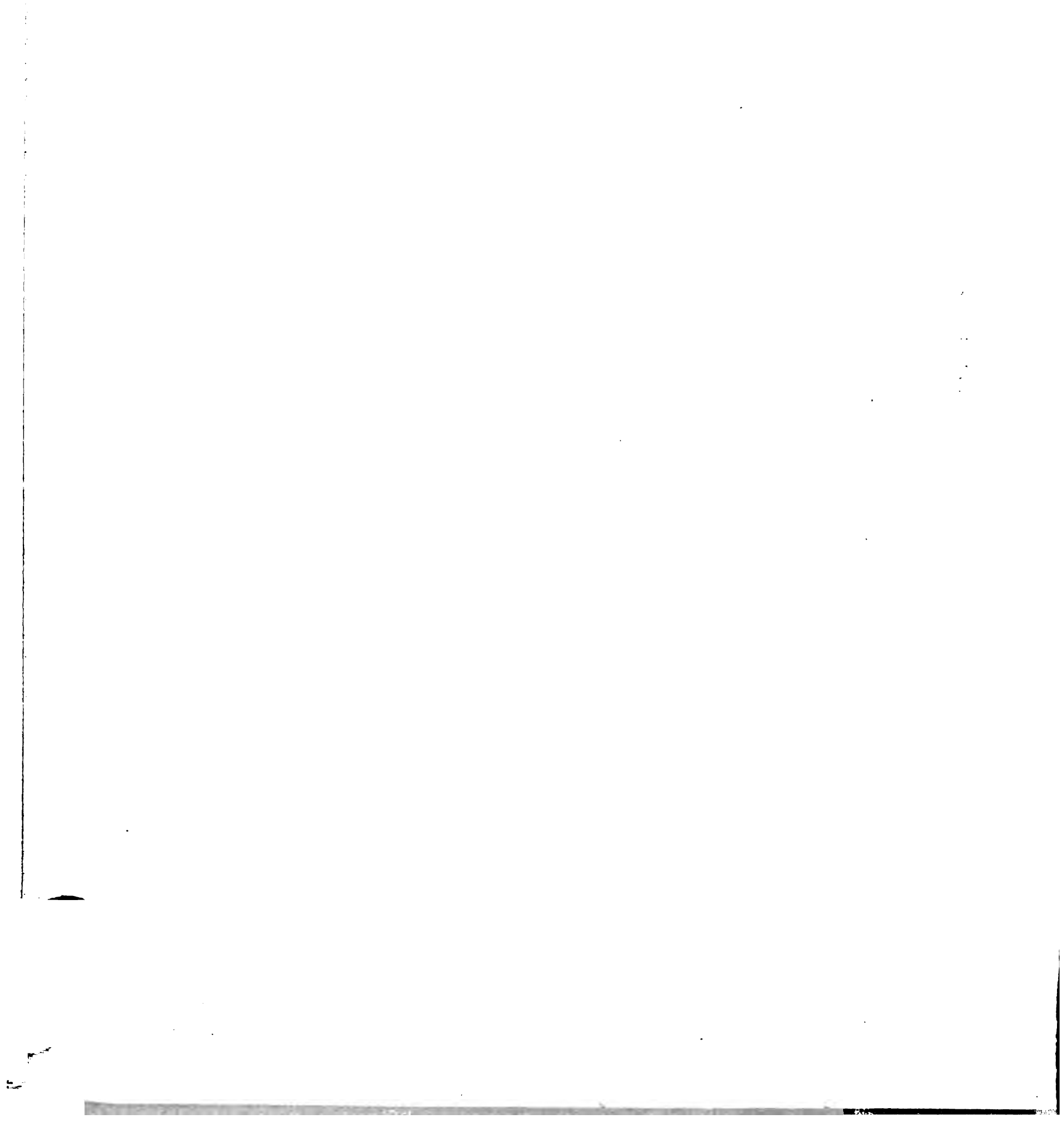
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HISTORY OF NORFOLK.

PARISHES AND TOWNSHIPS.

HAVING in my first volume related the History of the County itself, I proceed now to treat of matters under the headings of the several Parishes and Townships within the county. It has hitherto been the invariable custom in county histories to arrange the parishes under the Hundreds in which they are situated; but as Hundreds, for all practical purposes, are now entirely obsolete,¹ and not likely again to have the same importance in the administration of local affairs, it seems to me that the general convenience of those who wish to refer to these pages will be best consulted by alphabetical arrangement. A village is better known in these days as in a certain Poor Law Union than as being within a particular Hundred, except to those who have made a study of its relation to the Hundred in past generations. And the Hundred itself has a history as well as the Parish; yet local historians have done very little hitherto to show forth such history. Before completing my work, I hope to do for the three-and-thirty Hundreds of Norfolk that which I have already done for the County, and which I am now about to attempt for the Parishes and Townships; but that must be reserved till the end.

Parish Registers—which have not been employed for preserving local records to anything like the extent they might have been—were unknown in England before the Reformation, and, in fact, came into authorised use, by a royal injunction, in 1538, of which year about fifty of the Norfolk Registers are still preserved.² It was ordered, in that year, that “the Curate of every parish church shall keep one book or register, which book he shall every Sunday take forth, and in the presence of the Churchwardens, or one of them, write and record in the same all the Weddings, Christenings, and Burials made the whole week before; and for every time that the same shall be omitted, he shall forfeit to the said church 3s. 4d, one-half to the poor’s box, the other half to the repairs of the church.” In the 6th and 7th William and Mary an Act was passed granting to his Majesty “certain rates and duties upon Marriages, Births, and Burials, and upon Batchelors and Widowers for the terme of Five Yeares, for carrying on the Warr against France with vigour.” The amount charged was, for every person buried, 4s., with extra amounts according to rank, a simple gentleman £1, going up to £50 for a duke. Every birth (except the children of paupers) was taxed 2s., and every person married, 2s. 6d., with extra for the several gradations of rank. The Act contained a proviso that any clergyman omitting to keep an exact and true account should forfeit £100 at the suit of any informer. So that it may be presumed that during those five years Parish Registers will be found kept with much accuracy.

¹ As this page goes to press, I find I am confirmed in this opinion by the Parliamentary Boundary Commissioners’ Report, just issued. They say the Hundred “is now almost obsolete, often has detached parts, and its boundaries in some instances are no longer ascertainable.”

² It was in the year 1497 that parochial registers, embracing the whole population, gentle and simple, were first commenced in Europe; and they owe their introduction to the wisdom of Cardinal Ximenes, Archbishop of Toledo—then, with the exception of the Pope, the greatest ecclesiastical dignitary in Christendom—at a time when divorces in Spain were frequent on the score of some spiritual affinity. When two persons wished to dissolve the bond of marriage, they had only to allege that they had previously contracted some degree of spiritual relationship which rendered the marriage canonically invalid. The earliest Norfolk Registers are Bassingham, 1536; Thwaite, 1537; and Potter Higham, 1537.

It also had the effect of preventing omissions such as that practised by the parson of Tunstall in Kent, who being amazed at having in one year to christen three Pottmans by the name of Mary, in 1567 wrote in his register: "From henceforw^d I omitt the Pottmans."

Many interesting memoranda occur in some of the Registers, which, though in themselves seemingly trifling, taken in connection with other facts, or as illustrating the circumstances of the time, we shall frequently find opportunity to quote. Here is one from Framingham Earl;—

"1588, the 19th of Nov. was a day of thanksgiving to God for the great and wonderful overthrow of the Spanish navy, which came to fight the Pope's battle against this island for their gospel; at which overthrow the very enemies were so astonished that some of them said Christ was become a Lutheran, and all that saw it did say that it was the Lord's work; so this day was appointed by our Church to be spent throughout the realm in preaching, praying, singing of psalms and giving thanks, for a thankful memorial of the Lord's merciful mercies yearly."

This allusion to the Spanish Armada induces me to insert here a most interesting list of the gentry of Norfolk, who responded to Queen Elizabeth's appeal for contributions to fit out the fleet which was destined to defeat the intended invaders. The Queen fitted out a fleet with so much expedition, that though her preparations were begun but about the 1st November, 1587, yet her ships were ready to put to sea on the 28th December following, under the command of Lord Charles Howard, of Effingham, High Admiral. Though the names here given were the chief subscribers to the fund, many others manifested their zeal by small contributions.

Ambrose Fiske £25	Thomas Claborne... .. £25	Roger Drewrie £25	John Sheringe £25
Thos. Butt, armiger ... 25	Katherine Grave, vidua 100	Christofer Barrett ... 25	Robert Yarham 25
Vincent Carr 25	Thomas Gryne 25	Henrie Davie 25	Lawrence Watts 25
William Gaffington ... 25	Thomas Dey... .. 25	John Sucklinge 25	Randall Smithe 25
Edmond Framingham ... 25	Robert Futter 25	Clement Hirne 25	Charles Waldgrave ... 50
John King 25	Henrie Kendall 25	Thomas Pettus 25	Stephen Upcrofte... .. 25
Andrew Theiford 25	William Cappes 25	George Bowgen 25	Thomas Lovell 50
Sir William Paston, miles 50	Thomas Wright 25	Richard Hatton 25	Nicholas Hore 50
Edward Paston 50	Thomas Whipple 25	Richard Gresham... .. 25	Roger Buller... .. 25
Marie Paston 25	William Cobbes 25	Robert Basepole 25	William Hudson 25
Thos. Grosse 25	Eustace Rolfe 25	Thomas Bedingfeild ... 50	Richard Mason 25
John Hubberd 25	Richard Fisher 40	Richard Barney 25	Robert Guybson 25
William Rugg 50	William Blomefield ... 25	William Denny 25	Thomas Lynford 25
Hammound Claxon ... 25	Henrie Hawe 25	John Castle 25	Robert Beales 25
Robert Kempe 25	Gregorie Pratt 25	John Wiett 25	William Roberte 100
Robert Reade 25	Thomas Baddescroft ... 25	Robert Rogers 25	Thomas Thursby 50
Richard Baker 50	Symon Cannon 25	Alice Barney 25	Thomas Knevitt 25
Humfrey Guybon... .. 25	Thomas Gleane 25	Thomas Hicks 25	Thomas Husbonde ... 25
John Palgrave 40	Thomas Sayer 25	Anthonie Drurie 25	William Gaybon 25
Martyn Barney 25	Christopher Sayer... .. 25	Richard Lovedaie ... 25	John Sylver 25
James Athill 25	William Johnson 25	Robert Ringwood... .. 25	Jeffery Might 25
John Wright 25	Symon Bowde, Maior of the Citie of Norwich... 25	Thomas Might 25	Austen Whalley 25
Thomas Barrow 50	Richard Whale 25	Richard Farror 25	Christofer Horne 25
Henrie Russell 25	Christofer Lome 25	Humfrey Rant 25	John Steward 50
Robert Tylney 25	Thomas Pie 25	Thomas Stokes 25	Richard Stone 25
William Armiger 25	Thomas Peck 25	John Elwyn 25	John Kempesche 25
Charles Cornwallis ... 50	Anthonie Warner 25	Peter Peterson 25	Robert Anstie 25
Henrie Toll 25	Frauncis Rugg 25	Thomas Secker 25	William Gybson 25
Robert Pgrave 25	Richard Beckham ... 25	Watur Pike 25	William Parke 25
Richard Allen 25	William Porrie 25	Alexander Thurston ... 25	John Willoughby 25
Richard Kett 25	Richard Jenkinson ... 25	Gregorie Houlton... .. 25	Roberte Browne 25
Robert Downes, of Bodney 25	Robert Hargitt 25	Robert Sucklinge 25	Brian Harper 25
William Fenn 50	James Hubbard 25	Edward Johnson 25	Thomas Sponer 25
Ellen Stallen... .. 25	Thomas Hearing 25	Robert Prentice 25	Phillip Audeley 25
William Hart 50	Bennet Cubitt 25	John Aldhin 25	Richard Basepole 25
Roberte Bedingfield ... 50	John Bartilmew 25	Henrie Jerningham ... 50	Cuthbert Brereton ... 25
Anthonie Marker 25	John Grosse 25	Nicholas Daunock ... 25	Frauncis Moundeforde... 25
Sir Robert Wood, miles 50		Richard Hovell 25	

But to return to the memorandums to be found in our Parish Registers. Particular years exhibit a remarkable increase in the number of burials, owing to the plague, small-pox, etc., and in such years there was generally a falling-off in the number of marriages and baptisms. At Yarmouth, in 1664, 1665 and 1666 the plague was exceedingly severe from the 17th November in the first year till October in the last named. Two weeks are noticeable as having no entry: the blank is supposed to have been caused by the sudden death of those who registered. In one week, out of 138 deaths, 116 were attributed to the plague. In most registers there are entries of sums collected for persons, and even for towns which had suffered by fires in various parts of England, and for other benevolent purposes. Whilst Norfolk parishes had collections for disasters to places in other counties, so in the several parts of England collections were made in aid of calamities which occurred in Norfolk. For fires at Thetford in 1670 (damage £2,600), at Gunton, in 1694 (damage £900), at Watton, in 1676 (damage £7,450), at East Dereham, in 1682 (damage £19,443), at Cawston, in 1685 (damage £2,395), and many others, "briefs" were granted which secured contributions from various dioceses. So also the Town accounts and the Churchwarden's books relate to payments for like purposes; as, for example, the following from the Forncett accounts:—

1689.	Oct 9 th .—Given to 2 woemen y ^t fled out in Ireland with 6 children	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	0
	Oct. 28 th .—Given to 3 seamen that had lost their vessell, there was 9 in the company	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	6
	Oct. 30 th .—Given to 4 woemen whose husbands were taken by the French, and had lost their vessell	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	9
	Nov. 18 th .—Given to a man y ^t came out in East Riding in Yorkshire that had lost £1,500 by fire	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	0
1690.	May 19 th .—Given then to 2 gentlemen y ^t had the broad seale that came out in Ireland and were bound for Scotland, that had Sir Peter Gleane's hand and seal to their certificate	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	1	0
	Sept. 25 th .—Given then to 2 men y ^t had a great loss by fire, y ^t came from Brundlestone in Suffolk	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	6
	Nov. 3 rd .—Given to 2 men y ^t had a great loss by fire, y ^t Mr. Locke sent	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	6
1691.	Feb. 18 th .—Given to a man y ^t came out in the West of England, y ^t had his house burnt when y ^e French landed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	6
	June 15 th .—Given to one Chapman with his wife and 7 children, y ^t had lost above £500 by the French: they were bound for Yarmouth	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	1	0
	July 6 th .—Given to 2 woemen y ^t had 6 children with them, that came from Tenmouth where the French landed, ¹ that had lost above £300	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	0
	August 15 th .—Given then to one Mr. Barnes and another gentleman y ^t had lost all they had by a sea breach in Uphill in Somerset; they had 11 persons in their company	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	1	0
	August 24 th .—Given then to one John Lord y ^t came from Coventry, whose wife lay sick at Denham	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	6
	November 10 th .—Given then to a woman y ^t came out in Ireland with 4 children	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	6
	Nov. 12 th .—Given to one Alexander y ^t had a great loss by fire	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	6
	Nov. 24 th .—Given then to one Peter Barton, y ^t came from Flopton in Cambridgeshire, yt had lost £500 by lightning the 27 th of August	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	0
	Dec. 7 th .—Given then to a man y ^t had lost his arm by fire, y ^t came out in Kent	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	6
	Dec. 19 th .—Given to Rich ^d . Sherwood y ^t came out in Essex, y ^t had lost £400 by thunder and lightning, y ^t had his hand burnt off	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	9
	The same day given to 2 seamen	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	2
1692.	January 1 st .—Given then to a seaman with his wife and 3 children, y ^t came from the Isle of Thanett y ^t had lost about £500 by shipwreck coming home from the West Indies	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	9
	Jan. 14 th .—Given then to one Mr. Shore y ^t had been a prisoner in France 5 or 6 months, who was taken by the French with 3 other vessels, his loss £900...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	1	0
	Jan. 18 th .—Given then to one Archer's wife with 5 children y ^t came from New England and was taken by a French privateer, who had lost 400 and odd pounds: the passengers retaken again by a Dutch man of war	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	9
	March 8 th .—Given then to Thos. Smith and Rich ^d . Denny, who came out in the county of Devonshire, y ^t had a great losse by fire	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	6

Many parishes paid several pounds a year for "catching sparrows" and jackdaws, and for "killing hedgehogs," and these payments come down to very recent times. At a Vestry Meeting of the inhabitants of Wereham, April 22nd, 1846, it was resolved, "That the churchwardens do continue to purchase sparrows: old ones at 6d. per dozen, young ones at 3d.,

¹ Teignmouth was burned by the French troops who landed on the coast of Devon in July, 1690.

and eggs at 2d. per dozen." At Forncett, in 1820, the parish accounts show upwards of £6 paid for catching sparrows, besides "near one coomb of oats" given by the rector to one John Moor for "shraping of sparrows." Occasionally there are cases mentioned in the registers of a license granted to eat flesh during Lent;¹ and in some instances the records of penances² for ante-nuptial fornication. In 1653 Parliament ordered that Registrars were to be chosen by every parish, who were to be sworn by a Justice of the Peace; and in the Alburgh Register for that year we find the following entry:—

"According to the late Act of Parliament, we, inhabitants of Alburgh in Norff., whose names are hereunder written, have chosen John Corbyn to be the p'ish Regester for mariages, births, and burials. (Five signatures).

"Upon the 19th daie of October, 1653, I, Tobias Ffrere, Esquier, one of the Justices of the Peace, of the County of Norff., have approved of the above named John Corbyn to be Register of the parish aforesaid, according to the eleccon made as abovsaid, and sworne him for the faithfull execucion of the same office. "T. FFRERE."

Agreements to marry were entered, and in some respects the records assumed a different form.³ Children baptised at one date are entered as received into the Church on another day, etc. Burials in woollen are not unfrequently mentioned,⁴ and even cases of parishioners touched for the King's evil. Sometimes entries were made of parishioners buried elsewhere, and occasionally assumed a biographical character, as in the following from the Register of Blickling:—

1615. Robert Cleere, Esquire, who, if he had survived his mother, Dame Agnes, should have been Lord of Blickling, died at his lodging in Fleet Street, in London, on June 27th. A gentleman, in that riotous age, of admirable temperance and holiness of life; one given to no kind of sports or play, mostly keeping his chamber, in reading, fasting and prayer, very studious from his childhood, and of a tender conscience. He died without issue, having never married, in the 34th year of his age, leaving his brother, Sir Edward Cleere, Knt., for his heir. He was buried in the chancel, near unto the communion table, of the parish church of St. Bridget, commonly called St. Bride's, in Fleet Street, in London, on 28th June, 1615.

¹ This is the form of such a license:—"Whereas it appeareth unto me that John Hobart, of the parish of St. Giles, in the City of Norwich, Esquire, and Barbara Hobart, daughter of the said John, are each of them sick, so that they and each of them are enforced to eate flesh for the recovery of their health, I do therefore hereby, according to the power given unto me by the statute in that case, give unto the said John Hobart and Barbara his said daughter, and to each of them, 'Licence to eate fflesh' upon days and times prohibited by law during the continuance of each of their sickness respectively, and no longer. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand this tenth day of March, in the year of our Lord One thousand six hundred, sixty and two.—HEN. DRURY, Rector, St. Agidy, Norwic."—Archbishop Abbott, on 16th February, 1619, not only granted a dispensation to Sir Nicholas Carew and his wife to eat meat on forbidden days, but the same license to any three persons whom they might invite to dine with them, on condition of Sir Nicholas paying 13s. 4d. a-year to the poor box of his parish; and this dispensation was confirmed in 1633 by Charles I. under the Great Seal.

² The person performing the penance was required to attend the parish church at Morning Prayer, and stand in some part appointed by the Minister, clothed "with a white sheet reaching from his or her shoulders to ancles, with a long white wand in his or her hand, and between the First and Second Lesson make the acknowledgment following, saying after the Minister: 'Good people, whereas I have, to the great displeasure of Almighty God, and the offence of this neighbourhood, committed fornication with —, and stand thereof convicted by my own confession, I am therefore, according to order, come hither to make this acknowledgment. I do, before God, and you here present, most humbly confess my fault, and am heartily sorry for the same, and beseech God to forgive me, and you all to join with me in prayer for the assistance of His Holy Spirit, that I offend not in the like again.' " Then the Penitent repeated the Lord's Prayer. It was required that the minister and churchwardens should certify the performance of the penance to the Bishop's Registry.

³ At St. James's, Bury St. Edmund's, there is a register of marriages performed at the market cross between 1653 and 1658. Some of the Royalist clergy afterwards made entries showing their disgust at civil registration. At Elwick, in Durham, the incumbent wrote: "Mem: that marrynge by justices, election of registers by the parishioners, and the use of ruling elders, first came into fashion in the times of rebellion, under that monster of nature and bloody tyrant, Oliver Cromwell." Several Norfolk registers record the gratification of the clergy at the "happy restoration" of 1660. In 1836 was passed the Act for registering the births, marriages, and deaths in a public office.

⁴ The rich and well-to-do objected to be buried in woollen, and by paying a fee could secure the privilege of adorning their persons in any amount of finery. Pope shows us this:—

"Odious! in woollen, 'twould a saint provoke,
Were the last words that poor Narcissa spoke;
"No: let a charming chintz and Brussels lace
Wrap my cold limbs, and shade my lifeless face."

The Register of St. Mary-in-the-Marsh, Norwich, contains the following entry under 1680:—"Francis Fox made oath before William Barling, Esq., the first day of May, that Herbert Astley, the son of Dr Herbert Astley, Dean of Norwich, was buried in sheep's wool only. Charles Daveney and Jane Sampson, witnesses." At West Bradenham the entries are, "Buried in woollen and nothing but woollen, as appears by affidavit." In *Chambers's Journal* (No. 461), 1872, p. 675, there is a statement, that "a Norfolk gentleman preserved such a happy recollection of matrimonial life, that when, at the age of ninety-one, he lay on his death-bed, he gave instructions that he should be buried in his wedding-shirt, which he had carefully kept for the purpose; that garment being supplemented with his best suit of clothes, his best wig, his silver-buckled shoes, black wrist-ribbons, and his favourite walking-cane."—There is a parish in the Isle of Thanet the register of which contains entries of 8d. for burying in a coffin, and 6d. without a coffin; and in an adjoining parish 8d. in a "coffined grave," and 6d. "in a sheet."

So at Attleborough we find the following:—

1625, August 11. There was buried Mary, wife of Gilbert Greene, hoastess of the Cock, who knew how to gain more by her trade than any other, and a woman free and kind for any in sickness, or woman in her travail or childbed, and for answering for any one's child, and readie to give to any one's marriage.

But in time much carelessness grew up, and the subject attracted the attention of Convocation in 1703, when a Committee was appointed to inquire into the irregularities of the clergy, though it appears to have been not altogether effective in securing an absolute remedy, as the following entry at Hindringham shows:—

1782, December 9. Register of Baptisms and burials from 1749, and of Marriages from 1747, neglected by Mr. Hemington, Curate, to this day.

From Bacton, in 1831, it was reported that "the Register of Baptisms and Burials from 1784 has been mislaid." The Billingford Register, from 1744, was reported at the same time to have been "destroyed when the Churchwarden's house was burnt;" and the Burgh St. Margaret Register was "destroyed by fire with the Parsonage House in 1736." The Clippesby books were "accidentally lost."

Besides the Parish Registers kept by the clergy, others—non-parochial and voluntarily prepared—in time began to be used. The Protestants who had taken refuge in England so early as the reign of Henry VI., on afterwards forming themselves into organised bodies, commenced registers for their own purposes. The Registers of the Walloon Church at Norwich, with baptisms and marriages, from 1595 to 1752, are still preserved, and with trifling exceptions are in good condition. Several bodies of Dissenters began special registers in the seventeenth century. There are fifty-five Norfolk Registers of the three denominations of Presbyterians, Independents, and Baptists. The Norwich Presbyterians, meeting at the Octagon Chapel, began baptismal entries in 1691. At Bradfield the Independents entered births and baptisms from 1692. The Yarmouth Old Meeting House Register dates from 1706. Fifteen Wesleyan congregations had registers: the earliest is that of Yarmouth, 1795. The Quakers kept very full and detailed Registers at Norwich, Yarmouth, Lynn, Tivetshall, and Wymondham: the earliest one is that of Lynn, containing births from 1651 to 1825; burials from 1657 to 1834; and marriages from 1660 to 1819: and the entries seem always to have been made at the monthly meetings. One of the earliest entries in the Lynn book is as follows: "20th day, 5th month, year 1660.—Samuell Pike the Sonne of William Pike, by Elizabeth his wife, dyed the twelfth day of the fifth moneth and was buryed the 13th day of the said mo. 1660 in his father's garden." The first entry of a special burial-ground for the Friends is as follows: "Mary Shooter, the daughter of Edward Shooter, by Anne his first wife, dyed the twentyeth day of the sixth moneth 1660 and was buryed the 21th day of the same moneth in the parciell of ground which Isabel Barnard (late wife of Gilbert Barnard deseased) bought of John Haslewood and gave unto the people of God called Quakers for a possession of a burying place for ever." The earliest entry of a marriage is thus recorded: "5 day of the week, 24th day of the ii month, 1660—John Halstead of Charterhouse, in the Isle of Ely and county of Cambridge, miller, tooke to wife Emma Mamus of Lyn in the county of Norff., widdow, as in the presence of the Lord, and before us his people, being assembled at William Burton's of Lyn aforsaid the 24th day of the iith moneth 1660: the said Emma Mamus confirming the said marriage by her verball expressions in the presence of—William Burton, Thomas Laycock, Joseph Whitworth, Thomas Waller, Richard Sanders, Elizabeth Burton, Elizabeth Waller, and others." Here is an entry of eight years later, in which, as will be seen, the bridegroom in quaint form endowed the bride as well as married her:—

Robert Torner, felmunger and single man, and Mary Shooter, widow, late wife of Edward Shooter, deceased, both of them living in King's Lyn in the county of Norff., haveing before, that is to say, the seventh day of the eight moneth instant, at a meeting of God's people at Stoake in Norff. aforsaid given publication of their intent to take one the other in a marriage, did upon the eighteenth day of foresaid eighth moneth 1668, for an assembly of God's people then mett

together in Lyn aforesaid, As in the p'sence of the Lord and before his people then p'sent for a Christian manner sollemly tooke each the other in marriage, signifying their fidelity each to the other in the honourable state of marriage during the terme of their naturall Lives. The said Rob^t further desired y^e Congregation to take notice as witnesses that he did then and there Endower and Enfeoff the said Mary his then wife with all and singular his goods and chattells in full and ample maner as a wife ought to have according to the just and knowne Lawes and Customs of this nation, whereof we whose names are hereunder written are witnesses. [Then follow the names of five men and eight women.]

In a few parishes it will be well to give the inventory of church goods and ornaments, taken in the latter days of Ed. VI.; though it must be remembered that they do not represent all such things as had been used aforetime, but only such as remained in the sixteenth century. Simon Mepeham, Archbishop of Canterbury (who, on his ordination, was appointed Rector of Tunstall in this county) directed that the Ordinary should see that each parish had in its church, and kept in proper repair, the following "necessaries:" Legend: antiphonir:¹ gradale:² two psalters: proper:³ ordinal:⁴ missal: manual:⁵ chalice: a principal vestment, with chasuble, dalmatic, tunic, cope for choir, with their appendages: frontal to the great altar, with three towels: three surplices: one rochet:⁶ processional cross: cross for funerals: thurible: lantern: bell to carry before the Eucharist at the visitation of the sick: pix for the Eucharist:⁷ chrysmatory:⁸ veil for Lent:⁹ banner¹⁰ for Rogation days: hand bell, and bells in belfry, with cords to the same: bier for the dead: holy water stoup: osculatory or pax:¹¹ candlestick for the paschal light: font with lock:¹² images in church: principal images in chancel. After the Reformation, the old ceremonials having been abolished, there was no use for many of the "ornaments," but there still remained a considerable amount of plate and jewels and fine vestments in some churches when the survey was ordered by Ed. VI. Fuller relates that after the dispersion, private men's halls were hung with altar-cloths: their tables and beds covered with copes instead of carpets and coverlets; many drank at their daily meals out of chalices; and no wonder if, in proportion, it came to the share of their horses to be watered in rich coffins of marble. Bells that had been borne before the host when carried to the dying bed were hung to the harness of horses; and, as if laying of hands upon them were sufficient title unto them, seizing on them was generally the price they paid for them, etc. Cromwell, the Lord Protector—part of whose title was Baron of Elmham, in Norfolk—resolved on putting a stop to the plunder by individuals, and determined that such treasures should be sold and the money applied to public purposes. It did not, however, all go into the coffers of King Edward's treasurer; but some of it was claimed and used by Queen Mary years afterwards. Churchwardens were required to send in lists of goods. Commissioners were appointed to sell and account for the moneys received; those for Norfolk were Sir William Fermor, Sir John Robsart, Sir Christopher Heydon, Osborne Mondeford, Robert Baring and John Calybutt. One chalice was allowed to be retained for each parish church; and Fuller observes, "the

¹ Antiphoner—a book containing the antiphons which were sung at the canonical hours, arranged under their respective hours and days.

² Gradale—a book which contained the gradualls and other portions of the Eucharistic service.

³ Proper—a hymnal or book of sequences.

⁴ Ordinal—a book of rubrical directions.

⁵ Manual—a book with instructions for the services of baptism, extreme unction, and the processional.

⁶ Rochet—a surplice without sleeves.

⁷ Pix—a box to keep unconsecrated altar bread in.

⁸ Chrysmatory—a box for the vessels which held the consecrated oils. These oils were of three kinds: *oleum sanctum*, *oleum Chrismatis*, and *oleum infirmorum*; that is, holy oil, chrysm oil, and sick men's oil. Each church was required to possess three bottles for these oils; they were usually fitted into a box with a crested lid like the roof of a house.—Hart, *Eccles. Records*, p. 238.

⁹ Veil—the curtains which, during Lent, were suspended before the altar and before the rood, sometimes called the rood-cloth.

¹⁰ Banners were used in all the processions of the Mediæval Church. They were in requisition at the humblest wedding or funeral. The processions of the richer religious guilds must have been very magnificent, from their display of sacred and heraldic banner-devices. The lesser guilds, such as were to be found in our rural villages, frequently borrowed or hired the parochial banners of the churchwardens for their festivals.—Peacock, *English Church Furniture*.

¹¹ Osculatory, or pax—a piece of wood or metal, with a handle at the back, usually in shape something like a housewife's flat-iron. On the front was represented the Lord's passion. This object was kissed by the priest in the Mass at the words, *Pax Domini sit semper vobiscum*, and was afterwards passed round to be kissed by the congregation. This practice superseded the ancient kiss of charity, in use among the early Christians.—Du Fresne, *Gloss*.

¹² Fonts were required to be kept locked, lest the water should be used for magical purposes. This rule dates from early times, and is of constant occurrence in the decrees of local councils. Almost all the old fonts which yet remain have upon them the marks where the hinges and staples have been inserted.—Archæologia, xli. p. 3,394.

Commissioners conceived one cup enough for a small parish, and that greater and richer were easily able to purchase more to themselves." Rood-lofts, crosses, tabernacles,¹ images, paintings on wood and glass, missals, and a few other articles remained in most churches till the reign of Elizabeth.² There has been some controversy as to when pews were first introduced into churches, and though such things were in use before the Reformation, it was not till long after that they came into general use. In the diocese of Norwich we first find mention of a reading pew, in the visitation articles of Bishop Parkhurst, 1569. He orders "that in great churches where all the people cannot conveniently hear their minister, the churchwardens and others, to whom the charge doth belong, shall provide and support a decent and convenient seat in the body of the church, where the said minister may sit or stand, and say the whole of the Divine Service, that all the congregation may hear and be edified therewith; and that in smaller churches there be some convenient seat *outside the chancel door* for that purpose." Bishop Matthew Wren was greatly opposed to pews. In his articles, in 1636, he enquires "Is the middle alleye of the church or any of the other alleyes or iles, or the body of the chancel built upon (in any part thereof) in the setting up of pews or seats, or for the enlarging of any there adjoining?" As to galleries where such had been erected, he enquired, "How are they placed, or in what part of your church? When were they built, and by what authority? Is not the church large enough without them to receive all your own parishioners? Is any part of the church hidden or darkened thereby, or any in your parish annoyed or offended by them?" When Wren was impeached by the Commons before the Lords, among other charges, one was that he had oppressed many poor parishes by making them, at a vast expense, remove the pews from their churches. Bishop Montagu, in 1638, demanded "Are the seats and pews built of an uniformity? or do they hinder and encumber their neighbours in hearing God's Word and performing Divine Service?" and "Do all your parishioners, when they are to receive the Holy Communion, come to the Lord's Table? and not (after the most contemptuous and unholy usage of some) sit still in their seats and pews, to have the Blessed Body and Blood of his Saviour go up and down to seek them all the church over?"³

Now and then we shall find that from the numerous tithe suits⁴ of which records are preserved, interesting facts may be gleaned illustrative of local events and customs, though of course such proceedings had mostly little more than a passing interest.

I have designed a variety of statistical information in reference to the several parishes, and relating to various periods, which will be given in alphabetical sections, and which show by comparison their relative condition; and printing them in the form given will obviate the necessity of repetitions under each head.

The Population figures will speak for themselves; but the Returns for 1881 present a noticeable fact, which may be recorded in this place. Whilst the population of the county showed a small increase on the ten preceding years, in no less than 392—or more than half—of the rural parishes there was a positive decrease, and generally speaking that decrease was among the female portion of the community. The population of Norwich increased 7,459, but no less

¹ Tabernacles containing images, sometimes above or near the altars, at others upon the rood-screen, were possessed by all but the poorest churches. Their destruction was so complete, that hardly a single unutilated specimen has come down to us.—Peacock, *English Church Furniture*.

² Of the money realised at Boston, in Lincolnshire, by the sale of Church goods, the sum of £40 is thus accounted for: "Item. Expendyde in and aboute the setting furth of Sauldeors into Norff. to s'Ve the King vnder the Lorde Wyllyughbye in the tyme of the comocon [Kett's Rebellion] ther, and for gunne powder and other munitions for the warre 1550, xl." A letter of Thomas Hussey to Sir W. Cecil (State Papers Dom., Ed. VI., viii. 45a) says, "I think he [Willoughby] shall be able to carry with hime well-armed footmen out of Lyncoln-shyre xj hundredth men." Each parish in that county was called upon to contribute.

³ *History of Pews*, Camb. Camden Society.

⁴ "It was not till the middle of the sixth century that tithes were demanded by the clergy of Christendom as a *right*; nor were they declared to be such by any general council prior to that of Lateran, in 1215. In England, however, it was not long before a custom so generally adopted began to be regarded, first as a religious, and then as a legal duty; and accordingly the legislature, in the tenth century, recognised the obligation, and provided for its due discharge, first, by declaring that defaulters should be liable to spiritual censures, and ultimately by enacting civil penalties for disobedience. Several minor customary payments, under the various names of *Church-shot*, *Light-shot*, and *Plough-alms*, seem also to have gradually acquired a legislative sanction.—*Report of the Registrar-General*, 1853.

than seventeen parishes in the city showed a decrease. It was not until 1801 that an official numbering of the people was undertaken by the Government; but as early as 1683 a form was prepared, designed to be addressed to the incumbents of parishes "of about an Hundred families, and wherein the Registry of the Births, Burials, and Marriages hath been well kept," to enquire (1) the number of inhabitants, male and female; (2) married and unmarried, and their trades; (3) widows and widowers; (4) the age of each person, man, woman, and child; (5) the number of families and hearths. A note at the foot required a description of "the soyle and scituation of the parish, and the reputed number of acres which it containeth."

In the few instances in which the lists have been preserved of those who in each parish in 1643-4 took the Solemn League and Covenant, a fair indication of the population at that time may be gathered, for it was very rarely that more than one or two in a parish refused. Twenty of these lists belonging to Norfolk are still to be found in the House of Lords. At Aylsham 270 men took the Covenant. At Baconsthorp 50, none refused. At Barningham Parva 41, besides the Rector and constables; and the Rector certified that "no man in the parish above the age of 18 years have refused the Covenant." Blickling sent up 98 names, including the churchwardens and constables, each of whom signed with a mark. Of the inhabitants who had not taken the Covenant one is mentioned as having "goane out of o' towne before y^e warrant came, and is not yet returned": another "a very old man y^e is not able to come to church": two are described as being at Sir John Hobart's at Norwich. Buxton returns 98 names, none refused. Cawston, 164. Colbye 53. Coltishall 73, and the certificate states "Wee have not any in o' sayd p'ish that have refused or deferted to take the sayd Covenant." Erpingham sent 66 names on 24th March, and a month later a supplementary return with three who had been absent in March. Hautbois 49, and Great Hautbois 20 names. Heydon 104, with a note that James Piggott, John Thirticle, and Robert Taverner, a recusant, "refuses to take the Covenant." Saxthorpe 62; Skeyton 48, none refused; Stratton Strawless 57, none refused; Oxnead 31, four had not taken the Covenant, but two of them were absent. Tuttington returned 54, and Thwaite 26.

There might be added, no doubt, many other particulars than those given in the tables, but those included seem to be sufficient for general purposes, though others, having a bearing on the general county expenditure, may be quoted here. For instance, in reference to the Highway Rate, the first attempt to obtain authentic accounts of the cost of highways was made in 1816, in which year Norfolk had 573 miles of paved streets and turnpike roads, and 4,384 miles of other highways available for wheeled carriages. The amount of rates levied for repair of roads was £13,755, besides £9,375 composition money paid in lieu of statute labour on highways. Including minor items, the total sum expended in money and estimated value of statute labour was £43,765. In 1827 the expenditure was about £25,000, and it continued about the same till 1840.¹ Akin to this matter of the highways is the income of the several Turnpike Trusts. There were fifteen Trusts in 1837, before railways had interfered with travelling by road, and the total receipts of these Trusts amounted to £13,728, not including any from Yarmouth to Acle, which by some cause was omitted from the account returned to an order of Parliament. Here, omitting the odd shillings, are the receipts of each for the year 1837, which will give an idea of the distribution of traffic:—

Aylsham and Cromer	£666	Lynn and Wisbeach	£2,505	Norwich and Scole	£779
Downham and Fincham	127	New Buckenham	384	Norwich and Watton	650
Ely and Downham	899	North Walsham	401	Norwich and Yarmouth	632
Lynn, East Gate	1,483	Norwich and Fakenham	813	Stoke Ferry	439
„ South Gate	1,460	Norwich, Mattishall, and Swaffham	1,046	Thetford	875

¹ A report of Mr. R. M. Brereton, county surveyor, addressed to the Court of Quarter Sessions, states that in 1884 Norfolk had between 700 and 800 miles of main road, and about 4,300 miles of common highways and byeways, and the cost was about £60,000.

Then as to the Poor Rate in the county at various periods:—

Average of three years, 1748-50... ..	Assessment, £32,400	Expended on poor, £30,464
Year ending Easter, 1776	„ 83,739	„ „ 64,172
Average three years, 1783-85	„ 100,988	„ „ 94,671
Year ending Easter, 1803	„ 204,532	„ „ 175,765
„ „ 1813	„ 361,633	„ „ 300,957

In the two years 1814-15 there was a considerable annual decrease; but in 1818 the assessment was £368,400, of which £327,665 was expended on the poor, the largest amount ever known; and this, three years after the agricultural interest had secured a prohibitory duty on corn. The annual expenditure on poor relief continued to increase yearly till 1830. Until the close of the last century (with the exception of 1799, when it reached £7,430) the County Rate expenditure—including bridges, gaols, maintenance of prisoners, prosecutions, constables, and vagrants—scarcely ever exceeded £5,000. In 1808 it was £10,947; in 1812 it was £18,499: and about the same in 1821. In 1822 (owing to special expenditure on prison arrangements) it was £31,800; and in 1833, £44,537, falling in 1834 to £15,875.

Before concluding these general remarks, indicative of some of the matter which is to follow, I wish to intimate that considerable variation in the spelling of the names of persons and places must be expected, and that generally the text will follow the spelling as it is found in any document quoted or referred to. The name of the Bedingfields, the Gawdys, the Drurys, the Wodehouses, have all been spelt differently by members of the same family. To illustrate the variation in a single case, that of Humfrey, which is a good English name, has been selected by a recent writer. It is now generally found with a final *s*, yet even of this variation of spelling the name there will be found no less than twenty-two different ways, which are as follows:—Humfrays, Humfres, Humfress, Humfreys, Humfries, Humfriys, Humpheries, Humpherus, Humpheryes, Humpherys, Humphires, Humphreis, Humphres, Humphreyes, Humphreys, Humphries, Humphris, Humphrise, Humphriss, Humphryes, Humphrys, and Humpries: besides these, there are people who use the letter *o*, as Hom.

In the former volume I have had very little occasion to quote “Blomfield,” because the work known by his name—whether the part by himself, largely founded on material supplied by Le Neve and Bishop Tanner, or the portion by the Rev. Charles Parkin—did not profess to be *County* history, of which my volume is composed; but it will frequently occur in the parochial portions that I shall need to do so: and though it is unfair to the memory of Parkin, who was Rector of Oxburgh, and who wrote so large a portion of the “Essay,” to ignore him, yet Blomfield’s name is so universally applied to the whole, that to obviate confusion it seems desirable to use that name by which the book is best known.

PAROCHIAL STATISTICS:—

The amount levied on each parish for Ship Money in 1636 has already been given in Vol. I. pp. 268-276.

The Census Returns, besides the figures here given, show the gradual advance made in the better housing of the population within the last sixty years. Taking the figures for 1871 we find, for instance, that at Aldeby 95 families lived in 68 houses; whereas in 1881 the number of houses had increased to 128, occupied by only 133 families. At Ashwellthorpe

Parish or Town-ship.	Extent in Acres.	Hundred.	Poor Law Union.	Parliamentary Division.— Boundary Commission, 1885.	County Court District.	Arch-deaconry.	Rural Deanery.	POPULATION.									
								1801.	1811.	1821.	1831.	1841.	1851.	1861.	1871.	1881.	
Acle	3,459	Walsham	Blofield	N. Walsham..	Norwich	Norwich ..	Blofield ..	600	671	698	820	864	816	—	930	915	
Alburgh	1,512	Earsham	Depwade	Diss	Harleston.....	Norfolk ..	Redenhall	478	517	601	586	589	575	587	545	602	
Alby	811	S. Erpingham..	Aylsham	Aylsham	Aylsham	Norwich ..	Ingworth.	217	227	303	346	299	272	231	253	256	
Aldborough	788	N. Erpingham.	Erpingham	Aylsham	Holt	Norfolk ..	Repps	218	195	268	275	293	380	305	333	352	
Aldeby	3,056	Clavering.....	Loddon	Diss	Beccles	Norfolk ..	Brooke ...	448	446	475	530	496	554	557	580	642	
Alderford	432	Eynsford	St. Faith's	Aylsham	Aylsham	Norwich ..	Sparham.	35	43	45	40	44	41	29	24	37	
Alethorp	239	Gallow	Walsingham	Freebridge ...	Walsingham ..			9	10	9	8	8	6	6	6	4	
Alpington (with Velverton)	1,069	Loddon	Loddon	Diss	Norwich	Norfolk ..	Brooke ...	163	165	169	197	197	204	208	170	162	
Anmer	1,420	Freebridge Lynn	Docking	Freebridge ...	Lynn	Norfolk ..	Lynn ...	125	152	122	132	175	167	142	158	167	
Antingham	1,509	N. Erpingham.	Erpingham	Aylsham	N. Walsham..	Norfolk ..	Repps ...	201	218	222	248	271	251	227	230	258	
Appleton ¹	700			Diss							41					41	
Arminghall	650	Henstead	Henstead	Diss	Norwich	Norfolk ..	Brooke ...	81	105	115	88	79	86	75	94	120	
Ashby	487	Loddon	Loddon	Diss	Norwich	Norfolk ..	Brooke ...	186	197	234	218	263	249	257	228	200	
Ashby-cum-Oby ...	1,408	E. & W. Flegg.	E. & W. Flegg.	N. Walsham..	Yarmouth.....	Norwich ..	Flegg ...	47	52	72	82	85	98	96	87	107	
Ashill	2,990	Wayland.....	Swaffham.....	Thetford	Swaffham.....	Norwich ..	Breccles..	482	547	579	700	637	696	696	721	656	
Ashmanhaugh	665	Tunstead	Smallburgh	N. Walsham..	N. Walsham ..	Norfolk ..	Waltham	139	122	128	154	180	159	136	141	162	
Ashwelthorpe	979	Depwade	Depwade	Diss	Wymondham.	Norfolk ..	Depwade	316	343	418	471	469	467	409	369	371	
Ashwicken	1,282	Freebridge Lynn	Freebridge Lynn	Freebridge ...	Lynn	Norwich ..	Lynn	71	69	79	80	78	99	108	97	97	
Aslacton	1,194	Depwade	Depwade	Diss	Wymondham.	Norfolk ..	Depwade	278	247	352	359	404	412	356	295	301	
Attleborough	5,260	Shropham	Wayland	Dereham	Attleborough.	Norfolk ..	Rockland	1,333	1,413	1,659	1,939	1,959	2,324	2,221	2,064	2,244	
Attlebridge	1,267	Taverham	St. Faith's	N. Walsham..	Norwich	Norwich ..	Taverham	85	95	105	117	94	100	93	84	66	
Aylmerton	1,679	N. Erpingham.	Erpingham	Aylsham	Holt	Norfolk ..	Repps	212	280	284	284	289	290	250	268	273	
Aylsham ²	4,308	S. Erpingham..	Aylsham	Aylsham	Aylsham	Norwich ..	Ingworth	1,667	1,760	1,853	2,334	2,448	2,741	2,623	2,502	2,674	

¹ Appleton, which for civil purposes is united with Hitcham, is ecclesiastically distinct, and contains 41 persons in 5 houses.—*Registration Report, Census, 1831.* Now ecclesiastically joined with Babingley.

² The returns for Aylsham, since 1841, include the workhouse of the Poor Law Union.

³ The Exchequer Lay Subsidies mostly give the number of persons charged, as well as the number of Fire Hearths and Stoves, and the list for the county of Norfolk is comprised in fifty-three rolls of parchment, large portions of which have been gnawed by rats. The return here given is for the year ending Michaelmas, 1672, certified by Richard Browne, the chief officer appointed to collect that duty, to William Burleigh, Clerk of the Peace. The tax was first imposed in 1662. Christopher Jay, of Norwich, was Receiver for the County, giving security for £1,800, and jointly with himself, Thomas Gawdy, and John Kendall, gave bond for that amount. In the year 1665 Jay was in arrears to the Exchequer in the sum of £4,337, part of which, he alleged, was uncollected, and another part was still in the hands of collectors, who pretended they had expended more in the collection than the amount allowed them. One Robert Foley, who had a claim against the Crown for £4,400, for ironware stoves for the fleet, petitioned the Lords of the Treasury to be allowed to levy his claim upon Jay, and obtaining the necessary authority did so, and it resulted in Jay and Gawdy being imprisoned (Kendall soon after died) and a law-suit ensued, extending over several years. In the course of the proceedings Jay agreed to convey to Foley the manor of Girton, then of the value of £270 per annum, for sixteen years' purchase, or one year more than any other person would give. The Court of Exchequer was frequently occupied with these proceedings, and the Book of Decrees has numerous entries relating thereto.

— PARISHES A.

families, in 1821, occupied 53 houses; whilst in 1881 there were 84 houses, with 86 families. At Attlebridge, 17 families occupied 16 houses in 1881, as against 19 families in 9 houses in 1821; and these are samples of the improvement effected in many of the villages.

TAXATION.		PROPERTY AND INCOME TAX.						VALUATION FOR POOR RATE.				POOR RATE, 1856.		County Rate, 1883, including Police.	Parish or Township.
No. of Fire Hearths and Stoves charged with Hearth Tax in 1672. ³	Poll Tax in 1678. ⁴ Amount collected.	Value of Real Property assessed.			Schedule A, 1860.		Schedule D, 1860. Trade Profits.	Gross Estimated Rental.		Rateable Value.		Amount expended.	Rate per £ at Gross Rental. ⁷		
		1815. ⁵	1843. ⁶	Increased Value.	Lands.	Houses.		1856.	1882.	1856.	1882.				
—	£ s. d. 6 13 0	£ 4,073	£ 7,956	£ 3,883	£ 7,656	£ 761	£ 967	£ 8,369	£ 8,514	£ 5,759	£ 7,416	£ 319	s. d. 0 9¼	£ s. d. 149 2 1	... Acle.
120	12 15 0	2,393	3,099	706	2,875	814	280	3,050	3,144	2,644	2,771	329	2 2	60 2 7	... Alburgh.
—	4 4 0	839	1,557	718	1,763	207	—	1,626	1,857	1,479	1,690	217	2 8	31 0 2	... Alby.
49	3 18 0	1,108	1,990	882	1,672	379	600	2,007	2,165	1,584	1,924	129	1 3½	34 13 1	... Aldborough.
—	19 6 0	3,867	5,150	1,283	4,728	380	100	4,975	6,148	4,158	5,227	457	1 10	97 9 1	... Aldeby.
30	1 9 8	532	728	196	818	20	—	718	838	626	746	18	0 6	13 4 4	... Alderford.
—	1 3 0	—	—	—	310	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7 0 5	... Alethorp.
45	4 9 0	1,794	2,148	354	1,052	233	—	1,208	1,168	857	1,063	57	0 11¼	20 18 11 ⁸	{ Alington (with Yelverton). ⁸
27	9 14 0	1,200	1,226	26	1,210	80	—	—	1,688	—	1,545	—	—	28 2 10	... Anmer.
—	8 1 0	1,417	3,129	1,712	1,988	178	540	1,753	2,707	1,580	2,442	185	2 1¼	44 4 0	... Antingham.
—	3 16 0	1,163	1,275	112	1,328	67	—	1,116	1,892	1,036	1,561	61	1 1	25 0 3	... Appleton.
38	4 9 0	897	1,183	286	1,105	255	100	1,322	1,234	996	1,071	80	1 2½	20 19 1	... Arminghall.
38	5 1 0	2,104	3,367	1,263	2,815	270	—	2,623	2,724	2,351	2,565	101	0 9¼	53 1 9	... Ashby.
113	—	2,076	1,744	—	4,927	333	275	5,221	6,071	4,189	5,411	492	1 10½	97 16 4	... Ashby-cum-Oby.
32	2 17 0	642	976	334	894	278	—	994	1,177	848	1,044	84	1 8¼	20 0 4	... Ashill.
62	5 6 8	1,377	2,047	670	1,700	331	50	2,423	1,981	1,512	1,735	241	1 11¼	38 3 9	... Ashmanhaugh.
—	2 18 0	1,261	1,112	—	1,143	—	—	1,047	1,850	1,047	1,681	74	1 5	31 1 2	... Ashwelthorpe.
75	8 11 0	1,733	2,215	482	2,004	286	—	1,906	2,120	1,711	1,905	331	3 5¼	41 12 3	... Ashwicken.
262	49 0 0	9,577	11,083	1,506	4,926	7,467	4,628	13,206	16,599	8,488	14,266	1,127	1 8½	251 10 3	... Aslacton.
46	2 8 0	1,046	1,070	24	1,189	185	—	1,159	1,340	983	1,237	114	1 11½	23 4 3	... Attleborough.
43	—	996	1,577	581	1,277	207	—	1,428	2,235	1,332	2,145	119	1 8	36 5 10	... Attlebridge.
—	6 13 0	7,223	12,835	5,609	7,935	6,183	8,409	11,315	15,353	9,605	13,278	1,010	1 9½	226 4 7	... Aylmerton.
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	... Aylsham.

⁴ The Poll Tax, "to enable his Majesty to enter into an actual warr against the French King, and for prohibiting several French comodities," was at 1s. per head. An esquire was assessed for his title £5 in addition, and the lists of defaulters include some of these. For instance, Sir William Doily, Knt. and Bart., of Shottesham, was a defaulter for £15 1s.; and Richard Berney the Younger was assessed "in the sum of £5 for his degree as a reputed esquire, and the sum of one shilling over and above the said rate for his poll;" and Thomas Bensley, the collector, had to report that he had "gone away, and no assets could be found to levy upon." Numerous certificates of exemption were granted, and the lists of persons assessed in some parishes contain apparently the names of all the adult inhabitants, and the names of the collectors are appended.

⁵ The tax was then 2s. in the pound; repealed 1816.

⁶ 7d. in the pound.

⁷ The lowest Poor Rate in 1856 was at Bawsey, three farthings in the pound; the highest at Beeston Regis, 6s. 5¼d. in the pound. In this year the amount expended for the relief of the poor in Norfolk was £219,756, at an average of 2s. in the pound on the gross estimated rental.

⁸ The County Rate amount quoted refers only to Alington.



ACLE.

ON the banks of the Bure, eleven miles east of Norwich, on the old turnpike-road to Yarmouth, from which town it is nearly the same distance, is the village of ACLE—*Aclea*,¹ *Okeley*, *Oclee*—the larger portion of which consists of marsh land²—with 216 families, occupying 207 houses at the census of 1881, forty of such families not being engaged either in trade or agriculture. Acle had 36 fewer males, but 21 more females, in 1881 than in 1871. In 1711 the number of families in Acle was 60. This place is interesting from the fact that we have very early evidences of its occupation, and important as one of the two positions in the county which have been considered of vital importance for defence in case of an enemy effecting a landing on our shores. (Vol. 1., pp. 457 8.)

In the time of the Confessor the lordship was held by the Earl of Norfolk (who may have been Ralph of Waeder), who was deprived by Harold; and when Ralph, after the Conquest, regained part of his possessions, it is not improbable that the manor of Acle was restored to him; but when he was outlawed by the Conqueror, Roger Bigod was given some portion of Ralph's lands, the King retaining the greater part for himself. As Godric, the steward, accounted to the King, Acle was no doubt included in the latter portion; though, soon after, the manor was in the hands of Hugh Bigod, and it was confirmed by Henry II. (who, by a charter dated at Norwich, granted liberties to Hugh's men of Acle, and exemption from all toll), and by Richard I., in the first year of his reign, to Roger, as belonging to his Earldom of Norfolk. There were inspections and confirmations of King Henry's charter to the men of Acle in 1306, 1365, 1385, 1403, 1422, 1428, 1464, and in 1534.

In 1199 (1st John) Robert Fitz-Roger, who was Sheriff of Norfolk, had an allowance of £21 13s. 4d. for land in Acle. Goscelin de Lodnes had a manor or lands here, which descended to the seven heirs of his body, one of whom—Ralph, son of Hugh—held his seventh part in 1203, and in the 5th John, his son John was in the custody of Godfrey de Albini.

In 1236 (20th Henry III.) the manor was held by the Lord Marshal,³ before he gave it to the Abbot of Tintern in Wales, with the King's license.

One Richard Plays, who died in 53rd Henry III., is said to have been seized of manors in Knapton, Okeley [Acle], and Weting, and of lands held by knight's service in Northwold, Methwold, Runhall, and Barnham.

In 1269 (54th Henry III.), the manor and advowson of Acle was found to have been enjoyed by Roger Bigod, Earl of Norfolk, as part of his barony. He dying without issue, it descended to his nephew, Sir Roger, son of Sir Hugh, the Justice.⁴

¹ *Aclea*, an oak plain.

² By the Enclosure Act of 1797 a detached portion, lying near Yarmouth, was added to the parish.

³ The rank was Lord Marshal only until Ric. II., in 1397, granted letters patent to the Earl of Nottingham by the style of Earl Marshal.

⁴ Le Neve, Ad. MS. 8845.

In the Public Record Office¹ may be seen several membranes of the accounts of Roger Bigod, Earl of Norfolk, from the time of Henry III. to Edward II. The details are very interesting, and include receipts as well as expenditure. In 1269, Robert le Ster, servant of Richard, son of Humfrey, the collector; John Galin, reeve; Ralph Sireson, clavarius;² and Humfrey Davi, a reaper, render an account of the manor of Acle, from the Feast of St. Michael, 52nd year, to the same Feast in the 53rd of Henry III. They also render an account of the rents of assize, which show 40s. for the term of St. Andrew, 28s. for the term of Easter, 26s. for the term of St. John the Baptist, and 78s. 10¼d. for the term of St. Michael: a total of £8 12s. 10¼d. Some of the items of expense may be quoted in illustration of these particulars. One account shows that 8d. was paid for casting manure upon two selions³ of land; 2d. for ploughing half an acre of land; 15s. 8d. foldage of 11 oxen, 36 cows, and 445 sheep, "by the greater hundred," viz., for an ox or cow 2d., for 6 or 5 sheep 1d., and 5s. 11½d. for the herds of 28 men and 43 women bondmen of the county: sum total, 22s. 5½d. Another account shows 26s. 8d. rent of two mills from the term of the Purification, and for the farm of three marshes from the term of St. Benedict, £17 14s. 6d. The stock and hide account gives 24s. 6d. for 5 cows, and there is given the price of sheep, calves, pigs, geese, hens, peacocks, cheese, butter, etc. For making a ploughshare from two old ploughshares 1d. was paid, and 1½d. for iron rings bought to bind the beams of the plough. One item is "passage of Way brigge for 34 weeks, £4 10s. 8d., being 2s. 8d. a week." There are also accounts by Willielmus Milet, servant of Alexander Roche, Willielmus Spicer, etc.

There is a charter of Roger Bigod of the same period, as follows:—

Roger Bygot, Earl of Norfolk, to all his men and friends, French and English, present and to come, greeting, Know ye that I have granted that my men of Aceia may have and hold well and in peace, entirely and honourably, and hereditarily of me and my heirs, to them and their heirs, turbary of those things which are enclosed in my park of Aceia, and that they may dig their turf and dry it within the same park, and may draw it out by the gate against the house of John de Ormsbey whenever they wish, without hindrance of me or my heirs, or my servants of Acle, as they ever have freely done before the park was closed; and in order that this my grant may remain stable and firm for ever, I have confirmed the same in this present writing by setting my seal to it. Witnesses—Geoffery Leunies, Myles, his brother, Eustace de Braham, Roger, his son, Henry de Grimell, Geoffrey, his brother, Godfrey de Bello Monte, Walter de Ravenygham, William de Verdon, Bertino, his brother, Roger, son of Osbert, Richard de Curton, Roger de Cam, Walter, his brother, William de Pesehall.

Acle paid 12s. for the Knight's wages at the Parliament in the time of Edward I.

In a register formerly belonging to Bury Abbey, made in the 8th year of Edward I., it is said that John de Bellocampo held of the Abbot of Bury one knight's fee, of which Edward de Chemles formerly held a moiety thereof, and was at Occlee or Acclee, which Arnold, in the 8th year of King Richard the First, acknowledged to hold of Abbot Sampson, all which was held in the time of William the First by Gosceline, the man of Trodo, brother to Abbot Baldwyn.

Richard le Despencer, and Turgesius, son of John de Cheney, were severally summoned in 14th Edward I. by Richard Leveband, Master John de Badingham, and Thomas de Brampton, executors of Thomas de Leveband, to render an account of lands held by them in Acle-juxta-Halvergate; the auditors were Walter de Botyngnam and Radulphus de Crepping.

When Roger Bigod resigned or yielded to Edward I.⁴ his Earldom of Norfolk and the

¹ Queen's Remembrancer's Miscell. : Minister's Accounts $\frac{843}{1}$ etc.

² *Clavarius*, a verger or mace-bearer.

³ *Selion*, a ridge of land that lies between two furrows.

⁴ In Ashmolean MS. 804, ii. 15, there is a very quaint narrative, "showing how the inheritance of Sir Roger Bigod, [fifth] Earl of Norfolk, was wrested from him by Edward I., and settled on his own son, Thomas of Brotherton; and how the same descended, with other accumulated dignities and estates, to Thomas Mowbray, first Duke of Norfolk," which it will be interesting to insert here:—

"Sir Roger Bigott, Earle of Norfolk, had a sonne that was called Roger, and after him was Earle of Norfolk: and that second sonne Roger had a soñe that hite Roger, and was after him Earle of Norfolk in the tyme of Kinge Edward the first, had none heires of his bodie. And the said King Edward had three sonnes, whereof one was called Edward the second wth the longe shancks. The second was Thom̄s of Brotherton; the thirde soñe hite Edmond. The wth Edward that was father thought that his sonne Edward should be his heire, and so he was, and Thom̄s and Edmond, his other two sonnes, should in no livelehoode have, but if he gatt to them some. And in that time that last S^r Roger Bigott Earle of Norfolk and his wife came to London to the Parlim^t in great araye and gaye and wth great people that passed ther estate, and the Kinge and the Lords of this lande at that tyme had great envie therof. And then the Kinge cast A wroth to the saide S^r Roger Bigott and him arested and

Marshalry of England for an annuity, this manor of Acle, with those of Caister and the advowson of the church of Geldeston were excepted; and in the same year the King confirmed the gift of Acle to the Abbot of Tintern.

In 1316, Bartholomew de Okele and Alice his wife conveyed lands in Acle to John Warde.

It appears from a patent roll of 20th Edward III. that several of the tenantry of the manor had proceedings in Chancery against Nicholas, the Abbot of Tintern, to resist certain claims of his, they contending that the manor was of the ancient demesne of the Crown, and that therefore they were not bound to allow the demands of the said Abbot, who was summoned at Michaelmas term before Ralph de Hengham to answer John Heyne, William Roche, John Syresone, Ralph de Heyward, Nicholas le Palmere, Richard le Palmere, Nicholas Constaunce, Richard his brother, John Incheker, John Aubel, and Thomas atte Pond, men of the manor, why he exacted from them services and customs they ought not to perform, and against which, in the 34th year of Edward I., on the Monday next after the Feast of St. Gregory the Pope, at Norwich, they had obtained a royal prohibition. Each of the above-named suitors held eight acres of land, and they set forth that "they and their antecessors, tenants of the manor, were wont to perform in the times when the manor was in the hands of the King's progenitors, formerly Kings of England, suit and service at the court of the Abbot in Acle every three weeks, and by a heriot to be given after the death of any of them, viz., 30d., and yielding yearly for every acre 1d., and mowing likewise for two and a-half days for every acre of land with one man; and in the autumn to carry him three carts loaded with the corn of the lord, viz., two carts of oats and one cart of barley, by which services their antecessors held tenements which they held from the time of William the Conqueror to the time it came into the possession of the Abbot of

put him into stronge hold, sayinge that he was A Traytor, to that intent to make him yeld vpp his lands into the King's hands. And so the saide Roger was in greate distresse manie A day, and longe. And att the last, to be in rest and ease, he gave vpp all his lands in the King's hands that he should do therof his will. And then the King therof haueinge Seison of his especyall grace graunted ageine all the saide lands to the saide Sir Roger and to his wife to holden tearme of ther lives, and after ther decease to remayne to Thomas of Brotherton, the second sonne of the saide Kinge Edward the first, and to theires of his body. The w^{ch} Thom^s of Brotherton, after the deathe of the saide S^r Roger Bigott and of his wife, possessed these lands and was Earle of Norffolk. And the Kinge gave to Edmund, his third sonne, the Earledome of Kent, wth the lands. And the saide Thomas of Brotherton, Earle of Norff., came downe into Norff. and ther he wedded A knight's daughter fast by Bonngay, and they had together tweine daughters, of the w^{ch} one hite Margaret, and that other Elizabeth, the w^{ch} Elizabeth to the Lorde Mountague was married, and they had together A daughter w^{ch} was called Joane, and was afterward married to one S^r Willm Vfford, Earl of Suff. The fore saide Margaret and Elizabeth, daughters of Thomas of Brotherton, Earle of Norff., after the decease of the saide Thomas, possessed and had all his lands and were dep'ted between them two. And after that the saide Elizabeth, wife of Mountague, died, and all her p'te then fell to her daughter, wife of Vfford Earle of Suff. And after thatt the saide ladie Vfford Countesse of Suff. died w^{thout} heires, and then all her p'te fell to the saide Margaret, daughter of Thomas of Brotherton, and she was then Countesse of Norff. and dwelled att the castle of framlyngham, and she was married to the Lord Segrave. And the saide Lord Segrave gave to her when he should wedd her all his lands to her and her heires, and they had together Twaine daughters, wherof one was afterward Abbesse of Barking, and that other was marryed to the Lord Mowbraye and Gower. And after that the saide Lord Segrave died, And after that she was married to S^r Walter Mawney, Knight, and they had together A sonne and A daughter. The w^{ch} sonne, when he was Tenn yeares of age, he drenched at Chesterford, and he should have byn Earle of Norff. and Lo. Segrave and if he had lived. And the saide daughter of the afore saide Countesse of Norff. and of S^r Walter Mawney, Knight, was married to the Earle of Pembroke, and they had together A sonne w^{ch} after was Earle of Pembroke, and that sofe dwelled wth the saide Lady Countesse of Norff., and after his father's decease, the saide Countesse of Norff. had his lands till his full age, and he wedded the daughter of The w^{ch} younge Earle of Pembroke was slayne at Insteninge wth S^r John S^t John at Plashe. And then his wife was married to S^r John Hollond, and then he died, and then she was married ageine to Greme Cornwaile. And when the young Earle of Pembroke was dead, all the p'te of the aforesaide lands that should have longed to him after the decease of the afore saide Countesse of Norff. remayned ageine wth that other p'te to the wife of the Lord Mowbraye and of Gower, daughter and heire of the said countesse and of the Lo. Segrave. The w^{ch} lord Mowbraye and Gower and his wife had together tweine sonnes that were Thomas and John. The w^{ch} Thomas the eldest sonne shoulde be heire to his father of the Mowbraye lands and Gower, and heire to his mother of Earledome of Norff. and of the lordshipp of Segrave. And the afore saide John was wth the duke of Lancaster, and he should have none heritage liveinge his brother and his heires. And the saide Duke of Lancaster gatt him of the kinge y^e Earledome of Nottingh^m and forty markes by the yeare therwth, and the office of Marshall of England wth certeyne fee therwth to him and to his heires and after that he died w^{thout} anie heires of his bodie. And then the kinge gave the Earledome of Nottingh^m and the saide office of Marshall of England to the aforesaide Thom^s sonne of Lord Mowbraye to him and to his heires of his bodie. And then died the saide lord Mowbraye and Gower and his wife. And then the saide Thomas was Earle of Nottingh^m and Marshall of Englande, and lord Mowbraye and lord Gower, and he wedded Elizabeth the Earles daughter of Arundell, and the kinge loved him well, and because the inheritance of the Earledome of Norff. and of the Lordshipp of Segrave should have fallen to him after the decease of Dame Margaret Countesse of Norff. and Ladie Segrave, his grandōne then livinge, the kinge make him Duke of Norff. and then he should have be Earle of Norff. he was made Earle Marshall. Then he was duke of Norff., Earle Marshall, Earle of Nottingh^m, Marshall of England, lord Mowbray, Lord Segrave and Gower and then he died, living the saide Margaret Countesse of Norff. and Lady Segrave, and so the lands of the duchie of Norff. and of the Lordshipp of Segrave were never in his hands.

Tintern." But besides these services and customs, Nicholas the Abbot exacted from them villein services which their predecessors were not accustomed to perform, viz., to carry his hay, *talliando ipsos alto et basso*, and taking from them a fine for marrying their sons and daughters, and *faciendo ipsos propositum*; also taking from them a heriot at his will and pleasure, and he had, in spite of the aforesaid prohibition, grievously distrained upon them for such services, whereby they had been damaged and injured. The Abbot demurred, and objected to answer, because John Heyne and the others were his villeins, and he and his predecessors had been seized of them as villeins from time immemorial. Thereupon the Book of Domesday was searched, in which it was found that there were such Acle tenants of Earl R. T.R.E., with five acres of land, always 22 villeins, 30 bordarii, 3 serfs, etc. And as by this record the Earl held the manor of the King, it was decided that the manor, and consequently the men of the manor, were not of the ancient demesne of the King's crown, etc. The Abbot was dismissed from the suit. The proceedings bear date Windsor, 1st August, 20th Edward III.

Sir Bartholomew Bacon, by his will proved 11th July, 1391, demised to Lady Joan Heveningham and Joan his wife, his executors, his manor in Acle, besides manors in Beeston, Ludham, and tenements elsewhere.¹ It afterwards passed to Sir Oliver Calthorpe, of Burnham Thorpe, whose wife Isabel inherited as the sister and heir of Sir Bartholomew. Sir Oliver died at the latter end of the reign of Ric. II., his wife in 1411, and she left it to her second son, Richard Calthorpe.

The Jury of the Hundred of Walsham, in 1401 (3rd Hen. IV.), presented that the Earl Marshal had the manor of Acle *in capite*, and that Bigod, Earl Marshal, gave it to the Abbot of Tintern in fee, in feaudity with the King's licence; and Mowbray, heir of the Earl Marshal, was under age, and in ward to the King.

On the 4th February, 1444, John Fastolf, of Oulton, granted a release to Sir John Fastolf of all his rights in the manors of Acle, Blyclynge, Castre, Heylesden, Haryngby, Heynforde, Hykelyng, Runham, Saxthorpe, Tichewelle, and Wyntertone.² This refers to tenements, or a manor called Beightons, in Acle, which in 1448 was dealt with by Sir John Fastolf's feofees.

On the 21st October, 1460, Margaret Paston, writing to her husband, John Paston, mentioning the holding of an inquisition on Sir John Fastolf's lands in this parish that day, says: "Thys day was holde a gret day at Okyll, befor the undyr schreve and the undyr exchetor, for the mater of Syr Jon Fastolfys londes; and ther was my cosyn Rookwood, and my cosyn Jon Berney of Redham, and dyvers odyr jentylmen and thryfty men of the contre; and the mater is well sped aftyr your intent (blyssyd be God) as ye schall have knowledge of in hast."

In 1478 Magdalen College, Oxford, held lands in Acle.

In the fifteenth century there lived in Acle a family of the name of Reynys or Reynyns, and in the Bodleian Library (Tanner MS., 407), is the commonplace book of a member of the family, which contains many curious entries relating to divers subjects, and here and there a few local matters.

1474.—Thomas Ponde, John Tan, and another, of Yarmouth, delivered the Lord's flock of Acle to the bailiff—261 ewes, 57 wether hogs, 33 wethers, 42 ewe-hogs, 200 lambs, and 6 rams, and 5s. in silver to amends for the cattle. This done the Thursday next after St. Matthew.

To the manor of Acle belongeth 431 acres and 2 roods of farm land. Item, 40 acres called Rotwoode: 1 acre called Chekynacre: 3 acres called the Harrowe, beside Farmany's Close, containing 7 acres.

1475.—Mem.: the great dreadful fire in Acle, 7th May, the Sunday next after Crouchmas (?) [probably the Feast of the Invention of the Cross], upon the May day at 4 o'clock in afternoon, beginning that year it was the Sunday before Pentecost, 15th Ed. IV.

Obitt: J. Reynys, 12 day of May 1477: Emma Reynys 27 day of May 1479: Jacobus Reynys 14 June 1479: Margaret Reynys Michaelmas Day 11th Hen. VII.

It appears by a deed (Tanner's Coll.) of 26th July, 13th Hen. VII., that Robert, Abbot of St. Benedict de Hulme, held certain marshes in Acle for a term of years of the Abbot of

¹ Regis. Harsyke, Norf. f. 148A.

² MS. St. Mary Mag. Coll. Camb.

Tintern, called Erle's Holme and Lytel Holme, and, in right of his Abbey of St. Benedict, a marsh called Kilne-marsh and two other marshes belonging to the office of cellarer of St. Edmund's Abbey, called Possewyk-marsh and Munkes-marsh, with the tithes belonging thereto, which on the above date he demised for six years to Walter Hawe of Worstead, in consideration of forty marks in money lent to the Abbot on bond by Walter, and other monies due to Isabel, wife of Walter, before her marriage, with covenant that the Abbot should keep all the tenements in repair.

In the will of Raffe Goodwyn, of North Burlingham, of the date of 1518, there is this clause :—"I bequeath to the chapel of ease at the Damesend in Acle, iii^s. iiij^d." ¹

In the Harleian Charters (xxi. 41) is a cancelled grant by Abbot Richard and the Convent of Tintern, to Thomas Palmer, Esq., of an annual rent of £10 from the manor of Acle. Dated 15th December, 16th Hen. VIII. (1524), signed by the Abbot. Attached is an acquittance by Sir Thomas Palmer to Thomas Pope, Esq., Treasurer of the Court of Augmentations for £33 6s. 8d., part of a sum of £50, arrears due on the said annuity, and surrender of his patent to be cancelled. Dated 19th February, 28th Hen. VIII. (1537).

In the Bodleian is a letter signed by Thomas, Duke of Norfolk, Sir Roger Townshend, Sir William Parsons, and others, notifying the appointment, on 4th October, 1529, of Austen Arneyop, of Acle, a collector of contributions towards the repair of a bridge called the Wey-bridge by Acle Market.

On the 9th May, 29th Hen. VIII., the manor of Acle and the advowson, the church formerly belonging to the Abbey of Tintern, were granted to Thomas, Duke of Norfolk, which came to the King's hands by virtue of the Act 27th Hen. VIII., cap. 28. The same grant included several other manors in Norfolk, in the whole of the annual value of £230 14s. 1½d., for which the Duke was to render a yearly rent of £30 14s. 2d. ²

¹ Regis. Eyles, f. 56.

² As showing the extent to which the Duke of Norfolk profited by the policy of Henry VIII. at this period, it will be well to give here details of the grants made to him of Norfolk manors and advowsons in the year 1538, with the rentals required of him for the same :—

9th May.—Grant in tail of the site, circuit, and precinct of the late monastery or priory of Cokkisford, dissolved : the manors of East Rudham, West Rudham, Barmere, Tatreset, Tatreford, Tyleshall [Tittleshall], Syderstone, Houghton, and Thorpe Merket : the advowsons and rectories of the churches of East Rudham, West Rudham, Houghton, Bermer, Thorpe Merket, and Bromesthorpe, and the moiety of the church of St. Mary, Burnham, and the advowsons of the vicarages of the said churches ; the advowson of the church of St. Mary Coslein, Norwich, and all glebes, tithes, etc., belonging to said churches : all which belonged to the late priory of Cokesford. Also the manors of Acle and Wroxham, the advowson of the church of Acle, and the advowsons and rectories of Halvergate, Kennynghale, and Wroxham-cum Salhouse, which manor of Acle, with the advowsons of Acle and Halvergate, and rectory of Halvergate, belonged to the Abbot of the late monastery of Tynterne, and the said manor of Wroxham, with the advowson and rectory of Wroxham-cum-Salhouse, belonged to the Prioress of the late house of nuns at Carrowe—the rectory of Kennynghale belonged to the Prior of Buckenham—all which came to the King's hands by virtue of Act 27 Hen. VIII., cap. 28 ; the whole of the annual value of £230 14s. 1½d., to hold by the annual rent of £30 14s. 2d.

18th Dec.—Grant of the site, soil, etc., of the monastery or house of nuns at Bungay, dissolved ; the advowsons and tithes of Aldebergh, Denton, Ersham, Ellingham, Ditchingham, Surlingham, Shotesham, Brome, Roughton, Mowton, Redinghall, several in Norwich ; and the manors of Roughton and Redinghall, all valued at £62 2s. 1½d. per year, to be held at an annual rent of £6 4s. 3d.

22nd Dec. — Grant to Thomas, Duke of Norfolk, Earl Marshal, his heirs and assigns for ever, of the late cell, monastery, and priory of Castlacre ; the site, ground, etc., of the same ; the manors of West Walton, Walsokyn, Hecham, Castlacre Prioris, Kempstone, Heryngsawe, Dykewood, Bagthorpe, Barmer, West Rudham, West Barsham, Monk's Manor, Cystem (?), and Massingham Parva : the rectories and advowsons of the churches and vicarages of Walpole, Hecham, Toftrees, Methewold, South Creake, Kempstone, Castleacre, Newton, Wigenhall St. Mary Magdalene, and West Barsham ; the advowsons of the churches of East Lexham, West Lexham, Dunham Magna, Taterset, Fyncham St. Michael, Burlingham St. Peter, Trunche, Folmodeston, West Walton, Gymyngham, Old Lynn, Martyn, Shyrforth, Woodrysyng, Letton, St. Peter in Thetford, Feltwell, and Colneston, and all other manors, lordships, etc., in West Walton, Walton, Walpole, Walsoken, Heacham, Castleacre, Kempston Heringshall, Bagthorpe, Magna Massingham, West Rudham, Harpley, Massingham Parva, Farlegh, Gymmyngham, Methewold, Old Linn, Martin Shyrford, Woodrising, Letton, Thetford, Sculthorpe, South Creake, Newton, Wigenhall St. Mary Magdalene, East Barsham, Marham, Rougham, Narford, Shouldham, Wereham, Bakton, Holkham, Wesenham, Houghton, Flytsham, Elsyng, West Lexham, Fyncham, Dunham Magna, Scarning, Tytylshall, Grymstone, Taterset, Fulmodeston, Gresham, North Barsham, West Barsham, Wyssyngsett, Ketylston, Weston, Feltwell, Hillington, Gressenhall, Tompson, Systrone, Norwich, Burnham St. Albert, Norwolde, Terrington, Rockland, Rockland Toftes, Burnham, Cley, Swaffham, Bryseley, Lenn Regis, Trunche, Bromeholme, East Lexham, Lougham, Southacre, Bunwell, Shipdam, Trykestone, Otteringhamthe, Stanhowe, Wolterton, Hingham, Holt, Congham, Hempstead, Plumstead, Fring, Toftes, Hillhoughton, Rymerston Parva, Snoryng, Barnyngham, Fowldon, Stoke Ferry, Wrotton, Fordham, Helgay, Southery, East Lode, Griswellake [?], Westlode, Dunkyche, Wootton, Wykmer, Colneston, Overset, Netherset, Blakwell, Wood Norton, Hoo, Bytryng, Syderstone, etc., belonging to the late Priory of St. Pancras, Lewes, or to the said cell of Castlacre ; which premises came to the King's hands by virtue of two fines both levied on the morrow of St. Martin, 29th Hen. VIII.—the first between the King and Robert, Prior of St. Pancras, Lewes, and the second between the King and Thomas, Prior of the cell of Castlacre ; and also by virtue of two deeds by the said Priors, dated 22nd Nov., 29th Hen. VIII., to hold by the annual rent of £44 19s. 0½d.

In 1550, Elizabeth Calthorpe, daughter and heiress of Philip Calthorpe, who was married to Henry Parker, held the manor of the King, as from the monastery of Bury St. Edmund's, by military service—*per servicium militare, per liber su.* In 1563, Miles Corbet held it *in capite*; and in the year following Queen Elizabeth confirmed a license to William Benslyne to alienate the site of Weybridge Priory to Corbet. In 1582, on April 17th, the Queen demised for thirty years to William Dixe and William Cantrell the demesne lands belonging to the manor. The annual value of these several properties in 1589 was ascertained to be £52 14s. 6d., and the details of the valuation are as follows:—the site of the manor, with demesne lands, £22 16s. 6d.; 160 quarters of barley, £21 14s.; four marshes called East-marsh, East-holm, Little-holm, and another, £3; the fold course, 3s. 4d.; the windmill, £3 13s. 4d.; the stalls in the market, 6s. 8d.; a stable in the market, 4s.; agistment of two beasts in the North-marsh, 3s. 4d.; the liberty of hawking, fishing, fowling, and free warren, 3s. 4d.¹

In 1575-6 an Act was passed enabling justices to establish houses of correction, after the model of the Bridewell in London. But a "House of Reformation" had shortly before been established at Acle, as appears from an enclosure in a letter from Sir Francis Walsingham to the Lord Treasurer in 1574,² describing

The Causes and Mannor of the Metinge at Acle in Norff.

First there is bought a howse at the chardges of the lymitts adjoyning, wher, after the mannor of a Bridewell, ther is appointed bothe worke and pounishment for such idle laborers, stubborne servants, vagabond roges, and other disordered people, as wer wonte to annoye these partes.

Upon the Wednesday, being market day ther, the Bysshoppe, with certan gentlemen and chief yomen therabouts, do mete once in thre wekes or a moneth, at ix of the clocke, when they first repare to the church ther and spend one howre in prayer and preachinge, the chief effect wherof is to perswade love, obedience, amitie, concorde, &c.

That done, they returne to ther inne, wher they dyne together at ther owne charges, observinge the lawe for Wednesday: in the meane while, betweene sermone ended and dynner, they go to the said howse of Bridewell to consider and examyne howe all things ther ar provided and ordered; as well for ther due punishment and reasonable worke as for their meate and necessaryes, without which often sight and overseinge the said howse and orders wold come quicklie to nothing.

After dynner, if any chief constable ther prove of any disorder or misdemenor within ther hundreds, redresse whereof belongeth to the Justices of Peace, which els wold require the said constables further travaile to some justice's howse, if he will complayne of it ther, the offender is eyther openly punished, or other order taken as the cawse requireth. And if, besides all this, there be any private controversies betwene pore neighbours, whereof the hundred courte had wonte to be full, they bestowe the rest of the day in intreatinge them to peace one with another, by accorde between themselves, or by arbytrament of ther neareste neighbours. So that now in some hole hundreds there is scarcely one of those unneighbourly quarrells and suetes founde.

In 1588, the 30th Eliz., a lease was granted by William Dixe and John Holland (trustees of the Howards, Dukes of Norfolk) to Theodore Obee, of the windmill and an acre of ground, for fourteen years, at the yearly rent of £6; and in the 32nd of the same reign, Nicolas Crispe granted a lease to Edmund Kippinge, of the Park of Acle, for twelve years, he rendering £8.

In 1594 a lease for thirty-one years was granted in reversion to George Warde, the tenant, of the site and demesne lands of the manor and 160 quarters of barley.³

On the 27th June 1st James I., the king granted the manor to Thomas, Lord Howard and Henry Howard, Earl of Northampton, presumably with the advowson, for, on the 10th April, 1610, the latter granted to Owen Shepherd the next presentation.

Acle wood, in those days, grew many fine oaks, which were, from time to time, supplied for the navy, 200 trees being taken therefrom in the 42nd and 43rd Eliz., and one Joseph Pett was condemned in a fine of £260, in the Court of Exchequer, for having taken 160 oaks from the wood beyond the 200 for which he had the Lord Treasurer's warrant. Besides these, it appears from an Exchequer Inquisition held at Norwich, on Wednesday, 2nd October, 3rd Jas., that Thomas Clere, Richard Jenkinson, Thomas Stafforde, Robert Smyth, Edward Kipping, John Cooke, and Matthew Potter, were allowed to have trees; a certain number were allotted to

¹ Lands. MS. lix. 61.

² Lands. MS. xviii. 97.

³ State Papers Dom. : Eliz. cclix.

Terrington Church; and when Sir Henry Gawdy and Sir Miles Corbet summoned a jury as to the spoil of woods in Norfolk, "the jury that dwelt in Blofield and Walsham Hundreds, where Acle wood is, repaired to the said wood, and upon view found to be cut down 480 oak trees;" and the gentlemen above mentioned had to show that they only had the number allotted to them, and it was reported that they "were brought in question by the nomination of one Uvell, who was one Christopher Child's man, and one that did as much destruction as any one that came thither, and sold and took money for the said timber, and afterwards set it upon these defendants' heads, and himself absented himself." Among the witnesses examined were John Downynge, of Acle, yeoman, 48 years of age; Thomas Abbs, of Acle, yeoman, 64; and Francis Hexham, of Paston, gent. 40. This was not the only case of the kind which affords evidence of the great extent of the woodlands in this parish at that time, for Attorney-General Sir Edward Coke, exhibited an information in the 41st Eliz., against James Raunce, for having, in the month of September, felled 400 oaks, 300 ash trees, and 500 loads of wood growing in Acle woods, "and converting the same to his own use, to the Queen's loss." The case was tried in the Court of Exchequer, and the jury found that Raunce had taken only to his own use 20 oaks, each of the value of 20s.; but that he had taken 240 ash trees, the value of each being 6s. 8d., and that as to the rest he was not guilty. He was therefore condemned in a penalty of £76 13s. 4d.; and this money not having been paid in 1606, Sir Ralph Hare, the High Sheriff, was directed to seize one messuage and 30 acres of land, with the appurtenances, in South Walsham, of the yearly value of £40, belonging to Raunce.¹

On 17th July, 1634, the Justices certified that Weybridge Causeway was in much decay, and they had caused "adjacent towns to be indicted" for the repair thereof, but they had failed to recover against them, and the charge would fall upon the Hundred. £400 was required. The House of Correction was also in great decay. The "ancient stock" was not employed so profitably as it ought to have been: "the greatest part thereof some time in the hands of Sir Thomas Jenkinson, Knt., a justice of the peace in this county, who, as we are informed, paid the use thereof for several years, and who of late payeth neither use nor principal, and is now, as we are informed, in prison, upon an execution for debt, and the rest of the stock is of no great matter."²

The tenure of this lordship being of knight's service, in chief of the King, there was paid in 1636, 12s. 8d. for respite of homage. In an old rental of the 2nd Ed. VI. are mentioned the tenure of St. Andrew, the tenure of Wrongate-land, the tenure called meadow-land, work-land, share-dole, turf-dole, rush-dole, reed-dole, fen-dole, &c. The court leet used formerly to appoint a constable, an ale-taster, an officer called Prepositus or reeve, also a reep-reeve, who was to take charge for reaping the lord's corn, a messer or bailiff to collect the rates, a custos communæ, who had the care of the commons, a custos bosci, who looked after the lord's woods, and a cart-reeve, who had the charge and care of carrying the corn.

It appears by several court rolls of this manor that there was a custom that if a woman who had an estate in land, held of the manor, or a title of dower, and did with her husband appear in court and be examined by the steward, this was as sufficient a bar unto her as if she had levied a fine; and there was a fine usually paid to the lord upon such examination and release made in court.

Sir Henry Calthorpe, who died on 1st August, 13th Chas. I., by an inquiry held on 14th September, was found to be possessed of the manor and advowson of the church, also of Acle wood, which descended to his only surviving son James Calthorpe, then a minor, eleven years of age, whose custody was granted to his mother Dame Dorothy, Philip Calthorpe, of Gressenhall, and Valentine Pell, of Dersingham, his uncle. Sir Henry Calthorpe, who was the second son of Sir James Calthorpe, of Cockthorpe, by his wife Barbara, was an eminent lawyer, and Common-Serjeant of the city of London. On the death of Mr. Robert Mason, the Recorder, the King

¹ Exch. Dec. and Orders, 6 Jas. I, Mich. vol. vii., fol. 102d.

² State Papers Dom. : Chas. I., cclxxii. 12.

addressed the Corporation that it would be his pleasure if they elected Sir Henry Calthorpe to the office, and he was chosen accordingly. He was also Solicitor-General to Queen Henrietta Maria, and Attorney of the Courts of Wards and Liveries. In 1627 he was one of the counsel in the application that Sir John Heveningham, Sir John Corbet, and others (who had been committed to prison by special command of the King as defaulters to the loan demanded by his Majesty) might be discharged or admitted to bail (see Vol. i., p. 259). He was author of "Proposals for Regulating the Law," and of a volume of reports relative to the Customs of London.

The Justices held monthly meetings at this time to receive complaints and redress grievances, to regulate ale-houses, to punish such "rogues," as the Constable had not already punished; to see that "the watch" was duly observed; and, in their report on the date above mentioned, they say, "such as have made default we have caused to be indicted." "Diverse poor children" they had apprenticed to "such masters of ability as we found unprovided."

Thomas, Earl of Arundel, in a deed of 16th August, 1641, which was joined in by the Lady Alithea, his wife, and Henry, his son and heir, assigned to trustees all his estates in Norfolk and Suffolk, and land in several other counties for the payment of his debts, amounting to £36,000; and included in the schedule were "certain marshes in Acle, called East-marsh, Earle's-holme, Little Holme, and Hold-my-Tongue."

William Paston, of Appleton, who was sequestrated for recusancy in 1644, was the owner of certain marshes in Acle, which were seized and let by the Commissioners for the sum of £124 7s. per annum. They were marshes forfeited on the attainder of the Duke of Norfolk, and granted by Queen Elizabeth in the 33rd year of her reign to John Wells, W. Dix, and W. Cantrell, who granted them to members of the Paston family.

In an action at law in 1657, Robert Palmer, plaintiff, John Osborne and Thomas Coates, defendants, in reference to a mortgage, in 1642, on 13 acres of land, on which £100 had been advanced at 8 per cent., it appeared that John Browne rented the same for £12 per annum. At the time of the action, plaintiff had been "a prisoner for debt in Norwich Gaol *for many years.*" The mortgage was made by Phillippa, his mother (who, after her first husband's death in 1619, had married Robert Bury) and she died in 1654. William Cadge, of Norwich, was a witness to the deed, and the £100 was paid to Augustine Briggs, of Norwich, grocer.

When the nation was called upon to make a "present" to the King, in the 13th Chas. II., Acle had eight contributors, and the amount raised was £3 4s. 6d.—Charles Gimingham giving £1; William Bury 10s.; Thomas Cory 10s.; Philip Palmer 5s.; William Browne 2s. 6d.; Edward Wynne 5s.; Francis Browne 2s.; and Thomas Watts 10s. To the subsidy granted to the King in the 18th Chas. II. Acle paid £13 5s.

In the Parliamentary Returns on Charities, in 1786, it is stated that some person unknown gave to the poor of this parish, and for a sermon, land then vested in Gent Wigg, producing £1 a year; also a sum of £12 in Wigg's hands, producing 12s. a year. The Commissioners in 1833, found this latter had not been heard of for at least twenty years. The Enclosure Act of 1799 gave to the churchwardens and overseers a piece of land containing 1 acre 24 poles, which was in 1833 let to George Wigg, at 22s. a year, which sum was distributed among poor widows; but at present the rector has 10s. for his Good Friday sermon, 1s. goes to the clerk, and the balance is distributed among the poor. There are also two other small plots of land for the poor, which produce only a small sum; and a sand-pit lately purchased to supply the place of one sold in 1861, all the sand there having been dug out.

In 1788 a House of Industry was erected in Acle by seven united parishes, to which, subsequently, ten other parishes contributed. It was destroyed by fire in 1834. The present poor-house is in the parish of Lingwood.

The market and the fair formerly held have long since been discontinued; there is a cattle sale held every Thursday.

In 1833, a road was cut through the marshes to Yarmouth, which shortened the distance by $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles; but soon afterwards the Great Eastern Railway from Norwich to Yarmouth greatly diminished its utility, and the absence of population on the route caused it to be little used. In 1883, a new line of the railway was opened, giving Acle the advantage of a convenient station.

A hamlet or district named NOWHERE, formerly extra-parochial, was annexed to Acle under the provisions of an Act in 1862.

The CHURCH, dedicated to St. Edmund, King and Martyr, has a round tower, and octangular top with effigies. The battlement of the tower was made in 1472, and cost £16. There are five bells, four of which were cast in 1623, and the other in 1654. Originally the screen had very rich paintings with reference to the patron saint; the initial E, trans-fixed with arrows and surmounted by a palm branch alternated with the monogram IHS also decorated with palms. These were all effaced with paint about fifty years ago, except a very small portion which was found in 1865, but too much faded to be then thought worth preserving. The walls were formerly, as in the case of many churches, decorated with frescoes, but at some unknown period were covered with plaster, figured with coloured stars, and these again were covered with whitewash. The font is a curious octangular one, and has representations of the Patron Saint, the Virgin and Child, the Saviour enthroned in the act of blessing the emblems of the Passion, the Holy Trinity, and the Four Evangelists. The lower step is dated 1410, and bears the inscription *Orate pro animabus qui hunc fontem in honore Dei fecerunt. Fecit anno Domini millio ccc decimo.* The east window is decorated, and was designed in harmony with the north and south windows when the chancel was restored in 1860. There is a brass to Joh. Swanne, who died in 1536, and one to Rev. Thomas Stones, rector, 1583-1627. In 1603 Stones returned 200 communicants. A suit of red velvet vestments was provided in 1474 at a cost of £24, and these appear to have been preserved till 1552. The Parish Register dates from 1664. Lord Calthorpe is the patron; and the living has a tithe rent charge of £693 11s., with 12 acres of glebe. It was formerly £722, with 5 acres of glebe; but the present rector acquired 7 acres more of glebe in exchange for an equal value of tithe which he surrendered. In 1711 it was of the reputed value of £160.

When the Commissioners for Church Goods visited Acle, on the last day of August "in y^e sext yere of the raign of o^r sou'ain lord Edward the sext," Robert Palmer,¹ Christopher Eastham (?), William Turnor, and William Dey, certified with them that there remained in the possession of the said Palmer and Dey, who signed the certificate,² the following goods and ornaments:—

Itn.	one crysemetary of sylu' wayeng xiiij ounce and eu'y ounce valued at iijs. iiij <i>d</i>.	...	...	...	...	xliijs. iiij <i>d</i> .
Itn.	too chaleys w th too patents of sylu' pcell gylt wayeng xxvj ounce iij q ^r ters wherof one wayeth xv vnce & q ^r ter & y ^e other xj ounce & di & eu'y ounce valued at iijs. viij <i>d</i>.	...	...	...	...	iiij <i>l</i> . xvij <i>s</i> .
Itn.	too cruetts of silu' pcell gylt wayeng vij ounce & di eu'y vnce at iijs. viij <i>d</i>.	...	...	...	...	xxvijs. vj <i>d</i> .
Itn.	one pax of sylu' wayeng iiij ^{or} ounce and eu'y ounce valued at iijs. iiij <i>d</i>.	...	...	...	...	xiijs. iiij <i>d</i> .
Itn.	one payer of Sencers of silu' wayeng xxiiij ounce eu'y ounce valued at iijs. iiij <i>d</i>.	...	...	...	...	iiij <i>l</i> . xvjs. viij <i>d</i> .
Itn.	one shyppe ³ of syluer wayeng viij ounce valued at iijs. iiij <i>d</i> . y ^e ounce ..	...	...	...	...	xxvjs. viij <i>d</i> .
Itn.	too copes of crymesyne velvet valued at .. .. .	...	...	...	...	xxvjs. viij <i>d</i> .
Itn.	too old cops thon of blew wursted y ^e other of sylk valued at .. .. .	...	...	...	...	iiii <i>s</i> .
Itn.	one hole sute of vestments of redd velvett valued at .. .. .	...	...	...	...	xx <i>s</i> .
Itn.	iiij vestments one of blew velvet y ^e other of grene velvet y ^e other of whyte damaske .. .. .	...	...	...	...	vij <i>s</i> . viij <i>d</i> .
Itn.	three aluter clothes of saten of Brydgs valued at .. .. .	...	...	...	...	vjs.
Itn.	too corpora ⁴ clothes w th casses valued at .. .. .	...	...	...	...	xij <i>d</i> .
Itn.	too laten candelstylks weying iiij score viij <i>l</i> . valued at .. .. .	...	...	...	...	vjs. viij <i>d</i> .
Itn.	iiij ^{or} bells in y ^e steple wayeng by estimacon xxxvj ^c whereof y ^e first wayeth vj ^c y ^e second viij ^c ye iiij ^{de} x ^c & y ^e forth xj ^c and eu'y C valued at xv ^s s ^{'me} of all .. .. .	...	...	...	...	xxviij <i>l</i> .

¹ "Under a stone in the church lieth buried Robert Palmer, gent., who died last day of Feb., 1553." Ad. MS. 8843.

² Ang. Off. Miscell. Book, Vol. ccccxcix., No. 31.

³ Vessel holding the incense.

⁴ Linen cloths used at mass.

Itm. iiij^{or} bell clappers weieng v score *li*. wherof one weith xvij^l the ij^{de} xxij^l the ij^{de} xxx^l & the iiijth xxxix^l eu'y pounce valuyd at ob iiijs. ij*d*.
 Itm one payer of organys xxs.
 Itm. A stocke of money of iiij*li*. remayneth taken for ornaments solde anno p^{mo} E vj^l.
 Wherof ys assigned and left by y^e said comissioners to be occupied & vsed in y^e administracion of deveyne sarvyce ther y^e said chaleys wayeng xj ounce and y^e bell weying x^e wayte.

Henry Potter and two other churchwardens shortly after reported that "with the consent of the most part of the inhabitants of the town," they had sold "six score ounces of church plate, at 4s. the ounce, being £24; whereof we have bestowed about the reparation of the church and other necessaries £2. The rest of the money remains in our hands for the repair of highways and the maintenance of commons, and for the poor."

RECTORS OF ACLE.

1221—Ralph de Norwich, pres. by Henry III.

1311—Adam de Orleton, p. by the Abbot and Convent of Tintern, was a native of Hereford, of which see he became Bishop in 1324, and was translated to Worcester in 1327, and in 1333 to Winchester. This latter translation, made by the Pope, greatly enraged Edward III. Directly after his appointment to the bishopric of Hereford, he was prosecuted for high treason. The articles charged upon him were, that he had held correspondence with the King's enemies, appeared with the Barons in the field, and had assisted the rebellion. A great conflict arose between the Prelates and the King, and when the Bishop was put upon his trial at the King's Bench, the Archbishops of Canterbury, York, and Dublin in person rescued and carried him off. He was nevertheless convicted, and the King seized his estates. He was afterwards alleged by the assassins of the King to have been a chief promoter of the murder. In 1334 he was charged with causing the imprisonment of Lord Chancellor Baldock; of having, in a sermon at Oxford, called the King a tyrant; and that it was by his advice Queen Isabel left the King her husband. It was also imputed to him that he betrayed the interests of the kingdom to the King of France. Collier says, by a shuffling and evasive manner he baffled the prosecution, and recovered the favour of Edward III. Died 1345. 1329—William de Culpho: continued Rector 33 years, dying 13th July, 1362. 1632—Dr. Robert Perpont. 1365—John de Ely. Buried in the choir of the church of the Hospital of St. Giles, Norwich. 1383—William Potter. 1384—William White. 1384—John de Friseby. 1394—Walter FitzPiers.

1404—John Dautre. 1404—Thomas Stormworth. 1414—John Glaunvile. 1423—John Smith. 1429—Ralph Wellys. 1459—John Propchaut. 1488. Philip Beynham.

1506—Simon Singer. 1511—John Morys. 1531—Charles Clere (aged 11 years). 1543—Thomas Tedman, p. by Duke of Norfolk. D.D. 1540, in which year became a Canon of Norwich, and on 3rd June Edward VI. signed the Deed of Surrender, which is among the Records of the Court of Augmentations, etc. Died Dec., 1556, when the churchwarden received ten marks of his executors. 1579—John Duffield. 1583—Thomas Stones, p. by Queen Elizabeth. A brass in the chancel to his memory is inscribed:—"Here lyeth y^e Body of Thomas Stones Late Minister of this Parrish who departed ths life y^e 19 day of January 1627 Beinge of y^e age of 77 yeares. He faithfvly tavght y^e Word of God in this Parrish 43 yeares and now resteth. The Lord hath caved this Painfvll Sheperd Dye To Live with Him in Joyes eternally."

1628—Edmund Michell, p. by Sir Robert Banister. He preached the sermon in the deanery of Blofield at the visitation of Bishop Wren in 1636. 1646—Samuel Eburne. The Lords' Journals, 14 November, 1646, have the following entry: "That Doctor Aylett shall give Institution and Induction to Samuell Eburne, Clerk, Master of Arts, to the Rectory of Acle, *alias* Ocle, in Com. Norff: he producing his Presentation thereunto under the hands and seals of Sir Wm. Playters, Bart., and Ric'd Onslow, Knt., the patrons: and this to be with a *salvo jure cujuscunque*. 1646—Charles Ward. 1664.—Thomas Rule, p. by Le Strange Calthorp and Charles Calthorp. 1676—Edward Lambe, p. by James Calthorp.

1710—John Loggan. 1711—Calthorp Harvey, p. by Reynold Calthorp. 1768—Samuel Browne, p. by George III., consequent on lunacy of Sir H. Calthorp.

1804—Richard Thomas Gough. 1824—William Spooner. 1858—Robert W. Kennion, the present [1885] rector, who after his institution built a new parsonage house.

The Acle Church school, originally founded and supported by Lord Calthorp, is now managed by a committee and supported by a voluntary rate, with subscriptions by the landowners.

There are two small Dissenting chapels in Acle, belonging to the Wesleyans and the Primitive Methodists respectively.

WEYBRIDGE PRIORY stood, it is believed, in what is now known as the "Hall Close," very near the Church, to the east of it, and not as some have said near the Bridge; persons still living speak of remembering the ruins in the Close. It was a foundation of Austin Canons, and was ascribed by Blomefield to Roger Bigod, in the time of Ed. I.; but that it was in existence at an earlier date is manifest, for, in the will [see Vol. i., p. 199] of Bishop Suffield (who was a Calthorp), dated 1256, there is a legacy of two marks "to the religious house at Weybrig." The chief benefactors were the Bigods, the Dukes of Norfolk, both Mowbrays and Howards, Bishop Suffield, Margaret, Countess of Norfolk, in 1384, John Berham in 1465,¹ and

¹ Ibid. Vol. D, No. 45.

² Berham was buried in the church of St. Mary, in Weybridge Priory. His executors were Katherine his wife and Robert Norwich the Prior. The present occupier of the Hall Close says he has dug up human bones there.

Ralph Goodwin 1518. The following may be taken as a free translation of the deed of Roger Bigod.

Let them know that I, Roger Bigod, Earl of Norfolk and Marshal of England, have granted and given to the church of the Blessed Mary of Weybridge, and to Robert the Prior, and to the Brethren of the same foundation, for the souls of my ancestors, heirs and successors, all my marsh in Acle, with all appurtenances, etc., in free and perpetual alms; and that this my grant may be perpetual, to this writing I affix my seal.—Witnesses: Rudulfo de Bigoth, Herberto de Alençon, Philippo de Bocland, Henrico de Reveshall, Huberto de Bavent, Roberto Blund, Amaldo de ———lis, Ealfrido de Marisco de Hemelington, Ricardo de Waldcote, Johanne de Acleya, Barth. de Suthwade.

To this deed is a seal of green wax, about the size of a shilling, with the figure of a man on horseback in full career circumscribed.

The Priory estates, in fifteen parishes, were valued in the taxation of 1291 at £8 7s. 1¾d.; in Valor Eccles. 1534 at £7 13s. 4d. In the reign of Ed. II. this priory had lands in Felthorpe, and the advowson of the church there.

In 1381 (5th Ric. II.) Will. de Ufford, Earl of Suffolk, held the advowson of the Priory; and in 1384 Margaret "Marescall Countess of Norfolk," jointly with others, alienated to the Prior of Weybridge one Messuage and 92 acres of land in South Burlingham, Lingwood, North Burlingham, Acle, Buckenham Ferry, and Beighton, together with the advowson of the church of Lingwood belonging to Blofield manor.² These, with all manors and lands belonging to the Priory, were granted at the dissolution to Richard Fulmerston and Alice, his wife, to hold by the annual rent of 9s. 4d. In 1563 Miles Corbet had a grant of the same. On the 7th August, 10th Eliz., "concealed lands" belonging to Weybridge Priory were granted to Hugh Counsel and Robert Baker, and, besides property in Norwich, there were temporalities in Stokesby valued at 14s. 4d.; Filby 12d.; Winterton 35s. 11½d.; Clippesly 11s.; Upton 20d.; Hemblington 5s.; Fishley 3s.; Horsey 4s. 5½d.; Redenhall 23s. 6d.; Aldeborough 2s. 5d.

In 1695, Robert Benslyne appears as tenant of the site of Weybridge Priory, with lands belonging, and 2 acres meadow, and 20 acres marsh, holding of the Queen [Mary] in capite.

A public house called the Hermitage stands near the site of grounds believed to have been attached to the Priory, and a very likely situation for a hermitage.

PRIORS OF WEYBRIDGE.

1308—Matthew de Horsey. 1328—Laurence de Billokby; Adam de Hykelyng. 1333—Robert de Martham. 1340—William de Acle. 1379—John de Berton. 1397—Robert de Repps. 1428—John Norwich; John Becket. 1452—Robert Norwich. 1476—William Parker. 1492—Nicholas Marsh; Robert Partnyke

1501—William Bassett. 1503—Robert Chambers. 1509—John Buckenham. 1520—John Caune; Edmund Larke. 1530—Andrew Wallys. 1531—Anthony Darby. 1533—Anthony Blode.

AILISWITHORPE.

NOW known as Gaytonthorpe [which see]. The Incumbents were formerly appointed as Vicars or Rectors of Ailiswithorpe-juxta-Gayton. In the 6th Ed. VI., when an inventory of the Church Goods was taken, it was described as Alyswythorpe.

Among the Harleian Charters is one, 57 E. 5, dated at East Walton, All Saints' Day, 1390, by which Richard Waltone liberated to Margaret, the wife of Nicholas, the son of William Straunge, of East Walton, certain lands and tenements in Aylswythorpe, Palgrave Parva and Magna, Sporle, East Walton, Westacre, Southacre, Dunham, Docking, and Bilney.

The manor of Ayleswythorpe at the Dissolution belonged to the monastery of Pentney, and it was granted to Thomas, Earl of Rutland, for twenty-one years on the 14th Feb., 29th Hen. VIII.; after which, with the Rectory advowson, it was granted, 29th July, 1 Ed. VI., to Sir John Gate and his heirs, "in consideration of services."

¹ Engraved in Norf. Arch. iv. 56.

² Esch. n. 57.

Esch. n. 64.

ALBURGH.

THREE and a-half miles from Harleston, and five from Bungay, lies the parish of Alburgh,¹ pronounced Arborough, and has sometimes been spelt *Alburrowe*, *Aldeburgh*, *Aldeberwe*, *Audeberg*—in Domesday Book, *Aldeberga*.

The chief manor here, with the court leet and advowson, belonged to Bishop Stigand, then to Ralf Waeder, Earl of Norfolk, who lost it in the time of his rebellion, when it passed to William de Noiers. It afterwards passed to the Bigods, and in succeeding generations belonged to the Dukes of Norfolk. There was a grant of 18th December, 29th Hen. VIII., to Thomas Duke of Norfolk and his heirs, of all manors in Alburgh and elsewhere formerly belonging to the Monastery or Convent of Bungay, to be held in capite.

Another manor is HOLBROOK, or ALBURGH HALL, which was in two parts; Alfric held one as a berewick to Tibenham, in the Confessor's time, and Morvan after him; a free-man of St. Audrey, of Ely, held the other, which Herfrind had afterwards, and his successor, Eudo, had the whole of the Conqueror's gift. It came afterwards to Nicholas de Lenham, who occurs lord in 1256; and in 1274 was purchased of John Dagworth, and others, by John de Holebrook, who added lands to it, by purchase, from William de Alburgh. In 1342 John de St. Maur, or Seymore (lord of Semere's manor, which extended into this town), was lord; and in 1350 Sir William Seymour, Knt., conveyed it to Sir John Wingfield, Knt., and his heirs; soon after they all joined and sold it to Gilbert de Debenham, Esq., who was the owner in 1360, when it was worth ten marks a-year, and was held of Earsham hundred. It continued in the possession of the Debenhams a long time, though in 1456 Hamond le Strange had an interest in it. Mr. Rice, in his Survey, says that the manor-house, or hall, was down in 1480, and that it belonged to the heirs general of the Brewses, two ladies; one married to Sir Edward Themilthorpe, Knt. The demesnes and quit-rents were £30 per annum, the fines were at will, and there were about twenty tenants.²

The RECTORY MANOR, which now produces 34s. annually, was worth 38s. 4d. in 1756, 37s. 10d. in 1803. The copyholders are at the will of the lord, and fines are charged upon grants and renewals. Some interesting facts relating to the customs of this manor, and which also afford information as to the value of wood, etc., at the time, are gathered from a tithe suit of the year 1686, when William Wiatt, the Rector, brought an action against Thomas Cooper, a farmer, as to tithes payable on wood felled on his lands. John Wright, a yeoman of seventy-three years of age, had known for fifty-five years that all wood cut down and sold out of the parish had paid tithe, but not in kind: there was, to his knowledge, during forty years, a register of the customs in which this was entered, and he had often seen it during the forty years previous to his giving evidence. John Turner, a farmer in the parish, proved that he had constantly paid tithe, and mentioned that about the year 1672, he bought of Leonard Gooch, a parcel of wood, of about eighteen years' growth, for which he had paid Mr. Fenn, a former rector, at the rate of 2s. in the pound, according to the value of the wood; and he had paid at the same rate to Mr. Haylock. He mentioned that Mr. Robert Ferrier, of Yarmouth, an owner of land in Alburgh, had felled wood of between twenty and thirty years' growth, and carried the same to Yarmouth, for which he had paid the same rate to the rector. Thomas Crowland had felled wood growing upon the land of defendant, about 9,000 billets and 1,650 faggots, including oaks, ash, elm, sallow, willow, etc. All the billets were carried to Yarmouth, and the

¹ Tate, in Gutch's *Collectanea Curiosa*, on the "Antiquity of Cities, Boroughs, and Towns," says:—"Borough, Burg, Byrig, and Burgus have the like signification in old English, viz., a place of safety. Chaucer often uses burrow for a pledge or surety, and so do the Scots. I have David's Psalms in very old metre, and in the 25th Psalm *bericher* is used for a Saviour; and in 17th Psalm, 55th v., for delivered is said *beried*. I find also in Praupt. Parv. that orbiculus in Englished a *burrow* or circle. And Thomas Thomasius, in his Dictionary, englisheth *brunius*, a barrow, or hillock of earth."

² Armstrong.

faggots were sold to be burnt out of the parish. The tithe of the portion carried to Yarmouth was 10s., and the tithe of the faggots the same. Other deponents in support of the claim were John Fenn, of Harleston, a son of the former rector; John Crow, of Harleston, an owner of land in Alburgh; Thomas and John Fuller, and W. Mingay of Starston. For the other side very contradictory evidence was given. Thomas Respasse, an occupier of the Hospital Farm, whose father had occupied before him, denied the custom, and said no tithe had been paid or demanded of him. James Poynter, of Wymondham, sixty-six years of age, said his father, Edmund Poynter, of Saxlingham, had bought wood from the Hospital Farm which he had paid £36 for, greater part of which was burnt into charcoal and carried to Norwich, and the brushwood sold and burnt in Alburgh, and no tithe had been demanded. Edward Bacon, who had been fourteen years occupier of a farm belonging to Tobias Frere; John Morse, of Cheston, Suffolk, and Richard Gower, of Earsham, also on the same side. John Speet, of Denton, (a native of Alburgh, whose father, Sigismund Speet, and his family occupied a farm belonging to Mr. Anthony Cotton during thirty years,) denied that such tithe had been paid; and Francis Hurry, the elder, who had been an occupier, not only denied the custom, but stated that he had lived at the rectory with his uncle, Stephen Hurry, during the eleven years he was rector, and had never heard of such tithe being paid. The Rector was held to have proved his title to the tithes, judgment in his favour being given on the 26th January following, by Chief Baron Atkyns, and Barons Jenner, Heath, and Milton, the Deputy-Remembrancer of the Exchequer being directed to ascertain the amount due, which proved to be 30s.

Another question in reference to the Rectory Manor arose ten years afterwards, when Mr. Wiatt was plaintiff against John Mann, William Guibon (Alderman of Norwich), Walter Battely *alias* Saunders, Daniel Veasy, John Wrench, William Salter, Thomas Seaman, and John Low, defendants. It was a question of the rights of the lord to assess fines and take forfeitures, and the depositions were taken by a Commission, appointed for the purpose, at the Angel Inn at Norwich. Here, as in such cases, the facts are best recorded by relating the testimony of the deponents. Edward Bassingwaite, a weaver, of Alburgh, knew that for above thirty years the Rector, as lord of the manor, had held Courts and received fines, and that about thirty years previously a timber tree which had been felled in Ostwell meadow had been seized by Mr. Fenn, the Rector. He knew the messuage and 7 acres of land in Batteley's occupation, which were worth £10 a year, and 2 acres "across the way," worth 40s. Robert Bransby, of Harleston, who had for some time been steward of the Rectory Manor, testified to the holding of courts and assessment of fines, and to the admission of several persons to copyholds, when arbitrary fines, at the will of the lord, had been imposed. According to custom the copyholder could not cut down timber growing on his land without special license or incurring forfeiture. The usage in assessing fines in manors in and near Alburgh had been as follows:—where one person was admitted upon a purchase the fine had been assessed at one year's value at the increase; where two had been admitted upon a surrender, at a year and a-half, according to the improved rent; where three or more were admitted, a higher fine had been assessed. During the time that Mr. Haylock was Rector no court was held, the books remaining in Bransby's possession. Robert Camell, of Diss, had been steward, and held a court on 21st October, 1690, when two of the defendants—Guibon and Veasy—on behalf of certain citizens of Norwich, attended and craved admittance to certain copyholds held of the Rector's Court of Alburgh, belonging to the farm in the occupation of Batteley. It was not till the 13th June following that judgment was given in the cause by Chief Baron Ward and the other Barons of the Exchequer. The Judges held that it had been established that at a Manor Court held on 10th April, 1651, the defendant Mann, with several others, were admitted tenants of a messuage and lands known as Browne's, and also to Field-house, part of the Rectory Manor, upon whose admission a fine had been paid to the lord, which Mann, as the sur-

viving tenant, continued to hold till the court of October above mentioned, when it was proved that he had permitted a timber tree to be cut down and carried away without license, whereby he had, by the custom of the manor, forfeited his copyhold. At the latter court Alderman Guibon, by letter of attorney from Mann, surrendered to the lord to the use of the other defendants. Before such surrender passed, Guibon prayed that any fine for forfeiture might be remitted or included in the fine for admittance, but a fine of £20 was assessed. The defendants were confederating not to pay, and pretended the lands were not copyhold but freehold, and some of them had obtained possession of Guibon's letter of attorney, which they were concealing. It was ordered that Wrench, Salter, Seaman, and Lowe should surrender all their estate in the premises to the plaintiff Wiatt, and all things to stand *in statu quo* as before the defendants were admitted. The fine was remitted, but defendants had to pay costs. How long these fines continued to be paid, I am unable to say, but about 1735, "John Shepherd, in full court, paid to the lord 6s. 8d. for a fine for cutting down pollard oaks growing on the premises, without license, contrary to the custom of the said manor."

On the 1st July, 32nd Hen. VIII., Robert Benslyn, and Joan, his wife, had license to alienate 60 acres of meadow and 90 acres of pasture in Harleston, Redenhall, Alburgh, and Wortwell, to John Bunnyng and his heirs for ever.

When in 1801 the Enclosure Commissioners had to deal with the common lands of this parish, no less than 109 persons delivered claims. They were generally described as claiming a right of commonage for cattle and sheep. John Kerrich also claimed the manor of Seymers, and a right to the soil of the commons and waste lands. Rebecca Holmes, besides her rights of commonage, claimed the manors of Holbroke Hall, *alias* Alburgh in Wortwell,¹ Redenhall and Coldham Hall, and Hawkers, etc.; and the Duke of Norfolk claimed the manor of Harleston and the ville of Alburgh with Wortwell. Dr. Sutton, the rector, claimed the manor of Alburgh Rectory; and the Rector of Redenhall with Wortwell claimed rights of common.

At the time of the valuation of the great and small tithes, in March, 1793, there were in Alburgh 834 acres arable and 394 in pasture. In 1803 the parish was surveyed by Bailey Bird, and the hamlet of Wortwell by John Corbyn, and from their report Alburgh was then found to contain 1,436 acres of enclosed land and 81 acres of waste. Wortwell had 817 acres enclosed and 271 acres waste.

A very complete and interesting account of the TOWN ESTATE was presented to Parliament in the Report of the Charity Commissioners in 1835, which may be re-produced here:—

By an inquisition taken under a commission of charitable uses, 17th September, 1624, it was found that with £20 directed by the will of Richard Wright to be laid out in land for discharging the task and tallage of the township of Alburgh, and with other money paid by the parishioners of Alburgh, there had been purchased a messuage called Drales, and divers other lands and tenements, freehold and copyhold, in Wissett and Spexhall, and certain copyhold meadows in Broad Meadow, in Wissett, and a piece of meadow in Spexhall Meadow; that the parishioners of Alburgh had since purchased the lands following, *viz.*: a messuage and 1A. 2R. in Alburgh, late Skeet's;² one acre of meadow in Wissett, late Seaman's; a messuage with three acres and a piece of land 50 feet long and eight broad in Ruishall; a piece of land containing five acres in Ruishall, late Estawe's; and a cottage in Alburgh, late Muskett's; and it was further found that the town of Alburgh comprised the town of Alburgh, and the hamlet of Wortwell, which was part of the parish of Redenhall; that the last-mentioned lands and tenements were purchased for the aid and ease of the parishioners of Alburgh, and that the messuages, lands, &c., first mentioned, had been purchased for the charitable intents following, *viz.*, that one moiety of the profits should be employed for the payment of the task and tallage of the parishioners of Alburgh and of the inhabitants of

¹ Wortwell Manor, according to Chambers ("Hist. Norf.," p. 1352g), is said to be in the parish of Redenhall. The manor, after the Conquest, was vested in a family named Peccatum, or Peeche, and afterwards in that of the Carlhols, who lived in the manor house during several generations; and Wortwell Hall was for nearly two centuries in the family of the Hollands—one of whom was a painter living in 1586; another was Philemon Holland, the great translator; also Henry Holland, author of "Horologia"; and a younger brother was author of "Hollandi Posthuma," etc.

In the Court Books of the Manor of Harleston tenants are described as admitted to many *snorses* (strips of meadow) in the Dole Meadow of Wortwell. In some old deeds, passing freehold doles in the same meadow, the word is *snotch*. In Halliwell's Dictionary, "snorse" is defined as "a small corner of land."—*East Anglian*, iv. 58.

² "Called Skeetes, because purchased of one Skeets."—Tanner MS., 312, f. 25. This manuscript contains several particulars of lands belonging to Anthony Cotton, and in which Sir Thomas Gawdy was interested.

the hamlet of Wortwell, and that the other moiety should be employed for the aid of the parishioners of Alburgh; and it was further found that by indentures bearing date 19th June, 1606, it was agreed, in consideration of £40 paid by the parishioners of Alburgh to the inhabitants of Wortwell, that the parishioners of Alburgh should pay every task and fifteenth which should be imposed upon the hamlet Wortwell, or the inhabitants thereof, for any tenements within the said hamlet, and should find the town armour of Alburgh, without any allowance to be made towards the same by the inhabitants of Wortwell, and that in consideration thereof the inhabitants of Wortwell should never make any claim to any of the said messuages, &c.

By the decree of the Commissioners it was ordered that the sum of £40 mentioned in the inquisition should be laid out in the purchase of lands or tenements for the ease and aid of the inhabitants of Wortwell, about such necessary charges as they should stand charged with, the same to be conveyed to ten landowners within the said hamlet, to be chosen by the parson of the parish of Redenhall and the inhabitants of the hamlet; and that whenever the number of feoffees should be reduced to five, the inhabitants of the hamlet should elect so many other landowners within the hamlet as should with the survivors make up the number of ten; that the inhabitants of Wortwell should for ever, therefore, hold and enjoy five pieces of freehold land in Spexhall, containing 27 acres, part of the premises mentioned in the inquisition as purchased with the sum of £20 bequeathed by R. Wright, and with other moneys paid by the parishioners of Alburgh, and that they should receive the profits thereof for the ease and aid of the said inhabitants of Wortwell, without any claim of the parishioners of Alburgh; and that the then feoffees of the said five pieces of land should convey the same to ten persons therein named, and their heirs, in trust for the uses above mentioned, and that whenever the number of such feoffees should be reduced to five, the inhabitants of the hamlet should elect so many other landowners within the said hamlet as should, with the survivors, make up the number of ten; and that the inhabitants of Wortwell should yearly, on the Tuesday before the Feast of St. Thomas the Apostle, choose two of the said feoffees to be town reeves for the year following, for the receiving and disposing of the profits as well as of the five pieces of land, with "the said little parcel of a pightle," and other lands to be purchased as aforesaid; and that the town reeves should render an account annually to the said inhabitants; and as to the residue of the premises in the said inquisition mentioned, that the parishioners of Alburgh should receive the rents, for the payment of all taxes and fifteenths to be imposed upon the town of Alburgh with the hamlet of Wortwell, or for any lands, &c., within the said town and hamlet, and for the maintaining of the town armour, and for the ease and aid of the said parishioners; and that whenever the number of feoffees should be reduced to eight, the parishioners of Alburgh should choose other fit landowners of the said parish to be feoffees to act as town reeves to dispose of the rents and account for the same to the parishioners, and that the remainder of the rents, not applied as aforesaid, should be employed for the further ease and aid of the parishioners of Alburgh.

The premises appropriated to the parish of Alburgh have been conveyed from time to time to new trustees, and by deed of feoffment, bearing date 8th June, 1721, Francis Long and three others, at the request of the inhabitants of Alburgh, and in observance of the decree of Commissioners of Charitable Uses above abstracted, granted to Sir Edward Ward and twelve others, and their heirs, a messuage or tenement, with appurtenances, anciently called Deley's in Wissett, parcel of Payne's tenement, and all the free lands called the Town Lands of Alburgh in Wissett and Spexhall, on trust, that the rents and profits should be employed according to the decree.

Amongst the parish documents there is no subsequent conveyance to trustees; but it appears, from a lease granted in 1777, that there were then twelve persons acting as trustees, though in 1758 five only of the trustees appointed in 1721 were living.

Part of the premises are copyhold of the manor of Wissett-le-Roos, and in 1824 Robert Blyth Harvey and John Youngs were admitted on the surrender of John Crowe.

With respect to the premises described in the inquisition as in Ruishall, it appears that by Indenture, of 23rd December, 1640, John Warde and five others, in consideration of £180 conveyed to William Butts a messuage and 3 acres of land in Ruishall: also a piece 50 feet by 8 feet, and a piece of pasture of 5 acres; and it is probable the purchase money was laid out, with other money, in purchase of other lands to like uses, as on the 1st January, 1640, John Sutton, in consideration of £340 conveyed to Sir Thomas Gawdy and sixteen others, seven pieces of land and pasture in South Elmham, containing 21 acres, to the only benefit and behoof of the parish of Alburgh. These premises have been conveyed to new trustees from time to time, and on 10th Jan., 1759, John Wright and two others granted to Peter Sparke and eleven others the seven pieces of land in South Elmham.

The property at Wissett, including the farm-house and buildings, and about 83 acres, were held on lease by Robert Aldred, at a rent of £140, in 1803; and in 1829 the South Elmham Estate was described as of 25 acres, rented by Peter Page at £30. Out of the income of these and the land in Alburgh the town-reeves paid all the expenses attending the church, and other town charges, the balance being handed to the overseer in aid of the poor-rates. At the present time these charities produce £180 yearly, which sum is applied to the reduction of the poor-rate.

Under the Alburgh Inclosure Act (41 Geo. III.) the Commissioners set out to the lords of the manors, the rector, churchwardens, and overseers, an allotment of 13 acres, 1 rood, 20

perches in Wortwell, for the benefit of the poor; which allotment is let by auction every year at Easter, and in 1833 was let for £42. "The rent," says the Report, "is divided into two equal parts, and out of the Alburgh share £2 is paid towards the support of a school, supported chiefly by the resident curate, and the remainder is laid out in the purchase of coals, which are distributed weekly during the winter amongst all the poor belonging to the parish, whether living in it or not, in proportions according to the number in family, varying from three pecks to a bushel, every week as long as the coals last."

In 1712-13 Alburgh contributed £6 towards the collection made for the relief of "many p'sons and fframeleys afflicted with the small pox" in Redenhall and Harleston, with Mendham End.¹ At this time the population of the parish consisted of thirty families.

Linen weaving was formerly an industry carried on in this parish, and continued till within the memory of persons still living. Here and there in the Parish Register occurs the name of one described as "webster," *i.e.*, weaver. There is the case, in 1791, of John Booty, a "whitester," *i.e.*, a bleacher of home-made linen. This bleaching was effected with the wood ashes which the poor people used to collect and save, and then sell to the "whitesters" for that purpose. In the same year a linen weaver and farmer, named William Pattrick, was buried, and is besides described as "a man very eminent for his knowledge in the art of ringing."

Several years since, as some men were digging for the foundation of a new railway station, near to the "Dove Inn," Wortwell, in the meadows by the roadside, they came upon about a dozen human skeletons, close together, but in every direction. Human bones were also found about the same time, on the opening of a tumulus just below Alburgh church.²

Names of Lands now or formerly used in Alburgh to denote certain places:—Pies Meadow (in which magpies built); Chops; Millfield (the mill has disappeared); Burnt Oak Field; Further Pies; Great Chops; Holbrook Hill (where stood the Manor House); Cinnamons; Upper and Lower Five Pound Close; Little Hannahs; Hingate; Spong Close; Upper and Lower Sparles; Kettle Croft; Faubert's; Upper and Lower Brambles; Uttridge (Etheridge); Little and Great Mistletons; Great Dowson's; Coldham Green and Meadow; Hungry Hill; Golden Hill; Beauty's Pightle; Mar Bolts; Horn Pie; Honey Pit; Sharni's Pightle; Little Breakers Close; Fuller's Close; Long Pinnions; Hare's Close; Staple Meadow; Hart's Hill; Dove Close; Skeetes and Plombs;³ Jacobyes (a message); Scobels; Ward's Close; Dowsing's Bush; Moynes Hill; Jaye's Way; Ugate Way; Jack's, alias Jaye's, Lane; Hubbard's Hill; Dereboughts; Brumblemere; Dry Meadow.

The CHURCH is dedicated to All Saints, chiefly in the Perpendicular style, with some portion in Early English. Originally valued at 16 marks, and paid 5½d. Peter-pence. In the K.B. at £12. A new porch was built in 1463. In a MS. in the collection of the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's called "a valuation of the diocese of Norwich between 1631 and 1640," Alburgh is quoted at £1. The church was restored in 1876, at a cost of £1,340; the walls of the chancel, were raised about six feet, and a new ceiling erected. A vestry was also constructed on the north side of the chancel on the site of an ancient chapel; the western gallery was removed, the church was re-seated, and a new pulpit, reading-desk, and lectern provided. During the restoration, a stone sedilia in the chancel, a piscina in the nave, and the ancient doorway leading to the rood-loft stairs were discovered. The west doorway in the tower has elegant panel-work in stone and flint of crocketed arches. Until 1730 there were only four bells, but there are now eight, (the sixth and eighth by Brasyer, the celebrated Norwich bell-founder,) in the square embattled tower, which has four small pinnacles at the corners, with two singular arched buttresses to each from the walls of the tower. There was formerly an image of our Lady in the church, and a chapel dedicated to St. Laurence, with an image of St. Catherine. In this chapel were interred several members of the Wright family referred to as founders of the Town Estate. Over the north door of the church a fresco painting of St. Christopher was discovered in 1841, which had been covered with whitewash at some period since Blomefield wrote (for he mentions its existence). It measured about 18ft., but there are now no vestiges of it visible. A lithograph of it

¹ *East Anglian*, iv. 127.

² *East Anglian*, i. 89.

³ One Sigismund Skeetes, in 1623, occupied a farm called Plombs, which John Plombe had formerly held.

was published in 1842 by Evans of Great Queen Street, London. The screen which Kerrich saw in 1815, "still with its original colours," had formerly a candle beam, on which was painted (apparently about Reformation times) a text from Rom. xiii. 1, and 20: portions of it are preserved in the vestry. The royal arms was placed over the centre of the chancel arch, and had the following strange inscription beneath it:—"As there were six steps to King Solomon's throne, so there are six parts in which subjects should act in Duty and Allegiance to the King: Fear, Honour, Obedience, Tribute, Defence and Prayer." The poppy-heads of the ancient open seats were adorned with beautiful foliage of a refined and delicate workmanship. A window on the north side of the chancel (with a representation of the "Good Shepherd") was placed by Miss Lohr, eldest daughter of the present rector, to the memory of Malcolm George Lohr, her brother, who died in 1872, at the age of nineteen years. Another window is a memorial to Mr. Barnabas Bond, a well-known agriculturist, who also died in 1872.

The Rector had a house and forty acres of land when Norwich Domesday was made, but by grants of subsequent Rectors of lands to be held as copyhold of the Manor, it is now reduced to about eight acres. The Rev. Dr. Sutton, in 1793, inserted the following note in the Parish Register in reference to one of his predecessors: "Robert Archer (Rector, temp. Eliz.) leased out the profits of the Rectory and Manor to William Davie of Metfield, for the term of twenty-one years, paying a rent of £5 a year for the first three years and £20 a year in full satisfaction for all rent due for the remainder of the term, as appears from an old torn parchment lease which I have seen." In 1710 the rectory was of the reputed value of £60. The yearly tithe rent charge of the Rectory is now £450, with five acres of glebe. The present Rectory House was built at a cost of £1,500 in the year 1848.

The Parish Register dates from 1540, and has many interesting entries. Here is one in reference to an outbreak of smallpox: "On Saturday, July y^e 11th, 1798, a certain man named Coan who travelled the country with a puppet-show and performed Dexterity of Hand, came to Homersfield [an adjoining parish, but in the County of Suffolk] with a carriage to exhibit there at the fair¹ which was on the 11th, and brought a family there in his carriage, which he kept private, and stayed in the parish two or three days, by which means he set the distemper in that and several adjoining parishes. In this parish of Alburgh upwards of 200 people had the distemper in the natural way and by Inoculation whereof only four died, which was esteemed a very great providence, for in the small hamlet of Wortwell there was ten died out of a less quantity which had it."² There is the following entry of a marriage in 1782: "Robert Barritt, of this parish, and Ann Suckling, widow, of this parish, were married by banns, December y^e 6th. He is her third husband; and she was his third wife."³ Another entry referring to December 30th, 1739, records that it was the "coldest day ever known in the memory of the oldest man living." In 1743, "Memorandum: Jonathan Rayner and Mary his wife did Penance in the Parish Church, Sunday, February 19th, 1743-4, for anti-nuptial fornication. Before me, F. Stillingfleet. N.B.—*They were a couple of Saints.*"⁴ 1747, "Roger Brock, a Quaker, æt. 90, put in the ground without the office being read over him, Nov. 7th."⁵ In 1750 the Marriage Register has the following: "Benjamin King and Mary Middleton were married by banns, Nov. 26th. N.B.—The aforesaid Mary Middleton's banns were published

¹ Homersfield Fair used to be held on the "Knole," on "the last Monday of Old May," and has been discontinued only about ten years.

² The widow, Lydia Baker, now (February, 1885) living, and in her ninety-seventh year, remembers this occurrence, and that her sister, Dinah Powles, aged seventeen, who was the first to die from the disease, was buried in Alburgh Churchyard at midnight.

³ The Rev. C. W. Lohr, the present Rector of Alburgh, relates that, when he was Curate of Rackheath, 1842-46, on one occasion he buried a man with three deceased wives on his right hand and three on his left hand, and that this man left his seventh wife a widow.

⁴ "Saints" was the name generally given to the Dissenters in the locality at that time.

⁵ There is a small farm of a few acres in the parish at this time, which during 150 years has belonged to the Society of Friends' Meeting House at Tasburgh. A Quaker and his wife are buried in a corner of the meadow opposite the farmhouse door, and two or three trees grow over the spot where the bodies were buried. At the Manor Court held November 11th, 1796, the seizure of lands called "the Quakers" belonging to the Society meeting at Tasburgh, decreed at a court held two years previously, was returned by the lord's bailiff, Jn Brohock.

a month before with one John Pemberton of Wymondham. She came herself to pay for what is called *mocking the Church*, earnestly desiring me at the same time not to forget to publish the banns betwixt her and this King the Sunday following. *All three of whom are Saints.*" In 1796 and the years following, there are frequent entries of infants privately baptised, with the addendum that their parents, being Dissenters, refused to have them received into the Church.

In June, 1672, "those of the congregational persuasion" applied for a license for the house of John Fuller, of Alburgh, and for a room in the house of John Westgate, in Redenhall-cum-Harleston, for the use of the congregation. Samuel Petto, alias Pittaugh, minister, to be teacher.

The National Schools were erected in 1848, by the Rev. J. A. Coombe, and considerably enlarged and improved by the Rev. C. W. Lohr, in 1873. They are supported by a voluntary rate, and the names of 100 children are on the books.

The game of foot ball (or camp ball as it is called in rural Norfolk) was habitually played on Sunday afternoons in this parish in the meadow opposite the west end of the church, by several persons still (1885) living, and cricket was also played on Sundays till comparatively recent times.

Two Alburgh men were, if not the first, certainly were among the earliest, of the many in this county who, in the fifteenth century, were brought under discipline for their Lollardism and their support of John Wickliff's teachings—Thomas Pie and John Mendham. They were convicted upon divers articles, and penance enjoined, as set forth in the following letter of Bishop Alnwick, addressed to the Rural Dean of Redenhall and the Rector of Alburgh, who was then one John Dalle:—

"William, by Divine permission, Bishop of Norwich, to our well-beloved sons in Christ, the Dean of Redenhall, of our diocese, and to the parish priest of the parish church of Aldborough, of the same our diocese, health, grace, and benediction:—

"Forasmuch as we, according to our office, lawfully proceeding to the correction and amendment of the souls of Thomas Pie and John Mendham, of Aldborough of the diocese aforesaid, *because they have holden, believed, and affirmed divers and many errors and heresies*, contrary to the determination of the holy church of Rome and the universal church, and to the Catholic faith, have enjoined the said Thomas and John, appearing before us personally, and confessing before us judicially that they have holden, believed, and affirmed divers and many errors and heresies, this penance, hereunder written for their offences, to be done and fulfilled in manner, form, and time hereunder written, according as justice doth require:—that is to say, six fustigations² about the parish church of Aldborough aforesaid before the

¹ Football appears to have been played during the present century in several parishes. Mr. R. M. Lane wrote recently in one of the Norwich newspapers that it had been played regularly on Sundays at East Rudham within the last fifty years. It is a game of great antiquity. By an edict of 1349 the game was prohibited, for the reason that it was supposed, in co-operation with other sports, to hinder the study of archery. It was called "camp-ball," probably because played in open country. It is so styled by Tom Stroud, of Hurling, in the old comedy of "The Blind Beggar of Bethnal Green," produced in 1659; but the game of cricket, Mr. Strutt, in his "Sports and Pastimes," says he had been unable to trace earlier than 1719.

Sunday observance has been differently regarded in different periods. In 1585, a clergyman named Smith ventured in a sermon before the University of Cambridge to maintain that plays and sports were unlawful on Sundays. This was conceived so monstrous a doctrine that he was immediately summoned before the Vice-Chancellor [Neal, "Hist. Puritans," i., 371]. Aylmer, Bishop of London, "usually played at bowls on Sunday afternoons" [Ibid., i., 450]. Pitt fought a duel on Sunday in 1798. Hannah More, in a letter to her sister referring to this event, says, "To complete the horror, too, they chose a Sunday." In her "Thoughts on the Manners of the Great," she speaks of Sunday concerts. Laud's "Book of Sports" is too famous to need reference here. A very remarkable statement occurs in vol. i., p. 208, of the "Life of Dr. Adam Clarke," who in 1783 was appointed to preach at the Norfolk Circuit. He says that in Norfolk at that time, "except among a very few religious people, the Sabbath day was universally disregarded. Buying and selling were considered neither unseemly nor sinful; and on that day the sports of the field, particularly fowling, were general. Multitudes, even of those called religious people, bought and sold without any remorse. To find a man saved from this sin was a very rare thing indeed." But too much importance is not to be attributed to this statement of the Reverend Doctor. Stukeley, in the dedication prefixed to his "Stonehenge" (1740), complains of "that too fashionable custom of travelling on Sundays."

But on the other hand we find Pepys, in his "Diary," recording his surprise that he found the Queen playing cards on Sundays. Jorevin de Rocheford, in his "Description of England" (1672), writes, "there is no country wherein Sunday is better observed than in England; for so far from selling things on that day, even the carrying of water for the houses is not permitted: nor can any one play at bowls or any other game, or even touch a musical instrument, or sing aloud in his own house, without incurring the penalty of a fine." But though this volume was published in 1672, there can be no doubt that the writer's experience was gathered during the days of the Puritans, and did not apply to those of the Restoration.

² *Fustigation*, a punishment by beating with a stick or club.

solemn procession six several Sundays, and three whippings about the market place of Harleston, on three several market days; bare neck, head, legs, and feet; their bodies being covered only with their shirts and breeches, either of them carrying a taper in his hand of a pound weight, as well round about the church as about the market-place, in every of the foresaid appointed days; which tapers, the last Sunday after the penance finished, we will that the said John and Thomas do humbly and devoutly offer unto the high altar of the parish church of Aldborough at the time of the offertory of the high mass the same day, and that either of them going about the market-place aforesaid, shall make four several pauses or stays, and at every of those same pauses, humbly and devoutly receive at your hands three whippes.

"Therefore we straightly charge and command you, and either of you, jointly and severally, by virtue of your obedience, that every Sunday and market-day after the receipt of our present commandment, you do effectually admonish and bring forth the said Thomas Pie and John Mendham to begin and accomplish their said penance; and so successively to finish the same in manner and form afore appointed. But if they will not obey your monitions, or rather our commandments in this behalf, and begin and finish their said penance effectually, you or one of you shall cite them peremptorily, that they, or either of them, appear before us, or our Commissary, in the Chapel of our Palace at Norwich, the twelfth day after the citation so made, if it be a court day, or the next court day following, to declare if they, or either of them, have any cause why they should not be excommunicated for their manifest offence in this behalf committed, according to the form and order of law, and further to receive such punishment as justice shall provide in that behalf. And what you have done in the premises, whether the said Thomas and John have obeyed your admonitions and performed the same penance, or as we will that you or one of you who have received our said commandment for the execution thereof, do distinctly certify us between this and the last day of November next coming.

"Dated at our Palace of Norwich, under our Commissary's seal, the eighth day of October, anno 1428."

RECTORS OF ALBURGH.

1303—John de Honyng, p. by Roger Bigod, Earl of Norfolk.
 1307—Robert de Whetelay, p. by the King. 1308—Jeffrey de Castre. 1313—John de Framlingham 1318—William de Bathe (probably a son of Sir Henry de Bathe, a Justice Itinerant in Norfolk in 1239 and 1260), p. by Thomas de Brotherton, Earl of Norfolk. 1321—Thomas de Weyland (probably son of Thomas de Weyland, Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, ancestor of the Weylands of Woodrising, a family that held large possessions in the time of Ed. I., with the manors of Garboldisham, Oxburgh, Shipden, Wigenhalls, etc.), p. by Thomas de Brotherton. 1328—John de Reding. 1345—Hugh de Elmstow, p. by Sir John Segrave. 1349—Adam de Newton. 13—Hugh Cave. 1371—Thomas Fox, p. by Sir Walter de Manny. 1376—William West, p. by Margaret, Countess of Norfolk. 1378—Robert Talbek, Rector of Swaycliffe, in Kent. 1387—John Hikedy, cum Barking, Essex.
 1400.—John Bluntsham, p. by Mowbray, son and heir of Thomas, Duke of Norfolk. 1407—John Yarmouth, p. by Elizabeth, Duchess of Norfolk. 14—William Preston. 1416—Robert Payn. 1424—Jeffrey Barger. 1428—John Dalle, cum Rotherhithe, p. by John Duke of Norfolk. 1450—Richard Thompson. 1464—Henry Balderston. 1491—Robert Arden.
 1502—William Pinchbek. 1504—William Taylor. 1507—Robert Bredlaugh. 1517—Nich. Hanson. 1540—James Halman. 1548—Richard Whetley (held with Redenhall); deprived by Queen Mary for being married. 1554—Robert Thirkettle. 1569—Robert Archer. 1572—John Moor (who returned 156 communicants in parish).
 1611—Richard Moore. 1632—Stephen Hurry, p. by Matthew Goad. Walker says,¹ "Mr. Hurry was turned out by the of Earl Manchester, April 28, 1644, for being strict in observing the orders of the Church himself, and pressing them on others, when Rural Dean; for saying 'Women ought to be churched in a veil; for vindicating the ceremonies of the Church, the validity of an evil Minister's office, and the Book of Sports: for speaking against the Scots, and Mr. Dodd's works; for stopping in his sermon when he saw any with their hats on; for being distempered with drink; for telling a woman, who designed to give her ring for the Par-

liament's service, that she might chance to have a rope for it; and several other instances of malignity. At the time of his death he gave legacies to forty sequestered ministers." 1647—George Fenn. The Lords Journals, 14th April, 1647, has the following entry: "Ordered that Dr. Aylett shall give Institution and Induction to Mr. George Fenn, Master of Arts, to the Rectory of Alburgh, in the County of Norfolk; taking the Covenant; he being presented thereunto by Sir William Platers, baronet, and Sir Ric'd Onslow, the patrons: this to be with a *salvo jure cujus-cunque*." 1679—John Haylock, p. by Anna Haylock. 1680. Giles Willcox. 1682—William Wiatt. 1699—Thos. Arrowsmith.
 1729—Fairfax Stillingfleet. 1754—By a deed dated 23rd November, 1723, the Hon. and Rev. Richard Hill, the patron, conveyed the advowson to Rowland, afterwards Sir Rowland Hill, on the condition that a Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge, should be henceforth nominated. In 1753, Sir Rowland Hill presented Edmund Bentham, a Platt Fellow of St. John's. A bill was filed by the Master, Fellows, and Scholars of the College, to set aside the presentation, and on the 25th June, 1754, Lord Chancellor Hardwicke decided Platt Fellows were not eligible unless all the incorporated Fellows should refuse to be presented. Bentham, thereupon, was called to deliver up his preferment, and Sir Rowland Hill nominated William Cole. 1793—Charles Sutton, D.D. He held his first Court Baron of the Rectory Manor on 24th April, 1793, and continued to hold them till April, 1846. There is a monumental slab to his memory in the chancel. Before being 53 years Rector of Alburgh, he was Incumbent of St. George's, Tombland, Norwich.
 1846—John Adams Coombe. 1871—Charles William Lohr. When a vacancy occurred in 1871, the Earl of Effingham neglected to present within six months, and the vacancy lapsed to the Bishop of Norwich, who, on the 23rd October, collated the Rev. C. W. Lohr. In January, 1872, the College took action to have it declared that by the failure to present, the right of presentation henceforth had become vested in them. The case was argued in the month of November following, before Sir George Jessel, Master of the Rolls, and he decided in favour of the College.

¹ Walker's "Sufferings of the Clergy," pt. ii., 271.

ALBY.

FIVE miles north-east of Aylsham, and seven south from Cromer, is Alby (a village of 65 houses), a possession of the Bigods after the Conquest (when part of it extended into the hundred of North Erpingham), and subsequently it was held by the Dukes of Norfolk until the attainder of Thomas, the fourth Duke, in 1572, when it was forfeited to the Crown. In the Confessor's time the manor was said to be worth 20s. at the first, and 40s. at the second survey; was 6 furlongs in length, 5 broad, and paid 3½ geld.

A Harleian Charter (48 c. 3), dated at Martham in 1347, shows that Wilhelmina, dau. of Robert Clere, Joan dau. of Wilhelmina, and Isabel of Hemsby gave discharge to Thomas de Huntyngfeld for certain lands and tenements, with the villeins in the villages of Alby, Thweyt, Erpyngham, Posewyck, Plumstead Magna, Wytton, Ormesby, Scrouteby, Castre, East Somerton, West Somerton, Wynterton, and Horsey. The witnesses to the deed being Robert de Martham, Robert de Eccles, Simon Gegge, and John Gunylde.

In 1561 Henry Parker, Lord Morley, was lord of the manor, and it passed from him to Henry Stanley, Lord Strange, and in 1573 it was found to belong to Clement Herward.

Ed. VI. granted the advowson to Edward, Lord Clinton, who alienated it to William Dix, to whom it was confirmed by the Duke of Norfolk.

Agnes, the wife of John Glangoyle, of Alby, by her will, in 1435, bequeathed to the guild of Saint Albrygth one comb of barley; to the plowlight one comb of barley; to the Parson of Alby two ells of linen cloth. The will is given at length in "Eastern Counties Collectanea."

The CHURCH is dedicated to St. Ethelbert. The rectory, valued in K.B. at £7 18s. 8d., paid 12d. synodals, 5s. procurations, and was anciently valued at 13 marks. The advowson of the church was granted, 1st Jas. I., to Thomas Lord Howard, Baron of Walden, and to Henry Howard. The living is in the gift of the Earl of Orford, and is quoted of the value of £202, with 14 acres of glebe. In 1611, the value was £37. The Parish Register begins 1558 for baptisms, burials, and marriages, but the marriage entries from 1725 to 1755 were reported to be "missing" in 1831; and from 1643 to 1658 the Register is very imperfect, leaves having been torn out.

In 1655 a Minister, named Nathaniel Brewster, described by Blomefield as Rector (but, as I believe, a Congregationalist), who ministered in place of Richard Ransome, ejected, was stationed here, and extended his ministrations to Thwaite; and his living was stated to be about £50 a year, when on the 15th April, 1656, the Council of State recommended the Trustees for Maintenance of Ministers to grant him an augmentation of £60, "his living being too small to afford him subsistence." On the 3rd November, 1657, an order was made for him to receive £16 a year out of the benefice of Thwaite. But the increase was still found to be inadequate, and on the 26th July, 1658, we find him writing to "the worthily honoured Henry Scobell, Esqr., who was Secretary to the Lord Protector in Council,"¹ praying a further augmentation:—

"After my humble service and thankfulness for all your Christian respect and favours, I am occasioned, by an extraordinary exigent, to move you, a little beyond my bounds (as this bearer, Mr. Clerke, my agent and faithfull friend, shall explaine my affaires to you), you may vouchsafe to lighten my present cares so farre as (with securitie from my Lord Charles Fleetwood or lieutenant general Ludlow) you shall finde safe and convenient. Wherein you would greatly refresh my bowells, and (with your pardon of this strange boldnesse) more oblige me to be

Your very humble faithfull servant, NATT. BREWSTER.

Brewster's name appears in a list of "Ministers made incapable of Preaching since the 24th August, 1662."

¹ Desiderata Curiosa, ii. 504.

RECTORS OF ALBY.

- 1312—Robert de Felbrigg, p. by Alice Countess of Norfolk.
 1327—Adam Aperil, p. by Thomas Earl of Norfolk. 1349—
 John de Wilton, p. by Sir Edward Montacute. 1371—John
 Bele, p. by William Ufford, Earl of Suffolk. 1381—Thomas de
 Wroxham. 1388—John Eyer, p. by Margaret, Duchess Nor-
 folk. 1397—Robert Spencer. There is a charter extant (Ad.
 Ch. 2008) of the year 1397, by which Robert Draper of Shading-
 field, granted to him and to Hugh Grant, Isabella his wife, Robert
 Wylde and John de Wode, a piece of woodland in Willingham,
 co. Suffolk.
- 1408—James Walsingham, p. by Sir Thomas Erpingham. 1413—
 Rich. Swanland, p. by Sir Gerard Ufflet and Eliz., Duchess
 Norfolk. 1422—Thomas Wroo. 1438—John Gloys, p. by
 John Duke of Norfolk. 1449—Thomas Tyler. 1454—John
 Spyrlyng (cum All Saints', Sudbury). 1459—John Horrald;
 John Wade. 1484—Robert Brown. 1491—John Manning,
 p. by Elizabeth, Duchess of Norfolk. 1496—Thomas Lin-
 coln.
- 1508—William Jenkinson. 1516—Alexander Shaw, p. by Sir
 Thomas Howard. 1531—Will. Latymer. 1554—Henry
 Haughe. 1557—Alexander Brown, p. by Eliz., Duchess of Nor-
 folk. 1560—John Sewell. 1589—Robert Green, Chaplain to
 the King, p. by Wm. Dix. 1592—William Thackwery. Re-
 turned as Chaplain to Jas. I. in 1603, when the value of Alby was
 £7 11s. 8d., and there were 80 communicants. 1592—Robert
 Reve, p. by the King. 1593—Jacob Hargraves.
- 1633—John Cooke, p. by Robert Smith. 1642—William Plummer
 [or Richard]. Sequestered August 13, 1643, "for being a loose,
 intemperate man, seldom preaching, inveighing against the rebels,
 refusing to pay money for supporting the rebellion, and for
 assisting his Majesty."¹ He held also the curacy of Sustead.
 16 —Richard Ransome; ejected, as he stated in a Petition to
 the Lords on 23rd June, 1660, "by the usurped powers," and
 "thrust out of the living only for his loyalty to the King."
 There was a presentation of Richard Ransome by John Dix
 in 1679. Brewster, above referred to, therefore seems to have
 occupied during Ransome's ejection; a child of Brewster's was
 baptized in 1667. The parish register shows Ransome, "the
 faithful son of the Reformed English Church," to have been buried
 in the sacarium on 3rd May, 1694. 1694—Robert Gilbs.
 Died 3rd July, 1696, and was buried in Matlaske Church.
 1697—Thomas Fox, p. by Henry Spelman.
- 1715—Richard Hooke, p. by Eliz and Will. Spelman. 1737—
 George England, who was also Vicar of Wickmere. 1750—
 Patrick St. Clair, p. by Hon. Horace Walpole. 1755—Daniel
 Fromanteel. 1790—Horatio Dowsing, p. by Lord Walpole.
 1843—Samuel Rees. 1853—Thomas Romaine Govett. 1868—
 Edwin Puckle, p. by R. Dunkley.

ALDBOROUGH.

FIVE miles north-west of Aylsham and seven from Cromer is Aldborough, with 79 families, each occupying a house. It had 40 families in 1710.

William, Earl Warren, at Domesday, had 60 acres of land here, with three villeins and four bordarers. The Bigods held here, as in so many other parishes, after the Conquest; Hugh Bigod Earl of Norfolk being lord in 1140; and in the 3rd Ed. I., Roger had freewarren, frankpledge, assize of bread and beer, and the privilege of a fair, at which he took toll, on the Feast of St. Peter and St. Paul. In the 14th year of the same reign he recovered damages against Jeffrey de Massingham and others for infringing his rights of fishing. From the Bigods it passed to Mowbray, Duke of Norfolk; and under him was held by the family of Herward. A brass formerly in the church recorded the death of Clement Herward in 1427, and he was buried (if the direction in his will of 2nd November, 1426, was complied with) beside Mary, his mother. Other brasses of this family recorded the deaths of Richard and Alice Herward in 1434; Alice, the wife of Robert, 1436; Anne, wife of Robert, 1485. This Robert, by his will dated 1481, left the manor to his son Clement, after the death of his wife, and gave 6s. 8d. to repair the chapel of St. Peter in the parish church. In this chapel several of the family were interred; and Clement, who died on the 16th November, 1509, left £10 for a licence for his son Philip to be a priest. After his decease an Inquisition was held at Thorpe Market,² from which it appears that, besides being seized of the manor and its appurtenances, he held a messuage with 15 acres in a place called "Herwards," formerly part of the manor of Gresham, and 20 other acres in Aldborough. On the 5th November, 1510, the manor of Aldborough was found to be held by Sir Thomas Howard, Lord of Howard, by right of his manor of Hanworth, by the twentieth part of a knight's fee, and was of the yearly value of £20. The messuage called "Herwards" was then held by William Paston, by right of his manor of Gresham, and was of the yearly value of 40s. Robert, who was the son and sole heir of Clement Herward, was the King's Escheator for Norfolk and Suffolk, in 7th and 8th Hen. VIII.³ The Herwards' arms are still in a window of the church—*azure*, a fess, gobonee, *gules* and *vert*, between three owlets, *argent*. It has been

¹ Walker, "Sufferings of the Clergy," pt. ii. 332.

² Computuses of the Exchequer, 1st and 2nd Hen. VIII., 7th memb.

³ Escheator's Accounts, 7th and 8th Hen. VIII., extending over 56 membranes.

thought by some that this family were lineal descendants of Hereward, the hero of the revolt which gave William the Conqueror so much trouble in 1070. The manor-house of the Herwards was very large. In a small part of it remaining in the time of Mr. Norris [1780], the arms of the family were still apparent.¹

Thomas Parker was subsequently found to be lord, and his son Gilbert transferred the manor to the Palgraves of Barningham, and afterwards one Thompson conveyed it to the Rev. John Grayle, Rector of Blickling, who died in 1732.

Hanworth Manor includes the principal part of this parish, and of that manor Lord Suffield is the present lord.

In the 25th Eliz., April 17th, William Dix had a grant of the fair, and by his will left it to Thomas, Earl of Arundel, and in 5th James I. it was conveyed by his trustees, as part of the estate, for the benefit of his creditors, to Robert Dix of Alby.

A modern building, the seat of James Gay, Esq., is known as New Hall. It was erected originally in 1636, but considerably enlarged in 1818.

An annual stock fair is held on 21st and 22nd of June. The fair in the last century, like so many other country fairs, was the occasion of bringing together the chief families of the neighbourhood; and Armstrong, writing in 1781, says, "About forty years ago it was always honoured with the company of the neighbouring nobility and gentry, who frequently attended this scene of rural festivity in such numbers that ten coaches together was no uncommon appearance. At that time country assemblies were less frequent, and men of fortune were glad even to make a fair a place of rendezvous for meeting each other; but since every market town now has its balls and assemblies, people of fashion can see each other in public, even during their retreat in the country, without the disagreeable necessity of mixing perhaps with their own servants."²

The CHURCH of St. Mary is an ancient Early Perpendicular building, on which £750 was expended in 1847 in restoration. There is an octangular font with a stone cover. There are monuments to several members of the Gay family. Valued in K.B. at £8; in 1705 at £45; now having 26 acres of glebe, and a yearly rent-charge of £200 awarded in lieu of tithes in 1839. Lord Suffield holds the advowson of the rectory. The parsonage house was built in 1834. In a terrier dated 1740 the Church estate had lands letting for £3 6s. a year, which had always been applied to the repair of the church; 1 acre was in the Little Field, 1 acre in the South Field, and 1 rood abutting upon the water-course dividing Aldborough and Thurgarton towards the north. The Parish Register commences 1538.

When the Commissioners for the Survey of Church Goods visited Aldborough, on 1st September, 1552, they were associated in their work with Richard Mody, William Hunt, Thomas Browne, and Robert Ransom, and they found still remaining:—

In p'mis one Chales w th a patent all gylt weying xv vnce di eu'y vnce at iiij <i>s</i> . iiij <i>d</i>.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	iiij <i>l</i> . vijs. ij <i>d</i> .
It'm one steple bell weying by estimacon iij di eu'y hundred at xvs.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	lijs. vj <i>d</i> .
It'm ij copes of blewe badkyn valued at	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	iiij <i>s</i> .
It'm iij vestmet of blew badkyn, valued at	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	vs.
It'm one vestmet of redd satten, valued at	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	ij <i>s</i> .
It'm one vestmet of grene badkyn & one of grene wosted, another of blacke worsted & one of blewe worsted...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	vs.
It'm ij hande bells waying vj <i>l</i> . valued at	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	ix <i>d</i> .
It one crosse of copper valued at	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	vj <i>d</i> .

¹ "Records of the House of Gurney," part ii., p. 413.

² The history of country fairs has never been written. It is a subject of much interest, and would well repay investigation. They were mostly held in virtue of a grant from the Norman sovereigns. Stourbridge fair, being the most celebrated provincial fair, has had more attention, perhaps, than any other, and Mr. Thorold Rogers, in his "History of Agriculture and Prices," tells us that the port of Lynn and the river Ouse were the means by which water carriage was made available for goods. It was a place to which Norwich merchants much resorted. In Carter's "History of the Town of Cambridge," it is stated that a great square was formed called the "Duddery," in which no less than £100,000 of woollen manufactures alone were sold in a week. In this Duddery was a booth, on one occasion, consisting of six apartments, all belonging to a dealer in Norwich stuffs alone, who had there above £20,000 worth of those goods.

Whereof they assigned to be "occupied & vsed in thadministracon of diuine S'uice the chales afforeseyd & the bell aforeseyd," which are acknowledged by "Bryan Smythe p'son, and by Ryc Mody and Thomas Brown."

RECTORS OF ALDBOROUGH.

- 1253—William de Ruse. Roger Bigod, Earl Marshal, took of him, for an encroachment by placing walls and houses in this parish half a mark and 1d. yearly.
- 1303—John de Haryng. 1320—William Franceys, p. by Thomas, Earl of Norfolk. 1346—John le Wayte, p. by Sir E. Montacute. 1371—John Pyper, p. by William, Earl of Suffolk. 1396—Nicholas Horn, p. by Margaret Countess of Norfolk.
- 1418—Nicholas Bowey, p. by John, Earl Marshal. 1422—Robert Blakelow. 1424—Thomas Wilson. 1432—John Atte Medowe, p. by John, Duke of Norfolk. Died 1462. 1467—John Wyppe.
- 1504—John Bartilmew, p. by Elizabeth, Duchess of Norfolk. 1515—Henry Smithson. 1520—John Hewe, p. by Thomas, Earl of Surrey. 1551—Bryan Smith, p. by the King. 1580—William Yonges. 1588—William Thackweray, p. by the Queen. 1592—James Hargraves. A Special Commission was issued out of the Exchequer as to the value of the tithes, and a Jury at Norwich Castle, on 25th March, 33rd Eliz., found "that all the tithes, profits, and commodities of the Rectory of Aldeburgh, besides the reasonable stipend of the curate there, and besides all other charges and prices, amount to £18 a year."¹
- 1614—Edmund Hamond, p. by John Griffith. 1628—Thomas Reeve, p. by Earl of Arundel and Surrey. Walker describes him as an ejected minister under most afflicting circumstances, for observing the orders of the Church, dissuading his parishioners from rebellion, and refusing to assist in it himself, as likewise for refusing the Covenant. Reeve's son described what happened in a letter to Walker:—One Major Raims, his neighbour, having raised a troop of horse for the Parliament, got a warrant from the Committee of Sequestration at Norwich to take away Mr. Reeve's cattle, and to bring him prisoner to Norwich Jail: which he executed with all the rigour he could; searching the bed where the wife of Dr. Reeve had laid in bed for three days; and when the women rebuked him for his barbarity, he drew his sword and stabbed it through the bed in several places, pretending to think Dr. Reeve was hid in the bed. After that he caused all his troopers to pull the bridles off their horses and whip them round the garden to tread all under foot. He broke open the barn door, and turned the whole troop to the sacks of corn. A few days after he broke open the door with a ploughshare, being denied possession, and turned Mrs. Reeve and six children into the street: brought carts and carried away the Rector's library and all the household goods and sold them, giving no account.
- Then, after nearly three years' obscurity, Dr. Reeve attempted to go to Oxford to the King, and within seven miles of that place was taken prisoner by a troop of the Parliament horse, and stript naked in very cold weather, and his clothes torn to pieces in search for letters; "instead of which, they met with near three score pieces of broad gold, which were quilted into several places for his support, but he could get none of them again." Then he fell into the hands of Miles Corbet, who threatened him with hanging, but only imprisoned him in the Gate-house at Westminster, where he was hardly used for three years. It was not till 1652 that the sequestration on his estate, spiritual and temporal, was removed.² The Commons Journals, 29th June, 1643, has the following entry: "Ordered, that the goods of Dr. Reeve, seized by the Committee of Sequestration long since, be all forthwith sold by the candle."³ A month after the Restoration, he petitioned the House of Lords (where his petition, as well as those of several other Norfolk ministers is still preserved) to take off the sequestration, and stated his intention to take proceedings at law against the "intruders" into his living. The petition says "That because yo^r petitioner (according to his bounden duty and oath of allegiance) faithfully adhered unto, praied and preached for his moste sacred Mat^r of moste blessed memory, Therefore did the Committee, upon an Ordinance of the Lords and Commons (dated March the 31, 1643) seize upon and sequester his estate, and put others into his livinge, for no other cause but his loyalty to his Soueraign, to the vtter vndoinge of himselfe and his whole family." Dr. Reeve also described himself as Rector of Fulborne, Camb. 1654—Richard Conyers, p. by Sir W. Playter, Bart., and Sir Richard Onslow. 1662—Robert Thomson, p. by Lord Arundel de Wardour, Richard Onslow, and John Tasburgh, 1663—John Haylock. 1679—James Haylock. 1680—Giles Wilson, p. by Henry, Duke of Norfolk. 1690—Joseph Ward, p. by John Harbord. 1699—James Ward, p. by John Harbord.
- 1717—Alexander Thompson, p. by Harbord Harbord. 1728—Joseph Ward. 1729—John Bennett, p. by Thomas, Lord Strafford. 1730—John Taylor. 1738—Jonathan Wrench, sen., p. by Harbord Harbord. 1742—Thomas Herring, p. by W. Morden Harbord. 1747—Richard Parkinson. 1774—William Norris, p. by Sir William Harbord. 1799—Robert Norris, p. by Lord Suffield.
- 1832—Robert Shuckburgh. 1860—J. G. Nelson. 1882—A. C. Davies.

ALDEBY,

SIXTEEN miles south-east by east of Norwich, and three miles north-east of Beccles, in the valley of the Waveney. In 1881, Aldeby contained 128 houses, occupied by 133 families; in 1821 there were only 68 houses for 95 families. In 1710 there were 40 families.

In King Edward's time there belonged to this lordship 2 carucates of land; which the Conqueror afterwards granted to Ralf de Beaufoe, of the family of the Bishop of Norwich of

¹ Exch. Spec. Com., 33rd Eliz., No. 1,595.

² Walker's "Sufferings of the Clergy," pt. ii., 345.

³ In the MSS. of the House of Lords is an affidavit, dated Oct., 1641, respecting the sale of a ship, etc., which explains this procedure: "After reading of their lordships' order a wax candle, above an inch in length, was set on the edge of a knife, and he that should bid most for the said ship, apparel, and furniture, before the said candle was out, should be the buyer."—4th Rept. Hist. MS. Com., p. 103.

There is an allusion to the custom in "Pepys' Diary":—"Sept. 3, 1662.—After dinner we met and sold the 'Weymouth,' 'Successe,' and 'Fellowship' hulkes, where pleasant to see how backward men are at first to bid; and yet, when a candle is going out, how they bawl, and dispute afterwards who bid the most first," etc.

Consul Tremlet, in his report to the Foreign Office on the trade of Saigon and Cochin China in 1878, says that the sale of land in those places is by auction and by candle, the dying out of three lights before a higher bid is the settling of the matter.

that name, and Ralf left it to his daughter Agnes, who was married to Hubert de Rye. This lady granted a great part of her inheritance to the Priory of Norwich, with the patronage of the church; and a priory cell with three Benedictine monks was established here and dedicated to St. Mary. Hen. I. commanded that the church and all the lands and men given by Agnes to the monks of Norwich should be held by them in perpetuity, and that no injury be offered them. He also confirmed the grants of lands to the Priory which had been made by Hubert de Rye. In the 14th Ed. I. William Rosceylyne gave the King £10 for a license to purchase of William, the Prior of Norwich, the lordship of this town, called in the record Audeby, excepting 30 messuages, 500 acres of land, 40 acres of meadow, 300 acres of marsh, 60 acres of wood, a mill, 10 marks rent per annum, and the advowson of the church, all which the Prior reserved to the Convent, and which was called the Prior's manor, and preserved distinct from the other. In 1356 Lawrence, Prior of Norwich, and Vicar-General to Thomas Percy, Bishop of Norwich, appointed John de Bedingfield, Prior of this cell, to take the confessions, to absolve, and enjoin the penances of the prioress and nuns of Bungay. Taylor says that the monks evidently officiated in the parish church, for there is no account of a conventual church. The temporalities of the Priory were valued in 1428 at £7 15s. 6d.; in 6th Ed. IV. the Lady Isabel Morley died patroness, as heir to the founders, Hubert and Agnes de Rye; and in the 21st of that King (1482) Edmund Salle and the monks were patrons. In 1534 the spiritualities were returned at £11 8s. 10d., and the temporalities at £14 os. 6¼d. On the Dissolution it passed to the Crown, and in 1538 was granted to the Dean and Chapter of Norwich. The Baspole family about that time leased the Priory manor. By an Order of the Queen in Council, on 17th March, 1869, it was transferred to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. The fines are arbitrary.

In Blomefield it is said that

The family of De Rosceline had an interest in this town, William de Rosceline held here and in Whetacre a quarter of a fee, 20th Hen. III., of John de Marshal (Baron of Rye, in right of Alice his wife, daughter and co-heir of Hubert de Rye, the last heir male of that family) by Letitia his wife; he was father of Sir Thomas de Rosceline, who in the 53rd of the said King was querent in a fine, and William, son of Adam de Audeley deforciant of a messuage and 40 acres of land here and in Whetacre, granted to Sir Thomas, who covenants to grant to William, for life, competent maintenance in eating and drinking, as one of his esquires, and the like for his boy; to pay besides yearly at Michaelmas, *ad Jocalia sua emende*, with 2 robes, one of a mark price for William, and one of half-mark for the boy, and if Sir Thomas should die during William's life, then his heirs should pay 5 marks per an. in full for the same. . . . At this time the Lord's bailiff would not suffer the King's bailiff to enter into this lordship; and in the 55th year had a grant of free warren and a weekly mercate and fair in this town.

In the 14th Ed. I. William Rosceline claimed the assize of his tenants, view of frankpledge, a gallows, and free warren; in the 26th he and Joan his wife settled it on themselves and their heirs, having purchased a lordship of the Prior of Norwich, in this town, in the 14th year. There being certain differences between the Prior and Sir William about the rights of common, the Prior was allowed by Sir William to take marle out of the great common of Aldeby, called *Mekytheyth*, to marle his lands, by agreement dated 1310.

Sir Robert Morley was lord of the manor of Aldeby Hall in 1330. Thomas Lord Morley, Marshal of Ireland, was resident at this manor-house, as appears by a deed dated 2nd October, 1413. A third part of the manor was afterwards held in dower by Ann de Juliemer, widow of Thomas,¹ and it remained in this family until Alianore, daughter and heir of Robert Lord Morley, married William, son of William, Lord Lovell, who, in her right, became lord, and he died in 1475. Lady Parker afterwards inherited; and Edward Parker, Lord Morley, Baron of Rye, was lord in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, and conveyed it to his son Henry, of Hornby Castle, Lincolnshire. It afterwards passed to the Calthorp family, and in 1637 Sir Henry Calthorp, of Ampton in Suffolk (second son of Sir James Calthorp of Cockthorpe, and who was Recorder of London) died seized of it. It remained in the Calthorp family till 1692, when it was transferred to certain trustees, now called "the Trustees of Ampton Charity," and

¹ Esch., 5. Hen. VI., n. 52.

it chiefly consists of the Hall Farm of about 300 acres, and the fines arising from which average £10 per annum.

Hubert Hacon, of Norwich, whose property was sequestered in 1644, held property in Aldeby.¹

At the time of the Survey a village called Thurketeliart, in which was an endowed church, a mill and 30 acres of land, were accounted for, but had disappeared before Blomfield's work was published; and it is suggested therein that the lands were included in Aldeby, and made part of the Priory estate in the reign of Hen. I.

In 1386, William de Swathynge, Thomas Moryns de Langele, William Leveryche de Thurstone, Robert Ludelowe, John Marche de Runhale, and William Wafre de Toft Monachorum conveyed to Ralph Bygod and Katherine, his wife, *in feodo talliato*, certain messuages and lands in Aldeby, Geldestone, Ellingham, Kirby Cane, Hales, Stockton, Gillingham, Beccles, Ringsfield, Haddiscoe, and Toft Monks; the attesting witnesses being Thomas de Morley, chev., Leonard de Kerdeston, chev., Hen. Inglose, and others;² and in 1422, William Garneys, arm., gave acquittance to Sir John Hevenyngham, sen., Oliver Groos, arm., and John Bacon, arm., and seven others, for the lands here referred to.³ In 1417, Margaret, wife of John Beverlee, gave acquittance to Robert Asshefelde, arm., and his daughter, Agnes, for lands and tenements in Aldeby, Wheatacre, and Toft Monks.⁴

Aldeby subscribed £10 14s. 6d. to the "free and voluntary present" to Chas. II., in 1663. Of this sum Richard Webster gave £2 10s.; Mrs. Anne London, John Banner, Henry Woodrow, and Mr. Whalle each gave £1.

The CHURCH, dedicated to St. Mary, has a square embattled tower, mainly Early English. Formerly, it is said, there was a chapel dedicated to St. Furceus, and that offerings were made to this saint, and certain tithes were paid for the ministrations of a priest. This edifice exhibits



a great variety of style, from the Norman to the architecture prevalent in the fifteenth century. In the chancel is a sedilia and a piscina. Our illustration shows the fine Norman arch over the west door. There are no monuments of early date; but John Baspole was buried in the south aisle by his parents in 1551. John Denny was buried in 1680 in the grave of Sydrach Denny, his father, and Elizabeth, his mother, and he left an only son. There are also memorials to Robert London,⁵ who died 1st March, 1652; Elizabeth, wife of Philip Carpenter, who died 23rd June, 1782, aged 71; and to Philip, her husband, who died 19th June, 1790, aged 75; William Carpenter, who died 7th November, 1782, aged 74, and Mary his wife, who died 25th January, 1803, aged 68; also to William Carpenter, who died 3rd July, 1756, aged 76, and Susanna, his wife, who died 11th Sep-

tember, 1777, aged 95. There is also one to William, eldest son of Francis Wall, who died 23rd June, 1685; and there was formerly one to Margaret, wife of Edmund Bendish, who died 26th

¹ Royalist Comp. Papers, 1st ser. lxi. 583.

² Harl. Ch. 56 G. 21.

³ Idem. 50 F. 36.

⁴ Idem, 46 D. 34.

⁵ In Blomefield (vol. viii., p. 4) it is said that Robert London was father, by Anne, daughter of Henry Pay, of Earsham, of Robert London, Esq., Justice of the Peace, who, by Margaret, daughter of Nathaniel Knyvet, of Denver, was father of Robert London, who married Anne Philpot, of London, and died s. p. His second son, Nathaniel, married Catherine, daughter of Richard Wythe, of Brockdish, and had Nathaniel living in 1698. A Robert London was buried at Wheatacre, with his wife, in 1627. The second Robert appears to have distinguished himself in the Civil Wars, and had a patent of arms, of which Add. MS., 14,294, p. 7, gives a copy. It says that Robert London, of Albye, a Justice of the Peace for Norfolk, had upon all occasions, with the hazard of his life, and expence of his fortune, demonstrated his loyalty to Charles I., and particularly served in the war against the rebels, under the command of Sir Edward Walgrave, Bart., and had, to the utmost of his power, assisted the cause of the Restoration. Then follows the arms which he and his successors for ever may bear:—"Argent, three crosse crossetts in bend

September, 1681. Matthew Trott and his wife Thomasina, who were buried in the centre of the chancel aisle, also have monuments: that to the former is inscribed as follows:—

M. S.
 Quod Reliquum Est
 MATTHAEI TROTT Generosi Hujus Ecclesiae
 Nuperi Patroni Hic Inhumatur Sacri Sint
 Cineres Licet Ne Violentor, Utpote Quia
 Tu Etiam (Lector) Et Cinis Es Longaevis Vix-
 it Plus Tamen Aliis Quam Sibi Ac Si Quid
 Sobria Ac Innocua Vita Si Quid Sua Vel
 Suorum Pietas Porro Valuissent, Adhuc Su-
 perstes Non Caruisset Epitaphis Plura Non
 Addam Sed Ut Ex Voto Valetas
 Obiit xxix^o Die Maii Anno
 Aetatis Suae LXXIII
 Anno Incarnationis MDCLVIII
 Dicta Sit Deo Gloria.

The condition of the church in 1878 was described as "filled with high square pews of great size, and of the very worst kind," many of the seats being so arranged that the parishioners sat with their backs to the officiating minister. These miserable pews had bare brick floors; the walls of the church were damp, the windows and doors were defective; and it is to be feared that this was a condition not unknown to other churches in the county previous to the restoration movement of the last quarter of a century. The church was restored in 1880 at the cost of £500; the parsonage house was built in 1842 by Queen Anne's Bounty Fund, and enlarged in 1881. There was no resident clergyman in the parish till the erection of the parsonage. The vicarage is at present valued at £299. The tithes were commuted in 1840 for £735 per annum and are held on lease by the Carpenter family. Henry Carpenter, Esq., is at the present time the Lay Rector, and owner of the great and small tithes: his lease extends to 1889.

The parish register dates from 1558.

Adjoining the church was the Benedictine Priory, founded as above by Agnes, wife of Hubert de Rye, a cell to Norwich Priory. At the dissolution the prior was made a prebendary of Norwich. The remains of the priory in time came to be converted into a dwelling house.

The National School was erected 1840, enlarged 1875; 120 children attend.

In 1806 the poor's allotment, awarded at enclosure, was about 22 acres, let for £60 a-year, distributed in coal.

VICARS OF ALDEBY.

1756—Abraham Dawson, p. by Dean and Chapter of Norwich.
 1789—Levold Thomas Howell. 1795—Bartholomew Ritson.
 1812—Hervey Taylor. 1837—John Edmund Cox, p. by the

Bishop, by lapse. 1843—Arthur Horace Bellman. 1852—
 Thomas Scott Huxley. 1858—A. W. Boycott. 1866—Ed-
 ward Badeley. 1875—Jesse Gillett.

ALDERFORD.

ABOUT eight miles north-west of Norwich and three miles south of Reepham is Alderford, a parish of eight houses, each occupied by one family. In 1710 there were ten families.

At the time of Domesday it was included in the manors of the Giffards, Earls of Bucks, in Witchingham and Swannington. In the 10th Ric. I. William de Huntingfield and Isabel his wife conveyed 60 acres in Alderford and Swannington to William Batail, with his

cottized gules, and for his crest upon an helmet proper, mantled *gules*, doubled *argent*, and wreath of his colours, an armed arm holding a sword proper, the hilt and pommel *or*, between two dragon's wings *argent*." This grant is dated 10th February, 1664.

In a letter from John Cory, of Norwich, to Sir John Potts, of Mannington, dated 17th March, 1643, relating to Cromwell's famous raid on the Royalists at Lowestoft, it is said, "Those sent out on Monday morning, the 13th, returned last night with old Mr. Castle, of Raveningham, and some arms of his, and of Mr. London, of Alby." And in a postscript of three days' later date, when Cromwell was at Norwich, it is added: "On Friday night the Colonel brought in hither with him the prisoners taken at Lowestoft, and Mr. Trott of Beccles."

right in the churches thereat, to be held by the sixth part of a fee and 40s. a year, and 20s. payable for life to W. Briton. In the 5th Ed. I. Ralph de Batail granted the advowson to the Convent of Norwich; and in the 30th year of the same reign William, Lord Roos of Hamelak, granted to Simon East and Joan his wife the water mill, with the mill-dam and the water-course. In the 9th Ed. II. Roger Mortimer granted to Sir Walter de Norwich all his lands in this parish, and Sir John de Norwich, his son, in 22nd Ed. III., sold the same to Robert Mayne, of Crouch Stoke; and the Prior of Longville, John, son of Walter de Witchingham, and Roger de Antingham had lordships here 15th Ed. II. From 1570 to 1609, Henry, Robert and John Richers were lords in succession. Viscount Canterbury is now lord of the manor.

Norwich Priory had temporalities here in 1628 valued at 3s. 6d.; and St. Faith's Priory had 6d.

The CHURCH is dedicated to St. John the Baptist. The old value was 8½ marks; Peter's Pence 8d. The present value is £209, with 13 acres of glebe, and the Dean and Chapter of Norwich are patrons. It was consolidated with Attlebridge in 1686. The Parish Register begins only at 1723.

Robert Mayn, in 1373, gave by will a messuage in the town for building a porch and a south window in the church. In 1523 Richard Angus, by his will, ordered the church to be "hallowed" at his charge.

On the 9th July, 5th and 6th Phil. and Mary, the King and Queen granted eight pieces of land of ten acres in Alderford, besides several other lands and tenements in other parishes, "to maintain lamps, lights, obits, guilds, and such like," in Aldeby and the parishes named.

VICARS OF ALDERFORD.

1297—Gilbert Lamberdo, by papal provision.

1332—Gilbert de Melton, p. by Norwich Convent; John Schirloe.

1337—Oliver de Wytton. 13 —Hugh Fabri, of Cressingham.

1353—William de Aldeby. 1359 — Robert de Burghwode.

1368—Robert de Thurgarton. 1390—Thomas Smithe. 1395—

John Turvey. 1398—Ralph Gerard, of East Walton.

1401—John Hancock. 1421—John Anghouse. 1444—John

Samson. 1454—Nicholas Dallyng.

1506—William Cartlinch. 1540—Robert Nuttall. 1542—Henry

Nuttall. 1550—Richard Skippe. 1557—John Skot. 1568—

Lanc. Robinson. 1591—Richard Foster. 1594—Robert

Kendall.

1670—Samuel Sayer. 1672—Richard Kipping. 1686—Consoli-

dated with Attlebridge. 1688—Alexander Croshould. 1691—

John Stewkly.

1713—John Stewkley. 1729—Lynn Smear. 1762—William Herne.

1776—James Williams Newton, Minor Canon of Norwich the

same year, which he held till 1817. Was one of the Masters in

Norwich Free School, under Lemon, Parr, and Forster. Author

of "A New and Easy Introduction to the Hebrew Language,"

and several musical publications.

1820—Francis Howes. 1844—John Dent Parmeter. 1857—

Cambell Wodehouse. 1867—George Peter Buck. 1873—

William Louis Buckley.

ALETHORPE,

A HAMLET of Fakenham [which see], to which manor it belonged in the time of Harold, and also after the Conquest. As early as 1419 this place had a chapelry, and there was a church here, dedicated to All Saints, to which a Guild was attached; in 1602 it was found that the ruins had been converted into a barn. In the reign of Ed. I. there were thirty houses in the hamlet, but at present one farm covers the whole area. Sir Laurence J. Jones is the lord.

ALGAR'S-THORP.

BLOMEFIELD mentions a hamlet of this name, adjoining Great Melton [which see]. He writes:—

It had a chapel, formerly parochial, dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, but now [1750] long since demolished. It stood in a close called Maudlin [Magdalen] Close. Norwich Domesday says that then the Rectors of Melton St. Mary and All Saints took all the profits belonging to the chapel, for which they were obliged, at their charge, to find a chaplain to serve in it. It had baptism, burial, and all signs of a mother church, and seven parishioners and their families. It is

still called Thorp Hamlet. In 1476 it was perpetually united to Melton All Saints, though the chapel continued in use till the Dissolution. In the Conqueror's Survey it is not named, being then part of Melton, which was given soon after to one Algar, from whom it took its name.

From evidences in the records of the Court of Wards, it appears that Edward Downes, on the 16th January, 2nd Jas. I., made several conditional sales and assurances unto Clement Jermy, Thomas Gurlinge, Henry Clarke, Henry Apkins, and Thomas Bootye, as trustees for discharging certain debts and obligations, of a heath or warren of coneyes in Great Melton and "Asgasthorp, alias Asgaristhorp, alias Thorp Saint Michell," and of several parcels of land in a meadow and in a wood known as Bawber Close, otherwise Thorpe Close, together containing about 400 acres.

On the 1st July, 1613, a commission was issued to Sir Philip Wodehouse, Bart., Sir Henry Gawdy, Thomas Holle, and Edward Chamberlayn, to enquire into the disputes which had arisen in Algaristhorp, alias Asgarsthorp, as to the payment of £3 16s. for every fifteenth and tenth, which runs as follows:—

Whereas also litigation and discord have arisen between the inhabitants of the towns aforesaid [Asgarthorp and Great Melton] and Edward Anguish, Gent., and other Lords of the Manor of Peverell and Hacons, as to the taxation and payment aforesaid, according to the quantity of number of acres in the occupation of the inhabitants, being to the unequal and heavy charge of many of the inhabitants, and of Edward Anguish and the Lords aforesaid, wherefore they have supplicated us to provide a remedy, and therefore the above Commissioners are appointed to survey, measure, and enquire as to the quantity of land, &c., within the towns of Algarsthorp and Great Melton in connection with this tax.

This is endorsed, "No Return. Renew this Commission to the Commissioners within written. Returnable on the morrow of St. Martin.—ED. BROMLEY."¹

ALPINGTON,

SIX miles south-east of Norwich, a parish whose history has been very much merged in that of Yelverton, from the fact that its rectory was centuries since consolidated with that of Yelverton.

In a terrier of 1827, it is stated that 1 acre 0 rood 17 perches, lying in the "Great Church Field in Alington," was taken under the Inclosure in exchange for land in Yelverton, the rent of which (two guineas yearly) was received by the churchwardens, and applied to the repairs of the church. The Fuel allotment awarded to the poor of Alington at the time of the inclosure is 9 acres, 1 rood, 31 perches, and is let at this time for £18 a year.

See YELVERTON.

ANMER.

ELEVEN miles from Lynn is Anmer, of which a Saxon freeman named Orgar was the principal lord in his day, and at the Conquest it was given, with several other manors, to one Eustace, Earl of Boulogne. Anmer then contained 2 carucates of land, 1 villein, 6 borderers, 4 servi, etc., a fishery, the moiety of a salt pit, and was valued at 40s. per annum. Besides this 6 freemen held 1 carucate of land, and 2 borderers a carucate. Eustace claimed these freemen by a grant from the Conqueror; the whole was 1 leuca long, and 5 furlongs broad, and paid 4½d. to a 20s. gelt; and there were 3 socmen who had 30 acres, who were delivered to Osmund, and one socman with 8 acres, valued at 5s. per annum. Osmund held it under Eustachius, and Wido Angevin after Osmund, being his nephew. It was soon divided in two manors—Anmer Hall and Bereford Manor.

THE MANOR OF ANMER HALL.—In the 24th Hen. III. Hervey de Stanhoe conveyed to Laurence de Flemen and to Maud, his wife, certain lands with 5s. 3d. rent, which, with the advowson of the church, was Maud's dower. The family of the Calthorps, as heirs to the

¹ Exch. Spec. Com., 10th Jas. I., No. 4,272.

said Hervey de Stanhoe, in the reign of Ed. I., succeeded to this manor, and it remained with them till the end of the reign of Queen Elizabeth. From them it passed, early in the 17th century, to Thomas Norris, and in 1678 Cuthbert Norris transferred it to the Coldhams, and so continues to the present time. There was a suit in 4th Wm. and Mary, *Coldham v. Dugate*, in which it appeared the plaintiff had a lease from defendant of a right of feed and shack for 100 sheep in Anmer Hall fould-course, which defendant held by lease from Christ Coll., Cambridge. The question in dispute was whether plaintiff or defendant ought to pay the Parliamentary taxes, which amounted to £1 11s. 9¾d. per year. The case was tried at Norwich assizes, and resulted in a verdict for the defendant.¹

BEREFORD MANOR had for lord in the earliest records Wido Angevin, who was said to have been an ancestor of the Thorps of Ashwelthorpe. In 21st Ed. I. John de Bereford and Sir Walter de Calthorp held a knight's fee of William Pygot; and the former was lord in 9th Ed. II. By the Escheat Rolls, 4th Ed. III., John, son of John de Cambridge, held a lordship in Anmer of Robert de Thorp, and in 20th of the same reign John George held the manor which John de Bereford held. John Scot and Henry Babaile, in 23rd Hen. VI., demised to John Wodehouse this manor, which they had of the feoffment of William Herford, of Lynn, to him and his heirs, with remainder to his brothers, Thomas and John. In 1496, Henry L'Estrange, of Hunstanton, died seized of it, and in 30th Hen. VIII., by a fine between Sir Thomas L'Estrange, John Wodehouse, of Horsford, and Cecilia his wife, Francis Bedingfeld and Elena his wife, it was conveyed to Sir Thomas, with ten messuages and lands in Anmer and Dersingham; and in the year following Sir Thomas and Lady Anne L'Estrange conveyed it to Thomas Houghton, who died lord in the 35th year of that King. In 1570, George Houghton was lord, and it afterwards passed to the Norris family, and being joined to their other manor, eventually passed to the Coldhams.

Besides the above, there was a small lordship of one carucate and a-half of land, which William de Warren possessed, held by four borderers, which a free woman had held in the Confessor's time, valued at 5s. per annum. Wido Angevin claimed this, as delivered to his uncle Osmund and to Earl Eustace, but de Warren's men disseised him.

The Abbot of Creake, in 1428, had temporalities in Anmer, valued at 44s. 10d.

In 1710 there were ten families resident in Anmer; there were in 1881 thirty-five, living in as many houses.

The CHURCH of St. Mary is in the Perpendicular style, and constructed of flint and stone. A chapel at the south-east angle of the nave is said by Blomefield to have been erected by Sir Oliver Calthorp, in the 14th century. There was formerly a screen, but it has long since disappeared: the old steps into the rood-loft, however, still remain, with the entrance which led into the loft. Since 1876 there has been considerable restoration work. Henry James Coldham, Esq., is patron. The living, which is at present of the value of £200, with 70 acres of glebe, was certified in 1710 as of the value of £49. The parish register dates from 1674.

RECTORS OF ANMER.

1294—William de Anemere.

1303—Reginald de Waterden, p. by Sir Walter de Calthorp.

1317—William de Horsford. 1327—William, son of Ralph de

Irmingland. 1337—Thomas Machen de Hindelston. 1349—

John de Banyngham. 13 — George Hoveden. 1374 —

Thomas Walrond, (cum Wroxhall, dioc. Sarum,) p. by Sir

Oliver Calthorp. 1385—Hugh Woketon, (cum Streatham).

1388—John Langston, (cum Horwood, dioc. Exeter).

1420—Will. Notyngham, p. by the King (John Calthorp being a

minor). 1432—Henry Notyngham, p. by W. Calthorp.

1448—Ric. Kygill. 1466—John Coket. 1472—John Danis-

hu.l. 1491—Roger Welle.

1517—Thomas Houghton, p. by Sir Philip Calthorp. 1541—Thos.

Moore, by assignees of Philip Calthorp. 1544—John Watkin-

son. 1552—Lancelot Thexton, p. by Elizabeth Parker, widow:

probably the son of Thomas Thexton, Vicar of Great Bircham,

Fellow of St. John's College, Camb., and one of the chaplains

to Ed. VI. He was first rector of Great Bircham. One of the

married clergy deprived by Queen Mary. In 1572, Queen Eliza-

beth presented him to the rectory of Trunch, and in the same

year he was appointed on a Commission respecting the Papists in

this diocese. In 1573 he was Rector of Aylsham, which living

he resigned in 1581. He also had two rectories in Suffolk. He

died 25th Feb., 1589, and was buried at Trunch. 1554—

Edward Askewe, p. by Will. Woodhouse and Elizabeth his wife.

1556—Will. Lion. 1559—Thomas Howes, *alias* Athough.

¹ Exc. Dec.

1560—John Skelton. 1567—Richard Parry, p. by Drew Drury and Lady Elizabeth, his wife.
 1603—Rich. Parry, p. by Eliz. Might. There were at this time 54 communicants.¹ 1624 - Edmund Norris, p. by Thomas Norris. 1635 - John Parvish. 1647 - Will. Selby. 1662 - Thomas Displin. He is referred to in a "King's Letter," 31st May, 1632, as a "Gregson Fellow of St. John's Coll., Cambridge," but who could not be allowed to hold his Fellowship, having married. Robert Balam, a native of Norfolk, as required for that Fellowship, was recommended for it in the same letter, "for his father's

sake, who hath deserved well for his constant service in the country and hath otherwise a great charge of children." Displin was one of the ejected clergy. 1678—John Warde, p. by Cuthbert Norris.
 1705—Will. Gay, p. by assignee of James Coldham. 1707—Joseph Furse, p. by James Coldham. 1709—Will. Houghton. 1747—Charles Buckle, p. by Charles Buckle. 1792—Will. Davey, p. by James Coldham.
 1815 - John Coldham. 1878 - Richard Palgrave Manclarke, p. by H. J. Coldham.

ANTINGHAM.

FIFTEEN miles from Norwich, and within two and a-half from North Walsham, is this parish, the population of which in 1881 lived in fifty-four houses. In 1710, Antingham had thirty families.

The Bigods held here after the Conquest what three freemen held in the Confessor's time, and the family of Antingham was enfeoffed under them. Roger de Antingham, who had free warren in 1321, was described as the King's "valet,"—in those days a courtly office of honour. By deed, dated at Antingham, the Saturday after the Feast of St. John, ante Post. Lat. (6th May) 20 Ed. III., William de Felmyngham granted to Avicia, widow of Roger, and to Bartholomew her son, the manor and lands in several parishes, the witnesses being Sir Robert de Erpyngham, Sir Will. Peyner, Simon de Felbrigg, and others. Subsequently, as early as 1388, the Witchinghams were possessors of the manor. The court rolls of 1457 show that it was contrary to the privileges of the lord to catch coneys with a ferret, as several persons were presented for so doing. In 1462 it was settled for life on Edmund Witchingham and Alice his wife, who was daughter and heir of Sir John Fastolf. By marriage of their daughter, Joan, it passed to a Longstruther, a Bois of Horning, and then, through her daughter, Catherine, to Sir Edmund Jenney, of Knettishall, in Suffolk, who held his first court in 1483. His son William Jenney (who married a daughter of Robert Clere, of Ormesby), held courts here in the reign of Hen. VII.; his son Francis (by a second wife) in 1561 leased the manor to Thomas Hunt, and in 1570 sold it to Thomas Gryme, who married Amphilis, a daughter of Robert Themilthorp, of Foulsham. This lady, being a widow, in the latter part of the reign of Queen Elizabeth, married John, second son of Sir Robert Kemp, of Gissing, who was lord in 1609.

This manor is now styled ANTINGHAM WITCHINGHAM, and WALLISHES. In a Court Book, commencing 1609, the manor is styled Antingham Witchinghams, but the homage appears to have consisted of two bodies, "*ex parte* Witchinghams" and "*ex parte* Wallises;" and in old title-deeds they are styled the Manors of Welches, otherwise Wallishes Antingham, *alias* Witchinghams, *alias* Antingham Witchinghams. The manor was settled in 1715 by William Kemp, of Antingham, second son of Sir Robert Kemp, of Gissing, on his marriage with Elizabeth Shardelow, of Norwich, spinster, who died in his lifetime, and by whom he had two sons, William and Robert, and five daughters. The entail was barred by recovery in 1739, and William Kemp, the father, who died in 1744, by his will devised

¹ The return as to the number of Communicants given here and in other parishes in the Archdeaconry of Norwich are from the Harleian MS. 595. In communicating the particulars in a paper addressed to the Norfolk and Norwich Archæological Society, Dr. Jessopp very aptly observed that the responses from the several Archdeaconries "would constitute a complete report upon the condition of the Church of England at the beginning of the seventeenth century, and would contain information concerning the religious condition of the people, at least in externals, that could be looked for in no other source. It would be more than this—it would give as near an approximation to a *census* of the population as in those days had ever been aimed at. For in every parish the *communicants* comprised the *whole body of the adult inhabitants*—who were all bound to receive the Sacrament on certain occasions, under heavy penalties - and who, if they did not receive it were classed under the head of Recusants, and stigmatized accordingly." It is manifest that, if proper care had been taken, these returns should be available for information as to all the Norfolk parishes; but successive Archdeacons, or their agents, have not deemed it their duty to keep official papers in any kind of order; and in the case of the Archdeaconry of Norwich, hundreds of bundles of official papers are in a state of confusion which renders them inaccessible, and we are dependent on a MS. preserved in London for this return of Communicants.

the manor to his son Robert in tail. By an Act of Parliament, passed in 1754, the manor was vested in trustees for sale, and was purchased by Sir William Harbord, Bart., K.B. This baronet, whose original surname was Morden, was the eldest son of Judith Morden, of Thorpe Market, a sister of Harbord Harbord, of Gunton; he married Elizabeth, the only daughter of Robert Britiffe, of Norwich, by Elizabeth, his wife, who was one of the daughters and coheirs of Sir William Rant, of Thorpe Market. On the death of Sir William Harbord, the manor passed to his eldest son, Harbord Harbord, who was raised to the Peerage in 1786, by the title of Baron Suffield, of Suffield. He settled the manor, on his marriage with Mary, daughter of Sir Raphe Assheton, Bart., and it was again settled, on the marriage of his heir apparent, William Assheton Harbord, with Lady Caroline Hans Hobart, daughter of John, Earl of Buckinghamshire. William Assheton Harbord succeeded to the title in 1809, and upon his death, in 1821, without issue, the manor passed to Edward Harbord, the second son of Harbord, Lord Suffield, who was succeeded in 1835 by Edward Vernon Harbord, his eldest son by his first wife, Georgiana, daughter of George Venables, Lord Vernon. Edward Vernon, Lord Suffield, died in 1853, without leaving an heir, and was succeeded by his half-brother, Charles Harbord, the present peer, who was the eldest son of Edward, Lord Suffield, by his second wife, Emily Harriet, daughter of the Rev. James Shirly. The fines in this manor are certain, and the custom of descent follows the common law.

Here also is the Manor of ST. BENNET'S, now known as ANTINGHAM CHAMBERLAINS. As its name implies, it formerly belonged to the Abbey of St. Bennet at Holme, valued in King Edward's time at 30s., and at 40s. at the Survey. It was eight furlongs in length and five and a-half in breadth, and paid 13½d. gelt. Hen. II., by precept, secured to the Abbot that the Abbey lands in Antingham should be held freely, as Adam the Steward had acknowledged it to be his. Peter of Hautbois gave, in 12th John, 20 marks to the King to have seisin of the same, and of that of Thurgarton, with the hundred of Tunstead and stewardship of the Abbey, and in 1234 he released his right. In 1257, the Chamberlain of the Abbey held it with a mill; and in 1274 the Hundred Jury made a presentation that he refused permission to his brewers and maltsters to appear before the bailiffs of the King at the Hundred lete; but having claimed exemption, he afterwards waived what he deemed his rights. At the Dissolution it formed part of the grant to the Bishop of Norwich; and in 1557 one of the Bishop's family farmed it and the messuages and lands, with all the rights and liberties belonging, for ninety-nine years, at £6 17s. 2d. a-year. In 1708 the manor, with a piece of water called Swafield Dam, and various lands, with right of fishing and fowling, was leased by Bishop Trimnell to William Kemp, Sir Charles Bloys, and Robert Bloys, for twenty-one years; and the lease was renewed from time to time, and passed to Sir William Harbord on his purchase of the other Antingham manors; and from that time to the present the titles are the same, except that of the leasehold interest in the manor, etc., was converted into a fee simple by purchase in the year 1800 from Bishop Manners Sutton, under the powers of the Land Tax Redemption Act. The fines are certain, the custom of descent follows the common law.

GYMINGHAM LANCASTER.—The lordship at a place called Hulver, in this parish, is now known by this name. It is mentioned by Blomefield as a homage, or lordship, which Hen. II. gave to Hamelin Plantagenet, Earl Warren and Surry, belonging to his manor of Gytingham, valued in that king's time at £10 per annum. It appears to have been in the possession of Sir Thomas Bedingfield and Alice his wife in 1537, and to have been conveyed by them to Edmund Wyndham; and in 1554 Richard Calthorp died seised of it. It now belongs to Lord Suffield. The fines are part certain and part arbitrary; the custom of descent is gavelkind.

In this parish are two lakes, forming the principal sources of the river Ant, which was made navigable to the eastern boundary in 1827.

In 1630, Thomas Kirbye left a piece of land known as Gunton Acre to Thomas Clarke, May his wife, and their heirs, on condition that they should every year at Michaelmas pay 8s. to the churchwardens and overseers, to be distributed among the poor. The Charity Commissioners, in 1833, found that the 8s. was received by the Steward of Lord Suffield, and with a sum added by his lordship was laid out in bread for the poor. Lord Suffield also at that time paid annually the value of two combes of wheat for distribution among the poor, which was known as "pond money," but how the obligation arose to pay the same could not be discovered.

A license granted on the 25th April, 1662, to one Cristian Tuck, of this parish, to keep a common alehouse, states, among other conditions, the following, which was customary at that time in all such licenses: "That he sell the drinke he draweth by the Ale quart or pint, and not by juggs or cannes, and sell the best after the rate of one penny the quart, and the rest after the rate of one halfe penny the quart, according to the statute in that case made and p'vided."

Formerly there were two churches in Antingham, attached to the manors. The advowson of one of these (I am uncertain which), on the Feast of the Apostles Philip and James, 10th Hen. V. (1422), was conceded by Thomas Peck, clerk, to Robert Brewys, John Fitz-Rauff, Oliver Groos, William Paston, and others. The church, dedicated to St. Margaret, is in ruins, a portion of the tower only remaining.¹ Its rectory, valued in K.B. at £5 6s. 8d., is consolidated with North Walsham, for which the Vicar of the latter receives £28 10s. per annum from the rector of Antingham in lieu of tithes. The advowson of this church in 8th Hen. VI. belonged to Sir Richard Carbonell, of Badingham, in Suffolk, and descended to his son John, on whose death, in the 10th of that King, it passed to Sir Robert Wyngfeld. The number of Communicants in 1603 at St. Margaret's was 56; at St. Mary's, 60. The certified value of St. Margaret's in 1705 was £25. There is a legend that the two churches were built by two sisters, Margaret and Mary, after whom they were named.

RECTORS OF ST. MARGARET.

1291—Thomas

1302—Walter de Pickering. 1304—John de Norton. 1318—Robert de Carleton. 1331—Ralph de Welyngham.

1433—John Shaw. 1447—Thomas Apylton. 1463—Andrew Belle. 1468—Simon Aleyn. 1473—Thomas Cook. He died in 1503. By his will he directed his body to be buried before the image of St. Margaret, in the porch; and the following extract may be given here:—"Item, I wille y^e selyng in y^e chuncell of Seynt M'garet of y^e same chirche be amendid of my cost and charges and to be paynted w^t color of grene. Item, I geue to y^e chirche of Seynt M'garet forseyd, a vestment of blewe worsted. Item, I bequeath to y^e auter of Seynt Thomas in [North] Walsham, a cloth of red fyn worsted, w^t braunches of gold sett ther vpon, to hang befor y^e seyde auter. . . . Item, I bequeath to y^e baye auter of Our Lady Chirch in Antynghm, acloth of wight worsted, w^t braunches of gold sett ther vpon, the cloth of Seynt M'garet, to be patyrn to them bothe, and in y^e mydd^e of y^e clothe of Seynt Thomas an Image of Seynt Thomas, and in the myddle of the cloth of Our Lady an Image of y^e Assumpcion of Our Lady."²1504—Simon Holle. 1518—Thomas Gardiner. 1519—Edmund Halteman. 1528—John Godbere. 1554—Robert Church. 1559—Richard Gatefeld. 1560—Nicholas Church. 1570—William Farset. 1582—John Wright. Resided at Ludham. (Reported "No Preacher.")³

1610—William Sta key. 1617—Edmund Wilson. 1662—Robert Bullock. 1675—Nicholas Pollard. 1679—George Raynsond. 1690—Robert Harvey, by King and Queen, Bishopric vacant.

1701—Thomas Jeffrey. 1736—John Fowke, by Bishop of Norwich.

¹ Before 1702 it was decayed and useless, and a faculty was obtained to sell the three bells belonging to it, which were at that time in St. Mary's Church, and also to use the materials of the old walls to repair St. Mary's.—*East Anglian*, i., 158.

² Reg. Poppe, f. 293.

³ Strype confesses that in 1583 most of the clergy could not preach at all, "their skill extending no further than the reading of Common Prayer and the Homilies."—Strype's *Whitgift*, i., 240.

The same authority, whose devotion to the Church no one will think of questioning, tells of a clergyman examined by the Bishop of Norwich: "The Bishop asked him the contents of the third chapter of Matthew; he answered nothing; and the contents of the eleventh chapter; neither could he answer to that. He asked him how many chapters the Epistle to the Romans contained, and what the subject of that epistle was. To neither of these could he answer. And when he adventured to answer, he showed his ignorance as much as by his silence."

It was stated by Aylmer, who was afterwards raised to the episcopal bench, that upon one occasion the Vicar of Trumpington, near Cambridge, in the course of divine service, fell upon the text, "Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani." Being much struck by what appeared to him so strange a repetition, the reverend gentleman could not restrain his wonder. "When he came to that place," wrote the Bishop, "he stopped, and calling the churchwardens said, 'Neighbours, this geare must be amended. Here is Eli twice in the book: I assure you, if my lord of Ely come this way and see it, he will have the book. Therefore, by mine advice, we shall scrape it out, and put in our own town's name—Trumpington, Trumpington, lamah zabachthani.'" The Bishop adds that to this strange suggestion the churchwardens acceded, and that the proposed alteration was actually made in the Bible of the church.—Buckle, *Miscellaneous*, i., 116.

Keith, the biographer of the Scottish Bishops, tells a story, which is printed in Spottiswood's *History of Scotland*, p. 101, in reference to Crichton, Bishop of Dundalk: "It was he who said to one of his vicars, whom he was persuading to leave his opinion, that he thanked God he neither knew the Old nor the New Testament, and yet had prospered well enough all his days."

ST. MARY'S CHURCH, with its square embattled tower, is in the Decorated style. It was restored and re-pewed in 1864, at a cost of £430; and in 1882, at a cost of £110, the present rector replaced a porch blown down by a gale in October, 1881. There are two piscinas and a marble font. This rectory has the vicarage of Thorpe Market and the donative of Bradfield annexed, and is valued in K.B. at £6 3s. 1½d. In 1705 it was of the certified value of £42. The living is now of the value of £480 a year and 40 acres of glebe. The rectory-house, built in 1844, cost about £1,700. The advowson of the rectory of St. Mary's was originally in three or four parts. One portion was bought from the Kemps,¹ and probably this portion comprised two-fourths, as the Witchinghams, who preceded the Kemps, appear to have presented to a mediety with the manors in 1754; another portion was bought by William Assheton, Lord Suffield, from the Duke of Norfolk in 1818, and the third portion passed, under the will of the Right Honourable William Windham, the eminent statesman, dated 1758, and was bought in 1840 by the trustees of Lord Suffield, and the titles of the portions have followed the title of the manors down to 1882, when the entire advowson, to which the Vicarage of Thorpe Market and Mediety of Bradfield were annexed, was purchased from Lord Suffield and his trustees by the Rev. Arthur Charles Davies, of Aldborough, the present patron. The living is now worth £470 per annum, and the rent of the glebe lands produces £81 10s.

RECTORS—CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

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| <p>1280—Thomas
1305—Ralph Autre. 1308—John de Hemingsburgh. 1311—Robert de ——. 1325—Jeffrey de Loftegrave. 1327—Edmund de Brewse. 1333—John de Creting.² 1334—William de Swerdeston. 1334—Thomas de Preston. 1335—Richard Marcom. 1338—William de Creting. 1349—John Mondegame. 1351—John Godknape. 1366—Simon de Ramsey. 1370—Jeffery Josep. 1371—John Masoun. 1385—Henry Gille. 1386—Robert Walters. 1387—Robert Debenham. 1388—Reginald Crowe. 1395—John Pecock; Thomas Day. 1409—William Ham. 1412—Thomas Bowde. 1414—John Ham. 1437—Richard Wyston. 1446—Jeffrey Lesyngham. 1450—John Cley. 1452—John Burgeys. 1467—William Kyng; Henry Keson.</p> | <p>1502—Symon Rysing; John Coote. 1538—John Cocke. 1554—Edmund Ingloss. 1558—Nicholas Church. 1570—William Halle. (Reported "No Preacher. They have had two or three sermons in a year. He is likewise Parson of Gunton.") 1603—Mervy Hall. 1614—Thomas Smith. 1616—Samuel Withe. 1635—Edward Rowse; William Starkey. 1660—Robert Bullock. 1675—Nicholas Pollard. 1679—George Raymond. 1690—Robert Harvey, p. by Ash Windham. 1701—Thomas Gill. 1705—Franc s Gardiner, p. by William Kemp. 1710—Thomas Dunch. 1718—William Webb. 1754—Isaac Horsely. 1804—Anthony Sweday. 1809—Thomas Hay, D.D. 1827—James Shirley. 1830—John Dolphin.</p> |
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The baptismal and burial registers for Antingham date from 1679; the marriage register from 1755.

There is a Board School here for the five parishes of Antingham, Bradfield, Gunton, Thorpemarket, and South Repps. Children on the books, 265.

APPLETON.

EIGHT miles north-east of Lynn, containing at the present time only one farm-house and half-a-dozen cottages, is an ancient decayed parish, referred to in Domesday as Appletuna, divided at the Conquest into two lordships, of which Roger Bigod had one. The family of De la Rokele were lords in succeeding generations, and after them the Copledikes. In 18th Ed. IV. John Copledike and his wife Margaret conveyed their holdings to John Coket; and in the 36th Hen. VIII. Anthony Coket transferred to John Conysby, with the manor of Newton, 20 messuages, 1,000 acres of land, 100 acres of meadow, 200 acres of pasture, 100 acres of wood, 1,000 of furze and heath, and a rent charge of £6 a year in Appleton, Newton, Sandringham, Fritcham, etc. In the 4th Eliz. Humphrey Conysby was lord; but in 1571

¹ There are monuments in the Church to several members of the Kemp family, viz., to John Kemp, second son of Robert Kemp of Gissing, November 18th, 1610, aged 76; William Kemp, of Antingham, 12th May, 1744, aged 69; Mary, daughter of Sir Robert Kemp, Bart., of Antingham, who died in her first year, 29th January, 1654; Elizabeth, also daughter of Sir Robert Kemp, Bart., 17th March, 1657, aged two years; etc.

² To this time the presentations were to a fourth.

Clement Paston was found possessed of it. He was a son of Sir William Paston, of Paston, by Bridget, daughter of Sir Henry Heydon, and to him succeeded his nephew, Sir Edward Paston, who built Appleton Hall in 1596, and who married Margaret, daughter of Henry Berney, of Reedham. William Paston, who resided here in 1644, was sequestrated as a recusant, and his property here, and at Acle, Runham, and in the county of Gloucestershire, was dealt with during several years by the Commissioners for compounding. He died on the 9th May, 1652, his wife, Margaret, having pre-deceased on the 25th March, 1641, and Clement and Wolston Paston were left executors to his son and heir, Edward, then a boy of eleven years of age, and for whom a sum of £60 a year was provided by his father's will, the rest of the property to go to the payment of debts, proved to be £2,275, and the balance, if any, to accumulate. In an inquiry instituted at the time, Robert Billington, of Town Barningham, testified that "at the time when the garrison of Lynn was besieged by the Parliamentary soldiery, the goods of William Paston were taken out of his dwelling-house, and carried away by the said soldiery, who sacked the place.¹ The whole of William Paston's rents appear to have been £400 a year, out of which £25 10s. a year went in fee farm rents. The repairs in four years amounted to £207; and his executors paid £473 11s. 6d. for four years' Parliamentary taxes ending Michaelmas, 1652. The Paston family continued in occupation of the Hall till its destruction by fire in 1707.

In 1599 the question of the boundaries and right of commonage, in which the parishes of Appleton, Flitcham, and West Newton were concerned, was the subject of inquiry, and a great many witnesses were examined at Flitcham before Commissioners, in connection with an action in which Richard Hovell and others were plaintiffs, and Edward Paston and others defendants. The bounds of the common were fully described by more than one witness, and it was admitted that it consisted of about 100 acres, including a piece of land at that time in the occupation of Thomas Myght,² which had been formerly granted by one of the De la Rokele family to one Lambright, with the liberty of feeding a certain number of sheep. John Colte had farmed the manor of Appleton for several years, and his lease expired about 1583, when Clement and William Paston entered upon it. The "Doale," commonly called Perlestone, was recognised as the boundary between Appleton and Newton, and there was an old broad ditch, where the inhabitants of the three towns used to meet at the Perlestone in their perambulation of bounds, and the inhabitants of Newton "used to go in the ditch from Sandgate to Perlestone for their division of the common." A variety of interesting details were given in evidence by some of the witnesses, of whom the following were the chief—John Creede, sen., of Harpley; Thos. Displyn, of Harpley; William Kelsey, of Flitcham; Richard Roby, of Flitcham; William Starr, of Grimston; John Makyn, of Darsingham; Thomas Kaw, of Flitcham; Richard Creede, of Flitcham; and Thomas Clitheroe, of West Winch—all of whom were for the plaintiffs: whilst for the defendants were Thomas Jermy, of Marlingford; Thomas Myght, of Flitcham; George Skott, of Glandford; Jeffery Bird, of Sandringham; John Powell, of Rising; Edmund Armitage of Rudham; Robert Fielden, of West Newton; Edmund Charters, of West Newton; John Lingey, of West Newton; Thomas Wells, of Flitcham; Cuthbert Roughtie, of West Newton; George Cowper, of Congham; and Robert Blomefield, of Hillington. Among the names of places mentioned were Warrely-moor or Westmoor, of between three and four score acres; Whetstone pit, and another called Redwell, which divided the grounds of the manor of Appleton from Warrely-moor. Mr. Colte enclosed the greater part of Willesdon Hill, and sowed the same, which was in tillage during six years; whilst Sir Thomas Hollies was said to have enclosed land which was "before that time parcel of the common feed for the towns of Flitcham and Appleton, and on which the inhabitants used to feed their cattle."

¹ Roy. Comp. Papers, 1st ser., vol. L., p. 45, etc.

² There is a letter of this Thomas Myght (State Papers Dum.: Eliz., cxxxi., 27), addressed to the Earl of Sussex, Lord Chamberlain, beseeching him, "for the love of God, to speak to Walsyngham to move her Majesty for an end to his long suit;" but it does not disclose what suit it was.

The witness George Skott was during several years bailiff of the manor for the Pastons, and he spoke to the fact that the servants of the lord felled firs at their pleasure, and that the Pastons made a brick clamp in the "new pasture," and took forty loads of firs to burn there without contradiction. The lords of Appleton, or their bailiff, had been accustomed to reve for the manor of Flitcham. "The lords of the manor of Appleton, in their right of the manor of Buckenham in Newton, had been in the habit of feeding their sheep upon Warrely-moor; and if the sheep belonging to the lord of Flitcham came there, they were disturbed and driven back, time after time, by different shepherds (including himself) in the service of the Pastons." It will be well to give here the boundaries as described by Mr. Jermy, of Marlingford, which agreed in all essential particulars with the boundary recognised by all parties:—

Appleton common, said this deponent, begins in the south-west corner of Newgate's yard: viz., on the south side of Denton beck, and so proceeding on the south side of the said beck west and south-west unto a place called the Hawk's-hill, and from the north part of Hawk's-hill proceeding directly east unto the south corner of the close called Corbet's close, now Mr. Edward Paston's, and lately in the occupation of William Dallymer, of West Newton; and that close lyeth on the north part of the clay-pit against Flitcham common, and so proceeding northward under the closes of Thomas Myght, Edward Chartres, and Edward Paston, unto the aforesaid beck, called Denton beck, and containing by estimation three score acres and more, parcel of the five score of the common pasture of Appleton: and further this deponent saith that the residue of the said five score acres and more, parcel of the said common of Appleton, beginneth at a bound or dole called Perlestone, where the sheep pasture of Mr. Edward Paston in Appleton common begins, proceeding directly south to Denton beck, and so proceeding on the north part of Denton beck west and south-west against Lark's-hill to the south, and so from the said beck against the said Lark's-hill directly west by the skirts of the whinnes on the said common of Appleton to the north-east corner of the lord's great close in Flitcham inclosed by Sir Thomas Hollies, and so proceeding west under the ditch of the said great close to the common ditch that divides the commons of Appleton and West Newton, called Warrely-moor, and proceeding from thence directly north to Redwell dole, which is the division of the severals of Mr. Edward Paston, called Winsdon [or Willesdon] Hill, and the common of West Newton called Warrely-moor, and so proceeding partly southerly and easterly under Winsdon-hill to the said Perlestone; and so this part of the common pasture containeth by estimation forty acres and more, and so the said common of Appleton in Appleton contains five score acres and more by estimation.

This information of the bounds of the said common deponent had of one Walter Rasey, sometime shepherd to Mrs. Coket, and afterwards shepherd to Mr. John Colte; and the like information of the said bounds of the sheep's pasture in Appleton common he had of one George Cowper, shepherd to Mr. John Colte when he was farmer of the said manor of Appleton, about the twenty-fifth of the Queen's Majesty's reign, at which time the lease of John Colte did expire.

Some very interesting particulars of lands in Appleton, and their ownership, may be gleaned from evidence taken in the year 1606 also at West Newton, by direction of the Court of Exchequer.¹ The Prior and Convent of Walsingham had some extent of land here, and before the Dissolution they sold the same to Edward Corbett. At the latter end of the reign of Elizabeth the property in question was the subject of a suit at Norwich Assizes, in a case of Henry Staple *v.* Edward Paston, and at the time above mentioned was the subject of further inquiry in an action of John Kempe against Edward Paston. Several witnesses were examined, and among others Thomas Blofield, of Sustead, attorney for the defendant. The particulars of the case need not be quoted here, and it is referred to chiefly to show that a certain 100 acres of land was known as Willesdon Hill, which the lords of the manor had occupied for tillage and pasture for fifty years: that there was a messuage called Danyell's or Dannielles, which one Thomas Myght had bought of Mr. Payne, and that it was worth £40 or £50 to let. There was also a piece of arable land of 8 acres, "Auckers Way," used by the lords of the manor, and this was occupied by Mr. John Colte, who lived during several years in the manor house. An amusing portion of the evidence taken by the Commission is the testimony of about half a dozen of the jury who tried the action at Norwich, from which it is manifest they were anything but competent to decide the issue. Thomas Playford, of Dilham, who was one, said seven were for the plaintiff, and five for the defendant, but yet the verdict passed for the plaintiff; and the deponents all seemed to agree it was the act of the foreman, one Leonard Shapson, or Shaxson, of West

¹ Exch. Dep. by Com., 3 Jas. I., Hilary, No. 10.

Bilney. Blofield, the attorney for the defendant, said, "When the jury returned and gave a verdict for the plaintiff it was much admired, and when the jury were asked by the Court as to what evidence they had to support their verdict, they were much damped, and some answered that they had information from their foreman."

The other lordship was granted to Peter de Valouis, who at the Survey received many manors in this county. In the time of Ed. II. Flichtam Priory was found to have part of it, and its temporalities in Appleton in 1428 were valued at 45s.; at which time the Priory of Westacre had temporalities here of the value of 41s. per annum. By the reign of Hen. VIII., the Cobbe family, of Sandringham, were possessed of it. On the 12th November, 1553, Ed. VI., granted an annuity of £3 18s. 9½d. to Dorothy, late wife of William Cobbe, out of the manors of Sandringham, Butler, Chapes, and Bosones, and all other possessions in Sandringham, Babingley, Wolverton, and Appleton, late of William Cobbe, a tenant *in capite*, and which were in the hands of the Crown by reason of the minority of Geoffrey, son and heir of said William, with the wardship and marriage of the minor. The Cobbe family remained at Sandringham till the latter end of the seventeenth century; suffered from sequestration as Papists, and as adherents of the royal family during the Commonwealth. (See SANDRINGHAM.) Appleton has since continued to be held by the owners of Sandringham, the Prince of Wales at the present time being the chief landowner.

The Sandringham water-works are situated here.

About fifty yards south of the ruins of Appleton church is the spring long known as the Holy Well;¹ and the illustration here given is from a drawing in Dawson Turner's collection of illustrations in the volume of Ad. MS. 23,035.



The CHURCH of St. Mary was long since allowed to fall into decay. In a list of ruined and decayed churches in the Archdeaconry of Norwich, made about the middle of the sixteenth century, it is said: "The steple ther greatlie decayed, and ther want sufficient ornaments for devine service, the chardg of the repairs and p'uision of them belonging to Mr. Edward Paston, esquier, being lord and patron there, who have all the lands in the said towne in his occupac'on;" and Blomefield says he "found horses chained together in the porch and in the church, both in a filthy condition, and no door." There were at that time gravestones indicating the burial-places of Frances Paston, 1665; Agnes Paston, 1676; and Thomas Paston. In 1603 Edward Paston was patron of the vicarage, and was a recusant. The Archdeacon's report in that year states there were "divers recusants in Appleton, one man and three women." James I., in 1604, granted the rectories of Appleton, Anmer, Newton, Babingley, &c., to Richard Locksmith and Robert Bulleyn, to them and their heirs, by the same rent and services as the Duke of Norfolk had formerly held the same. In 1705, all residents in the parish were Papists, and the church was reported to be "not fit for use, and there was seldom a service for want of a congregation." The vicarage was then of the certified value of £8.

¹ Holy wells were found in most parts of England, and were so called from the supposed virtue they possessed to effect miraculous cures, and in the Middle Ages the custom of decorating them with flowers at certain festivals was very general. The belief in their efficacy to cure the afflicted was by no means confined to the common people. Dr. Joseph Hall, who was Bishop of Norwich from 1641 to 1656, in his "Great Mystery of Godliness," published in 1652, speaks of "that noe less than miraculous cure which, at St. Maddern's Well, in Cornwall was wrought upon a poore cripple; whereof, besides the attestation of many hundreds of the neighbours, I tooke a strict and impartial examination in my last visitation there. [He had been Bishop of Exeter, in which diocese Cornwall was then included.] This man, for sixteen years, was forced to walke upon his hands, by reason of the sinews of his leggs were soe contracted that he cold not goe or walke on his feet, who upon a monition in a dream to wash in that well, which accordingly he did, was suddainly restored to the use of his limbs; and I sawe him both able to walk and gett his owne maintenance. I found here was neither art nor collusion—the cure done, the author One invisible." The Holy Well at Walsingham was very famous, and a cross was placed adjacent thereto, at which pilgrims used to kneel while drinking the water.

One who visited the church in 1860 wrote to the *East Anglian* that he found only the gravestone to Agnes Paston at all legible, and "of the church all that now remains is the nave, the tower, which is round, and in fair preservation, and south porch. There appears to have been a south aisle and chancel, both of which are entirely gone. A holy water stoup, filled with rain-water, and a little hole near the chancel arch in the north wall, which may have been an aumbrie,¹ are the only things worthy of note in the interior."

The Prince of Wales is patron of the discharged vicarage, the value of which is still quoted at £8; and it is consolidated with Sandringham.

VICARS OF APPLETON.

Philip de Sidenham, who was presented by Rich. de la Rokele, was Vicar in time of Richard and John, 1189-1216.
 1310—William de Mildenhall, p. by the Prior of Westacre. 1314—Ric. de Synterle. 1329—John de Wesenham. 1349—Robert Man de Gotherst. 1355—Will. Portman. 1361—William, son of Simon Smith, p. by Prior of Castleacre. 136—Richard Pulling. 1367—William Buntynge. 1377—Simon . 1389—Thomas Laurence de Massingham. 1392—John de Holmesle.
 1407—Thos. Atte Fen. 1410—Thos. Sewale. 1412—John Cartere. 1414—Robert Pertyngton. 1417—John Amy. 1418—Robert Pertyngton. 1426—John Clark. 1492—Richard Jewlham, p. by the Bishop of Norwich, by lapse.
 1528—Richard Howton, p. by Bishop of Norwich, by lapse. 1531—Henry Beckham, p. by Prior of Westacre. He remained Vicar after the Dissolution, and died at Appleton; but after his death for twenty years there was no Vicar, and but two households in the parish.² 1581—Robert Bunning, by the Queen. In 1589 he gave evidence in a tithe suit, brought by his successor, that he

had found from a field-book that there was formerly a vicarage-house, with an acre and a half of ground; and as he (Bunning) was surveyor of the manor of Appleton after Sir Wm. Paston purchased it, he knew the land had been occupied for eight years by Thomas Wright; and the same field-book showed that there should be 14 roods of land in two different places in Appleton and West Newton which should be the glebe land of the vicarage. Whilst he was Vicar he made of the tithes £6, or 20 nobles, one year with another.³ 1584—John Gibson. Was an Eton boy, and a scholar of King's Coll., Cambridge, and after 1570 an assistant at Lynn School. 1591—Robert Feilden, p. by William and Clement Paston.

1620—James Webster. Stephen Beaumont, curate.
 1705—Thos. Gill (sequestrated). 1705—William Gay. 1726—Thos. Martin. 1747—James Sharpe. 1797—John Buck.
 1834—William Holmes. 1835—William Allen. 1864—Richard Brown Scholefield. 1881—Frederick Alfred John Hervey, Domestic Chaplain to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Hon. Chaplain to the Queen.

APTON.

A TANNER M.S. in the Bishop's Registry, of the date of 1710, has the following: "Church long since down, and the Rectory consolidated with Bergh, or Barrow—hence usually called Bergh-Apton" (which see).

ARMINGHALL.

WITHIN three miles of Norwich, in a south-easterly direction, is the suburban village of Arminghall, which at the Survey belonged to the Conqueror, and was described as five furlongs in length and three in breadth, paying 8d. geld. In 1881 it was found to have twenty-one houses.

It came after a short time to Bishop Herbert de Losinga, who, with the assent of the King, presented it to the Convent of Norwich. In 1206, Robert, the Chaplain of Arminghall gave a reverting interest in 70 acres of land in the parish, with 7 acres in Trowse Newton, to the Convent, to take effect after the decease of himself, his wife, and their son John. The Convent also received grants of land here from Richard de Swerdeston and Isabel, his wife, in 1281. The Prior was taxed for the manor, its rents and lands, £11 13s., and for his impropriate tithes and spiritualities, 6 marks and 8d. The Prior had view of frankpledge, and assize of bread and ale, which privileges continued till the Dissolution. On the 2nd November, 30th Hen. VIII., Sir John Shelton had a grant of this and several manors, messuages, etc., in other Norfolk and Suffolk parishes; in the 1st Mary it was granted to Sir John Godsalve; but eventually it passed to the Dean and

¹ Aumbrie, or ambry—a place for depositing alms for distribution to the poor.

² Exch. Dep. by Com., 31 Eliz., Easter, No. 12.

³ Idem.

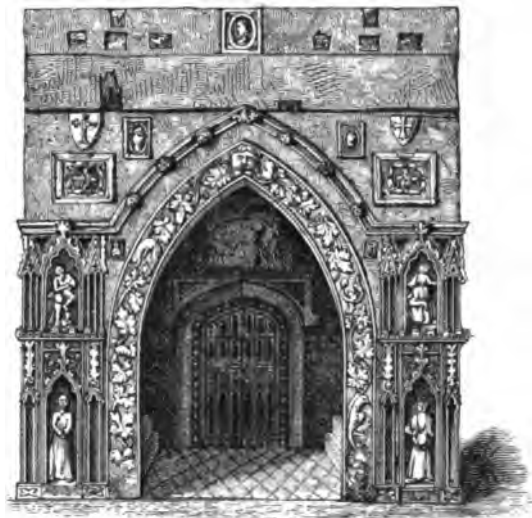
Chapter of Norwich. Formerly there was a custom that on the installation of each Dean of Norwich, a recognition fee of £1 6s. 8d. was paid by the tenants of the manor; in 1739, the sum paid was 15s. 4½d., but the custom has since fallen into desuetude. The estate was leased in successive generations and occupied by the Mingays, the Hernes, and Sir Henry Pettus.

Francis Herne, in 1722, left by his will a cottage, with barn, stable, and ground thereto belonging, to his son and heirs, with direction that they should yearly pay to the churchwardens and overseers, every Christmas Day, 40s. for the poor of Arminghall, and £3 for the poor of Tibenham. This property, in 1834, was in the possession of the Hon. Francis Ward Primrose, and his agent distributed the 40s. in coals; but as no application had ever been made by the parish of Tibenham, the £3 a year had been lost to the parish of Tibenham, as appears by the Report of the Charity Commissioners.

An insignificant sum is spent annually for coals, and in money doled out to the poor, resulting from the Inclosure Act of 40 Geo. III.

The parish register begins with 1571, but the years between 1715 and 1719 were found in 1831 to be deficient.

An object of great interest at Arminghall is the fine old house, with a remarkable porch, shown in our illustration, which is reproduced from a drawing made by Miss Elizabeth Norgate in 1816. It was some time since made into two dwellings for workpeople. The house is of timber and moulded brick, with sunk panels, pillars, etc., believed to be of the Elizabethan period; but the materials of an older building have been used in the structure. Cotman mentions a tradition that some of the materials were brought from Carrow Abbey. The entrance doorway of the south porch is a good rich Decorated piece of work, with figures in niches, one on each side, beneath ogee canopies, which have finials, crockets, and pinnacles. Over the doorway is a sunk panel filled with the sculpture of a man pulled off his horse by a lion. Across the door, which has been supposed by some, on what authority I know not, to have come from Carrow, is this Latin inscription:—"Ora pro anima magister Whilhelmi Gladin, qui fecit fieri hoc hostium, A.C. 1487." Round the house and porch there are, at intervals of a few feet, busts of men and women of the Elizabethan age in medallions.



VICARS OF ARMINGHALL.

1313—Ralf. 1314—John de Mendlesham. 1347—Hugh Grubbe.
1348—Roger Lefstan; afterwards, same year, Thos. Ethelyn,
of Bramerton. 1349—Ric. Benetut. 1355—Robert Hey, of
Caister. 1360—Hugh Magges of Shropham. 1378—Will.
atte Cherche, of Coltishall. 1381—Roger Calf. 1382—Peter
de Winch.

1579—Thomas Selseby, p. by Dean and Chapter. 1593—
Martin Stebbin.
1765—Edward Symonds. 1779—Henry Harrington. 1781—Paul
Whittingham. 1792—Peter Hansell.
1813—Will. Fitt Drake (cur. and seq.). 1831—Hon. and Rev.
Adolphus Augustus Turnour. 1833—Thomas John Batchelor.
1875—G. P. Buck. 1882—E. Bellman.

ASHBY (FLEGG).

TEN miles north-west from Yarmouth, and fifteen north-east from Norwich, is Ashby—usually known as Ashby-with-Oby. There were seventeen houses in 1881, in these two villages, with one family in each house. The greater portion of Ashby is comprised in one farm, which is occupied by the present lord of the manor, Mr. John Wiseman, of Ashby Hall.

The Abbey of St. Bennet at Holme had the greater portion of the lands here, both before and after the Conquest, King Cnut having bestowed upon it what it was found to possess at the Survey, viz., 2 carucates of land, with 3 bordarii; 1 carucate in demesne, and half a one among the tenants; 10 acres of meadow with pannage for 6 swine. There were 13 socmen, of whom the Abbey had soc and sac, who held 62 acres of land with 5 of meadow, with 2 carucates, then valued at 26s. 8d. The demesne was 8 furlongs in length, $4\frac{1}{2}$ in breadth, and paid 15d. gelt. It formed part of the barony of Tunstead. A moiety of the advowson was given by William de Sparham in 1197. In 1248 the rent of assize of the manor was 38s. 4d.; 109 acres of arable land was then let at 5d. per acre. The advowson was granted to Abbot Ralph in the 8th Ric. I. by William and Roger Sudfel, as was also at the same time that of Repps St. Peter. At the knighthood of Edward the Black Prince, in 1347, the Abbot was assessed as holding of the King by the service of two fees and a half. In 26th Hen. VIII. the spiritualities of St. Bennet's Abbey here were returned at 12s. At the Dissolution the manor and lands were included in the grant to the See of Norwich, the Bishop paying a yearly tenth of £50 to the King for it and other possessions of the bishopric. In 1603 there was a suit in the Exchequer as to the liability of the farmers of the manor to contribute to the taxes of Ashby, and they were held to be debtors. In 1556, Sir Thomas Wodehouse was tenant of the Bishop. In 1858, the manor, which had been during many years leased by the Bishop to the Hurnard family, was conveyed to the Rev. N. B. Hurnard, upon whose death, in 1878, it was sold to Mr. John Wiseman, the present lord:

[See OBY and THIRNE.]

The benefices of Ashby and Oby were consolidated with Thirne in 1604. There seems to be some unaccountable mystery about the situation of the church, or rather whether there were originally two churches for Ashby and Oby. In Dr. Tanner's transcripts from the episcopal registers, he has written under Ashby: "Only in this town is standing the manor-house, but much ruined: the church standeth, and the inhabitants of Oby come to this church, whereunto Oby is united. The Bishop of Norwich has peppercorn. Fine 4d. per acre certain. The tithes in specie. Hearth silver 1d. Plough silver¹ 1d. for any set to work. 7d. for any fole. 1d. for a fallow cow. $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. for cow and calf." (4th Chrogr. Norf. Neve, M.S.) Again, he writes: "Oby church is decayed, or, as they say, sunk into the ground; but there seemeth still to be a churchyard." The present Rector was told by a man living at Thirne, over eighty years of age, that he had heard his grandfather speak of boiling a kettle in the tower of the church in Oby churchyard. There is nothing standing now except a portion of the churchyard wall. This is marked "Oby churchyard" on the Ordnance map, the adjoining piece being called the "old church close." This was exchanged in 1790 for another piece of land. In the autumn of 1882, when some trenches were made in the ground, there were found remains of a foundation of a church, and a piece of encaustic tile pavement, the pattern a zigzag in yellow and black. A wall was traced, running east and west, for ninety feet, and then another wall running north and south for about thirty feet. To the west of the latter there was found what seemed to be the foundations of a square tower with buttresses at the angle, but no other remains visible. Tanner also mentions under Ashby two burials in the chancel, "Sir William de Caily was buried in the chancel 1380 (Heyd. 179)." "William Clippesby de Owby was buried in the chancel in 1480 (Awb. 113)." This would seem to imply only one church, as the old register, beginning 1563, does also, for it is endorsed "Askby-Oweby." In 1609, there is an entry of Thomas Smith as "churchwarden of Askby," with "John —, curate of Oby." On the fly-leaf of this register there is this entry: "October 14th, 1689: collected then at Oby to a briefe for the Irish Protestants, four shillings and two pence: By us, Benj. Cutting, cur.,

¹ Plough silver was money paid in lieu of service, to plough the lord's lands.

John Postle, churchwarden." But this collection may have been made from house to house. After 1695, there are entries of Oby people married at Thirne and at Clippesby. In the deed of exchange in 1790, the churchyard is called Oby churchyard.

RECTORS OF ASHBY.

- 1233—Wm. de Tudenham. 1280—Nich. de Suthfield, instituted according to the tenour of the Council of Lyons. 1299—Benedict de Oldton, p. by Jeffrey de Askeby.
- 1330—Wm. —. 1337—Robt. de Mundeford [a Wm. de Mundeford was Dean of St. Paul's, 1294.] 1342—Wm. de Berney. 1346—John de Thoresby, p. by the King. [This no doubt was he who was Master of the Rolls from 1340 to 1346: in 1347, appointed by the King and the Pope, Bishop of St. David's; 1349, Bishop of Worcester; 1352, Archbishop of York. He had a Canonry in Lincoln in 1344. He filled many offices of distinction, and was sent on a mission to the Pope to obtain a dispensation for the proposed marriage between Hugh le Despencer and the daughter of the Earl of Salisbury. He was employed in conducting various treaties with the Scottish King; and it was he who arranged with Pope Innocent IV. the dispute as to the primacy, by which the Archbishop of Canterbury was recognised as Primate of All England, and himself and successors in the See of York as Primate of England. He died in 1373, at his manor of Thorpe, having served nearly forty-eight years in Edward's reign, with a character described as "*contentionum et litium hostis, et pacis et concordie amicus.*" Besides several religious works he wrote in English a Commentary on the Lord's Prayer, the Decalogue, and the Articles of Faith.] 1349—Thos. de Cottingham, p. by the King. When the Great Seal was put in Commission on the death of the Chancellor, John de Offord, in 1349, he was one of the Commissioners. In 1356 he was Master of the Rolls in Ireland. 1352—Ric. Hecham. 13 —John Aley. 1384—Wm. de Swynfete, p. by the Abbot. 1397—Thos., son of John de Smallburgh.
- 1409—John Lanum: same year, Wm. Mayon. 1422—John Fouler. 1426—Thos. Bredham. 1429 Thos. Freng. 1432—Stephen Multon: same year, Robert Cantrell. 1454—Wm. Reynald. 1488—Robt. Kebyle, S.T.P. 1489—Wm. Beyham.
- 1504— — Kirkbye. 1506—Lawrence Stubbys 1509—Edw. Wood. 1521—Wm. Pey. 1522—Thos. Clark. 1527—Simon Rising. 1528—Wm. Barret. 1569—Leonard Rannow. 1591—Wm. Holland, p. by the Bishop. By his will, dated 23rd January, 1607-8, he gave, amongst other charitable bequests, £5 13s. 4d. to St. John's College, Cambridge (at which he matriculated as a pensioner in 1576, to be bestowed in books; and towards the repairs of North Creake Church, 20s.; and to the poor of that parish, 40s.
- 1603—John Ponder, LL.B., p. by the Bishop. 1625—Theophilus Kent. 1633—John Cooke, p. by Robt. Smith. 1654—Nicholas Halman. 1657—Philip Whitefoot, p. by Clippesby Guybon; his appointment confirmed by the King at the Restoration 1679—Ransom Rice, by W. Wyndham. 1690—George Maitland. 1691—Isaac Langhton.
- 1718—Chas. Trimmell, p. by the Bishop. 1724—Abm. Shewell. 1724—Thos. Bullock. 1727—John Addenbrooke, Dean of Lichfield. 1730—Thos. Cross, D.D. 1736—Wm Wake, son of Archbishop Wake, p. by Archbishop of Canterbury. 1747—Ric. Fayerman, p. by the Bishop.
- 1800—Peter Thoroton. 1803—Ric. Lockwood. 1804—Christopher Wordsworth, Master of Trin. Coll., Cambr., 1820-41. 1806—Hen. Bathurst, son of Bishop of Norwich; Archdeacon of Norfolk, 1814. 1829—Horatio Bolton. 1873—William Cufaude Davie.

There is a school in the parish, built and endowed with an acre of land by the Rev. H. Bolton; and enlarged in 1873.

The Primitive Methodists have a chapel here.

ASHBY (LODDON).

SEVEN miles S.S.E. from Norwich, and three N.W. from Loddon, is this parish, with fifty houses. There were forty families resident here in 1710.

Ralph, Earl of Norfolk, had a grant of lands here, held aforesaid of certain free men, and on his forfeiture it was granted to Godric, the King's steward. Roger Bigod had also 30 acres, with a carucate and 2 acres of meadow of which others had been deprived, and Roger de Vaux held these lands under Bigod. The town was 9 furlongs in length, 5 in breadth, and paid 6d. gelt. By the time of Hen. III. the family of de Helgeton were lords, and in the 20th year of that reign Sir William de Helgeton was found in possession of half a fee, which had been Thomas's, son of Herbert de Helgeton. Sir William de Kerdeston, in 25th Ed. I., purchased the Lordship, with the reversion of several lands, and the advowson of the church and that of Hellington. In the following year he purchased, in this and adjoining parishes, 24 messuages, 3 mills, 320 acres of land, 9½ acres of meadow, 4 acres of wood, 125 acres of marsh, 3½ acres of pasture, 28s. 3d. rent, with 1 lb. of cummin, and a number of capons annually. To the Kerdestons succeeded the De la Poles, the Gawdies, etc.

Lord William of Kerston [Kerdiston] held land and tenements in Ashby in 20th Ed. III., which formerly were Thomas de Helgeton's, and was assessed for the same at the knighthood of Edward the Black Prince.

Langley Abbey had lands here which after the Dissolution were sold to John Berney for £574; and in the 3rd Eliz., Sir George Howard had a grant also of some Abbey lands.

The Earl of Gloucester and Clare's manor of Carleton extended into this parish, and in the 8th Ed. II. the heirs of Oliver Wyth held here of the honour of Clare. In the 3rd Hen. IV., Thomas, Lord Mowbray, was lord of Bigod's fee, and the Earl of March of the Gloucester fee.

The CHURCH is dedicated to St. Mary, and in the time of Ed. I. was valued at 10 marks; Peter pence, 12d.; and the Rector had a house, with 30 acres of glebe. In 1606 paid £6 first-fruits, and 12s. tenths. The reputed value in 1710 was £40. United with Carlton St. Peter; the present rent-charge is £294, and 33 acres of glebe. The baptismal and burial register dates from 1620, the marriage from 1766.

RECTORS OF ASHBY.

Henry de Len.

1301—Roger de Breton. 1316—Nicholas de Brynton, p. by Sir Robt. de Burgulyon. 1342—John Shakelok, p. by Hugh de Burgulyon. 1349—Simon Wade, p. by Robert de Cleydon. 1359—John Coleyn. 1361—Simon Bere. 13 —Walter de Dunwich. 1365—Thos. Flokke. 1391—Thos. Chambeleyn, p. by Edmund de Clypesby and Ric. de Lyng. 1402—Robert Stalham, p. by Sir Miles Stapleton and Sir Wm. Argenton. 1419—Wm. Smith, p. by Sir Leonard Kerdeston. 1433—John Attleburgh, p. by Thos. Lord Morley and Sir Edmund Barry. 1435—Ric. Fysher, p. by Sir Thos. Kerdeston. 143 —John Hart. 1438—John Werkton. 1488—Stephen Pyld, p. by John, Duke of Suffolk. 1496—Thos. Eyer, p. by Eliz., Duchess of Suffolk. 1500—Robt. Gowton. 1501—Thos. Robynson, p. by Chas., Duke of

Suffolk. 1524—Thos. Bursy, ditto. 1567—Ric. Toll, p. by Thos. Gawdy, Serjeant-at-Law. Reported "No preacher: was a husbandman." 1597—Wm. Cockram, p. by Hen. Gawdy. 1603—Robt. Cooke. There were 80 communicants at this time. 1606—Wm. Flowerdew, p. by Sir Hen. Gawdy. 1618—Robt. Peachie. 1662—John Feveryere, p. by Thos. Gawdy, Esq. 1685—Edward Youell, p. by Cuthbert Brereton, Gent. A stone on the floor within the altar rails indicates his grave. 1701—Samuel Kirk, p. by Thos. Gawdy, Esq. 1723—Francis Brooke, p. by Cuthbert Brereton, sen., Gent. 1746—Stephen Degullion, by Wm. Smith, Gent. 1786—John Cobb, D.D. 1791—Edward Wilson. 1823—Samuel Kent. 1838—Thos. Wm. Hen. Beauchamp. 1864—W. F. Thursby. 1880—R. T. Whitmarsh.

ASHILL.

THREE miles north-west of Watton, and six miles south-south-east of Swaffham, is Ashill, —Ashele, Aysele, or Asschelee—with 156 families in as many houses in 1881. At the beginning of the eighteenth century, just after Queen Anne's accession, the parish had but 30 families, with probably less than half that number of houses. In 1821 there were 121 families.

UPPE-HALL MANOR.—In the time of the Confessor the manor of Ashill or Uphall belonged to Aluric, a thane of Harold, afterwards King. It was then worth 50s. After the Conquest it was given to Ralf, Earl of Norfolk, and at his forfeiture to Berner the Archer, who was found in possession at the Survey. It was held by the Hastings family, *in capite*, from the time of Hen. I. to that of Ed. II. (1100 to 1326). William de Hastyngs was steward to Hen. I., by serjeanty of this manor.¹ John de Hastyngs, in the reign of King John, held the manor by the serjeanty of being pantler to the King;² at the coronation of Queen Eleanor, wife of Hen. III., Henry de Hastyngs served in the napery. Sir John de Hastyngs, who was born at Ashill in 1262, executed the office at the coronation of Ed. II. He married (1) Isabel, sister and co-heir of Aymell de Valence, Earl of Pembroke; and (2) Alice, daughter of Hugh le Despencer, Earl of Winchester, by whom he had Hugh Hastyngs, from whom the Hastings of Elsing were descended. In 1286, Sir John Hastyngs prosecuted William de Blundevill, the sub-escheator of Norfolk, for seizing this manor at his father's death into the King's hands, for cutting down 100 ash trees there, worth £3, and for taking fish out of his pond, of the value of half a mark, and de Blundeville was condemned in damages. Anne, the widow of Sir John Hastyngs, Earl of Pembroke, had the manor as her dower, and her deputy, Sir Thomas Blount, was admitted to perform the service of Grand Serjeanty at the coronation of Ric. II., and had the table-

¹ Testa de Nevile.

² Rot. fin. 6 John, m. 28.

cloth for fee. At the coronation of Hen. IV., in 1399, Reginald Grey of Ruthyn, by reason of this manor, covered the tables, and had for his fee all the table-cloths, as well those in Westminster Hall as elsewhere, when they were taken up, notwithstanding a petition exhibited by John Drayton to hold the office;¹ and in 1420 he served the same office at the coronation of Queen Katherine, wife of Hen. V.

Richard, Earl of Kent, subsequently owned the manor,² and he seems to have dealt with it in a rather extraordinary manner; for in the early part of the reign of Hen. VIII., Thomas, Duke of Norfolk, and others were appointed commissioners to examine the pretensions of persons claiming the privilege of performing particular services near the person of the Sovereign at the coronation. Before them was presented a petition of this Earl, claiming, in virtue of this manor of Ashill, to perform the services aforesaid; but in opposition to which Sir Henry Wyatt produced an indenture, dated 1st November, 22nd Hen. VII., between the said Earl and himself, by which the Earl sold him the said manor with all its rights and appurtenances. Wherefore it was decided that Sir Henry Wyatt should perform the service with the usual emoluments, and he did accordingly perform the same. It also appeared from a petition and evidences produced, that Richard, Earl of Kent, had, by another indenture, dated 18th November, also in the 22nd Hen. VII., sold the manor in question to Robert le Strange, but as the transfer had previously been made to Wyatt, it was held that the Le Strange claim could not be recognised. It must soon after this have passed to Robert Draper, for on the 24th April, in 19th Hen. VIII., Draper had license to alienate the manor of Asshyll, *alias* Up Hall, and 30 messuages, 1,000 acres of land, 100 acres of meadow, 600 acres of pasture, 60 acres of wood, and 100s. rent in Asshill, Soham Tony, South Pykenham, Houghton-juxta-Pykenham, and the advowson of the parish church of Ashill to Sir Henry Wyatt, his heirs and assigns for ever. Sir Henry Wyatt died seized of the manor in 1536, and Thomas, his son, had livery of it. Following him, Sir Thomas Wyatt, of Boxley Abbey, inherited, and he sold it to the Crown. The yearly accounts of the King's bailiffs for the manor are still preserved among Ministers' accounts, from 31st to 38th Hen. VIII. The rental of the manor was then £44 6s. 8d. per annum. In the 2nd and 3rd Phil. and Mary it was granted, with other manors, to Sir Henry Bedingfield, "in consideration of good service done by him," and in exchange for the manors of Wold Newton and Baynton in Yorkshire. Sir Henry Bedingfield, at the coronation of Jas. II., claimed to perform the ancient services and to have the fees, etc.; but his claim was not allowed, because he had not his evidences ready to make it out, but with a *salvo jure*.³ In 1547, Queen Mary made a fresh grant of the manor to Sir Henry Bedingfield, united with

The MANORS of COLLARD, GAYNES, and MONOX, or MONNOCKS, to be held by knight's service, and they have ever since been regarded as one manor. These three last-named manors were held in 1282 by William de Saham; 1393, John Braytoft, and Margery, his wife, sold Collard's manor to John Paynter and others, and in 1526, William Coe and Etheldred, his wife, had an interest in it, which they sold to Thomas Jermain. Hen. VIII. had them with his manor of Uppe Hall in the 31st year of his reign, and either bought them with that manor of Sir Thomas Wyatt or had them in exchange for other property. The farm called Monnocks produced £4 per annum. Ed. VI., on the 12th June, in the 5th year of his reign, demised to Thomas Hogan⁴ for twenty-one years, 6 acres 1 rood of land in the occupation of John Constable in Asshehill, 3 acres in occupation of Simon Canon; 3 acres in occupation of John Canon; a pasture known as Langwell Marsh, and 2 acres in occupation of James West;

¹ Crompt., 85.

² It was then of the clear yearly value of £10. State Papers Dom., 16th Hen. VIII., No. 977.

³ Sandford, "History of Coronations," p. 132.

⁴ The Hogans lived at East Bradenham, and Robert Hogan was the King's master cook in the reign of Hen. VIII. In the State Papers Domestic, 24th Hen. VIII., No. 245, there is a letter of Bridget, his wife, addressed to Cromwell from "Estbrodeham," dated 18th March, 1533, in which she says: "On Sunday last the Parson of Asshill, within half a mile of my house, died. The benefice is in the gift of Sir Henry Wyatt. If you could get it for me, or one of my children, it would find him at school. It is worth £10 a year, and stonds mytche be corne, which will help me and my house." The list of Rectors subjoined shows that her application was not successful.

15 acres in occupation of Robert Calverton; 4 acres in occupation of Robert Munsell; 2 acres 1 rood in occupation of Richard Heyhowe; $4\frac{1}{2}$ acres in occupation of William Codling; 4 acres in occupation of Thomas Wenne; 3 acres in occupation of Thomas Sibilmore; 15 acres in occupation of Andrew Blockwood, in Southlinckham(?); 4 acres 3 roods in occupation of Robert Mallett; 5 acres in occupation of John Cooke; and a messuage in Ashill, called Monnocks, and 80 acres in the fields of Ashhill in occupation of James West; a small cottage and a close of land to the same adjoining of 1 acre in occupation of Agnett Wagdon in Ashill; and a messuage and 6 acres in occupation of John Hall; and all the capital messuage called Coos, with all houses, edifices, curtilages, gardens, crofts, lands, meadows, pastures, feedings, and hereditaments, about 200 acres; and a meadow called Collardes of about 10 acres, and 11 acres in occupation of Henry Page, in Ashill, with faldage, and 11 acres called Ploughgapp; a close called Collards, of 40 acres; 9 acres abutting upon the said 11 acres towards the west, 9 acres at the north end of the said piece, 14 acres abutting upon the last-mentioned [besides other pieces], and a close called Sheep Close of 45 acres, and a close of 10 acres, abutting upon the wood called Uphall Wood, and a pightell of land called Calves' Yard, in the fields of Ashill, in occupation of John Jenney, and another tenement called Coos, formerly Collards, lying next the Church of Ashhill, and all orchards and gardens and 2 closes to the same annexed (other lands), and a close of 15 acres, called Frost's; a close called Gaynes, of 4 acres—60 acres of arable and 3 of meadow in the fields of Ashill, in occupation of Simon Canon—all which premises were then the possessions of the Manor of Uphall, Collardes, and Gaynes, formerly part of the possessions of Sir Henry Wyatt, in the hands of the King, by exchange; the said Thomas Hogan rendering for the same the following annual rents, viz.: for the premises in occupation of John Constable, 4s. 2d.; Simon Canon, 2s.; John Canon, 2s.; James West, 8s. 4d.; Robert Calverton, 7s. 10d.; Robert Munsell, 2s. 8d.; Robert Heyhowe, 18s.; William Codling, 3s.; Thomas Wenne, 4s. 3d.; Thomas Sibilmore, 2s. 4d.; Andrew Blockwood, 40s.; Robert Mallett, 3s. 2d.; John Cooke, 3s. 4d.; James West, 80s.; Agnett Wagdon, 6s. 8d.; John Hall, 26s. 8d.; Henry Page, £9 14s.; John Jenny, £16 13s. 4d.; Simon Canon, £6.

Queen Mary also gave the reversion of these manors to Sir Henry Bedingfield, with the above several reserved rents, in consideration of "good services done by him," "to him and his heirs and assigns for ever," *in capite* by the fortieth part of a knight's fee. We next find Dame Mary Bedingfield lady of the manor in 1605, and in October, 1667, Sir Thomas Ogle, Sir Thomas Trimply, and Thomas Bushell held their first Court, probably as trustees for Sir Henry Bedingfield, then a minor, and who held his first Court Baron on the 7th October, 1679. In 1682 General John Lambert (the distinguished general of the Commonwealth period, and who was, after the Restoration, tried as one of the regicides) was lord, the Bedingfield estates having been sequestrated. Then, in 1703, Sir Robert Paston; in 1704, General Sir Henry Bedingfield, Bart.; in 1746, Sir Francis Andrew, Bart.; in 1747, Philip Southcote; in 1783, Robert Edward, Lord Petre, were severally lords; Bridgett Southcote being lady in 1759.

Coming to the present century we find that, in 1810, William Henry Francis, Lord Petre, had the lordship, and was succeeded in 1822 by Alexander Baring, who in 1836, became Baron Ashburton. He was succeeded by the Hon. Francis Baring in 1847; and in 1869 the manor of Ashill, with the Buckenham, Bodney, and Thetford Estates of Lord Ashburton were bought by William Amhurst Tyssen Amherst, of Didlington Hall, Member of Parliament for West Norfolk, who sold that part of the Ashburton property which comprised four farms at Ashill, but retained the manor, of which he is still lord.

PANWORTH HALL MANOR.—Panworth, or Pennewrde, was a town in the Confessor's time owned by Harold, who was afterwards King. It contained a carucate and a-half worth 40s., with wood for 100 swine, etc. A part of the manor extended into Ashill, and was in the soke of the King's manor of Saham, and that had wood also for 100 swine, and was worth 30s. per annum. The whole was more than a mile in length, and about the same in breadth, and paid 15d. gelt. It

was given by the Conqueror to Rainald Fitz-Ivo, who was owner at the Survey. Jeffery Fitz-Jeffery, in time of Ric. I., held Panworth by service of 7d. a year to the ward of Norwich Castle. Peter de Nerford, and Alice, his wife, held it, in 1218, at two fees, and they were succeeded by their son John, whose widow,¹ by her will, in 1393 (she then being Dame de Nevile of Essex), left it to Margery de Nerford, with the furniture of the chapel thereto belonging. Afterwards it belonged to Peter de Nerford, and in 1406 to Thomas Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick, whose wife was a de Nerford. Then, in the days of the Boleyn influence at Court, it was granted to Sir James Boleyn; and on 13th March, 1539, it was leased for twenty-one years, at an annual rental, to Richard Browne, one of the pages of the King's chambers, who had leases at the same time of other "Warwick's lands." It had at that time fallen into the King's hands by the death of Sir Thomas Boleyn, Earl of Wiltshire. The lease to Browne of the manor of "Panneworth Hall" includes "divers houses thereto belonging, and 8 acres of land with thorns growing on it; and a pasture for 400 sheep called a *foulde cours* in the common of Ashill."

Robert Hogan, who was the King's master cook, had a grant of the reversion of this manor from Hen. VIII. on the 1st November, 1543, with several other manors, "parcel of the King's possessions called Warwick's lands," the manors of Scarning, Wendling, Rougham, Bradenham, and Necton passing under the same grant. It came to the Coke family by articles of agreement, dated 10th April, 1590, by which Henry Hogan agreed "to convey the manor of Panworth Hall, with messuages, lands, and appurtenances, to Edward Coke, of Huntingfield, in Suffolk, Esquire" (afterwards Lord Chief Justice Coke), for £2,600. The estate now comprises about 560 acres of land and the manor, the fines in which are certain, a few shillings per acre; but in addition to the ordinary trifling quit or free rents payable by the "tenants" of the manor, there is here also a "barley rent," amounting in 1712 and 1727 to 20 "cbs." 1 bushel and 2 pecks. The quantity has been considerably reduced by enfranchisements in recent years, but the "barley rent" is still collected from several of the copyholders; and it seems worthy of remark that the "coomb," which is almost peculiar to the Eastern Counties, was a legally recognised measure nearly or quite two hundred years ago. This is the only instance of a corn rent in connection with a manor on the Earl of Leicester's estate, and heriots are absolutely unknown. John Coke mortgaged it to one Doughty, for £1,000, in 1662, and, dying in 1681, it passed to his son Edward, who, in 1684 (being a minor), had a suit in the name of his mother, Lady Anne, widow of John Coke, in the Exchequer, in which he claimed that the mortgage, with interest, should be paid by his father's executors out of his personal estate, which was ample for the purpose. Thomas, Lord Lovel, who was created Earl of Leicester in 1744, had become owner by 1707. He died in 1759. The estates passed to the present Earl (Thomas William Coke) through Anne, wife of Major Roberts, youngest sister of Thomas, Earl of Leicester, just mentioned, whose eldest son, Wenman, took the name of Coke for the Longford estate, in Derbyshire, in 1733, and succeeded to the Norfolk property in 1775, on the death of the Earl's widow.

When the Parliament, in 1646, desired to raise a loan to maintain the forces they employed, a form was sent through the country for signature, and at Ashill it was signed by Anthonie Cotton, Jun., for £5; Anth. Cotton, Sen., £2; and Hillary Forby for £1. It was thus expressed:—"We whose names are hereunder subscribed promise to advance by way of loan upon the public faith of the kingdom such sums of money and plate, such horses, arms, as we have here subscribed for the maintenance of the true Protestant religion, the King's authority, and his person in his royal dignity, the free course of justice, the lawes of the land, the peace of the kingdom, and the privilege of Parliament," etc.

In a list of gentlemen sent to prison at Yarmouth is the name of Richard Martin, and to prison in London Colonel Bedingfield and Captain William Bedingfield, of Ashill, but who, in October, 1655, were ordered to be released on giving security that they would not plot nor conspire

¹ Lady Alice de Nerford, for this manor of Panworth, was assessed in 20th Ed. III. (1347) for the knighthood of Edward the Black Prince, as holding it of the Honour of Clare for one knight's fee.

against the Protector or the then Government; that they would reveal any plots, and appear to any summons within a year.¹

After the Restoration the loyal adherents of the Monarchy were called upon to make a present to the King, and in the list of those who gave in Norfolk, in September, 1661, are the names of Anthony Cotton, of Ashill, £5.

In 1664, the number who took the Covenant here was 89.

In 1688, 2 acres of freehold land, called the Remnant, was purchased by the town for the use of the poor.

The Report of the Charity Commissioners in 1835 gives the following particulars as to arrangements then existing in the interests of the poor:—

CHURCH LAND.—On the 28th of January, 1786, the Town Close was given in exchange for 2 acres, 3 roods, 24 perches, which, together with 26 perches, were set out to the Churchwardens. This land, containing together 3 acres and 10 perches, is situate in the same field with the fuel allotment, and let with it.

ALLOTMENTS.—By the Ashill Inclosure Act, 25 Geo. III., the Commissioners were directed to set out to the lords of the manors, the rector, churchwardens, and overseers, so much of the commons and waste grounds as they should deem sufficient to supply the owners or occupiers of messuages, not occupying above £5 a-year, with common of pasture for geese, cows, horses, etc.; and were directed to set out so much of the commons as should be sufficient to supply the inhabitants or occupiers of the messuages, not occupying above £5 a-year, with fuel; to demise the same for any term not exceeding twenty-one years, the rent to be laid out in purchasing fuel, to be distributed as aforesaid in quantities not exceeding one chaldron of coals per annum, the surplus to be given for the relief of the poor. On the 28th January, 1786, the Commissioners set out to the Trustees 5 acres for common of pasture for one gander and three geese each, at all times of the year; and 38 acres and 24 perches for a common of pasture for cattle; and 30 acres, to demise the same, and to apply the rents and profits to the purchase of fuel to be distributed amongst the owners of messuages and their tenants. The third allotment, together with the church land of 3 acres and 10 perches was let by auction on lease for eight years from Michaelmas, 1833, at the yearly rent of £36, out of which £31 10s. was laid out in the purchase of coals, distributed at four or five periods of the year amongst the poor of the parish, according to the number in family.

At the Society of Antiquaries, in May, 1800, Mr. Samuel Lysons exhibited an ancient mould which had been ploughed up about two years before at Ashill, and was then the property of the Rev. J. S. Watts. It seemed to have been made of hardened clay, and to have been intended for the purpose of casting small brooches. It has been thought to be of as early date as the 12th century. Engravings, size of the original, are in "Archæologia," xiv., fig. 48. In 1874, the Rev. C. R. Manning, at the Royal Archæological Institute, exhibited photographs of pottery found in what is known as "Robin Hood's Garden," in this parish. (See "Norf. Arch.," viii., 224.) In 1856 a fine gold torque, weighing 4 oz. 12 dwts., measuring 33 inches in length, was found in the parish.

The **CHURCH** is dedicated to St. Nicholas, and at the time of Norwich Domesday there was both Rector and Vicar, the latter at the presentation of the former, whose rectory was a sinecure; but before the year 1300 the rector ceased presenting, and took the whole cure. There was a house and 40 acres of glebe, valued in K.B. at £19 13s. 6½d. In 1705 its reputed value was £120. At present the tithe rent charge is £987; glebe £117.

In the fifteenth century the Coo family were benefactors to the church, and Richard Coo, who died in 1507, left legacies to the guilds of St. John the Baptist, St. Nicholas, and the Holy Trinity; to the torches and common lights, 6s. 8d.; 5 lbs. of wax to our Lady of Pite's light;

¹ State Papers Dom., Commonwealth, vol. ci. No. 8.

20d. to the young men's light, and to the blessed rood 3 lbs. of wax; to St. Nicholas' light, 2 lbs. wax, and he appointed Sir Robert Lovell supervisor.

The Church has a square tower, containing six bells. It was restored in 1866, at a cost of £2,600, by the Rev. B. Edwards. In the seven years, 1852-59, upwards of £400 had been expended in repairs and maintenance, half of which was raised by rate, and the remainder by subscriptions, and a new organ was provided in 1866. There are monuments in the church to members of the Boyce and Cotton families.

The Parish Register dates from 1538; but the portions 1553-1562 and 1609-1613 were found to be deficient in 1831.

The Church Land was exchanged at the time of the Inclosure for 3 acres 10 perches, which is let for £2 2s.

The National Schools are attended by 120 children, and are supported by the Rector, Government grant, and children's pence. The first school-house was built in 1820, and the second in 1848, both at the cost of the Rector.

There are Chapels in Ashill belonging to the Primitive Methodists and the Methodists' Free Church.

RECTORS OF ASHILL.

- 1196—Thomas de Watton.
 1301—Thomas de Haverhill, p. by Sir J. Bellocampo. 1317—Alan de Rochale, p. by Sir J. de Hastyns. 1385—Wm. de Horbury. 1386—Roger de Castrefeld. 1391—Simon Gaunstede: same year, Richard Lod, p. by Sir Reginald de Grey. 1394—Roger Grey. 1394—John de Thornburgh. 1398—Robert Parys.
 1401—Thomas Grosten. 1439—Gabriel Langford. 1447—Thomas Joys, a monk, by Sir Edmund de Grey, &c. 1463—John Evesby, Abbot of Woburn. 1481—Thomas Shenkwyn, p. by Edmund Grey, Earl of Kent. 1494—Robert Beckensaw. He was probably the Robert Beckensaw who was elected Pres. of Queen's Coll., Cambridge, in 1508. 1495—Thomas Whitmore. 1496—Walter Prior. 14 —Humfry Gascoigne.
 1501—Richard Ward. 1524—Roger Weld, p. by Sir Henry Wyatt. 1530—Wm. Coven. 15 —Ralph Cook. 1534—Robert Jeckler. 1560—John Underwood (son of the Bishop of Chelcedon, Suffragan of Norwich, 1531-1541.) 1565—Thomas Whitbye. 1583—William Stone, by the King, by lapse. 1583—George Gardiner, son of George Gardiner, of Berwick-upon Tweed, was born in that town, educated at Christ's College, Cambridge, and in or about 1557 was elected a Fellow of Queen's College. On December 24th, 1560, the Queen presented him to the Rectory of Chatton, in Northumberland. On August 6th his Fellowship was declared vacant by reason of his absence from Cambridge. At or about that time he became a Minor Canon of Norwich. In 1562 he was appointed minister of the church of St. Andrew the Apostle, in that city, by the feoffees for the parish. In 1565 he was installed a Canon of Norwich. On the Metropolitan Visitation of that cathedral in January, 1568-9, Articles were exhibited against him, wherein he was charged with having been for sixteen years an unquiet, dissembling man, a fomenter of disputes, and an evil-speaker. It was alleged also that in the time of Queen Mary he had been an earnest and busy persecutor and denouncer, to the then visitors and others, of such as then favoured the Gospel, as well in Queen's College as elsewhere in Cambridge University. In 1569 he was created D.D. He was one of the Canons of Norwich who, in September, 1570, broke down the organs, and committed other disorders in that cathedral. In 1571 he was collated to the rectory of Morley, in Norfolk; and on 26th January was instituted to the Rectory of St. Martin Outwich, in London, presented by the Merchant Taylors' Company. On 14th March, 1571-2, Thos. Roberts was collated to the Archdeaconry of Norwich. John Rugg also claimed the dignity under George Thimelthorpe, to whom Bishop Parkhurst had granted the next presentation. Pending the disputes between these parties, Dr Gardiner obtained from the Queen a grant of the Archdeaconry, which, he alleged, had fallen to her Majesty by lapse, and he ultimately succeeded in retaining the office, although he was obliged to allow Roberts a yearly pension for life. In 1572 Dr. Gardiner was in a Commission to take examinations of such persons in Norfolk as were suspected of being Papistically inclined, and his name occurs in a Special Commission of Oyer and Terminer for the county. On November 28th, 1573, through the influence of the Earl of Leicester, he was appointed Dean of Norwich, and constituted one of the Special Chaplains to the Queen. In 1575 he had the Vicarage of Swaffham, and in 1578 he was Chancellor of the diocese; if so, he held the office for no long time. In 1579 he obtained the Rectory of Hellesdon, and in or about 1580 that of Blofield. In 1584 he became Rector of Fornet. In September, 1583, he preached at Norwich at the burning of John Lewes (who named himself Abdoit), for denying the divinity of Christ. In 1586-7 he was complained of for not having preached at St. Paul's Cross, in accordance with a monition requiring him to do so. He died in or about June, 1589, and was interred in the south aisle of the nave of Norwich Cathedral, where, under the south wall, is a tomb with a Latin inscription. He was an able and eminent preacher, and did no slight service to the Church of Norwich by his resistance to the attempts of Sir Thos. Shirley to swallow up the revenues thereof, under a patent for concealed lands. He erected a monument in Norwich Cathedral to Bishop Parkhurst, gave eight books to the University Library, and presented to King's College Library the great Nuremberg Chronicle and Aurelius on the New Testament.—(Cooper, Athen. Cantab., Vol. II., p 55.) 1586—Edmund Suckling, p. by Robert Suckling. 1587—Robert Francis, p. by Thomas Francis. 1595—William Stone.
 1602—Richard Betts, p. by the King on account of the minority of Henry Bedingfield. A pamphlet of his, very rare now, was published in 1619, the title page of which is as follows: "A Remonstrance of the Most Gratiouvs King James I. King of Great Brittain, France, and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c., for the Right of Kings, and the Independencie of their Crownes. Against an Oration of the Most Illustrious Card. of Perrou, pronounced in the Chamber of the Third Estate, Jan. 15, 1615. Translated out of his Maiesties French copie, by R. B., Pastor to the Church at Ashele in the Countie of Norfolk." 1621—Richard Huxley, p. by Sir H. Bedingfield. 1676—Hilary Bailey. 1687—John Kidd.
 1705—Thomas Searanke. 1729—Hugo Parnel, p. by Hyde Parnel. 1737—Robert Cremer. 1768—Thomas Whaites, Jun., p. by John Spelman and John Heaton. 1768—Thomas Whaites, Jun., p. by John Spelman and John Heaton. 1772—John Stanhawe Watts, p. by Thomas Watts.
 1813—Bartholomew Edwards, who is still rector at this day (1885.)

ASHMANHAUGH.

NEAR to Wroxham, seven miles south-east of North Walsham, and ten north-east from Norwich, with thirty-one families, occupying each a house, is the parish of Ashmanhaugh. In 1710, there were only seven or eight families. There is neither chapel, shop, or public-house, in this or the adjoining parish of Beeston St. Lawrence.

The lordship at the time of the Survey was accounted for under the manor of Hoveton, which with this of Ashmanhaugh was in the possession of the Abbot of St. Bennet at Holm. It passed at the Dissolution to the bishopric of Norwich.

Charles the Second addressed a letter to the Bishop of Norwich in May, 1662, wishing that George Walsh, "one of the gentlemen of our Privy Chamber," who was a tenant of the see in a lease of certain lands lying in Setchy, Ashmondhaugh, and Barton, (known by the name of Heneage Lease), should have a renewal on same terms as before, instead of at a double rent as other leases renewed and that "such faire and easy usage be given him as may reasonably be expected by a person who hath suffered so much for his loyalty to us, and his affection to y^e Church."

According to a Parliamentary paper of 1786, there was annually distributed to necessitous persons 10s., the rent of 2 roods 20 perches of land; and that two tenements erected on the same land produced 25s. a year, 10s. of which was also given to the poor, and 15s. applied to repairs of the church. In 1833, the overseers received 15s. a year from John Clarke, rent of a piece of land lying undivided from property belonging to Sir Jacob Preston, but it was said to be distinguished by boundary posts, and contained nearly 5 roods. They also received £2 5s. a year from tenements, which sum they distributed among "poor parishioners not being inhabitants of the parish," eight to twelve in number. Sir Thomas Preston (who died in 1823) acted as trustee for these small charities, but after his death no one took that position. There were also, besides the 15s. above-mentioned, church lands producing 7s. 8d., which was carried to the church rate account, 1s. 8d. of this amount was for a plot known as the Butt-ground. The Inclosure Act, 48 Geo. III., secured eight acres to be let, and the rents applied in purchase of fuel for the poor. John Bean, in 1824, had a ten years' lease of this at a yearly rent of £8. This was applied to the purchase of coals.

The CHURCH is dedicated to St. Swithin. It was a rectory appropriated to the abbey of St. Bennet at Holm, and in the reign of Ed. I. valued at 5 marks. William de Turke, Bishop of Norwich (1146—1174), or William de Raleigh (1239—1250), at the earnest entreaty of William de Hulme, appropriated to him the church of Ashmanhaugh, and the monastery and church of Hoveton, with all their appurtenances for ever as a free gift; and on Wednesday next after the Feast of the Blessed Mary Virgin, 1258, Roger, the Prior of the Church of the Holy Trinity at Norwich, confirmed the grant, as also did William de Middleton, Bishop of Norwich, on the 14th October, in the sixth year of his pontificate. A guild called after St. Stephen, was formerly connected with the church, at which, in 1603, there were sixty communicants. It is believed that a church was erected here as early as the year 600. The present fabric, which has a round tower, rebuilt in 1842, is of great age; and in 1849 and 1867 considerable restoration was made. The Vicarage is consolidated with the rectory of Beeston St. Lawrence, and is valued at £76. It received an augmentation from Queen Anne's Bounty, to the extent of £200, between 1730 and 1810, and in 1785, Isaac Preston gave £200 for the same purpose. The registers date from 1562.

For list of Incumbents, see BEESTON ST. LAWRENCE.

ASHWELTHORPE.

NINE miles south-west of Norwich, and about three south-east of Wymondham, is this parish, with eighty-six families, living in eighty-four houses in 1881.

Originally Ashwell was the name of a hamlet to Thorpe, but as early as King Stephen's time the two names became united, and it has ever since been known as Ashwelthorpe, though each had a separate manor.

At Ashwell a free chapel dedicated to the Virgin Mary, with a priest's house, was founded in 1131 by Sir John de Thorp, who endowed the same with 5 marks a year; a year or two after adding to the endowment a close of land. When the dissolution of Chantries occurred, in the reign of Ed. VI., it was disestablished, with many others; and in 1598, Sir Thomas Knyvet purchased the whole of the property belonging to the same, and added it to the manor.¹ Of the manor itself, Richard de Ashwell was lord in the time of Hen. III., and eventually it passed to the Thorp family.

Of the Thorp family there are records as early as the beginning of the thirteenth century, and they held for several generations the manor of Thorp, which, in the time of the Confessor, belonged to a thane of Bishop Stigand, and at the Conquest to Earl Eustace. It was a mile and a half in length, and five furlongs in breadth; was worth £6, and paid 6¼d. gelt.

In 1266, Hen. III. confirmed to Robert, son of John de Thorp, free warren in all his demesnes here, and in 1271 this Robert was impleaded for erecting a gallows at Ashwelthorpe, for which the manor had not the liberty, but it was granted to him in 1284. John, son of Robert and Maud de Thorp, who was Knight of the Shire for Norfolk in 1304, and acted in the same year as assessor and collector for the King in this county, was at that time lord of this manor. In 1307 he was one of the Justices of Trailbaston for this county, and though in the first Parliament of Ed. II. he was summoned as a Baron, he continued to act as a Judge until 1324, in which year he died. Blomfield says he served the office of High Sheriff in 1319, but his name does not appear as Sheriff in that or any other year. (See Vol. I., p. 533.) Shortly before his decease he was joined with Sir Edmund Bacon to arrange for the marriage of Joan, the daughter of the King, to Alphonso, the eldest son of the King of Arragon. From the inquisition held after his death it appeared that he was, jointly with his wife, Alice, possessed of several manors in this county.² John, his son, a youth of fifteen, succeeded, and had for his guardian John de Clavinger. In 1339 he settled on the Chapel at Ashwell 100 shillings and 100 pence, in annual rent, for the priest to pray for his soul. In 1340 he died, leaving a widow, who, in 1345, was married to Sir Roger le Strange, who became lord in her right; but they having no issue, the manors passed to Edmund de Thorp, his brother, in whose time the several fees, etc., held of the manor of Ashwelthorpe were extended, and it appeared that by virtue of his lordship he was entitled to receive from holdings by John de Hethersett, Swaynsthorp, Gowthorpe, and Dunston, a pair of boots annually, and a pair of buskins lined with felt to the lady of the manor; and from Nicholas de Aldburg, who held in Denton and Alburgh one fee, the payment of a pair of gilt spurs every Easter.

This family of Thorpe, as we shall find in other parishes, held several manors in Norfolk, as well also in the adjoining counties of Suffolk and Cambridgeshire. Some of their manors remained in the possession of descendants till 1552. They were a very numerous family, and brief notice only need be made of the chief of them here. In 1370 Sir Edmund de Thorp, sen., was

¹ A note of Dr. Tanner says the chapel had long since disappeared, and the living had been united to Thorp.

² In the University Library at Cambridge is a volume (Mm v., 32), written in Latin, in a hand of the early part of the fourteenth century, which contains 500 charters (for the most part very short) of possessions of Sir John de Thorp in Ashwelthorpe, Norwich, Horsham, Witton, Banham, Runcton, Fundenhall, and Tivetshall, besides some Suffolk parishes. To many of the leaves parchment labels are attached, with references to the original deeds, "to prove the credytt of the book."

Sheriff of Norfolk and Suffolk, and in 1380 he enfeoffed Robert de Thirning, Rector of Combes, and Thomas de Bumpstede, of Norwich, with his manors, advowsons, and lands in Ashwelthorpe and elsewhere, by which they were settled on his son and others for an annuity of £100. Having married a lady holding divers lands *in capite*, without the King's license, Sir Edmund had to sue for the royal pardon, which was granted in 1387 upon his paying a fine of £20. He died in 1393; was buried in the chancel of the church; and left five marks to any one that would make a pilgrimage for him to St. James the Apostle. His son, also Sir Edmund, succeeded; and Blomfield, whose tedious details of this family's connections are more curious than interesting, tells us that on "going beyond sea, he made his will, and gave Ashwelthorpe for life to his wife," Joan. In 1417 he was appointed, with John Nevile and John Kemp, to arrange any difficulties that resulted from violation of the truce between the Duke of Burgundy and Henry V., and he appears to have been killed at the siege of Lovers Castle, in Normandy, but was brought home and buried at Ashwelthorpe.

From this time the succession, by failure of issue in her elder sister, was vested in Isabella wife of Philip Tilney,¹ a daughter of the last Sir Edmund Thorp, and her husband, in virtue of her right, held a first court in 1436, in which year she died, and her husband took a religious habit, became a prebendary in Lincoln Cathedral, and, dying in 1453, was buried there. Philip Tilney, his son and heir, succeeded, and his daughter Elizabeth married (first) Humphry Bouchier, eldest son of John, Lord Berners, and who was slain at Barnet-field on Easter-day, 1471; in 1472, she married (secondly) Thomas, son and heir of John, Lord Howard, afterwards Earl of Surrey, and eventually Duke of Norfolk.² The Duke survived this lady, and held the manors till his death in 1524. Sir John Bouchier, Lord Berners, son and heir of Sir Humphry, was lord afterwards, and till his death at Calais, of which town he was governor, in 1532. He was knighted on the marriage of the Duke of York. The insurrection in Cornwall (1497) under Michael Joseph, the Bodmin farrier, afforded him an opportunity of proving his staunch loyalty, and the conduct he displayed on that occasion made him a great favourite at Court. When Hen. VIII., in concert with Maximilian, invaded France, and laid siege to Therouenne—an undertaking remarkable for its examples of individual heroism—he took part as captain of the pioneers in what has been called the Battle of Spurs, in consequence of the complete rout of the French cavalry, "who that day made more use of their spurs than of their swords." For his services, on his return in 1514, he was made Chancellor of the Exchequer for life, and attended the Princess Mary to France, on her marriage with Louis XII. He was the translator of "Froissart's Chronicle," and author of what Chalmers in his Biog. Dict. calls "a whimsical medley of translations from the French, Italian, and Spanish novels, which seem to have been the mode then, as they were afterwards in the reign of Chas. II.," of all which ample accounts may be found in the recognised authorities. He left an only daughter, Jane, who married Edmund Knyvett, sergeant-

¹ "Philip Tilney of Northfolke had much of y^e Thorps lands, and emong other was y^e goodly manner of Aschewelle Thorpe by Windham in Northfolke. . . . He had also Thetford, y^e wiche I think was Thorps land also. Philip had iij sonnes, Fredericke, Robert, and Hughe, and xij doughtars. He left to Fredericke 700 markes by y^e yere of lands. And Philip or [e'r] he died was Priest and Prebendarie of Lincolne, and is buried in the Minster of Lincolne afore y^e west doore of y^e Chirche. Mr. Framelingham that alate married Sir Philip Tilney's wife told me that y^e Tilneys had a house hard by Boston toun, and y^e one of y^e Tilneys lyith in Boston Chirch by y^e stepille, and that he was a great maker of the steeple. Massingham in Norffolk longged to Philip Tilney, and he had much land in Lincolnshire, wherupon I gesse y^e partely ye Tilneys name rose in Lincolnshire.

"Frederick had onely a daughter, y^e which was marryed to y^e Lord Barnes [Berners], father to the last Lord Barnes, so that the last Lord Barnes was her sunne and heire of the Tylneys lunds. Tho: Duke of Northfolke, after the death of y^e olde Lord Barnes, married her, and had his 3 notable sonnes by her. The last Lord Barnes solde almost the substance of all his lands.

"Knevet y^e seruient Porter to y^e King married ye Lord Barnes daughter; and thereby he had sum lands, and also his children now have by y^e Lord Barnes, and chiefly Aschwell Thorp by Windham.

"Robert, secund sune to Philip Tilney had given him by his father, a hunderith pounds by yere of land in Cambridgeshire, and there Roberts heire yett dwellith. Hughe, y^e third sun had an hunderith pounds land at Boston and in y^e parts of Lincolnshire. Sir Philip Tilney, of Southfolk was sun to him, and y^e Duches of Northfolck his daughter. The old Philip also bestowed his xij doughtars so welle, that y^e last of them was married to a man of XL pound lands."—*Itinerarium Johis. Lelande*: inceptum A D. M.D.XXXVIJ., 3^o Hen. viij.—Harl. MS., 1346.

² On the 27th March, 1512, Hen. VII. granted a pardon of all treasons, etc., to Thomas, Earl of Surrey, alias Thomas Howard, of Ashwelthorpe, Knt., with special reservation, however, of the right to imprison him during pleasure.

porter to Hen. VIII., and who was the second son of Edmund Knyvet of Buckenham Castle.¹ She, dying in 1561, was succeeded by her grandson, Sir Thomas Knyvet, who petitioned the Crown for the barony of Berners, dormant since 1532, and obtained a certificate of his right to the same, but died in 1616 before the King's confirmation was procured. He was one who received knighthood on the occasion of Queen Elizabeth's visit to Norfolk in 1578, and in the year following served the office of High Sheriff. His grandson, Thomas Knyvet, of Ashwelthorpe, succeeded, and he was made a Knight of the Bath at the coronation of Chas. I. in 1625; died in 1658.² His eldest son was made a Knight of the Bath at the coronation of Chas. II., and in 1665 married Mary, daughter of Sir Thomas Bedingfield, of Darsham, in Suffolk, and died in 1673, his wife surviving till 1713, and possessing the manor and advowson of Ashwelthorpe by settlement. One of his daughters, Catherine Knyvet, who married Richard Bokenham, of Weston Mercate, in 1720, claimed the barony of Berners, and the House of Lords admitting her claim, she had royal authority to assume the title of Baroness Berners. She died in December, 1743. Another daughter, Jane, married Oliver Le Neve, of Great Witchingham.

The barony and estate, through failure of direct succession, descended to Thomas Knyvet, of Mutford, Suffolk, who was succeeded by his only son, John Knyvet, of Norwich, who by his wife, Lucy, daughter and co-heir of Charles Suckling, of Bracondale, had five sons and three daughters—the sons all died without issue, and the daughter, Elizabeth, married in 1720, Henry Wilson, of Didlington, and dying in 1757, left a son and successor, Henry William Wilson, of Didlington and Ashwelthorpe, who died in 1796. He was succeeded by his eldest son, Robert

¹ In vol. i. p. 131, the reader will find an account of the affair for which Sir Edmund Knyvet was sentenced to lose his right hand for striking Mr. Clere in the King's tennis-court. According to Leland (a contemporary) the name of this family was "Dunevet, now commonly called Knevet."

Another noteworthy member of this family was Lady Ann Knyvet, of whom an old writer has this record:—"Among the number of the godly that were kept under the providence of the Lord in those perillous daies, I may not forget an ancient good Ladie of much worship, called Lady Anne Knevet, who till her death dwelt in Northfolke, in a town named Wymondham, six miles from Norwich. Whiche sayd good Ladie in Queene Maries daies being judged by the common people to be more than an hundred yeers of age, and by her owne estimation well toward a hundred, kept herself from their Popish Church, or having anie Papistical trash ministered in her house, but only the Service wh^{ch} was used in the later daies of King Edward the Sixth, wh^{ch} daily she had said before her, eyther by one P. Tollin, who was then by God's providence preserved in her house, or else by one of her Gentlewomen or household seruants, that cou'd serve the place in the sayd P. Tollin's absence. Now this wor-shipfull Ladie continuing in this manner of true serving of God, she and her family were many times threatened by Messengers, that the Bishop would visit her therefore. Unto which messengers she would always answer, that if his Lordship sent word before what day he would come, hee should thereafter be entertained at her hand. But God, whose providence ruleth the raging seas, never suffered them all that toiling time to molest her. Although oftentimes when she had service before her, there were very great enemies to the truth and of much authoritie, that came in, and kneeled to prayer among them, and yet had no power to trouble her therefore. This good Ladie (gentle Reader) kept good hospitalitie, as any in that country of her living. She also succoured many persecuted that came to her house in the sayd Queene Maries daies. Were these never so simple, they were esteemed of her as the friends of the Gospel, and departed not from her without money and meate. Borne she was long before King Edward the Fourth died, and ended her life in the Lord Jesus' peace, about the beginning of the second yeere of our most Sovereigne Ladie Queene Elizabeths reigne, as one falling into a most sweet sleepe."

² This Thomas Knyvet was one of the Royalist party taken by Col. Cromwell at Lowestoft, in March, 1642, and lodged in the Castle of Cambridge. A contemporary writer concludes he "paid his contribution, or-due fine, for the business, got safe home again, and lived quieter" ever after. He contributed £10, and Lady Knyvet also £10 to the forced loan to Chas. I. in 1625.

The *Gentleman's Magazine* (1787) published a letter of Cromwell's to Knyvet, dated 27th July, 1646, which Mr. Carlyle reprinted in his collection of Cromwell Letters, and remarks: "The letter used to be in the possession of the Lords Berners, whose ancestor this Knyvet was. . . . With them, however, there remains nothing but a copy now; and that without date, and otherwise not quite correct." The letter possesses little interest, and had reference to certain "honest poor neighbours of Hapton," to whom one Browne, a tenant of Knyvet, was disquieting. Mr. Carlyle says: "We gather in general that the parishioners of Hapton were a little given to Sectarian Independent notions; which Browne, a respectable Christian of the Presbyterian strain, could not away with. The oppressed poor tenants have contrived to make their case credible to Lieut.-Gen. Cromwell, now in his place in Parliament again; have written to him; perhaps clubbed some poor sixpences, and sent up a rustic deputation to him, and he, however the respectable Presbyterian world may interpret it, is not ashamed to solicit for them."

A more important letter is one written by Chas. II. to Sir Thomas Knyvet, which shows that he was an active partisan in the cause of the Restoration. It is dated Breda, 27th April, 1660, just one month before Charles returned to England, and is as follows: "This bearer hath informed me of the greate affection and zeal you have expressed for my service, and of the endeavour you have used to promote my interest, for which I give you hearty thanks, and hope the time is at hande that I shall receive the fruite of your labours, and that you may receive my thanks more avowedly than it is yett safe for you to do. I am very glad to hear that you have put your country into so good a posture, and I hope you will be so much imitated by others, that we may all attayne the end we desire without effusion of blood, and by such a universal consent as may more manifest the wonderful mercy of God to the nation. You shall always find me to be, Your affectionate Friend, CHARLES R."

I do not find that the Knyvet family suffered greatly from sequestration during the Commonwealth, as so many of the Royalist gentry did; although a letter (Harl. MS. 378, No. 5) referring to the sequestration of Sir Thomas Knyvet, and ordering its removal, states that he was "reduced to greater emergencies and extremities than most of them whose estates are sequestrated." Cromwell had himself told him (Knyvet) that, though he was present in the affair at Lowestoft, he was satisfied he was not a party to the designs of the townspeople there.

Wilson, who was summoned to Parliament as Baron Berners in 1832, but died in 1838 unmarried. The Rev. Henry Wilson, his brother, succeeded, and had issue: Henry William (who became his successor); Robert, who was Rector of Ashwelthorpe; Charlotte, who married Abbot Upcher, of Sheringham; Elizabeth; Mary; and Anne, who married the Rev. John M. Johnson, of Scoulton. Henry, Lord Berners, died 26th February, 1851, and was succeeded by his elder son, Henry Wilson, who was born in 1797, and died 27th June, 1871, when his niece, Emma Harriet, now Baroness Berners, and Lady of the manor of Ashwelthorpe, succeeded.

The arms of her ladyship are—Quarterly, 1st and 6th sab. a wolf, salient or; in chief, a fleur-de-lis between two besants, for Wilson. 2nd arg. a bend, plain, within a bordure, engrailed, sab. for Knyvet. 3rd Bouchier; 4th Plantagenet; and 5th Berners. Supporters—Dexter, a falcon rising, wings elevated, arg. jessed and belled, or: sinister, a greyhound, ppr. gorged with a collar, gu., studded or. Motto—*Le bon temps viendra.*

The Commissioners for the Fundenhall and Ashwelthorpe Inclosure, on 2nd February, 1814, set out to the lord of the manor, rector, churchwardens, and overseers of Ashwelthorpe, 1 A. I. R. 31 P. to apply the profits in purchasing fuel to be distributed among the poor whose occupation did not exceed £8 yearly. This land adjoined 10 acres conveyed under Gilbert's Act for the purpose of a workhouse, and the whole was let in 1834 for £12 a year, out of which in respect of the fuel allotment, 3 or 4 chaldrons of coal and some wood were purchased, and distributed to the oldest among the poor parishioners.¹

The CHURCH, dedicated to All Saints, is in the Early English style, and was thoroughly restored in 1861. There is a piscina in the chancel, and also one in the nave, and another in the chapel on the north side of the chancel; and in the porch is a holy-water stoup. The church and the chapel contain many monuments, especially those to the families of Thorp, Bouchier, Knyvet, and Wilson. The one to Sir Edmund de Thorp, who was killed at the siege of Lover's Castle, in Normandy, in 1417, has two effigies—one of himself and the other of his wife—in white alabaster, under a wooden canopy. The knight is attired in a suit of armour, with a helmet under his head, and a crown and plume for his crest. The arms of Thorp, quartering Bainard's, are cut on his armour: he hath a chaplet about his head, and a sword by his side. A black marble slab, with the arms of Knyvet, quartering Bouchier's, in Thorp's chapel, has the following inscription:—

Hic jacet insignis Heros THOMAS KNYVET, armiger, Baro hereditarius de Berners, titulo, à JANA, filià JOHANNIS BOURCHIER, Baronis de BERNERS, traducto. Virtutibus Publicis, Privatis, sincero Numinis Cultu, Moribus antiquis, priscâ animi Indole, ac veteri Prosapiâ illustris, leviori seculo, et fœlici CAROLI secundi post liminio dignus. Sed exhalanti monarchiæ vix superstes, Distichon hocce, generosi animi specimen proprio Calamo exaratum, Posteris legavit.

Here lies loyal KNYVET, who hated *Anarchy*,
Liv'd a true *Protestant*, and died with *Monarchy*.
Obit. Junii 30, 1658.

At the east end of the same chapel there is another slab thus inscribed:—

Johannes Knyvet, Baro Hereditarius de BERNERS, a Caroli postliminio Eques Baluei, Antiquum Genus virtute insignivit, ad exteras peregrinando, selectissimos condivit mores, Doctrinam coluit et occuluit, Ritu solemnî adoravit Numen, Regi Fidelitatem late testatus, Altare distavit DEI Eleemosinarius, optimis auspiciis Uxorem duxit MARIAM filiam THOMÆ BEDINGFIELD, equitis, Conjugatis Amoris nobile exemplar, sic *Phœnix* in Cineres redactus æternam manens renovationem. Hic jacet, obiit Julii 28, 1673.

Another member of the family has the following on a grey marble with brass plate:—

Jane Knyvet resteth here, the only heire by right Of the Lord Berners, that Sir John Boucher hight. Twenty yeres and thre a wydoos life she ledd, Always keping howse where rich and pore were fedd.	Gentell, just, quyet, voyd of debate and stryfe; Euer doying good: Lo thus she ledd her life, Euen to the Graue, where Erth on Erth doth ly: On whos soul God graunt of his abundant mercy.
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The xvii. of February, M.D.LXI.

¹ 29th Rept. Char. Com., p. 553.

The Rectory is valued in K.B. at £6 13s. 4d. In Queen Elizabeth's time it paid £8 2s. 6d. first fruits, and the tenths were 16s. 3d. At the time of Norwich Domesday the Rector had a house and 10 acres of glebe. The present rent-charge of Ashwelthorpe with Wreningham is £350, and there are 85 acres of glebe. In 1710 the Rectory was certified of the value of £30 per annum. The benefice was mortgaged in 1852 to Queen Anne's Bounty for £1,600. In 1862 considerable restorations were effected.

There was a guild here, as in so many other parishes previous to the Reformation, and this was dedicated to the Holy Trinity.¹

In 1603 the number of communicants was 91.

The parish register dates from 1558, but is deficient from 1594 to 1598.

RECTORS OF ASHWELTHORPE.

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| <p>1298—Philip de Thorp, p. by Sir John de Thorp. Buried on north side of the Communion Table.</p> <p>1315—Thos. de Kantia. 1317—John de Pagrave, by Sir John Thorp and Alice, his wife. 1327—John Fysh de Therston. 1335—John de Pagrave. 1337—Alex. Attemer. 1344—Jeffrey Kemp: chapel of the Blessed Mary. 1352—Adam de Redgrave: also the chapel. 1387—John Suetelde, of Wymondham, p. by Sir Edm. de Thorp. Buried in the church porch in 1420.</p> <p>1420—Thos. Truyt, by Sir Edm. Berry, etc. 1432—Ric. Talpe, p. by Sir J. Clyfton. 1434—Thos. Dalhingo. 1444—Thos. Robyn. 1456—Geo. Barker, p. by John Bouchier, Lord Berners. 1480—Thos. Ayshfeld, p. by Sir Thos. Howard and Elizabeth, his wife. 1488—Thos. Green. 1498—Ric. Eaton.</p> | <p>1511—Wm. Smith. 1533—Steph. Janson, p. by Sir E. Knyvet and Joan, dau. and heir of Lord Berners. 1544—Robt. Barnes, p. by Joan Knyvet, widow. 1553—Hugh Shelmerdon. 1555—Thos. Longbottom. 1560—John Browne. 1593—John Harrison, by Sir Thos. Knyvet.</p> <p>1603—John Harrison was rector. 1625—Roger Gallard, p. by Thos. Knyvet. 1672—Ric. Jacquis, p. by Sir John Knyvet, K.B. 1679—Wm. Bedingfield. 1684—Wm. Barlow, p. by Thos. Knyvet. 1693—Benj. Gooch.</p> <p>1728—John Browne, p. by Catherine, Baroness Berners. 1728—Francis Leighton, p. by H. W. Wilson. 1787—(Consolidated with Wreningham-cum-Neyland) Henry Wilson.</p> <p>1826—Robt. Wilson. 1852—A. W. Upcher.</p> |
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ASHWICKEN.

FIVE miles east of Lynn, with twenty-two houses, is the parish of Ashwicken. It had twenty families resident at the early part of the eighteenth century.

In the reign of Edward the Confessor, a Saxon freeman, named Leuric, held the chief lordship here, but the Conqueror gave it to one Rainold, son of Ivo. In the time of the former

¹ It is remarkable, considering the great number of Guilds which existed in the Middle Ages, and especially in Norfolk, how little notice has been accorded to them, and it was not till the late Mr. Toulmin Smith's work, with a well digested introduction and supplementary notes by his daughter, Miss Lucy Toulmin Smith, was published by the Early English Text Society, in 1870, that we had any collection of historical facts relating to them. Dr. Lujs Brentano, of Bavaria, has given us a most complete work on the subject, and his publishers tell us that it "was written to serve as a general Introduction" to that of Mr. Toulmin Smith.

The Guild was an institution of English origin, for long before associations of a similar nature appeared on the Continent their existence was recognised in English laws and records. In the latter part of the seventh and eighth centuries a body of Anglo Saxon laws was formed, including two concerning the liability of the brethren of a Guild in the case of slaying a thief. The laws of Alfred recognised the Guild. When in 1388, on the demand of Parliament, accounts of these institutions were collected, it was sometimes said that they existed "from time whereunto the memory of man runneth not." These returns give various objects of the organisations: some "to nourish good fellowship"; but mostly for purposes connected with religious worship and charity. The "Guild of the Young Scholars of Lynn" was originally formed with the purpose of maintaining an image of St. William in St. Margaret's church, and supplying it on each festival day with six tapers of wax. When we come to deal with Lynn we shall be able to recount many particulars of the Guilds there, and shall find that besides their devotions the brethren cultivated no small amount of ale-drinking, etc. The "Poor Men's Guild" at Norwich was designed to "help and amend a parish church." In St. Katherine's Guild, at Norwich, on the occasion of a death, the members were required to attend "dirige" and mass, and make offerings; "and at the dirige every brother and sister that is lettered shall sing, for the soul of the dead, placebo and dirige, in the place where they shall come together; and every brother and sister that be nought lettered, shall sing for the soul of the dead, twenty times the Pater Noster with Ave Maria; and of the chattell of the guild shall there be two candles of wax, of 16 lbs. weight, about the body of the dead." At Wiggshall there were five guilds formed for the sole purpose of praying for all sorts of people, including sailors and travellers by sea, and of searching for drowned brethren and burying them; and the brethren of the Guild of St. Peter were required to attend church on their general day, each wearing a garland of oak leaves. As Dr. Brentano observes, "The National Life Boat Institution of to-day would undoubtedly have been a Religious Guild in the Middle Ages; to be convinced of it one need only look at the statutes of the Guild of the Holy Trinity of Wynale." By Act 37th Hen. VIII. c. 4, and 1 Ed. VI., c. 16, Guilds were abolished. "In England," says Madox, "these religious Guilds have been judged to be founded in superstition." In Harrison's "Description of England" [1577-87], in Holinshed, we read, "Our holie and festiuall daies are verie well reduced also vnto a lesse number; for whereas (not long since) we had vnder the Pope foure score and fiftene, called festiuall, and thirtie *Profesti*, beside the Sundaies, they are all brought vnto seauen and twentie: and with them the superfluous numbers of idle wakes, *guilds*, *fraternities*, church-ales, helpe-ales, and soule-ales, called also dirge-ales, with the heathenish rioting at bride-ales, are well diminished and laide aside."

it consisted of two carucates of land; it had 12 villeins, with 3 bordarii and 2 servi, with 20 acres of meadow. In Leuric's day it was valued at £4 per annum, but at 40s. only at the Survey. It was 6 furlongs in length and breadth, paid 6d. gelt when the hundred was taxed at 20s.

Alan, Earl of Richmond, also had a small lordship granted by the Conqueror, consisting of half a carucate of land, held by 7 bordarii, with 9 acres of meadow, the moiety of a mill, and the moiety of a salt-pit, valued at 5s. per annum. This manor extended into Bawsey, and both this and Rainold's into Leziate and Holt.

From the 6th Hen. III. (1222) till the 20th Ed. III. (1346), the family of Noium, or Nugon, held the lordship, and Henry Nugon in 3rd Ed. I. paid 20s. annually to the castle guard of Dover for the same, and he had assize of bread, beer, etc.

The Priory of Wells had temporalities here, valued at £3 17s. 8d. per annum in 1428; and the Prior of Westacre had lands worth 3s. 10d. per annum at the same time, and Pentney Priory had land at the Dissolution which yielded £1 per annum. Those which belonged to Pentney were given in the 4th and 5th Mary to Thomas Gibbon and William Mynn. In the 30th Hen. VIII. the latter was granted, with other property of the Pentney monastery, to Thomas Myldemaye, one of the auditors of the Court of Exchequer, to revert to him on the expiration of a lease granted the year before to Thomas, Earl of Rutland, for twenty-one years. In the 36th Hen. VIII., Thomas Thorisby died seized of the manor of Ashwicken, and it remained in his family till sold to John Drury, who conveyed it about the year 1700 to the Hon. Roger North, of Rougham,¹ and it appears to have passed to George Wright, who married North's daughter, as he died seized of the manor in 1754.

A law-suit which took place during the ownership of the Hon. Roger North, though relating to matters of temporary interest chiefly, led to investigations which possess some general interest, and which incidentally afford details of the circumstances attending the management of a small estate at the time, and which in that sense has more than a temporary interest. An inquiry was held by commission appointed by the Court of Exchequer, at the King's Head, North Elmham, in January, 1729.² The estate was said to be of the annual value of £343, and the schedule of receipts and expenditure, which is here appended, includes the amounts of the several rentals, and the outlay which a landlord at that time was called upon to make in connection with his estate. It was stated by Mr. North, in his examination, that he did not know of any right of common, except the town common of Leziate (of which little or no use had ever been made by the occupiers of Holthouse farm), and the common of Ashwicken, the inhabitants of which parish, being tenants of the estate, generally used the fold-course belonging to Holt farm. He had taken this farm into his own hands with a sincere desire to improve it. There was a boggy piece of land upon it which he had drained and dug, and had planted hops upon it, for which purpose he had engaged skilful hop-growers from a distance, and after they left, worked it by day labourers. He had one good crop of the hops, but found it a loss and gave it up. No farmer would continue the experiment. Another piece of boggy ground he had drained, fenced, and planted with osier, but only a few cheap hurdles were made, and the rest rotted in the ground. He had also tried if bricks could be made of the earth in a part of the wood, and had engaged a skilled brickmaker, whom he paid 6s. a thousand for all he made, but that also was found a failure, for the bricks decayed by the influence of the weather, and with the exception of a few used in repairs and 20s. worth, they all became clay.

¹ The Hon. Roger North was the sixth son of Dudley, Lord North, and was Attorney-General to James II., and Steward of the Courts to Archbishop Sheldon. Dr. Burney says he was a dilettante musician of considerable taste and knowledge in the art, and left a MS. entitled "Memoirs of Music." It was published for the first time in 1846. He was author of several legal works, and of an Examination into the credit and veracity of a pretended complete History (Dr. White Kennet's History of England). When one recalls the manner in which the great offices of the State—especially the judicial ones—were filled at the time of the Restoration, it is not a little surprising to find him writing that, in his opinion, "in no time since William the Conqueror have the laws been executed in all the courts of royal jurisdiction with more justice, decorum, and impartiality than in the reign of Chas. II." But the work by which he is best known is the Lives of his three brothers, the Lord Keeper Guilford, Sir Dudley North, and the Rev. Dr. John North. He died in 1733.

² Exch. Dept. by Com., 3rd Geo. II., Hilary, 13.

AN ACCOUNT OF THE RENTS AND PROFITS OF THE ESTATE OF ROGER NORTH, ESQUIRE.

From Michaelmas, 1720, to Lady Day, 1729, with the Taxes, Repairs, etc.

		£	s.	d.			£	s.	d.
Received of John Goodwin, three years' rent of Holthouse farm, let with Ashwicken Leziat, being a fold-course of about 100 acres, and this Dep ^{ts} own inheritance at £84 p. ann., from Mich ^a , 1720, to Mich ^a , 1723, and the fold-course being worth, one year with another, £3 p. ann.; the farm is computed at £82 p. ann., and amounts to	246	0	0	Received of Mr. Pettitt for the sand-pit, six years' rent, expiring at Mich ^a , 1726, at £2 10s. p. ann.	15	0	0		
Received of Whistler for late Goodwin's farm and fold-course for four years, expiring at Mich ^a , 1727, the farm being computed at £82 p. ann., amounts to	388	0	0	Rec ^d of Mills for the same to Lady Day, 1729, being two years and an half's rent at £2 10s. p. ann.	6	5	0		
Received of Edw ^d Rattley, for late Whistler's farm and the fold-course for one year and an half to Lady Day, 1729, the farm being computed at £82 p. ann., amounts to	123	0	0	Received of John Lyther, for eight years and an half's rent, from Mich ^a , 1720, to Lady Day, 1729, at £90 p. ann.	765	0	0		
Received of Gamble and his assigns for seven years' rent expiring at Mich ^a , 1727, at £42 10s. p. ann.	297	10	0	Rec ^d of John Wealthy, for eight years and an half's rent, from Mich ^a , 1720, to Lady Day, 1729, at £84 p. ann.	544	0	0		
Received of Brooke for one year and an half's rent of late Gamble's farm, due at Lady Day, 1729, at £42 10s. p. ann.	63	15	0	Rec ^d of the widow Bell, for eight years from Mich ^a , 1720, to Mich ^a , 1728, at £34 p. ann.	272	0	0		
Received from the cottagers eight years and an half's rent from Mich ^a , 1720, to Lady Day, 1729, at £2 p. ann.	17	0	0	Rec ^d of Edw ^d Elliot, for late widow Bell's use, for one half year's rent to Lady Day, 1729, at £34 p. ann.	17	0	0		
				Rec ^d of Rouss, in part for four years' rent to Mich ^a , 1724, at £6 4s. p. ann., £10, the rest being lost by insolvency	10	0	0		
				Rec ^d of Ralley (for late Rouss) four years and an half's rent to Lady Day, 1729, at £6 4s. p. ann.	27	18	0		

Whereout this Ex^{ant} (the Hon. Roger North) hath paid and allowed to the severall tenants before named, for taxes and repairs by them respectively disbursed since Mich^a, 1720, the severall sums following, viz. :—

HOLTHOUSE FARM.		£	s.	d.
Taxes :—				
John Goodwin, for three years to Mich ^a , 1723, taxes from Mich ^a , 1720, to Lady Day, 1722	18	0	0	
A year and a half more from Lady Day, 1722, to Mich ^a , 1723	12	0	0	
Repairs :—				
Three labourers for work done at the farm	1	8	0	
One labourer more	0	8	0	
Paid a thatcher	2	17	6	
Repairs of the fences, &c.	5	5	0	
For a carpenter	1	1	0	
For lime	0	10	0	
Nails and haire	0	2	0	
Nails	0	2	6	
Deales for the barne doors	0	17	0	
Bricks for the stables	1	0	0	
For hooks and hinges	0	12	0	
For fencing the wood	0	3	0	
Glue for whiteing	0	0	6	
Bill of repairs	1	1	6	
Hedging the wood	0	4	0	
WHISTLER, for four years of the same Farm, expiring at Mich ^a , 1727.				
Taxes :—				
A year and a half taxes, from Mich., 1723, to Lady Day, 1725	12	0	0	
The like for the year 1725	8	0	0	
The like for the year 1726	8	0	0	
Half a year's tax to Mich., 1727	8	0	0	
Repairs :—				
Bricks	0	8	0	
Lime and hair	0	7	2	
Mason's bill	1	9	4	
Five bunches of lath	0	5	11	
Nails	0	8	9½	
Thatcher's bill	0	17	8	
Locks mending	0	1	6	
Hedging the wood	0	2	0	
For iron	0	5	6	
Nails	0	1	0	

		£	s.	d.
Repairs about the pump	0	9	8	
For locks	0	1	6	
Nails	0	0	8	
Mending the pump, and nails	0	7	0	
Nails	0	1	0	
RATLEY, for one year and an half of the same Farm, to Lady Day, 1729.				
Taxes :—				
Half a year's tax to Lady Day, 1728	8	6	0	
For a year more to Lady Day, 1729	13	0	10	
Repairs :—				
For brick	0	9	9	
Three chalders of lime	1	15	0	
For haire	0	4	0	
Nails	0	0	10	
Lath and tiles	0	3	4	
Hanging the ditch	0	2	6	
Paid a thatcher	1	3	9	
For scouring a great drain	2	2	0	
Paid the carpenter	1	0	3	
JOHN LYTHER, a Farm for eight years and an half, expiring at Lady Day, 1729.				
Taxes :—				
For a year and half's tax to Lady Day, 1722	20	5	0	
For four years more to Lady Day, 1726, at £9 p. ann.	36	0	0	
For one year more to Lady Day, 1727	9	0	0	
For a year more to Lady Day, 1728	18	0	0	
For a year more to Lady Day, 1729	13	10	0	
Repairs :—				
Nails	0	19	4	
Paid mason and lime	1	0	6	
Diverse repairs	0	19	4	
Paid Taylor for paleing work	1	14	0	
Nails	0	1	6	
Paid the carpenter's bill	3	15	0	
Paid the thatcher and bindings	2	0	9	

	£	s.	d.
Paid Say, of Lynn, for deales	2	5	4½
Four chaldron and nine bushels of lime	2	2	6
Paid Patrick, mason	6	3	4
Two stone of nailes	0	8	9
Nailes	0	2	10
Two thousand tiles and lath	2	5	6
Deals and porter... ..	0	18	6
Deales and sparrpoles	1	6	2
Three bunches of lath	0	7	6
Nailes and snack (?)	0	4	6
Paid John Taylor, carpenter	7	2	6
For tiles and lath	1	6	0
One thousand of nailes	0	2	2
More nailes	0	8	5½
For tyle and rooffe tile	1	2	0
Hair and tileing	0	9	2
Paid Taylor, the carpenter	0	16	0
Paid Barnes, the mason	1	0	0
Nailes, pavement, and lime	0	6	4
Paid the smith for iron	0	14	8½
For bricks	1	2	6
For tile and lime	0	8	6

JOHN WEALTHY, a Farm for eight years and an half,
expiring at Lady Day, 1729.

Taxes:—

For a year and half taxes to Lady Day, 1722, at £1 12 p. ann	14	8	0
For four years' taxes to Lady Day, 1726, at £6 8	25	12	0
For a year more to Lady Day, 1727	6	8	0
For a year more to Lady Day, 1728	12	16	0
For a year more to Lady Day, 1729	9	12	0

Repaires:—

Nailes	0	1	0
Two days' thatching	0	5	0
Deale for a barne threshold	0	1	4
Three thousand quicksetts	0	10	0
Fifteen days' thatching	1	17	0
For lime to bind	0	7	0
Road gate mending	0	3	0
Two hundred of nailes	0	2	0
Loading sparrs	0	1	0
Nailes and spikes	0	3	0
Tarred rope to bind	0	10	1½
Thatcher and men	0	10	0
Bushes cutting	0	6	0
One hundred of nailes	0	1	0
Thatching the barne	0	12	6
Load of rushes mowing	0	1	6
New road gate and iron	0	3	6
Two deals... ..	0	2	6
Thatcher	0	5	0
Road gate mending	0	2	6
Eight deales	0	7	0
Two split deales	0	3	0
Carpenter... ..	0	3	6
Nailes	0	2	0
Carpenter... ..	0	7	0
Nailes	0	3	0
Thatching the barne	0	10	0
Nailes	0	1	0
Barne door iron	0	0	8
Thatcher	0	5	0
Rope and nailes	0	1	6
Road gate mending	0	0	4
Thatcher	0	3	9
Lime for the mason	0	1	6
Two hundred of nailes	0	2	0
Mason and server	0	2	6

GAMBLE'S Farm, for seven years from Mich^a, 1720,
to Mich^a, 1727.

Taxes:—	£	s.	d.
For a year and half's taxes to Lady Day, 1722, at £6 6 p. ann.	9	9	0
For four years' taxes to Lady Day, 1726, at £4 4 p. ann.	16	16	0
For a year more to Lady Day, 1727	4	5	0
For half a year more to Mich ^a , 1727	4	5	0
Repaires:—			
Repaires allowed	0	6	10
Thatcher's bill	1	2	6
Paid Bennet, the mason, for lime	0	17	0
For carriages	16	16	0

BROOKS, for late GAMBLE'S, for one year and half to Lady
Day, 1729.

Taxes:—	£	s.	d.
Half a year, to Lady Day, 1728... ..	4	5	0
More, a year, to Lady Day, 1729	6	7	6
Throphy money	0	15	3
Repaires:—			
A bill of carriages, of wh ^h disallowed all but	0	16	11
Paid the mason	7	8	9
" brickman	0	15	9
" stone digger	0	4	8
" lime burner	2	15	0
For ironwork	0	13	9

Mrs. BELL, after her husband, to Mich^a, 1728, eight years.

Taxes:—	£	s.	d.
For a year and half taxes, to Lady Day, 1722, at £5 2 p. ann.	7	13	0
For four years' taxes more, to Lady Day, 1726, at £3 8 p. ann.	13	12	0
For a year more, to Lady Day, 1727	3	8	0
For a year more, to Lady Day, 1728	6	16	0
More half a year's, to Mich ^a , 1728	2	11	0

EDWARD ELLIOTT (for late BELL) half a year, to Lady Day,
1729.

Taxes:—	£	s.	d.
Half a year's tax, to Lady Day, 1729	2	11	0

THE COTTAGERS, eight years and an half, to Lady Day, 1729.

Repairs:—	£	s.	d.
Allowed Rawston, a day thatcher	0	2	6

ROWSE, for some land, late KOLK'S.

Taxes:—	£	s.	d.
Allowed him in accounts for taxes from Mich ^a , 1720, to Mich ^a , 1724	0	18	0

THOMAS RALLEY, for four years and an half of the same,
expiring at Lady Day, 1729.

Taxes:—	£	s.	d.
For one year and an half's taxes, at Lady Day, 1726	0	18	0
More, a year to Lady Day, 1727	0	12	0
More, a year to Lady Day, 1728	1	4	0
More, a year to Lady Day, 1729	0	18	0
More for Throphy money	0	0	3

The SAND-PITTS, from Mich^a, 1720, to Lady Day, 1729,
eight years and half, paid by diverse ten^{ts}, and allowed
in their accounts—

— Bell	0	15	0
John Lyther	1	3	0
John Wealthy	0	2	0

And this Ex^{ant} hath paid and allowed to Mr. John Taylor, his agent and others, for necessary disbursements, charges and expenses about repairs of the premises in question, from Mich^a, 1720, to Lady Day, 1729 (Schedule of what is contained in the tenants' accounts before mentioned), the severall sums following:—

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
1721. For viewing, measuring, and valueing the dikeing and other works towards improvement of the pre ^{ms} (as in the fourth schedule to this Exat ^{nts} answer is mentioned)	0	13	6	Making the faggotts sold for £4 11s. ...	1	12	6
For thatching at Gathercoal's cottage ...	0	2	6	For tythes of the same	0	9	0
Deales had at Mr. Allen's, merchant, for Gamble's barne, and used upon the pre-mises	4	17	4	For pavement sent to Lyther's and Gamble's, about five hundred, at six shillings per hundred	1	10	0
1723. At Wealthy's, for the rooffe of the barne, spars, and boards	1	15	0	Lime sent to Lyther's and Gamble's ...	0	5	0
For six days' work for three men at the barne	1	7	0	Sent to the cotage for new covering four loads of rye straw	2	0	0
1723-4. Work of carpenters about the house and outhouses at letting Holthouse Farm to Whistler	5	8	0	Some repairs allowed to Whistler since those in his discharge	0	8	3
Scouring, at 3½d. per rodd, at ditto ...	1	11	6	Paid Barrett, mason. and men, four daies... At Rawston's cotage, nine daies' thatcher, and men	1	2	0
270 rodd dikeing and fencing round about the wood... ..	7	17	6	At Gathercoal's, seven daies	0	17	6
Bottom foying the river, p. order of Sewers	8	10	0	1727. Carpenter's work about a new rooffe to a barn at a farm late Gamble's ...	5	3	6
1725. For selling and fetching the eight trees For railing in the river necessary for the tenant at Holthouse Farm	0	13	6	More about gates, pales, &c., at letting the s ^d farm	2	14	0
At Lyther's and Wealthy's, for new paleing (the timber found) twenty-eight rodd, at twelve shillings p. rodd	3	18	0	For new opening the water dike ab ^t Woolfar, on the same account necessary	17	18	0
	16	16	0	Earnest and drink for the work men ...	0	1	6
				For carpenter's work at Holthouse, upon letting the same to Rattley	4	17	6

A full and true account of all Timber and Wood felled and cut down by the Ex^t, or his order or direction, privicy or knowledge, from of the premises in question, or any part thereof, since the time of his last account thereof set forth in his former Answer and Schedule referred unto by this Ex^t in his foregoing examination, as follows, viz. :—

1721. Timber felled in the Little Grove, sold by John Taylor for	£	s.	d.	1725. 166 feet of oak timber, not barkable, twelve pence per foot	£	s.	d.
For a load of hazell cut and carryed ...	0	6	0	For the head pieces of the same	4	14	0
For an ashen pole	0	2	0	For birch sold by John Taylor	1	0	0
1722. A load of firewood	0	6	0	A load of hazell wood, cut and carryed ...	0	7	0
Had ninety-five feet of oak timber, at the price as in Answer and Schedules is expressed, of the timber there accounted for, at tenpence per foot	3	19	2	An ashen pole	0	2	0
Sixty-five foot more of the like	2	14	2	Oak used upon the small house erected by this Ex ^t in Holtwood, as in the exa ^{tn} mentioned, 208 feet of rough and ordinary building timber, at ten pence per foot amounts to	8	14	0
1723. A parcell of faggotts sold out of Holtwood for... ..	4	11	0	A load of alder poles and ash topps ...	0	10	0

Concealed lands in Ashwicken and Leziate were granted in April, 1574, to Edmund Dyer and Henry Cressener, with the advowson of the rectories thereof.

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, which was restored at a cost of about £1,000 in 1860, was formerly a much larger one than it is at present. It is in the Perpendicular style, with a tower in the Decorated. The octagonal font was carved at Benares, by Major Markham Kittoe, as a memento of his daughter, who died in 1850. Westacre Priory had originally the patronage, when the rectory was valued at 5½ marks, and the vicarage at 30s. It paid Peter's pence 8d., and in K. B. stands with Leziate at £6 13s. 6d. Its certified value in the time of Algood's rectorship was £60. The present rent charge is £520, awarded in lieu of tithes in 1866, and there are thirteen acres of glebe. The church was restored in 1844, at a cost of about £750, of which sum £700 was voluntarily subscribed. The rectory house was built in 1863.



The parish register, which has been much neglected, commences only about the year 1700. There is a National School, attended by about seventy children.

On the 9th July, 5th and 6th Phil. and Mary, Sir George Howard had a grant of two acres

of land in Ashwicken, in the occupation of Henry Massingham, being formerly given for the maintenance of a lamp in the parish church of Ashwicken. This grant was supplementary to four acres of land granted by him on the 15th February, 2nd Eliz.

VICARS AND RECTORS OF ASHWICKEN.

Became a Rectory about the time of the Reformation. In 1508 united to Leziate.
 1312—Edmunde de Schipedene. 1316—John de Wrenningham, p. by Prior of Westacre. 1349—Wm. Chapman. 1349—Walter Rychey, of Downham. 1351—John Trot. 135—John de Lekham. 1360—Wm. de Geyst. 1361—John Marseye. 1367—Ralph Gerard. 1388—John Lovedouse. 1388—Nich. Stangrene. 13.—Wm. Claypole.
 1402—Wm. Reynold. 1405—John Marsh. 1410—Robt. Chaik. 1444—Thos. Wrestlingworth. 1456—Wm. Pygot. 1459—Robt. Dawes. 1476—Robt. Skirlagh. 1491—John Smith. 1496—Thomas Dyman.
 1508—John Trunch, p. by Bishop. 1546—John Halsted, by the King—1555—Thos. Serjeant, p. by the Bishop, by lapse. 1569—John Bramall, p. by the assignees of Sir Thos. Gresham. 15

—Peter Smith, p. by the Queen. It was reported of him: "He usually weareth not the surplice, neither usually says service on Wednesdays and Fridays. He catechiseth not."
 1600—Jordan Chadwick, p. by Sir Horatio Palavicini. 1604—John Bramall. 1608—Osbert Howes, p. by Thos. Thursby. 1617—Robt. Powis. 1633—Wm. Holly, p. by the King. 1675—Thos. Fyson, p. by John Drury. 1679—Bartholomew Algood.
 1716—Martin Challis, p. by Eliz. Janes—1757—James Nind, by Philip Nind. 1771—John Hatch. 1793—John Temple.
 1810 (June 11)—John Smith. 1810 (Oct. 29)—Ric. Venables, D.D. 1826—Joseph Parson. 1836—Saml. Kent. 1838—Thos. Brown. 1841—John Freeman. A stained glass window to his memory was placed in the church by a subscription in 1879. 1877—A. J. Groom.

ASLACTON.

TWO miles from the Fornsett station of the Great Eastern Railway, two miles from Tivetshall, and thirteen miles S.S.W. of Norwich, is Aslacton, with sixty-five houses, in the occupation of sixty-nine families in 1881. In 1831, seventy-five families were living in fifty houses. Early in the eighteenth century the population consisted of thirty families.

Aslacton—Oslac's Town, Eslington, Aslington—was a berewic of Fornsett manor, a league in length, and half a league in breadth, paying 9d. gelt. It was of the Honour of Richmond in the days of Earl Alan, and about the year 1100 Roger Bigod enfeoffed William de Verdun, and it afterwards passed by marriage to Nicholas de Bruneste, and again to Walter Malet. John, son of Alexander de Vaux, in 1263, had a grant for a weekly market and a yearly fair and free warren. In 1209 Seman, the Chaplain, granted to Hugh Plume seven acres of land in Aslacton in exchange for other lands. In 1288, Walter de Kerdeston held a fee here. The Suffolk family of Park of Ilketshall, had the manor from 1309, till Joan Park, the sole heiress of that family, married one John Duke. The Princess Mary had a grant of the manor, with the advowson of the rectory and vicarage on the 18th August, 2nd Ed. VI.; and certain lands and tenements here were granted to Sir Roger Townsend in 2nd and 3rd Ed. VI. for a consideration of £604. In 1631 the lordship was bought by Sir William Playters, of Billingford, Francis le Neve, of Wichingham, and another, in trust for Sir William le Neve; after whose death it continued with the Le Neves till it passed by purchase to the Buxtons, by the name of Aslacton Park's or Le Neve's manor, the fee rents being £1 7s. 5d. per annum, and the copyholds £8 6s. 10d. Robert Buxton, of Tibbenham, was lord in Blomefield's time.

Sir William le Neve, who was successively Mowbray Herald, York Herald, Norry, and Clarencieux King of Arms, and who was lord in the days of the civil war, as related in vol. i., p. 320, attended Chas. I. at Oxford, and other places, after the King's death petitioned to compound for his delinquency, and stated that his property in Aslacton and Bunwell, before the "late troubles," was of the yearly value of £154, besides the Improprate Rectory of Aslacton, which he returned at £20 yearly value. He left England in 1645, to avoid the consequences of his adherence to the King, and with his petition of 31st May, 1649, to be freed from sequestration, he gave in the following particulars of his estate:—

A TRUE PARTICULAR OF ALL THE ESTATE OF SIR WM. LE NEVE, OF ASLACTON.¹

Imprimis.	He is seized in fee of the manor of Aslacton, the chief rents and profits being worth per annum ...	£4	0	0
Item.	Farm and lands in Aslacton, let to Wm. Singleton at rent p. ann. ...	60	0	0
Item.	Certain closes in the farm of Jo. Wright, rent ...	4	0	0
Do.	„ „ Jo. Edwards ...	6	0	0

¹ Roy. Comp. Pap., 2d. ser., vol. 43.

One house and land in the farm of Jeffrey Neve, Gent., rent p. ann	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£22	0	0
Itm. Certain grounds in the farm of Samuel Miller, in Aslacton and Bunwell, rent	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	0	0
Itm. One house and lands in Aslacton, in the farm of Mr. Edward Singleton, rent	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	34	0	0
Itm. One farm, late Cope's, let to Mr. Ed. Singleton, rent	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	0	0
Itm. One smith's shop, let to Ri. Watson	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	10	0
Itm. One house, let to John Beales...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	10	0
											£154		0	0
Itm. The impropriation of Aslacton, worth about £20 p. ann., which is allowed to the minister towards the serving of the cure, and not a penny profit besides made of it														
Itm. 2 chambers and a study in the Heralds' Office, granted to him for his life by letters patent under the Great Seal of England	2	0	0	
Itm. Books and papers and goods therein	10	0	0	

His fine was fixed at £523 16s. 4d.

THETFORD PRIORY MANOR in this parish was given by Roger Bigod, when he founded the Priory, and it remained in the possession of the successive Abbots till the Dissolution, and was granted on the 9th July, 1541, to Thomas, Duke of Norfolk, with other manors, messuages, and lands, formerly belonging to the monastery of St. Mary, Thetford, in exchange for certain other manors granted by him to the Crown on the 1st April, 1540, and the grant included the advowson of the church of Aslacton. It was bought in 1561, by Charles le Grice, of Brockdish, and in 1598 it was purchased by the Buxtons, and incorporated with their manor of Aslacton Park's, and it has since remained in that family.

Le Neve's Charity.—Laurence Le Neve, who died 29th June, 1724, by will gave 20s. yearly, charged upon a ten-acre piece of land at Little Well, near the Low Common, "for the support and to cheer up the most necessitous of the poor," to be paid to them on Candlemas-day, and "not to be applied as an aid to the rich by easing the parish rates." In 1834, when the Charity Commissioners inquired into the administration of the fund, it was found to be given in bread in quantities varying in value from 3d. to 9d. to each family, according to the number in it, bad characters being excluded.

In 1806, the Aslacton Inclosure Act secured an allotment to be set out for supply of fuel for the poor. Two pieces of land—one of 6 acres, 2 roods, 36 perches, and the other of 11 acres, 1 rood—realised in 1834 about £18, which was expended in purchase of coals.

The CHURCH of St. Michael is very ancient; its round tower,¹ undoubtedly Saxon, has five bells. The nave, chancel, and south aisle date from the twelfth century. The advowson originally belonged to Thetford Priory, by gift of Roger Bigod, and was served by a chaplain. It had a parsonage, and 2 carucates of glebe, and valued first at 10 marks, and afterwards at 12 marks, paying 10d. Peter's pence. The tithes were commuted in 1839 for £340, and the impropriator is Mr. Le Neve Gillman. The incumbent's income is stated to be £25 only, with a parsonage house, built in 1860, at a cost of £1,200.



¹ The view of the church here given is from a drawing made in 1850. The tower is a good specimen of the many round church towers in this county. Unlike most others, however, it is circular-headed. There are in Norfolk 93 churches with round towers, twenty-three of which have octagonal tops—adjuncts, it is believed, made in the transition period from the Decorated to the Perpendicular style. These church towers were undoubtedly the fortresses of the villages in the old times.

Several tenements and parcels of land in the parish were left at various periods for the support of lights, etc., and these, with others elsewhere, were granted on the 18th August, 2nd Ed. VI., in consideration of £1,097 19s. 9½d., to John Whitehouse and John Bailey.

The Parish Register dates from 1556. The communion-plate bears dates—chalice, 1603; paten and flagon, 1709. In 1603 there were 129 communicants.

In the chancel window is the picture of an infant in swaddling-clothes, lying in a cradle, which (Blomfield tells us on the authority of MSS. penes J. Anstis, Garter. E. 26, fo. 246) tradition represented as having reference to an orphan so left at the church stile, and who was brought up by the parish, and from the town was called *Aslac*, and who became standard-bearer to Ed. III. He married a daughter of Sir Oliver Calthorp, of Burnham, and the window is adorned with his arms.

VICARS OF ASLACTON.

The church books describe the clergy mostly as curates.
 1661 to 1679 - Wm. Le Neve.
 1702 - Rich. Wilson. 1719 - Abel Hodges. 1721 - Thos. Brown.
 1726 - Wm. Needham. 1732 - John Phillips. 1748 - Jas. Ringer.
 1754 - Rowland Sherman. 1766 - Thos. Webster.
 1768 - Chas. Carver (sequestered). 1793 - Chas. Carver.
 1801 - Chas. Carver, jun. 1849 - Thos. Gale Curtler. 1852 - Jos. Ball.
 1853 - S. Hornbrook. 1856 - W. Walton. 1858 - Thos. Gale Curtler.
 1861 - Thos. Harris. 1865 - Walter A. Taylor. 1866 - P. Rivers de Jersey. 1870 - Geo. Vallis Gar-

land, Author of "Notes on Genesis, in Hebrew and English, in Polyglot ed. Old Testament;" "Plain Possible Solutions of the Objections of Bishop Colenso on the Pentateuch and Book of Joshua" (1863); "Remarks on the Vision of the Four Chariots of the Prophet Zechariah" (1869); "The Compatibility of the Eternity of Matter with the Existence and Eternity of God" (1881). [The last five are described as Perpetual Curates.]
 1876 - H. L. Boyce. 1881 - David Lloyd Thomas. 1882 - Joseph Bartholomew Davey Hopgood.

There is a Wesleyan meeting-house, built in 1833, and enlarged in 1844.

The National School, built in 1850, at a cost of £217, has passed into the hands of a School Board under the Act of 1870, and is attended by about 50 children.

ATTLEBOROUGH.

THIS town, on the line of the Great Eastern Railway (distant from London 110 miles), is fourteen miles north-east from Thetford and fifteen south-west from Norwich. In 1881 its population was accommodated in 522 houses. In 1710 it had 100 families.

That Attleborough is a very ancient town is manifested by a variety of evidences, and it is not necessary or desirable to repeat, much less to inquire into the details of old legends, either as to the origin of its name, or its possession of fortified walls and towers, with ancient gates and ditches, and its alleged importance as the metropolis of the county.¹ Speculative minds may find interest and scope for conjecture in such stories, but facts and not fables demand recognition here. It is enough that no one has ever pretended to have found the least trace of works which, if they ever existed, must have left some evidence behind; and the most that may be said is that in all probability at the time of the Danish invasions, Attleborough was put in a state of defence by earthworks suitable to the emergency.

But it may be allowable to quote here, as Blomefield has quoted, an extract from an abbreviated Life of King Edmund, in the Register Curteys, which may be taken as the earliest pretended historical mention with which we are acquainted, though it by no means proves, admitting the facts alleged, that a great city existed here. At the same time it should be observed that the Offa here referred to is neither mentioned by the early authorities nor by Abbo Floriacensis, the ancient biographer of Edmund, so that his existence, as well as the romantic story, may well be doubted. Offa, who murdered Ethelbert, had two sons and successors, Egberth and Kenwulf.²

¹ In 1821, a correspondent of Sir Henry Ellis, referring to the Brame MS., which Blomefield thought worthy of so much consideration, and which is among Archbishop Parker's MSS. at Benet's College, Cambridge, states that, "notwithstanding its absurdities," he had caused an examination of it, and "fully ascertained its worthlessness in this as well as in other respects."

² *Archæologia*, xix., p. 306.

"In the year 841, Edmund, son of Alkmund, King of Saxony, was born at Naremburg, in Saxony, of Queen Siwara, and soon after it happened that Offa, King of the East Angles, who had no heir, passed through Saxony in his journey to the Holy Land, where he went in pilgrimage to beseech God to give him an heir, and calling upon his cousin Alkmund, he adopted Edmund his son as his heir, and then hastened to Jerusalem, where having performed his vows, he returned; but on his return, at a place called St. George's Arm, was taken violently ill, upon which he immediately sent for his Council, appointed Edmund his successor, and sent him the ring which he received from the Bishop when he was made King of the East Angles. After he was dead the Angles went to the King of Saxony, and demanded Edmund, his son, and received him as Offa's successor, and hastening home, they landed at Hunstanton, from whence they carried him to the ancient city called Atleburgh, where he lived a whole year, yielding himself up chiefly to devotion. Here he perfected what he had begun in Saxony, namely, to repeat all the Psalms without a book, and at the year's end he went to Suffolk."

There were here anciently the manors of Plasset or Plassing Hall, of Baconsthorp or Crowshall, also called Copsy, Chaunticler's or Chancellor's, and Mortimer's. The first of these in the Confessor's time belonged to two Danes, named respectively Toradre and Turkill, the latter also holding Mortimer's. The Conqueror, as in most instances, dispossessed the holders, and bestowed them upon his followers. Plasset's was given to Roger Fitz Renard, and afterwards to William de Albin, and descended through his co-heiress to Sir Robert de Tateshale, and from him by enfeoffment to Sir William de Bernak, whom Ed. II. endeavoured to deprive of the portion of the advowson, which passed with the manor, the King contending that it was a portion of the inheritance of Hugh de Albin, Earl of Arundel, who held his estate of the King in chief, and died without issue, but de Bernak proved that Plasset's manor was not so held, and accordingly maintained his right of presentation. A view of frank pledge, assize of bread and ale, free warren, a gallows, and a Thursday market, belonged to the manor. The Bernaks retained its possession till 1438, when by the marriage of Maud Bernak it passed to Sir Ralph de Cromwell, Lord of Tatteshall, who granted it to Sir John de Ratcliff and his heirs, by whom it was joined to Mortimer's and separated from such portion of it as was situated in the adjoining parish of Besthorpe.

MORTIMER'S MANOR contained the third part of Attleborough, or the whole of that part where the church and town stand, and which in early times was called "the other Attleburgh," and a third part of the advowson always belonged to it till the rectories of Attleburgh Major and Minor were consolidated in 1755.¹ The Mortimers appear to have had this of the gift of the Conqueror, and it remained with them till the fifteenth century.² There were holdings, however, apart from these manors, for a patent roll of the 10th Ric. I. (1299) shows that Ralph, son of Peter, at that date, granted twenty-one acres in Attleborough and Ellingham to William de Fossatt, at the yearly rent of 18d. and 1 lb. of cummin.

Sir Robert Mortimer, in 1194, having presumed to hold a tournament without the King's license, was required to give sureties for so doing, in order to recover his lands thereby forfeited.

On the 21st October, 36th Hen. III. (1252), Robert de Mortuo Mari [Mortimer] had a grant of free warren in his demesne lands in Attleburgh, Bernham, and Sculeton (Scoulton), and this grant was confirmed by Hen. VIII., on 16th November, 1519, to Ralph Chamberlayne and his heirs, as was also a charter of 1st May, 12th Ed. III. (1337) granted to Constantine de Mortuo Mari, as to lands in Attleburgh, Besthorp, and a dozen other Norfolk parishes, besides lands in Cambridgeshire and Lincolnshire.

In 1283 Ed. I. granted to William de Mortimer of Attleburgh a charter for a market at Stanford, in this county, every week upon the Tuesday, and a fair upon Whitsun Eve, Whit Sunday and Monday. This William, in 1294, upon the King's going into Gascoign, was

¹ The advowson of the Greater Rectory, or, as it was more frequently described, "of the two parts," was also known as Hamon's portion, from Hamon de Warren, who was Rector at its taxation when Norwich Domesday Book was compiled.

² Mr. Stapleton, in his "Observations on the Norman Rolls of the Exchequer," identified Robert, son of William de Mortimer, of Chelmarsh, and also of Netherby, with Robert de Mortimer who acquired the fiefs at Attleburgh, either by marriage or feoffment, and was the progenitor of the line of Mortimer of Attleburgh—"a most valuable fact, as the source of that branch had never before been determined."—Planché, Somerset Herald, Brit. Arch. Assoc. Journal, xxiv., 28.

required to attend with horse and arms to assist him against the French. In 1297 (25 Ed. I.), he was summoned as one of the Barons to the Parliament which met in London on the 28th October. He again went to France with the Earl of Lincoln to relieve Bellagard, besieged by the Earl of Arras, when he was taken prisoner, and soon after died there. He was founder of the Chapel of the Holy Cross, called Mortimer's Chapel, being the south transept, now standing, afterwards re-dedicated to St. Mary, in which he was buried. He held the manors of Bernham, Scoulton, and Attleburgh of the Earl Warren, at six fees, with manor-house, 243 acres of land adjoining, a wood of 469 acres, a windmill, and yearly rents amounting to £43, besides other lands held of Robert de Tateshall, by rendering annually two sparrow-hawks.

Sir Robert Mortimer and his son, Sir William, in 1215 were in the Barons' war against King John, and of the former a story is told in Somner's "Antiquities of Canterbury," that he, being an excommunicate person for having done a wrong to the Church of Canterbury by taking from it the manor of Deepham, in this county, intruded himself into a procession to and into the Cathedral, and was roughly thrust out by Alan, the Prior, who, seeing the Archbishop himself would not eject him, told his Grace that "If he would not use his authority without, he (Alan) would use his own within the Church."

Constantine, the son and heir of Sir William, succeeded at sixteen years of age, and there was a contention between the King and Earl Warren as to his wardship, which the Earl claimed as belonging to his lordship. In 1307 he was in the retinue of John de Warren, Earl of Surrey, with the King in France, at his marriage with Isabel, daughter of King Philip. In 1311 was in the expedition to Scotland, as also in 1313 and 1314.¹ Whilst on the Scottish business, the King, by a grant dated at Berwick-on-Tweed, on 20th November, 1311, granted him two fairs at his manor Attleborough, on the feasts of the Assumption and of St. Lawrence; and the witnesses to the charter were Walter Reynolds, Bishop of Worcester, Chancellor; Gilbert de Clare, Earl of Gloucester and Hertford; John de Warren, Earl of Surrey, and others.² In 1319³ license was granted him to make his house at Scoulton a castle, and in 1326⁴ the custody of Buckenham Castle was committed to him. In 1321 he was a Knight of the Shire for Norfolk, and with an occasional exception attended the Parliaments till his death on the 12th November, 1334, having been returned for the last time in September of that year. He was buried in the Mortimer Chapel.

To the last-named succeeded his son, Sir Constantine Mortimer, who in 1336 had an allowance of £22 8s. 8d. for his charges for his men and horses in the service of Alianore, Countess of Gueldres, sister to Ed. III.; and on May 1st, 1338, had a grant of free warren of all his demesnes in Attleburgh, Besthorpe, Scoulton, Ellingham Parva, Rockland, Toft, Buckenham, Stanford, Tottington, etc. In 1342 he was summoned as a Baron to the Parliament which met at Westminster on the 16th October; went with the King to France on two occasions, and had license to travel to Rome with one valet, two horses, and two servants. He was in the Commission of Array for the counties of Cambridge and Huntingdon in 1352. Dying in 1354, without issue, was succeeded by his brother, Sir Robert de Mortimer, who married, first, Margery Fastolf, who died in 1341, and, second, another Margery (surname unknown), who outlived him, and died in 1388. This Robert was the founder of the Chantry of the Holy Cross in Attleburgh, and was buried there in 1387. He had two sons. Thomas, the eldest, died abroad, having first married Mary, daughter of Nicholas Park, who had previously married John Fastolf, by whom she had a son, who became the famous Sir John Fastolf.⁵ This lady died in 1406, and was buried in the Chapel of the Holy Cross. There were three daughters of this marriage, and Cicely, the second, married Sir John de Herling, and after his decease in 1411 married John Ratcliff, of Attleburgh; and thus it happened that the lordship passed after her death to the eminent family of Ratcliff.

¹ Rot. Scot., 4 Ed. II., m. 11: 7 Ed. II., m. 1. 8 Ed. II., m. 9.

² Harl. Ch., 58 I, 47.

³ Pat., 13 Ed. II., m. 9.

⁴ Rot. Fin., 19 Ed. II., m. 15. I give these references because the dates above given are at variance with Blomefield's.

⁵ Sir John founded a college in one court of his mansion-house at Caister, and one of the priests of that college was obliged to sing daily for his mother's soul, and to keep her anniversary at Caister the same day they did at Attleburgh.—Blomefield.

John Ratcliff, who succeeded through his wife, was granted a pension of 40 marks a year by Hen. V. in the first year of his reign, on condition that he should serve no one else in war, and subsequently this was increased by a further grant of 25 marks a year. He was at Agincourt and most of the other wars made by the King, and for his services was made Governor of the castle of Fronsac, in Aquitaine, with 1,000 marks a year as custodian. He was made a K.G. in 1420,¹ and at his death was buried in the choir of Attleburgh church. He was succeeded in his manorial rights, and in the Governorship of Fronsac, by his son John, who, in 1425, also became a K.G. He was Lieutenant of Calais when the Duke of Burgundy besieged it. His death occurred in 1440, and his executors had a grant of the revenues of Bridgwater and other ports to discharge a debt of £7,015 due from the King for Sir John's services. He also was buried in the choir of Attleburgh church, as also was his wife in 1452. John, his son, who married Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of Walter, Lord Fitzwalter, succeeded, and had to obtain a pardon for entering upon his estate without the customary royal license. He was slain at Ferrybridge, on Palm Sunday, 29th March, 1461, being there in the cause of Ed. IV. against Henry VI. A Paston letter, of the 4th April following, has this passage: "On the King's part is slain Lord Fitz-Walter." He died of his wounds on the 6th April.

In 1485, Sir John Ratcliff was summoned to Parliament as Lord Fitzwalter; was steward of the King's household, and in 1487 was associated with the Duke of Bedford and others to exercise the office of High Steward at the coronation of Elizabeth of York. In 1495 he was attainted of high treason, committed in the Parliament holden on the 14th October, 1495, and sent to Calais, after Hen. VII. had remitted the death penalty; and having attempted to escape thence, he was beheaded, and so forfeited his honours and estate to the Crown. On the 11th May, 1496, the King demised to Elizabeth, Duchess of Norfolk, the manors of Attleborough and Croweshall, in Attleborough, for thirty years from the Michaelmas ensuing, and Robert, son of the beheaded lord, was restored by royal letters patent of the 25th January, 1506, by virtue of an Act passed in 1504, giving the King power to reverse attainders. But it should not be omitted that this was no mere act of grace or favour of the King, for Hen. VII. had a keen eye to pecuniary profit wherever personal advantage to himself could be secured. The reversal had a special proviso, that it should in no wise affect any grants made by the Crown of any of his father's possessions, and by a "certain indenture made between the King and the said Robert Radclif of Fitzwauter," dated 24th July, 1505, a sum of £5,000 was to be paid to the King. Receipts for this payment still exist, one for £1,000, dated 14th May, 1506, another for £1,000 paid at Christmas following, for which the receipt is dated 8th July, 1507. On the accession of Hen. VIII., Fitzwalter procured a special Act in confirmation of his inheritance. In 1511, he was summoned to Parliament, as also to the subsequent Parliaments until 1523, as Robert Ratclyff de Fitzwalter; was created a Viscount 18th June, 1525;² and Earl of Sussex, with an annuity of £20, on the 8th December, 1529.

Many evidences exist of his active life at Court, and in the service of his royal master. He was appointed Chancellor of the Exchequer on 3rd July, 1528, on vacation of that office by John Bouchier, Lord Berners, who succeeded Lord Lovell, by patent of the 29th May, 1517. When the question of Hen. VIII.'s marriage with Queen Katherine arose, he stated in a deposition as to her former marriage with the King's late brother, that he had been in the

¹ He was nominated to the order by John, Duke of Bedford, and chosen in preference to Sir John Fastolf, having an equal number of votes and Sir John Fastolf was elected in the following year.

² An ancient MS. in the College of Arms (Coll. Vinc., 31) says, in reference to this creation with others, "These were advanced uppon y^e joyefull newes of y^e Emperour's victorie at Pavie, in Italy, where the King of France was taken prisoner, and Richard de la Pole, the King's dreaded enemy, was slaine a little before, A^o. 1525." The signed bill for this dignity is remaining, but being without a recipi, and there being no patent enrolled, it would have appeared as though no patent had passed the seal, had there not been a full account of the creation remaining in the College of Arms (2d M. 16, p. 68), in which it is stated that "all their patents were presented to the Kinge's personne by Sir Thos. Wriothesley, Gartier Principall Kyng of Armes." He was also on the same occasion made Viscount Egremont, or Egrymonde, and at the ceremony "Lord Fitzwalter was led in by the Earl of Shrewsbury and Lord Abergavenny, his mantle borne by Lord Dacres of the North." Lord Bullen of Blickling was on the same occasion created Viscount Rochford.

service of Hen. VII. from the death of Prince Arthur to that of the King himself, and that he was a witness to the marriage of Arthur with Katherine. He was one of the three sent to Katherine, in October, 1531, to induce her to consent to refer the question of the divorce to the Bishops.¹ He was deputed, with Lord Marny and Sir William Paston, on St. Giles' Day [1st September], 1524, to proceed in great state to Blackheath to meet the Pope's Ambassador, who was bringing the Sacred Rose from the Pope to the King. It was not long after this that he joined in the declaration to Pope Clement VII. that, unless his holiness acceded to the divorce of Henry and Katherine, it would not be long before his supremacy in England would be disavowed. When Cardinal Wolsey had been required to deliver up the Great Seal to the Dukes of Norfolk and Suffolk, Fitzwalter attended the King when his Majesty delivered it to Sir Thomas More. Just a year before—however close his relations with the King himself—he had sought the favour of Wolsey in a letter dated 23rd June, 1528, to secure for him the King's favour in conferring upon him the Stewardship of the Duchy of Lancaster in Essex, the Constablership of Plashe Castle, the keeping of the parks, and other offices in the King's gift which had just fallen vacant by the death of another courtier. So almost directly after (18th April, 1532), he was begging Cromwell to get for him the Stewardship of the Honour of Clare. His wife was a great friend of Ann Boleyn, and it was she who was selected to conduct the future Queen to the Presence Chamber, on the 1st September, 1532, for Henry to confer upon her the title and dignity of Marchioness of Pembroke; and Fitzwalter himself was employed in the following September to go to Beaulieu, with the Earls of Oxford and Essex, to remonstrate with the Princess Mary for using the title of Heir Apparent, and to inform her of the King's displeasure at her so doing—a demand upon her humiliation with which she declared she would not comply. At Queen Ann Boleyn's coronation he was chief sewer;² and on the 19th December, 1533, with the Duke of Norfolk, he visited Queen Katherine to propose to her to accept the title of Princess Dowager, but it is hardly necessary to record that, as in the case of Mary, his mission was a failure. In 1540 he was made Lord Chamberlain for life. At the Dissolution of Religious Houses, in 1541, he secured a grant of the Abbey of Clive, in Somersetshire, and of the College or Chantry of Attleburgh, with the revenues belonging thereto.

Such were the employments of the courtier's life in the days of the first Earl of Sussex; but it should be recorded that he, in common with his contemporaries, took part in other exploits of a character that required other and varied qualities. He was in the expedition to Therouanne, in 1512, and Tournay; in 1522 he was in the army of the Earl of Surrey sent to France.

Robert Fitzwalter was married (1st) to Elizabeth, daughter of Henry Stafford, Duke of Buckingham; (2nd) to Margaret, daughter of Thomas, Earl of Derby; and (3rd) to Mary, daughter of Sir John Arundel, of Lauherne, in Cornwall, who survived him, and was married to Henry Fitzalan, Earl of Arundel. About the marriage of his second wife, it appears there was some difficulty on the point of affinity, but those were days when men in high stations found few obstacles in such respects which the ecclesiastical authorities were not willing to remove. There is a letter from Bishop Gardiner, of Winchester (who had shortly before been Archdeacon of Norwich), addressed to the Venerable William Benet, Archdeacon of Dorset, dated 11th May, 1532, instructing him to obtain with all diligence a dispensation for my Lord of Sussex to marry the Lady Margaret Stanley, said to be of the second and fourth degree of affinity. The Bishop promises 200 ducats, and more, if required, only let his wishes be "hastily sped." The Bishop's letter it seems, was to have been conveyed to the Archdeacon by Dr. Foxe, the King's almoner; but having at the moment an attack of gout, that functionary had to

¹ Chapuys to Chas. V.—Vienna Archives.

² A Theobald Fitzwalter was made Chief Butler in Ireland by Hen. II. in 1177; and various descendants of his were in the Parliaments of the Pale, filling high offices, lords justices, etc.—Burke, "Romance of the Aristocracy," i., p. 49.

delegate the journey to a messenger, by whom he sent 300 ducats and a supplementary letter, in which he wrote: "My Lord of Sussex is one of the King's Privy Council, and much beloved by [the Duke of] Norfolk. You can move the Pope to be as favourable unto him as you wrote in your letter of the 29th ult. he was in granting the Duke of Suffolk's dispensation." The day of repudiating the Pope's supremacy had not yet arrived. Lady Margaret was the daughter, as already stated, of Thomas, Earl of Derby, by his wife Anne, daughter of Edward, Lord Hastings, who survived him, and married John Ratcliff, Lord Fitzwalter. The Earl of Sussex died at Chelsea, on Monday, 27th November, 1542, and was buried in the church of St. Laurence Pountney, in London. The following epitaph was placed to his memory:—

Robertus Radcliffe, Miles, Dominus Fitzwater, Egremond, and Burnell, Vicecomes Fitzwater, Magnus Camerarius Angliæ, Camerarius Hospicii Regis Henrici octavi; ac eidem à consiliis. Præliis in Galliâ commissis aliquoties, in er primos ductores honoratus. In aliis Belli, Pacisq; consultationibus, non inter postremos habitus. Æquitatis, Justiciæ, Constantiæ, magnum ætatis suæ monumentum. Obiit xxvii die Novembris, An. Dom. mccccxlii.

He had by his first wife three sons: Henry, who succeeded him, George, and Sir Humphrey. By his second wife he had two daughters: Ann, who married Thomas, Lord Wharton, and Jane, who married Anthony Brown, Viscount Montague. By his third wife he had Sir John Ratcliff. In reference to his son Humphrey, there is a matter that may be here recorded, as illustrative of marriage arrangements at that period among the chief families of England. There is in the Record Office an agreement which was made between Humphrey's father and Lord Marny, in anticipation of marriage, and which Mr. Brewer, in his Letters and Papers of the reign of Hen. VIII., has summarised. It is of the date 8th February, 1525:—

MARRIAGE SETTLEMENT between Humfrey Ratclyf, one of the sons of Lord Fitzwalter, and Katherine Marny, one of the daughters and heirs apparent of Lord Marny. The marriage to take place before the next Feast of Purification. The fathers of the contracting parties to provide their apparel for the solemnity, and to share the cost of the dinner. Lord Fitzwalter, within six months after the marriage, shall make an estate of £40 a year to the Duke of Norfolk, the Bishop of London, and seven others, for their use, but shall receive the profits till Katherine is sixteen years of age; and another estate of 40 marks to come to them after his death. Lord Marny will grant them, within the same time, an annuity of 40 marks from the manor of Bradepoole, Dorset, during Lord Marny's life, to commence when the said Katherine attains the age of sixteen years. If they do not marry, or if before consummation, Humfrey dies, or they disagree, George, another son of Lord Fitzwalter, shall perform the marriage, with similar conditions. If the marriage with him is not fulfilled, or if she is left a widow without issue, Lord Fitzwalter shall have her marriage, promising to marry her to a gentleman of blood, who will give her a jointure of £100 a year, and himself possessing or being heir to property worth 500 marks a year, including the jointure. Lord Marny will leave the manors which he holds by courtesy of England to his daughters Katherine and Elizabeth; his other property to his lawful heirs, except a rent of £12 for a priest and poor men, and except the manor of Leyer Marny, which, if he die without male issue, shall be left to the use of Katherine, if she marry one of Lord Fitzwalter's sons, at the rate of £60 a year, as part of her inheritance. Fitzwalter will leave to his son who marries Katherine all his manors, etc., with the exception of an estate of 100 marks to his other son, and provision for his widow's jointure. Fitzwalter will pay Marny 1,000 marks for the marriage, making over manors to the yearly value of £100 to the Duke of Norfolk and the others for that purpose. The instalments paid shall be returned if Katherine die before reaching the age of twelve, or if she refuse the marriage at fourteen, or if Lord Marny die, so that the King has an interest in her marriage, and the intended marriage is broken off. 8 Feb., 16 Hen. VIII.

This marriage with Humphrey did not come off: why, I cannot say; but the sixth and last Earl of Sussex was a son of Sir Humphrey Ratcliff, whom I take to have been the third son of the first Earl, and who, at his death, was of Elnestow, in Bedfordshire. John, Lord Marny, died in June, 1525, and shortly after Lord Fitzwalter, apparently not to be disappointed in his designs, bought of Thomas Inglefield, Master of the King's wards, the right to dispose in marriage of Katherine with "£20 of land in hand for her finding," for the sum of £1,000, and George, mentioned in the agreement, was afterwards married to her.

Henry Ratcliff, eldest son, became second Earl of Sussex. He was made a K.B. at the coronation of Queen Ann Boleyn; married Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas, Duke of Norfolk; was one of the Norfolk gentry who rallied to Queen Mary on the death of Ed. VI., and when,

in 1556, disturbances were anticipated, he was requested to repair to this county to secure the Queen's peace. His influence had secured to him a clause in the Act suppressing chantries, by which it was enacted that nothing contained in the Act should apply to the College or Chantry of Attleborough, which Hen. VIII. had given to Robert, the first Earl, or to its manors, lands, tenements, advowsons, tithes, etc. Queen Mary granted him license to "wear his cappe, coyf, or night-cap" in her presence. He died in London, in 1556, and was buried also in the church of St. Laurence Pountney, beside his father and mother, and with them was removed to Boreham, in Essex. He was succeeded by his son Thomas.

Thomas Ratcliff was a man of importance in the time of Queen Elizabeth, and it was said of him by Sir Robert Naunton, in his "Fragmenta Regalia," that "he was a godly gentleman, of a brave and noble nature, and constant to his friends and servants." Although not included in the list of knights of the shire, in vol. i. p. 167 he is stated to have been one of the Members for Norfolk before his succession to the peerage. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Wriothesly, by whom he had two sons, both of whom died young. He afterwards married Frances, daughter of Sir William Sydney. This lady, who survived him, and had great portion of the Attleburgh estate during her widowhood, became the founder of Sydney-Sussex College, Cambridge. Thomas Ratcliff, during his father's life, was sent by Queen Mary to the Emperor Chas. V., to treat of the marriage with Philip, and afterwards went to Spain on the same business. He was, in 1558, made Chief Justice of all Forests south of Trent, and when subsequently appointed Lord Deputy of Ireland, Sir Edward Waldegrave and others were appointed to execute his office for him. In 1559, after the accession of Elizabeth, he claimed fees due to his father for the office of sewer at the coronation of Queen Mary; and on the 24th May, 1561, warrants were issued to deliver to him, by virtue of his office as Chief Sewer of England, eighteen yards of crimson velvet; one horse or foot-cloth, or £10 in lieu thereof, for "carrying the Queen's cloak-bag through London" on the day of her coronation; and the surnapp¹ wherewith her Majesty was served on the day of the coronation. In 1567 he was despatched on a mission to the Emperor Maximilian, at a time when a marriage was contemplated between the Queen and Archduke Charles, and the Duke of Norfolk, in a letter to Cecill mentions that the Earl of Sussex had imparted to him the subject of his negotiation. The Duke was in favour of the match; the only objection apparent was the Archduke's religion; but his Highness denied that he was a Papist. In the summer and autumn of 1569 the troubles in the North required the assembling of large forces, and the Earl of Sussex held command in Yorkshire, and this county was called upon to supply both horse and foot. In this rebellion one of the Earl's brothers took part with the Earls of Northumberland and Westmoreland. A noticeable part of his personal history is his constant quarrels with the Earl of Leicester, which were so serious that the Queen had to lay injunctions upon them to refrain from their personal animosities; but that did not suffice to quiet these rival courtiers. On one occasion, the 17th June, 1565, the Earl of Sussex addressed a letter to her Majesty, complaining that, notwithstanding her injunctions that neither should molest the other, the Earl of Leicester had "assembled great bands of armed men to waylay him." And they were the days of chivalry! Even after his appointment as Lord Chamberlain, in 1579, his adversary did not cease to trouble him; and, says Sir Robert Naunton, there was no appeasing them "until death parted the competition, and left the place to Leicester." In his last sickness, Sussex said to those about him, "I am now passing into another world, and I must leave you to your fortunes and the Queen's grace and goodness, but beware of the gipsy (meaning Leicester), for he will be too hard for you all. You know not the beast so well as I do." He passed away on the 9th June, 1583, without issue, and was succeeded by his brother.

¹ Surnapp, a napkin, table-cloth. "The surnappe must be properly layde towardes the salt endlong the brode edge, by the handes of the aforenamed yeoman of the ewrie."—Warner, *Antiq. Culin.*, p. 100.

In accordance with his will, a chapel was built at Boreham, in Essex, where he and his family should be interred, and he left to his widow much treasure in precious stones, jewellery, and plate, his coaches, horses, and furniture, and much of his landed estate. Blomefield obtained the particulars attending his funeral, etc., from which it appears there was much festivity after his burial, and the funeral charges were £1,629, for the burial of the body at Boreham, and his bowels at Bermondsey; expenses of housekeeping, £159 8s. 2d.; jewels for the executors, £671 17s. od. The plate left was found to weigh 19,024 ounces.

The troubles of the times, and the apprehension of invasion made great demands on the personal services of men of all classes, and landowners were required to keep horses, provide men and armour, to be ready at all times for emergencies, and frequently to be called out for special service, to assemble in central places, or to proceed to the coast. One important consideration was an ample supply of horses, and, about 1580, a statute was enacted to encourage, indeed to enforce, their breeding, and a commission was appointed, with sub-commissioners in every county, to see to the execution of the statute, and of the chief commission, Thomas, Earl of Sussex, was at the head, and the State Papers of the period contain full reports to his lordship from the several counties, accompanied with certificates specifying in detail the names and extent of the parks in which deer were kept, the owners, occupiers, and the number of mares and stallions. The following is one which was sent from Norfolk in the spring of 1581, signed by Sir William Butts and William Heydon.¹

ATTLEBOROUGH PARK—In possession of the Earl of Sussex, William Hamlin being farmer and keeper of the same. 3 miles. 3 mares and 1 stallion "in and for the same park."

BACONSTHORPE PARK—William Heydon. 2 miles. 6 mares and 1 stallion.

BRACONASH PARK—Thomas Townshend. 1 mile. 2 mares and 1 stallion.

COSSEY—Ladie Jerningeham. 2 miles. 2 mares and 1 stallion.

DEREHAM PARK—In possession of the Queen; Thomas Bawdre, farmer. 2 miles in circuit. 2 sufficient mares.

EARSHAM PARK—Earl of Arundel; John Bould, farmer. 1½ mile. 2 mares and 1 stallion.

FELLBRIGG PARK—Roger Wyndeham. 1 mile. 2 mares and 1 stallion.

HANDWORTH PARK—Earl of Arundel; "Ffraunces Windeham, Esqr.," being farmer. 1 mile. "Although y^t he hath no dere y^t he kepeth and maintayneth in or for the same two sufficient mares and one stallion."

HEVENINGHAM PARK—In possession of the Queen, James Brampton being farmer. 1 mile. 2 mares and 1 stallion.

KENNINGHALL PARK (Shropham Hundred)—Earl of Arundel, D. Tyrell being farmer. 2 miles. 6 mares and 2 stallions.

KENNINGHALL PARK (Diss Hundred)—Earl of Arundel. 2½ miles. 6 mares and 2 stallions.

KETTERINGE [Ketteringham] PARK—In possession of the Lord, Henrye Saynt John being keeper to the same. Containeth 1 mile in circuit. 2 mares.

LOPHAM PARK—Earl of Arundel, one Christopher being farmer. 3½ miles. 8 mares and 3 stallions.

SHELTON PARK—Thomas Shelton. 1 mile. 2 mares and 1 stallion.

SHIPDHAM PARK—Possession of the Queen, Thomas Bawdre being farmer. 2 miles in circuit. 2 sufficient mares.

THORNAGE PARK—Sir William Butts. 1½ mile. 2 mares and 1 stallion.

WHINBURROWE [Whinburgh] PARK—In tenure and possession of Robert Southwell, Thomas Huggan being farmer to the same. 2 miles. 2 mares.

WINFARTHING PARK—Earl of Arundel; Christopher, farmer. 1 mile. 2 mares and 1 stallion.

WOODRISING PARK—Robert Southwell, Richard Southwell being farmer. 2 miles. 2 mares.

"The sum tot. of all the parkes y^e 19: sufficient mares, 58; stallions, 18."

Henry Ratcliff, fourth Earl, who was also a K.G. (1553), married Honora, daughter of Anthony Pound, of Hampshire, was summoned to the Parliament held at Westminster, in November, 1584. On the 15th June, 1585, he was commissioned with William, Marquis of Winchester, as Lieutenant of the county of Southampton, to levy and arm the whole force of the shire, and to keep them in constant readiness to repel invasion, and finding the defences of Portsmouth in an unsatisfactory state, applied to the Privy Council for warrant to impress

¹ State Papers Dom. : Eliz., cxlviii., No. 63.

labourers in Sussex and Hampshire to work thereon; and so important was this matter, that he had to return to London, and held a conference with Sir Walter Raleigh, Lord Burghley, and others, in the presence of the Queen. Whilst still engaged on the affairs of this commission, he reported to the Council that he had learned from a Frenchman arrived from Rouen, that the King of Spain was raising a huge army for England, but was not yet ready; and as to the condition in which Portsmouth was in 1587 to receive the Armada, Lord Sussex mentioned that on Coronation Day he "durst not shoot off one piece, the tower was so old and rotten." Strange as it may seem, the year 1593 found Portsmouth still with such ordnance that, writing to Lord Burghley in June of that year, Lord Sussex said that the cannon he had at the Brays were "so old that he dare not shoot out of them, for fear of breaking them, and hazarding the lives of the men." On the 26th July, 1588, he communicated to the Government the arrival of the Spanish fleet off the Isle of Wight on the previous day, and that a great fight between the fleets had taken place. The Earl died whilst still Governor of Portsmouth, on the 14th December, 1593, his wife having died in April of the same year.

Robert, his son, succeeded as fifth Earl of Sussex. He married (1st) Bridget, daughter of Sir Charles Morrison, by whom he had two sons and two daughters; (2nd) Frances, daughter of Hercules Mentas, of Ham, in Essex, but had no issue by her. As to this second marriage there was some informality, for I find that Ralph Gilpin, the Earl's chaplain, was subject to three years' ecclesiastical suspension for having performed the marriage service without publication or license, and without a dispensation from the Bishop. In 1595, he acted as proxy for Queen Elizabeth, at the christening of Prince Henry, in Scotland. In 1596, was in the expedition to Cadiz, under General the Earl of Essex and Admiral Lord Howard. Made K.G. 1621. Died in London, 22nd September, 1629. His children having died during his life-time, the Attleburgh Ratcliffs may be said to have become extinct, though claims by indirect succession were subsequently the subject of contention, the Fitzwalter title eventually being in a Mildmay, Lady Frances, daughter of Henry, Earl of Sussex, having married Sir Henry Mildmay.

The manor in the seventeenth century was held by the Bickleys, of Devonshire, Sir Francis Bickley, of Dalston, and of the City of London, draper, having purchased it in 1657, with Attleburgh Hall, of John Ratcliff (son of Sir Alexander Ratcliff, a descendant of one of that name, of Ordsall, Notts, grandson of the first Earl of Sussex). Dame Mary Ashe (an ancestor in the female line of Sir William Bowyer Smyth, the present lord and patron) purchased the manor and advowson of Sir Francis Bickley, Bart., in 1705, and it passed eventually to Sir William Smyth, of Hill Hall, the great-grandfather of the present baronet.

Turning to the other manors in Attleborough, it seems that one, Alfred, held Baconsthorpe, Crowshall, or Copsy manor, at the time of the Conquest, and that it was afterwards attached to Buckenham Castle when the King gave that place to William de Albini, who enfeoffed Alured de Attleburgh to hold with other estates by the service of two knights' fees. But eventually this, and Chaunticlars, or Chancelers (which extended into Besthorp and Ellingham) became merged in Attleburgh and Besthorp. The Great Rectory manor and the Little Rectory manor are sufficiently indicated by their names, and there are no special holdings that require more particular reference, the rectors for the time being having the lordships.

The following is from Blomefield, who remarks that the facts "stated therein" are all taken from "originals" in his possession:—

The Warepound, or Frowick Court, is the superiour court, all the other manors being held of it; it is always kept on Whitsunday, very early in the morning by a tree which was on a hill in the street (but is now cut down), and is commonly called the Scolding Court, it being obliged to be over and done with before sunrise, according to custom, or else the whole rents of the court are forfeited for that year. In the 38th of Queen Elizabeth, Robert, Earl of Sussex, paid

16d. for the manors in this town, held of this court, and 2d. for the college lands, which are held of it also, as are several of the capital messuages, by the rents of pence and half-pence only, the whole being freehold, and the rents amounting in all to 2s. 2d. ob. This always belonged to the hundred of Shropham, as it now does, together with the lists of the whole town, its hamlets, and whatever belong to the manors of this town lying in Besthorp, for all which the annual list fees, joined together are 6s. 4d. ob. a year. The lord of the hundred hath also a hundred court belonging to this town, to be kept every three weeks, with full power to end and determine all suits, and pleas of debt not exceeding 40s. in which any resident in this town is concerned, and power to levy, in as ample a manner as the county court; to him belongs also the market, which is held on Thursday, and was formerly remarkable for the number of fat bullocks and sheep which used to be exposed and sold here every other market day, but now this is wholly lost, and the market itself is very near it; there are three fairs kept every year, the first on Maundy Thursday, but by what authority, or to whom it belongs, I know not; the second on Ascension Day; this belongs to Mortimer's Manor, being granted in 1310 to Sir Constantine Mortimer; the third belongs to the lord of the hundred, with which it was given to the Albanys, and is kept according to its institution, on the 15th day of August, it being the day of the dedication of the church, and of the holding of their great gild, both which were dedicated to the honour of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, which is commemorated on that day. In 1656, Robert Wilton of Wilby, Esq. (lord of the hundred) let unto Francis Bickley (lord of the manor) for twenty-one years, at the rent of 10s. a year, "a weekley, free and open markett in the towne of Attleburgh, on Thorsday in every weeke, and alsoe one faire yearly, & every yeare to be holden there, upon the 15th day of Aug., and also free liberty of picage and stallage, in and upon the wast grounds, in the street called the Towne-street, in Attleburgh, from the signe of the Angell to the signe of the Starre, on the one side of the street, and from the signe of the Griffin, to the turning of the wall of the churchyard, over againste the signe of the Starre, on the other side of the street, and for the setting up of pennis and stalls, and for the buyeing, selling, and vending of all manner of provision for food, and for sale of any other commodities whatsoever, &c., and also all benefitts, profitts, &c., coming or accruing by the said markets and faires, and of the stalls, pennis, standings, and places there; and also free liberty of using the pound, erected upon the wast ground in Attleburgh aforesaid." The lord of the hundred hath all felons' goods forfeited, assize of bread and all a tumbrell, or ducking-stool (which is but lately decayed) weyf and strey, free-warren, liberty of the game, fugitives' goods, and all forfeitures, besides other privileges, all which were confirmed in Queen Elizabeth's time, when the hundred was in her own hands, as appears by an inquisition taken before Henry Blake, Gent, the Queen's steward of her liberty and hundred of Shropham, in a general hundred court held at Ketelbrigg, upon the oaths of Richard Cook, and many others who swore that the Queen in right of her liberty and hundred of Shropham, and also her farmers and bailiffs of the same, have, and immemorially have had, the superior jurisdiction over all the commons, wastes, heaths, and marshes, together with the liberty of driving them and taking all strays found thereon, in the towns of Attleburgh, Besthorp, Harpham, Wilby, Snitterton, Illington, Larling, Shropham-Parva, Breckles, Rockland, Ellingham-Magna, Rowdham, Brettenham, Kilverston, etc., and also all outlaws', fugitives', and felons' goods, and other forfeitures, and also a court-leet in each town, with full power to compel all residents to suit and service to it, once in a year, and to present and punish all offences punishable in a leet, as well touching the said commons, wastes, heaths, and marshes, as other things, and to punish all false commoners and surchargers of the commons; all of which liberties relating to these towns were returned by the Queen's mandate, upon inquisition as aforesaid, because the lords of these manors began within twenty years last past to claim and usurp within their several manors the liberty of gaming, and punishing false commoners, and surchargers, and other liberties, upon which the Queen brought actions against the Earl of Sussex, then lord of Mortimer's in Attleburgh, Tho. Green, Gent., lord of Harpham, Ralph Chamberleyn, Knt., lord of Moynes, and Kirkhall in Rockland, the heirs of Anthony Gurnay, Esq., lord of Ellingham, the lord of Snitterton, Robert Allington, lord of Larling-Ford, the lord of Bretenham, etc., but they acknowledged her liberties and obtained their discharge.

THE LOCAL CHARITIES.

The Rev. Henry Nerford, Rector of Attleburgh, by his will, dated 6th December, 1678, gave to Simon Oakley and seven others, a messuage and two closes of land, called Revells, containing 8 acres, in Baconsthorpe Street, Attleburgh, in trust, that the profits might be paid half-yearly, at Lady-Day and Michaelmas, to the schoolmaster. He directed that choice should be made by the greater number of the feoffees and the parson of Attleburgh, of a person well learned and sober, of unblamable conversation, and a graduate at one of the universities, to be schoolmaster. He was to receive the whole profits of the premises for his maintenance, and, in consideration of his stipend, he was to diligently teach and instruct six poor children of the town without fee or reward. The poor children, called Nerford's Scholars, should always be appointed by the parson and by the greater number of churchwardens and overseers.

New trustees were appointed in 1716 and 1768; and by Indentures of Lease and Release

of 22nd and 23rd of March, 1813, William Howes, of Framlingham, only surviving trustee, conveyed to eight other trustees the enclosures called Revells.

The Charity Commissioners by their award, 1st June, 1815, allotted to the trustees for the school lands 2 roods 27 perches; and in their Twenty-ninth Report stated there had been no house on the school lands for many years, although a messuage is mentioned in the will of the donor. The lands at that time contained nearly 10 acres, in the occupation of Thomas Kerrison, under a lease from Michaelmas, 1826, at a yearly rent of £16 10s. The master, who was appointed in September, 1832, took eight free scholars, generally sons of small farmers or tradesmen, and taught them reading, writing, and accounts. He had upwards of forty pay scholars. He also taught a Sunday school of more than one hundred children, to whom he gave instruction on one evening in the week, in addition; for this he was paid by subscription. That master was *not* a graduate of either of the universities, or competent to give classical instruction. Since the establishment of the School Board in 1872, the proceeds of the school endowment—about £15 a year—have been applied to the purposes of the Board Schools.

NERFORD'S CHARITY FOR BREAD.—Henry Nerford, by his will, gave to James Nerford a messuage and four acres of freehold land in Attleburgh, upon trust that every Sunday in the year there should be delivered to the churchwardens 12d. to be laid out in bread, at 2d. the loaf, to be given out after morning service to six of the poorest widows, who were to be chosen by the parson and churchwardens, and changed by them every twelve months or half-year, at their discretion. The widows should attend the service, and personally receive the dole, if possible, and not be shortened of their parish allowance in consequence. He gave out of the same premises 2s. yearly to the parish clerk; with a power of distress for the several sums mentioned to the churchwardens in case of non-payment.

TOWN LANDS.—The earliest deed relating to the town lands of Attleburgh was an Indenture of Feoffment, dated 2nd April, 1663,¹ whereby Simon Brooke, described as the surviving feoffee of twenty-two pieces of land in Attleburgh and Besthorpe, containing 29 a. 1 r. 20 p., granted the said premises to Francis Beckley and others, to pay all common town charges for the inhabitants, an account of the receipts and disbursements to be annually rendered to the churchwardens and inhabitants. A conveyance of the premises was made to new trustees in 1700, and again in 1772.

The Commissioners for Attleburgh by their award, dated 1st June, 1815, set out to the trustees several allotments, containing 27 a. 2 r. 18 p., for their share of the allottable lands, and declared that the town lands not allotted or exchanged consisted of the Nursery Pightle, 1 a. 2 r. 21 p., and another piece of land containing 3 r.; and in a terrier, exhibited in 1827, it is stated that to the Besthorpe lands, the Commissioners for the inclosure of that parish, by their award, 23rd September, 1818, allotted 2 r. 29 p., the old inclosed land, though described in the deed as 7 acres, containing by survey 4 a. 1 r. 39 p.

CHURCH LANDS.—On the Attleburgh inclosure two allotments, containing 5 a. 3 r. 7 p., were set out to Francis Parke, surviving trustee of the Church lands, in respect of 3 a. 2 r., part of the allottable lands, held by him by copy of court roll of the manor of Attleburgh Rectory. The Commissioners also set out to the Churchwardens two allotments, containing respectively 2 a. 34 p., and 3 a. 3 r. 13 p., the latter in exchange for a piece of land called the Folgate Piece; and declared that the land belonging to the Churchwardens; not allotted or exchanged, was the Bell Pightle, containing 1 a. 2 r. 32 p. This pightle is supposed to have been given for the benefit of a person who should ring the church bell at five o'clock every morning, and eight in the evening; it was let to the Rev. Fairfax Francklin, the rector, at a yearly rent of £3, which was paid to the sexton for ringing the bell. The other lands set out to F. Parke

¹ A note to Chambers' "Hist. Norf.," p. 873, says there were thirty pieces of sown lands, besides the College Close, all which were settled to repair the church and find it ornaments for ever; and in the year 1651 it was in the town's possession, though they were forced to employ some of its produce to contrary uses, viz.—to Richard Lawes, for defacing the King's arms, 6s.; and it cost the town a great deal to repair the seats' heads, which were defaced at the time.

and the Churchwardens, containing together 11 a. 3 r. 14 p., are supposed to have been given for the repairs of the church, and other charges incident to the office of churchwarden.

TOWN HOUSES.—The Commissioners of Inclosure, by their award, also set out to the Churchwardens and Overseers, in respect of certain town houses, three small allotments, containing together 2 a. and 6 p., and declared that the town houses with the appurtenances were as follows, viz., 38 p. on which two cottages stood, and 1 r. 34 p., on which one cottage stood. The houses are used for parish paupers, and the lands, except what is held by the occupants of the cottages, containing 2 a. 2 r. 11 p., is held with other lands by E. Thrower.

The premises, under the several heads of town lands, church lands, and town houses, were held by the following tenants, viz. :—

	A.	R.	P.		A.	R.	P.	
Part of the town lands	20	1	8	} Held by B. Burroughes on lease for 12 years from Mich., 1829, at the yearly rent of £30.	Part of town lands...	5	2	18
Part of the church lands	3	3	13		Part of church lands	2	0	34
Together with lands belonging to Reeder's Charity	5	3	7		<i>Lands belonging to Town.</i>			
	0	2	1		Houses	2	2	11
Part of the town lands	1	2	32	} Charles Ayton, for the like term, at £9.	The Nursery Pightle	1	2	21
With lands belonging to Reeder's Charity	2	1	2					
					The Besthorpe lands	5	0	28

REEDER'S CHARITY.—In a draft of the Parliamentary Returns of 1786, it is stated that Andrew Reeder, by will dated 30th November, 1655, gave 2 a. 2 r. of land and meadow in Attleburgh, that the rents and profits thereof should yearly be distributed amongst eight of the most aged, impotent, and poor people upon every first Sunday in Lent. The Commissioners set out to the surviving trustees for the poor of Attleburgh three allotments, containing 1 a. 3 r. 15 p.; and reciting that they held, by copy of court roll of the manor of Buckenham Close Outsoken, certain lands, described as 3 r., and of the manor of Buckenham Castle Outsoken 1 a. 3 r., part whereof were allottable lands; they declared that a piece of land belonging to the trustees, and containing 2 r. 24 p., and the first allotment thereinbefore mentioned, containing 24 p., should be holden of the first-mentioned manor, and that 1 r. 24 p. and the remainder of the allotments, being 1 a. 2 r. 21 p., should be holden of the other manor. The Commissioners found that the sum of £6, viz., £5 5s. 6d. paid by Ayton, and 14s. 6d. by Burroughes, was paid as the produce of Reeder's Charity, one moiety to Rev. F. Francklin, and the other to W. Cochell, and that they each appointed four of the most aged and infirm people, amongst whom the sum of £3 was equally divided.

BICKLEY'S CHARITY.—Sir Francis Bickley, Bart., by his will dated 28th June, 1760, devised to the churchwardens of Attleburgh, College Close, containing 4 acres, the rents to be by them yearly distributed, on Christmas Day, amongst the most needy of the poor. The land appears to have been always under the management of the churchwardens. The College Close, containing 5 acres, was let to the Rev. F. Francklin, at a rent of £8. The churchwardens distribute on Christmas Day, amongst all the poor belonging to the parish and resident in it, indiscriminately, whatever their merits or demerits may be, 3d. to every grown up person, and 2d. to every child. The rent being insufficient for this purpose, the deficiency is made up out of the rates.

FUEL ALLOTMENT.—By the award of the Commissioners of Inclosure, 1st June, 1815, two allotments, containing 57 a. 2 p. were set out to the lords of the several manors in Attleburgh, the rector, and churchwardens and overseer, for such poor inhabitants, legally settled in the parish, as should not occupy more than £10 yearly value.

The CHURCH of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin is a fine large ancient building, originally in the shape of a cross, now consisting of a nave with north and south aisles and transept, with a tower standing between them, and once possessed a chancel to the east of it, long since demolished. Upon the tower there formerly stood a spire, which local tradition says was one of the loftiest in the county. The date of its fall seems uncertain, but Mr. James Blanchard, who died in 1784, between seventy and eighty years of age, informed Mr. Muskett that he had heard his mother speak of the spire, and relate a story as to its fall. Some persons on their way from Wymondham to Attleborough, early one morning, saw the spire after they had left their homes, but while passing over the common it suddenly disappeared, which at first made them suppose they had taken the wrong road, there being at that period no direct one, but on their arrival they heard of the accident. The whole fabric underwent considerable repairs in 1844, previous to which time it had been allowed to fall into a very discreditable condition.

With the exception of the tower, which as part of an earlier foundation, is of Norman architecture, and Mortimer's and Chauncicler's chapels, the present church was begun about the year 1405, but not finished before the year 1436, when Hen. IV. granted the license to build the chantry of the Holy Cross. Kerrich noted it as "an old Norman church, made Gothic in the fifteenth century." As to the lost chancel, a writer about the end of the sixteenth century, or beginning of the seventeenth century, gives this account: "There ys no chancell there, nor hath been all most these threeskore yeares. When the Chancell stoode yt was adioyned to a Chappell belonginge to a Colledge of Preeists or Chauntry there. And upon the dissoluc'on of the sayd Colledge about threeskore yeares synce, yt was decayed and taken away, together with the sayd Chappell, by the servants and officers of the L. Henry, then Earle of Sussex, patron of the sayd benefice. And the leade, tymber, and stone, conuerted and ymployed to the sayd Earles use upon his house there, as the ancient Inhabitants there now lyvinge doo testify."¹ Another account in the parish register says that it was Robert, Earl of Sussex, who committed these sacrilegious depredations, and that he not only pulled down the chancel, but that he removed the gravestones from the graves of his ancestors, and used them for flooring his house; and that besides, he took away fourteen crosses, and as much plate as was then worth above £100 from the church.

The nave has a fine porch, the buttresses adorned with figures of the four Evangelists, and appears to have had at the point of the pyramidal arch a statue, probably of the Virgin, to whom the church, as we have said, is dedicated. On two of the stone panels are shields, supported by angels, with the armorial bearings of Ratcliff quartering Mortimer, and Radcliff impaling chequy a chief fleur-de-lis. The nave is lofty, very light, divided from the aisles by arches, with a good clerestory. In 1847, the Rev. Dr. Barrett, the then rector, published a large octavo volume with many excellent illustrations of this church, and with much detail as to its ornamentation and convenience, and in the Appendix there are architectural notes by Mr. W. Patton, of Fulforde, York.²

An interesting feature in the church, which Dr. Barrett said nothing was known about, was the fine screen which ran across the nave, fifty-two feet in length, dividing it from the two transept chapels, a work of the time of Hen. VII., richly painted and gilt, over which was a rood-loft. In Ad. M.S. 17,462, the Rev. Thomas Powell says he discovered that this screen was

¹ East Anglian, ii., p. 89.

² This writer says that the church, "architecturally considered, offers some useful points of study, and is worthy of more than a passing notice, if it were only for its peculiar beauty, and the manner in which some of the features of the earlier and later styles harmonise. That part of the edifice having the appearance of Late Decorated may be regarded as partaking of the type or character of the churches in the immediate neighbourhood, of which Deepham, Hingham, Great Ellingham, East Harling, and a few others, are the principal; whilst they all partake, in a greater or less degree, in that characteristic appearance so well known to the church tourist, which is attached to all Norfolk churches. . . . Flint is the principal building material of any consequence for masonry, indigenous to this county, and is commonly used for walling, uncut, as taken from the pit. In the period of Papal supremacy, the art of flint-cutting, which began in the Decorated period, had, at the close of the monasteries, arrived at an astonishing degree of excellence. Flints were formed into small squares, so straight and even, that when closely set, the surface of the wall, at a moderate distance, appears one solid, smoothly-polished surface. . . . Flint-cutting for building purposes has not in modern times kept pace with the general advance of the building arts."

“built by the Ratcliffs by a small badge of theirs in the center of the cornice, and a shield or two on the screen, with the star, one of their principal badges,” and he found an inscription in black letter on a white ground, “in an ancient character, rather a fantastic sort, and may be as the screen itself, though that is dubious, yet the badge not being in the center, seems to me to have been purposely preserved when the inscription was placed.” The inscription read:—

Put Thy Trust in God With All Thyne Hearte And Leane Not Unto Thyne owne Wyll. In all thy ways Have Respecte Unto Hym And He Shall Order Thy Goings H Be not Wylse in Thyne owne Concyte But feare the lorde And Departe from Ebple, so shall Thy Nabel Be Whole And Thy Bones Strong.
Ye Proverbs.

“This screen,” Mr. Powell continues, “was painted all along the upper part in large shields with the arms of all the bishops’ sees in England and Wales, done about Charles the 2^d time, and in the arch above that Monarch’s arms in large most capitally painted the date, 1660.”

The two chapels which form the north and south transepts are historically interesting from their origin, but to-day possess but few evidences of what was no doubt their former beauty. The Mortimer chapel on the south side, where some of the Radcliffs and Mortimers were buried, had traces to their memory, and the marble slabs which covered the graves were, it seems, removed to form the top of a vault for Sir Francis Bickley. “The east wall of this chapel evidently communicated with another chapel now demolished, the arch of communication, now stopped up, and one of the old windows placed therein. At the corner of the south wall is a piscina, and the step of the altar is visible.”¹ Chauncier’s chapel was for many years closed by a wall, and used as a vestry till the restoration work of 1844, when it was opened to the church and filled with seats.

Attleborough has six bells in its church tower, one of which, called the fifth, bears the date of 1281, and is known as the old Saxon bell. It is much longer in the waist than any of the others.

The Parish Registers begin with the year 1552; but there are deficient the burials of 1600, and the marriages, christenings, and burials 1601 and 1608; as also occasional omissions in 1609—1612. For the years 1645 to 1649 the entries are very irregular, explained by an entry “because of the troublesome times.” There are quaint entries in some portions of the old Register, some of which may be quoted; but there are others of a character which can be well dispensed with, as for instance the profane entry on the death of James I., when the Parson of the day wrote, “it might truly be said of him, as in the Gospell, Never man spake as this man speaketh.” Those worth preserving are as follows:—

1615. The parsonage was repaired by John Forbie, to above 200 marks charge, who set up the bishoprick’s arms in the church and those of the colleges.

1617. This year, on May 5th, the first, second, third, and fifth bells were finished by Wm. Brend, bell-founder in Norwich, and so out of four there were now five bells, cost £160.

1623. A perfect terrier was made and delivered into the Bishop’s registry.

In this year a school was erected in the south isle chapel [the Mortimer Chapel]. The timber for the seats of it was given by the Earl of Sussex and Sir William Knevet, and that for the top of the font now made. . . . One Mr. Hathe, of Trin. Coll., was the first schoolmaster; one Mr. Parlet the next. The town voluntarily allowed £4 per annum out of their town lands.

1625, Aug. 11th. Then was buried Mary, wife of Gilbert Greene, hoastess of the Cock, who knew how to gain more by her trade than any other, and a woman free and kind for any in sickness, or woman in her travell and childbed, and for answering for any one’s child, and ready to give to any one’s marriage.

1628. Against Easter a communion cup was made. . . . July 15, was a gild new erected by four young bachelors of the town, and kept at the College-house.

1629. It was continued by four widowers of the town, and held where the old gild-house was, at the west end of the parsonage-close, at Mr. Duffield’s: the poor well relieved.

1630. It was holden on Midsummer Day, and one Mr. James, of Eccles, then high constable, and one Mr. Robert

¹ Ad. MS. 17,462, p. 172.

Allen, of Great Elingham, were two of the four heymasters, who, for their own good credit and our town's gild, procured guests that there were thought to be 2,000 people then there. They could not half sit and dine there, but were constrained to go into the town, and there could not be of that sudden meat enough provided for them; it was said that they left no bread in town by two o'clock, only beare was plentiful: there was no outrage or disorder of the companye. We began all these good meetings with solemn prayers in our church, and a sermon.

1631. The church was well repaired and decently batted. In 1632 the wooden top of the cross in the churchyard was made by John Forbie, clerk by the appointment of the Bishop of Norwich. On the top of the side towards the church, *Crux Christi, Salus Mundi*. On the standing part, *Christus pro Nobis passus*. On the transverse, a wounded heart, and hands wounded with the nails, *Ecce! Quanta pro Te pertulit*. On the back side, towards the east, *In Christo Spero*. On the standing part, *Si compatimur, conregnabimus*. Then on the transverse, *Reliquit Nobis Exemplum*. The globe was set up to signify the heavens, coloured with blue, with stars and clouds. On the equator circle, *Aspitemus permansura Æterna*. The lower part, coloured green to signify the earth, with trees and flowers on it, *Quid tumultuamur? Peritura possidemus*.

1633. The new organs were brought into the church from Squire Buxton's, of Tybhenham Cannons, which cost £10 there, and £10 more to take them down and set them up here, purchased by the parishioners' voluntary gifts; and £9 a year was voluntarily subscribed for Mr. Lesingham, the organist, of which Sir Alexander Ratcliff, lord and patron, allowed 40s. a year, and the Rector 40s., &c.

RECTORS OF ATTLEBOROUGH MAJOR.

In Richard the First's time—Walter Persem. In John's time—Laurence de Sco Albano. In Henry the Third's time—Godfrey Giffard, Peter Giffard, and Wm. de Shirewood successively.

1314—Wm., son of Simon de Hedersete, by the Bishop, lapse.
1323—Gregory de Hedersete, by Sir Wm. de Bernak. 1324—Wm. de Hedersete. At the knighthood of Edward the Black Prince, he was assessed for holding in Cringleford the half-quarter of a knight's fee of Wm. de Legh, and he of John de Segrave, and he of the King. 1358—Ric. de Burton, by Sir A. Clyfton.
13 —Ric. Garland. 1369—John Stampet, by the King, as custodian of the heir of Constantine Clyfton, dec.
1404—Patrick Leverich, by Marg. de Clyfton. 1441—Wm. Russell, S.T.P. by Thos., son of Sir John de Radclyffe. 1456—Thos. Fayerclowe, S.T.P. by Alice Ogard. 1470—John Hayhoe, by Wm. Hastings, as custodian of Attleburgh manor during the minority of John, son and heir of Sir John de Radclyffe, dec.
1503—Thos. Butler. 1506—Ed. Bathe. 1516—Geo. Polley, by

Marg., relict of Fitzwater. 1540—John Williamson, by Robt., Earl of Sussex. 1565—Wm. King. 1580—Nich. Bond. 1581—John Rawlyns, by Hen. Gurney. "A learned, godly, and peaceable man." ¹ Died at age of 91.

1613—John Forbie, S.T.B. by Richard Hunt. 1638—Henry Nerford (for his benefactions, see Local Charities, above), S.T.B. by Thos. Pettus. 1683—Ric. Bickley, by Sir F. Bickley.
1708—Humphry Bickley, by Sir F. Bickley, Bart. 1709—Thos. Bond, by Sir Roger Potts. 1728—Evan Bowen, by Sir Wyndham, Bart. 1755—Ed. Chamberlayne, by Wm. Wyndham. 1773—John Fairfax Francklin.
1803—Fairfax Francklin, by Rev. Ric. Haighton. 1838—Thos. Brow. 1839—John Tyers Barrett, D.D., by Sir Ed. Smyth, Bart. Author of "Memorials of the Parochial Church, the Collegiate Chantry, and the Chapel of St. Mary, in the Parish of Attleborough," and several volumes of theological works. 1866—W. C. Safford.

RECTORS OF ATTLEBOROUGH MINOR.

1295—Jeffery, son of Walter de Hengham.
1306—Wm. de Corby (3rd part), by Sir J. Thorp and Alice his wife.
13 —John le Casson de Carleton. 1320—Oliver de Mounpynson. 1349—Robt. Tylour, by Constantine Mortuo Mari. 1374—Robt. Tallyour. 1374—Simon Howyson de Skulton, by Robt. de Mortuo Mari. 1381—John Warbold. 1393—John Goodrich, by Marg., relict of Robt. de Mortuo Mari.
1424—Thos. Cove, by John FitzRauff. 1446—Hen. Sythyng, by Wm. Warner. 1451—Thos. Algar. 1452—Walt. Pamyn. 1476—John Radclyffe, by J. Conyers.
1524—Ric. Clayden, by the Bishop, lapse. 1532—Alan Whitelock, by Anthony Gurney. 1536—Stephen Prewett. 1544—John Williamson, by assignees of A. Gurney. 1547—Gilbert Berkeley, by the Archbishop of Canterbury. Cowper, in his "Athen.

Cantab.," says he was of an ancient and noble family, but that it was uncertain whether of a Lincolnshire or Norfolk family. He was a canon regular of the Order of St. Augustine. In the reign of Mary he became an exile because of his religious opinions, and resided at Frankfort. On the accession of Elizabeth he returned, and in January, 1559-60, was elected Bishop of Bath and Wells. He died at the episcopal palace of Wells, 2nd November, 1581, and was buried on the north side of the high altar in Wells Cathedral, where a tomb was erected to his memory, but it has since been removed to the chapel of St. John. 1565—Wm. King. 15 —Richard Bond, S.T.P. 1581—John Rawlyns. 1613—Hen. Womack. 1629—John Forby, when united with Attleborough Major.

The COLLEGE, dedicated to the Honour of the EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS, was founded by Sir Robert, son of Sir Constantine de Mortuo Mari, who by his will, dated 1387, provided a sum of 2,000 marks for the purpose, and left an endowment for a chantry,² with five priests to say masses for the soul of himself, his wife Margery Fastolf, and all his ancestors. In 1405 Hen. IV., in consideration of 100 marks paid by the feoffees, granted a license to build the chantry, the endowment of which then consisted of a messuage and 76 acres of land in

¹ Parish Register.

² Sir Henry Spelman says chantries were "instituted and endowed with possessions, that masse might there bee song for the soule of the founders and there kindred." Fuller, in his Church History, says they were "adjectives not able to stand of themselves, and therefore united (for their better support) to some parochial, collegiate, or cathedral church." There were 38 such foundations in Norfolk.

Attleborough, and the advowson of Great Ellingham. Subsequent benefactions came from Sir Thomas Mortimer, the Lady Cressy, Mary Fastolfe, Lady Cecily Herling, William at the Brook, Sir John Fitz-Ralph, Sir John Fastolf, John Arderne, Sir John Ratcliff, and the families of Clifton, Fitz-Walter, Clare, Ufford, Wingfield, Herling, Calthorp, etc.

One of the priests or fellows was Master of the College, and they had a residence at the north-west corner of the churchyard. The master had a stipend of 60s. and each fellow 40s. a-year, and a new cloth suit. They were to find two wax tapers, of the weight of 2 lbs. each, to be lighted yearly on the anniversaries of Sir Robert and Margery his wife, and to give 13d. apiece to five poor people.

At the Dissolution, in 1541, it was of the value of £15 18s. 8d.¹; the college then having 13 acres of meadow and 80 acres of pasture in the occupation of the Master.

On the 25th August, 1534, John Clayden, the then Master, William Brown, and Robert Wittell subscribed to the Royal Supremacy and abjured the Pope, as then required of all the religious houses, and the form of subscription, which was the same in all cases, was as follows:—

“Since not only on account of the Christian religion and piety, but also by our rule of obedience to our Lord the King, Henry VIII., to whom, after Christ Jesus our Saviour, we owe all:

“We shall pay all manner of devotion, faith, respect, honour, worship, reverence in Christ, and also as often as it shall be demanded we will render our reason through the same faith and observance, and if the matter demands it, we will testify most freely and openly to all.

“Be it known to all to whom this present writing shall come that we, the Master and Fellows of the College of Attleborough, in the diocese of Norwich, say with one mouth and voice, and by the unanimous consent and assent of all this writing of ours, under our common seal in our Chapter House, given for us and for all and singular our successors, we testify and for ever profess, promise, and respond faithfully.

“We notify, predict, and persuade the said Master and Fellows and also our successors all and singular, that our entire, inviolate, sincere, and perpetual faith, respect, and reverence are always to be given to our Lord the King, Hen. VIII., and to Anne, wife of the same, and to their offspring, wheresoever at a given place and occasion, and we notify the same to the people. Also we have it confirmed and ratified that Henry VIII. is the head of the English Church. That the Bishop of Rome, who in his Bulls usurps the name of Pope, and arrogates to himself the title of Highest Pontiff, has not any greater jurisdiction given to him from God in this Kingdom of England than any other external Bishop. That none of us in any sacred assembly to be held privately or publicly shall call the same Bishop of Rome by the name of Pope or High Pontiff, but only Bishop of Rome, or of the Romish Church. And also that none of us shall pray for him as Pope, but only as Bishop of Rome. That we will adhere alone to the King and his successors, and will maintain all his laws and decrees, renouncing for ever all the laws, decrees, and canons of the Bishop of Rome which shall be found to be against the Divine law and Sacred Writings, or against the rights of this Kingdom. Also that none of us shall presume to twist about anything of the Sacred Writings in any sense whatever. But each person shall preach Christ in an orthodox manner in his word and deeds, simply, openly, and sincerely, according to the law or rule of the Holy Scriptures which shall be preached by true Catholics and orthodox doctors in a Catholic or orthodox manner.

“Also that each of us in his prayers and supplications to be made according to custom, shall commend to God and to the prayers of the people, first of all the King, the supreme head of the Church of England, then the Queen Anne, with her offspring, then indeed the two Archbishops of Canterbury and York, with other orders of the clergy.

“We, the Master and Fellows, and our successors, bind ourselves firmly by the oath of our conscience for ever. And we will observe all and singular the aforesaid for ever.

“In witness whereof we append our common seal and our names, each written by himself.—Dated 25th August, 1534.”

Not any one of the Masters appear to have been in any way distinguished.

ATTLEBRIDGE.

SEVEN miles from Norwich, in a north-westerly direction, with Swanington on its north, Morton on its west, Ringland and Taverham on its south, and Felthorpe on its eastern border, is this parish of sixteen houses, occupied in 1881 by seventeen families of thirty-four

¹ Valor Eccles., temp. Hen. VIII., p. 318.

males and thirty-two females. When the census was taken in 1821, nineteen families, composed of 105 persons, were found living in only nine houses.

The earliest records show that the Earls of Richmond were possessors, and that under them the family of De Furneaux held till the days of Ed. III., when in the 26th year of that King, Nicholas Moloyseil was occupier, and in 30th Hen. IV., Thomas Gyney. Thomas, Lord Scales died, seized of the lordship in 35th Hen. VI. Sixteen acres of land were held at the Survey by William Bewfew, Bishop of Thetford, "in his own right," of which Godfrid, a freeman, had been deprived. William de Scholuis, a Norman chief, had thirty-five acres, from which two freemen had been ejected. He sold all his lordships in England to Walter Giffard, Earl of Bucks, in the reign of Hen. I., and by marriage of an heiress, they next passed to the Earls of Clare. Walter Giffard himself had five and a-half acres of land of which three freemen had been deprived. The family of Moloyseil also held under the Earls of Clare, as also William and Adam Lyons in 20th Ed. III.

Brockdish manor extended into this parish, as also did that of Taverham. The Priory of Norwich had, what Blomefield calls, "considerable possessions" here. Sir Hervey de Stanhoe quit-claimed to Roger the Prior 4 marks a year "rent of the water-mill, which they held of the grant of Hubert de Burgh, father of John de Burgh, and warranted to defend him against Sir John de Burgh."¹ In the 3rd Ed. I., the mill at Attlebridge was said to belong to the manor of Cawston, in the King's hands, and valued at 26s. 2d.

In the Paston Letters is one of the presumed date of 1461, from Roger Taverham to John Paston, in which mention is made of a dwelling in which his mother-in-law lived, and which he says was given him by testament of Sir Roger Dallyng "after the desease of my fader."

In a grant made the 10th February, 1st and 2nd Phil. and Mary, the King and Queen, with other property, demised to Francis Chaloner and William Butler "all that tenement called the George in Attilbrige, with all lands, etc., the liberty of a sheep-walk belonging to the said tenement, in the occupation of William Peters, late part of the possessions assigned to Queen Katherine for her jointure," which in the schedule attached is described as of the yearly value of 20s. This William Peters himself had grants in the time of Ed. VI., and in the 40th Eliz., under the seal of the Duchy of Lancaster, for a fee of 13s. 4d. per annum of thirty acres of land called Mere-meadow, alias Dighton Meade; but on its reverting to the Crown, it was granted on the 2nd January, 4th Jas. I., at the request of William, Lord Monteagle, in consideration of service done by him, to Edward Newport and John Crompton, and was at that time in the occupation of Mrs. Mary Davye and Alexander Bedingfield.

There was a law-suit, in 30th Eliz., as to rights of fishing in the river, "called the Common River,"² from Alderford Beck to the old Eye," in which several witnesses testified that the inhabitants generally without hindrance used to fish. John Hacson, husbandman, said he had, while he lived at Attlebridge, fished in "the great river" without a license. James Cry, of Aylsham, who had lived five-and-forty years in Attlebridge, and George Peter, of Cawston, gave like testimony. Robert Brown, of Drayton, who at the time of the inquiry had not lived in the parish for seventy years, spoke of the free use of the fishing, though he thought that the King, who was lord, had the right of it: and Thomas Wilson, of Taverham, who had lived at Attlebridge sixty years before, on the contrary, believed that the occupiers of certain premises only had the privilege. The plaintiff in the suit was William Peters, and the defendants Mr. Davye, Mr. Bedingfield, and Thomas Webster.³ Among the places spoken of were the Hermitage ground, Christ Church meadow, Hurne meadow, and a farm called Lampkins, which had been owned by Mr. W. Ellis, one of the Barons of the Exchequer. William Ellis, or Elys, Baron of the Exchequer, was a son of Thomas Ellis, who died in 1487, and who had been three times Mayor of Norwich, and its representative in Parliament in 1462-3. He was a member of Lincoln's Inn, where he became Reader in 1502. Dugdale says his appointment as a Judge was in

¹ Blomefield, x., 400.

² The Wensum.

³ Exch. Depty. Com., 30 Eliz., Easter, 25.

1527, but his name appears in 1523 in the list of Judges assessed to the subsidy of that year; and the letter of his I am just about to quote shows that he was a Baron of the Exchequer as early as 1517; and Foss records that he sat on the bench till 1536—another error, for the patent of his successor was dated 23rd April, 1534, and therein Ellis is referred to as “deceased.” There is a letter of his addressed to Cromwell, dated “Attylbrygg, St. Luke’s Even [17th Oct.] 1533,” when he was eighty-eight years of age, in which he writes, “I have sat on the bench in Norfolk and Norwich forty-eight years and more. I have been Steward of the Duchy of Lancaster twenty-four years, and one of the Barons of the Exchequer sixteen or seventeen years,” but he expresses his reluctance to resign, as Cromwell had shortly before requested. Moreover, a rather painful letter of his widow was written to Cromwell on the 18th May,¹ which also clearly shows that whatever his social position and professional advantages had been, he had no superfluity of the world’s goods. One of the last letters he wrote was dated “Norwich, Saturday after Twelfth Day,” in which he says he has spent four-score years in honesty, pleads that he was without disease, and tells Cromwell “I have nobody but you to help me, and if I were to resign I should be out of countenance;” but presently he had to acknowledge that he could no longer do his duty in the Exchequer.

On the 2nd August, 27th Eliz., Theophilus Adams and Thomas Butler had a grant of a Hermitage in Attlebridge; and in the suit above referred to mention was made of Hermit Meadd.

The Earl of Arundel and Surrey, by an indenture bearing date 1st November, 1641, sold to Lyonell Playters and William Marsh a piece of land called Deighton Hill, and Attlebridge Heath, containing about 300 acres, worth £10 per annum, and also certain lands called Butterhills and Brownes, near Norwich.

When Poll money was demanded here in 1641, the certificate² showed the following result:—Peter Fisher, gen., a recusant, for £50 per annum, £4; Eliz. Fisher, his wife, a recusant, 1s.; John Lawes, for £50 per annum, £2; Eliz. Castleton, widow, for £20 per annum, 5s.; Mary, the wife of Henry Rice, a recusant, 1s.; Ph. Sewell and El., his wife, recusants, 2s.; and for forty-five several persons, at 6d., £1 2s. 6d. Total, £7 11s. 6d.

The Parliamentary Survey, made in January, 1651, gives interesting particulars:—The manor is described as “parcel of the possessions of the Duchy of Lancaster and of Charles Stuart, late King.” The Leet fee, or common fine, due to the lord, payable by the year, 16d. Profits of the Court Leet, 40s. Bolts Meadow, lying near the river, between Bridge Meadow on the west, the highway leading to Swannington on the east, Bridge Meadow aforesaid on the south, and divided on the north with willow stems from a meadow in the occupation of one Hills, containing one acre, worth 20s. a-year. Here follows a note that the manor of Attlebrigg and the meadow was claimed by John Hobart, of Blickling, “who pretends to have a lease of the same for several years yet to come, but although he hath been summoned to show his evidences for the same hath not produced them.” Left therefore for further consideration. Fifty-three timber trees growing upon Deighton Hill, or Attlebridge Heath or Common, were of the gross value of £200, “the time of converting them into money, and the convenience of the place being considered.” The Commissioners, Alexander Rawley and Thomas Tanner, observe that “The Heath, with the timber standing thereon, is claimed by Henry, Earl of Arundel, as in fee farm to him and his heirs for ever, by virtue of an assignment of Letters Patent as well under the Great Seal of England as under that of the Duchy of Lancaster,

¹ Mrs. Ellis wrote: “Right Honorable and good Master —,—I thank you for your kind letter, being a widow full of heaviness, and one who has lost all her friends. I pray you to be good unto me for my late Lord Cardinal’s sake, and I send you a poor remembrance. My son is bound to pray for you. I would gladly have him at home, but he is in so much debt and danger here that he would be thrown into prison, and this would greatly augment my heaviness, as I am a woman of great age. Mr. Townshend and Mr. Wyndham desire that my son should not yet come home, as they hope to arrange with his creditors, although neither I nor my husband were bound for his debts.”—State Papers Dom., 26 Hen. VIII., No. 658. The father had, in the month of January, implored Cromwell to show favour to this son Thomas, who had cost him “400 marks and more.”

² Tanner MS., 95.

dated 10th February, 12th of late King Charles, granted to Francis Braddock and Christopher Kingscote. But in respect there is a covenant in the said letters that the King, his heirs and successors, or their deputies or assignees, shall have liberty at any time within three years to enter the premises and cut all great trees fit for time, and to sell or carry away the same without denial, let, or interruption."

In a suit in 1673, between Adrian Payne and Francis Bacon, an old man of eighty-eight years of age, named Robert Wallys, of Felthorpe, was examined as to a procession-way to a meadow claimed to belong to the rectory. He said he had known the rectory about seventy years, which was an ancient manse, "built before y^e memory of any man alive." He had known the procession-way between the Town House of Attlebridge, and the defendant's mere called the Bull fence mere, for about seventy years, and there was an ancient cart-way into the complainant's said procession-way as far as the south end of the defendant's orchard belonging to the Bull fence. There was a folgate in the said procession way for the convenience of the cart-way to the meadow, which remained about two or three years, and the cart-way was in the manner of a lane, with trees and hedges on each side, but the trees on one side had been taken away and the land ploughed up. A stile had been put in the place of the folgate and the cart-way stopped up.¹

When the loyal inhabitants were invited to make a free and voluntary present to Chas. II. after the Restoration, Robert Elmstone and Thomas Bacon, both of Attlebridge, contributed, the former giving £5, and the latter £1. The contributions in the whole Hundred of Taverham amounted to £202 3s. 6d. The number of persons who gave small sums of 1s. and upwards was 128.

In 1813 there was found in the bank of a fence close to the place known as the Hermitage, near the Walsingham Way, the head of a processional cross, made of brass and of rude execution, weighing 4½ lbs., and of which one of the wings was missing. There is a drawing of it, size of the original, in Ad. MS. 23,024, f. 81. In 1843 it was in the possession of the Rev. Mr. Spurdens, at North Walsham.

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH was granted by Heymer de Attlebrigg, rector of Felthorpe, to Norwich Priory, and was valued at six marks. In a note of Dr. Tanner's transcripts from the Norwich registers, it is also said that Thomas de Blunville appropriated the church to the Prior and Convent of Norwich in 1236, the year of his death. It is now a vicarage, consolidated with Alderford in 1686, and is in the patronage of the Dean and Chapter of Norwich, the united parishes being of the value of £209, with thirteen acres of glebe. In 1710 both livings were valued at £41.

In 1602 it was certified that "the porch is greatlie decaied, and church yard walls altogether ruynated by necligence of the owners of the land in the said towne, who have feared their lands to pore men, and they not able to do anything."

Restorations were made in 1865, at a cost of £650, voluntarily subscribed.

The Commissioners for valuing church goods, 6th Ed. VI., found here the following:—

Imprimis. j chalys p'cell gylte, wth ye patent of sylu' percell gylt, weying ix ounce' and half an ounce, at
 iiij^s viij^d ye ounce xxiiij^s x^d
 Itm. One cope of clothe of Badkyn, vj^s viij^d. Itm. one vestement of grene sassenet, ij^s. Itm. j crosse
 of copper, iiij^d ix^s
 Item. ij bellys, weying by estymacon ix^s. The grettest bell v^s, the second belle iiij^s c at xv^s ye c ... vj^{li} xv^s

(The following articles were assigned for Divine Service: the chalice, one surplice, two table-cloths, and one bell.)

The parish registers for baptisms and burials commence only with the year 1714: for marriages 1725, often very imperfect, and the years 1730—35, 1740—53, are altogether deficient.

¹ Tanner MS., cccxii., 56.

² East Anglian, ii., 224.

RECTORS OF ATTLEBRIDGE.

In the reign of Ed. I., and in the time of Nicholas, Prior of Norwich, John, son of Walter de Caune, was rector. This Walter was witness to a concession of land in Attlebridge by Sir John de Hestre to the Canons of Heveringland,¹ as was also John Launce, Robert Batalis, and others.

1303—Ralph de Kirkeby. 1318—John de Thrandeston. 1349—John Snod de Cretyng. 1361—Andrew Plydmond, of Wicklewood. 1391—John Hamon, of Swannington. 1394—John Nicholas, of Shouldham. 1395—Jeffery Skynnere, of Stanford. 1397—Thomas Bishop, of Thwaite

1405—Roger Nicol, of Claxton. 1408—John Launot. 1409—John Ulf, of Billingsford. 14 —Thos. Aleyn. 1445—Wm. Spynk. 14 —Robt. Leys. 1466—Thos. Lamkyn. 14 —Robt. Curteys. 1496—John Halowh. In that year an outlawry against him was reversed.

1507—Wm. Clowgh. 15 — — Conyngham. 1525—John Crosse. 1531—Laurence Blaykloke. 1557—John Scott.

1561—Jeffrey Gladwyne, p. by Bishop, lapse. 1583—Thos. Harnes. 1589—Edw. Roberts, by assignees of Dean and Chapter.

1621—Thos. Gardner. 1623—Robt. Bibe, by the Bishop, lapse. 1625—Henry Tompson. [The Augmentation Records at Lambeth Palace ⁹⁸⁷₂₉₄ have the following entry: "March 23, 1659. Whereas by lea-e of the rectory of Attlebrig, bearing date 17th Nov., 15 Chas. (1640), made from the Dean and Chapter of Norwich to Thomas White and Thomas Crosse, provision is made in behalf of the tenant that the lessors shall allow back yearly unto the tenant, upon his payment of his rent, a certain quantity of corn, or four-and-thirty shillings and fivepence in lieu thereof—as by the survey thereof appears—ordered that Mr. John Jefferson do allow the same."] After the Restoration Henry Tompson was still rector. 1670—Sam. Sayer. 1672—John Kipping.

For Incumbents subsequent to this date, see ALDERFORD.

AYLMERTON,

A PARISH of sixty houses, each occupied by a single family, entirely engaged in agriculture, eighteen miles north from Norwich, and about one mile south-west from Cromer. In Domesday called *Almartune*.

William, Earl Warren, had a moiety by the gift of the Conqueror. It was 9 furlongs in length, 6 in breadth, and paid 8¾ gelt. There belonged to it 2 carucates of land, 3 villeins, 13 bordarii with 2 servi; there were 2 carucates in demesne, 2 among the tenants, 2½ acres of meadow, one runcus [field of brambles], 3 cows, 40 sheep, 60 goats. Two socmen had twenty acres of land, half a carucate and an acre of meadow, valued first at 20s., but by the time of the Survey at 40s. Earl Warren also had a moiety of the advowson of the church, then endowed with ten acres.

In 1238, Peter Braunche had a grant of two fees here and at Gresham, with the advowson, from his father, Richard, held under Earl Warren. Richard Braunche was the son of William Braunche, who was taken prisoner by King John during his war with the Barons, and on the peace, the King granted a license and writ to the Sheriff of Norfolk and Suffolk to levy an aid on his tenants to ransom him.

Roger Bigod also had a gift of two tenures here from the Conqueror, and in the 9th Ed. I. the Bigods, in connection with their lordship here, had a grant of free warren.

Richer de Refham, and Joan, his wife, held the manor and advowson, with 26 messuages, 215 acres of land, 6 of pasture, 100s. rent, and two parts of a mill in East Harling, Palling, etc., which they granted upon a fine to Simon Bigod, of Felbrigg.

In 1390, John Felbrigg and others feoffed Robert Brown, parson, of the mediety of Aylmerton, and of lands, tenements, etc., in Tuttington, late Brown's, for the payment of 60s. a year to the said Robert Brown during his life.

In 1416, Ralph Dubbelday conveyed a messuage and lands in Aylmerton to John Dinghole.

In 1443, Sir Simon Felbrigg died possessed of an estate here.

There is in the British Museum (Ad. Ch. 14,526) an indenture bearing date 6th November, 1469, by which Sir John Paston covenanted to sell to Roger Townsende the manor of East Beckham, and all his lands in Aylmerton and several surrounding parishes, which he had of the gift of John Mariet, of East Beckham, for 100 marks, of which he had paid £54, leaving £12 13s. 4d. to be paid by Roger Townsende at the Feast of St. Luke next coming. There is a seal attached to this document, with an inscription *Si Dieu veut*.

In 1502, Sir Robert Drury, "royal councillor," had a grant of the manors of Aylmerton,

¹ Harl. Ch., 51 E. 43.

Felbrigg, and Runton, with all lands in these places and in North Repps, forfeited by John Wyndham, attainted, subject to a yearly rent of £20.

In 1550, Sir Roger Townshend had a grant of lands and tenements to hold in socage, for which he agreed to pay £604.

In 1570, Francis Wyndham, of Norwich, gave to Queen Elizabeth all the remainder that he had in fee simple of the manors of Aylmerton and Felbrigg, and the lands there; and these were granted by James I., in his first year, to Jane Coningsby.

In 1666, the rent-roll of the manor of Aylmerton was said to be of the yearly value of £9 11s. 10¼d.¹

The CHURCH is dedicated to St. John the Baptist, and has two medieties, both belonging to the manor of Earl Warren. In the time of Ed. I., each rector had a residence and 15 acres of land; each mediety was valued at 5 marks. Paid Peter's pence 12d. Early in the last century it was of the certified value of £46; and at the present time, with Runton, the rent-charge is stated to be £473, with 62 acres of glebe.

When the Commissioners for Church Goods visited Aylmerton, on the 1st September, 1553, they were met by the rector, Cuthbert Daglys, and Henry Haltyng and Richard Woodhowes, church-reeves, Nicholas Abbys and William Perrett, and they made the following inventory:—²

In p ^{mis} .	One chaleis w ^t a patyne syluer pcell gylte weyeng xj ounce iij q ^{ter} , valued at iijs. viij ^d . the ounce ...	xliijs. jd.
Itm.	One coope of crymsyn velvett, valued at	xxs.
Item.	On vestmente of crymsyn velvett, valued at	xs.
It.	ij vestments, one of red sylke, the other of purple sylke, w ^t ij albys for the same, valued at	vs.
It.	One coope of grene sylke, valued at	iijs.
It.	ij bellys, weyeng by estymacon xij ^c li., valued at xvs. the hundred	ixli.
It.	j clapper for the seid bell	xd.

Whereof assygned to be occupied and vsed in mynstracon of dyuyne s'uyce ther the seid chaleis weyeng xj ounce iij q^{ters} and the belle of vij^c weyght.

In 1603 there were ninety-nine communicants.

The old books of the churchwardens of Aylmerton show the accounts of several lights provided in the parish; there was "the Husbonds of ye sepulker light," "Athalowen light," "St. Nicholas light," "Our Ladie's light," and "ye men's plough light." There were also established "drinkings"—church ales:—St. John's drinking at Midsummer, Rogation drinking, and All-hallows Thursday. In the 2nd year of Ed. VI., two acres of land which had been for the support of lights, lamps, and anniversaries, were granted to Sir Roger Townshend. The parish register commences with the year 1699.

RECTORS OF AYLMERTON.

1389—Ric. Brown, of Felmingham, p. by Sir Simon de Felbrigg.
1396—Robt. Lane. 1397—Wm. Galpyn.
1401—John de Lynford, by the King, as Duke of Lancaster. 1402
—John Newman. 1404—John Mundeford (med.), by Sir Miles
Stapilton, Wm. Rees, etc. 1412—Hugh Couteshale, of Burn-
ham (med.), by Sir Miles Stapilton and Sir John Howard. 1419
—John Cory, of Lyng (med.), by Sir Simon de Felbrigg. 14
—John Baker. 1430—Roger Waker (med.). 1431—Robt.
Godfrey, of Stanhoe (med.). 1435—Wm. Pope, by feoff. of late
King, as Duke of Lancaster. 1446—Abraham Crombe, by Ka-
therine, relict of Sir Simon Felbrigg. 1447—Wm. Snellyng
(med.), by King, as Duke of Lancaster. 1457—Alex. Crowe
(med.). 1468—John Holderness (one med. by Bishop, lapse
—the other by John Windham). 1486—Wm. Law, by
King. 1493—John Everard, LL.B., by Sir John Windham.
1495—Wm. Law, by King.
15 —John Plough. 1531—Cuthbert Daglys (med.), by Mary Wind-
ham 1554—Edm. Windham, by Sir Edm. Windham. 1570—
Thos. Musgrave, by the Queen, lapse. He was reported as a non-

resident, but provided a curate. "He doth say service but very
seldom on Wednesdays and Fridays."³
1603—John Rose. Thomas Blowfield petitioned the House of Lords
on the 23rd June, 1660, stating that he had "during several years
been sequestrated for his loyalty and obedience to his Majesty and
the laws of this realm," and prayed re-instatement, which seems
to have been granted to him, for an inscription in the church
states he died rector in 1675, in which year Wm. Haymer was p.
by Wm. Wyndham. 1680—Thos. Eyre. 1688—Wm. Mar-
tinant le Neve. 1696—Patrick St. Clair, by the Bishop, lapse.
1741—Timothy Jones, by Ash Windham. 1763—Geo. Wm. Lukin,
D.D., by W. Windham. Consolidated with Runton, 14th March,
1788.
1813—Geoffrey Hornby, by Frederica Marina Cecilia Windham,
widow. 1818—Phil. Hudson. 1827—Cremer Cremer, by Wm.
Windham. 1838—Robt. Courteney Windham, by Wm. Howe
Windham. 1861—E. D. F. Hutton. 1872—W. W. Mills, by
representatives of J. Ketton.

¹ Tanner MS. xcvi.

² Church Goods, 6 Ed. VI., vol. 504, f. 154.

³ This is a very frequent entry in the books of the Archdeacons.

AYLSHAM.

THIS town is pleasantly situated on the southern acclivity of the Bure valley. The Great Eastern Railway Company, on New Year's Day, 1880, extended its line of communication to the town, and onwards to North Elmham, where it joins the Norwich, Wells, and Fakenham line. By the Eastern and Midland line, whose station is at Millgate, there is direct communication with Yarmouth, Lynn, and Holt. On the Cromer road it is distant about eleven miles north-by-west of Norwich, whilst the town of North Walsham is seven miles east-north-east. In 1881 it had 572 inhabited houses, with 581 families. Early in the eighteenth century there were but 100 families in the town.

Ralph, Earl of Norfolk, held here at the time of the Survey, when the town was called Elesham, and he had a goodly heritage, if, as seems probable, he succeeded to all that Guert, a Dane, had in the days of Edward the Confessor, when the manor reached into the village of Tuttington. Its domain extended to 18 carucates, and the woods were found to contain 400 swine. There were 20 villeins and 88 bordarii that paid provision for the lord; with 60 socmen that ploughed his lands. With its berewicks the manor was then valued at £12 a-year, and was two miles in length and breadth, and paid 20d. geld. When Ralph was deprived for his disloyal rebellion, the Conqueror added it to his own possessions, and Godric, his steward, had the management. The Survey found its value increased to £29 a-year, besides an annual fine of 20s. The portion of the manor that extended into Tuttington was disconnected, and William, Earl Warren, had that portion. For more than a hundred years the Crown was lord, but Rich. I. divided it, and made grants of portions, which became separate manors. When Hen. II. became King, he assigned the profits to his brother William; King John leased it during all his reign to Eustace de Nevile; and Hen. III., in 1266, gave it to Hubert de Burgh, Earl of Kent, probably for life; for in the time of Ed. I. it was again in the King's hands, and Richard Cailly was his bailiff—one of the tenants being John Holmgey, who, for his occupation of Holme-croft, paid a rent of 4s. 11d., and served the office of reeve of the King's mill and market. In 1274, Edward settled Aylsham with other manors and the hundreds of North and South Erpingham on his wife, Queen Isabella, with whom they remained during her life, returning afterwards to the Crown. On the 25th June, 1372, Ed. III. executed a deed of exchange of the manors of Aylsham, Wighton, Fakenham, and Snettisham, and the hundreds of North Greenhoe, North and South Erpingham, and Smithdon, to his fourth son, John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster, who gave to his father in exchange the revenues of the Earldom of Richmond.¹ John of Gaunt, by charter, granted to the inhabitants of Aylsham exemption from many burthens, the only one of which continued till recent times was that of serving on juries. When the King died in 1399 it passed to Henry Plantagenet, who, as King Hen. IV., united the Duchy of Lancaster with the Crown, as it continues to this day, but maintained as a separate estate from the possessions of the Crown.²

The manor, however, was granted from time to time to different persons for considerations duly stated, among others to Sir Thomas Erpingham, in 1414. In 1460 it was put in trust to fulfil the will of Hen. VI.: in 1474 Ed. IV. settled it on Queen Elizabeth Woodville.

At an inquisition held at North Walsham on the 11th May, 1609, specially to inquire into

¹ The deed recites that "King Edward, having created his said son Earl of Richmond, and thereupon granted him the honors, castles, manors, lands, and tenements belonging to that earldom, formerly held by John, Duke of Brittany and Earl of Richmond, and it appearing to the Council to be desirable for the Crown to repossess the same, the said Duke of Lancaster, like a grateful son, preferring his father's pleasure and the convenience of the kingdom to his own private advantage, resigns the said earldom back to the king, and accepts in lieu and exchange for the same," etc.

² The Duchy of Lancaster holds no manors in Norfolk now, nor derives any revenues from the county, except some agricultural rents for farms in Methwold, and some small rents in Thetford.

the possessions of the Duchy of Lancaster, before Sir Anthony Browne, John Kempe, John Trench, and a Jury of the hundred of South Erpingham, it was found that the King (Jas. I.), in right of his Duchy of Lancaster, was seised of the hundred of South Erpingham and of the manor of Aylsham. In 1619 Jas. I. granted Aylsham manor to Charles Prince of Wales; and on Charles becoming King he granted, in consideration of a sum of £120,000, to one Ditchfield and others, representatives of the Corporation of London, a great many manors in various counties, by way of mortgage, and among others was this of Aylsham. From this grant the mill was specially exempted. There is a letter of the King, dated 29th December, 1632, in which his Majesty represents to Nicholas Rainton, Lord Mayor, and the Commonalty and Citizens, that they must not make "an assurance" of the manor of Aylsham to Thomas Leman, John Sane, and Robert Pratt, or any other, for the use of the copyholders thereof, but to Sir John Hobart, the then tenant, as he was willing to give a better price than any other offer. His Majesty explained that he "disliked the dismemberment of copyhold manors, as of ill consequence to Government."¹ In the 15th Chas. II. the manor and mill² was granted to Edward, Earl of Sandwich, who, as Edward Montagu, had brought Charles to England at the Restoration, for which service he was created an earl. The terms of the grant were as follows:—"In consideration of the good, true, and acceptable services rendered to us by our beloved and faithful kinsman and counsellor, Edward, Earl of Sandwich, and for the better support of his family and dignity, and also for divers other good causes and considerations moving us at the present time, of our special grace and certain knowledge and mere motion, we have given and granted, for us and our heirs and successors, to the said Earl and his heirs male, to their sole and proper use for ever."³ The manor was held in recent times by Caroline, Lady Suffield, who was second daughter of the Earl of Bucks; and next by the late Marquis of Lothian, whose widow, Constance, Dowager Marchioness, is at present lady of the manor.

Formerly a Duchy Court was held at Aylsham, and in illustration of its records I may quote a few entries from the Court Rolls (Bundle 102, No. 1,391, and Bundle 103, No. 1,424). In the time of Chas. I. (1633), it was proved that successive stewards had kept the Court Rolls in an iron chest in the vestry of the church.

At the Court held before Lord Bardolf, steward, on 10th March, 1440, John Pratte of Blickling, was found to have unjustly bound his cows on the Common of Aylsham at Sharpes Green and Brabanys Lane, where he ought not. Put himself at the mercy of the court. Fined 2s.

Thomas Smyth, of Blickling, John Glynne and John Letyse, of same place, unjustly communicated and dug wells at Apytheythe (Abel-heath) in Aylsham. Fined 3s.

The chief or capital pledges of Marsham unjustly made "porralin" (?) in the liberty and lordship of Aylsham, to wit, to the stonbrygge of Marsham, to wit, on the north part of the same to the sheep-cote called Bolwyk shepcote, where he ought not. Writ of prosecution.

Nicholas Burgeys, of Aylsham, was rebellious against the constables of the town while they were doing their office there, and said that if they arrested him he would hit them on the head with the cudgel that he had in his hand. Fined 2s. The same Nicholas has often come into the field of Aylsham, and shot many hares in the liberty where he ought not. Fined 20d.

Nicholas Manne, of Saxtead, clerk, keeps the Grammar School there, within four leagues, and they say that no other person ought to keep another such school there around the township of Aylsham within seven leagues of the Grammar School made there, and say that the Grammar School in Aylsham now exists to the prejudice of the King. That Thomas Alyard of Swafeld made a similar one at Swafeld. To be considered.

¹ State Papers Dom. : Chas. I., ccxxvi., 73.

² Except as to the tenants of the manor, I have not been able to ascertain that the mill exercised the privilege of soc, or soke, included in the grant; but it is probable that it did. It is only in very recent times that many large towns have been freed from such a monopoly. Manchester and Bradford had to buy off the privileged occupiers of mills; Wakefield, about the year 1850, paid for exemption nearly £20,000; and from Wardell's "Municipal History of Leeds" we find that "the inhabitants of the manor of Leeds were discharged by an Act of Parliament, passed in 1839, from the custom of grinding corn, grain, and malt at the [manorial] mills, and a compensation of £13,000 was paid."

³ This giving away to Royal favourites of the property of the Crown and Duchy, the receipts of which went to the Land Revenue Account, attained such an importance, that it was declared by Parliament, in 1702, to have been so "impaired and diminished by the grants of former Kings and Queens of this realm, that Her Majesty's land revenues at present can afford very little towards the support of the Government;" and thereupon an Act (1st Queen Anne) was passed restraining such gifts, and imposing restrictions on grants by the Crown.

Nicholas Dorman, "corrector of the Bishop of Norwich,"¹ about the Feast of All Saints made unjust scandal by unjust bill on Juliana, wife of Nicholas Colet, Ralph Herman, Nicholas Burgeys, Agnet Kernyle, and many others of the town of Aylsham, in Court Christian, without any verdict of the jury of the town, or of any other there, against custom, and to the great disturbance of the tenants. To be considered.

John Gerard, Under-Sheriff of Norfolk, and Edward Bonet, his servant, unjustly usurped upon the liberty of the Duchy, to wit, impanelled divers tenants and residents in the liberty on juries of assize, novel disseisin, and other inquisitions, in the grand jury between Chylde and Henry Wale, and in many other juries where he ought not, in manifest prejudice. By writ.

John Elmham, of Scottow, unjustly made Thomas Shadwell, bailiff of Milo Stapylton, Sheriff of Norfolk, enter the liberty of the King at Scottow and liberate the cattle of Thomas Lincolne unjustly, and afterwards put himself at the mercy of the court. Fined 40d.

At our Court of Leet, held on Friday, St. Michael the Archangel, in the 36th year of Henry VI. (1457): Robert Andrews, William Andrews, and John Andrews, present in court, surrendered into the hands of the Lords aforesaid a shop containing 16 feet in length and 8 feet in breadth, in Aylsham Market, to the use of John Skipping, Nicholas Collet, and Johanna Burges, and their heirs. Then comes Beatrice, late wife of Sir Christopher (?) Andrews, and remises, releases, and surrenders into the hands of the Lord all her rights and claims, which were as of dower, in the shop, to the use of John Skipping, Nicholas Collet, and Johanna Burges, and their heirs, etc.

At our Court, held there on Monday, the day next after the Feast of the Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, 8th year Hen. VII. (1493): It was ordered to the bailiff to seize into the hands of the King 2 acres and ½ of land, lately belonging to Thomas Skypin. Robert Watts was summoned to answer to Agnes, late wife of Sir Tho. Skippyn upon the plea to render to her her reasonable dower, as is specified in this Court. Agnes was summoned and appeared in *propria personâ*, and Robert was summoned and did not appear, but made default. Therefore it is considered by this Court that Agnes should recover of Robert her reasonable dower, that is, the mediety of the 2 acres and ½ of land, by his default. Therefore it is ordered to Thomas Tower, bailiff of the manor, that the dower be given to Agnes in the land aforesaid, etc.

At our Court of Leet of the Queen, held there on Monday, on the morrow of St. Michael the Archangel, in the 19th year of Elizabeth (1577): Robert Mark and Amy his wife, who was formerly wife of Richard Baxter, complains against Tho. Okes on the plea of customary land, namely, of the mediety of one acre of land, with appurtenances, in Aylsham, in the jurisdiction of this Court, and claim the reasonable dower of this Amy, which comes to her in customary lands from Richard Baxter, formerly her husband, in Aylsham, of which she has nothing. And therefore they complain that Tho. Okes has deforced them, and they make protestations in the nature of a writ of dower of the Queen, as they can get nothing by common law. Thomas Mark and Amy his wife, by Tho. Green, their Attorney, petition Tho. Okes for the moiety of the one acre of land, with appurtenances, in Aylsham, for the dower of the said Amy, made over to her by her late husband, because the 1 acre of land was parcel of the tenements of customary manors, and forasmuch as women, after the death of their husbands, ought to be paid half of the tenements, which come from the manors, as has been the case from time immemorial, etc. Therefore Tho. Okes was summoned to our Court, and appeared in *propria personâ*, and prays for a license to impale in a higher Court, and has a day fixed for him. And a day is given to Robert and Amy his wife.

It was an ordinance of this Manor Court, with the assent of all the tenants, that each tenant should have only one essoin in all pleas at all courts held here, except in plea of land, where every tenant had three essoins. Some of the minor entries are very curious. William Asshewell, a tenant of the manor, was fined 20s. for unjustly harassing and imprisoning one William Hobbs, also a tenant, being at Norwich. He was at the same court fined 20s. for having unjustly prosecuted John Draper, a tenant of the manor, by writ of *manutenentia*. The William Hobbes just mentioned was at the same court fined 12s. for unjustly harassing Simon Gyne by writ of the King for terminating things in the court of the manor; and one of the same name, described as a labourer, was next fined 12d., for that he refused to labour in the township of Aylsham.

The Court was held before the Chief Steward, the Duchy having here no regular manorial officers. William, Lord Bardolff, was Chief Steward in the time of Hen. VI., and John Payne was Under Steward. What the value of the manor was when Chas. I. came into possession, we learn from the Ministers' accounts of the 2nd year of the King, No. 48.

¹ The Ecclesiastical, or Courts Christian, had disciplinarian officials in those days which happily have been unknown for generations. Nicholas Dorman filled such an office, not to "correct" the Bishop, but to look after people who were supposed to be fit subjects for the court, and to execute its decrees. In the patents the officer is described as the Bishop's Corrector or Commissary. Dorman was also presented for other infringements of the rights of the manor, in connection with Thomas Fryngg, who appears to have been Official to the Archdeacon of Norwich.

A SHORT DECLARATION OF THE ACCOUNTS OF JOHN MILLINGTON, ar. Particular Receiver of our Lord Charles, now King, of the Revenues of the Manor following, viz., for one entire year, ending at the Feast of St. Michael the Archangel, in the 2nd year of the King.

Charge :—	£	s.	d.
Arrears for that year			None
Rents and farm manor for that year...	43	15	8¼
Allowances and payments :—			
In money by the receipt of Adam Newton, Knt. and Bart., Receiver-General and Treasurer of the King, of the revenues of the manor aforesaid, delivered 17 Feb ^r of that year	£42	19	8¼
Portage or carrying forward the sum of £42 19s. 8¼d., paid to Adam Newton, at the rate of 40s. for every hundred pounds, for the allowance of the Commissioner of the King		0	16 0
		—	—
		—	£43 15 8¼

And there remains nothing because they are equal.

Declared 20th June, 1627.

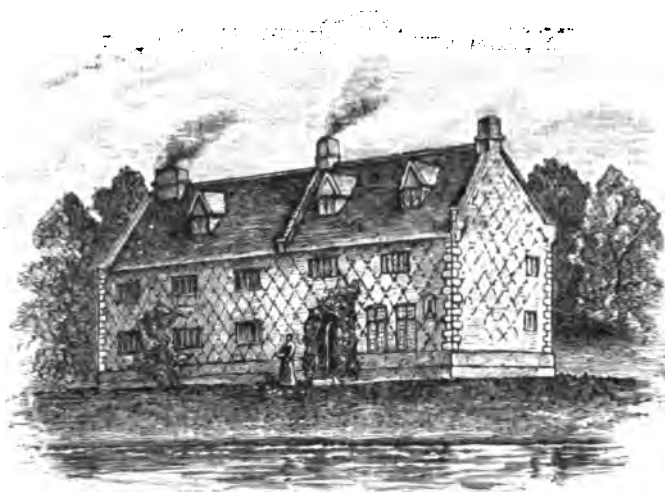
SAVAGE.

JA. FULLERTON.

SEXTON MANOR was formed out of the original, which included all Aylsham till the time of Ric. I., when we find that King, being at Bury St. Edmund's on the 18th of November, in the first year of his reign, executed the following charter :—

We have granted to the Martyr S. Edmund and the Abbot Sampson and his successors, and the monks at S. Edmund, of service, in free, pure and perpetual alms for our health, 10 librates of land in our soka of Aylsham, to wit, land that Wm. Bardulf held there, with all its appurtenances, for a hundred solidata of land, and another for a hundred solidata of land in the same soka, these men and these lands, namely, John de Hasting with the lands which he held of us in the same soka, and Alexander, and Radu. and Robert, etc., etc. These 10 librates of land we give to the maintenance of good and competent lights before the body of the aforesaid Martyr, so that the 10 librates which we take of the aforesaid men and lands shall not be put to any other use than that of the lights. Therefore we will and firmly ordain that the Abbot and monks shall have and hold the lands with all the appurtenances, peacefully, freely, and quietly in woods and plains, etc., etc. Witnesses, Roger le Bigot, Wm. de Warren, etc., etc.

This charter was confirmed by King John, March 15th, in the first year of his reign. It appears that a claim of 30s. 3d. was made in the reign of Ric. I. subsequently, against the Abbot of St. Edmund's, for tallage for the above lands. He, on his part, petitioned to be exonerated from this payment, and the exoneration was allowed by grant from Ed. III., in the 7th year of his reign. It also appears by a certain inquisition that, after the making of the charter, the Abbot acquired of a certain Agnes Smith, by the "throwing down of the rod in the Court of the Abbot" of Aylsham, 14 acres of land, every acre of the yearly value of 4d.; 1 acre and 1 rod of meadow, per annum, 3¼d.; and 1 acre of foldcourse, which was of no value per annum, in Aylsham; and of Henry of Ingworth, 15 acres of land there, every acre of the value of 4d. per annum; and of Beatrice of Therloe, 2 acres of meadow, of the yearly value of 6d.



THE ABBOT'S HALL.

The endowment was afterwards appropriated to the Sacristan, and so the estate came to be called Sexton's Manor. The moated manor house, it seems, was for a time called Abbot's Hall. That ancient fabric disappeared at a date not now ascertainable, and the illustration here given represents Abbot's Hall, built upon its site about the year 1610, and as it still stands. It is the property of Philip Candler Shephard, Esq.

In 1285 the Abbot had view of frankpledge, assize of bread and ale, free-warren, and a ducking-stool. In 1296 the Abbot asserted his right to the profits to be derived from grinding for all the tenants at the water-mill. In 1304, Ed. I. made a grant that the men of the manor should not be required to plead out of the Abbot's court. The value of this manor to the Abbey in 1428 was returned at £27, but it subsequently declined to £20 per annum. At the Dissolution, Edmund Wood having made a proposal to purchase this manor with its appurtenances, it was referred to the proper authorities to make enquiry and valuation, with a view to a grant to him of the same; and from this report we learn the particulars relating to its several parts, and the sum of £516 15s. 2d., its estimated value, was paid by Wood, to whom it was granted by letters patent under the Great Seal, dated Westminster, 20th May, 37th Hen. VIII.¹ There was the fortieth part of a knight's fee included, and an annual rental of 55s. 8½d. Edmund Wood died 31st October, 1548, and was succeeded by Robert, his son and heir, then twenty-two years of age. In Blomefield's time Thomas Wood, of Braconash, was lord.

Sexton's Wood, containing 18 acres; Oldwood Copp, containing 1½ acres. There is an alderkerr of 1 acre. Altogether 20½ acres; whereof 8½ acres, of four, six, eight, and ten years' growth, reserved to William Neve, farmer there, for his sufficient fire boot and fuel, which he has by covenant, as appears by an indenture, sealed with the seal of the late monastery, dated 1st July, 28 Hen. VIII. One acre (8d.) of one year's growth; 1 acre (16d.) of 2 y. g.; 1 acre (2s.) of 3 y. g.; 1 acre (2s. 8d.) of 4 y. g.; 1 acre (20d.) of 5 y. g.; 1 acre (4s. 8d.) of 7 y. g.; 1 acre (6s.) of 9 y. g.; 1 acre (7s. 4d.) of 11 y. g.; 2 acres (16s.) of 12 y. g.; and 2 acres (18s. 8d.) residue of 14 years' growth; the wood of every acre aforesaid valued as appears is, in the whole, 61 shillings.

The spring (?) of the wood or ground of 8½ acres aforesaid, not valued, because they are reserved. And of 12 acres residue, rated yearly at 8d. the acre, which is yearly in the whole 8s., and amounts, at twenty years' purchase, to £8 os. od.

In the woods about the site of the manor aforesaid, and divers tenements, and in the land pertaining to the same, there are growing 400 oaks, of forty, sixty, and eighty years' growth, part usually cropped and shred, whereof 200 are reserved for timber to repair the houses standing upon the site of the manor and tenements, and for stakes for hedgeboot to repair and maintain the hedges and fences on the said lands; and 200 residue, valued at 4d. the tree, which is in the whole 66s. 8d.

Altogether, £14 7s. 8d.

Farm of seven acres of land, lying in Aylsham, near the Little Bridge, formerly in the tenure of John Rasborough, and now or lately in the tenure of Henry Clive, paying at the Feasts of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin and Michael the Archangel equally by the year 3s. 8½d. Rent of farm of three roods of land, lying in the north field of Ingworth, formerly Hastings, per annum, 1d. Farm of the manor situated in the town of Aylsham, called the Sexton's Manor, formerly belonging to the office of Sacristan of the late monastery, with all lands, meadows, pastures, feedings, and heaths belonging to the manor. Except all lands, tenements, meadows, feedings, pastures, and heaths belonging to the manor, in the hands of divers tenants at the demise of the late Abbot, prior, and convent of the former monastery, or his successors, from ancient time and at the present, being granted to the same tenants, and demised by copy of the court. And also except the profits of the courts and leets, wards, marriages, escheats, as well of free tenants as of natives, belonging to the manor, chattels of felons and fugitives, and waste, waifs and strays, and all other royalties of the manor, belonging in any way. Except also 1 piece of meadow called Collrake Meadow, and 1 pightle called Magdeburgh, divers pieces of land called Bulwer's Lands, 1 piece of land called Smethywongs, and 1 piece of alder called Turpetts, as by the indenture sealed under the conventual seal of the late monastery of Bury, dated 1st of July, 28 Hen. VIII., to the farm demised to Wm. Neve, his executors and assignees, that is to say, at the feast of St. Michael the Archangel next to come after the date of this indenture, until the end of the term of 20 years at that time next following and fully completed. And the farmer shall have sufficient fuel in woods and hedgerows during the term aforesaid. Repairs of the manor in sufficient clay, with the carriage of the same at the charge of the farmer. Paying for it at the feast of St. Michael the Archangel only p. an. 106s. 8d.

Perquisites of the court there for the common year, 108s. 8d. The manor of Aylsham is a manor of itself, no parcel of any other manor, and of the yearly value above mentioned. And the same lyeth not nygh to any the Kinge's howsses, forestes, chaces, or partes reserved for the access of his Majestye. Itm. what fyne hath ben geven therfore or who ben desyerouse to bye the same other then the bringer hereof I knowe not. Also what sp'uall pmocyon dothe therunto belonge it will appere amongst the Recordes of the courte of furst fruytes and tenthes. And theyse ben the furst pticles therof. Also ther dothe apteygne to the same manor one deed stocke or stoore to be delyvered at thende of the same terme to the Lord of this manor, whiche is preased and valued to be worthe as hereafter is declared.

¹ The manor, after Wood's purchase, was generally called Aylsham Wood, and is so described in several deeds, leading many to suppose that the Great Wood was there situate, which, on the contrary, occupied the west side of the town, where Woodgate, the property of Mr. R. J. W. Purdy, is now.

A deed stock or stoore and 2 (two) formes, 1 (one) lecturne for an alter, one cheste for evydence bounde w^t yron, w^t locke and key to the same, one shelf, one greate borde table with 2 trestells, 3 longe formes, one lyttell forme, 2 shelves, 5 beddes, one borde table bound w^t yron, 2 trestills, one other borde table, 2 trestills, one benche, and 3 longe formes, one olde table, 3 benches, 4 shelves, 2 beddes, 2 formes, one lyttell table, one dressinge borde, one coope for pollen, 3 mawniores in the stabulls, 3 rackes, one greate ladder, one kyll for to drye malte w^t all fornyture to the same, 7 lockes and keyes for dores. (That pcells cannot be valued w^tout the seing of them which is referred unto your order thinking neverthesse that they be not much worthe and verye necessarye and nedeful for the fermor.)

Ex. by me THOS. MILDMAY, Auditor.

The parcel above excepted in the farmer's lease being parcel of the said manor, and answered amongst the rents of Assize and other customary rents there, as appears in the Survey of the manor.

THOS. MILDMAY.

The Manor of Aylsham, parcel of the possessions of the late Monastery of Bury St. Edmunds by the year clear, £27 16s. 9d.; for tenths, 55s. 8½d.; and remains clear, £25 os. 12½d. Which after the rate of 20 years' purchase amounts to £501 os. 10d. Add thereto for the wood £14s. 7s. 8d., and for the dead stock 26s. 8d. So the whole sum for the purchase of all the premises is £516 15s. 2d.

The king must discharge the premises of all incumbrances except lease and the tenths before reserved, and except such charges as the farmers are bound to discharge by force of these indentures. And also except such repairs as have been contained in the particulars.

OLLKRID NORTH.

Every year there were held for the lord of this manor four courts, of which two were assize and two tofte courts. The first assize court with a leet was held yearly upon the Monday before the Feast of St. Michael the Archangel; the second court, called tofte, on the Monday next before the Feast of St. Agnes the Virgin; the third court, called an assign court, with a leet, on Monday next after Whit Sunday or Low Sunday; the fourth court, a tofte court, on Monday next after the Feast of St. Peter, usually called St. Peter-at-bonds.¹ There were forty-four tofts belonging to and parcel of the manor.² The defaults at the tofte courts were punished by a fine of 2s. 8d. for not appearing; but it appears that if one of the copyhold tenants holding land in one of the tofts appeared, that served for all the occupiers.

After the Wood family, Sexton's manor was held by one Peterson, who sold it to a Copeman, of whom there has been in succession, Katherine, Robert, George, and Thomas Copeman, the present lord. The heriots in this manor, as well as in Lancaster, are certain, but in the former many of the copyholders out of Aylsham pay 10s. instead of 2s. 8d. as in Aylsham.

This manor extends into Tuttington and several other parishes. A few years since it was found to extend into thirteen parishes, including Aylsham; but in four of them there was found to be only one tenement, and that held in free or common socage. Dower, or as it is called in the case of copyholds free-bench, is said to be in this manor during chaste widowhood. At the Court of the manor the jury were accustomed to impose fines on tenants who made default in going the "purrell," or bounds of the leet at appointed times; and it appears that the persons liable to go the purrell were inhabitants of copyhold ancient messuages, only one inhabitant for each messuage. In the time of Chas. II. Elizabeth Brady was elected bailiff of the manor, and employed a deputy who could not obtain from Wood a perfect rental, and so refused to serve, whereupon he caused her copyhold lands to be put in proclamation and a seizure to be awarded.

BOLWICK MANOR was likewise an offshoot of the original manor, first separated by King John to Hugh de Boves, and from him to Henry de Bolewic, after whom it was called. It was for some time held by the family of Whitwell, and after Sir Robert Salle was killed in Littister's rebellion it was found that he had willed it to his wife, Francisse, for life, after her death it passed to her nephew and heir, Sir William Trussett, and in 1420 was released to Sir John Hevenyngham, and others by gift of feoffment, and on the 1st September, 1429, Sir John Hevenyngham and others leased and assigned this manor in the same deed that they conveyed to William Paston, of Paston, and Agnes, his wife, (daughter of Sir Edmund Berre, and Alice, his

¹ Exch. Dep. by Com., 17 Chas. II., Easter.

² *Toft*, a message of house, or rather the place where a message once stood that is fallen into decay.—Crabb, "Technical Dict."

wife,) the manor of Oxnead, the advowson of the church there, and the manors of Skeyton, Brampton, Burgh, Tuttington, and Marsham.¹ In 1476, Thomas Abbys was lord, and after passing through various hands it belonged to the family of Woods. The manor was sold by Mrs. Suffield, a descendant of the Woods, about the beginning of this century, to Mr. Warnes, whose granddaughter, Mrs. Calvert, is the present lady.

The VICARAGE MANOR, as its name shows, was an ecclesiastical heritage, of which we may more appropriately treat presently in connection with the Church.

Thetford Nunnery held some lands in Aylsham, which, on the 21st October, 38th Hen. VIII., were sold to Andrew Manfeld and Jane, his wife, who paid for them and several other lands in other parishes, £966 15s. 11d.

In this place it will be convenient to give a copy of an old manuscript which was found, according to Dr. Tanner,² in 1721, among the writings of Mr. Baispoole, of Aylsham, and which gives—

The Bounds and Lymytts of ye Paryshe of Aylysham, in ye year of our Lord God 1444.

The Lymytts of Aylsham. At Saresmore is one bounde, and there begineth a certaine Dyke, and it extendeth to a certain Ryver of Aylysham called Aylysham Ryver, and y^e said Ryver extendeth unto a Medowe of y^e Vyecare of Aylysham and there begineth a certaine Mere, and it extendeth itself nygh the said Medowe unto the said Ryver inclosing the said Medowe within y^e parishe of Aylysham: and the said Ryver extend itselfe further unto the Manner of S^r John of Colbye, Knyght, which sometimes belonged to Alice, sometyme y^e wife of Peter of Brampton, and by these is divided the parishes of Aylsham and Blycklyng. And there begyn a certaine olde Dyke and extend unto one Mote in the said Manner, and from that Dyke goeth straight forth beyond the said Mote and further in y^e said Manner unto a poste where y^e Gates of y^e said Alice were sett, and there being a certain comon way which ledeth unto Erpingham Sygate, and from the said way begineth a certaine dry dyke and extend itself unto the Abuttalls betwene the Lands of y^e said Syr John of Colbye of th' one part & Jeffery and Roger Elys of the other part, and the said abbuttals extend unto a certaine Mere lying betwene the Land of the said Sir John of Colbye, and the said Mere extend unto a Closse sumtyme Walter Abbe, and there begin a certaine dyke and extend unto a certaine way called Banyngham Uppgate inclosing the said Closse, and the said way extend unto a certain Mess' sumtime Willyam Barkers, inclosing the said Messe', and there begyn a certaine Patch and extend unto a certaine Mere lying betwene y^e Londe sumtime of Edmund of Ketyll, and the said Mere extend unto a Messe' of the said Edmund, and from the said Mere goeth forth straight by y^e mydle of the said Messe' unto a certaine Comon way called Woodgate, and further by the Mydd' of Messe' of John Wath Nicholas of Woodgate and John Mabes unto a certaine Mere lyeing betwene the Londes of the said John Mabes, and the said Mere extend unto certaine hedlondes, and those hedlonds extend unto a certaine Dyke, and there is a certaine way which extend unto Ederistes gappe, and there begyn a certaine path which extend unto a certaine lond called Benescrofte, and there begin a certaine Mere and extend unto Totyngton Heyth next a certaine Garden called Benes Yard, excluding the said Garden, and from that Gardeyn drawing straight forth unto a certaine Dyke Hyll called Starlings Hyll, and from that Starlings Hyll going straight forth unto a certain dyke lyeing between Stokescroft and the old Haught extend the parishe of Aylysham, and the said Dyke goeth forth unto the ryver of Aylysham, and the said Ryver extend further unto a olde E. E. next the Medowe of Thomas Edmund, and that olde E. E. recheth further unto y^e said Ryver of Aylysham, called the new E. E. next the Medowe of John of Buxton, including the said Medowe, and the said Ryver extend further unto a certain Brigge called Burghbrigge, and further extend the said Ryver unto a certain caussey called Burgh Sponge, and the said Sponge extende further unto a certaine Ryver which devyde in that part y^e parishes of Aylysham and Brampton, and the said Ryver extend from the said Sponge unto a brigge called Brampton-brigge, and further extend the said Ryver unto a brigge called Bolwicke-brigge, otherwise called Marsham-brigge. And further extend the said Ryver unto a brygg called Hom Reyndyll, and from thence to a stake in y^e corner, and so right square to y^e ryver called Bolwicke ryver, and further extend the said ryver unto a Water Myll called Paddocke Myll, and yet further extend the said water unto Hokbrygge which is sett in a place called Cawston Hall, and further the said water extend unto a Dyke nyghe to a Dyke next Cawston Parke, and the said Dyke extend next Cawston Parke and Jerbergeswood unto a certaine way which lead unto the market of Heydon, and there against the head of the said Dyke beginneth a certaine way and extend itselfe unto a certaine path called Hubberdesty, and the said path extend unto certain Abbuttals, and the said Abbuttals extend the self [themselves?] unto a certaine Mere that there extend unto a certaine path which is between the Feldes of Aylysham and y^e Meadowes of Blycklyng, and the said path extend unto a certain Thorne, and there begin a certain Dyke called Apledykes, and the said Dyke extend unto Brabons ryde, and there begin a certaine comon waye and extend it unto Frenelgate, and there begin a Myd Dyke and extends itself unto the Abbuttals next the Medowe longe Medowe, and those Abbuttals extend unto the Medowe sumtime of Roger Mann, and from that

¹ Ad. Ch. 14,806.

² Tanner MS. xcvi., f. 121.

Medowe extendeth the parish of Aylsham by the bounds and Meres being betwene the Medowes of the said Roger William Fyn Cecyly Gilbert of th' one part and the Medowes of Blicklinge of th' other part, and further unto a certaine path being betwene the fields of Blicklinge of the one part and the Medowes and Feldes of Aylsham of the other part, which path extend unto a Closse of Adam Maloz, and from the said path leading straight forth by the Mydd' of the said Closse and the messuage sumtyme of the said Adam, and further beyond the Comon way unto the said bounde and the said Dyke at Saresmore where first the parishe of Aylsham began to devyde and extend itself. And they say y^t the said Bounds and Lymitts divide and part the said parishe of Aylsham from all parryshes lying about: that is to say, from y^e parish of Blycklinge, from Ingworth, from Erpyngham, from Totyngton, from Burgh, from Brampton, from Marsham, from Cawston, and from Oulton. And they saye that the said peece of Medowe whereof is a doo in this behalf lyeth and is within the said Limites and Bounds appearing.

On the 3rd March, 1519, Hen. VIII. granted a license to Richard Cross, the bailiff, and to the inhabitants of the town or lordship, part of the Duchy of Lancaster, their heirs and successors to hold a weekly market on Saturdays, and an annual fair on the eve-day and morrow of St. Gregory the Pope¹ [March 12th]. This continued till the time of Queen Anne, when a Privy Seal warrant was granted on the 31st August, 1705,² to Sir John Hobart, Bart., and his heirs of a market to be held on Tuesday in every week for ever, in lieu of the market formerly held on Saturdays, "for the buying and selling of all manner of goods and merchandizes commonly sold in markets. And also one fair, to be held on the second Tuesday and Wednesday in the month of September yearly for ever for the buying and selling of all manner of goods and merchandize, with court of piepowder and reasonable picage and stallage. And with a proviso for determining this grant if the said market formerly held on Saturday be at any time kept after thirty days next ensuing after the date thereof. Subscribed by Mr. Attorney Gen^l by Warr^t under her Ma^{ties} Royal Signe Man^l."

In early times Aylsham established a linen trade, which became famous throughout the kingdom. The historical MSS. of the See of Carlisle testify that in 1297, the bailiffs of that city received a writ directing them to levy toll, among other things brought to their market, upon Aylsham linen cloth; and the Household Book of Bishop Swinfield, of Hereford, in 1289, shows that he paid eighteen shillings for four yards of Aylsham linen for his rochet, and four yards was but the sixth of a piece. This proves that the material must have been of the greatest delicacy. Another entry is of three half-pence paid for mending this rochet at Kensington.

The woollen trade afterwards was an industry much practised here, and in the seventeenth century a large portion of the population found employment as knitters of stockings, etc.

Aylsham Mill was let in 1648 to Captain Doughty for £60 per annum, out of which there was fee-farm rent of £8 6s. 8d. to pay, so that it was valued at £723 6s. 8d., being fourteen years' purchase at the net proceeds of £51 13s. 4d.³ A tithe suit in 1682, elicited some evidence as to the right of the vicar to tithes from the mill, and incidentally one or two minor matters of interest. The plaintiff was Robert Fawcett, and the Defendants William Throry, Bartholomew Willis, William Purdy, and Robert Sexton. The enquiry was held at the Black Boys on the 13th June. Among the deponents were:—

Richard Bloome, miller, had known the mills for about fifty years, and had heard that John Neave had farmed them at a rent of £100 a year, and that Mark Throry farmed them at £70 or £80. The defendants were successively occupiers of the mills, and whilst they were there the mills were well wrought, and did grind great quantities of corn and grain. Throry had told him he paid £4 per annum to Mr. Phillips, the vicar, for tithe of the mills.

Katherine, wife of William Allen, of North Walsham, formerly wife of Edmund Green, had known the mills for forty years. Her father, John Neave, was formerly tenant of the mills under Sir John Hobart, at a yearly rent of £50 for sixteen years, and, at her father's death, her mother continued the occupation for some time at the same rent.

William Smyth used to pay £80 per annum. His father and mother used to pay £5 a year for tithes, and about two years before the death of his father he gave Mr. Phillips a mortgage on a meadow in Aylsham, as security for arrears of tithe, and it had never been redeemed.

On the other side, Thomas Barker, of Aylsham, who had known the parish and vicarage for sixty years, testified to a custom or usage that tenants, owners, or occupiers of an orchard, paid two pence by the name of port, in lieu of tithe of

¹ State Papers Dom. : 10th Hen. VIII., No. 105.

² Pat. 4th Anne, p. 4, No. 25.

³ Tanner MS., xcvi., f. 97.

fruit growing in orchards, at Lammas or such other time as the vicar demanded. There was also a custom for the vicar to accept two-pence yearly, at Lammas in the name of Hearth silver, instead of tithe of the wood or fuel spent in their houses; and had heard that some paid a penny for port, and a penny for Hearth silver only.

Richard Curteis, sen., had known the mills and the vicarage for sixty years. The mills had always been reputed ancient corn mills, and the King's mill, but he had no knowledge whether they paid a fine. He confirmed Mr. Barker's evidence as to Hearth silver, etc. He had heard Major Doughty say that the mills ought not to pay tithe.

Elizabeth, widow of Matthew Barker, who had farmed the plaintiff's tithes on the north side of the river for many years, was aware that Sexton had paid tithes for five acres, because one year her husband had received payment, and she herself had in another year from him.

Purdy had occupied the mills from Lady Day, 1670, to Lady Day, 1671; Throry next held for about a year; Willis, from Michaelmas, 1675, to Lady Day, 1678; and Sexton till 1680. Their defence was that they had hired the mills tithe-free, but the Court ordered each to pay at the rate of £3 per annum for the period occupied.

In the reign of Jas. II., there were lawsuits in reference to this mill, between Edward, Earl of Sandwich, plaintiff, and Miles Baispoole and Robert Doughty, defendants, who were occupiers of the same. Chas. II., on the 9th March, 1662, granted the fee-farm rent of £8 6s. 8d. to the Earl's father, who died in 1672, and until 1684, plaintiff had received the same as his inheritance, but at that time Baispoole purchased Doughty's interest,¹ and had refused payment to plaintiff, but in the end he was ordered by the Court of Exchequer to pay, and condemned in £10 costs of suit.

Another suit in the Court of Exchequer possessed more interest, which began in the year 1700, and was not finally decided till Easter term, 1702. The Earl of Sandwich found himself again called upon to enforce his right to the fee-farm rent of £8 6s. 8d. issuing out of the mills, and the defendants were Hamond Claxton, Henry Rippengall, Robert Ryall, Philip Hart, Robert Curtis, John Curtis, Nathaniel Hallifax, Robert Rumpe, John Parker, Samuel Soame, John Warkhouse, Michael Frere, and Peter Lawes, who appear to have been trustees at that time of Aylsham Free School, the two last named, on whom the burden of the defence fell, being successively schoolmasters. The defendants set up a claim to have been entitled to £10 per annum, payable by the owner of the mills, and that not receiving that they had permitted Frere and Lawes (who had obtained a decree in Chancery) to enter the mills to reimburse themselves the sum due for arrears. The matter in the end resolved itself into a question of account, and the Deputy Remembrancer of the Exchequer reported that he found there was owing to the Earl of Sandwich for thirteen years of fee-farm rent, ending Michaelmas, 1699, the sum of £108 6s. 8d: that defendants had received £115 for three years and a-half rent arising out of the mills, and had paid plaintiff's agent £16 13s. 4d., so that the balance remaining due was £91 13s. 4d., and that defendants had paid in taxes and repairs £50 2s. 10½d., and thus retained £48 3s. 4½d., which must go towards defraying the arrears due to plaintiff. Judgment was entered accordingly.

William Smyth, who was tenant of the mills from 1696 to 1699, rented them for £30 a-year for the first two years, and £40 for the last year. He gave evidence that they were in his time "very ruinous and out of repair," and that it required an outlay of £100 to make them tenatable.

The mill now belongs to Messrs. John Thornton and Stanley Bullock, who purchased it from the Parmeter family.

¹ On the 16th September, 1683, Miles Baispoole gave Robert Doughty £3,750 for the mill and its lands, tenements, and appurtenances, as was testified in depositions taken at Norwich Castle on the 16th April, 1687, the deponents being Thomas Bulwer, of Buxton, Henry Palmer, of Hautbois, James Ashley and Henry Rippingall, of Aylsham, all of whom were cognisant of the transaction. The Robert Doughty who sold was a son of Robert Doughty, who had held the mill for twenty years before settling it on the vendor, in 1673, upon his marriage. In another inquiry, held at the Rampant Horse Hotel in Norwich, at Easter, 1691, Edmund Themilthorp, who was receiver for the Earl of Sandwich, testified to the payment of the fee-farm rent all the time of the Doughty tenancy.

LOCAL CHARITIES.

The AYLSHAM FREE SCHOOL.—Robert Jannys,¹ a Norwich grocer, (Mayor in 1517 and 1524,) by his will directed his executors to purchase lands and tenements which should produce £10 yearly towards founding a grammar-school in Aylsham, and finding a schoolmaster. On the 20th June, 1554, the Corporation of Norwich covenanted with the Bishop and the representatives of Jannys for a yearly payment of £10 to the schoolmaster; and it was agreed that, upon a vacancy in that office, the churchwardens of Aylsham should nominate to the Bishop and Mayor three persons “well learned in grammar,” of whom one should be chosen for life, provided he would perform the ordinances specified in an indenture duly made. What these ordinances were cannot now be ascertained, as the indenture has long been lost.

Archbishop Parker founded a scholarship in Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, for a boy from this school, and one from Wymondham, each to have “12d. a week for commons, their chamberer, barber, larderer, and other necessaries free.”

Alderman Norgate of Norwich gave £160 to the school, which his son and executor, Thomas Norgate, expended in the purchase of lands to provide £10 annually, in reference to which I find the following statement in a Bodleian MS. :—

“In y^e year 1650 Capt. Osborn, owner of y^e lands charged wth this annuity, wth y^e consent of y^e Inhabitants of Aylesham put £200 into Major Robert Doughty’s hands of Aylsham to settle ye s^d annuity of ten pounds p. an. upon y^e mills of Aylsham, and y^e s^d Robert Doughty did thereupon, by deeds of feofment to Trustees of y^e s^d town, charge ye s^d annuity upon y^e mills of Aylesham, aforesaid. The annuity was constantly paid for 34 years by Major Doughty y^e father and Capt. Robert Doughty y^e son. In the year 1683 Miles Baispool of Aylesham, gent., purchased y^e s^d mills. He (upon y^e delivery and perusal of one of Major Doughty’s deeds) after in July ’84 (Capt. Robert Doughty being then with him) paid fiftⁿ pounds to y^e then School-master for half-year’s salary to the s^d school due & ending X^{mas} ’83 & promises to pay y^e remainder then due presently after y^e assizes, and to pay it for y^e future. But after this he denied y^e paym^t of the said annuity wth y^e arrears, having got one of Doughty’s deeds into his hands, w^h upon request to re-deliver he owned he had, but had mislaid it somewhere. But since denies y^e deed and refuseth y^e payment of y^e annuity. An inquisition hath been taken at Norw^h before Sir Roger Potts, bart., Ralph Hare, Isaack Preston, Edm. Themilthorp, Wm. Oldfield, and Francis Repps, Esqrs., by virtue of a Commission out of y^e Chancery for Charitable uses, & y^e substance of y^e aforesaid p^ticulars was found by y^e Jurors, and after y^t a decree was made by four of y^e s^d Commissioners for y^e payment of the arrears to y^e s^d school, and for y^e time to come.”²

It appears, however, that by some means Baispoole evaded the payment, and eventually tired out the prosecutors of the suit against him. Another donation seems to have been designed by James Scamler, who died in 1689, but the school has never received any benefit thereby, and it seems probable that his bequest was revoked.

There was living in Aylsham, about the middle of the sixteenth century, one Robert Harrison, who for a short time was master of this school, and who afterwards became master of St. Giles’ Hospital at Norwich, and noted as the chief co-operator with Browne, the Separatist, who was the founder of the sect called the Brownists. He had been a pensioner of St. John’s College, Cambridge, and of Corpus Christi also, where he took his M.A. degree in 1572. In the summer of 1573 a vacancy occurred in the mastership of Aylsham School, and Harrison became a candidate, strongly recommended by the Mayor and some of the Aldermen of Norwich, who described him as “honest and learned,” and it was also stated that Lancelot Thexton, the Vicar, and “divers others of the ancientest and gravest” of Aylsham, were well inclined to him. Bishop Parkhurst at first hesitated in admitting him, but eventually, at the instance of the bailiffs, waived his objections, on the condition that he should keep and execute the statutes of the school, in reading the authors therein appointed; that he should not be contentious; that he should have no “evil or strange opinions,” nor indulge in prophesying; that he should play no unlawful games, nor keep disorderly company, etc. After due installation a month had scarcely elapsed before he found himself in direct collision with his ecclesiastical superiors. He presented himself as a godfather to a child, and demanded the omission of a certain portion of the baptismal

¹ His portrait is in the Guildhall at Norwich.

² Tanner MS. cxxxvii., p. 144.

service, just as, at his wedding, he had found objections to the marriage service. This was too much for the Bishop, and he cancelled his appointment, putting in his place one Sutton, concerning whose appointment there was some opposition on the part of the local authorities.¹

At a manor court held on the 27th February, 1792, James North, the then schoolmaster, was admitted by the grant of the lord to 1 a. 1 r. of land, with a messuage thereon called the Schoolhouse, in Aylsham, to hold for his life, should he continue to be master; and again, on the 29th April, 1825, James Gay, Robert Copeman, William Repton, John Warnes, William Wickes, Thomas Rackham, Edward Fennell, John Peterson, and Robert William Parmeter, were admitted to the same premises in trust, to permit John Balls, schoolmaster, to hold the same. When the Charity Commissioners inquired into the state of the foundation in 1833, they found the school premises to consist of a dwelling-house and school-room, built by Mr. Clement Overton, and enlarged by subscription in 1814, and an acre and a quarter of land called the school pightle. The present school-house was built in 1848, at a cost of £700, and greatly enlarged in 1875. There are now about 400 scholars, and the school is conducted by a committee of management, and is in union with the National Society. The small endowment is supplemented by school-pence and voluntary contributions.

CRESSEY'S CHARITY.—Thomas Cressey, by will, devised twelve dwellings called Smithson's, in Millgate-street, to the use of the poor, directing that the rents should be employed for repairing the houses, and the overplus yearly distributed to the poor by the churchwardens. At a court held for the manor of Aylsham, October 18th, 1721, it was found that Miles Baispoole had died seised of the said premises, under a re-grant of the lord. At a court on the 3rd June, 1818, William Repton, John Warnes, John Peterson, James Bulwer, Robert Plane, and William Saunders were admitted tenants to two messuages, some time before made into a workhouse. On March 16th, 1842, the building materials of the old workhouse were sold by public auction, to be taken down and removed by the purchasers; and on July 10th, 1855, the land whereon the workhouse formerly stood, and a piece of land adjoining thereto, whereon some old cottages formerly stood, were sold by public auction. On September 29th, 1856, an order was sent from the Charity Commission to transfer the sum of £1,138 12s. 11d., belonging to Cressey's Charity, to the Official Trustees of Charitable Funds, and the interest therefrom, amounting to £34 3s. 2d., is now annually distributed in calico and flannel to the parish poor by the churchwardens.

PORTER'S AND SNELLING'S GIFTS.—In the Parliamentary Returns of 1786, two tenements are mentioned as having been given to the poor of Aylsham, the one by Simon Porter, in 1730, and the other by the lord of the manor in 1738. On January 30th, 1729, Simon Porter surrendered all his messuages, lands, etc., to the use of Jonathan Custance, John Soame, and four others and their heirs, in trust for the then overseers of the poor, and on September 28th, 1730, the said parties were admitted to one parcel of a cottage or tenement in Millgate Street.

At a court held 3rd February, 1737, Edward Snelling surrendered all his messuages, etc., to the use of Thomas Bell, Coulson Bell, and four others, in trust for the churchwardens and overseers of the poor; and on the 10th April, 1738, the said parties were admitted to one tenement or cottage. At a court held 27th April, 1815, William Repton and the other parties who were admitted to the workhouse, were admitted tenants to a cottage in Millgate Street, also to a cottage, with a parcel of land containing a quarter of a rood.²

TOWN MEADOW.—It is stated in the Parliamentary Returns of 1786 that land, then let at 5s. a year, was given by some person unknown for five widows. The meadow was, in 1833, let

¹ It is not needful here to follow Harrison's career, but it may be added that he was a writer as well as a prophet. There are several of his publications extant. One, published in 1572, is entitled, "Of Ghostes and Spirits Walking by Night; of Strange Noyses, Crackes, and Sundry Forewarneinges, which commonly happen before the Deathe of Menne, Great Slaughters, and Alterations of Kyngdomes. Translated into Englyshe." In 1576 he was before Bishop Freke for some ecclesiastical cause. It was about 1582 he went to Middleburgh, in Zealand, and joined Robert Browne.

² Court Rolls of the manor of Aylsham Wood.

to Benjamin Peterson at a rent of 16s., and the amount was carried to the general account of the churchwardens.

POWELL'S CHARITY.—Mary Powell, by a codicil annexed to her will, dated 14th January, 1822, directed that £200 should be deposited in some bank, the interest to be distributed yearly, during the Christmas week, among the most deserving widows residing in Aylsham, and £8 to be given yearly at the same time to the most deserving poor in the parish of Banningham. Upon the death of the testatrix, £180 (£20 being deducted for legacy duty) was placed in the bank of Messrs. Copeman. The sum of £8 was paid to the keeper of the workhouse, who has distributed it equally among about twenty-eight poor widows, without exercising the required discretion, each widow receiving about 5s. 4d. yearly; and the further sum of £8 was paid to the minister of Banningham, who has distributed it in that parish. The principal remaining in the bank after the distribution had taken place for Christmas, 1831, was £62 17s. 4d.

The National Covenant was subscribed in Aylsham on the 20th January, 1643, and the list of those subscribing may still be seen in the archives of the House of Lords. The first signature is that of John Phillips, minister, followed by Christopher Sankey and Robert Betts, churchwardens, Thomas Harman and John Elles, constables. The list includes 270 names of the then householders.

The Council of State, 24th October, 1657, advised Cromwell to confirm a contract made by a Committee of Parliament for excise, with Robert Doughty, of Aylsham, Thomas Garrett, of Norwich, and William Life, of Downham, for two leases, one of the new impost on beer in Norfolk and the Hundred of Lovingland, in Suffolk, and the other for the same in Essex and Suffolk, at £7,500 for the first half-year, and £36,000 for the other three years.

The navigation of the waters of the river Bure, which originally only reached Coltishall,

was brought to Aylsham, in 1779, at a cost of £6,000, by powers from Parliament obtained in 1773, and by the formation of a basin and wharves near the bridge, considerable facilities were secured for the corn, coal, and timber trades of the neighbourhood.

On the road from Aylsham to Tuttington are a few houses at a locality called Dunkirk, and close by is a field described in the court books of Sexton's Manor as Kirkfield, which suggests the probability of a church or chapel having been thereabouts in early times.

Aylsham was for some years, in the seventeenth century, the chief country seat of the Bishop of Norwich, for after the very destructive fire which utterly destroyed the

episcopal palace at Ludham, on the 10th August, 1611, with the bishop's library, many MSS., and evidences relating to the bishopric, Bishop Jegon bought an estate and built a house here, which is represented in our illustration as the traditional residence of his lordship until his death in 1617.¹ The house is now the property of J. R. Bulwer, Esq., Q.C., M.P. for Cambridgeshire.

¹ The Bishop's selection of Aylsham as a residence appears to have been very much to the displeasure of the citizens of Norwich. There were some doggerel lines circulated in the city after his lordship's death:—

“Our short, fat, Lord Bishop of Norfolk, 'twas he
That caused that great fire at Ludham to be;
He could not abide the poor at his gate,
Nor yet for to see them early or late;
He made strip and waste, most plain we do see,
Both of wood and timber in every degree.” —Ad. MS. 14,823.



BISHOP JEGON'S RESIDENCE, 1612—1617.

Considering the antiquity of Aylsham, and the importance of some of its inhabitants, it is disappointing that more of its ancient houses are not remaining, at any rate in part. There are several in the parish, portions of which date from about the year 1600, but they are the houses of smaller owners of the time. The "Valley Farm" is perhaps one of the most interesting, dating from about 1612, the property of the Dowager Countess of Lothian, and now occupied by Mr. James Lee Case. One at Kettlebrigg was the residence of the Coulsons, whose heiress, about 1680, married a Bell, when they left Aylsham and acquired Oulton, where they built the present hall. The last Bell heiress married a Pittman. The Soame family

occupied "Woodgate," which was their residence for more than two hundred years, and added to it considerably, almost, if not entirely rebuilding it in 1706, and they resided there till about forty years since. This is the house shown in our illustration, now the property of and occupied by R. J. W. Purdy, Esq.



WOODGATE.

One peculiarity of this town is the number and names of its gates (roads): Stonegate, Drabblegate, Hungate, Feugate, Rodgate, Silvergate, and Woodgate being all in its

vicinity. There are also some fields bearing peculiar names: Garoldstones, Raggard, Millbonds, Futtters, etc.

The Churchwardens' Books show annual entries of payment for destruction of badgers as late as 1710, but pole-cats, "lobsters" (local name for stoats), hedgehogs, etc., were paid for much later.

A Town Hall was erected by a joint-stock company in 1857, at a cost exceeding £2,000, and there the magistrates hold their sittings, and the proceedings of the county court take place. The large room measures sixty feet by thirty.

Aylsham gives its name to a Poor Law Union, which comprises thirty-five parishes in the hundred of South Erpingham, and eleven parishes in Eynsford. The workhouse, on the Cawston Road, was built in 1849, at a cost of £12,000, and has about a dozen acres of land attached. It has space for 600 inmates, but the average is about 150.

The county lock-up, or bridewell, formerly stood near the market-place, and had the following inscription cut in wood:—

God . preserve . our . Suprem . hed . Kyng . Henry . Theight . Pray . for . the . Good . Prosperyte . and . asstate . of
Roberd . Marsham . and . Jone . his . wyfe . the . wiche . this . Howse . they . cawsid . to . be . made . to . the . honor . of
the . Towne . be . thir . qwyck . lyves . 1543.

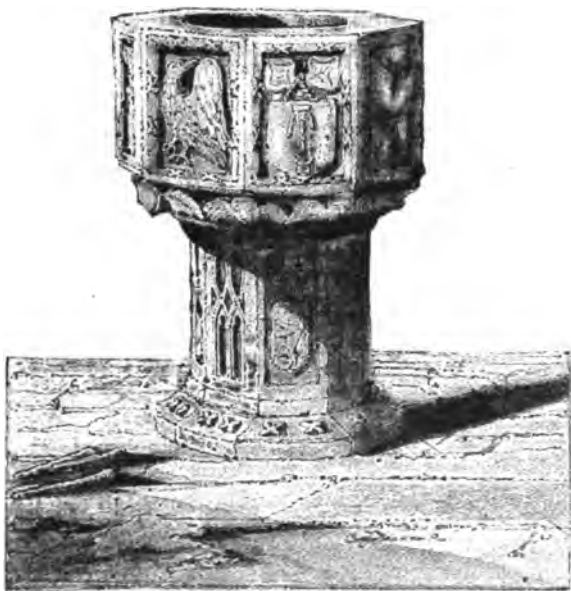
The building has been converted into tenements, and the inscription is at the present time in the possession of Mr. Robert Bartram, builder, of Aylsham.

The market day, as already stated, was formerly Saturday, but from the time of the grant to Sir John Hobart has been held on Tuesday. Two cattle fairs are held annually, one on the 23rd March, and the other on the last Tuesday in September.

Oak-apple Day (May 29th) is regularly observed in Aylsham as a general holiday. There is a service with appropriate sermon in the parish church, and the Odd Fellows, Foresters, and other local clubs, walk in procession, with bands playing; flags are displayed, and there is a general feasting.

The CHURCH of Aylsham, dedicated to St. Michael the Archangel, was in great part built by John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster. It has a fine nave, with aisles, transepts (which were formerly chantry chapels), and chancel, a square tower, with a small spire. The octagonal font has emblems of the Evangelists, with representations of the Passion and Crucifixion of our Lord. The lower portion of the rood-screen still remains, and exhibits numerous figures, very few of which, however, are wholly distinct: portions of the screen were many years since made to form part of the reredos. The chancel stalls have figures of the twelve Apostles.

Nicholas Stone, chaplain in 1417, gave legacies to the lights of Corpus Christi, the holy rood, and the Virgin Mary. In 1479, John Northawe, who was buried in the church porch, gave



FONT IN AYLSHAM CHURCH.

a black velvet altar-cloth, and provided for a wax candle to burn for one year before the image of the Virgin, and for lights before the images of St. John and St. Peter; also a legacy to St. Margaret's guild, and 23s. 4d. to John Green, his chaplain, to go the next jubilee year to St. James at Campostella,¹ and there to pray for his soul. John Boller, priest, buried in St. Thomas's chapel, gave a pair of organs, directing that the principal pipe should be five quarters of a yard in length, be of good metal and sweet harmony, and that it should stand on the side of the choir next the Lady chapel; to the guilds of Our Lady and St. John he gave legacies.

One of the chantries above mentioned was founded by direction of the will of Robert Jannys, the founder of Aylsham Free School, under a license granted by Hen. VIII., on the 8th July, 1534.² It was in the south part of the church, with an altar of

the Blessed Mary, for which one chaplain was provided, as the license expresses it, "that they may celebrate for ever for the state of our health and of our dear Consort Anne, while we live, and for our souls when we have departed this life, and for the soul of Robert Jannys, and for the souls of all his parents, benefactors and friends, and of all faithful deceased;" and it goes on to say that the executors, Nicholas Lywhat, Wm. Rogers, Edward Wade, and John Tracey are to make the said chantry, and continues—

The said chantry, when so made, shall be called by the name of the Chantry of Robert Jannys for ever. And that the chaplain shall be one body incorporate in cause, reality, and name, and have perpetual succession, and be a learned person capable in the law, and called by the name of the Chaplain of Robert Jannys. And that he and his successors, chaplains of the said chantry, by and under the same name, in the parish church of Aylsham, might plead and be pleaded against; also sue all actions, real, personal, or mixed, suits and causes whatever, of any nature or sort, in any of our courts, before any justices, judges spiritual or temporal, or any other persons, and in the same courts may respond and be responded to, and may defend the same. And by the same name they may purchase, have, enjoy and possess, for themselves and their heirs for ever lands, tenements, and other possessions and hereditaments. And in all other things may make, act, and receive like all other lieges of ours and clever persons capable in the law in our Kingdom of England. The chaplain may have freedom to teach the free grammar scholars. And moreover of our grace and motion we have granted and given license to Nicholas, Wm., Edmd., and John, or to one or all of them that they might give and grant manors, lands, tenements, rents and services, with appurtenances of the annual value of £10, besides all charges and reprises, although held of us in capite for knight's service or for other service of us and of our crown by knight's service, or of other persons mediately or immediately to the aforesaid chaplain for one turn or divers turns, to have and hold in any way the manors, etc., to the chaplain or his successors for ever, according to the ordinance of Nicholas and the others, or each or any of them, thereof to be made. And to the chaplain that he might receive the same manors, etc., of the aforesaid executors, to hold to him

¹ Campostella - Santiago, in Spain. It is the richest see in Spain. It is pretended that the body of St. James was buried there. The name Campostella is derived from *campus stella*; the legendary history informs us that a star pointed out a spot for the saint's sepulchre.

² State Papers Dom. : 26th Hen. VIII., No. 1026 (20).

and his successors according to the same ordinance for ever by the tenor of these presents, we give special license without other or any manner of alienation paid to us, although these manors, etc., are held of us immediately or otherwise by the statute of land and tenant or tenement, of Mort-main, or any other statute, act, or ordinance, made, ordained or provided, notwithstanding inquisitions, etc.

In the first year of King Ed. VI., William Wythe, Henry Droury, and Henry Olyver were churchwardens, and on the 31st October of that year they certified—¹

That there is sold of the chirche plate too & twenty score unc^s, after y^e rate of iiij^s viij^d y^e unc^s, unto those persons whose names are underwritten, y^t is to say:—

John Wylte.	Nycolas Barker.	Richard Thompson.
Thomas Knolles.	Will ^m Harvey.	Robert Pecke.
Robert Clare.	John Swanne.	John Olyver.
Henry Barker.	Henry Droury.	Thomas Champe.
Christopher Wroo.	Henry Olyver.	Robert Marshm.
Thomas Elvered.	Symon Cressy.	Gregory Chamberleyn

Sm̄ of which plate amounteth to cij^{ll} xiiij^s iiij^d.

The use of which money is employed and to be employed upon these hereaft^r ensuenge—

Ffirst for the re-edifienge of the north yle of the chirche of Aylsham, decayed, fortye pounds. Itm for making again of y^e great brygge ov^r y^e kyng's ryver at Aylesham aforesaid, whiche brigge is a comon passage for horse and carte both to y^e market of Ayleshm and to y^e coaste for y^e countrie xij^{ll}. Itm for the reparation of the gram^r scole house and vj almes houses, v^{ty} ruynows, wⁱⁿ y^e same towne, viij^{ll}. And the residue of y^e said money is employed and to be employed upon the poore people of the same towne, whiche are in number fowre skore and moo, whiche for debilitie of age, syckenes, and extreme povertie are driven to live upon the allmoys of y^e Inhabitants of y^e same towne.

And y^e said towne is now of late tyme so greatly decayed by the meanes of owttownesmen who hath purchased and bought y^e best messuages, places, and tenements wⁱⁿ y^e same towne to y^e quantitie of y^e iij^{de} parte and more, almoste y^e half of y^e said town upon whiche messuages and tent^s y^e greatest and best households have bene kept, but now are [piece torn away] decayed, and no householde upon them kepte, and y^e occupyers of y^e saide iij^{de} parte and more of y^e lands and tenements of y^e said towne beare no charges of y^e same towne, nor mynster any reliefe to y^e pore people of y^e same. So y^t all y^e charges of y^e towne rest upon a fewe householders yet inhabitinge y^e same towne, which otherwyse not beenge able to susteyne and beare y^e aforesaid charges, were enforced of necessitie to selle y^e said plate for y^e uses above written,

And as concernyng bells, leade, or ornaments of y^e said chirche of Ayleshm, there is none solde, exchanged, nor altered.

Notwithstanding this great sacrifice of the church's plate, five years afterwards its wealth was still considerable, there still remaining nearly £200 worth of church "ornaments," as the following shows:—

AYLSHAM CHURCH GOODS IN 1552.²

This indenture, made 2nd Sept., 6th Edward 6, 1552, between W^m Ferme, John Robsarte, Chris. Heydon, Knt., Osburne Mondford, Rob. Barney, and John Calybut, Esq^{res}, Commissioners directed to surveye the church goods in Norff., of the one part; and Thos. Whitbye, vicar of Aylsham; John Norgate and Rob. Marsham, churchwardens of Aylsham; Ric. Baxter, Thos. Knolles, John Tolwyn, Thos. Smyth, W^m. Wyett, and Nic. Barker, parishioners of the same town on the other part, witness that there remains in the custody of the vicar and churchwardens, to wit:—

- Im primis, 2 shippes of white sylv', w^t 2 letle spones of silv' weyeng 18 uncs, 60^s; ev'y unce valued at iij^s iiij^d
- Itm, 2 payr of sensers of white silv', weyeng 60 uncs, £10; ev'y unc valued at iij^s iiij^d
- Itm, 1 pyxe, all gylte, weyeng 76 uncs, £16 9 4; ev'y unc valued at iij^s iiij^d
- Itm, a crysmatorye of silver and p'cell gylte, weyeng 21 uncs, 77^s; ev'y unce valued at iij^s iiij^d
- Itm, 2 paxes, all gylte, weyeng 16 uncs, 69^s 4d.; ev'y unc valued at iij^s iiij^d
- Itm, a crosse of sylv', all gilte, weyeng 85 uncs, £18 8 4; ev'y unc valued at iij^s iiij^d
- Itm, 3 chalic's of sylv'r, all gylte, w^t 3 patens, weyeng 47 uncs, £10 3 4; ev'y unce valued at iij^s iiij^d
- Itm, 2 candilstycks of sylver, weyeng 67 uncs, £11 3 4; ev'y unce valued at iij^s iiij^d.
- Itm, 1 alt' clothe of blewe velvet embroydred with flowers, valued at vj^s viij^d.
- Itm, 4 alter clothes of black velvet, valued at x^s.
- Itm, 1 canope of rede damaske, valued at xx^s.
- Itm, 2 copes of blewe damaske, edged w^t crymsyn velvet, valued at xl^s.
- Itm, 2 copes of tawnye velvet, embrowdred w^t angells, and a vestment and 2 tunycles and 2 albes, valued at vi^l.

¹ Augmentation Office, Miscellaneous Books, vol. 500, No. 196.

² Ibid., vol. 505, No. 44-47.

- Itm, 2 copes of rede velvet and clothe of tyssue, w^t 2 tunycles and one vestym't and 3 aubys, x^l.
 Itm, 2 copes of blewe colour, one of badkyn, 2 tunycles, and a vestment of the same badkyn, valued at viii^l.
 Itm, 3 albes, valued at vi^s.
 Itm, 1 vestment, w^t 2 tunycles of blewe and red silke, w^t flowers embrodred, and 3 albes, valued at xx^s.
 Itm, 1 vestment of tawny velvet, embrodred, and an albe, valued at xx^s.
 Itm, 1 vestment of whyght damaske w^t an albe, valued at xx^s.
 Itm, 1 vestment of whight sylke, w^t a crosse of crymesen velvet, valued at v^s.
 Itm, a vestment of blewe damaske, w^t an albe, valued at iii^s. iv^d.
 Itm, 2 copes of blewe velvet for 2 childer, valued at x^s.
 Itm, 4 albes, and 3 whight copes and 2 tunycles, valued at 10^d, the vestym't of one sute, except one cope of whyght damaske, v^l.
 Itm, 4 litle candilstycks of laten, weyng 5 pounds, ev'y pounce valued at 1½d. the pound, vii½d.
 Itm, 1 payre of great sensers of laten, weyng 19 pounds; ev'y pounce valued at 1½d., ii^s iv½d.
 Itm, 2 payre of laten sensers, weyng 8 pounds; ev'y pound valued at 1½d., vii^s.
 Itm, one lecturn of brasse, to rede y^e epistle on, weyng a hundred and halfe, 3 stone and 6 pounds, valued at 15^s the hundred, xxvii^s ix^d.
 Itm, 5 great bells, weyng by estimation fyve score hundred; ev'y hundred valued at 15s.; whereof the grete bell weieth 30 hundred, the second bell weieth 24 hundred, the 3rd bell weieth 20 hundred, the 4th bell weieth 16 hundred, the 5th bell 10 hundred, lxxv^l vii^s vi^d.
 Itm, 1 sanct^{ry} bell in y^e chauncell, weyng by estimation 60 pounds; ev'y pounce valued at 1½d., vii^s vi^d.
 Itm, 2 hande bells, weyng 6^l; ev'y pounce valued at 1½d., ix^d.
 Itm, 4 clappers valued at 10^s.

Whereof to be used and occupied in y^e chirche in y^e mynistration of y^e divyne service there 2 chalic's weyng 36 uncs, one grete clobbell weyng 30 hundred, and one littyll sanctus bell weyng 60 pounds.

In witnes wherof y^e said Comysioners and other y^e said persons to these indentures alt'natly have put thir signe manuely y^e daye and yere above written.

P me THOMA KNOLLES.

Per me THOMA WHITBIN, ibid. vicariu'.

P me JOHEM NORGATE.

P me NYCOLAS BARKAR.

The church contains, besides the monument to Bishop Jegon (who was buried at the north-east corner of the chancel) and memorials of several of the Vicars, numerous monumental slabs and tablets, some inlaid with brass, among others one to the memory of Richard Howard, who, in 1480, built the church porch: another to Thomas Wymer, who, in 1507, provided for the beautifying of the screen and roof.

The Vicarage was valued in K.B. at £17 9s. 7d., a portion of the rectorial tithes, and the Vicarage Manor. In 1710 it was of the reputed value of £70. The present yearly rent-charge is £685, awarded in lieu of tithes in 1838, when the rectorial tithes were commuted for £716 per annum. The vicarage house was erected in 1701; rebuilt 1868; and has had frequent repairs and alterations. During the Commonwealth the Committee for Augmentations disposed of the tithes, and they were supposed to be worth £70 per annum. Major Doughty offered £60. The seventeenth century found most of the Norfolk churches in a very decayed condition, and, besides the depredations of the Puritans, they suffered much from neglect of churchmen. Aylsham was no exception, and the year 1666 found its chancel in a "very ruinous and decayed state, and had been so for many years."

Some very curious and interesting particulars in reference to tithes and vicar's dues were elicited in an enquiry held in Easter Term, 1668. Saddle-horses paid 12d. a-piece; fatted cattle 12d.; every cow and calf 6d. For orchards dues varying from 2d. to 1s. For Easter offerings 2d. for every communicant. Marriage by license, 5s.; without license, 4s. was demanded by Mr. Gill, though one James Harris, who had been parish sexton for fifteen years when Mr. Phillips was vicar, "had never heard of more than 1s. 6d. being paid for a marriage by banns." The fee for churching a woman was 6d. The burial fee for a corpse in a coffin, 6d.; if buried without a coffin, 4d.; or in either case, if a child, 2d. only. For wood or furze burnt by parishioners for their own firing, and being cut in their own grounds, the vicar had no tithe

in kind, but instead had 1d. a-year as hearth silver of each householder: for wood sold he received the tenth part of the proceeds. During ten years in which Sir John Hobart and Robert Doughty had "occupation of the impropriation of the church" whatever tithed corn had been yearly growing on the south and west side of the river had been usually paid and accounted for to the impropiator.¹ There are records of several women summoned before the archdeacon's court for not receiving Holy Communion during the year 1667.

The Parish Register Books contain baptisms, burials and marriages from 1653.²

There were several guilds here, viz.: St. Michael, St. Peter, St. Margaret, St. John Baptist, and All Saints.

In 1471, Katherine, widow of Robert Purdy, endowed the following lights: the lamp before the high altar, the light before the holy rood, the light before the image of the Blessed Virgin in her chapel, and contributed to the light supported by collections at the plowlode³ of Hundegate; she also gave legacies to the fraternity of St. Michael, to her son Nicholas, a chantry priest.

The Vicarage Manor, to which the advowson was attached, was granted by William Rufus to St. Martin's Abbey at Battle in Sussex, but afterwards the Bishop of Norwich used to nominate, and the Abbot to appoint such nominee to the vicarage. On the 23rd May, 1542, Hen. VIII. granted the advowson of the rectory and church to the Dean and Chapter of Canterbury, and the presentation has since been in them.

The copyholds of the manor are being gradually enfranchised. The present income is about three and a half guineas.

VICARS OF AYLSHAM.

1299—Eustace de Kymberle.

1312—Ric. de Aylesham. He was of St. Peter's Coll., Camb., to which he gave a house. 1325—John de Burnham. 1328—Adam de Tirington. 1335—Robert de Rokesyby. 1338—Roger de Heselarton, M.D. 1340—John de Lenn. 13 —John de Thorney, alias de Dickleburgh. 1372—Thos. Gylman, by provision of the Pope. 13 —John Bromley. 1398—Nich. Stok.

1418—Thos. Frengé, de Walsingham Magna. 1429—Thos. Booth. 1444—Ralph Kemp. 1451—Edmund Keche. 1452—Thos. Scrope, Bishop of Dromore from 1434 to 1440. He was a Benedictine monk, and afterwards a Carmelite, at Norwich; a man of great learning and strict austerity of life; was much employed abroad on public business, and by Pope Eugene IV. Leland says he was in great favour with the Knights of Rhodes. Whatever he received out of his revenues, or could get from rich persons, he bestowed among the poor or laid out on pious uses. Vicar-general to the Bishop of Norwich. He appears to have left Aylsham in 1484 for Marsham. According to Bale, he wrote "De Carmelitarum Institutione: De Eodem Ordine ad Eugenium." "Catalogum Sanctorum ejusdem Ordinis." "Compendium Historiarum et Jurium." "Privilegiarum Papalium. De Sectarum introitu ad Angliam." "De Sua Protectione ad Rhodios." "Sermones de Decem Præceptis." Also, "very elegantly translated into English, ten books of Philip Ribot, a Catalan, on the particular

Actions of the Carmelites," which work he dedicated to Cyril Garland, Prior of Norwich. His book of the Institution of the Order of Carmelites, dedicated to John Blakeney, Prior of Ingham, in 1349, is extant in the Public Library at Cambridge. He lived till nearly 100 years of age, and died at Lowestoft, where Leland saw his grave, and has given us the following lines as his epitaph:—

"Venit ad Occasum morbo confectus amaro;
Spiritus alta petit, pondere corpus humum."

"Wasted with sickness, in the West he dies,
And here intomb'd among the Dust he lies;
And while his Spirit light as Air ascends,
His body to its Mother Earth descends."

1461—Nich. Stanton, LL.B. 1461—Wm. Brooke. 1484—Hen. Falke, official to the Archdeacon of Norfolk. 1489—Chr. Lytton. 1490—Thos. Tylom. Buried in the chancel.

15 —Wm. Bullein. This is undoubtedly the person described by Cooper, Athen. Cant., p. 343, as a native of Ely, born in the early part of the reign of Hen. VIII.; reputed to have been educated in Cambridge university, although we have been unable to obtain any definite information on the subject. He is also, with less probability, said to have studied, and appears to have lived for some time at or near Norwich. He travelled over several parts

¹ As to the value to the impropiator, there was evidence given in 19th Chas. II. by Thomas Norgate, of Thorpe next Norwich, that whilst he was farmer the impropriate rectory and great tithes were worth yearly eight score pounds, and he had had several renewals of leases from the Dean and Chapter of Canterbury, in all of which there was a covenant by which the lessees were bound from time to time to repair the houses belonging to the rectory, and also the chancel of the church. Neither he, or his father and mother (who had farmed before him) were ever required to repair the chancel, though they did the houses of their own accord. Mr. Firmane and Mr. Hunt, former vicars, did repairs. He had known several persons buried in the chancel, but he had never authorised the breaking up of the ground, or received any profits therefrom.

² In 1653 and 1654 agreements of "consent to marriage" were published at the market-cross on three several market days.

³ The Plough Lights, or, as they are sometimes called, Plough Loads, seem to have been supported by a collection, in small towns, where there was one only, through the whole town; in large towns, where there were several, in the several parts or districts of the town; and this collection seems to have been made by carrying a plough about the town or district upon some certain day of the year, probably Plough Monday, which, it may be, was so called from this custom. Thus, Adam Sweyn, of Smallburgh, by his will, dated 1468, gives a legacy, "Ad lumen collectum per aratrum ex parte orientali," and another, "Ad lumen, etc., ex parte occidentali," of the said town, *i. e.*, Eastgate District and Westgate District; and Richard Ferthing, of Baketon, mentions the holding of a Plough Light, which must have been the day of collecting the money.—Ad. MS. 27,967, p. 156.

of Germany, visited Scotland, and made many tours in England, studying the productions of nature with a zeal and success not common in that age. Having taken orders, he was instituted, in June, 1550, to the rectory of Blaxhall, Suffolk, where some of his relations resided. He resigned that rectory before November, 1554, about which period he commenced practice as a physician in Durham. In or about 1560 he removed to London, and was soon afterwards charged by William Hilton with the murder of his brother, the Baron, who, however, in reality died of a malignant fever. He was arraigned on this charge before the Duke of Norfolk, and honourably acquitted. It is said that he was a member of the College of Physicians, and practised in London till his death, which occurred 7th January, 1575-6. He was buried on the 9th of the same month at St Giles's, Cripplegate, in the same grave as his brother Richard, a divine, who died in 1563, and wherein John Foxe, the martyrologist, was interred in 1587. Over their tomb is a fair placed stone, with an inscription commemorative of all three. So much of this inscription as does not refer to Foxe is subjoined :—

“ Sacra sub hoc saxo tria corpora mista quiescunt
Gulielmi Bullen medici, fratrisque Richardi,
Ac Johannis Foxi, qui tres, mihi crede, fuerunt
Doctrina clari, rari, et pietatis alumni.
Gulielmus Bullen medicamina semper habebat,
Æque pauperibus danda, ac locupletibus æque,
Sicque Richardus erat benefacere et ipse paratus :
Omnibus ex æquo, quibus ipse prodesse valebat.”

He wrote many medical works. 1542—John Bury, p. by Ric. Redman, Commissary to the Bishop. Bury himself became Commissary to Bishop Nykke, and according to Foxe was a madly enthusiastic persecutor of Protestants, and the chief instigator of the proceedings which led Thomas Hudson, a Glover of

Aylsham, to the stake at Norwich, and “made great stir about others which were suspected within the town of Aylsham, and caused 200 to creep to the cross at Pentecost, besides other punishments which they sustained.” In many respects he is described as a very wicked man, “burnt all good books that he could get, and divorced many men and women asunder for religion.” 1547—Thos. Whitley, S.T.B. 1554—John Bury, who had resigned in 1547, and become Rector of Marsham, returned to Aylsham. He died suddenly in 1588. 1573—Lancelot Thexton [see ANMER]. 1581—Wm. Burton. “A sillie preacher. He hath another benefice 40 miles distant.” (Morice MS., Vol. B., f. 52.) 1584—Moses Fowler, B.D. One of the Scrutators of Cambridge University in 1583. He was outlawed whilst Vicar here. In 1604 was appointed Dean of the Collegiate Church of Ripon; in which church he was buried in 1608, where, on a stone altar-tomb, is his recumbent figure. 1591—John Firmane, S.T.B., p. by Alice Norgate, widow. Archdeacon of Stow, 1581. Buried in the chancel.

1610—John Hunt, p. by the King. 1633—John Phillips, p. by Thos. Paston, D.D., Advocate to the Dean and Chapter of Canterbury. 1663—Nath. Gill¹ was reinstated, having been previously nominated and ejected during the Commonwealth. Mr. Walter Rye, in his “Index of Norfolk Topography,” says Gill “was the scoundrel who blew up Cromer chancel with gunpowder.” 1669—Robert Stannard. 1669—Robt. Fawcett. 1687—John Cleaver, p. by Edmund Wodehouse. 1700—Jonathan Wrench, who built the Vicarage house. Author of “A Short View of the Principal Duties of the Christian Religion.” 1731—Jonathan Fountain Wrench. 1765—Solomon Pawley. 1777—Wm. Taswell. 1800—Chas. Norris. 1834—John James Cory.² 1835—Philip Hunt, LL.D. 1839—Edmund Telfer Yates. 1867—C. H. Aitkens. 1883—Robt. Hake.

¹ Gill brought an action, in the 20th Chas. II., against the executors of Phillips, his predecessor, for dilapidations, but was unsuccessful.

² There is a story that at Cory's induction, on his proceeding to toll the bell, he could not make it sound more than once; on which people said he would not live out the year, and that proved to be the case.

PAROCHIAL STATISTICS.

PARISHES B.

PAROCHIAL STATISTICS:—

The amount levied on each parish for Ship Money in 1636 has already been given in Vol. I. pp. 268-276. For particulars as to Fire Hearths and Stoves and the Poll Tax, see notes on pp. 10, 11.

Parish or Township.	Extent in Acres.	Hundred.	Poor Law Union.	Parliamentary Division.— Boundary Commission, 1885.	County Court District.	Arch-deaconry.	Rural Deanery.	POPULATION.									
								1801.	1811.	1821.	1831.	1841.	1851.	1861.	1871.	1881.	
Eabingley.....	849	Freebridge Lynn	Freebridge Lynn	North-West...	Lynn.....	Norwich.	Lynn.....	23	35	53	38	54	88	67	76	58	
Baconsthorpe	1,360	S. Erpingham...	Erpingham	Northern	Holt	Norwich.	Ingworth	239	218	246	333	326	333	328	307	293	
Bacton	1,770	Tunstead	Smallburgh	Northern	N. Walsham..	Norfolk...	Waxham.	311	314	388	498	513	545	490	444	464	
Bagthorpe ⁴	750	Gallow	Docking	North-West...	Little Walsingham	Norfolk...	Burnham.	75	80	69	73	78	79	69	62	85	
Eale	1,041	Holt	Walsingham	Northern	Walsingham..	Norwich.	Walsingham	195	203	265	275	229	234	227	215	232	
Banham	3,963	Guiltcross.....	Guiltcross ⁶	Mid-Norfolk..	Attleborough.	Norfolk...	Rockland	1,015	978	1,195	1,297	1,165	1,195	1,163	1,176	1,142	
Banningham.....	920	S. Erpingham...	Aylsham	Northern	Aylsham	Norwich.	Ingworth.	228	247	256	360	329	330	302	274	245	
Barford	1,052	Forehoe	Forehoe	Mid-Norfolk..	Norwich	Norfolk...	Hingham	253	306	387	420	417	430	419	328	315	
Barmer ⁵	890	Gallow	Docking	North-West...	Little Walsingham	Norfolk...	Burnham.	15	42	25	43	61	55	62	55	52	
Barney	1,389	N. Greenhoe	Walsingham	Northern	Walsingham..	Norwich.	Walsingham	216	202	267	263	276	313	283	266	311	
Barnham Broom ...	1,776	Forehoe	Forehoe	Mid-Norfolk .	Wymondham.	Norfolk...	Hingham	307	373	388	463	494	511	481	469	442	
Barningham Parva	1,224	S. Erpingham...	Aylsham	Northern	Aylsham	Norwich.	Ingworth.	176	185	233	227	229	264	273	234	203	
Barningham, N. ...	834	N. Erpingham...	Erpingham	Northern	Holt	Norfolk...	Repps	56	49	46	42	54	34	30	31	30	
Barningham Town	833	N. Erpingham...	Erpingham	Northern	Holt	Norfolk...	Repps	75	85	82	114	86	108	125	105	104	
Barsham, E.	1,167	Gallow	Walsingham	North-West...	Walsingham..	Norfolk...	Burnham.	180	211	203	219	240	219	221	196	180	
Barsham, N.	1,015	Gallow	Walsingham	North-West...	Walsingham..	Norfolk...	Burnham.	44	64	66	84	89	77	57	75	94	
Barsham, W.	1,571	Gallow	Walsingham	Northern	Walsingham..	Norfolk...	Burnham.	36	50	66	101	86	96	92	84	99	
Barton-Bendish ⁷ ..	4,390	Clackclose	Downham	South-West ..	Downham	Norfolk...	Fincham.	35	363	440	459	455	495	484	476	437	
Barton Turf	1,599	Tunstead	Smallburgh	Northern	N. Walsham..	Norfolk...	Waxham.	290	282	371	391	408	429	379	408	374	
Barwick ⁸	1,278	Smithdon.....	Docking	North-West...	Little Walsingham	Norfolk...	Heacham	27	12	29	35	32	36	26	58	56	
Bawburgh.....	1,440	Forehoe	Forehoe	Mid-Norfolk..	Norwich	Norfolk...	Hingham					404	406	433	404	419	
Bawdeswell	1,196	Eynsford	Mitford	Northern	E. Dereham..	Norwich.	Sparham.	546	481	590	587	582	594	515	462	447	
Bawsey	1,090	Freebridge Lynn	Freebridge Lynn	North-West...	Lynn	Norwich.	Lynn	21	25	34	39	28	26	32	35	70	
Bayfield	799	Erpingham	Erpingham	Northern	Holt	Norwich.	Holt					21	18	30	37	37	
Beckham, E.	782	N. Erpingham...	Erpingham	Northern	Holt	Norfolk...	Repps	58	42	48	50	56	58	73	63	55	
Beckham, W.	785	S. Erpingham...	Erpingham	Northern	Holt	Norwich.	Ingworth	137	167	154	156	19	171	329	337	300	
Bedingham	1,340	Loddon	Loddon and Clavering	Southern	Bungay and Beccles	Norfolk ..	Brooke ..	293	318	343	380	316	335	288	309	293	
Beechamwell	3,730	Clackclose	Swaffham.....		Swaffham.....	Norfolk...	Fincham.	221	209	288	263	246	310	356	376	313	
Beeston-next-Mileham		Mitford	Mitford and Launditch	Mid-Norfolk..	E. Dereham...	Norwich.	Brisley ..					661	680	615			
Beeston Regis	957	N. Erpingham...	Erpingham	Northern	Holt	Norfolk..	Repps	167	189	238	246	265	236	¹⁰ 196	206	193	
Beeston, S. Andrew	626	Taverham.....	St. Faith's	Eastern	Norwich	Norwich.		39	32	69	49	46	41	44	30	39	
Beeston S. Lawrence	519	Tunstead	Smallburgh	Northern	N. Walsham..	Norfolk...	Waxham.	36	37	54	52	48	44	50	49	46	
Beetley	1,770	Launditch	Mitford and Launditch	Mid-Norfolk..	E. Dereham..	Norwich.	Brisley ..	242	288	356	381	394	422	363	342	341	
Beighton	1,015	Walsham	Blofield	Eastern.....	Norwich	Norwich.	Blofield...	208	205	244	262	288	342	365	339	272	
Belaugh	854	S. Erpingham...	Aylsham	Northern	Aylsham	Norwich.	Ingworth.	150	130	133	151	161	172	154	132	139	
Bergh-Apton	1,620	Clavering.....	Loddon	Southern	Norwich	Norfolk...	Brooke ..	304	312	388	509	564	604	544	521	464	
Bessingham	514	N. Erpingham...	Erpingham	Northern	Holt	Norfolk..	Repps ..	103	104	149	137	139	141	153	150	¹¹ 136	
Besthorpe.....	2,164	Shropham	Wayland	Mid-Norfolk..	Attleborough.	Norfolk...	Rockland	391	430	519	542	536	614	554	514	488	
Hexwell.....	1,177	Clackclose	Downham	South-West ..	Downham	Norfolk...	Fincham.	65	47	63	53	70	87	94	85	79	
Billingford	1,820	Eynsford	Mitford and Launditch	Northern	E. Dereham...	Norwich.	Sparham.	269	206	248	313	353	371	354	318	315	
Billingford	1,820	Earsham	Depwade	Southern	Harleston.....	Norfolk...	Redenhall	180	187	190	205	219	221	199	189	194	
Billockby	389	E. & W. Flegg.	Flegg		Gt. Yarmouth	Norwich.	Flegg ..	42	58	63	67	71	65	46	57	66	
Bilney, East.....	544	Launditch	Mitford and Launditch	Mid-Norfolk..	E. Dereham...	Norwich.	Brisley ..	165	177	172	166	218	187	198	174	195	
Bilney, West	2,750	Freebridge Lynn	Freebridge Lynn	North-West...	Lynn.....	Norwich.	Lynn.....	135	168	193	236	298	304	253	242	223	
Binham.....	2,242	N. Greenhoe	Walsingham	Northern	Walsingham...	Norwich.	Walsingham	393	408	438	493	502	511	512	470	478	
Bintry	1,455	Eynsford	Mitford.....	Northern	E. Dereham...	Norwich.	Sparham.	278	263	333	412	409	410	406	399	507	
Bircham, Great ⁶ ...	3,606	Smithdon.....	Docking	North-West...	Little Walsingham	Norfolk...	Heacham	325	330	398	451	511	503	489	484	460	

¹ The year 1666 is that generally quoted here, but those with * are for 1678.

² The tax was then 2s. in the pound; repealed 1816.

³ 7d. in the pound.

⁴ The lowest Poor Rate in 1856 was at Bawsey, three farthings in the pound; the highest at Beeston Regis, 6s. 5¼d. in the pound. In this year the amount expended for the relief of the poor in Norfolk was £219,756, at an average of 2s. in the pound on the gross estimated rental.

⁵ Bagthorpe, Barmer, Barwick, Bircham (Great, Newton, and Tofts), Brancaster, Broomsthorpe, Burnham (Deepdale, Norton, Overy, Sutton, Thorpe, and Westgate), and all parishes in Docking Union are bracketed as expending, in 1856, for relief of the poor £9,968, at 2s. 0¼d. in the pound.

⁶ Guiltcross Union.—The decrease in population in 1861 in most of the parishes of this district is attributed partly to the migration of labourers to towns and manufacturing districts. In some parishes it has also been consequent upon the failure of hand-loom hemp-cloth weaving.

PARISHES B.

TAXATION.		PROPERTY AND INCOME TAX.						VALUATION FOR POOR RATE.				POOR RATE, 1856.		County Rate, 1883, including Police.	Parish or Town- ship.
No. of Fire Hearths and Stoves charged with Hearth Tax in 1672.	Poll Tax in 1666. ¹ Amount collected.	Value of Real Property assessed.			Schedule A, 1860.		Schedule D. Trade Profits, 1860.	Gross estimated Rental.		Rateable Value.		Amount expended.	Rate per £ at Gross Rental. ⁴		
		1815. ²	1843. ³	Increased Value.	Lands.	Houses.		1856.	1882.	1856.	1882.				
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	s. d.		
77	5 2 0 *10 0 0	874 1,557 1,972	776 1,873 2,978	316 1,006	903 1,754 2,306	21 214 749	120 184	739 1,804 2,653	1,070 2,231 3,378	692 1,619 2,398	1,002 2,010 2,964	43 162 180	1 2 1 9½ 1 4¼	17 19 7 36 3 8 57 0 3 14 11 1	Babingley. Baconsthorpe. Bacton. Bagthorpe.
18	46 13 8	757 980	753 1,852	872	710 1,644	120 206	111	749 1,745	826 2,070	681 1,576	796 1,885	252	2 10¾	33 18 0	Bale.
53	35 19 0	8,435	7,724		7,206	648	748	7,763	7,420	6,277	6,635	887	2 3½	135 10 1	Banham.
28	*6 2 0 15 2 0	1,134 1,442 1,278	1,871 2,820 1,200	737 1,378	1,924 2,378 1,053	285 128 130	30	1,940 2,112 1,313	2,192 3,043 1,289	1,659 1,925 1,237	1,971 2,642 1,182	187 213	1 11¼ 2 0¼	36 5 10 48 11 1 21 15 6	Banningham. Barford. Barmer.
	13 17 0	1,289	2,304	1,015	1,906	159	270	2,129	2,465	1,588	2,236	192	1 9¾	41 17 11	Barney.
	8 12 0 6 14 0 20 0 0 *3 1 0	2,583 994 754 803	3,518 1,205 973 1,116	935 211 219 363	3,258 1,258 1,045 968	490 99 20 41	1,060 20	3,585 1,371 921 936	3,842 1,575 1,231 1,334	2,802 1,202 889 821	3,336 1,421 1,132 1,250	292 174 7 70	1 7½ 2 6½ 0 1¼ 1 6	60 17 0 26 19 8 20 6 11 22 5 3	Barnham Broom. Barningham Parva. Barningham N. Barningham Town.
26	20 0 0	754	973	219	1,045	20		921	1,231	889	1,132	7	0 1¼	20 6 11	Barsham, East.
33	*3 1 0	803	1,116	363	968	41		936	1,334	821	1,250	70	1 6	22 5 3	Barsham, North.
48		1,482	1,825	343	1,772	115		1,615	2,130	1,322	1,931	88	1 1	35 17 8	Barsham, West.
29		1,299	1,707	408	1,549	60		1,323	1,757	1,232	1,620	76	1 1¼	28 11 1	Barton-Bendish.
		2,245	1,739		1,833	92		1,789	2,177	1,677	2,033	64	0 8½	36 10 5	Barton Turf.
98	*14 19 0	2,821	4,409	1,588	3,898	861	100	3,929	5,461	3,423	4,839	266	1 4¼	90 4 10	Bartwick.
44		1,593	2,842	1,249	1,976 1,261	667 60	150	2,546 1,492	2,910 1,341	2,201 1,456	2,562 1,456	170	1 4	49 8 5 26 9 8	
	34 5 0 13 9 0 1 14 0	965 631	2,272 515	1,307	3,169 2,124 513	435 518 6	200	2,850 2,460 461	2,591 2,794 789	2,010 2,098 383	2,241 2,469 736	178 332 1	1 3 2 8½ 0 0½	44 11 0 44 7 4 13 12 1	Bawburgh. Bawdeswell. Bawsey. Bayfield.
24	1 9 0	450	1,588	1,138	571	37		706	823	670	761	58	1 7¾	13 13 9	Beckham, East.
39	4 10 0	671	1,147	476	1,311	166	160	1,311	1,529	1,099	1,334	66	1 0	24 6 1	Beckham, West.
119	16 14 0	1,949	2,078	129	2,231	235		2,272	2,351	1,971	2,155	235	2 0¾	42 10 2	Bedingham.
76	*22 1 0	2,076	1,744		1,975 3,939	114 552	80 110	5,020 3,827	3,205 5,023	1,836 3,531	2,896 4,523	103 377	1 0¼ 1 11¾	52 17 4	Beechamwell. Beeston-next-Mile- ham.
29	3 13 0 13 17 0	833 803	836 1,129	3 326	956 1,057	183 144		941 1,096	920 1,477	742 976	822 1,353	240 23	5 1¼ 0 5	14 19 6 24 12 6	Beeston Regis. Beeston S. Andrew.
30		499	972	473	800	220		989	1,099	877	976	23	0 5½	19 0 10	Beeston S. Lawrnc.
		2,302	2,269		2,539	298		2,315	3,402	2,182	3,050	295	2 6½	50 7 9	Beetley.
56	*7 4 0	1,257	2,854	1,597	2,289	706		2,946	2,437	2,173	2,236	172	1 2	45 5 8	Beighton.
51	*7 16 6	986	1,187	201	1,308	129	150	1,300	1,496	910	1,357	124	1 11	24 7 11	Belaugh.
	14 0 0	3,274	3,764	490	3,443	488	20	3,722	4,042	3,328	3,690	150	0 9¾	72 11 0	Bergh-Apton.
25	2 6 0	586	1,013	427	698	158		934	1,178	851	1,066	69	1 5¾	19 3 9	Bessingham.
		3,745	3,779	34	3,669	287	3	4,077	6,282	3,361	5,047	372	1 10	76 7 0	Besthorpe.
40	*4 18 0	1,385	1,783	398	2,019	56		1,544	2,282	1,454	2,045	21	0 3½	38 10 6	Bexwell.
72	7 12 0	1,680	2,274	594	2,021	316		2,269	2,859	2,256	2,559	141	1 3	45 6 4	Billingford.
	*6 16 0 1 0 0	1,679 497 553	1,636 1,000 854	503 301	1,421 920 846	168 47 158		1,649 953 941	1,807 928 1,177	1,475 750 855	1,642 846 1,051	224 28 62	2 8½ 0 7 1 3½	34 18 3 17 5 8 19 1 4	Billingford. Billockby. Bilney, East.
26	3 6 0 20 6 0	1,680 2,525	2,267 3,297	587 772	2,143 2,813	296 533		2,250 3,572	3,100 3,828	2,018 3,096	2,635 3,448	238 443	2 1½ 2 5½	48 18 8 61 0 1	Bilney, West. Binham.
86	11 4 0	1,564	2,300	736	2,446	407	400	2,333	3,031	2,115	2,685	298	2 6½	48 5 2	Bintry.
53		2,216	2,434	218	2,209	274	137	2,583	2,816	2,126	2,569			50 9 1	Bircham, Great.

⁷ Barton-Bendish includes the hamlet of Eastmore.⁸ In consequence of the gross estimated rental not having been returned, the sums above given are estimated amounts.⁹ Beckham West.—The return for this parish in 1861 includes the inmates of two workhouses belonging to the Erpingham Union, the establishments which were returned in 1851 in the parishes of Gimingham and Sheringham having been discontinued.¹⁰ Beeston Regis.—The decrease of population in 1861 in Beeston Regis is attributed partly to migration and partly to emigration.¹¹ Bergh Apton.—The decrease of population is attributed to the migration of labourers and others to towns.

Parish or Town- ship.	Extent in Acres.	Hundred.	Poor Law Union.	Parliamentary Division. — Boundary Commission, 1885.	County Court District.	Arch- deaconry.	Rural Deanery.	POPULATION.									
								1801.	1811.	1821.	1831.	1841.	1851.	1861.	1871.	1881.	
Bircham Newton ⁶ ..	1,128	Smithdon.....	Docking	North-West ...	Little Wal- tingham	Norfolk...	Heacham.	70	74	75	95	107	114	118	110	100	
Bircham Tofts ⁶	1,431	Smithdon.....	Docking	North-West ...	Little Wal- tingham	Norfolk...	Heacham.	103	107	135	130	142	157	169	158	135	
Bittering, Little [†] ...		Launditch	Mitford and Launditch	Mid-Norfolk ..	E. Dereham...	Norwich.	Brisley ...					18	16	30			
Bixley	760	Henstead.....	Henstead.....	Southern	Norwich	Norfolk...	Brooke ...	33	55	107	84	110	128	161	151	160	
Blakeney	1,865	Holt	Walsingham ..	Northern	Holt	Norwich.	Holt	618	583	803	929	1,021	1,108 ¹²	951	817	804	
Blickling	2,123	S. Erpingham ..	Aylsham	Northern	Aylsham	Norwich.	Ingworth.	394	338	359	365	356	352	392	338	311	
Blofield	2,334	Blofield	Blofield	Eastern.....	Norwich	Norwich.	Blofield .	657	807	979	1,092	1,112	1,173	1,155	1,110	1,136	
Blo' Norton	1,132	Guiltcross	Guiltcross ⁶ ..	Mid-Norfolk ..	Diss	Norfolk...	Rockland.	267	307	341	411	435	416	370	283	243	
Bodham	1,688	Holt	Erpingham	Northern	Holt	Norwich.	Holt	227	234	298	308	292	296	316	276	302	
Bodney	2,605	S. Greenhoe	Swaffham.....	South-West ...	Swaffham.....	Norfolk...	Cranwich.	89	122	90	110	98	103	117	109	103	
Booton	1,040	S. Erpingham ..	S. Faith's.....	Northern	Aylsham	Norwich.	Ingworth.	169	193	204	199	241	244	246	209	203	
Boughton	1,323	Clackclose	Downham	South-West ...	Downham	Norwich.	Fincham .	182	189	185	221	209	210	238	234	236	
Bowthorpe	645	Forehoe	Forehoe	Mid-Norfolk .	Norwich	Norfolk...	Humble- yard					34	31	21	65	55	
Braconash	974	Humbleyard ...	Henstead.....	Southern	Norwich	Norfolk...	Humble- yard	283	231	260	316	293	261 ¹³	271	236	282	
Bradenham, East...	2,340	S. Greenhoe	Swaffham.....	South-West ...	Swaffham.....	Norfolk...	Cranwich.	137	253	340	381	368	422	399	386	326	
Bradenham, West..	1,682	S. Greenhoe	Swaffham.....	South-West ...	Swaffham.....	Norfolk...	Cranwich.	300	307	385	370	364	422	387	326	305	
Bradestone	516	Blofield	Blofield	Eastern.....	Norwich	Norwich.	Blofield .		108	142	145	126	160	133	140	165	
Bradfield	757	Tunstead	Smallburgh	Northern	Norwich	Norfolk...	Waxham .	155	141	195	210	195	234	226	252	228	
Bramerton	728	Henstead	Henstead.....	Southern	Norwich	Norfolk...	Brooke ...	138	138	184	202	229	227	300	285	249	
Brampton	521	S. Erpingham ..	Aylsham	Northern	Aylsham	Norwich.	Ingworth.	133	120	145	207	263	205	195	183	182 ¹⁴	
Brancafter ⁶	5,777	Smithdon.....	Docking	North-West ...	Fakenham	Norfolk...	Heacham.	563	617	770	851	913	1,079	1,002	884	770 ¹⁴	
Brandiston	764	Eynsford	S. Faith's.....	Northern	Aylsham	Norwich.	Sparham .	90	83	91	96	137	155	181	149	142	
Brandon Parva	979	Forehoe	Forehoe	Mid-Norfolk ..	Wymondham.	Norfolk...	Hingham .	197	261	236	208	222	212	208	203	167	
Breccles	1,860	Wayland	Wayland	South-West ...	Attleborough.	Norfolk...	Breckles .	139	124	140	154	160	136	130	137	130	
Bressingham	2,354	Diss	Guiltcross ⁶ ..	Southern	Diss	Norfolk...	Redenhall	650	635	702	655	647	674	596	595	509 ¹⁵	
Brettenham	1,981	Shropham	Thetford	Mid-Norfolk ..	Thetford	Norfolk...	Rockland.	56	54	50	65	62	77	72	81	93	
Bridgham	2,692	Shropham	Guiltcross ⁶ ..	Mid-Norfolk ..	Attleborough.	Norfolk...	Rockland.	242	245	294	291	328	339	328	300	274	
Bringham	1,201	Holt	Walsingham ..	Northern	Holt	Norwich.	Holt	228	230	282	277	243	227	206	212	255	
Brinton	625	Holt	Walsingham ..	Northern	Holt	Norwich.	Holt	204	187	221	199	193	190	177	145	161	
Brisley	1,201	Launditch	Mitford and Launditch	Mid-Norfolk ..	E. Dereham...	Norwich.	Brisley ...	264	261	362	362	388	364	362	387	345	
Briston	2,751	Holt	Erpingham	Northern	Holt	Norwich.	Holt	750	777	789	1,037	963	996	931	882	855	
Brockdish	1,069	Earsham	Depwade	Southern	Harleston.....	Norfolk...	Redenhall	370	367	385	482	466	484	544	426	434	
Brooke	2,135	Clavering.....	Loddon	Southern	Norwich	Norfolk...	W. Brooke	502	627	640	736	756	802	746	701	706	
Broom	1,442	Loddon	Loddon	Southern	Bungay	Norfolk..	Brooke ...	298	348	470	504	610	552	505	490 ¹⁷	514	
Broomsthorpe ⁶ 18...	340	Gallow	Docking	North-West...				11	19	11	13	10	14	16	22	12	
Brundall	544	Blofield	Blofield.....	Eastern.....	Norwich	Norwich.	Blofield ..	39	55	54	63	52	80	104	65	58	
Brunstead	789	Happing	Smallburgh	Eastern.....	N. Walsham..	Norfolk..	Waxham ..	103	88	93	107	116	92	99	113	122	
Buckenham Ferry...	931	Blofield	Blofield.....	Eastern.....	Norwich	Norwich.	Blofield ..	40	54	31	49	60	56	49	74	113	
Buckenham, New...	324	Shropham	Guiltcross ⁶ ..	Mid-Norfolk ..	Attleborough.	Norfolk..	Rockland.	664	656	720	795	716	766	656	621	548	
Buckenham Old	4,986	Shropham	Guiltcross ⁶ ..	Mid-Norfolk ..	Attleborough.	Norfolk..	Rockland.	845	1,024	1,134	1,201	1,255	1,401	1,214	1,218	1,146	
Buckenham Tofts...	931	Grimshoe	Swaffham.....	South-West ...	Swaffham.....	Norfolk..	Cranwich	24	34	29	51	77	54	60	64	49	
Bunwell	2,470	Depwade	Depwade	Southern	Wymondham.	Norfolk..	Depwade	602	587	774	947	1,001	979	907	898	861	
Burgh	789	S. Erpingham ..	Aylsham	Northern	Aylsham	Norwich.	Ingworth.	179	184	228	247	314	266	227	219	219	
Burgh S. Margaret and Mary	1,655	W. Flegg.	E. & W. Flegg.	{ Eastern ... } { Northern... }	Gt. Yarmouth	Norwich.	Flegg ...	317	315	396	491	506	582	554	565	553	
Burgh S. Peter	2,041	Clavering	Loddon.....	Southern	Bungay	Norfolk..	Brooke ...	217	220	259	316	312	349	298	332	359	
Burlingham S. Peter	405	Blofield	Blofield.....	Eastern.....	Norwich	Norwich.	Blofield ..	92	84	97	102	91	100	80	80	64	
Burlingham S. And- rew	750	Blofield	Blofield.....	Eastern.....	Norwich	Norwich.	Blofield ..	148	152	178	225	214	202	186	170	178	
Burlingham S. Ed- mund	661	Blofield	Blofield.....	Eastern.....	Norwich	Norwich.	Blofield ..	71	80	75	104	98	99	85	74	74	
Burnham Deepdale ⁶	1,061	Brothercross ..	Docking	North-West...	Little Wal- tingham	Norfolk..	Burnham.	142	89	113	95	109	112	81	103	96	
Burnham Norton ⁶ ..	3,896	Brothercross ..	Docking	North-West...	Little Wal- tingham	Norfolk..	Burnham.	158	182	187	183	166	185	172	147	139	
Burnham Overy ...	2,548	Brothercross ..	Docking	North-West...	Little Wal- tingham	Norfolk..	Burnham.	361	385	508	610	613	674	650	684	617	
Burnham Sutton ⁶ ..	1,452	Brothercross ..	Docking	North-West...	Little Wal- tingham	Norfolk..	Burnham.	201	273	315	364	355	429	380	350	319	
Burnham Thorpe ⁶ ..	2,328	Brothercross ..	Docking	North-West...	Little Wal- tingham	Norfolk..	Burnham.	270	319	344	363	396	424	427	374	354	
Burnham Westgate ⁶	3,047	Brothercross ..	Docking	North-West...	Little Wal- tingham	Norfolk..	Burnham.	743	825	937	1,022	1,126	1,241	1,094	1,012	968	
Burston	1,449	Diss	Depwade	Southern	Diss	Norfolk..	Redenhall	298	344	405	477	468	482	419	406	406	
Buxton	1,274	S. Erpingham ..	Aylsham	Northern	Aylsham	Norwich.	Ingworth	488	506	504	610	713	599	640	529	556	
Bylaugh	1,546	Eynsford	Mitford and Launditch	Northern	E. Dereham...	Norwich.	Sparham .	74	79	93	92	85	111 ¹⁸	82	85	105	

[†] Little Bittering is united with Beeston-next-Mileham for civil purposes, but they are ecclesiastically separate.

¹² Blakeney.—Sixty males were absent at sea in 1841; the number of absentees was less in 1851.

¹³ Braconash.—Owing to a mistake in the boundary in 1841, several houses belonging to Ketteringham were returned with Braconash, which accounts for an apparent decrease of population in the latter parish in 1851.

¹⁴ Brampton.—The discontinuance of a blanket manufactory accounts for the decrease of population since 1841.

¹⁵ Brancafter.—The decline in the population here is attributable partly to the discontinuance of a large malting establishment, and partly to removals to the northern ports.

TAXATION.		PROPERTY AND INCOME TAX.						VALUATION FOR POOR RATE.				POOR RATE, 1856.		County Rate, 1883, including Police.		Parish or Town-ship.	
No. of Fire Hearths and Stoves charged with Hearth Tax in 1672.	Poll Tax in 1666. ¹ Amount collected. £ s. d.	Value of Real Property assessed.			Schedule A, 1860.		Schedule D, 1860. Trade Profits.	Gross Estimated Rental.		Rateable Value.		Amount expended. £	Rate per £ at Gross Rental. ⁴ s. d.	£ s. d.			
		1815. ² £	1843. ³ £	Increased Value. £	Lands. £	Houses. £		1856. £	1882. £	1856 £	1882. £						
22					925	34		950	1,091	855	995			18	12	11	Bircham Newton.
22			41	46	5	869	50	840	897	747	818			16	7	7	Bircham Tofts. Bittering, Little.
	30 4 0	1,408	1,685	277	1,509	260	173	1,621	1,520	1,358	1,416	46	0 6½	29	3	10	Bixley.
		1,468	2,550	1,082	1,384	1,876	1,697	2,424	3,080	2,102	2,404	600	4 11½	44	2	9	Blakeney.
158	38 0 0	1,605	2,782	1,177	2,339	223	786	2,740	3,304	2,419	2,950	201	1 5½	54	5	11	Blickling.
	19 1 0	4,168	7,010	2,842	5,423	1,951	1,466	7,540	6,542	5,136	5,951	688	1 10	117	9	1	Blofield.
	7 6 4	1,665	2,093	428	2,053	335	281	2,555	2,039	1,659	1,844	327	2 6½	37	11	1	Blo' Norton.
64		1,356	2,001	645	1,742	265	370	1,812	2,574	1,499	2,288	132	1 5½	40	11	5	Bodham.
		1,000	1,367	367	1,333	31		1,208	1,326	808	1,212	104	1 8½	29	11	7	Bodney.
39	*5 3 0	1,150	1,942	792	1,822	82		1,822	2,077	1,661	1,831	167	1 10	33	17	2	Booton.
	*5 18 0	1,880	2,045	165	2,008	190	90	1,967	2,607	1,802	2,288	116	1 2½	45	6	9	Boughton.
	2 10 0							600	901	480	811	9	0 3½	14	11	9	Bowthorpe.
70	25 1 0	1,410	2,009	599	1,623	270	378	1,653	1,917	1,543	1,743	141	1 8½	35	12	4	Braconash.
		2,828	3,219	391	3,130	96	190	2,584	4 277	2,381	3,820	231	1 9½	67	6	6	Bradenham, East.
79		2,140	3,032	892	2,735	256	150	2,894	3,394	1,931	3,036	229	1 7	54	3	0	Bradenham, West.
		559	1,048	489	1,044	139		1,210	1,444	851	1,236	92	1 6½	20	15	4	Bradestone.
56		842	1,145	303	901	319	460	1,144	1,419	1,052	1,223	82	1 5½	23	12	10	Bradfield.
59		852	1,580	728	1,557	229	100	1,646	1,877	1,452	1,726	125	1 6½	35	5	3	Bramerton.
38	*5 16 0	547	1,084	537	1,036	219		1,008	1,283	873	1,159	70	1 4½	20	2	4	Brampton.
	18 13 0	3,078	3,957	879	3,502	1,391	230	3,700	5,297	3,318	4,586			88	0	8	Braconaster.
31	3 4 0	807	1,048	241	1,303	103		1,246	1,615	1,079	1,457	128	2 0½	26	5	1	Brandiston.
	18 4 0	1,464	1,710	276	1,683	203		1,665	1,984	1,511	1,753	121	1 5½	31	18	3	Brandon Parva.
34		1,774	1,305		1,250	80		1,223	1,303	1,089	1,097	97	1 7	25	3	3	Breccles.
142		3,525	4,055	530	4,048	1,033	80	3,799	4,181	3,088	3,744	752	3 11½	75	14	9	Bressingham.
	5 0 0	1,104	935		884			650	1,103	600	990	13	0 4½				Brettenham.
46	7 18 0	1,870	1,990	120	622	110		2,197	3,068	1,967	2,792	124	1 1½	52	10	3	Bridgham.
		1,336	2,172	836	2,080	333		2,218	2,489	1,870	2,239	180	1 7½	41	8	6	Brimingham.
60		773	1,273	500	1,042	273	726		1,391		1,258			22	6	4	Brinton.
		1,301	2,320	1,019	2,204	555		2,105	2,570	1,912	2,284	263	2 6	41	8	8	Brisley.
		2,319	3,669	1,350	3,222	848	750	3,731	5,136	3,075	4,491	448	2 4½	82	14	8	Briston.
	*9 19 0	1,491	2,524	1,033	1,879	505	237	2,547	2,483	1,719	2,165	249	1 11½	47	4	6	Brockdish.
136	13 6 0	4,013	4,297	284	3,268	1,147	1,256	3,735	4,288	3,277	3,823	375	2 0	76	16	4	Brooke.
	35 12 8				2,292	719		2,783	3,160	2,086	2,675	339	2 5½	51	11	9	Broome.
		450	469	19	660				641		545			14	7	7	Broomsthorpe.
	*2 10 0	507	857	350	766	194		950	1,631	832	1,286	13	0 3½	18	15	9	Brundall.
		799	1,382	583	1,097	303		1,399	1,661	1,278	1,471	26	0 4½	28	0	5	Brunstead.
15	*1 7 0	607	1,153	546	1,170	224		1,475	2,050	1,108	1,698	9	0 1½	26	7	0	Buckenham Ferry.
	25 2 0	1,525	1,533	8	443	1,187	1,648	1,537	1,667	1,139	1,415	265	3 5½	28	11	3	Buckenham, New.
169	24 9 0	9,738	9,017		8,136	2,080	1,810	7,610	9,177	6,902	8,137	889	2 4	164	2	5	Buckenham, Old.
	7 0 0	614	203		200	100	150		539		309	6		8	16	11	Buckenham Tofts.
100	12 18 0	3,679	4,198	519	4,655	618	460	4,894	4,635	3,799	4,055	486	1 11½	88	0	6	Bunwell.
	6 15 0	1,131	1,687	556	1,601	220	370	1,761	2,076	1,544	1,833	106	1 2½	32	18	0	Burgh.
	6 17 0	1,555	3,785	2,230	3,447	663	400	3,195	3,922	2,332	3,599	179	1 1½	69	1	4	Burgh S. Margaret and Mary.
29		2,575	3,419	844	3,427	52	190	3,429	3,656	3,096	3,400	167	0 11½	66	15	11	Burgh S. Peter.
	9 16 0	1,062	1,053		909	172		1,089	1,081	878	1,003	24	0 5½	36	14	6	Burlingham S. Petr.
114	9 12 0	1,203	2,356	1,153	1,732	316	105	1,999	1,961	1,645	1,801	258	2 7	20	0	6	Burlingham S. Andrew.
	4 0 0	602	1,449	847	1,475	345		1,771	1,522	1,295	1,436	54	0 7½	28	10	7	Burlingham S. Edmund.
29	6 10 0	808	1,400	592	1,388	12		1,535	1,601	1,441	1,472			28	13	6	Burnham Deepdale.
58	11 9 0	1,085	1,602	517	1,625	211	25	1,685	2,055	1,533	1,883			34	8	10	Burnham Norton.
	8 17 0	2,553	4,096	1,543	3,226	1,253	2,300	3,740	4,260	3,243	3,693			57	5	6	Burnham Overy.
65	15 8 8	1,477	2,087	610	1,671	490		1,	2,262	1,774	1,979			36	3	2	Burnham Sutton.
72	10 1 8	2,466	3,137	671	2,884	485		3,000	3,763	2,607	3,387			68	18	11	Burnham Thorpe.
134	21 7 8	4,033	5,840	1,807	3,925	2,294	2,929	5,840	6,911	5,004	5,995			90	13	4	Burnham Westgate.
	*9 5 0	1,860	2,650	790	2,521	101	230	3,105	3,207	2,048	2,692	384	2 5½	53	12	2	Burston.
	10 12 0	1,506	3,374	1,868	2,803	706	851	2,870	3,678	2,487	3,225	329	2 3½	56	1	1	Buxton.
50	21 2 0	1,094	988		1,119	533		1,030	1,375	919	1,253	122	2 4½	24	7	9	Bylaugh.

¹⁶ Bressingham.—Decrease of population attributed partly to emigration.

¹⁷ Broome.—The removal of many large families, since replaced by smaller ones, and of operatives employed in 1841 at a silk factory in an adjoining parish, but lodging in Broome, will account for the decrease of population in that parish.

¹⁸ Broomsthorpe (Hamlet), which maintains its own poor, is sometimes described as a Parish.

¹⁹ Bylaugh.—About 100 persons were temporarily in Bylaugh and its neighbourhood in 1851, on account of the building of the Hall.

BABINGLEY.

ABOUT five miles north-north-east of Lynn, and one mile north-west of Castle Rising is this ancient village, which has the repute of being the first place in the county at which a Christian Church was erected. It had but 13 houses in 1881, and its population was composed of 15 families.

Babinkelia was the lordship of Peter de Valoins, a nephew of the Conqueror, at the Conquest, with one carucate of land, 4 villeins, 15 bordarii, 5 servi, and 16 acres of meadow. It was 2 leucas in length and 1 in breadth; valued at 40s. a year, and paid 2s. geld.

BUTLER'S MANOR was held of Peter de Valoins by Sir William de Rudham, and when the former founded Binham Priory, about the end of the eleventh century, he gave it two parts of the tithe of the manor, a grant confirmed by his descendants. A century later Amanivicus de Babingley was lord, and John de Babingley had a charter of free warren for all his lands here and at Wolferton and Sandringham in 1265. John's daughter, Ida, by marriage conveyed it to John le Boteler, and in 1298 he had a contention with Robert de Tateshale, who had married John le Babingley's daughter Katherine, as to the right of presentation to the church belonging to the manor: in the end each presented alternately. In 1320 John, son of John de Breccles, conveyed to John le Butler and Alice his wife, 11 messuages, 16 tofts, 214 acres of land, and a mill, in Babingley, Wolferton, and Sandringham, being the marriage settlement of John and Alice Butler.

In 1346 Robert, Earl of Suffolk, John Boteler, and Robert Shappe held one knight's fee. The former held, in right of his wife Margaret, late widow of Sir Thomas de Cailey, heir to the Tateshales. In 1369 Sir Adam de Clyfton, who, as heir to Cailey, presented to the rectory, and in 1371 Joan Boteler, who died in that year, was found to hold this manor, and her son John, who succeeded, was the last heir male of the Boteler family, and his daughter Margaret, having married Jeffrey Cobb of Sandringham, the estate passed to her husband's family, with whom it continued till, about 1686, when it was sold to Sir Edward Atkins, who conveyed it to James Hoot, and from the Hoots it passed to Henry Cornish Henley. This manor by a succession of transfers came in time to be the property of the holders of Sandringham, and was included in the purchase of that estate by his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales.

TATESHALL'S MANOR was another lordship here, now also included in the Sandringham Estate. It was granted by the Conqueror to one Eudonis, whose chief abode was at Tateshall, in Lincolnshire—hence his name and that of this manor. At the Survey, Jeffrey held it under Eudonis, and it then consisted of 2 carucates of land, held by 4 villeins and 25 bordarii. One of the tenants had pannage for 60 swine and 60 sheep. There were also belonging to it 62 acres of land, 2 of meadow, 1 carucate, a mill, and 9 salt pits, held by 7 freemen, and valued at 60s. per annum.

In 1265 Robert de Tateshall impleaded Martin de Southmere for cutting down his woods whilst he (Robert) was a prisoner of Simon de Montfort, and selling the wood for 20s., and Martin was condemned and imprisoned for the trespass. He had view of frank pledge and assize of bread and beer. It passed, as Boteler's manor did, to the Cailey family, and after that to the Cliftons, till, by the will of Sir John Clyfton, in 1447, it was ordered to be sold, and as Thomas, Lord Scales, presented to the church in 1459, it seems probable that he was the purchaser. In the reign of Hen. VII. it was vested in Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of Sir John Howard, who married John Vere, Earl of Oxford, who therefore became lord, and by his will he directed that the manors of Sandringham, Babingley, and Wolferton should remain in the hands of his executors for twenty-four years after his death. The estate, with others of the deceased earl, was in the Court of Wards in 1532,¹ when the interests of Sir John de Nevill, Lord Latimer,

¹ Court of Wards, Box 144A, No. 2.

on behalf of his son and heir, John Nevill, Sir Anthony Wingfield and Elizabeth, his wife, Serjeant Knyghtly and Ursula, his wife, were before the Court, which decreed to John Nevill, and to Elizabeth Wingfield, and to Ursula Knyghtly, co-heirs to the late Earl of Oxford, the manors of Barton Bendish and Hillington: that after the death of Lady Elizabeth, Countess of Oxford, they should also have the manors of Weeting, Garboldisham, Fersfield, Knapton, Middleton, and Tivetshall. The manors of Fittons in Wiggenhall, East Winch, and Toftrees, were to remain till 1537 charged with the debts of the late earl, when John Nevill and the others were also to succeed to them. The same decree, dated 13th March, 23rd Hen. VIII., contains this clause: "We award that neither Nevill or any of the others, or their heirs, shall hereafter alien, bargain, give or sell any of the said manors to the disinheritance of their heirs, except for the jointure for their wives for life, or for the term of life of any husband that shall marry them, for the term of twenty years."

After a time the manor was wholly with the Wingfields, and from them, as in the case of Boteler's manor, passed to the Cobbes, and the succession has since been the same in both cases. I have a copy of a survey made in March, 1611, of the estate then the property of Lady Mary Cobbe, widow, being her jointure, as settled on the 14th June, 35th Eliz. The whole was held in very small parcels, and though only a dozen tenants, the several separate holdings were exceedingly numerous. But, perhaps, more remarkable still is the various names of places then known in Babingley. There was Warley-hill and Warley-close, Oar-close, Brakey-close, Carr-close, Cockle Pitts, Howmes, Weather-marsh; a marsh called the Morning-feade, and one the Night-feade; there was the Great Marsh and Bill's-marsh; Juke's-hill, Ryemann's-hill, Ryngall-bush, Curryer's Whynnes, Bypesgroope, Bradgate-way, Inhams, Pynfolde, Harrgate, Harr-meadow, Moore-head, Snakeland, a pightle called Taylor's-yard, Babingley-barrs, Aveswood, Jelham Hall-wood, Butler's-wood, Butler's-green, Butler's-croft, Randleman's-croft; a messuage called the Lassthernes, one the Crosses, and a tenement known as Myll-croft. There were Church-fields, the Kyrchmere, Gate-lane, alias Pater Noster-lane, and Pater Noster-croft. There is only one tenant farmer now in the parish, the other part of the village being farmed by the Prince of Wales.

At the junction of the West Newton and Hunstanton roads there may still be seen the base and part of the shaft of a roadside cross of the fourteenth century.

Binham Priory had temporalities here and in Wolferton taxed in 1428 at 4s. 4d.; Westacre at 2s.; Shouldham at 7s. 7½d.

The CHURCH is dedicated to St. Felix, Bishop of East Anglia, and is said to occupy the site of the first church constructed in that kingdom. Now in ruins, it originally comprised a nave, with aisles and chancel, had a lofty square tower, and a south porch. Remains of the sedilia and piscina, and a place for an aumbrey, remain in the chancel portion. The chancel arch is now built up, and contains a window with two lights. There were in the church the arms of the Botelers and others. There was a guild of St. Peter.

RECTORS OF BABINGLEY.

1333—Simon de Rypingale, p. by Alice Boteler. 1349—Ric. de la Grene, p. by Robt. de Uford, Earl of Suffolk, and Thos. Shappe. 1353—Barth. Norman de Grimston, p. by John Boteler. 1360—Jas. de Horningtoft, p. by the King, as guardian of the heir of Barnak. 1361—Wm. Godrich de Wyrlyngwerth, p. by Wm. Scot and his wife. 1361—Alan Wake, p. by the King. 1366—Roger de Est Wykham, p. by Wm. Skoth. 1369—John Combe, p. by the King, as guardian of the heir of Sir Adam de Clyfton. 1378—Edward de Anderby. 1391—Edward Blades. 1400—Adam Mylne de Terrington, p. by Margaret, relict of Constantine de Clyfton. 1404—John Zutte de Garboldisham. 1406—Nicholas Hawys. 1408—John Payne. 1408—Nicholas Hawys. 1424—John Claydon. 1424—John Copelaud de Horncastle. 1425—Thomas Shadewe. 1430—John Crowsher. 1435—John

Mathew, p. by Sir John Clyfton. 1459—John Randolf, p. by Lord de Scales et de Nucle. 1467—John Remycote. 1493—Wm. Hishvyde, p. by Lady Catherine Gray. 1493—Thos. Whyte. 1510—John Sparier. 1514—John Smith, p. by the Bishop's Vicar-General, lapse. 1533—Ric. Colson. 1542—Wm. Walleys, p. by Thos. Tindall. 15—Humfrey Southworth. 1554—Ric. Homesley, p. by Sir Thos. Tindall. 1557—Jeffrey Lawes, p. by Jeffrey Cobb. 1566—Robt. Radcliff. 1569—Matthew Mason. 1570—Alex. Monepeny. 1581—Robt. Bonyngge, p. by the Queen. 1592—Stephen Clarke, p. by Wm. Cobb. 1595—Wm. Wiborow. 1614—United with SANDRINGHAM, which see.

BACONSTHORPE.

THREE miles south-east of Holt, and seven south-west of Cromer, with 77 families in 1881, living in 70 houses. In 1780 the number of inhabited houses was 31; inhabitants about 200. The land of the parish was at that time occupied by 22 different persons, of whom 15 lived in the parish. The rent of the largest farm did not exceed £130 a year, and some were occupied at £20. Although great part of the land was arable, 100 milch cows were kept in the parish. In 1821 there were 60 families, living in 48 houses.

In Domesday it was called Thorp only, but in early times, from the importance of the Bacon family, came to be called Baconsthorpe. When the Survey was made Roger Bigod had a lordship here, held by one Tuold, and the other was held by Robert Grenon. To the latter belonged 3 villeins, 1 slave, and 3 carucates in demesne; 1 carucate and a half among the freemen, a church with 30 acres, 80 sheep, 40 goats, and a socman who had 8 acres. This manor was reported worth 30s. per annum; in length was 6 furlongs, and in breadth 5. It paid 6¼d. geld. Shortly after both manors were amalgamated and held by Grimald, a Norman, who "came in with the Conqueror," and from him descended the Bacon family, a son of his, Ranulf, taking that name. Blomefield says that a Sir Roger Bacon was one of the "principal" knights of this county in 1249, but the rolls of Parliament seem to show that no Parliament was summoned after 1226 till 1254. In 1269 George Bacon was lord, and in 1274 Roger his brother succeeded, who in 1285 purchased of Edmund de Swathing and Alice his wife 22s. annual rent in this village and in the Barninghams, and joined it to the Baconsthorpe manor. Thomas was lord in 1315, and Roger his son in 1320, and he, with his wife Margery, settled the manor and advowson on William de Calthorp, parson of Bayfield, Roger, parson of Gunton, Thomas de Antingham, and others in trust. In 1347 Sir Edmund de Baconsthorp was witness to a deed by which John de Mautby granted certain manors and lands to Thomas de Swaththyngge, Robert Clere, and Ed. de Shiryngton. In 1379 Sir Roger Bacon was lord, and he died intestate in 1384. In April, 1370, John, son of Sir Robert de Mautby, conveyed all his lands in Baconsthorpe, besides various manors in this county: and in November, 1417, Sir Thomas Erpingham gave quit-claim of all his property here to John Helys, parson of Gunton, Roger atte Bour de Bodham, and Richard Plumstede, chaplain. In 1395 Catherine Bacon, widow, and her trustees held the manor. John Bacon, who died at Norwich in 1462, and was buried in the Convent Church of the Austin Friars, gave to Margaret his wife, daughter of Robert Baynard, this manor and advowson for life, with others in the county, and then to his son Thomas. She married again to Nicholas Ratsclyff, who, in 1478, presented to the church in her name. Thomas married Margaret, daughter of John Jenny, and their daughter Ann to Robert Garneys, of Kenton, in Suffolk; and when the Bacon estate was divided, this manor and advowson went to him. Then, after some family changes, it eventually passed to Phillip Strelly, of Nottinghamshire, who sold it to William Heydon, being at the time held of the Manor of Fornsett by knight's service.

The Heydons, who possessed the manor through succeeding generations, it has been assumed, took their name from the village of that name in this county. Foss, however, thinks it was from Heydon in Essex.

As early as the reign of Hen. III. (1221) we find Thomas de Heydon, a Justice Itinerant in Norfolk, but it was not till the days of Hen. V. that the family were located at Baconsthorpe, and in 1431 John Heydon was chosen Recorder of Norwich. He was a lawyer of eminence in his day, and evidently accumulated much wealth, for at his death, in 1480, he was found

possessed of several manors in this county. He married Eleanor, daughter of Edmund Winter, of Winter Barningham, and during his life built a chapel on the south side of the cathedral, in which he was buried; and by his will he forgave the Prior and Convent of Norwich whatever they owed him, on condition of their erecting a monumental tomb to his memory. A son of his, Sir Henry Heydon, who married a daughter of Sir Geoffrey Bulleyn, in 1467, bought the manor of West Wickham, in Kent, and rebuilt the house there, with an interior open court, which is now covered in and used as a staircase.¹ He also built West Wickham Church. He was Controller of the Household to the Duchess of York, Ed. IV.'s mother. After his father's decease



BACONSTHORPE OLD HALL.

he obtained several manors in this county, and built Baconsthorpe manor house about the year 1495, some of the ruins of which are still remaining. He died in 1503, and was buried beside his father in the chapel at Norwich.

Sir John Heydon, eldest son and heir of Sir Henry, was created a Knight of the Bath at the Coronation of Hen. VIII., was present as an official at the marriage of Princess Mary to Louis

XII. of France, in 1514, and at the royal banquet to the foreign ambassadors, given by the King at Greenwich, in July, 1517, he was present as server for the King; he was also in the suite of the King in 1520, at "the Field of the Cloth of Gold." He was apparently a favourite at Court during several years, for there are various royal grants in his favour. He was Sheriff of Norfolk and Suffolk in 1515 and 1520, and his name appears in the Commission of Gaol Delivery for East Dereham in 1515, and in all Commissions of the time for the county. In July, 1522, he had license to alienate the manor of Pattlesley (which his grandfather had purchased in 1466) and the advowson of the free chapel of St. John Baptist to Martin, Anthony, and Richard Heydon. Sir John married Catherine, daughter of Lord Willoughby of Eresby,² and died, in the eighty-second year of his age, 16th August, 1550.

William Heydon, a brother of Sir John, was one of the killed in Kett's rebellion in 1549; and was buried at Norwich, in the church of St. Peter Mancroft.

The eldest son and heir of Sir John predeceased his father by ten years. He had married Ann, daughter of Sir John Heveningham, of Ketteringham, and his son, Christopher, succeeded to the family estate.

Sir Christopher Heydon was an active man in the county in his day: was one of the special commission in 1554 that indicted the Duke of Northumberland and others for their treason against Queen Mary; Sheriff of Norfolk and Suffolk in 1556 and 1569; at one time engaged in surveying all the ports, creeks, and landing-places in Norfolk; at others, looking after the supply of corn, levying horse and foot, making inventories, and reporting on the Duke of Norfolk's house at Kenninghall, and the Duke's other houses in Norfolk. It is said that he was *custodes rotulorum* in the time of Queen Elizabeth,³ and Blomefield relates a tradition that on Christmas dinners he entertained thirty master shepherds of his own flocks. He was three times married: first, to Anne, daughter of Sir William Drury, by whom he had three sons and four daughters. This lady dying in 1561, he married, secondly, Temperance, daughter of Sir Wymunde Carew, who died in 1577. His third wife, who survived him, was Agnes, daughter of Mr. Crane, of Chilton, Suffolk, and she afterwards became the wife of Sir Edward Clere. Sir Christopher died in 1579, and as he was buried here, where he had lived great part of his life, and was lord of the place, it will be well to give—

¹ Archæol. Cant., xiii, p. 256.

² In Blomefield it is said Lord Willoughby of Parham. But the Rev. Wm. Hewitt, Rector of Baconsthorpe in 1780, satisfactorily shows the error. See Armstrong's "History and Antiquities," vol. iii., p. 35 n.

³ Desiderata Curiosa, i., p. 77.

THE ORDER OF THE FUNERAL OF SIR CHRISTOPHER HEYDON, KNT., OF BACONSTHORPE.¹

First—Two tall Yeomen, with Black Staves, Conductors.
The Poor Men in Black Gowns, two and two.

THE STANDARD,

Borne by a Gentleman in a Black Gown, his Hood on.
Then all Gentlemen in Black Gowns, two and two.
The Chaplain. The Preacher.

THE PENNON,

Borne by a Gentleman, his Hood on (William Heydon).

THE HELMET AND CREST.

THE SWORD AND TARGET.

THE COAT OF HIS ARMS.

THE BODY,

Borne by Eight Yeomen.

THE CHIEF MOURNER.

Oliver Bassett.	George Rouse.
William Parmer.	William Molyne.
JOHN THE BISHOP.	Thomas Whitting.
Myles Corbett, Esq.	— Blennerhassett, Esq.
Christopher Heydon.	Henry Heydon.
A Yeoman Bareheaded.	A Yeoman Bareheaded.
	Gentlemen in Black.
	Yeomen in Black.
	Gentlemen of the County not in Black, two and two.

Sir Christopher was buried in Baconsthorpe church, where his effigy and those of his first two wives were placed upon a monumental tomb to his memory. His son and heir, Sir William,² who was Sheriff in 1583, died in 1593, and was buried in the south aisle of the chapel, where, on a mural monument, are the effigies of himself and his wife kneeling. He left three sons, Christopher, William, and John. Christopher succeeded, and in some capacity attended the Earl of Essex's army which accompanied Lord High Admiral Effingham's fleet to Cadiz in 1596, and for some distinguished service on that occasion he received the honour of knighthood. But his attachment to the Earl of Essex caused him to become compromised in that nobleman's treason against the Queen, and at a time when many of his accomplices were being arrested, Sir Christopher escaped across seas, until a royal pardon was granted to him and his brother Sir John in the latter part of 1601.³ His absence caused the issue of the Commission of Enquiry and Report, as follows:—

ELIZABETH R.—Whereas Ric. II., by a certain charter made in the 5th year of his reign, altogether forbade the passage of all people in any port and any town and place on the sea-coast under pain of forfeiture of all his goods, except only lords and other magnates, and true and notable merchants, and knights of the King, and that every person who shall leave the Kingdom after the publication of this ordinance, without special license from the King, shall forfeit whatever goods he has: therefore it has come to our knowledge that Christopher Heydon, Knt., left the kingdom without our special license, contrary to the form of the statute, by which he forfeits to us his goods. We therefore wish to know for certain whether Chris. Heydon left the kingdom or not; and if so, then what goods he had at the time of his going. As we are sure of your fidelity, we have assigned to you full authority to enquire, as well by the oath

¹ Ashm. MS. 818, f. 26.

² Sir William Heydon, on the 26th January, 1583, entered into recognisances to pay the sum of £700 to Agnes, wife of the late Sir Christopher, on a certain date, "at or within the porch of the parish church of Holt." This payment of moneys and conveyances of land in church porches was a frequent occurrence in old times, especially as to marriage portions and widows' dowers. In the 6th Ed. I., Robert Fitz-Roger agreed with Robert de Tybetot to marry his son and heir to Tybetot's daughter, and to endow her at the church-door on the wedding morning with lands to the value of £100 per annum. A correspondent of "Notes and Queries" lately wrote that an ancestor of his, in 1627, agreed to settle upon his son certain lands on condition that a portion of the dowry of the bride be paid "on the 16th November next ensuing, at the porch of the parish church." The Rev. D. R. Thomas, in his "History of the Diocese of St. Asaph," p. 297, says that the register of the town of Newmarket, in Flintshire, from 1698 to 1712, mentions the interest of £5 given by one Mr. Wynn, for the purchase of flannel for four old men and women, who were "to draw lots or throw dice for it in the church porch." By a bond dated 14th April, 1602, John Lea, of Lutterworth, in consideration of 6s. 8d. paid to him annually in the south porch of the chapel of Market Harborough, bound himself to keep the chimes there in "good, sweet, solemn, and perfect tune of musick." (North's "Church Bells of Leicestershire," p. 245.) In the Isle of Portland, payment of money in a church seems to be still a custom. A correspondent recently wrote, "Within the last three years I completed the purchase of three strips of land in the church of Portland. I gave notice that on a certain day I would attend in the church to pay over the purchase-money and take in exchange the deed of 'church gift,' which was duly signed in the church *coram populo*."

³ As to a duel between Sir John Heydon and Sir Robert Mansfield, in 1600, see Vol. i., p. 166.

of honest and lawful men of Middlesex as by the examination of witnesses, and all other ways, whether Chris. Heydon left the kingdom or not, and if so, where and when. Also what goods and chattels he had when he went, to whose hands they came, and in whose hands they now are. Therefore we command you that on a certain day and place you shall attend to the premisses diligently, so that inquisition thereof may be distinctly and fully taken under your seal, and when this is done it should be delivered to the Treasurer and Barons of the Exchequer on the morrow of Ascension of our Lord, together with this our Commission. The Sheriff of Middlesex, on a certain day and place, is to cause such honest men of his bailiwick to come before you in order that the things in the premisses may be better known and enquired into. We command the justices, mayors, etc., to help you in the execution of these premisses. In testimony of which we have caused these our letters to be made patent. Witnessed by me at Westminster, 3rd April, 43rd year of my reign.

Accordingly inquisition was taken on the 7th April before Ludovicus Prowd and others, at the Town-house, near the cemetery of St. Clement Danes, beyond the bars of the New Temple, in the County of Middlesex, by the oath of Hugo Trapps, gent., etc., etc., who say upon their oath that Chris. Heydon, Knt., late of Baconsthorpe, in Norff., after 10th February and before 1st of March, without obtaining permission from the Queen, departed and fled out of the kingdom, and for all that time was and is at liberty, to the manifest contempt of the Queen, and against the form of the statute. The Jurors also say that Chris. Heydon, during his flight was possessed, as of his own goods and chattels, of the wardship of the body and lands of John Potts, son and heir of John Potts, of Itteringham, gent., defunct, by virtue of the tenor of John Potts' father, of (or from) aforesaid Chris. Heydon, in the Commission aforesaid named as of Heydon's manor of Woodhall, in Baconsthorpe, as by several records shown to us at the time of this inquisition manifestly appears. And further they say that John Potts, the son, is in the custody of Anne Heydon, wife of Chris., and is under the age of 10 years. And that the wardship is worth £5 to be sold. In witness whereof the Commissioners and Jurors have put their seal the day and year aforesaid.¹

As mentioned above, Sir Christopher had a pardon for his offence: and six years after he was petitioning James I. for a grant "in relief of his decayed estate," "for the sake of his own services and those of his father and grandfather;"² and the relief, he suggested, might be afforded by certain small quilllets of escheated lands in Norfolk, of the value of £45 per annum. He had the reputation of an accomplished scholar, and, perhaps in consequence, had the honour of being High Steward of Norwich Cathedral. He married Mirabella, daughter and co-heiress of Sir Thomas Rivett, who died in 1593, and lies in the chancel of Saxlingham church; secondly, he married Anne, daughter and co-heiress of John Dodge, widow of John Potts, of Mannington, who survived him. Sir Christopher died at Baconsthorpe in 1622. By his first wife he had four sons, and by his second one son and four daughters.

Sir William Heydon, the eldest son and heir, succeeded. He had apparently been designed for the practice of the law, as I find he was entered in the Temple in 1578, but the military exigencies of the period attracted so many to the service of the State, that he afterwards was found to be in the army, and was engaged in the expedition against the French, in 1627, when he lost his life, being carried by a rabble of flying soldiers into the sea and drowned (not slain in the engagement, as stated by Blomefield and others), at the Isle of Rhé.³ He was Sheriff of Norfolk in 1603. In June, 1622, he had grant of a license from the King to raise

¹ Exch. Spec. Com., 43rd Eliz., No. 1,487.

² State Papers Dom.: Jas. I., xxviii. 78.

³ The following is the official account in the State Papers for the year 1627, Vol. 70; and as, so far as I know, it has never been printed, it may appropriately be given here. The British fleet, under the command of the Lord Admiral "y^e Duk's Grace) being in his Ma^{tie}'s shippe the Tryumph, wayed anchor in Stokes Bay, and being under sayle, there followed him 100 sayle of shippes, little more or lesse," on the 27th June, 1627. The account proceeds to give a sort of daily log, showing how, by a great storm, the fleet having been dispersed, assembled again on the 10th July, (several being considerably damaged), off the "east point of St. Martin's Island," when "we all reposed ourselves for 2 nights and one day.

"On Thursday y^e 12th of July, it was determined that y^e soldyers should be landed, w^{ch} was donne about 3 of y^e clocke in y^e afternoone, the Englishe soldyers, striving w^{ch} should be first, were most valiantly opposed by 200 Ffrench horse and 1,200 foote. Wee having landed about 2,000 men, the Ffrench horse gave them such a desperat charge that y^e like was never seene by any, for although 8 shippes did ply their ordnance most bravely, yet they marching in good order gave y^e landmen such a charge (had they bene seconded home wi.h their foote) that it had been doubtful who should have had y^e honour of that day: but that Omnipotent Power that was a behoulder and determiner of y^e quarrell, gave it to our Nation, albeit it did seeme to some att first to be lost, who flying from their Comanders, and casting away their cullo^r and arms, ran most fearfully into y^e sea, and did soe overcharge y^e boats that were loaden w^{ch} soldyers, that themselves and many others (y^e number whereof is uncertaine) were drowned, amongst which was that noble Knt. Sir William Heydon, who was landed, and att least 2 pikes' length from y^e water carried by y^e violence of y^e running out into y^e sea, to y^e great grief of y^e Noble Duke, having been att y^e first on shore, and taking his barge againe to cause all y^e rest to make fast, att his return found them in such a desperat manner of running away, who att that instant did behave himself w^{ch} such alacrity towards y^e revolters, himself standing in y^e head of his barge, his sworde drawne, and entreating some, and taxing others with fearfulness and cowardise, to returne to their countrymen that stood to it valiantly on y^e shoare, amongst w^{ch} Sir John Bury and Sir All.

£6,324 3s. 4d. by composition from reversions upon entailed estates, his Majesty receiving £1,600 of the same; and a few days after (4th July), a sum of £1,500 was granted to him, as well as power to compound for entailed lands conveyed from the Crown. Then, in August, he was engaged in a mercantile adventure; for, with Charles Glenham, he had a Royal Commission, with permission to make a voyage with two ships to the territories of the Great Mogul and other Princes between the Cape of Good Hope and the Straits of Le Maire, to satisfy the Mogul with "some choice arts and rarities," and to put their works and inventions in use in those climates. He was Paymaster of the Forces sent to the Palatinate, and again to those sent to the Low Countries in 1624; and from an account delivered after his death by his brother, it appeared that a balance of £1,300 was due to his estate in connection with the Palatinate expedition. In February, 1627, he was appointed Lieutenant of the Ordnance, and upon receiving the report of his death, Charles I. directed Secretary Conway to communicate to his brother John his royal favour and intention to bestow the place on him.¹ There is in the Ashmolean MSS. (1150. iii.) "a Little Treatise of Baile and Mainprise, written at the request of Sir William Heydon, Knt., by Sir Edward Coke."

Sir John, who, as we have seen above, received with his brother a royal pardon in 1601, next succeeded, his brother William dying without issue. He was attached to the Royalist cause, was of the Privy Council, and consequently was a sufferer by the Great Rebellion. Oxford University, in 1642 conferred on him the degree of LL.D.; and though his office of Lieutenant-General of the Ordnance no doubt made him a person of some prominence in those days, we have no particular records relating to him. Sir John died October 26th, 1657, leaving two sons, Christopher and William, and three daughters; but the family soon after this disappear from the possessions so long held by their ancestors.

There was a law-suit in 1640-41, in which Sir John Heydon was plaintiff, against certain claimants upon the estate, which throws some light on the arrangements made by Sir William, his grandfather, at the time of cutting off the entail. After so doing, Sir William devised the manors of Baconsthorpe and Bodham to Dame Ann, his wife, who made a feoffment to Philip Eden, and with him made a conveyance to Sir Edward Coke and Sir Henry Hobart, and their heirs, etc.; and they, in their turn, granted portions to other persons by the direction of Ann Heydon. It appeared in the proceedings that Sir Christopher and his heir, Sir William, on 20th November, 1609, had mortgaged to Roger Godsalve, Owen Sheppard, and John Smith, of Arminghall, the two manors of Baconsthorpe and Bodham, redeemable upon the payment of £2,400, subsequently increased by an advance of £2,900 more. In consideration of this further advance, Sir Christopher and William, on November 4th, 1610, absolutely sold the manors to Godsalve and the others, but with the reservation that on the 3rd November following, they might redeem on payment of £5,300. No part of the money was paid, but Sir Christopher retained possession until 1614, when Godsalve entered, and, for a time, enjoyed them. But an assize of novel disseisin, disputing the title, was brought by Ann Heydon, which was tried at Thetford Assizes. The title was found to be defective; and in the end a

Brett, Collonnelles, had their share of honour for standing to it in battayle aray for all y^e violence of y^e couragious Ffrench. Soe the English (by God's assistance) having put their enemies to flight, set themselves in battayle, and made good their foot and stood not out before Sunday morning following.

"That day there fell of y^e Ffrench horse about 125, besides many that wee know not of, w^{ch} carryed their ryders some part of their way towards St. Martin's, and then fell dead. We found about 60 Ffrench men that were slayne of y^e best of Ffra: as it was said, twenty and odd Barons; and sure I am that on the Friday night I tould about 56 naked bodyes, whose handes and hayre showed them to be noe mecanick men."

¹ It appears to have been a very doubtful advantage, this royal favour, for ten years afterwards (20th April, 1637) Sir John sent a petition to the King setting forth that he found by experience that the charge of executing the office with its manifold duties "much exceeded the entertainment and remaining perquisites;" and he prayed that he might be allowed the poundage of all monies raised by the sale of powder. He enumerated several services for which he had not charged or received one penny, whereby, he pleaded, it would appear that his "industry had not moved from any mercenary end, but from the innate zeal that near twenty years since caused him wholly to devote himself to the services of so just and gracious a master, and by ten years' industry abroad" to enable him to provide for himself.

reference to Sir Robert Gardiner and Sir John Heigham resulted in a compromise, by which Godsalve, Sheppard, and Smith were content to take part of the manor.

Such of the estate as remained to the Heydons eventually was sold to Mr. Bridges, a woollen draper of London, who was in possession in 1680; but upon his bankruptcy in 1690 it was sold to Zurishaddai Lang, whose son John succeeded him, and died in 1752. The existing court books extend to 1666, but the first mention of any lord is in 1769, when Zurishaddai Girdlestone occurs. John Thruston, M.D., of Weston Market, Suffolk, by his will of 1776 (in which he is stated to have been lately called John Mott), devised his property to trustees, upon trust for Thomas Vertue, son of Thomas Vertue, of Burnham Market, and Ann, his wife, on his attaining his twenty-fifth year. Dr. Thruston died the same year, and Thomas Vertue took the name of Mott. It was not till 1786 that this Thomas Mott attained the age of twenty-five, and he died in 1788, leaving Thruston John Mott, his only son and heir. Dr. Thruston directed his trustees to lay out certain moneys in the purchase of real estate, and they bought Hempnall Manor and estate of Viscount Grimstone, and, presumably, the Baconsthorpe Manors. Thruston John Mott in 1802 adopted the name of John Thruston Mott, and in 1808 married Miss Sophia Partridge, and the Baconsthorpe manors were included in the settlement. On the death of John Thruston Mott the manors passed to John Thomas Mott, who, in 1833, married Miss Caroline Sloane Stanley; and upon his death in 1884 to his son John Stanley Mott, the present lord.

WOODHALL MANOR was originally part of the Baconsthorpe Lordship; but, in 1227, Robert Bacon having settled a portion of the estate on his brother Roger, it was called Woodhall. Robert held of Richard de la Rohale, and he of the Earl Marshal, as part of Roger Bigod's fee; and afterwards of the Manor of Forncett, of half a fee. In 1274 Thomas de Baconsthorpe was lord; in 1284 Robert de Hengham; and in 1354 Sir Edmund de Baconsthorpe, who sold a moiety to Thomas, son of Sir Roger, and it was annexed to the manor of Baconsthorpe Hall. The other moiety in 1407 was found to be held by John Gournay, of West Barham, and afterwards it passed to John Coplewick, to Sir William Oldhall, to William Norwich, and from him to the Heydons, and so was re-united to the original manor.

Sir John Palgrave was the owner of 48 acres of land in Baconsthorpe in April, 1659, when he mortgaged the same to John Money, preacher, of Godswood, Wymondham, for £200, covenanting to pay Money £6 half-yearly till 4th April, 1661, and £206 at that time, failing which Money was to have an absolute property without dispute in the said lands.

In the days of Ed. III. there was a native of this place, named John Baconsthorpe, a Carmelite monk, known as the Resolute Doctor, and who, although born here, at an early age removed to Blakeney Abbey, and became a notable person in his time. He proceeded to Oxford, and afterwards to Paris, where he was honoured with degrees in divinity and laws. On his return to England, he was unanimously chosen the twelfth Provincial of the English Carmelites in the general assembly of that order held in London in 1329. Fuller says (p. 255, vol. ii.), "I had almost overseen John Baconsthorpe, being so low in stature, as but one remove from a dwarf, of whom one saith

Ingenio magnus, corpore parvus erat.

His wit was tall, in body small.

Insomuch that *corpus non tulisset, quod ingenium protulit* (his body could not bear the books which his brain had brought forth). Coming to Rome (being sent for by the Pope) he was once hissed at in a public disputation for the badness, forsooth, of his Latin and pronunciation; but, indeed, because he opposed the Pope's power in dispensing with marriages, contrary to the law of God, whose judgment was afterwards made use of by the defenders of the divorce of Henry the Eighth." Bale has the following remark upon him:—" *Et magnam ab eo facto famen per litteras sibi peperit, ut fusius narrat Jacobus.*" Besides the enconiums bestowed upon him by his own countrymen, he had the praises of Baptista Mantuanus and Paulus Panza. He died in London in 1346.

The Solemn League and Covenant was signed in Baconsthorpe on the 24th March, 1644, by fifty of the inhabitants, "none refusing."

In the year 1878 an urn containing about 10,000 coins, dating from Gordianus Africanus (237 A.D.) to Victorianus (260 A.D.), was dug up in a field belonging to Mr. Mott's estate.

The CHURCH, which is dedicated to St. Mary the Virgin, was partly destroyed by the fall of the tower in 1739. In 1767, the chief inhabitants agreed to raise by rate an annual sum for the repair of the church, then in a very ruinous state,¹ and in twelve years £600 was expended; and in 1869, further repairs were effected at a cost of £1,300, chiefly raised by the exertions of the Rev. J. R. Feilden, the then rector. The east end has a stained glass window in memory of the Rev. J. A. Partridge, who died in 1861: the west window is in memory of the Rev. H. J. Mott. There are a few brasses of the sixteenth century.

The Rectory, valued in K.B. at £9 1s., paid £8 2s. first-fruits in 1664: has a present rent-charge of £349: glebe, 33 acres.

SALE OF CHURCH GOODS.

BAKONSTHORPE.—The certificate of the Inhabitants ther maid the iij^{de} day of Novembre, in the ffirst year of the reign of o^r most dreade sou'eign Lord, King Edward the Sixth, of all suche plate and ornaments as they have sould belonging to the Church the^r. As hereafter followithe :—

ffirst for as moche plate, sould after the rate of iij^s viij^d the unce as amountithe to iij^{li} xij^s iij^d
Sm iij^{li} xij^s iij^d; wereof laid out as hereafter followith :—

ffirst for the whyting of the churche	xxxiiij ^s iij ^d
Itm for a comon hoche ²	x ^s
Itm for a man's harnes	xij ^s iij ^d
Itm for a bow & sheffe of arrowes	vj ^s viij ^d

Sm iij^{li} iij^s iij^d.

And so remayneth to the poore man's hoche xx^s
Henry Wagstaf and Thomas Hows, churchwardeyns there, do certyfy the p'mysse to be true.

The Rectory-house was almost entirely destroyed in 1692 by lightning; and again in 1754 by fire. It was not restored till 1770.

The Parish School-house, built in 1816, has accommodation for 250 children.

The poor receive £5 a year out of land left in 1698 by Thomas Newman.

There is a Working Man's Library in the parish; and the Wesleyans have had a chapel here since 1863.

RECTORS OF BACONSTHORPE.

1352—Roger Bacoun, p. by Thos. Bacoun. 1379—Roger, son of Godwin de Edgefield, p. by Sir Roger Bacon. 1395—Roger de Wychyngham, p. by Katherine Bacon, John Wynter, etc.
1409—John Playford, p. by John Bacon. 1432—John Candeler. 1434—Wm. Trendell, p. by Sir Simon Felbrigg, Sir John Clyfton, Edm. Bedyngfeld, Henri Kat, and Richard Gedge, as trustees of the manor of Baconsthorp for John Bacon. 1450—Wm. Baygg, p. by John Bacon. 1473—Wm. Wright, p. by Rich. Radclyff and Margaret his wife, late wife of John Bacon. 1480—Henry Wingfield, p. by Sir John and Sir Robert Wingfield, Will. Hopton, etc.

1500—Leman Tuwald, p. by W. Wingfield. 1514—Thos. Clayton. 1527—James Carthroppe, p. by Robt. Garneys. 1554—Ralph Doker. 1575—John Burward: described as "no preacher, and a gamester."
1607—Wm. Greaves, p. by Nicholas Shelley. 1608—Edw. Wright, p. by Sir Christopher Heydon. 1610—Robt. Watson. In 1644 Robt. Watson signed the National Covenant as Rector. 1661—John Lougher, p. by W. Crowe, of Bilney. 1664—John Clarke, p. by Hannah Noell, widow.
1701—Valentine Haywood, p. by John Lang. 1718—John Rush. United with BODHAM, which see.

¹ At a vestry meeting for the purpose of making the rate in question, one of the churchwardens boasted that he had been churchwarden, oft and on, for forty years, and had never put the parish to any expense.

² "Hoche," chest, hutch, box.

BACTON.

ON the north-east coast of the county is Bacton, with its hamlet of Keswick, where formerly stood the Priory of Bromholme, and distant five miles from the town of North Walsham, in a north-easterly direction. The population in 1881 lived in 120 houses.

In the time of the Confessor Bacton consisted of 3 carucates of land, 14 villeins, 3 bordarii, and 4 servi, with 3 carucates in demesne, 5 among the tenants, and 14 acres of meadow, pannage for 60 swine, 2 runci, 1 cow, 180 sheep, and 16 goats. Twenty-eight socmen had 178 acres, and there were 10 carucates; 14 freedmen and the moiety of another possessed 2 carucates of land and 33 acres; and 11 bordarii had 10½ carucates, with 5 acres of meadow, valued at 110s., and that which the free men held at 40s. It was one lena long and one broad, and paid 15d. gelt.

Edric, a Dane, was deprived by the Conqueror of his ownership here, and Robert Mallet, one of his fellow-adventurers, was given possession, and he appears to have been the holder at the Survey, when the town was called Baketuna. Soon after the De Glanvile family were found to be enfeofed of the lordship. In the reign of Henry I., Robert de Glanvile, and in the time of Ric. I. William de Glanvile was lord. Jeffery, who died early in the thirteenth century, left his inheritance to his five sisters, among whom it was divided.

Agnes de Glanvile married Baldwin, a Norman, at whose death Hen. III. seized his portion, and gave it to his own brother, Richard, Earl of Cornwall: hence it became known as CORNWALL'S MANOR. Edmund, Earl of Cornwall, succeeded in the 15th Ed. I., and had wreck of sea, assize of bread and beer, frank pledge, free warren, etc., and a gallows. At his death his widow enjoyed the succession, and after her it passed to the Crown. In the sixth Ed. II. it was granted to Bromholm Priory.

Emma de Glanvile married John de Grey, and their daughter Emma becoming heiress to her mother's portion, and having married William de Huntingfield, it came to be known as HUNTINGFIELD MANOR. In 1214 Huntingfield was Sheriff of Norfolk and Suffolk, and one of the Commissioners for Customs in these counties. In 1271 Sir Roger de Huntingfield, who was then lord of this manor, had licence from the Priory of Bromholme to erect a chapel in his manor house, on condition that the chaplain should pay all oblations to the vicar, take no confession of any of the parishioners; and that there should be but one bell in the chapel for the sacrament, on pain of forfeiture. In 1297 Joan de Huntingfield died seized of the manor. It is stated by Blomfield that Roger, next in succession, died in 31st Ed. I. (1303), but there is a charter of his in the British Museum (Harl. Ch. 52, A 36), which shows that he was living ten years later, and which may be given here as a sample of grants at that early period:—

I Roger de Huntingfield grant and present by this my charter of confirmation to Sir John, rector of the church of Petestre, my manor of Harlton in Cambridgeshire, with the advowson of the church there, and my manor of Baketon, as well in lands, domains, rents, homage, villains, with their goods and chattels, service, as well of free men as of villains, with liberty of folding, wards, revenues, escheats, woods, mills, water-ways, paths, walls, hedges and ditches, meadows, pastures and pasturages, and with all other liberties and commodities belonging in any way to the aforesaid manor. To have and to hold the manor and the advowson of the church to Sir John and his heirs and assigns for ever of the lord of the manor as a fee due for their services. And I, the aforesaid Roger de Huntingfield, warrant, acquit, and defend the said lands, domains, etc., against all people. In testimony whereof I put my seal. Witnesses—Thomas de Ratimer, Reginald Le Gros, Peter Bostelyn, knights; Lawrence de Reppes, Thomas de Reppes, William Le Peche, Constantius de . . . , Galfridus de Burdeleyes, Giles de Strumpetone, knights: Warren de Bassingburne, John Le . . . , Robert de Rueshale, and others. Dated at Baketon the day of March next after the Feasts of St. Peter and St. Paul. 6 Ed. II.

William de Huntingfield, son of this Roger, inherited, but died in the following year, leaving as his heir Roger, a minor, who in 1330, with Alianore his wife, held, of Queen Isabella, as of the honour of Eye, half a fee in Bacton. Alianore afterwards, being a widow, married Richard de Keleshull, and so Huntingfield Manor passed from that family. In 1402, William de Swardeby was lord: in 1458 Elizabeth, late wife of William, son of this de Swardeby, released

to Agnes Paston and John Paston, her son, the manor of Huntingfield Hall, and all the lands which were formerly Roger de Huntingfield's. The Paston family continued in possession till the death of Sir William in 1611.

Basilia de Glanvile, the third daughter of Jeffrey, left a daughter and heir, Isabel, who, in the time of Ed. I., married William de Boyvill. In 1316 Thomas de Latimer was found to be in possession of Basilia's portion, which was thenceforth known as the MANOR OF LATIMER'S HALL, and a little more than a century afterwards (1428) William Paston received a conveyance of it conjointly with Peter Savage and Christiana his wife, who was widow of Hugh Attefan.

Elizabeth de Glanvile, fourth daughter of Jeffrey, married Almaric Peche, and so her portion became the MANOR OF PECHE'S HALL, about the succession to which there is apparently nothing now ascertainable.

Juliana de Glanvile, the fifth daughter and co-heir of Jeffrey, also appears to have married a Peche. In the 9th Ed. I. (1281) they granted lands to Clement, son of Edmund Paston, and also to Lawrence, son of Ralph de Reppes. William de Reppes, in 1332, held land in Bacton, about which, it appears from a Parliamentary Petition, he had some difficulties with William Peche, who, with Rose his wife, had a manor in Bacton, of the grant of Juliana, held of the honour of Eye, by the service of 6d. at the end of every thirty-two weeks, and valued at £7 12s. 8d. per annum. Reppes thus sets forth his complaint:—

To our Lord the King, and to his Counsel. William de Reppes sets forth that he was seized of 10 librates of land, with the appurtenances, in Bacton, Edgefield, Paston, and Witton, which he held of fee and of right for six years and more. Then came one William Peche and others, by force of arms, and entered into the same lands and tenements, on Tuesday next after the Feast of All Saints, in the 20th year of the King Edward III. And the aforesaid William de Reppes was disseized of his goods and chattels to the value of £10, and they were taken away. And the said William de Reppes now purchased a writ of novel disseizin against William Peche and the other disseizers, in which writ one John, the son of William Peche, who was named in the writ aforesaid, said that he had nothing in the tenements, if not jointly with William Peche, his father, and Rose, his mother, not named in the writ. The writ was defeated or fell through, by which the said William de Reppes shortly purchased another writ against the aforesaid William, Rose, and John, the other disseizers, the which writ was delayed before the Justices assigned, Sir Robert de Retford and Sir Henry Spignurel. And in the 29th year of our Lord the King there was one John de Dratton killed at Yarmouth, of whose death the said William Peche was indicted, and by his contumacy during the aforesaid Assize of novel disseisin, by which the Sherriff of Norfolk seized the aforesaid lands and tenements in the name of the King, the Justices aforesaid would not let them take the Assize. Now William de Reppes prays the King, for the love of God, and by the souls of his ancestors, that he will command the aforesaid Justices to let them take the aforesaid Assize.¹

By the marriage of Cecily, daughter of Sir Simon and Juliana Peche, the manor above referred to passed to Walter, younger son of Edmund de Paston.

It appears that in the time of Hen. VIII. the Duke of Suffolk had some portion of the manor, for on the 30th September, in the 39th year of that King's reign, for a consideration, the Duke sold to the Crown the manors of Saxlingham, Claxton, Hillington, Causton, Kerdeston, Bysham, Costessey, East Ruston, Hellesdon, Drayton, Felthorpe, Stockton, Sedgeford, and a fifth part of the manor of Bacton, as also the hundreds of Freebridge and Shropham.

In the time of James I. John Smith was lord, and he was succeeded in the reign of Chas. II., by Thomas Berney, who had married Dorothy Smith. Smith's daughter Jane married (1st) Sir William Denny, and (2nd) Sir William Corey. To Thomas Berney succeeded William Branthwaite, and in this family it remained for some time.

During the lordship of William Branthwaite the Crown set up a claim to wreckage cast up by the sea between high and low water marks, and one John Wiggon, pleading authority from the Admiralty, with horses and carts carried away a quantity of goods found on one occasion to have drifted ashore. He threatened the inhabitants that if any of them, for themselves or the lord of the manor, took any wreckage, he would sue them in the Admiralty Court, or impress them for the royal navy. At this time the lordship is described as extending southwardly to a place called the Hundred Mere, and northwardly to Mundesley Beck.

¹ Parliamentary Petitions, No. 6,883.

Bacton has at various times been much encroached upon by inroads of the sea; almost every year some further portions of the foreshore are lost; the years 1836, 1845, and 1862 were remarkable for the sea's encroachments. An interesting survey, made in the 37th Hen. VIII., shows how much it had then lost.

The survey or views made by me John Eyer, the King's receiver of the revenues of the Court of the Augmentations in Norff. and Suff., 12th of January, 37th Hen. VIII., of the decay of certain lands lying near the sea, now the said lordships of Bromholme and Bacton, and late parcel of the same, and now wasted and clearly washed into the sea by the outrageous and continual flow and reflow of the same since the last view of the same lands made, which former view was made by the information of the tenants in the 26th year of Henry VIII.

First, in a furlong called Grenenowe Millehill, beginning in the north part and so proceeding towards the south, one piece of ground, lately containing, since the last view, 16 acres of land, and now decayed of the same, by estimation, 11 acres.

Demesnes:—

In the next furlong more southward lies a piece of ground abutting upon the Brighithe way (Bridge Highway?), lately containing 20 acres, and now decayed, 6 acres.

More southward, one piece of ground abutting upon the Brighithe way (Bridge Highway?), containing 20 acres, and now wasted, 7 acres.

The lands of divers tenants holden by copy:—In the next furlong certain and divers parcells of ground between the beacon and Brighithe way, containing 12 acres 3 roods, and now decayed, 4 acres and 3 roods.

Ditto:—More south, by the old beacon, divers parcels of ground, containing 3 acres, 3 roods, now wasted, 2½ acres.

Demesnes:—Near the old Caswick, parcells of 21 acres, one piece of 18 acres and the other 3 acres, and now wasted, 6 acres, 3 roods.

Divers tenants or tenements lands held by copy:—

In the next furlong more south lie divers parcels between Caswick and Bromholme Hithe, containing 4 acres and ½, wasted, 1 a. and ½.

Ditto:—More south at Bromholme Hithe, containing 3 acres and ½, wasted 1 acre and ½.

Demesne:—In the next furlong more south, where the bothe (?) used to stand, 1 acre of land now wholly wasted.

Tenants or tenements lands holden by copy:—

More south again, near the bothe (?), 2 acres, now wasted, 1 acre, 3 roods.

Ditto:—Southwards, at Mukle Mere, 11½ acres, now wasted, by estimation, 4 acres, 3 roods.

Tenants lands holden by copy:—

Near Mukle Mere 4 acres, wasted 3 roods.

Ditto:—At Walker's Stake, 2 acres. along the sea-side, and now wholly wasted, 2 acres.

Sum total of all the acres wasted by the sea, 63½ acres.

Sum total of the number of acres wasted, and clearly washed into the sea, 63½ acres.

Which, valued by the tenants at 12d. the acre, amounts to 63s. 6d.

Surveyed by me, JOHN EYER, Receiver.

Bacton Wood Mill is one of the oldest places in the parish of which we have existing records. In 1432 Robert York, prior of the church of St. Andrew, Bromholm, leased to Sir Simon Felbrigg, William Paston of Paston, Nicholas Appilyard, arm., and Thomas Stadhagh of Hempstead, Bacton Wood, beside a water-mill called Wodemylle and a watercourse for the use of the said mill; and there is a charter¹ in the British Museum by which this mill was granted in the year 1463, as follows:—

Elizabeth, late wife of John Vere, Earl of Oxford, lady of the manor of Knapton, in County Norff., lets to Agnes Paston, widow of William Paston, and others, a certain water-mill, called Wodemylle, with its appurtenances, in Bakton, with a certain water-course running to the said mill from a certain marsh, called Knapton Fen, in Knapton, belonging to the manor of Knapton, and another water-course running from a mill belonging to the Abbey of S. Benet of Hulme, in right of the church of S. Benedict, in North Walsham to the mill called Wodemylle, without obstruction or impediment to the farmers or other occupiers of the manor aforesaid, according to the charter of John Howard, mil., late lord of the manor aforesaid, dated Oct. 6, 14th Hen. VI., to the same Sir Simon Fellbrigg, Oliver Cross, arm., Nicolas Appilyard, arm., and others. And if anybody shall hinder or impede the water-course to the detriment of the said mill, it shall be lawful for the said Agnes, by her agents or servants, to remove the obstruction.

Dated at Stratford of the Bowe, 15th of August, 3 Ed. IV.

Last year (1884), by order of the Local Government Board, Bacton Wood Mill and about 500 acres of land surrounding, which, though belonging to the parish of Bacton, lay quite in the heart of Edington, was incorporated with the latter parish, to which geographically it belongs.

¹ Ad. Ch. 14,514.

BACTON CHURCH, which stands on elevated ground at some short distance from the village, is dedicated to St. Andrew. It has a square tower of fifteenth-century construction, with five bells. In 1602, the chancel was reported to be "very ruinously decayed in every p^{ar} thereof, and so hath been by the space of fyve or six yeares last past and more. Sir William Paston, knight, hath hadd the impropriac'on and tythes for some fyve or six yeares." Sir Henry Woodhouse was, however, possessor of them at the date mentioned. At that time the Vicar returned 197 communicants. About twenty years since the fabric was thoroughly repaired.

BACTON CHURCH GOODS AT THE REFORMATION.

This Inventorye indentyd, mad the last day of August, in ye vith yer of King Edward VI, witnesseth that ther remainyth the following goodes of the above church, with John Braddfyld, Thomas Alen, and Richard Dracke, Churchwardens:—

	£	s.	d.
In p̄imis, one payer of chalys of silū p̄cell gylt, weying xij ounces, at iii ^s viij ^d the ounce	xliiij
I ^{tem} , one vestemente of whit sylke and ij decons and cope of the same	xl
I ^{tem} , one vestemente of blue sylke and ij dekons and cope of the same	xx
I ^{tem} , j vestemente of blue worsted and j vestemente of grene	iiij
I ^{tem} , iiij cossyns of sylke and j crosse cloth of sylke	ij
I ^{tem} , iiij banners and a pendalle	iiij iiij
I ^{tem} , viij albes	xiiij iiij
I ^{tem} , one crosse of copper & vi candellstycks, a payer of sensures, and a hallywat ^r stope, and j crysmatory, and j pyxe, alle of laten, weing lxxvj li	xj
I ^{tem} , ij hand bells, and j lyttell bell veyng viij li	ij viij.
I ^{tem} , iiij o ^r bellys weying by estymacon, the grettest belle veyng v ^c , the iiij belle veyng iiij ^{er} c, the second belle veyng iiij ^c and a halfe, the lyttell bell ij ^c and a halfe, at xv s. ye c.	xj v
I ^{tem} , iiij clappers of yron, valued	iiij iiij

Whereof to be occupied and vsed in the admynstracon of the Devyne Sūyce ther, the seid chalys weying xij ounces, and ij table cloths and j napkyn, and one belle weying ij c. and a halfe. In wyttensse whereof the said Comysions and others y^e seid p̄sons to theis Indentures alternatye have sett to ther hands, the daye and yer above wrytten.

In the Church was the Guild of the Holy Cross.

The vicarage, valued in K.B. at £5 3s. 1½d., was augmented by Miles Branthwaite, in 1747, by a gift of land of the value of £200, and £200 was granted by Queen Anne's Bounty Fund in 1792. There are thirty acres of glebe, and the tithes were commuted, in 1844, for the yearly rent-charges of £229 12s. 6d. to the vicar, and £284 10s. to the impropriators. The church was restored in 1857, at a cost of nearly £700, towards which £400 was voluntarily subscribed.

The National Schools afford accommodation for 260 children.

In 1831 it was reported to Parliament that the parish register of baptisms and burials from 1784 had been "misaid."

VICARS OF BACTON.

1325—John, son of Ric. de Wode Dallyng, p. by Prior, and Convent of Bromholm. 1331—Wm. de Barkere. 1349—John Beune de Bakton. 1376—John Tryce. Ad. Charter, 14,512, is a lease to him, dated at Bacton, Thursday next after the feast of St. Faith Virg., 6th Ric. II., of a messuage, with a pigeon-house built above, lying next the lands of Bromholm Priory on the east, and the Vicarage of Bacton on the west, and abutting on the churchyard on the north, and the King's highway on the south.

1400—Simon Moysin. 1401—John Sutton de Blickling. 1420—Adam Aron. 1436—Will Snallyng. 1446—Jas. Smith. 1472—Jno. Seyve. 1498—Robt. Norwich, a monk, p. by Bishop, lapse.

1501—Wm. Benet, p. by Prior of Bromholm. 1535—Cuthbert Smith, p. by John Boyce, assignee of the Pricr. 1539—Robt. Linley, p. by Thos. Earl of Wiltshire and Ormond. 1554—Stephen

Tricket, p. by Bishop, lapse. 1569—Wm. Foster, p. by Sir Thos. Woodhouse. 1597—Thos. Randall, p. by Sir Henry Woodhouse.

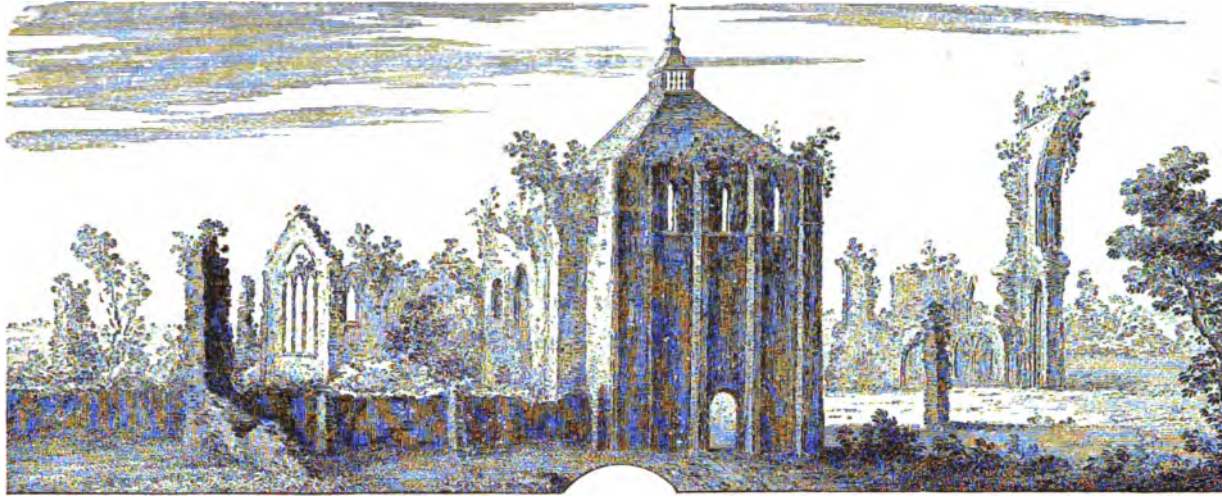
1614—Wm. Cook, p. by John Smith. 1633—John Marleton, p. by Jno. Beacon. 1667—Nicholas Pollard, p. by Thos. Berney. 1675—Jno. Hobbye, p. by Wm. Branthwaite. 1681—Henry Francis.

1711—Chas. Buck, p. by Juliana Branthwaite, widow. 1722—Chas. Pleys, p. by Eliz. Cocksedge. 1746—Metyer Reynolds, p. by Miles Branthwaite. 1797—John Ewen, p. by Thos. Glover Ewen, as executor of Jno. Norris.

1806—Phil. Duval Aufrere, p. by Hon. J. Wodehouse and his wife. 1810—Geo. Jno. Aufrere. 1823—Geo. Lillie Wodehouse Fauquier, author of "Scripture Readings and Addresses, to be used with the Order for the Visitation of the Sick." 1854—C. Wodehouse. 1857—J. C. Wright. 1873—T. W. Moeran.

The Hamlet of KESWICK, half a mile south-east of Bacton Green, had a church in the year 1382, but there has been no vestige of it for many generations. The Baptists have a chapel here, erected in 1826.

BROMHOLME PRIORY.



" I do remember me so well,
 In my young days, my father saying,
 That, in this place where we are straying,
 In constant fast and earnest praying,
 Some good old monks there used to dwell
 Within their solitary cell.
 There, where the hillock rises high,
 Close to the limpid streamlet flowing,
 The pilgrim found a sanctuary,
 Refreshment and repose bestowing."

AMONG the many Religious Houses of Norfolk there were a goodly number of more than local celebrity, the history of which affords scope for much more extensive treatment than I can hope to give the subject in the limited space of this work, and the student who would investigate the various stores of literature relating to monasteries in general, would, no doubt, find here and there references to our East Anglian foundations that would repay the research. Dugdale, Tanner, Taylor, and others have preserved much documentary evidence relating to them, but there is much that they have neglected, or did not know of, and every now and then some dusty old roll turns up which throws fresh light upon the circumstances of the time, and adds to the interest we all feel in memorials of these relics of mediæval days.

The history of Bromholme¹ itself, which in this place demands relation, will be found to have peculiar features of its own, and the above illustration, which exhibits its remains as they appeared to the artist early in the eighteenth century, after nearly two hundred years of neglect and desolation, and when

 "decay's effacing fingers
 Had swept the lines where beauty lingers,"

enables us to realise not only its great extent, but its architectural attractions and its graceful outlines. Unfortunately there are no pictures of the time which show us these ancient fabrics in the hey-day of their existence; and it is only from such sketches as the above we can form an idea of their grandeur. What romantic fancies arise to the mind in association with their departed glories! "Who is so ignorant, or so unfortunate," wrote Montalembert, "as not to have devoured these tales of the heroic age of monasticism? Everything is to be found

¹ Speed and Weever both mention two monasteries at Bromholme, one of Cluniacs, dedicated to St. Sepulchre; the other of Benedictines, dedicated to St. Andrew—a mistake which arose from their confounding it with Bromehill in Weeting.

there—variety, pathos, *naifs* as children, strong as giants.” The same eloquent writer tells us that of all the countries of Europe it was England that was most deeply furrowed by the monastic plough; and though we may not be able to ascertain to what extent Norfolk men joined the various orders of monks and friars, there is ample evidence that they contributed largely to the endowment and support of monastic institutions. Sampson, the famous Abbot of Bury St. Edmund’s, was a Norfolk man, and used to preach in the Norfolk dialect.¹ St. Godric, the celebrated hermit of Finchall, near Durham, who died in 1170, was born at Walpole. In the British Museum (Biblia Regia MSS. E. v., and Harl. MS. 322) are manuscript poems of St. Godric, some of which contain the musical notes in accompaniment.

In its infancy, when the twelfth century had but just dawned upon the world, the foundations of Bromholme were planted within sound of the murmuring waves and the sea-gull’s mew, by the generosity of William de Glanville and the devotion of half-a-dozen Cluniac monks, who here chanted their daily litany, and where arose their daily pœans—

“The sea is His, and He made it,
And His hands prepared the dry land.”

For four centuries and more that anthem of joy continuously floated in the air of this somewhat bleak and desolate coast. The repetition of psalms was accompanied with manual labour, and no doubt now and again they found themselves called to succour the shipwrecked and the destitute, thrown upon the neighbouring shores by the strong gales of the German Ocean.

It is agreed that the style of the completed Priory was Late Norman, with perhaps some portions in Early English, and an attempt was made in April, 1822, by Mr. T. W. Spurdens, to make an ichnography from the evidences then remaining, and his account is very interesting:—

The ichnography of Bromholm Priory, he writes, is from a very exact admeasurement made in April, 1822; and exhibits all the ancient walls and foundations which could be at that time satisfactorily made out. The tower, as it seems erroneously to be called, was clearly the north transept—the side next the church (or the south side) being a modern wall, built of the materials of the church, probably at the time of the Dissolution. This part of the work, *i.e.*, the north transept, I judge to be the most ancient; for, except one semicircular-headed doorway, that seems to have been anciently stopped, there is nothing to be found indicative of the same period. The chapter-house is, at least, a century later.

I look upon the north transept, then, as the only part of De Glanville’s erection, and as constituting a part of the original “small monastery,” as it is designated by M. Paris. When the miraculous cross, or rood, was obtained, and wealth, in consequence, flowed into the treasury (about a century after the foundation, or 1223), the original small building was probably in great part destroyed in order to make way for one more commensurate with its newly-acquired consequence. To this supposition the style of the chapter-house, etc., gives probability. Hen. III., in 1228, granted certain lands and rents, and conferred certain privileges; and this, I am persuaded, was about the era of the alterations. Five years after, when we may suppose they were completed, he paid a visit to the monastery, and kept his Court here, on the 16th of February, attended by his great officers of state; and about the same time it was freed from subjection to Castle Acre by Pope Celestin V. In 1486, there were a prior and ten monks, besides other non-professed servants, etc., and this may be regarded as the usual establishment.

It was surrendered in 1545, and granted, June 5th, to Sir Thomas Woodhouse, of Waxham, at which time the Abbey Church is described as 100 gressus long, and 25 gressus broad; but this is very inconsistent with the actual admeasurement.

The register of this house was in Bishop Moore’s library, and is now, I conclude, in the Public Library at Cambridge.

When I took the survey, considerable portions of the foundations at the east end of the church were being dug up, by order of Col. Wodehouse, for the rebuilding of Witton steeple; and I was informed that these ruins have been for years the public quarry of the village and neighbourhood. It seems, then, I was but just in time for my ichnography.

The monastery was, perhaps, not destroyed at the time of the Dissolution, as it seems to have been inhabited, and to have afforded accommodation to Dethick, Garter King-at-arms, on his return from investing the King of Denmark with the order, September 27th, 1582.

When any part of the old buildings ceased to be habitable is not known. The present farm-house, near the site, is a modern brick building. Mr. Cubitt the farmer, assisted me in pointing out the direction of the walls, as he remembered them many years ago, and I verified his accounts by the spade.

¹ Reyn. App. 143.

He mentioned a circumstance that may puzzle future antiquaries, should they be led to dig on the site of the church; for he pointed out a spot, about the centre of the choir, where his father, forty years before, buried 10 oxen, which died of a distemper then prevailing among horned cattle. In digging their grave, it seems, they were obliged to shift the spot twice before they could sink it deep enough, on account of what he described as vaults of stone joined with lead.

How Bromholme grew by fostering one of those superstitions, so prevalent in ancient times, we may learn from Matthew Paris:—

“Divine miracles became of frequent occurrence at Bromholme, to the glory and honour of the life-giving Cross, on which the Saviour of the world suffered for the redemption of the human race; and since Britain, a place in the middle of the ocean, was thought worthy by the Divine bounty to be blessed with such a treasure, it is proper, nay, most proper, to impress on the mind of descendants by what series of events that Cross was brought from distant regions into Britain.

“Baldwin, Count of Flanders, was from a Count made Emperor of Constantinople, at which place he reigned with vigour for many years. It happened at one time that he was dreadfully harassed by the infidel kings, against whom he marched without deliberation, and on this occasion neglected to take with him the Cross of our Lord, and other relics which always used to be carried before him by the patriarch and bishops whenever he was about to engage in battle against the enemies of the Cross, and the carelessness he found out on that day by dreadful experience, for when he rashly rushed on the enemy with his small army, paying no regard to the multitude of his enemies, who exceeded his own army tenfold, in a very short time he and all his men were surrounded by the enemies of Christ, and were all slain or made prisoners, and the few who escaped out of the whole number knew nothing of what had happened to the Emperor, or whither he had gone.

“There was at that time a certain chaplain of English extraction, who, with his clerks, performed divine service in the Emperor’s chapel, and he was one of those who had the charge of the Emperor’s relics, rings, and other effects. He, therefore, when he heard of the death (for all told him that he was killed) of his lord the Emperor, left the City of Constantinople privately, with the aforesaid relics, rings, and many other things, and came to England. On his arrival there, he went to St. Albans, and sold to a certain monk there a Cross set with silver and gold, besides two figures of St. Margaret, and some gold rings and jewels, all which things are now held in great veneration at the monastery of St. Albans. The said chaplain then drew from his mantle a wooden cross, and showed it to some of the monks, and declared on his oath that it was undoubtedly a piece of the Cross on which the Saviour of the world was suspended for the redemption of the human race; but as his assertions were disbelieved at that place, he departed, taking with him this priceless treasure, although it was not known. This said chaplain had two young children, about whose support, and for the preservation of whom he was most anxious, for which purpose he offered the aforesaid Cross to several monasteries, on condition that he and his children should be received among the brethren of the monastery; and having endured repulse from the rich in many places, he at length came to a chapel in the County of Norfolk, called Bromholme, very poor, and altogether destitute of buildings. There he sent for the Prior and some of the brethren, and showed them the above-mentioned Cross, which was constructed of two pieces of wood, placed across one another, and almost as wide as the hand of a man; he then humbly implored them to receive him into their order, with the Cross and the other relics which he had with him, as well as his two children. The Prior and his brethren there were overjoyed to possess such a treasure, and by the intervention of the Lord, who always protects honourable poverty, put faith in the words of the monk; then they with due reverence, received the Cross of our Lord, and carried it into their oratory, and with all devotion preserved it in the most honourable place there.

“In the year (1223) then, as has been before stated, divine miracles began to be wrought in that monastery, to the praise and glory of the life-giving Cross; for there the dead were restored to life, the blind received their sight, and the lame their power of walking, the skin of the lepers was made clean, and those possessed of devils were released from them; and any sick person who approached the aforesaid Cross with faith, went away safe and sound. This said Cross is frequently worshipped, not only by the English people, but also by those from distant countries, and those who have heard of the divine miracles connected with it.”

If we could believe Capegrave, no less than nineteen blind persons were restored to sight, and thirty-nine raised from the dead by the devotions paid to the Cross. And if Foxe, when he wrote his “Acts and Monuments,” was well informed, it was destroyed by Sir Hugh Pie, chaplain of Ludney (?), who was accused and brought before the Bishop of Norwich, on the 5th July, 1424, for having discouraged pilgrimages,¹ and preaching that “images of the Cross and other images are not to be worshipped:” and further, “that the said Hugh has cast the Cross of Bromhold into the fire to be burned, which he took from one John Welgate, of Ludney.”² Pie denied the accusation, and he seems to have been acquitted. Dr. Sparrow

¹ Taylor, in his “Index Monasticus,” mentions no less than thirty places in Norfolk to which pilgrimages were made.

² “Acts and Monuments” (ed. 1870), iii. 586.

Simpson, in a paper contributed to the "Journal of the Archæological Association,"¹ observes that "whether Sir Hugh Pie did himself destroy the Cross or not, we may fairly assume that it was at the time destroyed, or Foxe would most probably have told us that in reply to so grave a charge the Cross itself was actually produced in court."

We are not, however, left without some memorial of this miraculous Cross, which, if not so famous as the image of the Virgin at Walsingham, was so well known that Chaucer makes the Miller's Wife in the "Shrew's Tale" look to it for succour—

"Help, holy cross of Bromholme," sche sayde,
"In manus tuas, Lord, to The I calle."

In the Lambeth Library is a manuscript Book of Hours, of the 13th or 14th century (No. 544), on one page of which is a contemporary drawing, executed, apparently, by some member of the Lewknor family. The original is in colours, and the illustration here appended is an exact reproduction of the drawing.² Above the heart is written, "*Jesus Nazarenus Rex Judæorum*," and on either side of the heart one of the lines forming the following couplet:—

*This Cross yat here pegnted is
Signe of ye Cros of Bromholm is.*

Round the Cross, and within the outline of the heart, is written in very minute caligraphy the following hymn, for the English rendering of which I am indebted to a friend whose initials will be recognised by many of my readers:—

ORACIO DEVOTA DE CRUCE.

O Crux salve preciosa,
O Crux salve gloriosa,
Me per verba curiosa
Te laudare, Crux formosa,
Fac presenti carmine.

Sicut tu de carne Christi
Sancta sacrata fuisti,
Ejus Corpus suscepisti,
Et sudore maduisti,
Lota sacro sanguine.

Corpus, sensus, mentem meam,
Necnon vitam salves ream;
Ut commissa mea fleam,
Ne signare per te queam
Contra fraudes hostium.

Me defendas de peccato,
Et de facto desperato,
Hostis truso machinato.
Reconsignas Dei nato
Tuum presiduum.



Hail to thee, Cross of precious name!
Hail to thee, Cross of glorious fame!
Choice be my words, nor trite nor tame,
While I thy praise, dear Cross, proclaim,
Now in my hymn to thee.

Thou, the Christ's flesh with holy daring
Once as thy hallowing burden bearing,
Sacred for ever art: none sharing
The blood that flowed on thee unsparing,
And sweat-drops raining clammily.

Body and soul and mind—I crave thee—
Yea, and the guilty life, cleanse!—Save me!
So contrite tears for sin may lave me
Nor the great enemy's guile may brave me.
Lo! with thy mark I'm sealed!

From every evil leaning,
From riotous sin o'erweening,
From Satan's power, thy screening,
Thy seal, I claim; Its meaning,
"The Cross thy shield!"

A. J.

The words of the hymn are also written on the page facing the drawing. Beneath the heart, though in a different hand, is written:—

*This ys the holy Croz that yt so sped
Be me in my need.*

The Paston family were great patrons of the monastery. In 1466, Sir John Paston, who

¹ Jour. Arch. Assoc., xxx. 53.

² I am indebted to the courtesy of the British Archæological Association for the use of the illustration of the Cross.

died in London, was brought to Bromholme for interment,¹ and there exists an admirable sketch of what then occurred contained in a Roll of Expenses:—

“For three continuous days one man was engaged in no other occupation than that of flaying beasts, and provision was made of 13 barrels of beer, 27 barrels of ale, one barrel of beer of the greatest assyze, and a runlet of red wine of 15 gallons.” All these, however, copious as they seem, proved inadequate to the demand; for the account goes on to state that 5 “combs of malt at one time and 10 at another were brewed up expressly for the occasion. Meat, too, was in proportion to the liquor; the country round about must have been swept of geese, chickens, capons, and such small gear, all which, with the 1,300 eggs, 20 gallons of milk and 8 of cream, and the 41 pigs and 49 calves, and 10 ‘nete’ slain and devoured, give a fearful picture of the scene of festivity the Abbey walls at that time beheld. Amongst such provisions, the article of bread bears nearly the same proportion as in Falstaff’s bill of fare. The one halfpenny worth of the staff of life to the inordinate quantity of sack was acted over again in Bromholme Priory; but then, on the other hand, in matter of consumption, the torches, the many pounds weight of wax to burn over the grave, and the separate candle of enormous stature and girth, form prodigious items.” No less than £20 was changed from gold into smaller coin that it might be showered amongst the attendant throng, and 26 marks in copper had been used for the same object in London before the procession began to move. A barber was occupied five days in smartening up the monks for the ceremony; and “the reke of the torches at the dirge” was so great that the glazier had to remove two panes to permit the fumes to escape. The prior had a cope called a “frogge of worstede” presented to him on the occasion, and the tomb was covered with cloth of gold.

THE ENDOWMENTS OF BROMHOLME.

Bartholomew de Glanvill’s charter, confirming his father’s donations, enumerates in the endowment of this monastery the land of Stanard, the priest, and the church of Casewic, Bromholm; the church of Dilham; the tithe of Stainges, Horham, Alreton, Langho, and Brug, also of Sneseling, with the whole tithe of his mills in Baketon and Willfort, two parts of the tithe of the mill of Honing, and one mill at Manesle in demesne; with the land of Herfrid, the priest, and part of his wood in the mill-way to Takesgate; two parts of the tithe of various homagers or tenants, whose names are enumerated; the tithe of the pannage of Baketon and Hotham; and two parts of the turbage, or turbary, of Swathesfield. He, moreover, by way of augmentation, bequeathed to the Priory, after his death, Gristcombe and all that he possessed in the fields there, with his villans, to be free and quit from all customs except Danegeld. He also gave the monks here the church of Paston, with its appurtenances, with all his wood and land there; his land at Gemeles, at Briges, at Aldehithe, and Lawceland, and of Editha de Briges; thirty acres by the sea; a meadow at Brereholm; a marsh by Bromholm; ten other acres by the sea; and the tithe of Richard the priest of Bachetuna. All in honour of God, the Virgin Mary, and St. Andrew, for the health of his own soul, his father’s, and the souls of all his friends, living and dead.

Stephen, Earl of Moreton and Boulogne, afterwards King of England, becoming possessed, by grant from King Hen. I., of the lands of Robert Malet in Norfolk, and amongst them of the manor of Bromholm, as superior lord, confirmed the donations which William de Glanvill had made to his monks.

From the register of this Priory it appears that Hen. I. gave to Vincent, the Prior, the manor of Burgh, which Ralph, son of Roger de Burgh, held of him in Lothingland, by serjeantry; which serjeantry Ralph granted to William de Wesenham, and he afterwards regranted it to the King, and the King confirmed the manor free to the convent, reserving the advowson to the Crown and the dower of Alice, widow of Roger de Burgh, for her life. In consideration of this grant, the convent released to the King a rent-charge of five marks per annum, which the King had granted from the Exchequer in the 29th year of his reign.

Sarah, widow of Joceline de Burgh, gave 8s. 8d., rent in Yarmouth. John de Annok and Milisentia his wife

¹ Mr. Thomas Harrison, of Postwick, who wrote in 1735, tells a story which, he says, came to him from “a gentleman of good sense and reputation, living in those parts,” that after the burial of John Paston, it was found that he had given by his will “some of y^e inheritance originally entailed upon y^e heir of the family,” and thereupon “it was resolved to resume it from y^e abby, and let y^e Abbot know it.” He proceeds: “This surprise caused great consternation in y^e whole society, and put all upon earnest application to y^e Gentleman to come of from his sacrilegious intention, as they call^d it. It seems they often repeated their address with great zeal, but all to no effect. Whereupon y^e Abbot caused all y^e Monks to go with him in their proper Religious Habits, and so prostrating themselves to y^e ground upon their knees upon y^e floor, earnestly with tears and one loud voice besought him to change his purpose, offering strong arguments, and particularly not to expose himself and family to y^e anger of y^e Blessed Virgin and y^e Saints, and y^e curse of God: But the Gentleman continued obstinate and immoveable. Hereupon all rising up, the Abbot said to y^e Gentleman—Sir, since you are thus inexorable and cruel to us, and our Brethren, and house, you shall certainly from henceforth always have one of your Family a Fool, till it is become Poor. This said, they all turn’d out. This story, whether first only an invention to magnify or gain reputation for that sort of religious holy people, is rather to be guessed at than now certainly known. However, it has gained a long Tradition, which hath caused the more observation by events, for it hath been reported as known truth, that for many generations successively there hath been a Male of that Family that always went in long coats, whatever Females there might be unobserved of that sort besides. And even in y^e last generation, the last Earl (Yarmouth) had a younger Brother so weak of understanding as to be made sport of by y^e ladies in conversation for that defect. And from time ’tis remark^d and very well remembered, especially by many Tradesmen and others, who yet want the Moneys justly due to them or their executors. How much of y^e last part of y^e Abbot’s curse is come to pass, is well known at this day.”—*Postwick and Relatives*, pp. 13-14.

gave their land, with certain buildings in Yarmouth, etc. Agnes de Rollesby gave an annual rent there of 18s. 8d. Elsten Kemp gave 4d. in Lodoweystoft, or Lowestoft. Walter de Blundeston gave Lambcote, and a marsh there. Richard, son of Ralph de Paston, gave 12d. rent in Paston. Gilbert, son of Nicholas de Repps, gave 12d. rent in Repps. These grants were confirmed by Hen. III. in the 18th year of his reign, he and his mother being then at Bromholm. The same King, in his thirteenth year, granted the monks a fair at Bromholm, on the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, and two days afterwards, and a weekly market on Mondays.

After this it fell as an escheat to the Crown, and Richard, Earl of Cornwall, son of King John, and brother to Hen. III., held it (*in capite*), and was patron of the Priory. On his death it came again to the Crown, Margaret his wife having some dower in the said capital lordship.

Ed. II., in his sixth year, in honour of God, and out of his special devotion to the holy cross of this Priory, and for 100 marks paid to him, confirmed to the Priory the manor of Bacton, with wreck at sea, and all other privileges, on the payment of £20 per annum into the Exchequer as a fee-farm rent for ever.

William de Crostweyt, son of Godfrey de Skeyton, gave two parts of his tithe. Gilbert, son of Thomas, Knight of Ilketishall, gave his tithes in Hedenham, in 1252; these consisted of two garbs from the demesnes of Gilbert, two garbs of the demesne of Roger de Mohant in Cressingland, and two from the demesne of Roger de Colville, de Ca . . . ton.

On March 1st (14th Hen. VI.), an agreement was made between William De la Pole, Earl of Suffolk, and Robert, then Prior, that whereas the Prior and Convent held the fifth part of the manor of Bacton, called the King's part, paying yearly to the Earl and his heirs male £20, and by virtue of that part had a certain leet and view of frankpledge belonging to it, valued at 34s. 4d. per annum, the Prior granted to the Earl the aforesaid leet, 34s. 4d., wreck at sea, etc., belonging to it for his life, and the Earl covenanted to pay the sum of 34s. 4d. to the Prior, out of £20 annual fee-farm payable to him by the Prior.

In the reign of Hen. VII., it was possessed by the widow of John De la Pole, Earl of Lincoln.

William Prior, of Castle Acre, and his convent granted for ever to Bromholm, the church at Witton, with the tithe of the manor land, upon condition of their paying 40s. per annum.

Sir John la Veile, or Velie, of Witton, and Lettice, his wife, released all their rights in the church of Hanninges for 20 marks in the 1st Ed. III., also in the church at Witton, and the mediety of Ridlington.

The Prior and convent of Broomholme held lands in fee-farm off the Prior and Convent of Acre, at the annual rent of 14 marks, 5s. 4d. payable at three terms by the year, viz., at the Feast of St. Michael, 64s., at the Purification, 64s., and at Pentecost, 64s.

15th Ed. I., the Prior had a view of frankpledge, a pillory tumbrel, and wreck at sea, from Milkelham, to the mere that divides the hundreds of Tunstead and Happing.

Pope Celestine, in the first year of his Pontificate, confirmed to this house the churches of Bacton, Casewyk [Keswick], Paston, Witton, and Dilham.

Pope Gregory, in his thirteenth year, confirmed Hanninges church appropriated to them, but a vicarage was reserved.

King Ed. II. granted to the monks here the manor of Blaketon, to hold in fee-farm, at the yearly rent of £20.

Besides the churches before mentioned, license was granted in the 30th of Ed. III. to appropriate the church of Warham, in this county, and a similar license was given in the 8th of Richard II. to appropriate that of Bardwell, in Suffolk.

14th Rich. II., Roger Crispin, of Sprowston, surrendered by fine, Felthorpe, to John Aslake, of Broomholme.

In the register of Broomholme, fol. 43, it appears that there was a controversy between Sir William de Gyney and the Prior, about the advowson of the church at Dilham, and Sir William covenanted to release and levy a fine, the Prior paying him 45 marks of silver, and to deliver a deed under seal, dated at Crostwick, 2nd Ed. I., reserving to himself the right to his chapel there, and the services of the Prior's tenant.

In the 9th Ed. II., Lawrence de Reppe, Prior of Broomholme, had a lordship at Edingthorpe, and in the sixteenth year of the same reign, Lawrence died, possessed of a manor held by the Earl Warren, by the service of 10s. per annum, and valued at 100s. per annum, and left two daughters and co-heiresses, one of whom brought it to John de Wilby, or Willoughby, in the eighteenth year of the said reign. In 1302, the Prior of Broomholme was rector impropriate. In 1318, Francis de Trois, instituted rector, having a right to the tithes of certain lands in this parish, which were detained from him by the Prior, on a suit, recovered his right to them.

In the register of the Priory is an entry of a deed of agreement, about the 14th Ed. I., between Edmund, Earl of Cornwall, and John de Honing, whereby the Earl releases all his right of the lands of the said John, that they shall not be amerced at his court-leet at Baxton for breach of assize.

In the reign of this King, the Prior was obliged to pay to the Abbot of St. Bennet of Holme, £4 10s. per annum for two parts of the demesne of John de Veile, in Honing, and for tithes in Paston.

15th Ed. III., a license in mortmain was granted for the Priory to purchase a fifth part of the manor of Thomas Peche, in Baketon, of Henry de Sidstrand and Robert de Walsham, the manor being held by the King in capite as of his honor of Eye. Robert de Skelton, clerk, and John de Happsburgh, rector of Berdwell, conveyed another part of the same manor to the monks to found a chantry in the Priory church, for a monk to pray for their souls.

20th Ed. III., Robert de Ufford, Earl of Suffolk, was capital lord.

51st Ed III., Reginald de Dunham, heir of John de Veile, gave to the Abbey of Broomholme, eight acres of land in Ridlington and Broomholme, and the advowson of a moiety of the church, which he held with his manors of Fishley and Witton, of the King, by keeping a goshawk for him. In the reign of this King, he was impleaded for stopping the water course at Ridlington Bridge, between Witton and Ridlington, and ordered to let it have its usual course.

The Prior of Broomholme had a lordship in Witton of the Priory of Castle Acre in the reign of Rich. I., when a controversy arose; the Priory of Broomholme used to pay to that of Castle Acre 13 marks (8s. 8d.) per annum for the same, but having improved the said farm and lordship, it was agreed that for the future 14 marks and 5s. 4d. should be paid. To this agreement William de Glanvill, patron of the Priory of Broomholm, set his seal.

Ralph, son of Richard de Witton, gave by deed without date several lands here.

Lawrence Attehill de Witton released to the said Prior all his right with certain free tenants and a piece of common.

Roger Baxter, of Witton, gave lands also to the said Prior, who was retained, 9th Ed. II., as lord; and the temporalities were £9 2s. 9d.

Besides the before-mentioned grants, etc., the Priory had temporalities in the following parishes: Crostwick (near Hainford), Felthorpe, Barton Turf, Dilham, Paston, Sloley, Tunstead, North Walsham, Westwick, Fishley, Brumstead, Happisburgh, etc.

Blomefield mentions, among other benefactors, Hen. I., after 1113, and Sir John Fastolf in 1459. William de Ufford, Earl of Suffolk, by his will, made at Framlingham Castle in 1381, directed that a picture of a horse and man armed in his armour, to be made in silver, be presented to Bromholme, and one also to Walsingham.

Hearne, in his preface to "Adam de Domerham," p. 58, has printed a grant from Richard de Paston to the Priory of Broomholm of certain rents for keeping their books in repair,¹ copied from an old ledger book pertaining to the Priory, which, February 8, 1726, was in the hands of Mr. Paston, of Pauntley, Gloucestershire.

At the time of the Norwich taxation, 1291, it had rents in fifty-six parishes in Norfolk, £74 17s. 7d., Suffolk, sixteen parishes, £54 18s. 4d. The endowment before the Dissolution comprised the impropriation of nine churches in Norfolk, and four in Suffolk, ten manors and possessions, lands and interests in fifty-eight parishes. In the 26th year of Hen. VIII., the gross revenues of this Priory were rated at £144 19s. 0¾d., the net income at £100 5s. 3¼d.

On the 20th February, 7 Hen. VII., license was granted to John the Prior and the Convent of St. Andrew of Bromholme to hold for ever a market every Tuesday in the town of Bromholme, and a fair of three days annually, to commence the day prior to the feast of the Invention of the Holy Cross.

The day of dissolution and desolation came upon the English monasteries not altogether unawares or undeservedly; but when we remember the influence they had possessed over men's minds during many successive ages, the rapidity and the completeness of their dispersion mark the event as one of remarkable vigour in the executive of the epoch. Bromholme probably was no better or no worse than the generality of such institutions, and it was one of the earliest to fall when the decree went forth that England was to be rid of orders that had outlived their usefulness, and when investigation had shown that luxury and indulgence had to a large extent taken the place of early discipline. The theory and the rules remained; the practice and habits were lax and demoralising. Originating in benevolence, designed to aid all Christian virtues,

¹ Most of the manuscripts which composed the monastic libraries were destroyed at the Reformation. Bale, writing about fifteen years after the suppression of the monasteries, says, "I know a marchaunt-man that boughte the contentes of two noble lybraryes for xl shyllinges pryce, a shame it is to be spoken. Thys stuffe hath he occupyed in the stede of graye paper by the space of more than these x yeares, and yet he hath store ynough for as many yeares to come. A prodygouse example is this, and to be abhorred of all men which love their nacyon as they shoulde do." And in another place he says that the choicest manuscripts were often torn to pieces in the houses of the persons who bought the monasteries of the King, or were sold by them to grocers and dealers in soap to wrap up their wares. Others were sent over the sea to be used by bookbinders, "not in small nombre, but at tymes whole shyppes full." Again, he says, "I have been also at Norwyche, oure seconde cytie of name, and there all the library monumentes are turned to the use of their grossers, candel-makers, sope-sellers, and other worldly occupyers; so studyouse have we ben there for a commen wealth, and so caretul of good lernyng."

the system developed a condition of things which the student of history knows to have been a gradual decadence till its abolition became a public duty.

“The old order changeth, giving place to the new,
And God fulfils himself in many ways,
Lest one good custom should corrupt the world.”

“It is impossible,” wrote Dean Milman, “to survey Monachism in its general influence, from the earliest period of its interworking into Christianity, without being astonished and perplexed with its diametrically opposite effects. Here, it is the undoubted parent of the blindest ignorance and the most ferocious bigotry, sometimes of the most debasing licentiousness; there, the guardian of learning, the author of civilisation, the propagator of humble and peaceful religion.” Montalembert, himself a devoted friend of the system, admits that the reproach of indolence attached to them: “having inherited the possessions with which the industry of their predecessors or the generosity of the faithful” endowed them, “they were given up to laxness and enervation. . . . They no longer observed those laws of fervour, of austerity, and of discipline, which were the implicit condition of the liberal gifts with which they had been overwhelmed.”

Bromholme, with more than a score similar foundations in Norfolk alone, were suppressed, and their long-enduring prestige swept away on the same day. Those statutes of Hen. VIII., with the force of a whirlwind, cleared the air of the miasma which the Commissioners found to have been generated by habits of luxury and indulgence. Walsingham and the greater monasteries survived for a brief period; but the day which witnessed the fall of Bromholme, saw also the close of Thetford, Langley, Carrow, Buckenham, Wymondham, St. Benet-at-Holme, Wendling, Hickling, Ingham, Peyton, Waybourne, Cokesford, Shouldham, Warham, Pentney, Blackborough, Wormegay, Crabhouse, Fritcham, and Horsham St. Faith.

The Commissioners appointed by the King to survey and value the lands and goods of these places were: Sir Roger Townshend, Sir William Paston, Sir Anthony Wingfield, Sir Humphrey Wingfield, Sir Thomas Rush, Richard Southwell, and Thomas Mildmay, and they found themselves at Bromholme on the night of Sunday the 5th August, 1537, and the following day afforded ample time for their business. The expenses of the Commissioners were by no means moderate, taking into account the relative value of current coin. On Sunday night, supper cost 5s. 3d. and chambers 10d.; they had dined that day at Cromer. Leaving Bromholme for Yarmouth on Tuesday morning early, their bill amounted to a total sum of £1 os. 5d., composed of the following items, in addition to those just quoted: Monday's breakfast, 3s. 6d.; dinner, 5s. 6d.; supper, 4s. 8d., and 8d. for chambers, all which would be equivalent to about £10 present currency. I am afraid it must be confessed that the Commissioners were not the most competent valuers, for in nearly every instance the goods when sold realised considerably more than the valuation. In the case of Bromholme, they realised upwards of 30 per cent. in excess. Very interesting are the lists of their possessions at the time, though having ample intimation of what was coming, and knowing the character of these men generally, it is not unreasonable to suppose that in most places articles of special interest or value often disappeared before the arrival of the Commissioners. Here, however, is what the Book of Sale of Houses Suppressed, gives as the proceeds of Bromholme—a goodly sum, when we find that the Carrow goods only sold for £46 3s. 3d.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
First, sold to Rob. Southwell the stuff in the choir contained in the inventory, for	0	33	4	The kitchen stuff	0	20	0
The stuff in the vestry	6	8	4	The stuff in the bakehouse and brewhouse for	2	0	0
The stuff in the parlor next the hall	0	26	8	(which remains unpaid still)			
The stuff in the guests' chamber over the larder	0	13	4	Also the cattle	13	18	8
The stuff in the chamber next the guests' chamber	0	6	8	Certain necessaries for the husbandry sold for	0	13	4
				The timber lying in the courtyard to Mr. Freeston for	10	0	0

The corn remaining upon the ground and in the barns, w ^t the tithes of Bacton, Keswick, Redlington, and Witton, priced and valued at	£	s.	d.
Also 30 acres of ground sown with wheat ...	13	6	8
Sum	54	13	8

Also the plate contained in the inventory, delivered in charge to Ric. Southwell, valued at	£	s.	d.
Sum total	72	0	12
An increase of	23	0	12

This certificate of sale is signed by Sir Roger Townshend and the others.

Here we may give the last half-year's accounts of the Priory, and no doubt they afford a fair illustration of many other monastic accounts at that time.

HOUSEHOLD ACCOUNT, Aug. to Feb., 28 Hen. VIII.¹

INCOME.

BROMEOLME.—Monies received by Will^m Lakenham, Prior there, arising out of temporalities and spiritualities as well as other profits belonging to the aforesaid priory, made out the xviith day of August in the 28th year of the reign of King Henry VIII., viz., at the feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary, at that time next following, as parcels and sums particularized in this paper written under, viz. :—

BURGH. ² —Rec ^d from John Palmer, farmer there, at the Feast of St. Michael, Archangel, within the time afores ^d	ix ^{li}	xv ^s
WOODNORTON. —Rec ^d from Thomas Walpole, farmer there, within the time aforesaid	xxi ^s	iiij ^d
BROMEOLME. —Rec ^d for tenements there at two terms, viz., at the Feast of S. Mich ^l , Archangel, liiij ^s vjd ^d ob., and S. Agnes Virg., xliiij ^s iiij ^d , within the time aforesaid	iiij ^{li}	xvii ^s xi ^d ob.
BAXTON. —Rec ^d for tenements there, at the Feast of S. Martin, Bishop, in winter... ..	ix ^{li}	ix ^s iiij ^d ob.
WYTTON. —Rec ^d for tenements there, at the feast aforesaid	cxvii ^s	iiij ^d ob. q ^r
WORSTED. —Rec ^d for tenements there, at the Feast of S. Edm ^d , King, within the time aforesaid... ..	lix ^s	x ^d ob. q ^r
NORTREPPES. —Rec ^d for tenements there, at the Feast of S. Michael, Archangel	xvij ^s	xi ^d ob.
SWAFELD. —Rec ^d from tenements there, at the Feast of S. Luke, Evangelist	xxvii ^s	vjd ^d ob.
CARLETON. —Rec ^d from tenements there, at the Feast of the Nat. of our Lord	lxix ^s	xi ^d
GYMMYNGHAM. Rec ^d of Thomas Skirwyn (?)	xx ^d	
WYNTERTON. —Rec ^d of Will ^m Paston, mil., for rents there	ix ^s	ij ^d
CKKOLTE (? Hockwold).—Rec ^d of John Buxton for rents there	v ^s	
HORREHAM (Horham, Suff.).—Rec ^d of Thos. Folkard, ij ^s , and John Kent, vjd ^d , for rent	ij ^s	vjd ^d
RYSANGLES (? Risinghill).—Rec ^d of John Nime for rents there	iiij ^s	iiij ^d
HEMPSTED. —Rec ^d from Thos. Herby, x ^d , Will ^m Dereham, x ^d , and Thos. Myghell, iiij ^d , for rents there	ij ^s	
MONDYRLEY. —Rec ^d from Will ^m Beter, xx ^d		
REDELYNGTON —Rec ^d from Rob ^t Smyth		
Total	xl ^{li}	xix ^s xj ^d ob.

Profits of the Fair :—

Item, rec^d of the profits of two fairs held near Bromeholm within the time aforesaid, viz., at the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, v^s, and at the Feast of S. Andrew, Apostle, v^s viij^d

Skins of Sheep sold :—

Item, rec^d for the price of xxxi sheeps' skins, killed for the sustenance of the household of the aforesaid Priory, within the time aforesaid, sold to divers persons

Item, rec^d for iiij skins of sheep w^h died in the murrain within the time aforesaid

Tithes and Portions :—

Item, rec ^d of John Jettour, farmer, tithe-sheaves proceeding from the benefice of Carleton at the Feast of the Nativity of our Lord	xl ^s
Item, rec ^d of John Milton, for portions of tithe-sheaves in Wrentham, in the county of Suffolk	xii ^s
Item, rec ^d of John Say, Rector (?) of Walcot, for portions of tithes there at the Feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary	xiiij ^s iv ^d
Item, rec ^d of the Rector of Horreham, at the Feast of S. Michael, Archangel, for portions of tithes in Horreham	v ^s
Item, rec ^d of the Rector of Dalynghy, at the Feast of S. Michael, Archangel, for portions of tithes there	ii ^s
Total	iiij ^{li} xii ^s vjd ^d

Profits received from the Benefice of Casewyk :—

Item, rec ^d in offering from the benefice of Casewyk, at the Feast of S. Michael, Archangel, ij ^s ; and at the Feast of the Nativity of our Lord, ij ^s ; and at the purification of women, vjd ^d ob., at two terms within the time aforesaid	iiij ^s	vjd ^d ob.
Sum total received	xlvi ^{li}	xvii ^s j ^d

EXPENDITURE.

From which has been paid, for divers necessaries bought for our household at the Priory aforesaid, within the time aforesaid, as hereafter follows :—

Week of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross :—

Fyrst paid f ^r a qu ^a ter and a half of hoppes at Norwych	vj ^s	
Item, for thexpence of Martyn Albeon ther the same time	ii ^d	
Item, for beef, vi ^s viiiij ^d ; moton, v ^s iiij ^d ; half a calf, iiij ^s ; lambe, v ^d ; v geese, xx ^d ; v pyggs, xix ^d ; oen capon, v ^d ; vij chekyns, vii ^d ; wylde foule, xii ^d ; eggs, xvij ^d ; wynne, xiiij ^d ; clowes, and mace, vi ^d ; gynger, ii ^d ; and whyte soape, vjd ^d	xxiii ^s	iiij ^d
Item, for oen q ^t er of wheate x ^s ; and ij q ^t ers, iiij bus. malte, xiiij ^s iiij ^d , bought and spent in the house that weeke	xxiiij ^s	iiij ^d
Total	lij ^s	x ^d

Week of St. Matth. Apos^{le} :—

Item, paid for beiff vi ^s viiiij ^d ; moton, v ^s iiij ^d ; oen gose, v ^d ; oen pygge, iiij ^d ; herryngs and whytings, ij ^s vii ^d , spent in the house that weeke	xvi ^s	iiij ^d
Item, paid for oen q ^t er of wheate, x ^s , and ij q ^t er malte, x ^s , viij ^d , spent in the house that weeke	xx ^s	viiij ^d
Item, paid to William Wenche cowp ^r , for rep ^a cion of vessells w ^t ynne the bakhouse and kechen	ij ^s	iiij ^d

¹ Exch. Min. Accts., 27 & 28 Hen. VIII.

² From an indenture exhibited on the 20th May, 33rd Hen. VIII., in the Court of Augmentation, it appeared that William Lakenham, the Prior of Bromholme, on the 20th September, 25th Hen. VIII., leased the manor of Burgh Castle for fifty years, from Michaelmas, 1537, for the sum of £19 10s., to Nicholas Argosmith, of Huntingfield, Suffolk.

Item, paid to Thomas Aleyn, for nayles for the house	v ^d
Total	xxxix ^s viij ^d
Week of S. Mich ^l , Archang ^l :—	
Item, for beiff, vj ^s viiiij ^d ; moton, v ^s ; saltefysshe and lyngfysshe, ij ^s iij ^d ; freshfysshe, vij ^d ; eggs, xij ^d ; herynges, xiiij ^d ; ij geese, x ^d ; ij pyggs, viij ^d ; reed heryngs, iiiij ^d ; whyght heryngs, viij ^d salte, ij ^d ; wynne and oyle, xviiij ^d , spent in the churche ...	xx ^s ix ^d
Item, paid for oen q ^{ter} of wheate, x ^s , and ij q ^{ters} of malte, x ^s viij ^d	xx ^s viij ^d
Item, for the expences of the prior beyng at the Seen at Norwych requyryng certain portions ...	iiij ^d iiiij ^d
Item, paid to Clement Fayreman, smyth, for horseschoyeng and makyng divers iron work, from Mydsom ^r untyll Myghelmas	x ^s ix ^d
Total	lv ^s vj ^d
Week of S. Faith, Virg. :—	
Item, paid for beiff, vij ^s ; moton, vj ^s ; oen goose, v ^d ; iij mallards, vj ^d ; eggs, vj ^d ; heryngs, iiiij ^d ; and whytyngs, iiiij ^d , spent in the house y ^t weeke ...	xv ^s
Item, paid for i q ^{ter} of wheate, x ^s ; and ij q ^{ters} of malte, x ^s viij ^d	xx ^s viiiij ^d
Item, paid to William Mannyng for makyng of M (1,000) fyrres	iiij ^s iiiij ^d
Item, to John Mare of Walcoote for makyng of oote meele mad syns mydsom ^r at diverse times ...	ij
Total	xlj
Week of S. Edward, King :—	
Item, paid for beiff, vj ^s ; oon goose, v ^d ; ij mallards iiiij ^d ; eggs, vj ^d ; heryngs and whytyngs, xviiij ^d , spent in the house that weeke ...	viiij ^s ix ^d
Item, paid for i q ^{ter} wheate, x ^s ; ij q ^{ters} of malte, x ^s viij ^d	xx ^s vii
Item, spent in the house that weeke in sheepe...iij schee	
Total	xxix ^s v ^d
Week of S. Luke, Evan. :—	
Item, for beiff, vij ^s ; eggs, v ^d ; oon goose, v ^d ; ij mallards, iiiij ^d ; heryngs, iiij ^s v ^d ; pepre, xij ^d ; nayles, xij ^d ; whyte soope, viij ^d ; grey threed, i ^d ; i q ^{ter} hoppes for that weeke	xviii ^s v ^d
Item, for oon q ^{ter} of salte fysshe, xiiij ^s viiiij ^d ; and iiiij. bush. of grey salte, ij ^s iiiij ^d , bought at Yarmouth for the house	xvi ^s
Item, paid to Edmond Fayrold, carpenter, for iij dayes worke and a half, and ij dayes worke of his servant	xx ^d
Item, paid for oon q ^{ter} of wheate spent in house	x ^s
Item, spent in the house that weke in malte, ij q ^{tr} , taken owte of the berne, and in sheep, iij ...	
Total	xlvi ^s i ^d
Week of S. — :—	
Item, for beiff, vj ^s ; eggs, v ^d ; heryngs, xviiij ^d ; ij mallards. iiiij ^d ; fressh fysshe, xvj ^d ; salte, iiiij ^d ; and hoppes xiiij ^d , bought for the house that weeke ...	xi ^s
Item, spent in the house in wheate, vi bush; malte, ij q ^{tr} s; and in sheep, iij.	
Total	xi ^s
Week of All Saints :—	
Item, for beiff, vj ^s ; eggs, ij ^d ; iiiij mallards, viiiij ^d ; grey threed, ij ^d ; iiiij dozen pownde of candell, v ^s , spent in the house	xij ^s
Item, in wheate, vj bush.; malte, ij q ^{tr} ; and sheep, iij.	
Total	xij ^s
Week of S. Martin, Bishop :—	
Item, for beiff, vj ^s ; iiiij ^l of hoppes, viiiij ^d ; papyr, ij ^d ; x geese, iiiij ^s ; heryngs, viiiij ^d ; codlyngs and whytyngs, xix ^d ; for makyng of ij stoon of hempe, vii ^d	xiiij ^s viiiij ^d

Item, paid to Nych ^{as} Boleyn, for vj week's work... ij ^s	
Item, paid to Ric. Hylle, threshyng by the space of ij weeks in the bern	ij ^s iij ^d
Item, spent in wheate, vj bush.; malte, ij q ^{tr} s; and in sheep, iij.	
Total	xvij ^s xj ^d
Week of S. Ed., Archb ^p :—	
Item, for bieff, vj ^s ; v pownde hoppes, ix ^d ; ij mallards, iiiij ^d ; eggs, iiiij ^d ; seefysshe, xvj ^d ; fresshefysshe, iiij ^d ; i cungr (conger), viij ^d ; and heryngs, ij ^d ix ^s x ^d	
Item, spent in wheate, vj bush.; malte, ij q ^{tr} ; and in sheepe iij ^d .	
Total	ix ^s x ^d
Week of S. Ed., King :—	
Item, for beeff, vj ^s ; whyt salte, iiiij ^d ; fresshefysshe, vij ^d ; ij pyggs. vj ^d ; ij dosen trenchers, and oon q ^{ter} of hoppes, iiiij ^s ix ^d	xij ^s vj ^d
Item, paid to Nich ^{as} Carneham and Ric. Hylle for thresing and fyeing of xij q ^{tr} of barley and xvij q ^{tr} of ootes ov ^r and beside their bordage... ..	iiiij ^s iij ^d
Item, spent in wheate, i q ^{tr} ; malt, ij q ^{tr} iiiij bush.; and in sheep, iij.	
Total	xvij ^s viiiij ^d
Week of S. Andrew, Apostle :—	
Item, for beiff, iiiij ^s x ^d ; oon codde, vj ^d ; ij pyggs, vj ^d ; pepre, xij ^d ; clowes and mace, v ^d ; corantes, ij ^d ob., bought that weeke	vij ^s v ^d ob.
Item, paid for pylling of iiiij stone of hempe, xvj ^d ; and making in roopes and halters, xix ^d	ij ^s xj ^d
Item, paid for v dosen pownde of cotten candell	vj ^s iij ^d
Item, paid for ij cades of heryngs and oon barrell, bought for the house	xxiiiij ^s
Item, spent in wheete, vj b ^l ; malte, ij q ^{tr} ; and sheep, iij.	
Total	xl ^s vij ^d ob.
Week of S. Nich ^s , Bishop :—	
Item, for beiff, iiij ^s vj ^d ; roches, iiiij ^d ; eggs, ij ^d ob.; and moon spent in the house	vij ^s ob.
Item, paid for the amendyng of sadylls and oon seeve	vij ^d
Item, spent in wheete, vj bush.; and in malte, ij q ^{tr} s	
Total	vij ^s vij ^d ob.
Week of S. Lucia, Virg. :—	
Item, for beiff, iiij ^s ij ^d ; salte fysshe and fresshefysshe for that weeke... ..	v ^s x ^d
Item, spent in wheete, vj bush.; malte, ij q ^{tr} ; and in sheepe, j.	
Total	v ^s x ^d
Week of S. Thomas, Apostle :—	
Item, for beiff, vj ^s vij ^d ; lyng-fysshe, xiiij ^d ; whyte soope, xj ^d ; nayles vij ^d ; canves, xvj ^d ob.; whyt threed, i ^d ; corantes, viij ^d ; clowes and mace, vij ^d ob.; and saunders (qy. sanderling), iiiij ^d , bought that weeke	xij ^s iiiij ^d
Item, for i combe and oon gyrdell for the skolyn	vij ^d
Item, paid to Clement Fayrman, smyth, for yron worke from Myghelmas untyll Crystmas	viiij ^s x ^d
Item, for threshyng of viij q ^{ters} of wheete ov ^r and besyde bordyng	ij ^s iiiij ^d
Item, spent that weeke in wheete, vj bush.; malte, ij q ^{tr} ; and in sheep, j.	
Total	xxiiiij ^s j ^d
Week of the Nativity of Our Lord :—	
Item, for beiff spent in the house that weke	vj ^s vij ^d
Item, paid to Clement Auncell for rep ^{acion} don in the Estclosse	xxiiij ^s
Item, paid to Laurence Ferthyngs for making of malte	ij ^s viij ^d
Item, spent in wheete, i q ^{tr} , i bush; malte, ij q ^{tr} iiiij bush.; and in sheep, iij.	
Total	xj ^s j ^d

Week of the Crucifixion of the Lord:—

Item, for beiff, iij^s; ij geese, x^d; eggs, iij^d; fresshe fysshe, ij^s vij^d; spent in y^e house that weke ... vij^s viij^d
 Item, for moton for the house that week ... viii^s
 Item, paid for cotten candell that week ... ij^s vj^d
 Item, spent in the house in wheete, vij bus., and in malte, ij q^{rs} ...
 Total ... xvij^s ij^d

Week of S. Hilary:—

Item, for beiff, v^s iij^d; moton, vj^s; i gose, v^d; eggs, ij^d; fresshe fysshe, xiiij^d; i pygge, iij^d; and v lynge, iij^s viij^d, spent in the house that weke ... xvij^s
 Item, for oon schyrt and ij payre of schoon for Burwell ... ij^s iij^d
 Item, for whyght salte, iij^d, and viij^{ll} of hoppes for the house ... xx^d
 Item, spent in the house in whete, vj. bus.; in malte, ij q^{rs} ...
 Total ... xxj^s

Week of SS. Fabian and Sebastian:—

Item, for beiff, v^s vj^d; moton, vj^s; j gose, v^d; j pygg, iij^d; roches, iij^d ... xij^s vj^d
 Item, paid to Edmond Fayrold, carpenter, for ij dayes worke for hymself, viij^d, and for ij dayes work of hys servante, iv^d, reparyng the plowes ... xiiij^d
 Item, paid for the expences of Robt Holland and M^tyn Albeon, rydyng into Suff. for gatheryng of rents and porcons ther, beyng by the space of xij dayes, w^{te} iij^s iij^d geven to Robt Hollande for his payn ... xv^s viij^d
 Item, spent in the house that weeke in wheete, vj bush., and in malte, ij q^{rs} ...
 Total ... xxix^s iij^d

Week of the Conversion of S. Paul:—

Item, paid for beiff, viij^d; moton, vj^s; eggs, x^d; j gose, v^d; j pygg, iij^d; roches, iij^d; perches, ij^d; seefysshe, v^d ... ix^s xj^d
 Item, paid for j bush. of grey salte, x^d; viii^{ll} of hoppes, xvj^d; lether for schoon. vij^d; grey thred iij^d, and whypcorde bought this week ... iij^s
 Item paid for oon cade of heryngs, vj^s, and oon barrrell of heryngs, xij^s, bought for the house ... xv ij^s
 Item, paid to Nich^{as} Carneham and Robt Hylle for threshyng and pyeng of xvij q^{rs} of b^l owte of the berne ov^r and beside their bourdage ... xxij^d
 Item, paid for horseschoyeng at Woodbrigge, in Suff. ... vj^d
 Item, spent in the house this weke in wheete, vj bush., and in malte, ij q^{rs} ...
 Total ... xxxij^s iij^d

Week of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary:—

Item, for moton, vj^s; oon goose, v^d; nayles, j^d; vyneger, iij^d, bought for the house thys weeke ... vj^s x^d
 Item, paid ij yerds and ½ of blankett for the kechen ladd and the ladd in the bakhouse ... xxij^d
 Item, paid to William Mannyng for fyrres makyng for the house ... xx^d
 Item, paid to John Cooke for makyng of cccc^{wt} woode made and spent in the house syns Crystmas iij^s
 Item, spent thys weeke in the house in wheete, vj bush., and in malte, j q^{rs} iij bus. ...
 Total ... xiiij^s iij^d

Fees, Stypends, and Servants' Wages payd at the Fest of Seynt Myghell to the p^rsons und^rwreten:—

First, to Dane William at Wood for hys q^{ter} wags vij^s
 Item, to Dane John Marten ... vij^s
 Item, to Dane Umfre Sefull ... vii^s
 Item, to the same for kepyng of the sextry vj^s viij^d

Paym^{ts} of Fees and Wags at the Fest of Seynt Myghell:—

Item, to William Pasten, Knyght, high styward, for hys fee ... xxvj^s viij^d

Item, M^r Knyghtley, attorney, for hys fee, and for coste of sute ageynst the p^rsons of Alerton, Bromeswell, and Dallynge for w^t holdyng of porc^{ons} ... ix^s v^d
 Item, to M^r Godsalve for his fee ... xxvj^s viij^d
 Item, to Thomas Aukons, und^r styward, for p^{te} of his fee... x^s
 Item, to William Neve for hys fee for the same q^{tr} ... vj^s viij^d
 Item, to Robt Holland, baily, for hys fee ... x^s
 It, to y^e William, ferme baily of husbandry, for his fee ... v^s
 Item, to Anthony, the cooke, for his wages ... v^s
 It^m, to Johan Hollande, the dey wyff, for hyr q^{tr} wags ... iij^s vj^d
 It., to Martyn Albeon, horskeper, for hys q^{tr} wages ... v^s
 It., to Ric. Catlyn for hys q^{ter} wags ... v^s
 It., to Ric. Grene, schepherd, for hys q^{ter} wags... v^s
 It., to William Crey for hys q^{ter} wags ... iij^s
 It., to Thomas Leche for hys q^{ter} wags... iij^s vj^d
 It., to Nich^{as} Boleyn for hys q^{ter} wags ... iij^s x^d
 It., to hym for the price of oon yerd and a half of blankett ... xii^d
 Total ... viij^{ll} xj^d

Paym^{ts} of S^rvnts Wags at the Fest of Alle Seynts:—

It^m, to S^r John, p^ryshe preist of Casewyk, for hys q^{ter} wags ... xvij^s iv^d
 It^m, to William Loade, butler, for hys q^{ter} wags v^s
 It^m, to George Watson, for hys q^{ter} wags ... iij^s vj^d
 It^m, to Thomas Whyte, for hys q^{ter} wags ... v^s
 It^m, to Clem^t Auncell, keper of the estoies ... iij^s v^d
 It^m, to John Kendalle, for hys q^{ter} wags ... v^s
 It^m, to John Fenne, Robt. Skolyng, Will^m Burwell, and John Gybbes, ov^r and besyd mete drynke and clothyng ... iij^s viij^d
 Total ... xl^s x^d

Paym^{ts} of Fees and Wags at the Fest of Crystmas:—

It^m, to William Neve, for hys q^{ter} wags ... vj^s viij^d
 It^m, to Thomas Aukons, und^r styward, for his fee x^s
 It^m, to Ric. Grene, schepherd, for hys q^{ter} wags v^s
 It^m, to Thomas Leche, for hys q^{ter} wags ... iij^s vj^d
 It^m, to Anthony Hylle, cooke, for hys q^{ter} wags v^s
 It^m, to M^tyn Albeon, for hys q^{ter} wags ... v^s
 It^m, to Laurens Ferthyng, for makyng of malte ij^s viij^d
 It^m, to Clem^t Auncell, for reparyng of y^e estoies xxij^d
 It^m, to Dane William at Wood, for hys q^{ter} wags vij^s
 It^m, to Dane John M^tyn, M^{ke}, for hys q^{ter} wags vij^s
 It^m, to Dane Umfre Sefull, m^{ke}, for hys q^{ter} wags vij^s
 Total ... lxj^s viij^d

It^m, payde for the expences of the pryour doon, and susteyned in hys jorney to Burye by the space of ix dayes ... xlv^s

It^m, The seyd p^rour aske to be allowed for hys owen stypend for the tyme beforeseid ...
 Total ...

It^m, paid to Leonard Spencer, for rent resolute for the manor of W^rsted ... x^d
 It^m, for Hundredschoth for the same manor ... ij^d
 It^m, to Leonard Spencer, for londs in Witton ... ij^d ob
 It^m, to S^r William Paston, knyght, for ferme ½ acre land in Bakton ... ij bush barley
 Total ... xiiij^d ob. ij. bush. barley

Total of all the payments afores^d .. xliij^{ll} vj^s viij^d ob
 And so remains in the hands of the pror ... lxx^s iij^d ob.

Item for the wags of the p^ror and the Conv^t for the yer ended at crystmas ann. xvij ... ix^{ll} vj^s xj^d
 It^m, for S^rvts wags w^t lyv^{res} ... xvij^{ll} xij

Ferne b^l rec^d in Bakton:—

F^m Tnomas Mygchelle.. ... v q^{tr} iij. bush
 F^m Will^m Drapre ... ij. q^{tr}
 F^m Will^m Kevyng ... ij. q^{tr}
 F^m John Werts ... j. q^{tr}
 F^m Will^m Calverley ... j bush

Ferme b^l rec^d in Witton :—

F ^m Will ^m Ryalle	iiij q ^{rt} iiij. bush
F ^m Henry Sparke	iiij ^{bu} ds (½)
F ^m Robt Church	vj ^{bu}
F ^m Laurencio Ferthyng	j q ^{rt}
F ^m Ceordia Lynsted	ij ^{bu}
Total farm barley	xvj q ^{rt} iiij ^{bu} ds.

It^m, rec^d owte of the berne abought the fest of Seynt Edmond, the Kyng xvij q^{rt}

It^m rec^d owte of the same berne, in the vygyll of Seynt Agnec, comyng of the D^micall londs xvij q^{rt}

Total xxxi q^{rt}

Sum total of barley rec^d xlvij q^{rt} iiij^{bu} ds.

Whereof made into malt and spent in the house of the priory afore^{sd}, viz, for xvj weeks within the time afore^{sd} as before appears, beside x q^{rt} oats made into malt and spent in the house as hereafter under the head of oats is sufficiently accounted for xxij q^{rt} iiij^{bu}

And delivered to Will^m Paston, knight, for rent resolute of ½ an acre of land in Bacton as herebefore appears ij^{bu} barley

Rem. :—

Therefore there remains in malt and barley in the store-chambers of the priory afore^{sd} besides ij q^{rt} j^{bu} ds (½) of malte for the increase of the said xxij q^{rt} iiij^{bu} spent in the house xxvij q^{rt}

Oates :—

It^m, rec^d owte of the berne comyng of the d^micall londes in oates xvij q^{rt}

Total xvij q^{rt} thereof

Putto malyng and spent in the house x q^{rt}

It^m, made in ootemeell j q^{tr}

It^m, for horsemete vij q^{rt}

Wheete rec^d owte of the berne :—

Fyrst in wheete rec^d of the tythe of Bakton viij q^{rt}

It^m, in wheete rec^d of the tythe of Casewyk vj q^{rt}

It^m, rec^d of xvj acres of d^micall londs xij q^{rt} ij^{bu}

Total xxvj q^{rt} ij^{bu} thereof.

Sown upon xxx acres of the d^micall lands in corn xiiij q^{rt} iiij^{bu}

And spent in the house afore^{sd} at divers times, as more particularly herebefore is specified in this book xij q^{rt}

Sum total of the discharge, xxv q^{rt} iiij^{bu} wheat

And remaining in the granary for the use of the lord the King vj^{bu}

Bakton :—

Owing there this year vj^a ob.

of w^h upon—

Joh^{em} Gybbes xvij^d

Joh^{em} Rosse iiij^d

Roger Fayrman ij cocks

Will^m Ryall ij^d

Joh^{em} Hoberd xxij^d

Thomas Gamlyng ij^a ij^d ob.

Wytton :—

Owing there this year vj^a j^d ob.

of w^h upon—

Miles Hoberd iiij^d ob.

John Somer v^a x^d

Worsted :—

Owing there this year xiiij^a xj^d

of which upon—

Will^m Beterzon viij^a

Thomas Thorne ij^a

Xtofer Rante iiij^d ob.

Prior of Ingham vj^d

John Curylyng xx^d

Clem^t Kechen xvj^d

John Sheryngh^m viij^d

Thom^s Hemysby iiij^d

Henry Narke ob.

Knapton :—

Owing there this year vj^a ix^d ob.

of which upon—

Thomas Ammable viij^d

Gregory Aleyn j^d ob.

Ralph Ferme, clerck, for farm of 1 acre ½ taken up this year vj^a

Carleton :—

Owing there the year afore^d iiij^a x^d ob.

of which upon—

Ric. Aylesh^m iiij^d

John Ingate x^d ob.

Osbert Dechyngham, gent xj^d

Henry Hoberd, gent. for this year xxij^d

From Rector of Alderton, for portions there detained for iiij years with this year xl^a

From the Rector of Bromeswell, for portions of detained there for five years with this year v^a

From the Rector of Knapton, for portions there for ij years with this year xiiij^a iiiij^d

Endorsed. The Booke of receyte w^t the rental of Bromholme.

Unfortunately, most of the reports of the Commissioners as to these religious house have disappeared, so that it seldom happens we are able to discover now what were their possessions; but a few exist, and if any can be traced relating to Norfolk they will appear in their proper places. At Bury St. Edmund's, one of the richest abbeys in the kingdom, the Commissioners reported pretty fully. They there "found a rich shryne, which was very cumberous to deface;" and they tell Cromwell that though they had taken "in golde and sylver 5,000 markes and above, besyds as well a riche crosse with emeredds. as also dyvers and sundry stones of grete value, yet we have left the church, abbot, and convent very well furnished with plate of sylver necessary for the same."¹ In 1539 John ap Rice found at Bury the following venerable curiosities, relics much esteemed:—"the coles that St. Lawrence was tosted withal; the parings of St. Edmund's naylls; St. Thomas of Canterbury's penneknyff, and his bootes; and divers skulls for the headache; peces of the Holie Cross, able to make a hole crosse; of other, reliques for rayne, for avoyding of wedes growing in corne," etc.

¹ Cotton MS. Cleop., A. 4.

PRIORS OF BROMHOLME.

Vincent was probably the first Prior, in the reign of Hen. I.
 1210—Philippus. 1237—Vicentius. 1257—Clemens. 12 —
 Radulph, son of Roger de Burgo. 1272—John. 1278—
 William de Totington. The foregoing were described as Priors
 of Baketon.
 1317—William de Witten.

1441—Robertus. 1460—John Tyteshall. These were followed by
 John Masham and John Amstey; the latter was Prior of Castle
 Acre.
 1509—John Underwood, Bishop of Chalcedon, and Suffragan to the
 Bishop of Norwich. 1518—William Lakenham, who was the
 last Prior.

BAGTHORPE.

NINE miles west-by-north of Fakenham, and sixteen north-east-by-east of Lynn, with eighty-five inhabitants in 1881, is the village of Bagthorpe, called in Domesday Book Baches-thorpe. It was a beruite to the lordship of Rudham, and contained in King Edward's time one carucate of land, and three bordarii, with another carucate, two runci, three cows, etc.

Castle Acre Priory had a manor here at a very early period, given by Robert and Ralph de Frevill, with the advowson of the church; and Osbert Giffard, and Isabel, his wife, gave the whole village to the monks.

In December, 1629, Thomas Goddard was found to be lord of this manor, and it remained in that family till the reign of Chas. II., when Guibon Goddard, being a defaulter in his office of receiver of excise and taxes for the county of Norfolk, his estate was seized, and passed to one Billingsley. In 1740, John Stringer was lord and patron. The Rev. Stephen R. Cattley, who was rector from 1832 to 1860, was lord during several years, in right of his wife (a daughter of J. W. Tomlinson, of Cley), to whom it was devised by G. W. Chad, who purchased the Mount Ida estate, including the greater part of the parish, under the will of his father, Sir George Chad, Bart. Henry John Dennis Dugmore, who resides at Mount Ida, is the present lord, and owns the whole parish, which in 1881 consisted of twenty-one families in sixteen houses.

The CHURCH of St. Mary was rebuilt in 1852, chiefly at the expense of the Rev. Stephen R. Cattley. The parish register dates from 1560. In 1603 there were twenty-seven communicants. The rectory was valued in K.B. at £5 10s. It was augmented by Queen Anne's Bounty during the last century, and the tithes were commuted in 1840 for £140 a year. There are ten acres of glebe.

RECTORS OF BAGTHORPE.

1305—Robt., son of Wm. de South Walsham, p. by Prior and Con-
 vent of Casleacre. 1310—Ric. de Schropham. 1311—Wm.
 de Netishirch. 1355—Robt. Jokyn de Brecham. 1391 (19th
 April) Ralph de Brancaster. 1391—(1st Sept.) John Heron.
 1400—John Earwode, p. by John Hyde. 1404—Thos. Philip, p. by
 Sir Hugh Barnwell.
 1603—Adam Rousthorn, p. by John Stede. 16 —James Smart-
 waite, p. by Thos. Goddard. 1624—Roger Wolterton, p. by
 Mary Goddard. 1626—Thos. Thorpe. 1640—Henry Scrim-
 tour (?), p. by — Goddard. 1699—Wm. Browne, p. by the
 King, lapse.

1736—Robt. Spencer, p. by John Stringer. 1762—Thos. Burslem,
 p. by Robt. Barber. 1771—Edward Waller. 1789—John
 Temple.
 1810—Geo. Norris, p. by Sir George Chad, Bart. 1832—Stephen
 Reed Cattley, p. by G. W. Chad. Mr. Cattley was Editor of
 the edition of Foze's "Acts and Monuments" published in
 1841, of which he published a "Defence," in 1842. Author of
 a "Sermon preached before the Court of Aldermen in 1849,
 previous to the Election of a Lord Mayor," &c. 1860—J. Hadley.
 1871—J. G. Bellingham. 1875—E. M. Pitt, p. by J. D. Dug-
 more.

BALE.

VARIOUSLY named BATHELE, BATHLEY, or BAILTHLEY, is situated five miles west-by-south of Holt, and was a village of fifty-three houses in 1881.

Bale was a beruite of the King's manor of Fakenham, and early in the reign of Hen. III., Robert Burnel was found to be lord, holding of the King, and paying £10 a year to Fakenham manor. At Burnel's decease, his two daughters and co-heirs inherited, and Andrew de Hengham, who married Amabilia, one of them, had a moiety, which became known as HENGHAM'S MANOR. Joan, the other daughter, married Richard de Nugun, who was lord in her right, hence NUGUN'S MANOR, sometimes called NOION'S.

The former of these manors was held in 1st Ed. II., by Sir Roger de Fraxino (Atte Ashe), who performed suit of court every three weeks, and by the payment of 100s. a year to Fakenham manor. Lucia, his daughter and heiress, married Sir Robert Baynard, of Wheatacre, who died seised of it in the 4th Ed. III. In the 16th Ed. III. Sir Edmund de Thorp was lord, in right of his wife, Joan, who was sister and heir of Thomas Baynard, son of Sir Robert. It remained with the Thorps till 1447, after which it appears to have been united with Nugun's Manor. Sir Ralph and Sir John Nugun succeeded Richard de Nugun; Sir William de Witchingham was possessor in 1380, and afterwards it passed to the Thorp family. Thomas Digby was lord in 1572, and Richard Godfrey in 35th Eliz. On the 20th April, 1642, Richard Godfrey, of Hindringham, on the marriage of his son Richard, to Ann, eldest daughter of Sir John Tracy, of Stiffkey, settled (*inter alia*) the following manors of which he was lord: Nowers, in Itteringham, Hindringham, *alias* Wilbys, and also Couldham Hall Manor, and Parnave Hall, *alias* Parnell Hall, in Hindringham; Avenall's, in Gunthorpe; Bathele, *alias* Bale, Bathele Thorpe's, and Bathele Nogeon's, and Field Dalling Thorpe's; as well also the advowsons of the churches of Gunthorpe and Bale.

On the 29th June, 1673, Timothy Felton mortgaged to Alice Barnardiston the manors of Bathele, *alias* Bale, *alias* Bathele Thorpe's Nogeons, *alias* Nogens, *alias* Nudgin's, *alias* Bathele Nudgeons, Field Dalling, *alias* Field Dalling Thorpe's, with appurtenances, etc., which he had "lately purchased of Richard Godfrey, Esq., all which premises were then late of Richard Godfrey, Owen Godfrey, and Richard Godfrey, Esqrs., the great-grandfather, grandfather, and father of the first-named Richard Godfrey." In 1688, Timothy Felton, his son, sold the manors to Margaret Gay, who, in 1707, devised them to her daughters, Dorcas and Deborah Gay. Two years later, Dorcas sold her interest to Deborah, and in 1719, Deborah devised them to John and Thomas Gay; in 1728, John Gay sold his share to Thomas, who, in 1781, devised them to William Gay; and in 1795, William Gay devised them to his son William.

In 1819, Daniel Jones, of Fakenham, purchased the manor, from whom Colonel Jones, afterwards Sir J. T. Jones, inherited. The manor has continued in succession to the present owner, Sir Lawrence J. Jones, Bart.

At the knighthood of Edward the Black Prince, the Earl of Gloucester was assessed for one quarter of a knight's fee for lands held by him of the King in Sharrington and Baithley.

The Bale Enclosure Act, passed in 1811, provided an allotment of two acres for the repairs of the church. From 1812 to 1828, the rent of this land was received by the rector, and during the above period he paid £17 14s. 3d. for the expenses of the inclosure; £2 12s. 6d. for letting the land; and £131 16s. 6d. for repairs to the church; handing over to the churchwardens the balance of £10 3s. 9d.; since that time the rent has been paid direct to the churchwardens, and a sum of £16 10s., left by Christopher Ringar in 1678 for the poor of Bale, was laid out in land, and now produces £7 a year, which is expended in the distribution of blankets, in accordance with his will, by which he gave ten yards of blanket, of black and russet, to be divided every year amongst such of the poor of the town as did not receive collection by the churchwardens and overseers."

When Parkyns wrote his continuation of Blomefield, he mentioned a great oak tree, standing not far from the west end of the church, "so large and hollow that ten or twelve men might stand upright in it." This was known as the Bale Oak, and existed until about 1860.

BALE CHURCH, a small Gothic fabric, dedicated to All Saints, has a nave, chancel, north transept, south porch, and square embattled tower with five bells. The rectory valued in K.B. at £10 13s. 4d., has twenty-one acres of glebe; and has a rent charge, with Gunthorpe, to which it is united, of £629. The tithes were commuted in 1839 for £311 10s.

A new rectory-house was erected in 1872, at the expense of the Rev. R. A. Law.

In the fifteenth century there was a chapel in this parish dedicated to St. Botolph; and in 1510, Richard Brown gave by his will 13s. 4d. towards its repair.

RECTORS OF BALE.

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|--|---|
| <p>1303—Vincent de Norton, p. by Sir R. de Nugun. 1323—Henry, son of Philip de Wode Norton, p. by Sir Robt. Baynard. 1339—Roger de Norton, p. by Attorney General. 1337—Benedict Happe. 1354—Edmund de Redgrave, p. by Sir Ed. de Thorpe. 1380—Will Clark, p. by Wm. de Witchingham. 1392—Henry Sturdy. 1393—John Austin.</p> <p>1411—John Gibbs de Colkirk, p. by Thos. Thorp. 1420—Thos. Ludham, p. by Robt. Norwich de Heston and John Lynford de Stalham. 14—John Savage. 1447—John Kentyng, p. by Amicia, widow of Robt. Thorp, of Brockdish.</p> | <p>1600—John Charter. 1615—Wm. Cochram. 1639—Robt. Chapman. 1691—John White, p. by Thos. Buxton.</p> <p>1743—Thos. Simpson. 1750—Saml. Alston. 1758—Cuthbert Sewell, p. by Eliz. Lloyd, widow. 1788—John Dowsing, p. by Thos. Wood and Mary, his wife. 1799—Chas. Collyer, p. by himself.</p> <p>1830—Edward John Howman, p. by himself. 1831—John Henry Sparke, p. by Rev. E. J. Howman. 1870—Robt. Arbuthnot Law, p. by E. B. Sparke.</p> |
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BANHAM.

FIVE miles east-by-north of East Harling, and about two miles from Kenninghall and New Buckenham, with 251 families in 1881, living in 247 houses. In 1736 there were 126 dwelling-houses, and 650 inhabitants.

In this town were three manors, which afterwards became united, and the customs of each gave the succession to the youngest son, to a widow a third dower; fines at the will of the lord, and tenants not allowed to fell timber, unless to repair their copyholds, except by licence. The principal manor was known as MARSHALL'S, part of which was owned by the Abbot of Ely at the Confessor's Survey, whose tenant in the Conqueror's time was William the Scot, who in his own right held another part, and had the advowson of the church, which he gave to the monks of St. Mary's Abbey at York, with a carucate of land here, the advowson of Wilby, and two parts of the tithes of his demesnes, which were of the value of eight marks a year.

John the Marshal was lord in 1276, and ten years later Havise, his widow, had free warren, view of frank-pledge, assize of bread and beer, allowed her for this manor, then valued at £40 a year; and in 1314 this lady was found to hold it in dower of the inheritance of William the Marshal. At the knighthood of the Black Prince, 20th Ed. III., the Earl of Gloucester held the manor "which is called Maresthale;" Earl Warren held one knight's fee; the Earl Marshal held half a knight's fee, and also a quarter of a knight's fee and a half.¹ Sir Anselm Marshall held of the Earl of Gloucester, and united this with the other manors. In 1363 William de Morle, Marshal of Ireland, by a charter² dated at Banham, on the Saturday next after the Feast of St. Michael the Archangel, granted to John de Herlyngg, his heirs and assigns, common of pasture in the town of Banham for all his cattle within the town of Quiddenham, and at the manor of Quiddendam, up to certain bounds, *i.e.*, from Quiddenham to Scarles-cross, and from thence to Nugate-cross, thence to a road called Salter's-waye, which extended to the fields of Wilby, and thence to a division called Eides-dole.

In 1380 Sir Thomas Felton and Joan, his wife, had this and the manor of Wilby, and the latter, surviving her husband, in 1401 settled them on her daughters and their husbands—Mary, married to Sir Edmund Hengrave, and Isabel to Sir Thomas de Morley. They were subsequently held in trust for Sybil de Felton, Abbess of Barking, and others; until, in 1432, Sir Thomas Morley and his wife Isabel, were found to be again in possession, and conveyed them in fee to Bishop Alnwick, Sir John Tirrell, Sir Ralph Cromwell, and their heirs; but in the same year Thomas Green, of West Creeting, in Suffolk, released to the same persons his right in the manors of Marshall's and Grey's; and eventually they were sold to Thomas, Duke of Norfolk, upon whose attainder Queen Elizabeth granted them, with certain other manors and lands, to the Earl of Suffolk. Suffolk surrendered them to James I., to the intent that his Highness would re-grant to Sir Edward Carroll, John Holland, and others, and their heirs, certain manors and lands in Shelfanger, Banham, etc., and they were so granted.³

¹ Exch. Q.'s. Remb. Miscell., vol. iii.

² Ad. Ch. 14,515.

³ State Papers Dom. : 1 Jas. I.

GREY'S MANOR belonged to William, Earl Warren at the time of Domesday, and belonged to his castle at Lewes, and afterwards to the Bardolphs. Robert Bardolph, who died in 1224, left his inheritance to his five sisters, one of whom married Sir Henry de Grey, and to her share this manor was allotted, hence its name of Grey. John Grey, son of Sir Henry, was some time Justice of Chester, and was a remarkable man in the days of Hen. III. He was the progenitor of the Greys of Wilton and Ruthyn. Sir Robert de Morley had an interest in it in 1328, and in 1345 Sir Anselm Marshall was lord, and held it united to Marshall's. But, as stated above, Thomas Green, in 1432, released certain rights he had in the manor.

BECKHALL MANOR, in the Conqueror's time, was in two parts; the chief part had one carucate in demesne and woods that would maintain 100 hogs. The other part was only one socman and his services valued at 2s., which formerly belonged to Ely Abbey, but which went to the Bigods. It was afterwards vested in the Crown, and in 1175, the King's tenants at Banham were taxed at half a mark. Early in the thirteenth century it was divided into several parts, held by various families, frequently changing ownership, till it passed to the Duke of Norfolk in the reign of Hen. VIII. On the Duke's attainder in Queen Elizabeth's day, it was given to Sir Francis Calthorp, of Ingham. Blomefield states that in his time Thomas, Duke of Norfolk held the united manors of Banham Marshall, Beckhall, and Greys. Then succeed the following Dukes: Edward, who kept his first court in 1733; Charles, in 1777; Bernard Edward, in 1816; Henry Charles, in 1842; Henry Granville, in 1856; Henry, an infant, in 1861. The manor passed by purchase in 1872, to John Oddin Taylor, D.L., who, dying in 1874, was succeeded by his eldest son, John Odin Howard Taylor, the present lord.

The Hawe was part of Beckhall manor, and contained about 200 acres of wood and pasture, and a messuage built thereon.

In 1611, there were three separate juries, one on each manor, and the leet belonged to the manor, the leet fee being 3s. 4d.

In 1226, Stephen de Ebroic, lord of Wilby, who held part of the carucate of land in Banham that was given to York Abbey, had a grant of fair and market in Banham.

In 1256 the Countess of Arundel had liberty of a gallows here.

In 1285 Roger Bigod, Earl of Norfolk claimed assize of bread and beer in Lopham and Banham, but so far as Banham was concerned, it was found to belong to the lord of the hundred.

In reference to BANHAM HEATH, I take the following from Blomefield:—

Banham Heath is [1736] a large common, containing 1200 acres of land, lying in the parishes of Banham and Winfarthing, and in ancient evidences is divided into three parts; the whole that lies in Winfarthing is called Winfarthing Chase; the part that joins to Tibenham, Carleton, and New Bokenham, is called Banham Outwood, and contains 300 acres; the part that joins to Banham is called Banham Green, and contains 300 acres more; on all which the tenants and inhabitants of Banham and Winfarthing only have right of commonage, and are intercommoners, each having the drift of their separate parts, and can common all manner of great cattle, as well as sheep, at all times of the year. In King James the First's time, viz., 1618, there was a long suit between the townsmen of Banham and the townsmen of Tibenham, concerning the right of commonage upon this heath, the substance of which was this: the townsmen of Tibenham claimed an original right of commonage on the 300 acres called Banham Outwood, in Banham, in right of their copyhold lands and tenements, held of the Manor of Tibenham, and common of vicinage on Banham Green, there being no fences or ditches between Banham Outwood and Banham Green; but, upon the trial, the townsmen of Tibenham were cast, and paid £30 damages and costs, it being found by the jury that the Lord of Tibenham Manor, and his tenants, had no original right on Banham Outwood, nor no common of vicinage on Banham Green; and whereas there were divers tenants of the Manor of Tibenham, that claimed right of commonage for set numbers of sheep going on this heath, by the grants of divers of the former Lords of the Manor of Banham, all which commonages were held by copy of Court-roll of the Manor of Banham in fee, by a fine of 10s., paid at every death, and two hens a year, for the pasturage of every six score sheep thereon. John Clark, of Banham (in behalf of the Parish of Banham), brought his action against Mathew Buxton, of Tibenham, for feeding sixty sheep and one ram on the heath, according to the grant of the Lord of the Manor of Banham, made to the owner of his tenement called Easthangles, in Tibenham, and recovered damages and costs, it being found by the jury that such customary pasturage and commonage was not to be demised, neither was it to be demisable by copy of Court-roll, by the Lord of the Manor of Banham, to any customary tenant whatever: upon which all the commonages of this nature were set aside.

As to local charities, it must be related that the Town lands, partly acquired in the fifteenth century, have been conveyed to trustees from time to time for the church and poor, and consist of about 43 acres with a cottage, let for £58 a year; the fuel allotments, awarded at the enclosure in 1790 consisted of 193 a. 2 r. 2 p. of fen, and 9 a. 3 r. 27 p. in Holme Hills; but 113 acres were recently exchanged with the Earl of Albemarle for an estate of 89 a. 0 r. 29 p. in Kenninghall Park Common, let for £74 a year, which, with the rent of the remaining land, and 10s. a year from Leader's Plantation (Bidwell's Gift), is distributed to the poor in calico, coal, blankets, etc. The Guildhall feoffment consists of an old building divided into two tenements, three small cottages called the Town Houses, and 3 a. 1 r. 0 p. of land let for £5. These premises settled for "superstitious uses" fell to the lord of the manor, who in 1549 granted them to feoffees for the use of the copyhold tenants, on condition that the lord should have liberty to hold the manor court in the old building called the Guildhall. When the Charity Commissioners made their report in 1835, the building was occupied as a workhouse. There is also 20s. a year left by Mrs. Dorothy Gawdy. An annual sum of £5 4s., the rent of a close in Banham, held by copy of court-roll, left by John Bidwell, in 1713, for the teaching of six poor children till they could read the New Testament, was, in 1834, paid to William Mark and his wife, who for this munificent sum taught in their own house six children in reading, and the girls in knitting and sewing. In 1832 Mrs. Mary Bowles gave 5 a. 3 r. 20 p. of land in trust for the poor of Banham and Kenninghall in equal portions.¹

A School Board was chosen here 1875, and a school-house was built to accommodate 180 children, at a cost of £1,362. A yearly sum of £3 18s. is paid to the managers out of six acres of land left by John Bidwell in 1713 for the schooling of six poor children.

The Heath was inclosed in 1790, under an Act of Parliament passed 29th Geo. III.

TOWN LAND.—Under the Inclosure Award 134 a. 0 r. 26 p. of fen land were allotted to the Lord of the Manor, and the Rector, Churchwardens, and Overseers, for providing fuel for the poor; 4 a. 1 r. 7 p. were allotted to the surveyor of highways for public gravel pit; 2 r. 16 p. were allotted to the surviving feoffees of the town land; 7 a. 2 r. were allotted to the feoffees of the church lands; 8 a. 2 r. 15 p. were allotted to the rector; 3 a. 0 r. 23 p. were allotted to the surviving feoffees of the Guildhall, and this allotment was declared to be copyhold of this manor.

In the year 1834, the number of feoffees of the Guildhall having become reduced to two, Scott Frederic Surtees, John Gall, James Foster Palmer, George Wells, Henry John Wells, John Esling, William Hewitt, Jeremiah Jesse Page, James Valentine Calver, and James Hewitt were admitted to the Guildhall, and to the piece of land 27 feet long and 13 feet broad, with a house thereon, and the allotment of 3 a. 0 r. 13 p., in trust for the use and profit of the tenants of the lord, being parishioners of Banham, upon condition that the lord and his heirs at all times shall have liberty within the said messuage to keep his Courts and Leets for his Manor of Banham Marshall, Beckhall and Grays, with liberty of ingress and regress at all times.

By an Agreement dated the 15th March, 1873, between John Oddin Taylor, of Norwich, Lord of the Manor, and the Rector and Churchwardens, after reciting that the right of the soil in three pieces of land, part of the waste of the manor, called The Green, containing 1 r. 28 p., Hollow Kiln, 19 p., and Kemp Corner, containing 9 p., was vested in the Lord, and that the ownership of the trees standing thereon resides in the Lord by virtue of his manorial rights, and reciting that the said Rector and Churchwardens, as representing the parishioners, had represented to the said Lord that the felling of the trees (they being highly ornamental and greatly admired) would be injurious to the parish, and especially to the adjacent property, and it would deprive the inhabitants of a constant source of pride and pleasure, and having further represented to the said Lord that the pleasure fair, which had from time immemorial been held in the parish on the 22nd June, was a public mischief and a private nuisance, in that the said parish was at such times resorted to by many disreputable persons, it was agreed that the said

¹ White, p. 136.

fair should be abolished under the Fairs Act, 1871; and further, that so long as the sum of five pounds should be annually paid to the Lord on the 11th October, he would abstain from felling any of the trees standing upon the said pieces of land until such trees should require, from age, decay, or condition, to be felled; and would permit the Rector and Churchwardens, and their successors, in the name of the Lord, to exercise any rights or powers vested in him for the control of the same lands, so that the same might thenceforth, as far as law would permit, be preserved for the enjoyment and recreation of the parishioners of Banham, and as ornamental grounds, and the Rector and Churchwardens undertook to protect the trees, and not mark, lop, or injure them.

BANHAM CHURCH is dedicated to the Virgin Mary. In the days of William Rufus, William the Scot gave the advowson to the Abbey of St. Mary, York, with one carucate of land, the value of which was eight marks a year. Eborard, Bishop of Norwich, confirmed the gift, stipulating that the Abbot and monks should provide a competent vicar;¹ and Lambert de Beverlaco bound himself to pay the eight marks in silver yearly, half at Easter and half at Michaelmas, and also two marks yearly to the monks of Rumburgh, in Suffolk. He also undertook to receive the Abbot once a year and honourably entertain him, as also to receive into his house any monks of St. Mary's whenever they may go there. He further covenanted to give them every year ten measures [*sextaria*, about a pint] of wine in the octave of the feast of the Assumption.²

On the Tuesday next after the feast of St. Luke the Evangelist, 1253, an inquisition was held in the Church of all Saints (?) Rockland³ upon the state of the church of Banham, occasioned by the death of Master William de Horham, who had been presented by the Abbot and Convent of York, as to whose title there was no contention; but the Prior and monks of Rumburgh appear to have caused the inquiry for some reason not very apparent. They were shown to receive two sheaves [of corn] from the lordship of William Marshal; and the Prior and monks of Thetford also received two sheaves from the lordship of the Earl Marshal of England, which he bought of Isolda, widow of Peter de Kenet, and two sheaves from the lordship formerly belonging to William de Banham.⁴ This inquisition record is signed by Nigel, chaplain of Muydeham (?); Richard, chaplain of Wyleby; John, chaplain of the same; Gilbert, chaplain of Banham; William, chaplain of Schropham; and Godfrey, chaplain of the same. Also by Godfrey and John Carpenter, of Banham; Master Neve, Nicholas son of Henry, Herbert de Kaye, of Wyleby; and Humfrey de Muydeham. This church has a chancel with three sedilia and a piscina; nave with north and south aisles; the tower is square, and has a leaded spire 125 ft. high. There is a clock and six bells. An ancient monument to Sir Hugh Bardolph, in his coat of mail, occupies what, no doubt, was formerly a chapel, on the north side of the chancel. The church is noted for its beautiful stained glass in the east window, and for its richly carved oak stalls, etc. The font, which is of Caen stone, has a crocketed spiral canopy of wood in the Early English style. The church was restored in 1863, mainly at the expense of the rector.

The rectory, valued in K. B. at £9 3s. 6½d., has now thirty-four acres of glebe and a yearly tithe rent-charge of £1,250. The rectory house is an ancient messuage. The Lord Chancellor is patron.

An addition to the churchyard was made in July, 1881, by the consecration of a cemetery, with a mortuary chapel. The land, about an acre and a half, was given by the Rev. George Fardell, the present rector, and is about a quarter of a mile distant from the church.

The Wesleyans and the Primitive Methodists have chapels here.

The records of a tithe suit, in 1693, contain some particulars which may be inserted here. The Rector, Rev. Thomas Gibbs, claimed against certain tenants, named Bringloe, Hunting, Gedge, Bate, and Rowte, tithe of turnips. A chief witness was Richard Tindall, gent.,

¹ Campbell Ch. L. F. C. ix. 9, No. 2.

² Ibid., No. 8.

³ Ibid., No. 11.

⁴ Blomefield says that the Thetford pension was paid in his time (1736) to the Duke of Norfolk, in right of Thetford Abbey; Rumburgh and York's portion were compounded for at £1 16s., which was paid for some time to the Earl of Tankerville, but subsequently to Horace Walpole.

who spoke to having sold Gedge all the turnips growing in a five-acre field, called Rushy, for £6. Gedge pulled up those growing on about two acres, carried them to another piece of land belonging to Tindall, where his cattle fed upon them, and the other three acres were consumed on the ground where they grew. Mr. Tindall continued: "Barley sown after turnips fed and eaten upon the ground where they grew, produces a much better crop than when sown after turnips pulled up and fed in other places. The land from which turnips are pulled up and carried away is much impoverished thereby. The sowing of great quantities of turnips is a hindrance to the Parson in respect of tithe-hay, which would be more in quantity if so many turnips were not sown; but in his [Tindall's] judgment, the Parson has nearly as much benefit as loss in his tithe-hay by turnips fed upon the ground, in respect of the succeeding crop of barley thereon sown being bettered thereby." The Rev. Edward Bosworth of Stuston, the Rev. William Wiatt, of Starston, the Rev. Samuel Slipper of Lopham, and the Rev. John Downey of Roydon and Cawston, all gave evidence that the rectors and vicars of Norfolk had tithe in kind or in composition, and they spoke to the great quantities of turnips in recent years which had been grown in Norfolk.

RECTORS OF BANHAM.

1244—Wm. de Harham, who was succeeded by one Gilbert, chaplain.
1310—Jas. de Salucijs, p. by the Abbot and Convent of St. Mary, York. 1329—Robt. de Cane, p. by the King, the abbacy being vacant. 1331—Thos. de Stanton, p. by King. 1344—Wm. Galey, p. by the Abbot of St. Mary, York. 1350—Wm. de Haw. 1361 (August)—John de Cotyngham. 1361 (October)—John Clervaux. 1378—Adam de Lakineth. 1391—Andrew de Bondeby. 1393—Henry de Harburgh. 1394 (June)—John Juel. 1394 (July)—Nicholas Saresbury. He held the living of Stockton, dio. Sarum; was a Prebendary of St. Stephen, Westminster, and also of Wesham, Heref.

1401—John Pygot. 1443—John Cotyngham. 1445—Stephen Cloose. 1452—Hews Cassey. 1483—Ric. Hoog. 1496—John Long. 1516—Roger Darley. 1518—Brian Stapleton. 1520—Rowland Lee. In 1523 he was consecrated Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry. 1534—Geo. Greves. 1539—Barnaby Kirkbride. 1564—Wm. Tomson. 1577—Ric. Stokes, p. by the Queen. 1587—Dan. Reeve, D.D. 1627—Humfrey Tovey, B.D. 1640—John Cademan. 1671—John (or Thos.) Gibbs. 1707—Chas. Kidman, S.T.B. 1735—John Kerrich. 1772—Thos.—1812—John Surtees. 1850—Scott F. Surtees. 1856—J. G. Fardell, p. by the Lord Chancellor.

BANNINGHAM.

TWO and a half miles from Aylsham, is Banningham, with sixty-four families in 1881, living in sixty houses. In early times it was a hamlet, included in the village then known as Cracheford, or Crakeford. At the Conqueror's Survey it was four and a-half furlongs in length, and four furlongs in breadth; paid 4d. to the gelt, and was included in the King's manor of Aylsham.

Richard I. granted the manor to John Cordebœf, whose serjeantry was to find a soldier with a lance; Hen. I. granted it to Hubert de Cordebœf, who was to provide an archer on horseback with a cross-bow, and to maintain him for the King's service whenever His Majesty went into Wales. In 1204 it was held by Roger Bigod, Earl of Norfolk, with the serjeantry of the Tusard's, by the service of finding for the King one balister in time of war, for fifteen days, at his own cost.¹ In 1299, Simon Bigod, of Felbrigg, was lord; and during the fourteenth century it was in the possession successively of Sir Roger and Sir Simon Felbrigg. The latter died seized of it in 1442, when it was settled on John Windham, sen., who bought an estate here of John de Banningham, whose family had occupied from the time of Ric. I. In 1466, John Windham settled it on the marriage of his son John with Margaret, daughter of Sir John Howard, and their issue; from which time it has remained with the Windhams of Felbrigg. The rent-roll of the manor in 1666 was £14 13s. 7½d.²

The Abbot of St Bennet at Holme had temporals here valued at 28s. 2d.; and the Abbot of Bury St. Edmunds at 33s. 9½d.

Banningham paid 7s. to every £300 levy of the county rate.

¹ Rot. Fin., 6 John 54.

² Tanner MS. 96.

The manor of Aylsham, late the Sexton's, extends into this parish.

The poor have £5 a year from land (called Ellis's) left by a former rector, the Rev. Samuel Wanley (who also provided the rectory-house for his successors), and £1 10s. a year from a plot of land called the Labourer's Pightle.

The CHURCH is dedicated to St. Botolph, and has a chancel, nave with clerestory, south porch, and square tower with one bell.¹

The chancel contains a piscina and sedilia, and in the south aisle is a second piscina. There is a richly carved roof, with fourteen figures on the hammer-beams. Several of the windows are filled with stained glass, as memorials of departed parishioners. The rectory, valued in K.B. at £10 5s. 10d., has seventeen acres of glebe; tithes commuted in 1842 for rent-charge of £383.

In 1507, Edward Burrowe gave an acre of land, lying on the west side of the Oak, to provide a light in the chapel of Our Lady in the church.

In 1531 Agnes Pulle, by her will, left to the high altar, 4d.; to the light of All Hallowe, 4d.; to the light of Our Lady, 4d.; to the rood light, 4d.; to St. John's light, 4d.; to the light of St. Nicholas, 4d.; and to St. Saviour's light, 4d.; also to the repair of the church, 2s.; to the guild of All Saints, 20d.; and the guild of St. John, 12d. The will also contains this clause: "I will have a secular priest to sing for my soul, my husband's soul, and all Christian souls, within the church of Banningham beforesaid for the space of half a year:" and a codicil five years afterwards, revoking the appointment of a relative as executor, concludes by insisting that the said relative shall be caused to repay all he owes her, for she "wolde not forgyve him noon thereof."

In 1658, the rectory of Banningham was valued at £45, and by order of the Council of State, 18th May, it was united with Colby, then valued at £50; and the order directed that Colby church be the meeting place for the inhabitants of both parishes "to resort unto to hear the word one part of the Lord's Day, and other days for public worship," and Banningham church for the other part of the day.²

The church was restored in 1847, chiefly at the expense of Mr. George Copeman.

RECTORS OF BANNINGHAM.

1316 Hugh de Bolle, p. by Alice de Hannonia, Countess of Norfolk.
1341—Roger de Fornsete, p. by Marie, Countess of Norfolk.
1349—James Beek. 1367—Thos. Foxton, p. by Sir Walter de Manny.
1410—Thomas Kensall, S. T. B. (with Homersfield), p. by Sir Thomas Erpingham. 1428—Richard Gonyld, p. by John, Duke of Norfolk. 14 —John Bawdesey. 1444 William Rikkes (cum Swathfield). 1446—William Camard. 1489 Hen. Lesyng- ham, p. by Elizabeth, Duchess of Norfolk. 1497—Thos. Lyng. 1536—Will. Hogeson, p. by Thos., Duke of Norfolk. 1539—Thos. Pundre. 1556—Thos. Pawle. 1590—Will. Cockman.
1623—Richard Gay, p. by Bishop, lapse. 1630—John Rechford.

1678—Samuel Birkbeck, p. by Hen., Duke of Norfolk. 1684— Samuel Wanley. He made a charge on his lands for £5 annually to be given to ten poor widows on the feast of St. Thomas. He died at the age of sixty-six, on the 31st July, 1722.
1724—Robert Cremer, p. by Harbord Harbord. 1732—Benjamin Paul (with Horsford), p. by Austin (?) 1767—Thomas Paul, p. by the Earl of Effingham.
1814—William Jex Blake, p. by Duke of Norfolk. 1857—H. T. Kenny. 1874—H. Edwards. 1884—R. Cleary, p. by G. Willis, M. D.

BARFORD.

SEVEN miles west of Norwich. In 1881 Barford had 79 houses, occupied by 86 families, an increase of 31 houses since 1821; its population, however, decreased between 1871 and 1881 from 328 to 315.

At the time of Domesday it was in two parts, the chief belonging to Alan, Earl of

¹ There were two; but in 1808 one was sold to help to re-lead the roof of the church. According to Blomefield, there were at that time three bells, on one of which was inscribed, *Per me Fideles invocantur ad precas*.

² Augmentn. Records, Lamb. MSS. $\frac{990}{177}$.

Richmond, as part of his manor of Costessey, and it was found to be seven furlongs in length and six in breadth, paying 13½d. gelt. A mediety of the advowson was attached to it, but Alan de Rohan during his lordship presented it to the Abbey of Bon Repos, in Normandy, a gift confirmed by Hen. III. in 1226. In 1234 the Abbot conveyed it to the Prior of Norwich; in 1250, Bishop Suffield appropriated it to the monks, with twelve acres of land, to serve it by a priest, there being then no endowment. The other part belonged to Bishop Stigand in the time of the Confessor, and to Ralph de Beaufoe after the Conquest. In course of time it became divided into three separate manors.

BARFORD HALL MANOR, held by Ribald de Midleham, a younger brother of the second Earl of Richmond, descended in a direct line till 1269, when Joan and Mary, the two daughters of Ralf Fitz Ralf, inherited by failure of male issue. Joan married Robert de Tateshall, and Mary Robert de Nevile, and the latter, having acquired her sister's portion, at her decease in 1284 left it to her son and heir, Ralf Nevile, who died in 1330, when it passed to Ralf, Lord Nevile and Raby, who sold it to Sir Robert Knowles for life, at whose death it went to Ralf Nevile, Earl of Westmoreland, and in this family it remained till the latter part of the sixteenth century, when it was held by the Sedleys, of Morley Hall. It was eventually sold by one of the Sedleys to John Goose, with the united manors of Flint Hall and Soham Hall. In 1739 it belonged to William Brooks, steward of the Corporation of Norwich, in right of his wife.¹

FLINT HALL MANOR, also called MIKELKER, was sold in 1280 to John Flint, of Norwich, whose son held it in 1348 of the Manor of Hetherset, by the eighth part of a fee and a rent of 6s. per annum. In 1501 Thomas Baschecroft, of Little Melton, conveyed part of it to his wife; and in 1521 Edward Tallis gave a moiety to his wife, Avice, for life. About 1573 it was vested in Henry Riches, who sold to Martin Sedley, and it became united to Barford Hall.

SOHAM HALL MANOR (ESTHALL OF SAHAM) belonged in Henry the Third's time to John le Botiler, and afterwards to William de Bereford. In 1256 Brian, son of John and Julia de Bereford, held it, and after his death his wife married John de Esthall. In 1271 it was sold by Hugh le Parker and his wife to William, son of Ralf de Saham, in which family it long continued, but during the next century it passed through several hands, and in 1525 it was with the Heydons. Christopher Heydon sold it in 1545 to John Legat and Thomas Smith, and it afterwards was bought by Martin Sedley, who incorporated it with Barton Hall.

Lord Stafford is now lord of one moiety, and Mrs. Clarke lady of the other moiety, of the Manor of Barford Hall.

In 1711 Jeremiah Revans gave a yearly rent-charge on land, at Little Melton, for distribution of bread; and, by his will, in 1725, he charged his lands at East Tuddenham with the sum of 32s. 6d.—for a sermon, 10s.; 2s. 6d. for the clerk; 10s. for bread for the poor; and 10s. to be distributed in bibles and prayer-books. In 1813, Samuel Nash charged 160 acres of land here with the yearly payment of £20, which is distributed among the poor in coals, etc., in winter time.

The Primitive Methodists have a Meeting-house here; and there is a Board-school, educating about 50 children.

The CHURCH of St. Botolph had formerly two altars at the east end of the nave, one on either side of the high altar: they were dedicated to St. Mary and St. Nicholas. In K.B. the united mediety is valued at £4 8s. 4d., but was sworn of the yearly value of £22 19s. 8d., and so discharged of first fruits and tenths. The tithes were commuted in 1839 for £360 a-year, with 30 acres of glebe, which are divided between the Ecclesiastical Commissioners and the rector. The Church has a chancel, nave, with Decorated font, south porch, and tower with three bells. The chancel, which was restored by the patron in 1862, has some Early English windows.

The advowson appears always to have been in two medieties, and at present one is held by

¹ Blomefield, ii. 484.

the rector, and the other by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, who are responsible for their portion of the repairs of the chancel. The questions arising out of the respective medietyes have occasionally led to contentions. In 1535, Robert Shypton, who was inducted Rector, was subsequently deprived. In 1591, and in 1693, a similar occurrence took place.

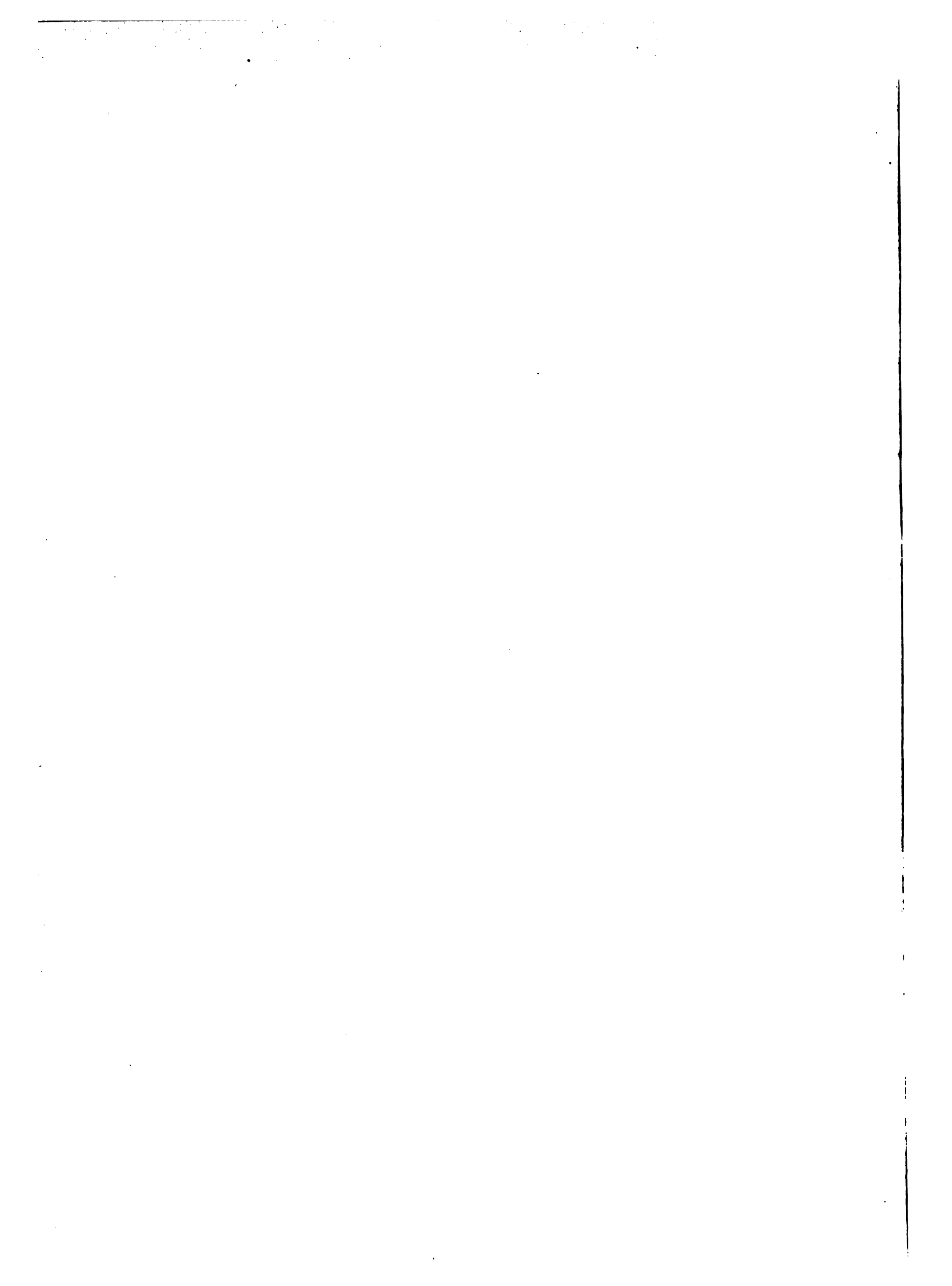
The Earl of Rochford, in the 4th Geo. II., brought an action against the Bishop of Norwich, Anthony Wingfield, and John Wingfield, Clerk, for his right of presentation to the church. The cause was tried at the Assizes held for Norfolk, on the 27th July in the same year, and a verdict was obtained for the Earl of Rochford, and a writ issued, directed to the Bishop, commanding him that, although John Wingfield had been admitted, the Bishop should remove him and admit a proper person upon the presentation of the Earl. On December 16th, 1730, Samuel Carter was instituted.

At this time a very interesting tithe suit arose, and as it not only has to do with Carter's induction, and as to whom the tithes of right belonged, but gives much information as to the status of farmers and the price of commodities, it will be well to give the chief particulars. The rector, it was stated, then had the moiety of all tithes in Barford, or some modus in lieu thereof. The other moiety had been for many years taken by the Dean and Chapter of Norwich, or their tenants. To avoid confusion in collecting such tithes, it had been usual for the Dean and Chapter to make a lease of their part to the Incumbent. By an Indenture made between the Dean and Chapter and Carter on the 7th June, 1732, the former demised all their tithes in Barford to him for twenty-one years, so that from that time he was entitled to all the tithes. John Carpenter had, since December, 1730, occupied a farm of the yearly value of £80 and upwards, consisting of one messuage, with barns, etc., an orchard, a garden, 100 acres of arable land and upwards, and 100 acres of meadow and pasture grounds and upwards in Barford, or the tithable places thereof. He had cut from the arable land great quantities of wheat, turnips, etc., whereof the tithes would have been worth £5. He mowed the grass upon 50 acres of the meadow, the clover growing on part of the arable land, and made hay to the amount of 50 loads, each load worth 20s., and the tithe worth 2s. a load. He also fed a great number of horses upon the meadow and pasture ground. The cows gave great quantities of milk. The sheep produced many lambs, and divers fleeces of wool. Every calf was worth 10s. and upwards, and every fleece 5s. The tithes would have been worth £4 and upwards, had they been paid. Carpenter also kept a dove-house, and sold a great number of pigeons, and also great quantities of turkeys; also a great stock of bees; also divers sows; great quantities of apples and pears; also had in his garden great quantities of peas and beans, the tithes of which would have been worth £3 and upwards. Carpenter, the defendant in the suit, had not paid the Rector any tithe, or composition in lieu thereof, belonging to him of his own right, or as lessee to the Dean and Chapter, since the execution of the lease, but pretended that tithes in kind were not due, but some composition, and refused to discover what such composition was. He demurred to the value of the farm as alleged by the Rector, and, notwithstanding the recovery of the Earl of Rochford, he held John Wingfield continued Rector of the mediety. In the result the Rector's claim was sustained by the Court.

RECTORS OF BARFORD.

1308—Nich. de Hedersete, p. by Mary de Nevile, Lady of Midleham.
 1340—Will. de Rudham, p. by Sir Ralph Nevile. 1350—Will. de York. 1351—Thos. de Wilton. 1355—Rich. Asorte.
 1406—Benedict King, p. by feoffees of Sir Robert Knollis. Buried in the chancel in 1420. 1421—Sir John Prys, p. by Sir Ralph Nevile, Earl of Westmorland. 1423—Walter Hert. 14 —John Loudman. 1435 John Fulbourn, p. by Geo. de Nevile, Lord Latimer. 1439—Rich. Barbour. 1441—Thos. Thurleby. 1451—Thos. Alford. 1466—John Brigge. Buried in chancel in 1481
 1481—Robert Clerk, p. by Thomas Bouchier, Archbishop of Canterbury. *m*
 1504—Thomas Skynner. 1535—Robert Shypton, p. by John Nevile Lord Latimer. 1554—Nich. Appleby. 1591—John Cook, p. by

Sir Thos. Cecil and Dorothy his wife, dau. and co-heir of Lord Latimer.
 1637—Richard Gammon. 1637—Will. Bunn, p. by Sir Anthony Wingfield, Bart. 1662—Samuel Harding, presented by Sir Robt. Wingfield, Bart. 1693—Jeremiah Revans.
 1727—John Wingfield, p. by Anthony Wingfield. 1730—Samuel Carter, p. by Earl of Rochford. 1783—John France, p. by John Morphew. 1795—Fairfax Francklin, p. by Rev. John F. Francklin.
 1804—John Francklin, p. by John Clarke Stoughton. 1806—Henry Francklyn, p. by himself. 1859—John Bowman Turner, p. by Rev. H. W. Turner.





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