

## Original Documents.

INVENTORIES of household property of the date of the thirteenth century are of rare occurrence, and few have been hitherto printed. The following example, selected from the muniments of the priory of the Holy Trinity, Aldgate, preserved in the Chapter-house, Westminster, may be referred to the close of that period, and is especially interesting as relating to a small manorial residence, of the extent and arrangement of which it presents very satisfactory evidence. The tenement appears to have been situated in one of the two parishes of Warley, in the county of Essex, named respectively Great Warley and Warley Franks<sup>a</sup>.

From the mention of Prior E. (Eustace) this document cannot be of later date than 1280, in which year he died, having been elected either in 1264 or 1268<sup>b</sup>. According to Morant<sup>c</sup> Reginald de Ginges obtained license from Edward the First, in 1281, to impark certain lands in Ginges-Radulfi, within the forest of Essex; he was probably descended from Ralph, brother of Ilger, who held lands in that place at the time of the Domesday Survey.

Memorandum quod Reginaldus de Gynges recepit a Priore et conventu Sanctæ Trinitatis London' domos suas de Warlee per precium . videlicet aulam cum thalamo per precium quinque marcarum . capellam triginta solidorum . boveriam viginti solidorum . pistrinum dimid . marce . januam cum solar' viginti solidorum . grangiam meliorem quinque marcarum . secundam viginti solidorum . pro qua pecunie summa dicta edificia sunt apreciata die quo illa recepit . presentibus E . priore . fratribus Willelmo Aygnel et Philippo canonicis . ipso Reginaldo de Gynges . Reginaldo de Fonte . Henrico Page . Henrico Haryng . Alexandro le Gardiner . Rogero de Ferynges et Ricardo Baynard servientibus . Johanne de Eystane . Alano de Hyndelet et aliis.

Item recepit in capella superaltare marmoreum et ymaginem Beate Marie cum tabernaculo . item algeas duas magnas . bussellum sive batun . aratrum cum jugis et pertinentiis . cultum cum vomere . duas furcas ferreas cum carecta veteri . tabulas duas cum tripodibus . scabellum et cathedram et scalam . Que omnia restituentur eisdem vel precium eorum post decessum ejusdem Reginaldi . In cujus rei testimonium

<sup>a</sup> See Morant's Essex, vol. i. p. 111.

<sup>b</sup> Dugdale's Monasticon, vol. v. p. 150.  
History of Essex, vol. i. p. 215.

huic memorando in modum cyrographi confecto sigillum dicti Reginaldi et sigillum W . celerarii alternatim sunt appensa . Testibus supradictis.

Memorandum, that Reginald de Gynges hath received from the prior and convent of the Holy Trinity, London, their houses at Warlee by valuation; to wit, the hall with the bed-chamber, at the price of five marks; the chapel at thirty shillings; the bouerie at twenty shillings; the bake-house at half a mark; the gate-house, with the solar, at twenty shillings; the better grange at five marks; the second at twenty shillings; at which sum of money the said buildings were appraised on the day on which he received them; there being present E[ustace] the prior, brothers William Aygnel and Philip, canons, the same Reginald de Gynges, Reginald de Fonte, and others as above.

Item, he received in the chapel a super-altar of marble, and a figure of the Blessed Mary, with a tabernacle; item, two great measures; a bushel or batun; a plough, with yokes, and its appurtenances; a coulter, with a share; two iron forks, with an old cart; two tables, with trivets; a settle, and chair, and ladder; all which shall be returned to the same [prior and convent], or their price, after the decease of the same Reginald. In testimony whereof, &c.

This memorandum supplies a description of the plan of an ordinary manor-house of the thirteenth century, consisting of a hall or principal chamber, with a sleeping room annexed, and a chapel. The latter appendage was due probably to the circumstance of the house having been occupied as a place of resort by the priors of the Holy Trinity. The gate-house, with its solar or upper chamber, would be the entrance to the enclosure, by which the hall and its offices, as the byre, bake-house, and two barns, were surrounded. In these and later times it was customary to remove the scanty furniture of a mansion when the owner changed his abode; thus the two tables, the settle, and chair, may be regarded as the only fixtures appurtenant to the hall.

The furniture of the chapel is limited; a super-altar of marble, and a figure of the Virgin, with a tabernacle. The former adds another illustration to the many already adduced by Mr. Way of the customary use of a tablet or portable substitute for the fixed altar<sup>d</sup>.

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<sup>d</sup> Archæological Journal, vol. iv. pp. 239—248.