

EXAMPLES OF MEDIÆVAL SEALS.

IN a former volume of the *Journal* the intention was expressed, to collect from time to time, for the gratification of those who take an interest in Mediæval Seals, notices of such unpublished examples as may be brought before the Institute.¹ A scheme for the general arrangement of Seals was moreover offered, which, as we have had the satisfaction to be assured, has proved acceptable to the student of this branch of archaeology, and tended to encourage the appreciation of the subject, as a valuable auxiliary to general and personal history.² In resuming the proposed collection of materials for the History of Seals, we must advert with pleasure to the increasing attention recently given, both in our own country and on the Continent,³ to a class of Mediæval Antiquities, valuable not less as examples of the progress of Art, than as authorities, of the highest authenticity, and by aid of which, historical truth may frequently be established. The hope may, as we believe, be entertained, that at the British Museum, where so much has recently been done towards a suitable illustration of National Antiquities, an extensive collection of impressions from English Mediæval Seals may speedily be formed, available for public gratification and instruction.

1. Leaden Bulla of Raimond du Puy (del Podio) of a noble family in Dauphiny, *Custos*, or Grand Master of the Order of St. John in Jerusalem, or Hospitallers. He succeeded Gerard, the first *custos*, on his decease, about A.D. 1121. In that year Raimond addressed letters to solicit the succour of the faithful throughout Europe, accompanied by a Bull conceded by Pope Calixtus II. He compiled the first statutes of the order, and

¹ Arch. Journal, vol. viii. p. 74.

² To the observations, *ibid.*, pp. 73, 74, in explanation of that scheme, the author of it requests to add a further practical direction, analogous to what is there said of seals being assumed to be lay, which do not show themselves to be ecclesiastical; viz. that in like manner all seals must be assumed to be *personal*, which do not on the face of them appear to be otherwise.

³ In regard to foreign researches on the subject of seals, we may specially invite attention to the establishment at Paris, of a "Société de Sphragistique," and to their

monthly *Bulletin*, of which the second volume will speedily be completed. The annual subscription is only 15s., and this publication forms a useful record of all information brought before the Society. The "Sphragistische Aphorismen," by the learned Lepsius, which appeared in the Transactions of the Thuringo-Saxon Antiquarians, at Halle, in 1842-3, well deserve attention; as also the History of Seals in Germany, by Dr. Melly, of Vienna, and the works of Vossberg on the Seals of Prussia and the cities of Northern Europe, published at Berlin.

formed a systematic code for its regulation ; he was eminently distinguished by valour and military skill, in the interminable struggles with the infidel, of which Palestine and Syria were the scene, in the twelfth century. Raimond appears to have been living in 1158, and he died about 1160.⁴ The interesting relic, of which representations are here given, was found under the walls of Norwich Castle, and it is now in the valuable cabinet of Norfolk antiquities, in the possession of Mr. Robert Fitch, of Norwich, to whom we are indebted for its exhibition. On the obverse appears the *custos* kneeling at the side of a patriarchal cross ; the legend being,—**✠ RAIMVNDVS CVSTOS HOSPITALIS HIERVSALEM.** On the reverse is seen a church with three domes, doubtless intended to pourtray that of the holy sepulchre, so represented that the interior is shown, and the tomb of our Lord within the church, a cross being placed at the head, a lamp, or *corona*, suspended above, and an object, possibly intended for a censer, swinging at the foot of the tomb. The legend is :—**✠ HOSPITALE DE HIERVSALEM.** The establishment of the Hospitallers, it will be remembered, was adjacent to the Church of the Sepulchre ; and existing remains of the building are described by Mr. Williams in the “ Holy City,” vol. i., p. 391.

2. Leaden Bulla of Raimond Berengarius, a native of Dauphiny, who succeeded Roger de Puis, in 1365, as Grand Master of the Hospitallers. In that year he commanded the fleet, united with that of Peter, King of Cyprus, in the expedition against Egypt. In 1374, his advanced age



Bulla of Raimond Berengarius, Grand Master of the Hospitallers. 1365—1374.

prevented his attendance at the great assembly of the Order at Avignon, where he was represented by his lieutenant, Fernandès de Hèredia, and the Statutes of the Order were settled. Berengarius died in Nov. 1374.⁵ On this curious bulla the primitive design is retained, but modified : the badge of the cross may be perceived, though very indistinctly, upon the shoulder of the kneeling *custos* : at the sides of the patriarchal cross before him are introduced the letters Alpha and Omega ; the Oriental domes of the church are converted into Gothic tabernacles. The recumbent figure beneath the fragment of architecture, intended to represent the church,

⁴ Art de Verifier les Dates, tome II. edit. 1818, p. 106. Statuti del Sacro Spedale di S. Giov. Borgo Nuovo, 1674.

⁵ Art de Verif. les Dates, tome II.

p. 112, from Sebastian Paoli and Paciaudi. Paoli, in his collection of the Statutes of the Order, states that he died in A.D. 1373.

EXAMPLES OF MEDIÆVAL SEALS.



Leaden Bulla of Raymond de Puis, Grand Master of the Hospitallers, *circa* 1120.

Found near Norwich Castle. In the collection of Mr. Robert Fitch.



Impression of the Seal of Baldwin de Rosei. appended to a deed amongst the
Barrington Muniments.

In the possession of Mr. G. Alan Lowndes.

appears by the cross-nimbus to be our Lord's body placed on the tomb, thus typifying the presence of the Holy Sepulchre, as on the more ancient bullæ. The legends are as follows:—Obverse, ✠ F. R. BERENGARII. CVSTOS · PAVPERVM. Reverse, ✠ HOSPITALIS · IHERVSALEM.

The accompanying representations are from casts in sulphur supplied by Mr. Doubleday; and there can scarcely exist a doubt that the original is the identical bulla described by Mr. Addison, as found during the repairs in the Temple Church, in 1830.⁶ His description closely agrees with the details of this bulla; it does not appear, however, that he had seen either the original, or impressions from it: he remarks—"These particulars have been furnished me by Mr. Savage, the architect." The workmen, by whom it was found, carried it off, and it appeared, as Mr. Addison said, to have got into the hands of strangers. The relic passed into the collections of the late Mr. Upcott, and a mould was fortunately taken by Mr. Doubleday, from whom casts may be obtained. A. W.

3. The Seal of Hawise, Lady of Keveoloc. We have here a personal seal, with an effigy, which may be referred to the latter part of the 13th century. The matrix is of silver, and was found in digging a foundation at Oswestry. The legend in *extenso* is SIGILLVM IIAWISIE DOMINE DE KEVEOLOC. Who this lady was, is not quite clear. The two escutcheons ought to assist materially in identifying her. From them we should infer that she was or had been married, and that the escutcheon in her right hand displays the arms of her husband, and that in her left those of her father, in accordance with the generality of ladies' seals of that period with heraldry upon them. She has, however, been supposed to be Hawise, surnamed Gadarn, daughter of Owen de la Pole, who married John de Cherlton in the early part of the reign of Edw. II. (See Journal of Chester Architect. and Archæol. Soc., part ii, p. 173.) Her father, who derived his surname from Pool, otherwise Welsh Pool, in Powis, died seised of the Manor of Keveoloc and divers others in 21 Edw. I., leaving a son, Griffin de la Pole, and herself. That manor and two others were assigned to Joan his widow for her dower (see Abb. Rot. Orig. p. 81). Griffin the son died in 2nd Edw. II. without issue, leaving his sister Hawise sole heiress to himself and their father. The arms of De la Pole were *or* a lion rampant *gules*, as appears by the Roll *t.* Edw. II. p. 91; and we may presume they were adopted by John de Cherlton after his marriage, as the same arms are constantly attributed to him. These agree with the escutcheon on the dexter side. To explain the arms on the sinister side, which are two lions passant, recourse has been had to her maternal grandmother, a daughter of John, Lord Strange of Knockin, but not an heiress. Her husband is said to have been Sir Robert Corbet, and his arms *or*, a raven proper: and Hawise has been supposed to have imitated the example of his son, her uncle, Thomas Corbet, who died in Sir Robert's lifetime, and is stated to have borne six

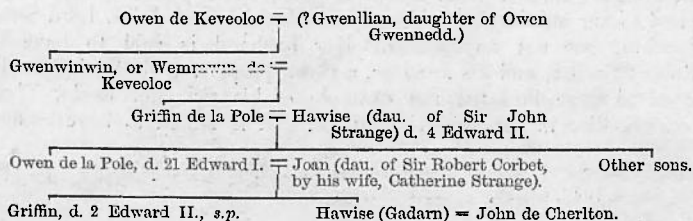


⁶ History of the Templars, Lond. 1842, p. 395, and Description of the Temple Church, Lond. 1843, p. 126.

ravens (instead of one), with his mother's arms, viz., Strange, *gules* two lions passant *argent*, on a canton; but if so, the canton was probably intended only as a brisure, because his father was living; beside which there were other Corbets bearing *or* with ravens proper, and at that time, if a charge were repeated so as to amount to three or more, the exact number was not material. However, that was a very different thing from taking Strange on a separate escutcheon, as in this seal; and for an heiress to have differenced her paternal coat with no better reason, or indeed at all, would have been an anomalous proceeding. The two lions passant do not appear in the glass at Shrewsbury, the donation of Hawise and her husband; who are there represented with heraldic decorations. Moreover, this Hawise was but 19 years of age in the 4th Edw. II. (Dugd. Bar. II., p. 71), and therefore the probable date of the seal is too early for it to have been hers.

There was another Hawise to whom this seal may have belonged, namely, the paternal grandmother of Hawise Gadarn, who however lived till the 4th Edw. II. She was the wife of Griffin de la Pole, son of Gwenwinwin, or Wemmwin (according to the printed record), as appears by the Placita de Quo Warranto, 20 Edw. I.; and that Gwenwinwin is said by the Welsh authorities, and in Cal. Rot. Pat. 3 b., to have been the son of Owen Cyveilioch, or de Keveoloc, and is himself sometimes called de Keveoloc (Cal. Rot. Pat. 2 b). Seeing the manor conferred a surname on these ancestors, and is found in the family *t.* Edw. I., the husband of this Hawise, who was in the line of descent, was most likely Lord of Keveoloc also. Now it appears by the pedigree of L'Estrange in Blomefield's Norfolk, a family descended from Sir John Strange of Knockin, that a daughter of his named Avice married Griffin de la Pole; and though the authority for that statement is not given, yet, seeing Avice and Hawise are doubtless the same name, this seal corresponds with such a state of facts, and makes the truth of it highly probable; for here is a Hawise Lady of Keveoloc, holding in her right hand the arms of De la Pole, and in her left those of Strange of Knockin. In regard to the Lordship of Keveoloc, that manor may have formed part of the dower of Hawise the grandmother, and been afterwards given up by her, and then assigned as above mentioned for part of the dower of her daughter-in-law, Joan, the mother of Hawise Gadarn. It probably could be well spared by the grandmother, for she had obtained from the king a grant of the manor of Strettondale (see Placita de Quo Warranto, p. 685); and Griffin de la Pole, her grandson, being under age at his father's death, the wardship of his lands held in capite was also granted to her (see Abb. Rot. Orig. pp. 88, 89). Under these circumstances the better opinion should seem to be that this was the seal not of Hawise Gadarn, but of Hawise, wife of Griffin de la Pole.

The following pedigree, which, with the exception of the parts in parentheses, is derived from the published records and Dugdale, may render the foregoing remarks more readily intelligible.



4. Seal of Maximilian of Burgundy. This official seal, of which a cast was recently brought under the notice of the Institute,¹ is a beautiful example of the art in the sixteenth century. It is circular, and $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter. The device is a ship of war with three masts in full sail; on the sail of the mainmast is an escutcheon quarterly; I. and IV. also quarterly, viz. 1. *Modern Burgundy*; 2. per pale *Old Burgundy* and *Brabant*; 3. per pale *Old Burgundy* and *Limbourg*; 4 as 1; and on an inescutcheon *Flanders*; II. and III. France modern, a bendlet charged in chief with a dolphin, for *Bourbon-Montpensier*; over all on an inescutcheon apparently a bar on a fess, but probably intended as a fess only, *Borselle*: Crest on a helmet, full-faced with five bars, an owl also full-faced; above are the letters M.B.: Supporters, a lion and another beast, probably a lion also, but the sinister supporter is almost hidden by the mast. The sail of the fore-mast is semée de flammes, and on it are two staves raguly in saltire (as they appear on some of the seals of the Emp. Charles V.), charged at their intersection with a briquet; and above is a pentagonal caillou, and immediately below the intersection three pellets, and at the bottom of the sail a gem ring with something passing through it. The sail of the hindmast is also semée de flammes, and on it are the like staves in saltire, charged at the intersection with a pentagonal caillou; above is an indistinct object, possibly an escallop, and immediately below the intersection three pellets, and at the bottom of the sail a snail with its shell. On the dexter of the staves is an M. The B, which might be expected on the sinister, may be hidden by the flag next mentioned. On a flag at the stern is a merman in armour, in his right hand raised to strike is a sword, and on his left arm a shield (? charged). Along the top of the hull are ten shields with the arms following:—

1 ? } These are on the forecastle: the charges have not been
2 ? } satisfactorily made out.

3. *Modern Burgundy* with its quarterings and inescutcheon as in the first and fourth grand quarters of the escutcheon on the main sail.

4. A fess apparently charged with a bar, but probably intended as a fess only, for *Borselle*.²

5. Barry of six, in chief three annulets for *Vieville*.³

6. France modern, a bendlet charged in chief with probably a dolphin, for *Bourbon-Montpensier*.⁴

7. Three mascles, a chief paly, on a canton a lion rampant, for *Berghes*.⁵

8. A cross charged with five escallops for *St. Simon*.⁶

9. Three eagles displayed for Brimeu.⁷

10. Three bars for *Rambures*.⁸

} These are on
the poop.

Five other shields are seen through the shrouds, but without charges.

The legend, which is on a scroll round the device, has the first two letters concealed by a turn of it; but these and some defects from fractures

¹ A sulphur cast from the collection of the late Mr. Caley was exhibited by Mr. Burt, at the Monthly Meeting, Jan. 7, 1853. Casts of this remarkable seal may be obtained, without difficulty, from Mr. Ready, Lowestoft.

² Borselle was *sa.*, a fess *arg.*

³ Vieville, Barry of 8 or and *az.* on the first two bars 3 annulets *gu.*

⁴ Bourbon-Montpensier, France modern,

on the chief or of a bendlet *gu.* a dolphin *az.*

⁵ Berghes or Bergue, *Vert.* 3 mascles *arg.*, on a chief paly or and *gu.*, a canton *sa.* charged with a lion rampant or.

⁶ St. Simon, *sa.* on a cross *arg.* 5 escallops *gu.*

⁷ Brimeu, *arg.* 3 eagles displayed *gu.*

⁸ Rambures, or. 3 bars *gu.*

being supplied in parentheses, it reads thus : (SI)GILLVM : MAXIMILIANI : A : BYRGONDIA : D(OMINI : BEV)ERIS : AC : VERIS : M(A)RIS : PREFECTI :⁹

On the box containing the cast it was stated to be the "Admiralty seal of Maximilian de Burgundy, Admiral and captain general of the sea, to a safe conduct of Charles Emp. of the Romans, King of Germany, &c., 1543." The original is said to be now at Carlton Ride.

This official seal is remarkable for the number of family alliances it displays, and the place they occupy. The Maximilian named on it belonged to one of the illegitimate branches of Burgundy, descended from Duke Philip surnamed the Good, who died in 1467, and whose arms are those on the main-sail in the first and fourth grand quarters. The admiral was Lord of Bevres and Vere and some other places, and eventually a knight of the Golden Fleece, but not till 1546 ; which being after the date of the seal, the flammes, the briquet and caillou are not to be referred to that order, but to the house of Burgundy, and probably the staves raguly also ; whatever may be the fact as to the ring and snail. He studied under Erasmus, and was intended, it is said, for an ecclesiastic ; but afterwards devoted himself to arms ; which change may have taken place after the deaths of his two elder brothers, who died young, had opened new prospects to him. He was the third son of Adolphus of Burgundy by his wife Anne, daughter of John de Berghes, whose mother was Mary or Blanche St. Simon, by Adrienne de Brimeu his wife, whose mother was Adrienne de Rambures ; and which Adolphus was the son of Philip of Burgundy by his wife Anne, eldest daughter of Wolfart de Borselle by Charlotte de Bourbon-Montpensier his wife, aunt of Charles Duke of Bourbon, constable of France, who was killed at the taking of Rome in 1527 ; and which Philip was the son of Anthony, the famous bastard of Burgundy, by his wife Mary, only daughter of Peter de la Vieville by Isabel de Preuve his wife ; and which Anthony was one of the illegitimate sons of the before-mentioned Duke Philip. As the father of Maximilian is said to have borne the arms of Borselle, *sa a fess arg.*, on an inescutcheon over all, we may conclude, notwithstanding the peculiarity of the fess on this inescutcheon over all, that only a fess was really intended ; and if so, no doubt for Borselle. Mary de la Vieville and Anne de Borselle appear to have been heiresses ; but not so any of the other ladies whose paternal arms are mentioned as occurring on the seal. Charlotte de Bourbon-Montpensier, at least, had not then, according to the rules of English heraldry, conferred any right to quarter her paternal coat ; yet that coat was quartered, not only by Maximilian, but also by his father, though it may be presumed for a brisure only, conformably with what was sometimes practised in France. The arms of this branch of Burgundy had been originally the quarterings and inescutcheon of Duke Philip their progenitor, with a baton sinister over all. As Maximilian's grandfather Philip is said to have quartered Vieville, probably the baton was then disused. The dolphin, which distinguished the Montpensier branch of Bourbon, was taken from the arms of their ancestors, Dauphins of Auvergne. The seal

⁹ In the portion of this legend, where a defect in the impression is here supplied, —DOMINI : and—DN'I : DE :—would occupy the same space. Imhof would seem to sanction the reading—DE, but

the usual practice was to omit it, and use either a genitive, or an adjective, at that time. Had DE been used, the words would probably have read BEVRES, and VERE or LA VERE, as in Imhof.

shows that Chiffet and others, who represent the brisure of Bourbon-Montpensier as having been at that date a "baton peri en bande" charged, &c., are in error. If that form of brisure had been introduced, it was then of rare occurrence. In like manner the baton sinister above-mentioned was not coupé, but extended across the shield.—W. S. W.

5. Personal seal of circular form, with a remarkable device, a lion retrogardant, holding in his paws a dexter human hand.¹ The tail terminates in a foliated ornament, similar to the designs of sculpture late in the XIIth century, or early in XIIIth, the period to which this seal may be assigned. The legend is — ✠ SIGILLVM BALDEW . . DE ROSETO. The impression, on white wax, is appended to a deed amongst the Barrington muniments, and was communicated by Mr. G. Alan Lowndes, who kindly presented to the Institute a selection of sulphur casts, taken by Mr. Ready, of Lowestoft, from the more remarkable seals in the large collection of deeds, chiefly relating to the Priory of Hatfield Regis, Essex, and now preserved at Barrington Hall.

The document to which this seal is appended reads as follows (*in extenso*):—

"Sciant presentes et futuri quod ego, Baldewinus de Rosei, concessi et reddidi Radulfo de Roset fratri meo, et heredibus suis, in feudo et hereditate, ad tenendum de me et de meis heredibus, terram Hoieseie, quam Radulfus de Rosei pater meus ei dedit, per servicium quod eadem terra debet, scilicet, xx. den. ad xx. sol. de exercitu regis et scutagiis. Testante Rogero de Toftes, Radulfo de Keneuile, Ricardo Malamusca, Will' de Lechesham, Adam de Rokelund, Rodland de Ridune, Matheo de Roser, Lamberd de Rosei."²

Scutage or escuage was a commutation in money for knight-service, or the personal service of a knight in war. It may be traced to the early part of the reign of Henry II. As the Roseis do not appear to have held in capite, the scutage mentioned in the above deed may be assumed to have been a contribution to that of their lord, who was probably the Earl of Warenne, as they seem to have been his vassals. According to Blomefield's Norfolk, vol. vii., p. 80, under Roses Manor in South Creek, Baldwin de Rosey or de Roseto, who held considerable lands of the Earl of Warenne, confirmed by deed without date all the benefactions of his ancestors to the Priory of Castle Acre; and under Houghton in the same volume it is stated, that William, the third Earl of Warenne, before 1146 confirmed to the monks of Castle Acre the tithe which Wachelin de Rosei granted them, and that Baldwin de Rosei confirmed the grant of his ancestors by an agreement made before Walter, Bp. of Norwich. For this no authority is cited, but it occurred probably at the latter part of Baldwin's life, since there was no Walter Bp. of Norwich to whom this could apply till 1243; which would seem to be some years later than the probable date of the above deed. In Testa de Nevil, pp. 271, 287, and 354, a Baldwin de

¹ The origin of this curious device has not been ascertained. Another example may be cited, at a much later period. Henry Long, eldest son of Sir Thomas Long, of Drayton Cerne, was knighted in his father's lifetime by Henry VIII. for his gallant conduct at Tirwyn, in sight of the king, who granted him a new crest,—

a lion's head crowned, with a man's hand in the mouth.

² The various modes of writing the name deserve notice;—de Rosei, Roset or de Roseto, Roser. The deed is endorsed in a later hand, "Bald. Rosier's Grant to Rad. Rosier." Casts of this seal may be obtained from Mr. Ready, Lowestoft.

Rosei or Rosey is mentioned as holding lands in Norfolk and elsewhere. This record furnishes no certain date, but it was compiled from inquisitions taken temp. Hen. III. and Edw. I. A Radulf de Rosei appears in the Great Roll of the Pipe 4th Hen. II., under Cambridgeshire, in connection with the Earl of Warenne. This was probably Radulf the father named in the deed. Two of the name appear as witnesses with Will. de Mandeville, Earl of Essex, to a confirmation by Galfrid de Say to Walden Abbey. (Mon. Ang.) These may have been the father and son, though one is called de Rosey and the other de Roseto; for in the deed itself their names also differ. A Radulf de Rosey witnessed a confirmatory grant by Matilda de Say, after the death of her husband William de Bocland, to the monks of Walden, of a church, which her grandmother Beatrix de Say had given them. (Mon. Ang.) Beatrix died in 1207; but when William de Bocland died has not been ascertained. He was Matilda's husband in 30 Hen. II. (See *Mad. Form. Angl.*, p. 217.) Probably he died about the same time as Beatrix. However that may be, the grant by Matilda could hardly be earlier than 1207, and it is not improbable that was this Radulf de Rosei the son named in the deed; for the Earls of Warenne had lands both in Essex and Cambridgeshire, at no great distance from Walden. A Lambert de Rosei is mentioned as a benefactor to the monks in the first two grants by the second Earl of Warenne to Castle Acre Priory (Mon. Ang.) That Earl died in 1135, and therefore this could not be the Lambert named in the above deed, though he may have been one of Baldwin's ancestors whose benefactions were confirmed by him. A Lambert de Ros, probably for Rosei, appears as a witness to the grant by Drogo, son of William Dapifer de Gressinghall, to the same Priory (Mon. Ang.), but there is nothing to fix its date. The churches of Lechesham are mentioned in the Earl's grants above referred to, most likely East and West Lexham, Norfolk; and a William de Lechesham is among the witnesses to a grant by Godfrid de Lisewis to the monks of Castle Acre at Rainham (Mon. Ang.), which is addressed to John Bp. of Norwich, and witnessed also by William Prior of Lewis, whereby the date is ascertained to be between 1175 and 1180. This William de Lechesham may possibly have been the witness to the above deed; but if so, he must have been advanced in years. A witness of the same name occurs to another grant by the same Godfrid, but there is nothing to indicate when it was made.

In determining the date of the document above given, the peculiar form of it is not to be disregarded. Such a deed might be referred to the twelfth century, and can hardly be much later than the commencement of the reign of Henry III.

6. A brass matrix, of circular form, diam. 1 in., bearing an heraldic escutcheon, charged with a coat which appears to be, barry nebuly of five. Around the margin is the legend, s'. SIMONIS : BASSET : The upper part, or handle of the matrix is hexagonal, the extremity being pierced with a trefoil for suspension. It is supposed to have been the seal of Simon Basset, of Sapcote, co. Leicester, son and heir of Ralph Basset, or of Simon Basset, who was the grandson of the before-mentioned Simon, and died about 1328, of whom little is known except that he married, and left a son Ralph. Simon, the grandfather, was summoned in June, 22 Edw. I., 1294, to attend the king to advise touching weighty affairs of the realm; but Sir II. Nicolas questions whether this can be considered as a regular Writ of Summons to Parliament. He was

further commanded to come to Portsmouth on Sept. 1, following, well furnished with horse and arms, to accompany Edward into Gascony.³ He died in 1296: his son and heir, Ralph Basset, was with the expedition into Scotland, 4 Edw. II. The original arms of Basset of Sapcote seem to have been, arg. two bars sa., or barry undy, arg. and sa., at which time nebuly and undy were often the same. It is said that t. Edw. III. they were changed to or, three piles meeting in base gules, a canton vair. The best account of this family is contained in Nichol's Leicestershire, vol. iv., under Sapcote, p. 889, *et seqq.*, where the various changes in the Basset coat are mentioned. In the Roll *temp.* Hen. III., edited by Nicolas, p. 10, it is probable that the word *ounde* is omitted. In the Roll of Arms, t. Edw. III., the entry appears, "Monsire Basset port une daunsy, d'argent et gules, de vj. peeces."⁴ The matrix was found at Metheringham, near Sleaford, Lincolnshire.

7. Personal seal, with an heraldic escutcheon, charged with a maunch, the bearing of le Banaster, an ancient Shropshire family of note. The matrix was found on the property of John Arthur Lloyd, Esq., at Cae Hen farm, in Montgomeryshire, and is now in his possession. It is of brass, and bears the legend—*Willems. le banaster.*

An impression was presented by W. W. E. Wynne, Esq., M.P., who also kindly communicated the following particulars:—"This seal was found in May, 1843, in turning some compost, formed out of an old fence, taken up where a house is reported to have formerly stood. The arms of Le Banaster are, vert, a maunch argent. Blakeway states that the Banaster family was formerly of Hadnall, Shropshire, possibly from the time of the Domesday Survey. The name occurs, amongst the companions of the Conqueror, in the Roll of Battle Abbey. Blakeway asserts, also, that the arms were, arg. a cross potent fleury sa. Mr. J. Morris, of Shrewsbury, states that William Banaster, of Yorton, near Hadnall, who witnessed in 12 Edw. III. a grant by Sir Robert Corbet, of Moreton Corbet, of land in Wem Brockhurst, married Matilda, daughter and sole heiress of Guy de Hadnall, whose arms were, vert, a maunch argent. William, son of this William Banaster, was living at Yorton, 25 Edw. III., and succeeded to the Hadnall Estate prior to 30 Edw. III. He was Escheator of co. Salop, as appears by a document in All Souls' College, Oxford, 44 Edw. III. (13 March, 1378.) Mr. Morris supposes that this seal may have been used by this William le Banaster."



Seal of William le Banaster.

8. Personal seal with a device, a flower of six leaves, resembling the *angemme* or *angenin*, of French heraldry, but having little filaments between the petals. It bears the name of Hugh de Treverbin. A detached impression, on dingy coloured red wax, with the deed to which it had in all probability been originally appended, was found amongst the muniments at Wardour Castle by Mr. Smirke, who communicated it as an example of a form unusual amongst English seals, being an equilateral triangle. This

³ Dugdale's Bar. vol. i., p. 382.

⁴ Roll of arms, about 1337-1350, edited by Sir H. Nicolas, p. 40. This may have

been Ralph, Lord Basset, son of the second Simon above-mentioned. He was distinguished in the campaigns of that reign.

form may probably have originated in that of the shield; escutcheon-shaped matrices of seals are not of rare occurrence on the continent. Heineccius gives a few examples, some with the upper margin curvilinear,

like that of the defence termed a "kite-shield;" more usually the upper edge is straight.⁵ The legend is, s. NVGONIS D' TREVERBIN.



The Treverbin family was of note in Cornwall, and possessed a manor of the same name in the parish of St. Austell. The deed above mentioned is described by Mr. Smirke as a confirmation, by Hugo, son of Odo de Treverbin, of his father's grant of lands, &c., in St. "Austol" to the Prior and convent of Tiwardreth. The *testes* are, Phil. de Bodrigan, Radulph. de Arundel, Alanus Bloyhou, Will. de Roscrou, Ric. de Pridias, Walter Ram, &c. The deed is without date, but it may be assigned to the thirteenth century. The grant by Odo, son of Walter de Treverbin, (the same Walter, possibly, who was sheriff of Cornwall in 1223,) has been printed, from the original in Lord Arundell's possession, in Dr. Oliver's "Monasticon of the Diocese of Exeter (p. 42)."

The varieties of the floral and foliated device on seals of the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries are innumerable, as are also those of the fleurdelys and the cross flory. They occur more commonly on seals of persons of inferior condition, or those who may not have been entitled to bear arms, and the matrices appear to have been very generally of lead, and coarsely engraved. In certain instances the device may have had some heraldic or special significance, such as the five-leaved flower on the seal of Richard de Roseto, *cir. t.* Hen. III., represented in Mr. Dashwood's *Ancient Seals at Stowe-Bardolph*.⁶ In the example before us, some allusion to an armorial bearing might be sought at first sight in the narcissus flower between three estoiles; but it seems to be a mere conventional device, and the arms of the Treverbins were, per pale, ar. and gu. three castles counterchanged.

9. Small personal seal, of round form, bearing an escutcheon charged with a device, not heraldic, which may be thus described: In dexter chief an arm clothed in a sleeve tightly buttoned, and striking with a hammer upon an anvil formed with the pointed projection at each end, which caused it to be called a "bickorne" (*biscornuta* or *bicornna*), in modern parlance a beak-iron. An anvil thus named occurs amongst the requisites for the

⁵ Heineccius, de Sigillis, tabb. xi, xii. German and Italian matrices of the escutcheon form often occur, usually displaying heraldic bearings. The seal of Stephen Burstowe, in the Brit. Mus. is an early and remarkable example of the triangular matrix, the angles much rounded. Three small antique gems are inserted in the field. A representation of this curious seal is given in Bisshe's *Notes on Upton de Studio Mil.* p. 68, but the shape is very inaccurately shown, the sides being strongly incurved, which is not the

case in the original impression. Some examples of the escutcheon form of matrix occur in the *Recueil de Sceaux Normands*, by A. L. D'Anisy.

⁶ *Sigilla Antiqua* (privately printed) pl. 5. Other examples of the floral device, as also of escutcheon shaped seals, of which the more truly triangular form, shown above, may be only a variety, will be found in this interesting volume, of which Mr. Dashwood kindly presented a copy to the Library of the Institute, where it may be consulted.

armourer, used doubtless in closing up the rivets, and is enumerated in the "Abilment for the Justus of the pees."⁷ The anvil here is not set in its stock, but the point, formed for fixing it in a wooden block, appears directed towards the middle base point. In the sinister chief there is a large star, possibly a spark from the anvil. The legend seems to be, *P. MARQUIER., of which no satisfactory explanation has been offered: some have supposed that it may denote the name of the owner, Marker, or it may convey some double allusion, implied in the device of affixing a certain mark by the blow of the hammer. "*Merchier—Marquer, noter.*" Roquefort.⁸



This little seal of brass, date fourteenth cent., was exhibited by the Rev. W. Gunner, and had been recently found in an excavation in Colbrook Street, Winchester. A small round seal, apparently Flemish, with a device closely similar to this, is in the collection at the British Museum. The device is an anvil, fixed in a block, with tongs and hammer above it, and over them appears a large spark. The legend is much defaced, and the seal appears of a later period than that found at Winchester. It may probably be assigned to the fifteenth century.

10. Privy seal, of circular form, fourteenth century, diameter $\frac{3}{4}$ in.; the device, a lion rampant, with the legend, * SVM LEO FORTIS. Matrix in the possession of the Hon. Mrs. Greville Howard. Impression communicated by Mr. Greville Chester.

We are indebted to the obliging permission of Mr. Mason, of Tenby, publisher of the "Archæologia Cambrensis," for the use of the woodcut of the seal of Hawise, Lady of Keveoloc, inserted among the foregoing examples. It was noticed in the "Cambrian Journal," Vol. III., New Series, p. 70, and Vol. IV., p. 72, with this illustration. Impressions from the matrix have been communicated by Mr. Dawes and the Rev. F. Massie, of Chester.

W. S. W., AND A. W.

⁷ See the note on the word "Byckorne, Archaeol Journal, vol. iv., p. 229.

⁸ In base Latin *Marchia* occurs in the

sense of *nota, sigillum*;—*Marquare—signare*; namely, to stamp a standard measure, &c. See Ducange.

EXAMPLES OF MEDIÆVAL SEALS.

The gratification expressed by many readers of the *Journal*, and the cordial acceptance, beyond our anticipations, which has requited our endeavours to illustrate the History of Mediæval Seals, present ample encouragement to resume a subject apparently recognised as of essential value to the historian and the antiquary. In offering to their notice a fresh instalment, selected from the remarkable assemblage of impressions and matrices communicated during the past year, through the kindness of numerous friends and collectors of seals, we must again advert to the advantage which would accrue from the formation of an extensive series, in some public depository, readily accessible for general information. Few, perhaps, of those who take interest in this branch of antiquarian inquiry, are aware that a considerable collection of original matrices exists in the British Museum, or that the Rawlinson Collection, preserved at Oxford, is still more numerous, although less rich in English examples.

Moreover, amongst other useful information recently brought together by Mr. Sims, in his "Handbook to the Library of the British Museum,"¹ is the gratifying intelligence that considerable materials exist in the National depository with which to commence the formation of a suitable collection of seals; we are informed that besides the large assemblage of documents, chiefly in the Harleian Collection of Charters, with seals appended, there are about six hundred and fifty original impressions detached from deeds, and described in the printed lists of additions for the years 1834—1845. We learn, moreover, that nearly two thousand sulphur impressions were presented by Mr. J. Doubleday, which are described by classes in a MS. catalogue.² They may be inspected in the reading-room, by the formality of a written ticket for each cast or impression, in like manner as readers obtain a MS. or a printed book.

¹ Published by J. Russell Smith, London, 12mo., 1844. See the notices relating to Seals, pp. 78, 274-276.

² We believe that impressions from any of these, as also from a very large

collection of monastic, municipal and personal seals, moulded by Mr. Doubleday, may be purchased on application to him, Little Russell Street, near the British Museum.

In the depositories of public records numerous impressions of seals are preserved ; but these are necessarily difficult of access, and it were much to be desired that casts should be obtained for some general collection, and rendered available to all who might require to make use of them. It is greatly to be regretted that the large collections formed by the late Mr. Caley, chiefly from examples thus preserved in the Record Offices, and amounting to nearly two thousand impressions in wax and sulphur, were not secured for the public advantage at his death. The greater part of these collections is now in Sir Thomas Phillipps's possession, at Middle Hill, but some portions passed into other hands : the Worcestershire seals, for example, are now in the library of the Society of Antiquaries, and the Warwickshire seals, as we believe, are to be found in the Staunton Collections, illustrative of the history of that county, and preserved at Longbridge, near Warwick.

1. Leadén Bulla of Gerinus, fifteenth *Custos*, or Grand Master of the Hospitalers. It is appended to a document in the Record Office at Malta, dated A.D. 1233.³ He succeeded Bertrand de Taxis, who died previously to October, 1231, although some accounts record his death as late as 1244.⁴ Gerinus appears, however, by a document dated October 26th, 1231, to have been Grand Master at that time.⁵ Pope Gregory IX., on his reconciliation with the Emperor Frederic II., who had obtained possession of Palestine by a treaty with the Sultan of Egypt, sought to secure in his favour the influence of the Hospitalers ; and Gerinus supported the cause of Conrad, son of Frederic by Yoland, daughter of John de Brienne, King of Jerusalem. The claim of Conrad to that title was disputed by Alix, widow of Hugh, King of Cyprus. Her father, Henry Count of Champagne, had espoused Isabel, daughter of Amauri, King of Jerusalem ; and he had been further confirmed in the sovereignty of Palestine by Richard Cœur de Lion and his allies in 1192. The results of these contentions were fatal to the Christian cause ; anarchy ensued, and Jerusalem fell into the power of the Mahommedans. Gerinus did not live to see the issue of the disastrous quarrel in which he had engaged : his name occurs as Grand Master in May, 1236, but he died before September in that year. Vertot has incorrectly stated that he perished with a band of Hospitalers and Templars in conflict with the Kharisimian marauders, who ravaged Palestine and took Jerusalem. It was not, however, until 1244 that those hordes, expelled from their own country by the Tartars, made their descent upon the Holy Land.

The Bulla of Gerinus presents another example, hitherto, as we believe, unpublished, of this rare and curious kind of seal. The types are conformable to that of the bullæ given on a previous occasion ; there occur

³ The Office reference is, Book 6, No. 9.

⁴ Statuti del Sacro Spedali di S. Giov. :

Chronological list of Grand Masters. Borgo Nuovo, 1674.

⁵ L'Art de Verifier les Dates, tome ii., edit. 1818, p. 109, citing Sebastian Paoli.

some slight variations in design, which are shown by the annexed woodcuts. The obverse presents a figure of the *Custos* kneeling reverentially before a patriarchal cross; he bows his head with a gesture of great veneration. The badge of the white cross, of the Greek form, is distinctly shown upon



Leaden Bulla of Geriaus, Grand Master of the Hospitalers, 1231—1236
From the Record Office at Malta.

the left side of the mantle. On the reverse appears the customary representation of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, with three domes very rudely portrayed. Beneath, or within the church, is a corpse, swathed in grave-clothes, and typifying the tomb of Our Lord. Over the body is suspended a vase, similar in form to the richly ornamented glass lamps still to be seen in the east; at the feet appears the censer swinging over the corpse, and at the head is placed a Greek cross, as on the bullæ before given.⁶ The legends are as follows:—Obverse, + : FRATER : GERIVS : CUSTOS : Reverse, + : OSPITALIS : IHERUSALEM :⁷

We are indebted to Mr. A. Milward for facsimiles of this and of other remarkable bullæ, which we hope to bring before our readers hereafter. They were moulded by him in gutta percha from the originals at Valetta, found during his researches at the Record Office. In a former volume of the *Journal* Mr. Milward invited attention to the value of the archives of Malta.⁸

2. Personal Seal, with a device, and the legend, * s' ELIE FIL' WILLELMI PARWIKINI. The matrix is of lead, and was lately found during the repairs of Stockbury Church, Kent, amongst rubbish which had been brought out of the building. It was unluckily broken by an accidental blow of a shovel. This matrix supplies an example of a large class of personal seals, used during the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries by individuals not entitled, probably, to bear arms. The original type may have been the cross, although so modified as to present the appearance of a flower or a star. Examples occur, not unfrequently, with four radiations, either with or without intervening strokes, stars, &c.; and the cross flory is often found. The number of principal radiations is more commonly eight, with smaller intervening rays, as in the present instance (see woodcut), but the device assumes a great variety of forms, occasionally resembling the heraldic *angemme*, or six-petaled flower; whilst sometimes the radiations compose a

⁶ See the notices of two other bullæ, ante, p. 141.

⁷ The H in Jherusalem is formed like

an M, whilst the final M, as shown in the woodcut, resembles an H.

⁸ Arch. Journ., vol. vii., p. 369.

quatrefoil, or are in form of leaves. Another favourite device on seals of this class and period is a branch or plant, most probably modifications of the *fleur-de-lys*, which also is of frequent occurrence. The matrices appear to have been mostly of lead, as indicated on the wax by the roughness of surface, and rudeness of the work; this conjecture is confirmed by comparing innumerable impressions attached to deeds with the existing matrices, which have been found in various parts of England.⁹ Mr. Dashwood has given several good examples in his "*Sigilla Antiqua*," from deeds in Norfolk, of the times of Henry III. and Edward I.¹



These matrices of white metal are usually formed with a small projection on the reverse, near the upper margin of the disk, and perforated for suspension. Occasionally, the reverse presents an elegant foliated ornament. There are numerous examples of pointed-oval form, bearing the names of females, or, less commonly, of ecclesiastics. Seals of females often occur also, of this class, of circular form.

Elias, son of William Parwikin, lived probably in the reign of Henry III. The name has not been traced; it may have been a nickname, in which as frequently found in early times, the epithet *parvus* is combined; the terminal may possibly be the diminutive found in numerous "nurse-names," such as Peter-kin, or Perkin, Watkin, Tomkins, &c. Our thanks are due to Mr. Richard Hussey for communicating this matrix.

3. "Privy seal, or *secretum*, with a device but no name. The form is acutely-pointed oval; in the centre is an oval intaglio, either an antique or copied from an antique gem. It represents a *Chimæra* with the head and neck of a horse, a bearded human head forming the body, and the head of a ram with a tuft of feathers forming the tail: the monster stands on legs like a bird. The setting is of silver, engraved with care, and thus inscribed round the margin, + SCRIPTVM SIGNAT EQVVS MITTIT ET DEVEHIT ALES. This monster, with some trifling modifications, frequently occurs on antique gems (compare Gorlæus, pars II., nos. 316, 317, 322, 323). In some examples the human head is supposed to typify Socrates,² but these devices have been regarded as of a Gnostic character.³

This remarkable example of the class of counterseals composed of antique gems in elegant silver settings, was dug up in the parish of Scartho, near Great Grimsby, Lincolnshire, and an impression was presented by Richard R. Caton, Esq.; dimensions, $1\frac{1}{8}$ in. by $\frac{3}{4}$ in.

Numerous instances of the use of such gems in mediæval times might be cited; and ecclesiastics do not appear to have taken any exception even to those which record the mysticism of the heresies of Basilides and

⁹ See Mr. Hudson Turner's observations on Personal Seals, *Archæol. Journ.*, vol. v. p. 7. A curious leaden seal, found near St. Asaph, is represented, *Journ.* vol. vi. p. 296. It bears the name of Jorverth, son of Madoc.

¹ Engravings from ancient seals in the Muniment Room of Sir Thomas Hare, Bart. 1847, privately printed. Mr. Dash-

wood kindly presented a copy to the Library of the Institute.

² See Chiffletii *Socrates, sive de Gemmis ejus imagine cælati*, where two are figured nearly similar to that above described.

³ See the Dissertation of Macarius on this type of Basilidian gems, in his *Abraxas Proteus*, Antwerp. 1657. p. 35.

Valentinus in the second century. The counterseal used by Roger, Archbishop of York, 1154, is an intaglio presenting a chimera of three heads combined, one of them being that of Socrates, seen on the gems figured by Chifflet,⁴ and regarded by the Christian prelate as typifying the Trinity, as would appear from the legend—CAPVT NOSTRVM TRINITAS EST.⁵

The silver setting of the *secretum* found at Scartho may be assigned to the fourteenth century. An interesting example of that period found in Suffolk has been represented in the *Journal* (vol. iii., p. 76), and some other matrices of the same class are there described.

4. Seal of Henry of Lancaster, Earl of Derby, found in 1810 near "the Green Man," an Inn and Farm-house on Lincoln Heath, nine miles south of Lincoln. Its existence recently became known to the Rev. Edward Trollope, to whom the Institute is indebted for the exhibition of it at the Chichester meeting. It is a personal seal with heraldry: a cut of an impression is here given. The legend is—S^r HENRICI LANCASTRIE COMITIS DERBEYE. He was the only son of Henry Earl of Lancaster, in whom that title was restored in 1327: his eldest brother, Thomas Earl of Lancaster, having been attaint and executed in 1321-2. They were sons of Edmund Crouchback, Earl of Lancaster, brother of Edward I. Their mother was Blanche, widow of Henry King of Navarre, and daughter of Robert Count of Artois, brother of Louis IX. of France. Henry of Lancaster was created Earl of Derby in 1337, and succeeded to the earldom of Lancaster on the death of his father in 1345; so that the seal is to be referred to that period. He was created Duke of Lancaster in 1351; and died in 1361 without issue male, leaving two daughters his co-heiresses. His military exploits in France, as Earl of Derby, were chronicled by Froissart. A small seal of his as Duke of Lancaster is engraved by Sandford.



The heraldry is worthy of notice. His father, uncle, and grandfather, when Earls of Lancaster, had borne England with a label of France; yet, though he was an only son and heir-apparent to the earldom, he did not bear his father's coat with a label, probably because of the inconvenience of adding another label, but he bore England with a baton azure for a difference. (See Roll of Arms, t. Edw. III.) The same arms had been borne by his father in the lifetime of his elder brother Thomas, as appears by his seal engraved in Sandford, and by the description of them in the Siege of Carlaverock. Nicolas, in his notes to that poem, says, "whether he changed them on becoming the heir male of his house in 1321, has not been ascertained." But of this, or at least of his having eventually changed them, there is no reasonable ground of doubt; for his daughters Blanche and Eleanor impaled England, a label of France, with their respective husbands' arms, as is shown in Sandford: beside which, if he had continued to use the coat, it is not likely the son would have borne the same without a difference in the father's life-time. The inconvenience of adding label to label

⁴ See his dissertation already cited.

⁵ Engraved, *Vetusta Monum.*, vol. i. pl. 59.

gave rise perhaps to another heraldic anomaly in this family some years after. Henry IV. was the grandson of the earl to whom this seal belonged, having been the only son of his daughter Blanche, the wife of John of Ghent, Duke of Lancaster; yet, while he was Earl of Derby and heir-apparent of his father, he did not bear, with a difference, the coat armour of his father, viz., France and England quarterly, a label ermine; but, being the heir of his mother, who had died in his childhood, he bore the same arms that her ancestors, Earls of Lancaster, had used, viz., England with a label of France. The wyverns, which flank the arms on this seal, may not be mere ornament derived from the fancy of the artist; for the like are found on the reverse of the seal of Thomas Earl of Lancaster, the uncle of this Henry of Lancaster, as given by Sandford, and on the obverse he is represented with a similar animal for a crest. An earlier example of a wyvern for a crest, though in a different attitude, occurs on the seal of Roger de Quincy, Earl of Winchester, who died in 1264; and as Thomas Earl of Lancaster had married the heiress of Lacy, who was also the heiress of Robert, the elder brother of Roger de Quincy, these wyverns may have been derived from that family. In confirmation of this, it may be mentioned, that such animals are also found flanking the escutcheon of arms on the *secretum* of Henry de Lacy, Earl of Lincoln, father of Alice, the wife of Thomas Earl of Lancaster; this *secretum* is engraved in Mr. J. G. Nichols' communication on the earldom of Lincoln published in the volume of the Proceedings of the Institute at Lincoln. Alice died without issue in 1348, and her possessions passed to Henry of Lancaster, on whom, in failure of her issue, they had been settled some years before. Similar accessories are met with on other seals, and probably most of them might be traced to the family of de Quincy. In consequence of the possessions of Alice having devolved on Henry of Lancaster, he was created Earl of Lincoln in 1349; and from that time till his death he held the castle of Lincoln; wherefore that a seal of his, which had been some time disused, should have been lost on Lincoln Heath, is by no means improbable.

5. Official seal of the subsidy upon wool, 21 Edward III. The matrix, which is of brass, was recently found at Brampton, in Norfolk, and it is now in the possession of Mr. George Jones, of Marsham, in that county.

This seal bears an escutcheon of the arms of England and France (*seme*) quarterly: neither the name of the sovereign nor of any officer appears in the legend, which is as follows:—
S' SVBS: DVOR' SOLIDOR': D' SACCO. LANE.
I' LOND'. Above is introduced a bearded head in profile, and a sword before it, doubtless intended to symbolise the patron Saint of the City of London, St. Paul.



In the recently published part of the transactions of the Norfolk Archæological Society the discovery of this seal has been recorded, in a notice by their indefatigable secretary, Mr. Harrod, accompanied by the representation, which by his obliging permission we here present to our readers.⁶ We are not aware that any seal connected with the subsidy in question had previously been described.

⁶ Original Papers, published by the Norfolk and Norwich Archæological Society, vol. iv. p. 237.

Mr. Harrod has accurately ascertained the period when this seal was made. The grant of such a subsidy does not appear upon the statutes of the realm, but he cites the abstract of the entry on the rolls of Parliament, as given in Cotton's Abridgment of the Records, p. 52, by which we learn that at the Parliament at Westminster, on the morrow after St. Hilary, 21 Edward III. (1348), the commons petitioned against the continuance of a subsidy of two shillings upon every sack of wool, and every tun of wine passing the seas, and sixpence upon every pound "Defavoires."⁷ This aid for keeping the realm and safe conduct of ships had been ordered (without assent of the commons) in a council held 21 Edward III., by Lionel, the king's son, who was constituted on July 1, 1345, Custos of England, and Lieutenant of the King during his absence in France. Those charges were to continue, however, only until Michaelmas, and the commons made complaint that they were still demanded. The king remitted them, with the exception of two shillings on the sack of wool, which should continue until Easter, (1348).⁸

The original entry on the Rolls of Parliament appears of sufficient interest to be here given at length, in illustration of the history of this seal. The printed text is as follows:—

"Item monstre la Commune, Qe come au Conseil tenuz par vostre chere fitz Leonel de Andwers, adonques Gardein de la terre, l'an de vostre regne vintisme primer, estoit assiz sanz assent de vostre Commune, sur chescun sac de Leine passant la meer ij. s., sur chescun Tonel de vin ij. s., sur chescune livre des avoires reporteez en la terre vj. d., pur gages des Niefs de guerre salvant la dite terre pur Eenemys, et conduaunt les ditez Marchandises; laquele charge durroit tan qe le Seint Michel prochein ensuant, la quele charge des Leines unqore court en demande des Grantz et Communes de la terre: Qe pleise a vostre Seignurie la dite charge ouster et commander vos Lettres as Coillours de la dite charge de la demand cesser.

Responsio.—Totes les charges supposez par cest article sont oustez, sauve les deux soldz du sak q'est a durer tan qe a la Pasch' prochein a venir. Et pur ce qe cestes charges furent ordeinez pur sauvement conduire les Marchandises apportez en Roialme, et de illoeqes menees as parties de outre meer, sur quele conduite grantz Mises sont faites par le Roi, qe avant le terme de Seint Michiel ne purroient estre levez tot au plein, il semble qe pur si petit temps a venir la dite Levee ne deveroit este tenue trop' chargeant ne trop' grevouise; Car le passage des Leines, par cause desqueles l'Eide fut grante a durer tan qe le Seint Michel, fust par certeine cause en pluis grande partie delaiez, si qe poi en eide des Custages avantmises fut leve: Et pur ce feut le terme purloignez."⁹

⁷ Mr. Harrod has printed this "de savouires." The import of the passage is obscure. The Lincoln's Inn MS. reads "des Avoirs;" the Middle Temple MS.—"des avoires." Cotton, as above given, prints the word thus,—"*Defavoires*." The ordinary signification of *Avoir* is—commodity, merchandise, effects; thus bulky goods were designated by the term "*Avoir de pois*." See Kelham, Roquefort, Ducange, v. *Averium*. Mr. Halliwell in his Archaic Dictionary cites the lines in

the "*Sevyn Sages*," which thus describe the wealthy burgess at Rome,—"*Marchaunt he was of gret avoir*." The charge of sixpence appears incredibly heavy upon the pound of all kinds of merchandise imported.

⁸ Edward III had returned to England, Oct. 23, 1347, after the siege and capture of Calais.

⁹ Rolls of Parl., vol. ii. p. 166. The extract is printed above *in extenso*.

In the following Parliament, held at Westminster, Monday after Mid Lent Sunday, 22 Edward III., 1348, the Commons again petitioned that the subsidy on wool should cease, in accordance with the King's concession. The entry upon the Rolls is as follows :—

“Item prie la Commune qe briefs soient faitz as Customers des Leines de cesser de les deux soulz a sac ore a ceste pasch’, come feust grauntez a vostre drein parlement, sanz ce qe par procurement de nul certain Marchaunt plus longement soit continuez.

“Responsio.—Cesse a la Pask, come autre foitz fu accordez au darrein parlement.”¹

This interesting seal, as it may be supposed, was used for sealing every sack of wool exported, or possibly it was attached to the official permit of embarkation from the port of London.

Mr. Harrod has not noticed the head which appears above the escutcheon, and the accompanying sword, as symbols of the civic patron St. Paul. There can be little doubt that such is their import. They may deserve notice as evidence, if indeed any were wanting, that the so-called dagger on the dexter chief of the city arms did not originate with the gallant act of Sir William Walworth, in 1381, or any honourable augmentation granted by Richard II. This fable, as it is termed by the honest old chronicler, Stow,² has not indeed been wholly forgotten since his time, and it was perpetuated until a recent period by the inscription under the statue of Walworth, placed behind the Prime-warden's seat in the hall of the Fishmongers' Company. Walworth was a member of that company, and they still preserve the identical basilard with which, according to tradition, the valiant mayor struck Wat Tyler from his horse. An interesting illustration of the introduction of the sword, the symbol of the patron saint of London, upon seals connected with the city, is supplied by the silver seal of Edward I. for the Port of London, found about 1810 by the ballast-heavers in the bed of the Thames opposite Queenhithe, and of which a representation may be found in Hone's “Every Day Book,” under June 28. Around the lozenge-shaped escutcheon upon this curious seal, charged with the lions of England, the sword is four times repeated. This matrix has been presented to the British Museum by Lady Fellowes. *Archæologia*, vol. xxxiii. p. 351. The figure of St. Paul, it will be remembered, appears upon the fine Mayoralty Seal of London, represented in a former volume of the *Journal*.³

6. Seal of Edmund, Prior of Bilsington, Kent, a house of Canons Regular of the Order of St. Augustine. An example of the finest design and most skilful execution; scarcely surpassed perhaps by any seal of the fourteenth century. Under an elaborate canopy of tabernacle work is represented the Coronation of the Virgin: she is seated at the right hand of the Saviour, and raises her hands towards him in supplication. Beneath is a kneeling figure of the Prior. The legend is as follows: — S'EA'DI. P'ORIS. ECC'IE. B'E MARIE. DE. BL'SIG'TONE. The form is pointed oval. Dimensions—breadth $1\frac{1}{2}$ in., length $1\frac{1}{4}$ in.

This beautiful seal may confidently be assigned to Edmund de Canterbury, called by Hasted, Edmund Roper, *alias* Canterbury, who appears to

¹ Ibid. p. 202.

² Stow's Survey of London, ch. 30.

³ *Archæol. Journal*, vol. iii. p. 74.

See also Hone's Every Day Book, p. 253.

Feb. 26.

have succeeded Prior John de Romene, deceased 23 Edw. III., 1349. Prior Edmund resigned in 35 Edw. III., 1361.⁴

The recent discovery of the matrix occurred in the following singular manner. It was found in a cottage at Clavering, in Essex, attached to the pendulum of a clock, in order to increase the weight. We are informed by the Hon. Richard Neville, in whose museum at Audley End this fine example of art has been deposited, that it was found some years since in cleaning out a pond at Wicken, a small hamlet between Newport and Clavering; and the finder applied it to the homely purpose above mentioned. The matrix is of brass, and in the most perfect preservation. Mr. Neville brought it forthwith, with his accustomed kindness, for the inspection of the Institute, at the meeting on Dec. 2.

7. Small privy seal, with a device but no name. It is in the form of an escutcheon: along the top, as if on an heraldic chief, are the words, *FORT SV*, being the French version of a favourite motto on such seals, of which we gave an example on a former occasion, inscribed—*SVM LEO FORIS*.⁵ The lower portion of the seal is occupied in the centre by the stem of a tree, having two branches like large leaves: on the dexter side of the tree is a lion rampant; on the sinister, a bird, probably a falcon, the wings closed, the head retrogardant.⁶ This is a very skilfully cut seal of the fourteenth century. The matrix is of brass, and it was found at Quarrington in Lincolnshire. Communicated by the Rev. Edward Trollope. Dimensions—breadth $1\frac{3}{4}$ in., length $\frac{1}{2}$ in.

8. Personal seal with heraldry, being that used by William Lord Botreaux, and appended to a document dated 1426. He was only five years of age at the death of William, his father, in 1392. He was summoned to Parliament from Dec. 1, 14 Henry IV., 1412, to May 23, 1 Edward IV., 1461. He was in the retinue of Henry V., in the campaign of Agincourt, 1416, and served again in the expeditions of 1417 and 1419. On the first memorable occasion he made his will, of which Dugdale gives an abstract.⁸ In 1458 he gave a manor and lands in Somerset to the Priory of Bath, to secure the celebration of certain services, as fully detailed by the same author. He married Elizabeth, daughter of John Lord Beaumont, and having espoused a second wife, Margaret, after her decease, died in 2 Edward IV., 1462, leaving no male issue.⁹ Margaret, his daughter and heir, married Robert, second Baron Hungerford, and was styled, "*Margareta domina Botreaux*." No mention is made by Dugdale of Anne, to whom the document bearing this seal relates: in 1415, however, Lord Botreaux had two daughters living, as appears by his bequest, in the will before

⁴ List of Priors of Bilsington, Mon. Angl. new edit., vol. vi. p. 492. An impression of the Common Seal of Bilsington is appended to the acknowledgment of Supremacy, Dom. Cap. Westm.

⁵ See *ante*, p. 151.

⁶ An oval matrix in the Brit. Mus., S. Thome, fil' Thome de Brai, presents nearly the same design as above described. The bird on this instance appears to be rising from the tree to escape from the lion: and on the ground below there is a fish. The intention of these devices of the fourteenth century

remains in great uncertainty, and it is difficult to distinguish between those which are merely trivial, and such as partake of a certain talismanic character.

⁷ Hist. of the Battle of Agincourt, by Sir N. H. Nicolas, p. 374.

⁸ Dugdale's Baronage, vol. i, p. 630. Nicolas, Testamenta Vetusta, p. 191.

⁹ In the deed granting lands to Bath Priory, in 1458, Lord Botreaux names both Margaret, at that time his wife, and his late wife Elizabeth. It has not been ascertained who was his second consort.

mentioned, of 1000*l.* in money to be shared between them for their marriage portions.

The document, to which this interesting seal is attached, being long, and printed entire by Sir Frederic Madden, in the fourth volume of the "*Collectanea Topographica and Genealogica*, p. 249," we will state only its effect. It is a contract in English between William Lord Botreaux, and Sir Humfrey Stafford, Knight, for the marriage of Sir John Stafford, second son of Sir Humfrey, with Anne, daughter of Lord Botreaux; and for a settlement by Lord Botreaux of the Manor of Radone in the county of Somerset, and the third part of the Manor of Mayden Newetone, and all his lands and tenements in Crokwey, Nattone, and Thrope, in the county of Dorset, on Sir John and Anne and the heirs of their bodies; and also for a settlement by Lord Botreaux of the Manors of Standerwyke, Shepham, and Chedder, and all his lands and tenements in Chedder, in the county of Somerset, and the Manor of Mayden Winterbourne, in the county of Wilts, for the benefit of himself during his life, with liberty to commit waste, and after his decease for the benefit of Sir John and Anne, and the heirs of their bodies, and failing such issue, to go to the right heirs of Lord Botreaux; and also for a settlement by Sir Humfrey Stafford of the Manors of Pyrtone and Lyttewode, and half the Manor of Penkerygge, and his other lands within the Manors of Pyrtone and Lyttewode, in the county of Stafford, and the Manor of Bedcote and Sturbrigge, in the county of Worcester, on Sir John and Anne, and the heirs of their bodies. For which settlements by Lord Botreaux, Sir Humfrey was to give security for payment to Lord Botreaux of nine hundred marks, at the times therein mentioned. If Sir John died while Lord Botreaux and his daughter were living, she was to be free "to go and resorte" to her father without any letting by Sir Humfrey, and was not to be constrained by him to be married or assured to any person. Within six weeks after the marriage, Lord Botreaux and Sir Humfrey respectively were to deliver to the Prior of Bath, in two coffers, to be each locked with three different locks, all the charters, evidences and muniments relating to the lands and tenements agreed to be settled by them; which were to remain with the Prior and his successors for the benefit of the persons interested, according to an arrangement therein stated. Sir Humfrey was to find for Sir John and Anne all the array, apparel, and attire "that shalle longe to thair persones at the day of thair mariage," as it should seem to Sir Humfrey needful; and Lord Botreaux should find on that day meat, drink, and horse-meat, as it should seem to him needful, for Sir John and Anne and other persons that should happen to be there at the time present. The deed is dated 16th of March, 4th Henry VI., 1426. There were two parts of it, and to this part the seal of William Lord Botreaux in red wax is affixed on a parchment label. It has been preserved amongst the muniments of the Earl of Ilchester, at Melbury, Dorset, and was brought before the Institute through the kindness of the Hon. W. Fox Strangways. We are indebted to the Rev. Joseph Hunter for the following observations on the subject under consideration. "This document is the part of the indenture which remained with the Staffords; one of the co-heirs of that family, Eleanor, was wife of Thomas Strangwishe, Esq.; and thus it appears how the deed is found in the evidences of the Earl of Ilchester. In proof of this fact it may suffice to cite the *Rolls of Parliament* (vol. vi. p. 325) where it is set forth that the heirs of Humphrey Stafford Earl of Devonshire, who was put

to death at Bridgewater, 1469, were the descendants of his Aunt Alice Stafford ; namely Elizabeth, wife of Sir John Coleshull, and Eleanor, wife of Thomas Strangwishe, her daughters, and Robert Willoughby, son and heir of Anne another daughter. The Sir Humphrey Stafford, one of the contracting parties in this covenant of marriage, was the ancestor of the Earl of Devon. The marriage took place ; but in a very short space of time both Sir John Stafford and Anne Botreaux, his wife, were dead. Sir John died on Wednesday, the feast of All Saints, 6 Henry VI., 1427, and his wife died at nearly the same time. This is collected from the account of John Gregory, of the profits of his office as Escheator, in the counties of Somerset and Dorset, from Nov. 12, 6 Henry VI., to Nov. 4, 7 Henry VI.

"The selection of the Priory of Bath, as the place in which to deposit the record chests, is easily explained, by the fact, that one of the principal seats of Lord Botreaux was the Castle of Newton St. Loe, not far distant from Bath. There seems to have been much communication between the family and the Priory of Bath, and Lord Botreaux founded a chantry in the church, as may be seen in Dugdale."

The beautiful seal, of which by the permission of Mr. Strangways, we are enabled to give a representation, had been previously noticed by Bisshe, in his notes upon Upton, p. 57. From the engraving there given some deficiencies in the impression have been here carefully supplied. Bisshe, citing Camden, states that the Botreaux family had borne *Arg.*, three toads *Sa.* This was evidently, as Upton observed (p. 155), an allusion to the name, from the old French *boteraux*, a toad (Roquefort). They subsequently took the bearing which appears upon this seal,—a griffin segreant.



In the Roll of Arms, *t.*, Richard II., published by Mr. Willement, the coat of "Monsr. William Botrewe" is found, and it is thus blazoned by the editor:—"Argent, a griffon segreant gules, armed azure."¹ It is scarcely necessary to call attention to a canting allusion to the name which accompanies the more recent coat of Botreaux upon this seal, the buttresses quaintly introduced like supporters on each side of the escutcheon. The legend appears intended to be in English, rarely used at so early a period. *S. William botrecaux.* The date of the seal may probably be assigned to the close of the reign of Henry IV., and the tilting helm, the *chapeau*, mantlings and general design belong precisely to that time.

9. Seal of Alexander Gordon, third Earl of Huntly, a personal seal, with heraldry. The matrix of soft white metal (probably pewter?), is in the possession of the Duke of Richmond, and was exhibited by his Grace's permission in the museum formed at the meeting of the Institute in Chichester.

Alexander,² eldest son of George second Earl of Huntly, by Annabella,

¹ No. 89, p. 11.

² Douglas, Peerage, vol. i. p. 645. See

also Nisbet's account of the Earls of Huntly.

daughter of James I., succeeded in 1501. He took a distinguished part in state affairs in the times of James IV., and commanded the left wing of the Scottish army at Flodden, Sept. 13, 1513. He was one of the few nobles who escaped death or captivity on that disastrous occasion. In the minority of James V. he was regarded as the chief leader in the North. He died Jan. 16, 1523-4. The seal, now for the first time described, displays an escutcheon, charged with the following arms:—Quarterly, 1, three boars' heads couped, *Gordon*; 2, three lions' heads erased, *Badenoch*; 3, three crescents within a double tressure flory and counter-flory, *Seton*; 4, three cinquefoils, *Fraser*. Crest, on a helm with lambrequins, a stag's head. Supporters, two greyhounds. The legend is—*S'. Alexandri. comitis. huntlie. (?)*

We are indebted to the kindness of Mr. Patrick Chalmers for the following information regarding seals of Alexander Gordon, in his collection of Scottish Seals. One of these is from a charter, in his father's life, dated July 24, 1498, and it presents the same bearings which appear on the seal of his father (Laing's Catalogue, No. 362), but the greyhounds (the supporters) are collared. On another, in Mr. Chalmers' collection (Laing, No. 364), the greyhounds are not collared, but the legend differs from that on the seal in the Duke of Richmond's possession. It is as follows:—*S' Alex'ri Gordon Comitis de Huntlie*. This is from a charter dated 1521. Mr. Chalmers has also a seal, from a detached impression amongst the Earl of Home's muniments, which resembles that first described, used in his father's lifetime, but the greyhounds are not collared, and each has a foot in a ring attached to the helm. The legend is—*S. Alexandri comitis de Huntlie*.



The seal here given had been discovered, as stated to his Grace when presented to him, in a moor in the south of Scotland, where, as tradition affirmed, one of the Gordons was slain. The locality was not described; it is not improbable that the seal may have been lost on the retreat from the fatal conflict on Flodden Field,

which is situate in Northumberland, at no great distance from the Scottish frontier.

10. Seal of Maximilian of Burgundy; probably his personal seal, and used as a counterseal with his elaborate official seal described at p. 145 of the present volume. It is among the casts purchased by Robert A. C. Austen, Esq., of Chilworth, Surrey, from Caley's collection,³ and was described in Thorpe's catalogue of that collection as "No. 64 BURGUNDY,—

³ These casts were exhibited by Mr. Austen's kind permission in the Museum

formed during the meeting of the Institute at Chichester.

Seal of Maximilian de Burgundy, Admiral and Captain General of the Seas, to a Safe Conduct of the Emperor Charles, King of Germany, &c., 1542."⁴ This cast is numbered 64, and is doubtless the same that is so described in the catalogue. The official seal was said to have been affixed to a safe conduct in 1543. The discrepancy of date, if not due to a slip of the pen, may have arisen from different modes of reckoning the year, or from misapprehension of a regnal year. This seal is circular, and 1½ in. in diameter. The subject is purely heraldic: a shield of arms with a helmet and crest according to the usual modern arrangement. The mantlings of the helmet are disposed so as to occupy nearly all the rest of the ground. The lower part of the shield is rounded after the Spanish fashion. There are no supporters, nor any motto or legend. The arms are the same which are upon the mainsail of the ship on the official seal, viz. quarterly I. and IV. quarterly; 1, Modern Burgundy; 2, per pale Old Burgundy and Brabant; 3, per pale Old Burgundy and Limbourg; 4 as 1; and on an inescutcheon Flanders; II. and III. Bourbon-Montpensier: and over all, on an inescutcheon, is Borselle. The helmet and crest are also like those on the official seal. We may add that the cast is of an entire impression, and that there are none of the insignia of the order of the Golden Fleece. So much was said of this Maximilian of Burgundy and his arms in our notice of the other seal, that it is here unnecessary to enter further into the subject.

W. S. W. & A. W.

NOTE, SUPPLEMENTARY TO THE MEMOIR BY MR. E. L. HUSSEY.

(*Ante*, p. 187.)

SINCE the publication of the memoir on the Healing by the Royal Touch, in which it was stated (see p. 198) that no touch-piece of Charles Edward, the Young Pretender, grandson of James II., is known. The fact has subsequently been ascertained by Mr. Hawkins, that such a "medal for the healing" exists, and it is probably of great rarity, no specimen being found in the British Museum, nor in the collection of touch-pieces in Mr. Hawkins' possession. Through the kindness of William Debonnaire Haggard, Esq., of the Bullion Office, Bank of England, Mr. Hawkins has been enabled to communicate impressions from an unique example in the cabinet of that gentleman. The design closely resembles that of the pieces struck by James III. and Henry IX. (figured *ante*, p. 198.) The diameter is precisely the same as that of the larger piece of James III. The obverse presents the ship, with the sails taken aback,—CAR. III. D. G. M. B. F. ET. H. R.—Reverse, St. Michael,—SOLI DEO GLORIA. The piece is of silver, and perforated near the lower edge. The date of this undescribed relic of the house of Stuart is probably 1745, 46.

⁴ Catalogue of upwards of fifteen hundred impressions from ancient seals, in wax and sulphur, collected by the late

John Caley, Esq., on sale by Thomas Thorpe.