

Original Documents.

THE WILL OF SIR JOHN DE FOXLE, OF APULDREFIELD, KENT.
DATED NOVEMBER 5, 1378.

COMMUNICATED BY THE REV. WILLIAM H. GUNNER, M.A.

THE following document has been obtained from the highly valuable source of information to which on several occasions we have been indebted, the Episcopal Register of William of Wykeham which is preserved in the Cathedral at Winchester. Through the kindness of Mr. Gunner we were formerly enabled to place before our readers the Will of Simon, bishop of Achonry, in illustration of the history of Suffragan bishops,¹ and he has now communicated another testamentary document found by him in the same Register. It appears specially deserving of attention, as presenting to the archæologist many curious and instructive details associated with the memory of one who long enjoyed the intimate friendship of Wykeham. The Will, here printed *in extenso*, has never, as we believe, been published, although reference was made to it by Warton in his History of Poetry in England, and recently by Mr. G. S. Steinman, in his Account of the Manor of Apuldrefield, Kent, in which he has supplied in full detail the descent of the testator, his possessions, and the history of his family.²

(Register of William of Wykeham, vol. ii. fol. 169).

Memorandum, quod primo die mensis Decembris, anno domini MCCCCLXXVIII^o, apud Suthwerke, testamentum Johannis de Foxle, militis, Wyntoniensis Diocesis, exhibitum fuit et probatum coram reverendo in Christo patre, domino Willelmo Dei gratia Wyntoniensi Episcopo; et pronuntiavit pro eodem, administrationemque omnium bonorum dicti defuncti infra diocesim predictam existentium magistro Arnaldo Brocas, Johanni de Welton, Roberto de Loxle, et domino Johanni de Foxle clerico commisit in formam juris; reservata facultate sibi dictam administrationem Johanne relicte ejusdem defuncti, executrici cum dictis executoribus in eodem testamento nominate, committendi, cum venerit et ipsam voluerit acceptare. Tenor vero testamenti supradicti de verbo ad verbum sequitur in hec verba.

In Dei nomine, Amen. Ego Johannes de Foxle, miles, compos mentis existens et sane memorie, miliciam hominis super terram mortalem sciens et transitoriam, atque ipsius exitum miserabilem et incertum, verum quia hic militans mutacionem futuram expecto, anime mee saluti cum confidentia clemencie salvatoris ex toto corde providere cupiens, testamentum meum, invocata spiritus sancti gracia, facio in hunc modum. In primis,

¹ Arch. Journal, vol. ix. p. 359.

by Mr. John Gough Nichols, F.S.A., vol.

² Topographer and Genealogist, edited iii. p. 13.

do et lego animam meam Deo, gloriose Virgini Marie, et omnibus sanctis, et corpus meum ad sepeliendum in capella omnium sanctorum in ecclesia parochiali de Braye, juxta tumulum patris mei et aliorum antecessorum meorum, cum mortuario debito et consueto; et volo quod expense mee funeraticie (*sic*) fiant juxta ordinationem executorum meorum subscriptorum. Item, lego ad distribuendum pauperibus die sepulture mee xx^{li}. Item, lego ad celebrationem missarum, secundum ordinationem executorum meorum subscriptorum, habendam pro anima mea, animabus antecessorum et benefactorum meorum, ad altare in capella predicta xx^{li}. Item, lego altari in eadem capella ad usum capellanorum pro animabus predictis, et animabus omnium fidelium defunctorum, tam ad dictum altare quam ad alia altaria infra ecclesiam predictam, cum opus fuerit, celebratorum, unum magnum missale coopertum coreo rubeo, unum calicem deauratum cum pede rotundo, cum patena argentea deaurata, ad eundem usum, unum vestimentum sacerdotale, cum alba cum parura de panno serico de bluette³ cum flourelizez aureis intermixtis, cum casula de secta dicti panni serici, cum stola et fanone de eadem secta, ad eundem usum in ecclesia predicta. Item, lego fabricae ecclesie predictae l^s. Item, lego fabricae ecclesie de Fynchamstede vi^s. viii^d. Item, lego summo altari in dicta ecclesia de Fynchamstede unum vestimentum sacerdotale, cum casula, et paruris de panno serico rubeo fade, cum duabus tuniculis de eadem secta. Item, lego fabricae ecclesie de Wokyngham iii^s. iiiii^d. Item, lego fabricae ecclesie de Byverslee iii^s. iiiii^d. Item, lego fabricae capelle de Bromeshull iii^s. iiiii^d. Item, lego altari capelle de Bromeshull unum vestimentum sacerdotale, cum paruris et casula de panno serico albo, et aliis ad idem pertinentibus. Item, lego ecclesie Cathedrali Sarum in satisfactionem decimarum obliatarum, si que fuerint, xx^s. Item, lego fabricae ecclesie de Farnebergh juxta Levesham iii^s. iiiii^d.⁴ Item, lego fabricae capelle de Apuldrefeld xiii^s. iiiii^d. Item, lego capelle de Apuldrefeld unum vestimentum sacerdotale, cum casula de panno serico rubeo, cum latis orphreys, et aliis ad idem pertinentibus, et unum missale portatile de usu monialium coopertum coreo rubeo. Item, lego conventui fratrum minorum apud Redyng xiii^s. iiiii^d. Item, lego conventui fratrum predicatorum London' xiii^s. iiiii^d. Item, lego excellentissimo principi et domino meo metuendissimo, domino Regi Anglie, cornu meum magnum de Bugle, ornatum cum auro, quod habui ex dono domini mei, domini Edwardi, nuper Regis Anglie illustris. Item, volo et ordino quod executores mei de bonis patris mei emant unum lapidem marmoreum pro tumulo dicti patris mei et matris mee in capella omnium sanctorum in ecclesia de Braye predicta, et quod faciant dictum lapidem parari decenter cum ymagine, scriptura, etc. de metallo; videlicet, dicti patris mei in armis suis, et matris mee in armis pictis, videlicet, de armis dicti patris mei et matris mee predictae, et volo quod quoad ordinationem dicti lapidis executores mei totaliter faciant juxta ordinationem et consensum domini mei reverendissimi, domini Wyntoniensis Episcopi. Item, volo et dispono quod predicti executores mei emant unum alium lapidem marmoreum sufficientem pro tumulo meo, cum sepultus fuero; et quod dictum lapidem parari faciant cum scriptura et ymagine de metallo, videlicet, mei ipsius in armis meis, et uxoris mee defuncte ex parte dextra dicte ymaginis mee in

³ See Ducange, *v.* Bluetum, Blavetum, Blavus, &c. "Bloete, étoffe bleue." Roquefort.

⁴ Query? Farnborough in Kent, half-way between Lewisham and Sevenoaks.

armis pictis, videlicet de armis meis et dicte uxoris mee ; et cum ymagine uxoris mee nunc viventis, in armis meis, ex parte sinistra dicte ymagnis mee. Item, lego Katerine filie mee unum ciphum argenteum deauratum, cum cooperculo deaurato, habentem leonem in summitate. Item, lego Margarete filie mee unum ciphum argenteum deauratum ad modum calicis, cum cooperculo deaurato, habentem in summitate scutum de armis meis. Item, lego Margarete sorori mee unum ciphum argenteum album⁵ ad modum calicis, cum cooperculo argenteo, habentem summitatem deauratam sculptam, et in eadem summitate scutum de armis meis. Item, lego Thome Paynel nepoti meo equum meum dun, unum habergeon de alto clowour, ac unum basynet largiorem, cum le vyser et aventaille ad eundem, et quinque marcas argenti. Item, lego Johanni Feghelere nepoti meo equum meum vocatum Morelhale, et unum habergeon, unum basynet cum le vyser et aventaille ad eundem, et quatuor marcas argenti. Item, lego Johanne Hailleward nepti mee octo libras argenti in quibus sibi teneor de maritagio suo ; et ultra lego eidem octo marcas argenti. Item, lego Johanne consorti mee equum meum vocatum Gantron', equum meum summarium⁶ album, et equum meum pro maletto⁷ nigrum, unum ciphum argenteum deauratum meliorem cum cooperculo habentem similitudinem capitis hominis in summitate dicti cooperculi, unum ciphum argenteum deauratum ad modum byker cum cooperculo deaurato habentem cervum album in summitate jacentem super unum tragus (?),⁸ unum ciphum argenteum album vocatum bolle cum cooperculo signato in summitate dicti cooperculi cum armis meis, unum salare argenteum cum cooperculo argenteo ad idem, sex discos argenteos cum sex salsaribus ad eosdem, xii. coclearia argentea, et duas pecias argenti planas. Item, lego eidem Johanne consorti mee ad totam vitam suam usum unius vestimenti sacerdotalis de panno aureo cum filis sericis rubeis et glaucis intermixtis, unius casule de secta dicti panni aurei, unius amite et unius stole de eadem secta, unius calicis deaurati, cum pede de forma molette sex punctorum,⁹ cum patena argentea deaurata, signati in nodo supra pedem cum armis meis, duorum cruettorum argenteorum alborum, unius campane modice argentee, unius paxebred argentei deaurati, unius crucis de cupro deaurato cum ymaginibus crucifixi, Marie, et Johannis: ita quod post mortem dicte Johanne consortis mee omnia ornamenta predicta pro capella integre remaneant Thome filio dicte Johanne consortis mee et heredibus suis legitimis ; et, si contingat dictum Thomam obire sine herede legitimo, tunc omnia ornamenta predicta remaneant Johanni fratri dicti Thome et heredibus suis legitimis ; et, si contingat dictum Johannem sine herede

⁵ White, as distinguished from plate gilt or parcel-gilt.

⁶ A horse for baggage, &c., a sompter, according to the use of that term by Lord Berners, Holinshed and other old writers. "*Somarius*, jumentum sarcinale." Ducange. Cotgrave renders "*Somnier*, a sumpter horse."

⁷ The Promptorium Parvulorum gives "Male, of trussyng and caryage, *Mantica*. Male horse, *Gerulus*, somarius."—"Male or wallet to putte geare in, *Malle*." Palsgrave. "Malet (cheval): cheval mallier, qui porte la male." Roquefort.

⁸ Possibly for *Tragium* or *Terragium*, in

old French, *Terrage*, *agger terreus*. In the ceremonial of the banquet at the marriage of the Princess Margaret to the Duke of Burgundy, 1468, description is made of extraordinary "subtilites," animals, &c. "marvayllosly standinge in tarage;" and on one occasion the table was "accomplysshid" with "30 tarages—one every tarage a tre of golde"—with fruits, flowers, &c., the tarages being wattled with gold, representing enclosed plots as of a garden or orchard. *Archæologia*, vol. xxxi. p. 336.

⁹ A star or mullet, in heraldic language, of six points.

legitimo decedere, tunc omnia predicta ornamenta pro capella remaneant Ricardo fratri dictorum Thome et Johannis et heredibus suis legitimis; et, si idem Ricardus obierit sine herede legitimo, omnia supradicta ornamenta pro capella rectis heredibus meis integre revertant. Et volo quod executores mei emant de bonis meis unum aliud vestimentum sacerdotale et unum missale competencia, quorum usum volo quod dicta consors mea habeat dum vixerit; et quod post mortem suam filiis suis remaneant modo quo superius est expressum. Item, lego dicte Johanne consorti mee unum ciphum meum murreum meliorem ornatum argento deaurato, cum pede argenteo deaurato, cum cooperculo murreo ornato argento deaurato cum summitate argentea deaurata signata cum scuto de armis meis. Item, lego Henrico Estormy unum discum meum argenteum profundum factum de forma unius disci lignei. Item, lego magistro Arnaldo Brocas clerico unum ciphum argenteum vocatum bolle, majorem de duobus bolles que mecum trussari¹ solebant, cum cooperculo argenteo pro eodem. Item, lego Johanni de Welton unum ciphum argenteum, minorem de dictis duobus bolles, sine cooperculo, et duas pecias argenteas vocatas platpeces ad unum cooperculum faciendum pro eodem ciphu. Item, lego Roberto de Loxle unum ciphum argenteum vocatum bolle, cum cooperculo argenteo ad eundem habente in summitate scutum de armis meis. Item, lego Johanni de Foxle clerico unum ciphum argenteum vocatum bolle sine cooperculo, et duas pecias argenti vocatas platpeces ad unum cooperculum faciendum ad dictum ciphum. Item, lego Johanne consorti mee unum par de paternostres auri, cum uno monili aureo cum duabus manibus junctis, et una cruce aurea modice ornata cum perles, pendente ad dictas paternostres, et unam tabulam argenteam deauratam et amelitam, majorem de duobus tabulis quas habeo, cum diversis ymaginibus sculptis in eadem, ac unum anulum aureum parvum cum una diamant fixa in annulo predicto. Item, lego domino meo, reverendissimo Domino Wyntoniensi Episcopo,² unum anulum aureum cum una saphiro fixa in eodem, et unum boton' aureum ornatum cum perles bene grossum, cum musk contento in dicto boton':³ Item, lego domino Nicholao Abbati Monasterii Westmonasteriensis⁴ unum anulum aureum cum una emeraud infixam in eodem annulo. Item, lego domino Abbati de Waltham⁵ unum anulum aureum grossum cum una saphiro infixam, et nominibus trium Regum sculptis in eodem annulo, et unum parvum psalterium quod habui ex dono ejusdem Abbatis. Item, lego Margarete sorori mee unam tabulam argenteam deauratam et amelitam, minorem de duabus quas habeo, cum diversis ymaginibus sculptis in eadem. Item, lego Margerie uxori Johannis de Welton unum monile aureum cum S. litera sculpta et amelita in eodem. Item, lego Roberto Bollok unum equum Bay stantem apud monasterium Ecclesie Christi in Nova Foresta. Item, lego predicte Johanne consorti mee unum vetus psalterium coopertum coreo glauco, medii voluminis, unum psalterium minoris voluminis, coopertum de panno serico diaspre, unum portiforium antiquum bene magnum, notatum, cum legenda, psalterio, &c., et unum gradale antiquum, cum sequenciis, Kyrie, &c.,

¹ Drinking vessels for use on a journey. The old word to truss, Fr. *Trousser*, signified to pack as baggage, to load a horse, &c.

² William of Wykeham.

³ Amongst the valuable effects of Henry V., of which an inventory was

taken in 1423, a musk-ball of gold occurs weighing 11 oz., and another of silver-gilt.

⁴ Nicholas Litlington was abbot of Westminster, 1362—1386.

⁵ Nicholas Morys, abbot of Waltham, 1371 until c. 1390.

coopertum coreo glauco ; quorum usum volo quod dicta consors mea habeat dum superstes fuerit, et cum ab hac luce migraverit, filiis suis predictis remaneant in forma de ornamentis capelle superius ordinata. Item, volo et onero executores meos quod juxta sufficienciam bonorum meorum debita mea persolvant ; et quod de bonis meis, que tunc remanere contigerint, respiciant et remunerent omnes et singulos servientes meos, et hoc secundum eorum merita et quantitatem temporis quo mihi servierunt. Residuum vero omnium bonorum meorum do et lego executoribus meis, ut ipsi de eisdem bonis faciant et disponant pro salute anime mee, prout melius viderint expedire. Hujus autem testamenti mei constituo executores meos Johannam consortem meam, Magistrum Arnaldum Brocas clericum,⁶ Johannem de Welton, Robertum de Loxle, et Dominum Johannem de Foxle clericum. In cujus rei testimonium huic testamento meo sigillum meum apposui. Datum apud Bromeshull die quinta mensis Novembris, anno domini Millesimo, ccc^{mo}, lxxviii^o ; presentibus Willelmo Chaundeler et Stephano Doget, testibus ad premissa.

Sir John de Foxle, of Foxle in the parish of Bray, Berks, also of Bramshill, Hants, and Apuldrefield, now called Apperfield, in the parish of Cowdham or Cudham, Kent, was the only son of Sir Thomas de Foxle, by Katharine, daughter and coheirress of Sir John de Ifield, of Ifield, Sussex, and of Apuldrefield. A detailed account of the manor of Apuldrefield, and of its successive possessors, has been given in the Topographer and Genealogist, by Mr. G. Steinman Steinman, F.S.A.,⁷ and we have to acknowledge with gratification how much we owe to his obliging communications, and to the pedigree with the notes accompanying it, from which the following particulars relating to the testator and his family have been derived. Sir Thomas de Foxle had represented the county of Berks in more than one Parliament, and he held the office of constable of Windsor Castle from 1330 to 1338. Sir John de Foxle was the first constable of Queenborough Castle, Kent, appointed in 36 Edward III. ; he also held the constablership of Southampton Castle, which he retained until his death. He was repeatedly M.P. for the counties of Hants and Berks, during the reign of Edward III. By his first wife, Matilda, daughter of Sir John Brocas of Beaurepaire, Hants, he had William Foxle, who died in his father's lifetime, Katharine, who married John de Warbleton, and Margery, who married Robert Bullock, to whom Sir John bequeaths a bay horse.⁸ By Joan Martin, his second wife, he had John, Thomas, and Richard, all born before marriage, and they are mentioned in his will as sons " consortis mee." He makes certain bequests to his daughters, to Margaret, his only sister, to Thomas Paynel and John Feghelere, probably his nephews, and to Joan Hilleward, probably his niece. The three legatees last named do not appear in Mr. Steinman's pedigree. The Will comprises small bequests to the fabric of various churches, viz. Bray, in Berks, where Sir John directed his remains to be buried near those of his parents and ancestors, Finchampstead and Wokingham, in the same county, Eversley and " Bromeshull," or Bramshill, Hants ; also to the church of " Farne-

⁶ Arnold Brocas, who occurs amongst the prebendaries of the church of Lincoln, may have been the person here named executor. He was collated 1393-4, and died 1395. Le Neve's Fasti, ed.

by Mr. Thomas Duffus Hardy.

⁷ Vol. iii. pp. 1, 178.

⁸ Probably Robert Bullock of Arberfield, Berks, sheriff of that county in 8 and 15 Rich. II.

bergh juxta Levesham," which has not been identified, unless it were the parish of Farnborough, Kent, a few miles distant from Lewisham. He bequeaths to the fabric of the chapel of Apuldefield a rather larger sum, with a mass-vestment and a missal, "unum missale portatile de usu monialium." The advowson of the church of Cowdham, the parish in which the free chapel in question is situated, was appropriated to the Benedictine nunnery of Kilburn, near London, but whether the *moniales* by whom this portable missal was used were of that priory, does not appear.

The Will of Sir John de Foxle contains some bequests deserving of notice, which may claim a few explanatory observations. It appears that he had been honoured by Edward III. with a most costly gift, a great Bugle horn mounted with gold, namely, the horn either of the *Urus*, or of the wild ox or buffalo, the *Bubalus* of the older writers, which was first brought to England in 1252, as a present to Richard, Earl of Cornwall, according to Matthew Paris. Representations of various ancient horns, some of them richly mounted, although not with so precious a metal as that here described, may be seen in the third volume of the *Archæologia*. The bequest of this royal gift to his most dread sovereign, Richard II., suggests the notion that Sir John de Foxle may have received it as the insignia of office, or that it had been in a certain manner associated with some honourable appointment conferred on him by Edward III. It has been suggested that the horn may have been a token of royal favour connected with the distinguished post entrusted to him in 1386, as first constable of Queenborough Castle, completed in that year under the direction of William of Wykeham.⁹ After fourteen years enjoyment of that honourable post, he was succeeded, in 50 Edward III. by no less a personage than John of Gaunt.

Of the two marble slabs with images and inscriptions of metal, which Sir John de Foxle directed to be placed in the chapel of All Saints, in the church of Bray, one of them to the memory of his parents, the other representing himself, between his two wives, the last named memorial alone remains. These "*ymagines*" have been engraved by Messrs. Waller in their admirable Series of Monumental Brasses, and they are described in the Manual for the Study of Monumental Brasses, published at Oxford in 1848, p. 48. The effigies are placed upon a kind of bracket supported by a short shaft, which rests upon a fox couchant, evidently in allusion to the name of the deceased. The knight, whose feet rest on a lion, wears armour of plate and a pointed basinet with a camail, his jupon being charged with his arms, *gules*, two bars *argent*, and on the helm placed under his head appears his crest, a fox's head. At his right appears Matilda, his first wife; her dress displays the same arms impaling her paternal coat of Brocas, *sable*, a lion rampant *or*, whilst Joan Martin, at his left, bears only the arms of Foxle. These details, it will be observed, are closely in conformity with the instructions given in the Will. It is most probable that the second wife, whom he had married after the birth of several children out of wedlock, was not of gentle descent. The "*scriptura*" has long since disappeared, a few words only having remained when Ashmole visited Bray in 1666.¹ The canopies, originally to be seen

⁹ A notice of this fortress was given by Professor Cockerell in his valuable Memoir on William of Wykeham, in

the Proceedings at the Meeting of the Institute at Winchester.

¹ MS. in Coll. Arm. b. xii. 299.

over the effigies, have been destroyed, as likewise the sepulchral brass of Sir John's base son Thomas, who is mentioned in his Will, and those of his two wives; they are described by Ashmole. The figures which remain are interesting, and closely resemble in details of costume some of the well-known brasses of the Cobham family, at Cobham in Kent. The height of the central figure is about 2 feet 6 inches, the height of the bracket about 3 feet. It is remarkable that it is specially directed that the *ymagines* should be "*in armis pictis*." Mr. Waller found remains of colour on the jupon and the dresses of the ladies, indicating the proper heraldic tinctures, as shown in his beautiful plate.

A bequest occurs to Thomas Paynel, the nephew of the testator, comprising his dun horse, with a haubergeon, described as "*de alto clowour*," a term of rare occurrence: a basinet of unusual size (*largiorem*) with the visor and *aventaille*. In the Inventory of armour of Louis X., King of France, taken in 1316, and given in Ducange, under the word *Armatura*, the following items occur.—"33 hautes gorgieres doubles de Chamblie.—Uns pans et uns bras de rondes mailles de haute cloeure. Item, uns pans et uns bras d'acier plus fors de mailles rondes de haute cloeure.—Item, une barbiere de haute cloeure de chamblie.—Item, une testiere de haute cloeure de maille ronde.—Item, une couverture de mailles rondes demy cloées." The precise import of the term high, as applied to the riveting of mail, has not been ascertained: it doubtless might designate workmanship of high class and of the best quality, but the epithet *altus* may very probably have denoted some peculiarity in the rivets of the mail, which we have sought in vain to define. The various modes of constructing mail have not, indeed, been sufficiently examined. Examples occur in which the rings are welded and riveted throughout the entire fabric; whilst in others the alternate rows only are riveted. Mention occurs of "*chaucés de fer menu maillés*—Haubert saffre, *menue maillie*,"² as also of the "*hauberc dobletin*,—*haubert doublier*—*haubert à maille duple*—*un hauberk clavez de double maille*," &c.

Amongst varieties of mail, a specimen, stated to have been obtained in Gloucestershire, and figured in the Journal of the Archæological Association, vol. i. p. 142, deserves especial notice. In this fragment, composed of rings of unusually large size, the riveting wire in every ring is passed twice through, so that on one side of every ring the wire forms a kind of stitch, and on the other its two extremities are hammered down separately, presenting the appearance of double riveting. In ordinary mail each riveted ring shows a single rivet head only, as in the haubergeon figured in Skelton's Illustrations of the Goodrich Court Armory, vol. i. pl. xiv. Sir Samuel Meyrick was of opinion that *double maille* was composed by the interlacement of rings in pairs, not singly, as in ordinary chain mail; and he has described a remarkable example presented by the effigy of Sir Robert de Mauley, formerly at York, of which the fragments are preserved at Goodrich Court. See the Archæologia, vol. xxxi. p. 238, pl. iii. Another illustration is found in an effigy in Rampton church, Cambridgeshire, figured by Stothard in his Monumental effigies. We hope that future research may enable us to identify with precision the distinctive mode of riveting which constituted the peculiarity described as "*de alto clowour*."

- Tournois de Chauvenci, a poem of the thirteenth century.

To the Abbot of Waltham, Sir John de Foxle bequeaths a gold ring, engraved with the names of the three Kings. Such a ring was doubtless of the class of personal ornaments considered to be endued with some talismanic or sanative efficacy, an *annulus vertuosus*. Rings thus inscribed may have originated in tokens of pilgrimage to the shrine of the Kings of the East in the church of S. Eustorgio at Milan, or more probably to that in Cologne Cathedral. Various small objects, but usually of baser material, which had been placed in contact with the relics of saints, or blessed at their shrines, were commonly distributed to pilgrims. A brooch or a finger-ring was naturally a very favourite form for such preservative tokens, and in almost all ages we meet with rings reputed of sovereign virtue, such as that promised by Organata to Sir Eglamour of Artois :—

“ Whedur that ye be on water or on londe,
Ande that ryng be upon yowre honde,
Ther schalle nothyng yow slon !”

In regard to the names of the three Kings on a “medycinal ring,” we have frequent evidence of a certain belief in their efficacy. Sir Thomas Brown, in his discourse “of the three Kings of Collein,” (Vulgar Errors, b. vii. c. viii.) informs us that their names were considered to be a charm against the falling sickness. This appears, likewise, from the statement of Keysler, that slips of paper inscribed with the following lines were worn as preservatives against the falling sickness :

“ *Gaspar fert Myrrham, Thus Melchior, Balthazar Aurum,
Solvitur a morbo Christi pietate caduco.*”

In an old English Medical MS. at Stockholm other remedies are recommended for that much dreaded disorder of the Middle Ages, and a charm is given against fevers, comprising, with the names of the Seven Sleepers and a series of phrases relating to St. Peter, the mysterious word *AGLA* and the names *JASPAR · MELCHYSAR · BAPTIZAR*. (*Archæologia*, vol. xxx. p. 400). Several examples of rings bearing these names have been noticed, the most remarkable probably being the gold ring found in Coventry Park, as communicated to the Society of Antiquaries by Mr. T. Sharp ; it was thus inscribed within the hoop—“*Wulnera quinque Dei sunt medicina mei · pia crux et passio xpi sunt medicina michi · Jaspas · Melchior · Baltazar · ananyzapta tetragrammaton.*” (*Archæologia*, vol. xviii. p. 306). In Lord Londesborough’s Collection of Rings there are two, described as “*Charact Rings,*” bearing the names of the Kings, accompanied on one of them by the words *IN · GOD · IS · A · R*. They are described in the Catalogue, privately printed, No. 2, and No. 214. Mr. Roach Smith describes in his *Collectanea Antiqua*, vol. i. p. 120, vol. ii. p. 50, some other rings, reliquaries, and other objects bearing representations of the three Kings of the East, or their names. Amongst these may be noticed a strap or garter of *cuir-bouilli*, inscribed “*Melcior · baltasiar · iasper,*” figured also in the Catalogue of Mr. Roach Smith’s London Antiquities (p. 130) now preserved in the British Museum. The fine jewelled brooch belonging to the Campbells of Glen-Lyon, figured in Pennant’s *Scotland*, vol. i. p. 103, and in Dr. Wilson’s *Prehistoric Annals*, p. 220, is inscribed in black letter, “*Jaspas Melchior · baltazar · consumatum.*” The last word, being the declaration of the dying Saviour, “*It is Finished,*” was often used in the

Middle Ages, as were likewise the Angelical Salutation, the *Titulus I.N.R.I.*, and other so-called Characts, with a certain credence in their talismanic efficacy.

On a dagger-hilt, a relic of the fifteenth century, found in Norfolk, and exhibited by the Rev. C. R. Manning at one of our meetings, appear on one side three hares, with the legend GASPER, MELTESA, BALTESA, and on the other, two dogs fighting for a bone, with the phrase often found on a token of regard or goodwill, PRENS EN GRE. The virtue of these marvel-working names, it may be observed, was not limited to their preservative or sanative power, since we find in Henslow's Diary, in the times of Elizabeth, now preserved in the Library of Dulwich College, that a tablet of virgin wax, inscribed + JASPER + MELCHISOR + BALTHASAR, had been accounted an infallible charm for the discovery of stolen goods. The three names appear on the celebrated Oldenburg Horn of silver enameled now preserved at Copenhagen, and on a fine drinking horn in the Arendal Museum, in Norway; as also on another Norwegian Horn, supposed to have been originally obtained from a weird female, the *Troll*, who emerged from her subterranean abode to present it to some passer by.³

In the Proceedings of the Gentleman's Society, at Spalding, is recorded a present of an amulet that had touched the heads of the three Kings of Cologne, whose names were in black letter within.⁴ A remarkable instance of such a charm used in England in comparatively recent times is cited in the Additions to Brand's Popular Antiquities, in the Notes to Characts. A talisman was found in the possession of a murderer named Jackson, who died in Chichester Gaol in 1749. It contained the names of the Kings, with the statement that the paper had touched their holy heads at Cologne, and would preserve travellers from accidents, headache, falling sickness, fever, witchcraft, all kinds of mischief, and sudden death. A facsimile of one of these printed charms, now in Mr. Fairholt's possession, has been figured in Mr. C. Roach Smith's Collectanea. It bears a rude woodcut of the Adoration of the Magi, with a view of the city of Cologne beneath.⁵

An ornament bequeathed by Sir John de Foxle to Margery, wife of John de Welton, has sometimes been regarded as an object possibly connected in some manner with the enigmatical device of the house of Lancaster, which not long subsequent to the date of this Will was so frequently displayed in that *crux antiquariorum*, the collar of SS. The bequest had been cited by Warton, amongst examples of the art of enameling in England.⁶ "Item, lego Margerie uxori Johannis de Welton unum monile aureum cum S litera sculpta et amelita in eodem." The name of John de Weelton occurs as one of the feoffees in certain deeds of which an abstract is given by Mr. Steinman, relating to the settlement of the manor of Apuldrefield by Sir John de Foxle in 1378 upon Joan, his widow, for life.⁷ I will not here renew the investigation of the difficult questions connected with the origin of the "coler del livre de Mons^e de Lancastre," since it is obvious that such a collar is not here intended. *Monile*, although sometimes signifying a necklace, as also the pitrel of horse-harness, usually

³ Thorpe's Mythology of Scandinavia, vol. ii. p. 15; iii. p. 130.

⁴ Archæologia, vol. xviii. p. 307.

⁵ See Gent. Mag. vol. xix. p. 88. Collectanea Antiqua, vol. i. p. 122.

⁶ History of Poetry in England, vol. i. p. 377, sect. xiii. 4th edition.

⁷ Topographer and Genealogist, vol. iii. p. 13.

designates a jewel to be hung on the neck, a brooch, an ouch or tablet. The item, occurring in the context, regarding "unum par de paternostres auri cum uno monili auri cum duabus manibus junctis, et una cruce aurea modice ornata cum perles pendentie ad dictas paternostres," may serve to show that *monile* in this document is used in its signification of a brooch, or a pendant ornament. In the Catalogue of benefactors to St. Alban's Abbey, it is recorded that Matthew Paris gave to the shrine "Monile aureum continens partem ligni dominici, quod deosculatur die Parasceves, et dependet a cruce aurea per catenam argenteam in parte dextra." Richard II. "optulit feretro monile aureum," represented in the MS. as held in the King's hand; and several other *monilia* are mentioned and figured in the margin of this curious Register.⁸ They appear to be tablets, jewels, roundels enclosing relics, &c. It is probable that the ornament bequeathed by Sir John de Foxle, was some personal device wholly unconnected with the Lancaster livery.

Ornaments charged with letters, initials of personal names, or the like, were much in favour in mediæval times. Two pendant objects of mixed metal badges or ornaments of horse-trappings, were shown to me a few years since by Sir Charles G. Young, Garter, each displaying a large initial S., which had been "sculpta et amelita." One was six-foiled, diameter 2 inches, the letter being in a circular compartment in the centre; the other rather larger, a disk with the following inscription in Spanish, *En Dios es el poderet*, in God is the power or might. These badges were formed with a small loop at top for suspension, and had doubtless been enameled, being of the same class of ornaments as the small heraldic escutcheons and other metal pendants, exhibited repeatedly at meetings of the Institute. Instances might be cited of other objects decorated with the letter S., probably without any reference to the collar of livery. Thus, in 1386, Sir John Mautravers bequeathed to the church of Pourstoke, "j. par vestimentorum cum S literis deauratis," and in 1402, Sir John Depeden bequeathed to his chantries in the church of Helagh, Yorkshire, a complete vestment of silk, "habens S literam nigram enbroudez super les orfrays." In 1392 a legacy occurs of a girdle thus decorated—"j. singulum de serico ornatum cum litteris argenteis, videlicet S."⁹

The numerous articles of plate, and the various terms by which they are described, may deserve to be noticed. We hope that Mr. Octavius Morgan, to whose researches regarding ancient plate we have been so much indebted, may at some future time enable us to distinguish with precision the "ciphum cum cooperulo,—ciphum ad modum calicis,—ciphum ad modum byker," and another variety, "vocatum bolle;" the "ciphum murreum," or mazer, with a cover likewise of mazer,¹ the "peccias vocatas platpeees," &c. One of the covered cups in fashion of a "byker," probably an upright drinking vessel on a low base, and somewhat wider at the mouth than at the foot, is described as having on the gilt cover "cervum album in summitate jacentem super unum tragram." This appears to have been the white hart lodged, the favourite device of Richard II., here described as lying "super unum

⁸ Cott. MS. Nero, D. VII. In the *Ortus Vocabulorum* we find "Monile, ornamentum est quod solet ex feminarum pendere collo: quod alio nomine dicitur firmaculum vel firmatorium, Anglice, a broche."

⁹ Testam. Eborac. pp. 175, 295, Surtees Society's Publications.

¹ See notices of mazers and a representation of a covered mazer in this *Journal*, vol. ii. p. 262.

tragum," which, as observed in the note on that item in the Will, may be for *tragium*, or *terragium*, the little mound or enclosed place on which the hart rested. The term *terage* is of frequent occurrence in descriptions of mediæval plate; thus in the Kalendars of the Exchequer is described "Un saler d'argent ennoze en manere d'un faucon coronez, et entour le cole l'rs de S steant sur un terage plein de lyons, cerfs, et autres diverses bestes," and another item mentions, "un blanc faucon sur un vert terage."² It has been, however, suggested that the term *tragum*, which has not previously fallen under our notice, may be another form of *traga* or *traha*, a cart, or in modern parlance, a drag, on which the slain deer was brought in from the hunting-field. This explanation, it must be observed, received some confirmation from the occurrence of the hart, amongst numerous varieties of the badge of Richard II. on the string-course and corbels in Westminster Hall, represented in one instance placed in a four-wheeled cart, as if about to be conveyed to the field.³

ALBERT WAY.

² Kalendars of the Exch. vol. iii. pp. 322, 329. In the *Excerpta Historica*, p. 149, mention occurs of a Saler "upon a grene carage (? tarage) enameilled with

egles and ij. antilopes" holding the stem of the saler, or salt-cellar.

³ See Mr. Willement's memoir in *Coll. Topogr.* vol. iii. p. 55.

Whilst these pages were in the printers' hands, I have received from the learned writer on Liturgical Antiquities, the Very Rev. Dr. Rock, the following observations in explanation of the bequest of a "missale portatile de usu monialium," which has been already noticed. In many nunneries, as Dr. Rock remarks, the mass for the nuns, that is, the early mass at about six o'clock in the morning, was of the Blessed Virgin, and the second mass, that is, of the occurring festival, was rather for the people than the community. As the mass for the Virgin is almost the same throughout the year, it would occupy a volume of small size, and might truly be called portable as distinguished from a full missal, which in many cases forms a volume of ponderous bulk. Amongst the Sarum Missals of octavo size, enumerated in Mr. Dickinson's List of Service Books,⁴ there is one now belonging to Dr. Rock, which once was in the possession of a nun of Syon. At the end is written, "Thys ys my boke. Elizabeth Fetyplace." The same person and her sister Helena, who was a nun at Amesbury, gave a large missal to the church of Buckland, Berks: this book is likewise in Dr. Rock's possession. It thus appears that besides their Latin breviaries, out of which they sung their office in choir, nuns had not uncommonly Latin Missals, with which they could follow the mass as said by the priest at the altar; and Dr. Rock concludes that the service-book in question was designated "*portatile*," either because it contained only the "Missa de B. V. Maria," or because it was one of the small missals written for the nuns' use, and in which they read whilst the priest was celebrating.

⁴ Printed in the *Ecclesiologist*, 1850.