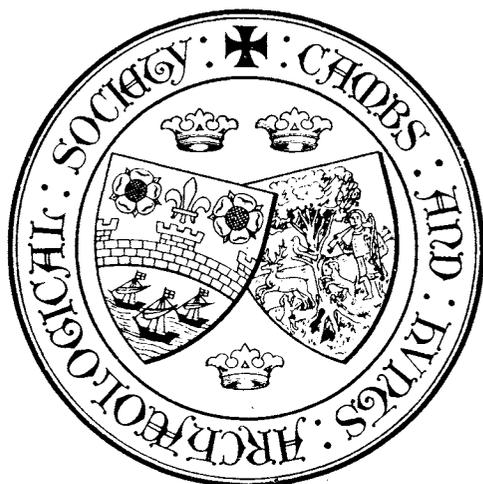


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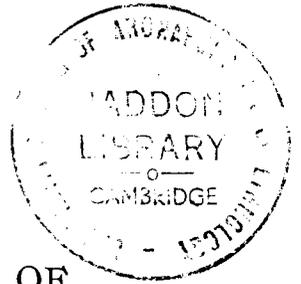
EDITED BY THE REV. W. M. NOBLE, B.A.
RECTOR OF WISTOW, HUNTS. HON. CANON OF ELY.

Ely

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THE CARTULARY OF THE PRIORY OF
ST. MARY, HUNTINGDON.

(Continued from page 124.)

[41.] Be it known to all to whom the present writing comes that I, William the Prior, and the Convent of the Blessed Mary of Huntingdon have granted to John son of Stephen the Smith of Huntingdon and his heirs all the tenement which his father held of us in Huntingdon, viz. land which Alan Parmentar held of us and land which he held of Reginald the Smith and Geoffery his son and land which Bured the Smith held of us and land which William Ficanus held of us, by paying to us for the aforesaid lands annually xvj^s. iv^d, at two terms, viz. at the feast of St. Michael, viij^s. [sic.] and at Hocceyeday viij^s. ij^d.: but he the said John has sworn to be true to us and to pay to the Priory the rent at the aforesaid terms. Martin the son of Theobald whose daughter the aforesaid John married has sworn that this promise shall be kept as long as the aforesaid tenement shall be in his [John's] hands. We have made the above concession to the aforesaid John in the presence of Thomas de Hardene then directed by our Lord the King as Justice of the Peace and to array the arms (*arma juranda*) and Henry de Coddam¹ the Sheriff, Walter de Stukeley Robert de Insula and Robert de Saham. These being witnesses, Symon de Senliz, Jocelin son of Walter de Stukeley and Master William his brother, Geoffery de Caxton, Robert Russell, Geoffery de Bernewell, Stephen de Hocton, Geoffery Parson of Arington, Jeremiah de Huntingdon, Robert Vinctor, Symon Cornur, William Spinc, Robert son of Baldewin, Jocelin son of Siward, Roger Huius.

[42.] Let the present and future know that I Helen daughter of William Martin of Huntingdon in my free power have granted remitted quit-claimed and by this

1. Henry de Codham was Sheriff of Huntingdonshire in 1203.

my present charter confirmed to God and the Church of the Blessed Mary of Huntingdon and the Canons Regular serving God there in free pure and perpetual alms all right and claim that I have had or ever could have had in the lands and tenements with their appurtenances which I held of the gift of Robert Hardy formerly my uncle within the borough (*burgo*) of Huntingdon and without, so that neither I Helen or my heirs or assigns shall ever henceforth have any power to sell exact or make any claim on them. In testimony of which to this present writing I have affixed my seal. These being witnesses, John

Folio 12b. de St. Benedict, Thomas Saluar, Thomas the clerk, John [. . .], Nicholas Caperon, William Marescall, Laurence Pistor, Henry de Swynesheid, Hugh de Swafham and others.

[43.] To my very dear friends the Bailiffs (*præpositis*) and other burgesses of Huntingdon, Ralph de Spaldwick greeting. Know ye that I have granted and given and by this my present charter confirmed to Robert the son of Beatrice my daughter my land in the parish of St. Martin with a building on it, which I bought of Swein and Emma his wife daughter of Roger Corn^t to have and to hold for ever to him and to whomsoever he may choose to bestow it, free and quit of all services save the Hagable of our Lord the King and a rent of three halfpence as my gift for the work of the Church of the Canons of St. Mary of Huntingdon at Hokestysday. Witness, John Dudington of Huntingdon, John the chaplain son of Baldwin, William chaplain of Dudington, Fulk his brother, Walter Wine, Geoffery the clerk of Swinesed.

[44.] Simon Earl of Northampton¹ to all sons of Holy Church greeting. Let the present and future know that I found and by my present charter confirm the gift which the sons of Ralph of the Market Place, that is Simon and Thomas, have made to the Church of St. Mary of Huntingdon and the Canons Regular serving

1. Simon de St. Liz married Maud daughter of Earl Waltheof and the Countess Judith about the year 1086; he died before 1109.

God there, viz. one hyde of land which Juet the Countess gave their mother at her marriage. Wherefore I will and truly order that the aforesaid Church and the Canons Regular shall hold and possess the said land as a perpetual alms for the souls of my father and mother and for the health of my soul and of the souls of my ancestors and successors free and quit from all exaction and secular service as well and freely as ever they the two brothers Simon and Thomas held it for one day and one night. These being witnesses, Hugh chaplain of the Great Chapel, Ralph de Hameslap, Rob. Grunbald, Od de Damartin, William de Noers, Sherif Elias.

[45]. Let the present and future know that I A. daughter of Ralph de Roucester formerly wife of Fulk son of Theobald for the health of my soul and of the soul of Fulk my husband and of the souls of my ancestors have granted and given and by this my present charter confirmed to God and the Church of St. Mary of Huntingdon and the Canons Regular serving God there certain land in the Borough (*Burgo*) of Huntingdon and all right and claim that I or my heirs had or could have to make any claim or exaction upon it for ever, in free pure and perpetual alms, which land the said Fulk my husband formerly held of the Hospital-house of the aforesaid Canons and he gave it to me. For this concession quit-claim and confirmation of this charter the aforesaid Canons have given me xx shillings, and the arrears of rent for the said land which I owed to the said House, and have kept back for many years, they have entirely

Folio 13. remitted. These being witnesses, John the chaplain, Pagan son of Alexander, William son of Helias, Nicholas his brother, Ace de Colne, Gerard the clerk, Ralph Albo, William son of Martin, Robert Vinctor, William Sping, Robert Fyn, Helias son of Andrew.

[46.] Let the present and future know that I Ralph son of Fulk have remitted and quit claimed for myself and my heirs to God and the Church of the Blessed Mary of Huntingdon and the Canons Regular serving God

there all right and claim which I had or ever might have had in one piece of land (*unam terram*) in the town of Huntingdon, which land my father Fulk son of Theobald formerly held of the aforesaid Canons for ij shillings a year, so that neither I nor my heirs shall be able to claim any right in it. In testimony of which I have affixed my seal to the present writing. These being witnesses, Sir Ralph de Hereford then Sheriff of Huntingdon, Sir Nigel de Mundavilla, Sir Geoffery de Caxton, Sir Walter de Washingley, Sir Simon de Copmaneford, Sir Walter de Swynesheuet, Roger de Lovetot, Robert son of Ralph de Stukeley, Adam de Cathworth, Michael de Stukeley, Ri. de Catteworth, and others.

[47.] Let all present and future know that I William the Prior, and the Convent of the Church of St. Mary of Huntingdon have granted to our beloved friend and brother Master Fulk son of Theobald all that land which Fulk bought from Lesiard de Mustier to hold to him and his heirs of our Hospital by paying annually to our almoner ij shillings, viz. xij pence at Easter and xij pence at the Feast of St. Michael. Witnesses, Geoffery de Caxton, Walter son of Robert, Philip le Moine, Philip the clerk, Geoffery Gardun, Robert son of Baldewin, Thomas the clerk of Grafham, Robert Vinctor, Baldewin Buxton, Symon Fyn, William son of Martin, William Spinc, Steing'u cucco.

[48.] Let the present and future know that I Fulk son of Theobald have given and granted and by this my present charter have confirmed to Alienora my wife all my land which I held of the Canons of Huntingdon to have and to hold of the aforesaid Canons and their successors to her and her heirs and assigns by paying therefrom annually to the aforesaid Canons of Huntingdon ij shillings at two terms, viz. at Easter xij pence and at the feast of St. Michael xij pence for all services, and to Lesyard de Musters or his heirs one pound of cummin at Easter for all services which pertain to them, and I Fulk son of Theobald and my heirs will warrant the said land to the said Alianora my wife and to whomsoever

she wishes to assign it against all men. These being witnesses, William de Roucester, Ric. de Roucester, John Bunting, Gunter de Berewic, Walter de Bures, Stephen the clerk, Alan de Wilburgham, Eustace de Westmel [. . .].

[49.] Let the future as well as present know that I Gilbert son and heir of Outus am pleased and satisfied with and by my present charter confirm the gift

Folio 13b. which the aforesaid O. my father made to the Hospital of the Church of St. Mary of Huntindon of that croft which he bought for his own cattle from Robert de Bruneswald, which croft lies near the said Hospital next the road on the western side of the Hospital. O. gave it and his gift I have no power to make void. In the presence of Sir Prior in the Chapter of the Canons and with many laymen as witnesses I have confirmed this for ever with my hand. Witnesses, Elias the clerk, Godfrid Herbert, John Cook, Roger de Acra, Symon de Omulla, Nicholas de Winewick, Stephen S.

[50.] Let the present and future know that I Lesiard de Muster have given and granted and by this my present charter confirmed to Fulk son of Theobald all my land in Huntingdon with appurtenances which I hold of the Prior and Convent of Huntingdon to have and to hold of me and my heirs to him and his heirs by paying annually to me and my heirs one pound of cummin at Easter for all service which pertains to me, and to the Prior and Convent of Huntingdon iv shillings per annum at two terms, viz. at Easter ij shillings and at the feast of St. Michael ij shillings. After that the said Fulk came and before the gift and confirmation gave me 20 shillings for ingress. These being witnesses, Geoffery de Caxton, Walter son of Robert, Philip Manatus, Geoffery de Bernewell, Thomas the clerk of Huntingdon, Robert son of Baldewin, Robert Lemmir, Geoffery Cardon, William Spinc, Martin the clerk and many others.

[51.] To all the faithful in Christ who see or hear this writing, Peter de Herdewyk son and heir of the lady Johane de Herdewyk, greeting in the Lord. Know all

of you that I have granted and by this my present charter confirmed to God and the Church of the Blessed Mary of Huntingdon and the Canons Regular serving God there for the health of my soul and of the soul of my father the soul of the said Johan my mother and of all my ancestors and successors in free pure and perpetual alms viij acres of arable land which are called Tofts and iv acres of meadow which are called Thosmed and all appurtenances within the town of Dene and without, and the homage and all service of Roger de la Wykehaye with all its appurtenances, viz. half a mark of annual rent at two terms of the year, viz. at the feast of the Annunciation iij^s. iv^d. and at the feast of St. Michael iij^s. iv^d., and the homage and all service of Walter Hacun of Dene, viz. viij shillings of annual rent, viz. at the feast of the Annunciation iv shillings and at the feast of St. Martin iv shillings, and the homage and all service of Geoffery de Ho, viz. iv shillings of annual rent, viz. at the feast of the Annunciation of the Blessed Mary and at the feast of St. Michael, and the homage and all service of Walter Dalle, i.e. ij shillings of annual rent at the same terms; and the fourth part of viij virgates of land with messuages and all other its appurtenances which William Carpenter formerly held in the town of Tylebrok and William himself with all that belonged to him (*cum tota sequela*).

And whatever may happen to me or my heirs as to the aforesaid tenants and tenements in any way, they (the Prior and Convent) shall have and hold all the land and tenements above mentioned with all their appurtenances above mentioned

Folio 14. to the said Canons and their successors entirely freely purely and quit of all secular service exaction and demand as the aforesaid Johanna de Herdewick my mother left them to the aforesaid Canons and their Church where her body is buried with her body and confirmed by her legacy and charter which I hold to be firm and stable [and which] she approved and confirmed when she had the power to do so.

I the aforesaid Peter and my heirs and assigns will

warrant acquit and defend all the lands and tenements above mentioned with their appurtenances as free and perpetual alms to the Canons and their Church against all people for ever. In testimony of which to this present writing I have affixed my seal. These being witnesses, Sir Nicholas Payne, Sir John de Bayuse, Sir William le Moyne, Sir Richard de Baiocis, Symon de Herdwyk, Symon de Wanil, Ralph Portar de Tilebrok, Warin de Dene, William de Hargrave, John son of Matthew and others.

[52.] Be it known to all the faithful in Christ that I William Poyte of Thyrning and my heirs and assigns are bound to pay to the Prior and Convent of Huntingdon ij shillings annually, viz. at Easter xij pence and at the feast of St. Michael xij pence, for a certain messuage with appurtenances which we hold of them in the parish of the Blessed Mary of Huntingdon, and if they will not warrant that to us they shall restore to us xl marks of silver which we have given them, and for the expenses about the upkeep of the same messuage with appurtenances they shall pay according to the valuation of mutual friends chosen by both parties. In testimony of which I William Poyte for myself and my heirs and assigns have affixed my seal to the present writing. These being witnesses, Symon de Herdewyk, John de Fonte, John de Leyke, Henry de 'Thyrning, John de Rist', Henry de Gydding, Hugh de Swafham, William Hasard, John de Selton, Ralph de cellar', Will. de Hargrave, William de Gardin' and others.

[53.] Let all present and future know that I Alice daughter of William Martin of Huntingdon in pure virginity and of my free power have granted remitted and by this my present charter confirmed to God and the Church of the Blessed Mary of Huntingdon and the Canons Regular serving God there in free pure and perpetual alms all right or claim which I had or in any way could have had in all lands or tenements with their appurtenances which I have of the gift of Robert Hardy, formerly my uncle, within the Borough (*Burgo*) of

Huntingdon and without; so that neither I Alice nor my heirs or assigns could ever exact anything therefrom for ever. In testimony of which I have affixed my seal to the present writing. These being witnesses, John de St. Benedict, Thomas Saluar clerk, John Hoe, Nicholas Caperon, Will. Marescall, Laurence Pistor, Henry de Swynesh, Hugh de Swafham and others.

[54.] To all sons of Holy Mother Church, Brother Roger¹ the Prior, and the Chapter (*humil'*) of the Convent of Huntingdon, greeting eternal in the Lord. Know all of you that we have given and granted and by the present Charter confirmed to Richard son of

Folio 14b. Richard Caperon and his heirs that messuage in Huntingdon which Roger Rademan formerly held of us by paying to us annually ij^s. vj^d. viz. at Hokeday, and we acquit him of Hadgable and will warrant to the said Richard and his heirs the said messuage against all people for ever. And for this grant the said Richard has given us viij marks sterling and viij quarters of corn. And that this grant may remain for ever sure we have strengthened it by affixing the seal of our Chapter. These being witnesses, William Spinc, Will. son of Martin, Symon Fyn, Robert Fyn, Ric. Caperon, Roger son of Thomas, Symon son of Baldewin, Albin le Vinctor, Jordan faber, Robert Hardy, Geoffery le Diuere, John son of Mauger and many others.

[55.] Let both present and future know that I Roger parson of the Holy Trinity have given and granted to God and the Church of the Blessed Mary of Huntingdon and the Canons Regular serving God there for the health of my soul and of the souls of my ancestors my house in which I live and the land on which it stands with all its appurtenances, viz. land which Ailbricus holds and land which Beatrice holds and land which Edina holds and land which Nicholas holds, in pure and perpetual alms, save a rent of viij pence to the monks from an acre, which they shall receive from land which Nicholas holds.

1. Roger Esebii [Easby?] was elected Prior in the 16th year of Bishop Hugh de Welles, 1225.

For the ratification of this gift I have thought it right to strengthen it by affixing my seal. These being witnesses, Roger the deacon, Helias the chaplain, Andrew the chaplain, Thomas the chaplain, Thomas the clerk, Helyas the clerk, Robert Priscianus, Roger son of Hubert, Herbert dispensator, John the cook, Gilebert the baker, Roger de acre and many others.

Mills. [56.] S. King of England¹ to Earl Henry², greeting. Know that in as much as two mills in Huntingdon are in my hands I have given and granted in alms to God and the Church of St. Mary of Huntingdon, and the Canons serving God there for the soul of my brother Henry and of others my ancestors one third part of the said mills. Wherefore I command you that as you love me I trust in you that you see to it that they have the third part of the said mills in everything which comes to and pertains to them as freely and quietly as you have them in the two parts. Witness, Earl Gisl., apud . . . ³.

[57.] To all the faithful in Christ to whom the present writing comes, Brother Robert de Santford, Knight of the Temple in England, your humble minister, greeting in the Lord. Know all of you that we and our House are bound to pay to the Prior and Convent of Huntingdon annually for ever iv^s vj^d ob. for that messuage with building and appurtenances in Huntingdon which Geoffery son of Ralph the clerk held of the aforesaid Prior and Convent at two terms of the year, viz. one moiety at the feast of St. Michael and the other at Easter. In testimony of which with the common counsel and assent of our brethren we have affixed the seal of our Chapter to the present writing. Done at our Chapter at Easter at London in the year of our Lord One thousand two hundred and forty.

Folio 15. [58.] To all the faithful in Christ who see or hear this writing Henry de Bokeland greeting in

1. Stephen King of England reigned from 2 December, 1135 to 25 October, 1154.

2. Prince Henry of Scotland was Earl of Huntingdon from about 1136 until 1152.

3. Not finished.

the Lord. Know all of you that I and my heirs are bound to acquit the Master and Brethren of the Knights of the Temple in England against the Prior of Huntingdon and his Convent for ever as to four shillings of annual rent which the aforesaid Master and Brethren are bound to pay annually to the said Prior and Convent for that messuage with buildings curtilages and all other appurtenances which they hold by gift of Richard¹ of blessed memory Prior of Huntingdon and his Convent. And also of all secular services exactions customs and demand which Robert Bonenfant of Huntingdon and Sabina his wife might have been able to exact from the aforesaid Master and Brethren by reason of any accident happening to the aforesaid house during the life of the said Sabina, so that I the aforesaid Henry am bound to indemnify the said Master and Brethren against Robert and Sabina during Sabina's life and in all things to keep them indemnified. In testimony of which I have affixed my seal to this writing. These being witnesses . . .

[59.] Robert by the grace of God bishop of Lincoln² to all sons of the Catholic Church greeting. Since we are bound to admit the just prayers of the Religious and to provide opportunity to our beloved sons the Canons serving God in the Church of the Blessed Mary of Huntingdon, we have confirmed the church of the Blessed Mar.³ and the church of the Blessed St. Benedict of Huntingdon with their appurtenances for a perpetual alms and have strengthened [the confirmation] by affixing our Seal. Saving in all things the rights and dignity of the Church of Lincoln.

[60.] H. son of the King of Scots⁴ to R. Foliot his steward, to Burgesses Barons and all his faithful men French and English in the whole Honour of Huntingdon, both present and future, greeting. Know that I

1. Richard was made Prior in 1238.
 2. The document is not finished.
 3. Robert Grosseteste, Bishop of Lincoln 1235—1253.
 4. The church of St. Martin; compare the next charter.
 5. Henry, son of David King of Scotland, was Earl of Huntingdon from about 1136 until his death in 1152.

have granted in perpetual alms to the Church of the Blessed Mary of Huntingdon and my brethren the Canons serving God and the Blessed Mary there, for the health of my soul and of the souls of my ancestors the churches of St. Martin and St. Benedict which Rodbright the deacon of Huntingdon granted to them and I will and strictly enjoin that they hold these churches and all the alms which they hold of my fee in lands and churches and tithes and water and meadows and pastures and mills as freely and honourably as they were held in the time of my father and as they were held when King Henry was living and dead¹, and I wish them to hold my farm in peace and forbid any one to injure them in any way and I will prevent them doing so. Witnesses, John the Bishop, Daniel the Prior of Jedworth, R. Foliot steward, and Samuel the clerk, at Rocnesburch.²

[61.] To all sons of Holy Mother Church to whom this present writing comes Jordan the priest greeting in the Lord. Be it known to you all that I have granted and given to God and the Church of St. Mary of Huntingdon and to the Canons serving God there with my body in pure and perpetual alms that land with houses built on it which is next the house of Thomas the clerk in Huntingdon which land I bought of William Thosa, which land and houses I will warrant to the aforesaid Canons if any action in law is taken against them. These being witnesses, Elyas the clerk, Martin the clerk, Symon Corm'tine, Robert son of Baldewyne, Robert Priscianus, Hubert dispensator, Elyas the clerk, John Cook.

[62.] Let the present and future know that John priest of Wistou has given to the Church of St. Mary of Huntingdon and the Canons Regular serving God there all his land which he had in the Soke of Huntingdon which land was his father's, and he gave the land to them for a perpetual possession for the souls of his father and mother and of his ancestors. The Prior of

1. Henry I., King of England, died 2 December, 1135.
2. The Royal Castle of Roxborough.

Huntingdon and all the Convent have granted to the said John to hold that land for his life by paying to them annually ij shillings. John then did fealty (*fecit fidelitatem*) to the aforesaid Canons. If Gregory son of the said John should outlive the said John then Gregory should hold the said land for his life by paying ij shillings annually to the Canons. He did homage to the Prior and Convent. After the death of them and the longer liver of them the land should be free and quit of all claim and should remain to the Church and Canons. If the said Geoffery wished to become a Canon he should

Folio 15b. be received by the Canons if leave could be obtained from his father John, and he should be made a Canon and then the said land should be free and quit of every claim and belong to the Canons. And if after John's death Geoffery wished to be made a Canon he should be received by them and made a Canon and the land should belong to the Priory and be free and quit of all claim and remain to the Canons. A gift of ij shillings is to be made at Easter and St. Michael, xij pence at Easter and xij at St. Michael.

The sisters and nephews (*nepotes*) of John agreed to the gift, they presented the land on the altar of St. Mary of Huntingdon. Witnesses, John priest of Brampton, Ralph priest of Houghton, Ralph the clerk of Huntingdon, the son of Turbin, Philip de Dauyntre¹ Sheriff of Huntingdon, Richard Parmenter of Huntingdon, Jeremiah son of Symon the clerk, Ralph Fyn, Gamelin de Grafham, Stephen his son, Nicholas the sheriff's clerk, Hubert de Broughton, Alfred the clerk, Godefrid steward (*dispensator*) of the Canons, Herbert the Prior's servant.

THE SOKE OF THE CANONS.

[63.] Let both present and future know that I R.² parson of the church of the Holy Trinity grant and give

1. Philip de Davintre was Sheriff of Huntingdonshire, 1166—1170.

2. Roger is stated to have been Rector about 1180, (Gorham's History of St. Neots).

to God and the Church of St. Mary of Huntingdon and the Canons Regular serving God there two hydes of land in the Soke of the Canons by the brook which I and my ancestors have held of the said Church free and quit in pure and perpetual alms for the health of my soul and for the souls of my father and mother and of my ancestors. That the above concession may endure for ever I have taken care to support it by affixing my seal. These being witnesses, Roger the deacon, Eusebius de Wystou, Andrew chaplin of the church of

Folio 16. St. Mary, Anselm parson of the church of St. Andrew, G. parson of Erinnton,¹ Walter son of Ralph, Robert Priscianus, Herbert the steward, John Cook, Symon de Omulla, Roger Piel, Geoffery Cook, Ni. de Winewic, Roger de Acra, Roger son of Hubert, Nich. Feeius and many others

CHARTERS OF THE VIEW² OF THE CANONS.

[64.] Let the present and future know that I Geoffery de Wyntonia have given and granted and by this my present charter confirmed to God and the Church of the Blessed Mary of Huntingdon and the Canons Regular serving God there one messuage with buildings and all its appurtenances in the View of the Canons in free and perpetual alms, viz. that messuage called Burshws, to have and to hold of me and my heirs to the aforesaid Canons and their Church freely quietly well and in peace by paying therefrom annually to me and my heirs or assigns one pound of cummin (*cimini*) at Easter for all service exaction and demand on the part of myself or my heirs. And I Geoffery and my heirs will warrant to the said Canons and their Church the said messuage with appurtenances against all men for ever. That this my gift concession and confirmation may continue I have strengthened the present writing by affixing my seal. These being witnesses, Will. Spinc, Roger Pelege,

1. Perhaps Arrington, Cambs.

2. The View of Frank Pledge.

Robert Hardy, Symon de Hocton, Wm. de Waus, Ralph brouton, Adam de Catteworth, Richard de Catteworth and many others.

OF THE VIEW OF THE CANONS.

[65.] Let the present and future know that I Walter de Ayswell son of Thomas de Prato have granted and quit-claimed for myself and my heirs for ever to God and the Church of the blessed Mary of Huntingdon and the Canons Regular serving God there in pure and perpetual alms the rent and service of Gilebert Wythond son of Symon le child that is annually due to me and accustomed to be paid for land which he held of me by charter in the View of the Canons at Hartford (*Herford*), Gilbert himself being present and agreeing, and the rent and service of Thomas Prudone brother and heir of Absolon of Huntingdon which annually is due to me and which he is accustomed to pay for land which he held of me by hereditary right in the said View, Thomas himself being present and agreeing, and whatever might accrue to me or my heirs from the said land or could come from anything else. And that this my confirmation and quit-claim for myself and my heirs may ever remain firm and stable I have affixed my seal to this present charter. These being witnesses, Sir William Espinc, Adam de Catteworth, Nich. de Ristun, Adam his brother, Michael then janitor of the Canons and others.

[66.] Be it known to all the faithful in Christ that I Stephen de Wincestre have remitted and by my present charter for myself and my heirs have quit-claimed for ever to God and the Church of the Blessed Mary of Huntingdon and the Canons Regular serving God there for the health of my soul and the souls of all my ancestors and successors in free pure and
Folio 16b. perpetual alms one pound of cummin which they have been accustomed to pay for a messuage in the View of the Canons which is called Burshus. In testimony of which I have affixed my seal to the present

writing. These being witnesses, Maister Geoffery de Weston, Nich. Caperon, Rich. Baude, Will. Tinnator, Rich. Tinnator, John de Riston, John his brother, Rob. Sebern and many others.

CHARTER OF THE MEADOW OF BROMHOLM.

[67.] Let the present and future know that I Lambert de Colonia have granted and by this my present charter confirmed to God and the Church of St. Mary of Huntingdon and the Canons serving God there for the health of the soul of the Lord King Richard and the souls of all his ancestors and his heirs and for the health of my own and of my ancestors' and heirs' souls a meadow in my demesne of Brampton which is called Bromholm quit of all custom and secular service in free pure and perpetual alms. These being witnesses, John de la Camerario Treasurer of the Emperor, Robert de Kerueil, Robert son of Walter de Stukeley, Baldwin my nephew (*nepos*), Ambrose of Brampton deacon, Eusebius of Godmanchester deacon, Thomas the Clerk of Huntingdon, Robert son of Baldwin, Ric. son of Will Parin, Walter and Thomas his brothers, Stephen the smith and many others.

CONCERNING THE TITHE OF THE VINEYARD OF HUNTINGDON.

[68.] H. son of the King of Scots¹ to all the faithful and sons of Holy Church greeting. Know that I have given and granted in alms to the Canons my brethren of the Church of St. Mary of Huntingdon the tithe of my vineyard of Huntingdon for the souls of my father and mother. Witnesses, Robt. de Brus, Robt. de Umfrauill, Ric. clerk, Hugh Britone and Wm. chaplain.

1. Prince Henry of Scotland, *circa* 1136 to 1152.

CHARTER OF HUNTINGDON.

[69.] To all sons of Holy Church who see or hear the present writing Symon Maufe eternal greeting in in the Lord. Know all of you that I have given and granted and by this my present charter confirmed to God and the Church of St. Mary of Huntingdon and the Canons serving God there for the health of my soul and of the souls of all my ancestors and successors the rent of that land, ij shillings, which Matilda who was wife of James holds of me in Huntingdon in pure and perpetual alms, reserving the liberty and ownership of the land, and she shall pay my heirs v shillings annually for the said land at Easter. These being witnesses, Walter my son parson of Wulfle¹, Roger de Cantelu, Rob. de Saltre, Odo the deacon, John de Almundbury, Gilbert de Bukesworth, Wm. de Wulfle chaplain, Droton my servant and many others.

HUNTINGDON.

[70.] Let the present and future know that I Matilda who was wife of Robert Cook with the assent and good will of James my son have given and granted to God and the Church of the Blessed Mary of Huntingdon and the Canons serving God there a mansion in the View of the Canons, viz. that one which Alwin my father gave me to have and to hold to the said Canons for ever by paying annually to me and my heirs vj pence a year for service, viz. at Easter iij pence and at the feast of St. Michael iij pence. In return for

Folio 17. this gift the Prior and Convent of Huntingdon have given me xiv shillings and vij rings (*rinioias*) of corn and I and my heirs will warrant the aforesaid mansion to the Prior and Convent against all men. These being witnesses, Gueric de Harmis then sheriff, Jocelin de Stukeley, Geoffery de Rixton, Berengarius le Moyne, Philip le Moyne, Symon de Grafham, William Spring, Will. son of Martin, Symon le Cornur, Symon de Den², Robert Pettevin.

(*To be continued.*)

1. Woolley.

2. There is a space between this name and the next.



Photo by

G. H. Tyndall

THE PRIOR'S HOUSE, ELY.

SOUTH SIDE, SHEWING END OF HALL, AND PRIOR CRAUDEN'S CHAPEL.

THE PRIOR'S HOUSE, ELY.

BY THE REV. CANON KENNETT, D.D.

The House, occupied, since the foundation of the present Capitular body of Ely, by the holder of the eighth Canonry was originally the House of the Prior of the Monastery, and very considerable parts of the ancient building still remain.

The main body of the house, consisting originally of a large hall above a vaulted undercroft, was built, to judge from the architecture of the remaining portions, about the middle of the twelfth century. This undercroft, which had a simple groined vault supported on short cylindrical piers with scalloped capitals and circular abaci, occupied six bays from north to south, and two from east to west. In the second bay from the south there were doorways in both the western and eastern walls, the internal jambs of which are still visible. Externally the doors probably resembled the one which gives access to the King's School, opposite the west end of Prior Crauden's Chapel. There was a narrow circular headed doorway near the north end of the west wall, which for some reason was built rather to the east of the rest of the wall. This was demolished by Mr. Rowe in 1883.

Whether the hall above the undercroft originally possessed any chimney is doubtful. The fact, however, that the doorway, mentioned above, in the western wall of the undercroft is not quite in the centre of the bay which it occupies, is perhaps an indication that there was a Norman chimney occupying the same position as the chimney afterwards constructed by the fourteenth century builders. More probably, however, the hall was heated only by a brazier in the centre. Immediately to the north of the main building, on the ground floor, was the Prior's Kitchen, and it is probable that an external staircase was

built against, or partly against, the western wall of this building. We may suppose that in the twelfth century, as in the fourteenth, there were two doorways in the northern end of the hall, the eastern one giving access to the stairs which led down into the Prior's Kitchen, the western one giving access to the external staircase mentioned above, and, at a later date, communicating by means of a gallery with a large Guest-hall, now the Deanery.

Although not a vestige of the Norman Hall of the Prior's House now remains, it is possible to construct a mental picture of it from buildings of the same date still existing. We may assume that it was lighted by narrow round-headed windows deeply splayed on the inside, and perhaps descending to the floor. Similar windows are still visible externally in the upper storey of the eastern wall of the King's School. The hall was probably roofed with lead, the eastern and western walls terminating in a corbel table like that of which a small portion remains on the western side of the King's School. The undercroft was also lighted by narrow round-headed deeply splayed windows, the remains of which are still visible in the westernmost bay. Some time later, apparently during the thirteenth century, an outbuilding was attached to the house at the south-west angle, for what purpose is unknown. This building was at right angles to the main Hall, and was, roughly, thirty feet by fourteen. In the year 1324-1325 Prior Crauden erected the existing Chapel on the outbuilding; and to the north, above a building which was probably made into a sort of scullery and was connected with the Prior's Kitchen by a passage under the great staircase, he erected for a study a timber building with a fine stone fireplace at the eastern end, and square-headed windows with reticulated tracery. The dimensions of the Study were nearly the same as of the Chapel. It was entered not directly from the Great Hall, but by a passage on the south side which communicated with the Great Hall by the doorway removed by Mr. Rowe to the present entrance hall. From this passage a door near the western end opened into the

Study, and opposite this door was a gallery communicating with the Chapel'. It is somewhat surprising that the Convent should have consented to the erection of a new Chapel and Study for the Prior at a time when the building of the Lady Chapel and Octagon, as well as the three westernmost bays of the Choir was in progress; but an explanation of this may be found in the fact that Prior Fressingfield, who had been compelled to resign his post in May 1321, continued to reside in the Prior's House, so that his successor had no place where he could study or pray alone. The expense of the new Chapel and the room to the north of it for the Prior's study was defrayed by the Treasurer, not the Sacrist. [See *Chapman*², vol. 1, p. 61; see also p. 127 footnote].

The main entrance to the Hall at this time, as has been stated above was probably at its north-west corner by an external staircase, perhaps just north of the present house, in which case access to the house from it would be by the doorway mentioned above in the north wall. It is however possible that it was built slightly more to the south, and that it opened directly into the Great Hall, or in the fourteenth century into the ante-room or passage at the north end of the Great Hall. It may be conjectured that it was pulled down by Prior Stewart, who, since he retained not only the original Prior's Kitchen and the Chapel but also part of the kitchen offices under Prior Crauden's Study, would desire to get rid of a building which was of no use to him personally and could only be approached through a court which was now entirely appropriated by him.

In the year 1341 Alan of Walsingham was elected Prior, and three years later, October 31, 1344, an order was made that the Prior of Ely should provide a suitable

1. Another gallery of which a portion still remained in 1817 connected the Chapel with the Fair Hall, now the house of the Headmaster of the King's School, [see *Stephenson's* appendix p. 48]. This gallery, however, would appear to have been an afterthought, for the turret staircase still existing, was evidently designed without reference to such a building. In a little sketch dated 1816, there is shown a building immediately abutting on the turret staircase to the north of it and extending a few feet westward.

2. The Sacrist Rolls of Ely. Edited by the Rev. F. R. Chapman, M.A., two volumes, Cambridge University Press, 1907.

“house” for the safe custody of the tenths and fifteenths granted in the last Parliament. The Prior of Ely was responsible for the counties of Cambridge and Huntingdon. [See *Chapman*, vol. 1, p. 81]. The account of the expense incurred in this building would presumably be found in the Treasurer's roll for the year 1345-1346. [See *Chapman*, vol 1, p. 79 footnote].

This “house” which is said to have been erected in the Priorate of Alan of Walsingham [see *Chapman*, vol. 1, p. 81 footnote] may reasonably be identified with the existing north-east wing of the Prior's House, the architectural features of which agree closely with those of the Painted Chamber attached to the Infirmary, which had been built by Alan of Walsingham, when Sacrist, ten years previously, namely in 1334-1335 [see *Chapman*, vol 1, pp. 138, 139].

A careful examination of the existing Hall of the Prior's House, (now cut up into several rooms) shows that it was built at the same time as the north-eastern wing¹. Apparently the walls of the southern half of the Norman Hall were bulging, and the vaulting in that portion was giving way. It was probably considered unsafe to leave the heavy Norman walls standing above the ground storey. The Norman vaulting of the northern half of the undercroft was left unchanged—perhaps this portion was better preserved through having been buttressed on the western side by the Prior's Study – but in the southern half new vaulting with brick ribs was constructed above the Norman piers. That this work was later than the building of the Chapel is shown by the fact that the vaulting under the latter, though somewhat similar in design, is of clunch, not brick. An examination of the arcading of the west wall of the north-east wing (i.e. the outer side of the east wall of the northern part of the Great Hall) shews that the north-east wing was originally planned to extend somewhat further to

1. The fact that the wooden braces under the purlins of the oak roof have been cut in the form of four-centred arches is no evidence against this early date, since four-centred arches are found in the inner tracery of the windows of the Octagon which was finished in 1328.

the south, viz. as far as the plain Norman buttress which still remains uncovered¹. As this would have left the northernmost bay of the Hall (exclusive of the ante-room²) altogether without a window, the south wall of the north-east wing was set back a few feet to the north so as to allow of the insertion of a narrow window.

The walls of the New Hall and the north-east wing were constructed as thin as possible, but sufficient stability was given to them by a mural arcade, the pilasters of which were strengthened by external buttresses. The windows of this New Hall, were probably identical in design with those in this wing; that is to say square-headed Decorated windows of two lights, with transoms but without hood-moulds, placed one in each bay of the mural arcade. The fireplace and chimney (demolished by Mr. Rowe in 1883) was not in the middle of the New Hall, but was nearer the southern end of the western side. Between this chimney and the chimney of the Prior's Study was a doorway (removed by Mr. Rowe in 1883 to the south-west corner of the present entrance hall) giving access to the Study from the Hall. This doorway was probably the one which had been constructed in 1324-25, since it differs from the two existing doorways in the ante-room and from those in the north-east wing, which are clearly of the same date as the Hall. At the south-east angle of the New Hall was a newel staircase giving access to the leads of the roof, very similar in character to the one attached to the Painted Chamber of the Infirmary.

The northernmost bay of the New Hall was partitioned off so as to form a passage or ante-room, and from this passage a door in the eastern wall opened into another smaller passage which gave access to the room in the north-east wing. Another door in the eastern corner of the north wall of the larger passage gave access to the

1. A Norman buttress is visible behind the fourteenth century buttress in the next bay, and perhaps another remains immediately to the south of the present front door. There is also one on the west wall of the house.

2. The timbers of the roof of the Hall are unworked in the northernmost bay, showing that this was screened off from the body of the Hall to form an ante-room or passage.

stairs leading down to the Prior's Kitchen, and a third in the same wall to the west, on a somewhat higher level, gave access to a passage communicating with the great Guest-hall now the Deanery. As stated above it is not certain whether the main external staircase opened directly from this passage at the north end of the Great Hall. The fireplace (which with its big chimney was demolished by Mr. Rowe in 1883) was on the west side of the Hall, rather to the south of the middle, its centre being in a line with the second pier from the south in the undercroft.

The Hall possessed, apparently, a curb roof covered with lead laid immediately upon the existing timbers. The roof of the north-east wing was nearly flat like that of the Painted Chamber of the Infirmary.

In order to raise the "house" provided for the custody of the tenths and fifteenths, the "Strong Room" as we may call it, above the ground it was constructed over a vaulted porch open at the eastern end, which allowed access to the thirteenth century building to the north, of which the doorway still remains. From this porch there was no direct access to the house, but between the west wall of the porch and the east wall of the house was a vaulted passage constructed with a door at its south end, opening into a small yard, and at its northern end a newel staircase communicating with a passage above on the level of the New Hall. From this upper passage a door opened into the ante-room or passage at the north end of the Hall, and at its south end a short flight of stone steps led to the double doors by which the strong-room was entered. The hinge-hooks of the double doors were laid bare in 1909, and at the same time the mural arcade with the carefully shuttered windows was uncovered. Each of these windows was divided into four lights by a mullion and a transom; the lights above the transom were closed by shutters hung on hooks in the side jambs; the lights below had sliding shutters running in grooves. The top groove was worked partly upon the inside of the stone transom, which was made wider than usual for the purpose, and partly upon a projecting stone string course

built into the wall on either side of the window. The lower groove would appear to have been worked in a wooden sill resting partly on the stone sill of the window and partly upon a projecting string course as before. The holes by which this wooden sill was affixed to the stonework may still be seen.

About the middle or end of the fifteenth century, (if we may judge from their similarity to the windows in Bishop Alcock's buildings in the palaces at Ely and Downham as compared with those in Bishop Goodrich's buildings) larger windows were inserted in the Hall, and at its southern end, which had originally been lighted by two windows¹ the outer jambs of which still remain, a large oriel window was inserted with a castellated parapet, very similar in character to the oriels at Queens' college and elsewhere. The insertion of this window apparently necessitated some alteration to the gable end of the roof, two rude brick arches being constructed on either side of the oriel, perhaps in order to carry a somewhat thicker wall.

About the same time a square stone building, containing a staircase with a door at the bottom opening into the small yard, was constructed at the southern end of the eastern side of the Prior's House. Probably there was a door into this staircase immediately from the Hall, as at present. It is likely that such a doorway would be a good sized one of stone (like the one remaining on the north side of the staircase building on the ground floor) and it perhaps remains behind the lath and plaster to this day, though the anti-Gothic rage of those who destroyed the southern oriel must be taken into consideration. At the top of this square building, that is to say above the staircase, was a small room to which access was given by means of a projecting staircase, supported by a buttress on the south side, somewhat similar to that in the President's lodge at Queens'. This square staircase was probably constructed as a means of access to

1. These windows were apparently identical in design with two in the side walls. It is noteworthy that in the eastern gable of the thirteenth century Hall of the Almonry there are also two windows.

the latrines in the little back yard¹. At the bottom of the small newel staircase at the south-east angle of the Hall there are the remains of what was apparently a garde-robe which was discarded in the fifteenth century. We can explain therefore why the square stone building did not become the front staircase till some time between 1541 and 1649.

What is now the front garden appears to have contained one or more small buildings, and was probably what would now be called a small back-yard. The east wall of the front garden (nearly parallel with the front of the house) incorporates a portion of a much older wall, and many stones of a demolished building have been dug up close by.

Apparently in 1541 the main approach to the Hall, now modified in order to form a Canon's residence, was at the north-east corner by the "Staircase built with stone" (see *Chapman*, vol. 1, p. 131) perhaps the staircase now demolished of which however some of the vaulting can still be seen in the little dressing room at the north-east corner of the main building.

The northern wall of the present dining room, to which the great chimney was perhaps a somewhat later addition, apparently belonged to some ancient building, later than the square staircase mentioned above, since it is built against the southern buttress of the latter building, but what the purpose of this building was, cannot be determined².

In 1541 the buildings of the Prior's House—exclusive of the Prior's Kitchen on the north, the westernmost portion of the scullery or kitchen underneath the Prior's Study, and the Prior's Chapel on the west—were allotted to the holder of the 8th stall, viz. John Ward. The

1. It is noteworthy that there was originally no connection between this staircase building and the vaulted undercroft which forms the present hall. It is therefore evident that the present hall had not yet become the regular approach.

2. The masonry of the lower part of the great chimney (i.e. up to the eaves) appears to be early, and probably not later than the fifteenth century. Since there appears to have been originally no connection between this building and the Prior's House, of which the Kitchen was far removed, it may be surmised that it was originally a kitchen or scullery belonging to one of the other houses, perhaps that of the sartorius or camerarius.



Photo by

G. H. Tyndall

THE PRIOR'S HOUSE, ELY.

EAST SIDE, SHEWING THE HALL AND THE KING'S TREASURY.

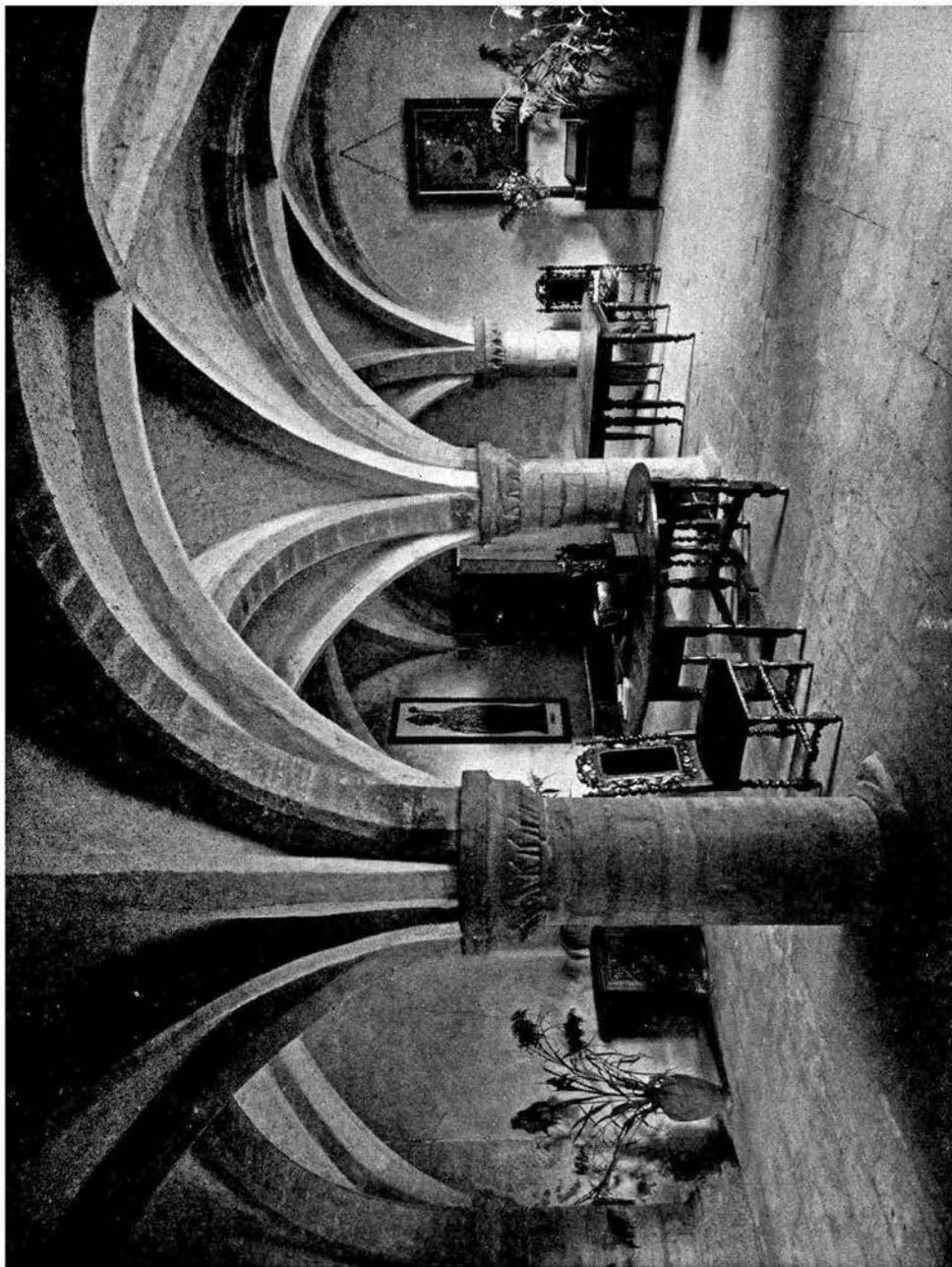


Photo by

THE PRIOR'S HOUSE, ELY.
THE UNDERCROFT OF THE HALL.

G. H. Tyndall

Prior's Study, called by the Commissioners "the Chapel Chamber" had been recently occupied by a Mr. Lee, perhaps a secretary called in to assist Prior Steward at the time of the Dissolution, perhaps the Prior's chaplain (*capellanus domini prioris* mentioned in a roll kept by the Prior's treasurer in the time of Henry VIII,—see *Stewart*¹, p. 263).

The Prior's House is described by Henry VIII's Commissioners as follows:—

"The New Hall with the audit chamber and the
 "Chapel chamber called Mr. Lee's chamber, with
 "the house and vaults thereabouts, with a little
 "garden and poultry yard and the ponds there² and
 "the Chapel chamber, and parts of the kitchen
 "underneath the same. The chamber at the hall
 "door to be for an audit chamber".

On the assumption that the main approach to the upper portion of the house at this time was by the stone staircase mentioned above, namely at the north-east corner of the Great Hall³, the description of the house is perfectly plain. The "New Hall" will be that which, about the year 1345, replaced the Norman Hall above the undercroft. The term "New Hall" may be due to the comparatively recent renovation which this hall had undergone by the insertion of new windows some forty or fifty years previously. But, as a matter of fact, of all the great halls within the Abbey, it would seem to be the last constructed with the exception of the Black Hostel. The "audit chamber" will be the chamber in the north-east wing constructed at the same time, above an open porch. The "Chapel Chamber" is clearly Prior Crauden's Study. The "audit chamber" which apparently is still to be

1. *The Architectural History of Ely Cathedral*. By the Rev. D. J. Stewart, M.A. Van Voorst, 1868.

2. This little garden with the poultry yard and ponds must have been on the south of the house. The foundations of a building parallel to the south end of the house were visible in the tennis lawn in the dry summer of 1911. This building was about 9 feet wide, and its northern wall about 15 feet from the south wall of the present dining room. Its western wall was opposite the door leading from the house into the garden.

3. The reason for making this somewhat narrow staircase the main approach to the house was, doubtless, the retention by Dean Stewart of the Prior's Kitchen as well as the Chapel.

applied to the same use, is said to be "at the hall door", a description which well suits the eastern wing on the assumption that the hall was entered from the north-east corner. The gallery from the Study to the Chapel was perhaps demolished at this time, since the Chapel itself was retained by the Dean.

Though the house thus divided off, perhaps suited the needs of a man who had been a monk, it was decidedly inconvenient as a dwelling house, since in addition to the Hall it contained only the Audit Room which was still to be devoted to its earlier purpose¹, the ante-room to the Hall, which was little better than a passage, the Prior's Study, and the little room over the square south-eastern staircase. Moreover since the Prior's Kitchen was retained by the Dean, there was no adequate kitchen accommodation; hence the northern half of the undercroft, which was connected with the little kitchen or scullery under the Prior's Study by the small Norman doorway mentioned above, was converted into a kitchen. The existing wall between the pantry and the present hall probably dates from this time. Under the dresser on the south side of the present pantry there are traces of a doorway. The reason for making the kitchen in the northern part of the undercroft was doubtless due to the fact that this was separated from the Prior's Kitchen only by a wall. Moreover a doorway led from it into the vaulted passage which had now become the main entrance. Perhaps until the pulling down of the Prior's Kitchen the staircase which had led from the latter building into the Hall may have been connected with the northern portion of the undercroft, for in the north-east corner of the present kitchen, under the modern window, are what appear to be steps leading into the Prior's Kitchen.

Probably at this time, when the partition wall was

1. "It is interesting to remark that the first holder of the 8th Canoury, John Ward, was immediately appointed Treasurer to the new Dean and Chapter, that the 'comptus' he then drew up was evidently modelled on the form used by the Prior and Convent, and that Ward was probably a man of experience and ability in finance. Is it not probable that we have here the reason why he was selected to occupy the house belonging to the Prior?"—*Chapman*, vol. I, p. 131.

built across the undercroft, the bases of the piers in the northern half were cut down into an octagonal shape in order to give more floor room. Since the capitals however in this northern portion are slightly more developed, the octagonal bases *may* be original. In order to provide the new kitchen with a fireplace, some stone projections, which carried the great wooden mantel-beam¹ were built on to two of the semi-piers on the west side.

Apparently both in 1541 and also in the latter half of the sixteenth century, or early in the seventeenth, when married Canons would be the rule, efforts were made to increase the accommodation of the house. The Hall was divided into two by a wall roughly in a line with the central buttress on the eastern side. The northern portion which seems to have been ceiled with a flat ceiling, was made into a parlour or dining-room; it was warmed by a fireplace constructed above the (new) kitchen fireplace and built partly against the great chimney of the Prior's Study. The stone or clunch arch of this fireplace still remains behind the modern grate. In the southern end of the chimney which projected into the room was a small cupboard which still remains. This cupboard, which was connected with the actual chimney just above the fire by holes pierced in the stone, seems to have been designed as a means of keeping the dinner warm. The approach to the passage giving access to the Prior's Study was by a stone doorway (removed by Mr. Rowe to the present entrance hall) which was situated between the new fireplace and the partition which separated the parlour from the rest of the Hall. Somewhat later, probably in the eighteenth century, the south-west corner of the parlour was altered as at present, so as to make a way into the Study directly from the Hall without going through the parlour.

At the same time that the Hall was divided into two the thin wooden partition which had separated it from the ante-room at its northern end gave place to a somewhat

1. This wooden mantel-beam was sawn through in the nineteenth century to allow of the insertion of a modern kitchen range. The northern end of it was found in 1911.

more solid partition of wood and plaster. This ante-room was also ceiled and divided into two by a partition (containing a door) running north and south in the very centre of the doorway which had formerly opened on to a staircase leading down into the Prior's Kitchen, and which was now disused¹: a small bedroom was thus formed to the north of the parlour. The remaining portion of the old ante-room to the east formed a small dark lobby, from which on the west side one door opened into the small bedroom just mentioned, one, in the south-east corner into the parlour, and the other, in the eastern wall (viz. the doorway which had been constructed in 1345) into the lofty passage communicating at its southern end with the audit room, and at its northern end with the stone staircase (leading down to the vaulted passage below) the door of which was in the corner between the eastern wing and the main body of the house. Perhaps about the same time, or more probably, between 1649 and 1660, the height of the lofty passage just mentioned was greatly diminished by the insertion of a floor, in order to make a little room above it. As this made it impossible to use the old approach to the audit room, a new doorway was cut in the north-east corner of the parlour, from which a few straight wooden steps led to the audit room door. Remains of the original stone winding staircase which gave access to the audit room door from the passage still remain under the present wooden steps, one of which can now be removed so as to allow the old stone steps below to be seen. The small room constructed above the passage (laid bare in 1909) had a door in its southern wall to which access then as now, could only be gained from these steps. It was lighted by an unglazed window opposite the window in the south wall of the building. It is noteworthy that the oak beams used in the construction of this little

1. This doorway had perhaps been blocked up in 1541, when the Prior's Kitchen was retained by the Dean and was therefore separated from the house. The Prior's Kitchen was demolished in 1649, and the stone staircase at the north-east corner of the house, which in 1541 formed the main approach to the upper floor, may have been destroyed at the same time. In 1649 the square south-eastern staircase had already become the main approach.



Photo by

G. H. Tyndall

THE PRIOR'S HOUSE, ELY.

THE CHIMNEY PIECE OF PRIOR CRAUDEN'S STUDY.

room had evidently been used before, and were probably taken from some of the recently demolished buildings of the monastery. There was evidently no second-hand door available suitable for the purpose and those who constructed the little room contented themselves with two deal boards roughly nailed together to form a door.

The accommodation of the house in spite of its size, was still altogether inadequate, and additional rooms were a necessity. The southern portion of the Hall with its fireplace remained unchanged, and open to the oak roof; but above the building (some 25 ft. by 12) already mentioned as existing at the south-east corner of the square staircase building, which had apparently been originally the kitchen or bakery of one of the other monastic houses, a timber building was constructed containing two rooms, one approximately twice the size of the other. This building was connected with the main part of the house by a sort of wooden porch, with a small lobby above its eastern half; from which lobby a door opened on to the square staircase. The small room appears to have been a little buttery; the larger room, as also the room above the staircase, was used as a servant's bedroom. An opening into the south wall of the square staircase building was made from the porch, but probably at a somewhat later date. From the survey of the house made in 1649 it is evident that the main approach to the first floor was no longer by the newel staircase at the north-east corner, as in 1541, but by the square staircase at the south-east, as at present.

Cromwell's commissioners describe the house as it would appear to one entering by the present drawing room door:—

“Over the arches a fair hall containing in latitude
“23 feet, in longitude 31 feet, covered with tyles,
“a little buttery with two small rooms for servants
“to lodge in, at the left hand going into the hall:
“and one fair chamber next the lane going into the
“court yard. A dyneing room adjoining to the hall
“(containing 19 feet wide) and two lodging rooms
“adjoining”.

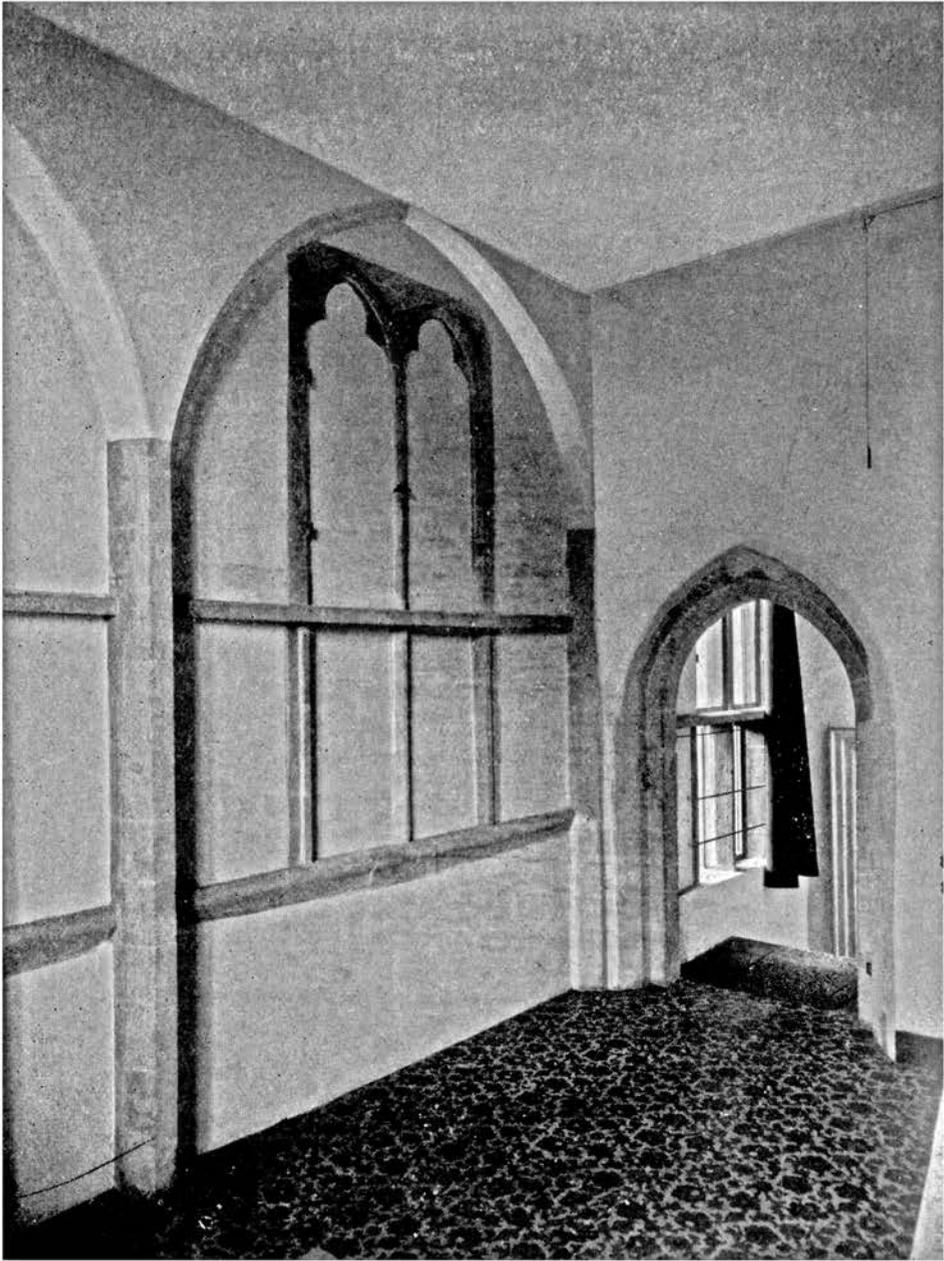


Photo by

G. H. Tyndall

THE PRIOR'S HOUSE, ELY.

INTERIOR OF THE KING'S TREASURY.

—
SHEWING WINDOW WITH HINGES FOR SHUTTERS ABOVE,
AND RUNNERS FOR SLIDING SHUTTERS BELOW.

The dimensions given to the hall exactly agree with those of the drawing-room and adjoining bedroom; while the "dyneing room" is clearly the present study together with the narrow passage on the north of it, which was partitioned off in 1883. The "fair chamber next the lane going into the court yard" is clearly Prior Crauden's Study.

Subsequently to 1660—to judge from the character of the woodwork and the brickwork, apparently in the last half of the eighteenth century—the Hall was converted into a drawing-room. The walls were covered with lath and plaster, hiding the mural arcade, and the room was ceiled at a considerably higher pitch than the old "dyneing room". The oriel window was replaced by a bow-window with sashes. Between the drawing-room and the old "dyneing room" was left a narrow passage. About the same time the ground floor of the building at the south-east, formerly the kitchen of another house (25 feet by 12 feet) was converted into a dining-room.

After 1649, but at what precise period is unknown, Prior Crauden's Study was divided into four. By that time the Chapel itself had probably been converted into a dwelling house. It was still a Chapel in 1649 (see *Stewart*, p. 245) and an order was then made for its demolition, the stone, timber, glass, iron and lead being valued at £33 17s. od.¹ It probably escaped destruction by being turned into a dwelling house. The undercroft was made into a kitchen, and a floor inserted in the Chapel itself so to convert it into two storeys (see *Wilkin's "Archæologia"* vol. xiv. 105, 111, 112; xix. 366, 368). The doorway was at the west end, and a lean-to porch was constructed between the buttresses to connect this with the turret staircase. At the top of this staircase there are traces of some sort of porch over the present door into the Chapel. There were two rooms and a passage on each floor; the staircase to the top storey

1. The Chapel in 1649 was covered with lead which, with the iron was valued at no less than £23 2s. od. It may be conjectured that the lead was removed as being the most valuable part of the fabric, and that the vaulting then became unsafe, and either fell in or was removed, a tiled roof being then put on when it was made into a dwelling house.

was at the west end of the south wall. At what time it was connected with the larger house is uncertain; in 1801 it was still a separate dwelling house and belonged to the Deanery. It was joined to the Prior's House by making a doorway in the south-west corner of the present drawing-room and removing the north-east window of the Chapel. In 1846 it was disconnected from the house and restored to its original use as a chapel. During the alteration of the house in 1882-3, several fragments of clunch images were found over the head of a doorway in the south-west corner of the then kitchen, *i.e.* opposite the present pantry door. That these images belonged to Prior Crauden's Chapel was proved by the present Dean, Dr. Kirkpatrick, who discovered that part of a human face exactly fitted a broken stone on the south side of the Chapel. It has been restored to its original position, but is clearly distinguished by its whiteness. Some of the passage which connected the Chapel with the Fair Hall—now the house of the Headmaster of the King's School—was still remaining in 1817.

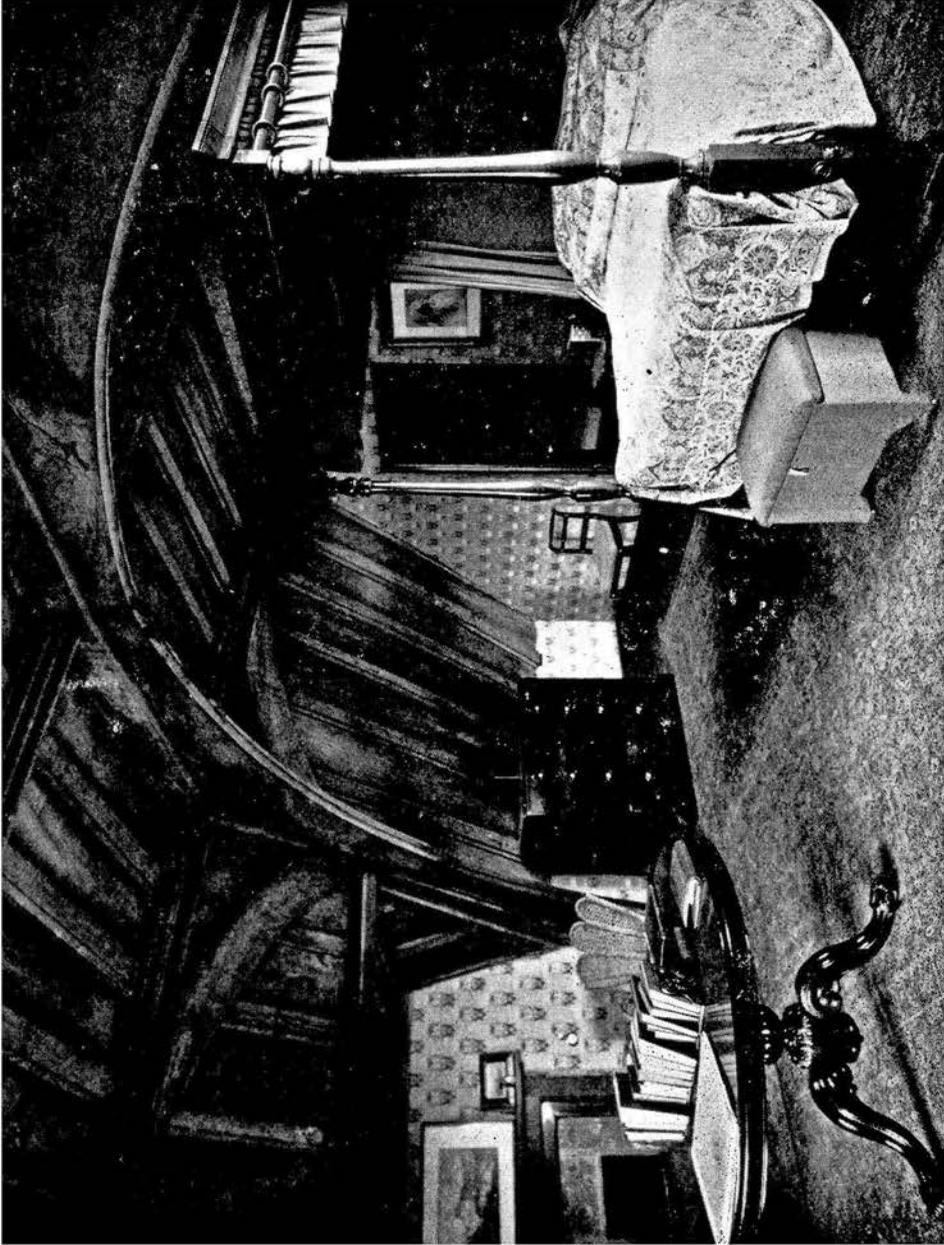
During the eighteenth century, apparently about the time that the southern portion of the original Hall was converted into a drawing-room, the roof of the north-east wing, or "Audit Room" to use the name of 1541, which was nearly flat, was renewed, and was given a slightly increased slope. The "Audit Room" itself was ceiled, and likewise the short staircase leading to it. The little room which had been inserted above the original passage was closed, and entirely hidden by plaster, the new ceiling of the short staircase being put at a level which would have partly blocked up the door, if it had still been used, and which did actually cover the top of the window in the outer wall. It is not improbable that the division of Prior Crauden's Study into four rooms was made at the same time, and that the room now used as a dining-room, which had been originally the kitchen or bakery of another house was then adapted to its present purpose. This room appears to have been lighted originally by two windows on the north, as well as by one or more on the south. Of the former, one was partly

blocked up by the construction of another fireplace to the west of the great chimney, the other being closed somewhat later, perhaps on account of the window tax. It is not improbable that the windows in the south wall of the bedroom in the north-east wing (i.e. the "Audit Room") were blocked up for the same reason, the walls of the room being afterwards covered with lath and plaster so as to hide all traces of the mural arcade¹. A wall was built across the undercroft so as to provide a pantry adjoining the kitchen; the southern portion of the undercroft which now became the entrance hall was thus reduced to a square with one pier in the centre. About the same time the square staircase appears to have been altered so as to make the approach to it from the porch or lobby connecting the dining-room with the vaulted undercroft.

Early in the nineteenth century extensive alterations seem to have been made in the present dining-room, a sort of alcove containing a window was built out on its south side; on its east side a small room was constructed between it and the garden wall, and adjoining this room, perhaps a little later, another small room was added on the south. The roof of the timber building above the dining-room (the little buttery and servants' bed-room of 1649) was brought down on the south side so as to roof the new addition to the dining-room. The original windows of the upper storey constructed beneath the eaves were thus blocked up.

No further alteration of any importance was made in the house till the death of Canon Jarrett in 1882, when much of the structure, especially Prior Crauden's Study, which was of timber, was found to be in a dilapidated condition. It was evident that the house could not be left as it was, and Mr. Reynolds Rowe, architect to the Dean and Chapter, was not unnaturally consulted about its restoration. Unfortunately Mr. Rowe was entirely destitute of any antiquarian feeling, and his recommend-

1. That the lath and plaster covering of the walls was later than the present ceiling is clear, since the ceiling from the first extended to the actual walls.



G. H. Tyndall

THE PRIOR'S HOUSE, ELY.

THE ROOF OF THE HALL.

Photo by

ations which were ultimately adopted were deplorable. Prior Crauden's Study was demolished altogether, with the exception of its splendid fireplace, for which Mr. Rowe could not find another place sufficiently large, and a hideous passage of white brick with a staircase like that of a sea-side lodging-house was constructed in its stead. The beautiful little doorway which had once given access to Prior Crauden's building and which might well have been left *in situ* was removed to the south-west corner of the present entrance hall; the big fourteenth century chimney was pulled down, and a Norman doorway in the kitchen which Mr. Rowe thought too narrow for modern requirements was utterly destroyed. Windows supposed to be of fourteenth century design were inserted, not only in the present hall, where there was some excuse for them since the vaulting was of fourteenth century date, but also in the kitchen and (present) pantry where there was nothing belonging to this period, and, as a crowning absurdity, in the north wall of the square staircase immediately above a Tudor arch. The old studded door gave place to one of quasi-ecclesiastical design, and the leaded windows gave place to plate-glass. The only good feature of the "Rowe storation" of the house, to quote a pun of Bishop Woodford's, was the removal of the pantry, by which the southern part of the undercroft was restored to the dimensions of 1541, and the opening up of the fine oak roof. In order to provide rooms to compensate for those which were pulled down, the pitch of the ceilings of the rooms on the first floor was altered, that of the drawing-room being considerably lowered, and that of the other room somewhat raised. The gable roof of the square staircase building which hitherto had been unconnected with the main roof was now continued westward in order to construct a staircase from the southernmost attic to the little room above the staircase. In pulling down Prior Crauden's Study the upper (traceryed) portion of the window in the western wall, *i.e.* opposite the great fireplace, was discovered; it is of oak, and is now preserved in the triforium of the

Cathedral. The tracery is of reticulated pattern and has a square head; the width of the frame from outside to outside is 6 feet 7 inches, and the height of the traceried part 4 feet 6 inches. The window was of three lights, each 1 foot 5 inches wide, but its original height is unknown since the mullions have not been preserved. In the south wall, a few feet from the west end, and like the window covered with lath and plaster, there was also found an oak doorway jointed into the framing of the partition. This doorway, which is also preserved in the triforium, is 8 feet 3 inches high, 5 feet 6 inches wide, from outside to outside, and 6 inches thick, the one side of it flat the other deeply moulded; the door opening is 7 feet 3 inches high and 3 feet $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide, and has a pointed-arched head. It is evident that this doorway was constructed to give access to a gallery leading to the Chapel door. [See *Chapman* vol. I, p. 128].

The only changes since 1883 have been the bringing to light of ancient features concealed by plaster, namely a stone arch in the vaulted passage on the left-hand side of the door of the room in the ground floor of the north-eastern wing, and a semi-pier on the western side of the kitchen to which had been built a support of the great chimney beam mentioned above. These were laid bare in 1911. The lath and plaster covering the arcade in the "Audit Room" was removed in 1909, and the little room constructed above the passage was opened up at the same date. The little spiral staircase at the south-east corner of the present drawing-room was opened up in 1913, and the window on the north side of the dining-room was re-opened at the same time.

Portions of the original mural arcade of the Great Hall are concealed beneath the lath and plaster of the present drawing-room. It is to be hoped that it may be possible at some date to uncover these, and also to bring to light the original fireplace of the "dyneing room", the present study. In the wall-arch over the fireplace of the Great Hall remains of a fresco, described by Mr. Rowe as "two bishops, etc., under a canopy of fourteenth

century type " were discovered in 1882-3. The northern part of this fresco still remains in the little lobby immediately outside the present drawing-room door, but is almost obliterated.

Another improvement which could add greatly to the comfort and convenience of the house would be to restore the kitchen to the dimensions which it had in 1541, and to convert it to a dining-room. It is much to be hoped that the present passage on the west of the house may some day give place to a building more worthy of Prior Crauden's noble fireplace, and that the vaulted undercroft of Prior Crauden's Chapel may be restored and put to a more honourable use.

The present writer's indebtedness to earlier students of the architecture and history of the Prior's House, especially to Archdeacon Chapman, will be abundantly evident from the references to their works. He desires also to record his great obligation to Mr. S. Inskip Ladds who has not only read this article both in manuscript and in proof with the greatest care, but has also given no small amount of help in criticisms and suggestions.

BRONZE SPEARHEAD FOUND AT CONINGTON, HUNTS.

BY DR. J. R. GARROOD.

An excellent bronze spearhead was found on Nov. 1st, 1920, on Messrs. Berridge's Farm at Bruce's Castle, Conington, Hunts., in the field known as Rookery field, just east of the site of Bruce's Castle, and close to the bank along which the Crease Road runs, near the place marked on the Ordnance Map as Duckpit Fen. It probably lay at some little depth as it was found on a potato clamp which would be covered by soil dug out. The site was about fifty feet from the skirt land so was quite probably under water when the spearhead was deposited.

The specimen is $5\frac{3}{4}$ inches long, is finely cast, and has two rounded projections at the base of the blade and forming extensions of it. There are two lugs for the insertion of binding thongs on the haft, which is hollow. This socket tapers forward merging into a narrow ridge which extends to the point.

The Cambridgeshire and Huntingdonshire Archæological Society.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE SESSION 1920-1921.

In presenting the twenty-second Annual Report and Balance Sheet the Council is pleased to record the enrolment of fourteen new Members during the last year, bringing the total number to seventy-two.

The Society's Library continues to increase, and by arrangement with Archdeacon Hodgson a long needed increase in shelving accommodation has recently been effected.

The past year has been, to some extent, one of disappointment. There seemed to be good reason to hope that we should be able to resume our custom of holding two excursions in the year; but, although all the preliminary arrangements were made for a Spring excursion, it was found impossible to hold it owing to the restrictions on travelling imposed by the coal strike. The Council, realizing the importance of the excursions, will do its utmost to restore the two annual outings.

A very pleasant excursion was held in September, the district covered including Sawtry, Glatton and Conington.

The Council desires to record its thanks to Mr. Chapman for allowing the Members to inspect the site of Sawtry Abbey, to Mrs. Fitton and Dr. Garrod for showing Abbey stones which they possess, and also to the Rev. J. T. Lee, the Rev. W. M. Noble, Mr. Stevens, Mr. Ladds and Mr. Heathcote for interesting papers and notes read. To the last named and Miss Heathcote for their great kindness in throwing open the grounds of Conington Castle and providing tea for the large party.

The Council has been compelled very earnestly to consider the financial position of the Society. As recorded last year, the excursions are involving greater expense, the cost of printing the Transactions, general stationery and postage has advanced one to two hundred per cent. It is felt that the permanent value of the Society arises from the Transactions which it is able to issue, and that to reduce their size and scope would be a serious injury, not only to the Society itself but also to the Archæology of the two Counties which is the aim and purpose of the Society to foster. The Council has therefore come to the decision, not without regret, that it is necessary to raise the amount of the annual subscription. It therefore recommends that in future, commencing January, 1922, the subscription shall be 15/- a year instead of 10/6.

With very great sorrow and a deep sense of personal loss the Council records the death of our President, the Venerable Archdeacon T. Hodgson, which took place on the 28th September, 1921. Archdeacon Hodgson had been a Member of Council for many years, being elected a Vice-President in 1916, and upon the death of the Earl of Sandwich was elected President. By his death the Society has lost a capable leader and a true friend.

The Rev. Canon E. K. Douglas, Rector of Cheveley, a Member of Council for all too short a time, has been taken from us by death to our very great regret.

The Balance Sheet presented by the Hon. Treasurer shows a balance in hand of £50 7s. 5d.

The retiring Members of Council this year are Mr. J. N. Heathcote, the Rev. W. O'F. Hughes, Dr. Garrod and Dr. Palmer, who, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

The Council recommends the election of the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Sandwich as President, in place of the late Archdeacon Hodgson; the Very Rev. the Dean of Ely as Vice-President; and the Venerable Archdeacon K. D. Knowles as a Member of Council in place of the late Canon Douglas.

Lastly the Council offers its thanks to the Officers and to all who have assisted in the work of the Society during the past year.

A. PESKETT,
Chairman.

14th November, 1921.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE SESSION 1921-1922.

In presenting the Report for the twenty-third year of the Society's existence, the Council regrets that the membership has not increased this year to any extent; only four new Members being elected.

Last year the Council was disappointed in not being able to restore the two annual excursions; this year it is pleased to record its success in arranging two delightful and successful meetings.

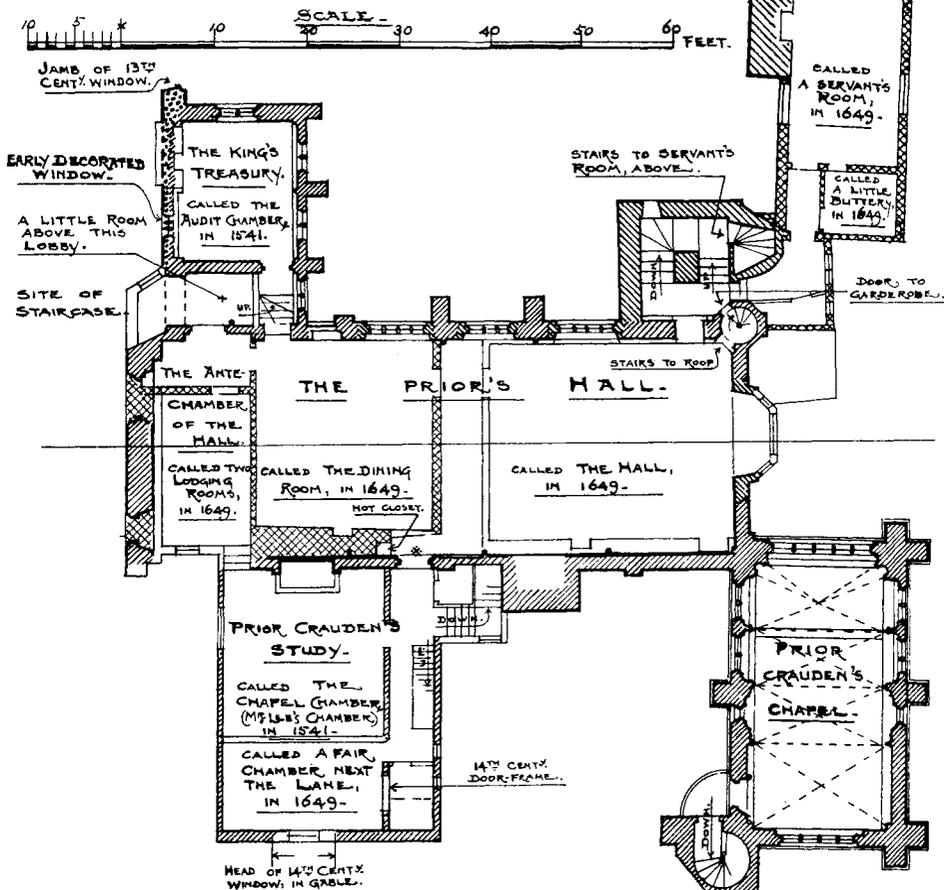
The Spring excursion took place on May 6th and was arranged through the kindness of our President, the Earl of Sandwich and Archdeacon K. D. Knowles, to cover the Churches of All Saints, Huntingdon, Brampton, and also Hinchingsbrooke House.

The Council records its hearty thanks to our Right Honourable President, for personally conducting the members over his mansion and grounds, to the Venerable Archdeacon Knowles for his most interesting historical paper on the Church of St. Mary the Virgin, Brampton and to the Countess of Sandwich who entertained the Members to tea.

THE PRIOR'S HOUSE, ELY.
NOW THE HOUSE OF THE EIGHTH CANONRY.

THIS PLAN IS BASED UPON ONE MADE BY
 MR. R. ROWE BEFORE THE ALTERATIONS
 OF 1883, BUT HAS BEEN BROUGHT UP
 TO DATE IN ACCORDANCE WITH LATER
 DISCOVERIES.

NORMAN. ———	
13 TH CENTURY. ———	
14 TH ———	
15 TH ———	
BETWEEN 1641 & 1649. ———	
LATER WORK. ———	



PLAN OF PRINCIPAL FLOOR.

S. INSKIP LADDS, ARCHT.
 HUNTINGDON —
 1922-1923.

The Autumn excursion covered the district of Melbourn, Fowlmere, and Shepreth; the thanks of the Society are due to Dr. Palmer for arranging and conducting a most interesting excursion. The Council wish to thank the Rev. H. McNiece and the Rev. A. C. York for papers; Mrs. Bowd of Manor Farm for her kindness in permitting the Members to look over her house and to Mr. and Mrs. Webber of Wimbish Manor House for so kindly giving tea to the large party.

The Council thanks Dr. Palmer, in the name of the Society, for the historical pamphlet, descriptive of the excursion, which he has so kindly given to each Member.

The Balance in hand on September 30th, 1922, as shown by the audited statement, is £12 9s. 3d.

The Council records with sorrow the death of the Rev. A. Peskett, who was a keen and regular member of Council, and one who by his geniality endeared himself to all who worked with him; and of Mr. Harold Coote who for many years had been a Vice-President of the Society.

The Council recommends that the two following Members of Council be elected Vice-Presidents, as a slight recognition of their great services to the Society, viz.: Dr. L. Newton and Rev. W. O'F. Hughes.

The Council further recommends that the Council be reduced from twelve to nine Members and that three should retire annually instead of four, commencing in 1923.

The Members of Council who retire by rotation this year are Mrs. Yeatherd, Miss Parsons, Mr. S. Inskip Ladds and Mr. R. Edleston, who, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election. That the Library Committee shall consist of the Venerable Archdeacon Knowles, Mr. S. Inskip Ladds and Dr. J. R. Garrod. The Delegates for Congress to be the Rev. Canon Noble and Mr. R. Edleston.

The Council renders its hearty thanks to the Officers and Members who have assisted in the work of the Society during the past year.

W. O'F. HUGHES,
Chairman.

15th December, 1922.

Cambridgeshire and Huntingdonshire Archaeological Society.

HON. TREASURER'S STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEARS 1921 AND 1922.

For the Year ending 30th September, 1921.

Receipts.	£	s.	d.
Balance in Bank, 30th September, 1920	4	5	2
Subscriptions	48	5	6
Interest on War Loan	3	2	6
Excursion tickets sold	10	13	0
	<u>£66</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>2</u>

Payments.	£	s.	d.
Hire of Rooms	10	6	
Armorial Bearings Licence	1	1	0
Insurance	7	6	
Postage	2	0	9
Expenses of Excursions	11	19	0
Balance in Bank, 30th September, 1921	47	11	2
„ hands of Treasurer	2	16	3
	<u>£66</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>2</u>

For the Year ending 30th September, 1922.

Receipts.	£	s.	d.
Balance in Bank, 30th September, 1921	50	7	5
Subscriptions and Excursion Tickets	29	3	6
Interest on War Loan	3	15	0
	<u>£83</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>11</u>

Payments.	£	s.	d.
Hire of Rooms	1	1	0
Armorial Bearings Licence	1	1	0
Insurance	7	0	
Postage	2	0	0
Printing and Stationery	49	4	2
Expenses of Excursions	11	16	0
Alteration of Book Shelves	5	7	6
Balance in Bank, 30th September, 1922	12	9	3
	<u>£83</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>11</u>

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