

PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
**Cambridge Antiquarian Society,**

OCTOBER 1925—MAY 1926

WITH  
**Communications**  
MADE TO THE SOCIETY

VOLUME XXVIII.



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# CAMBRIDGE ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY.

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Proceedings Vol. XXV, 1922-23. With Communications and Report. pp. 1-106. 28 illustrations. Price 10*s. net.*

Printed papers: Cam, Helen M., M.A. Lond., Cambridgeshire Sheriffs in the XIIIth Century. Cobbett, Louis, M.D., F.R.C.S., and Fox, Cyril, Ph.D., F.S.A., The Saxon Church of Great Paxton, Huntingdonshire. Fox, Cyril, Ph.D., F.S.A., and Palmer, W. M., M.D., F.S.A., The Fleam Dyke, Second Report, Excavations in 1922. Fox, Cyril, Ph.D., F.S.A., Excavations at Foxton, Cambridgeshire, in 1922; with note by Duckworth, W. L. H., M.D., Sc.D., on Skeletons of Two Children discovered in the course of the Excavations. Marr, Prof. J. E., Sc.D., F.R.S., and Burkitt, M. C., M.A., F.G.S., A Neolithic Site N.W. of Cambridge. Marr, Prof. J. E., Sc.D., F.R.S., King, W. B. R., O.B.E., M.A., and Lethbridge, T. C., An Upper Palaeolithic Site near Fen Ditton.

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Printed papers: H. H. Brindley, M.A., F.S.A., Some Picture Bill-heads of Inns of a Century ago (Abstract). The Earl of Cawdor, and Cyril Fox, Ph.D., F.S.A., The Beacon Hill Barrow, Barton Mills, Suffolk; Miles C. Burkitt, M.A., F.S.A., Note on the Flint Objects found in the Barrow; W. L. H. Duckworth, M.D., Sc.D., Report on the Human Remains. W. M. Palmer, M.D., F.S.A., Cambridge Castle Building Accounts, 1286-1299. Cyril Fox, Ph.D., F.S.A., Excavations in the Cambridgeshire Dykes. IV. The Devil's Dyke: Excavations in 1923 and 1924; W. L. H. Duckworth, M.D., Sc.D., Ditto: Notes on Fragmentary Bones.

Proceedings Vol. XXVII, 1924-25. With Communications and Report. pp. 1-125. Plate and many illustrations. Price 12*s. 6d. net.*

Printed papers: Fox, Cyril, Ph.D., F.S.A., and Palmer, W. M., M.D., F.S.A., Excavations in the Cambridgeshire Dykes. V. Bran or Heydon Ditch, First Report; with Notes by Duckworth, W. L. H., M.D., Sc.D., on Two Human Skeletons from the Bran Ditch. Fox, Cyril, F.S.A., and Lethbridge, T. C., B.A., The La Tène and Romano-British Cemetery at Guilden Morden, Cambs.; with Notes by Duckworth, W. L. H., M.D., Sc.D., on a collection of Human Crania, etc., from Guilden Morden. Lethbridge, T. C., B.A., The Anglo-Saxon Cemetery, Burwell, Cambs. Palmer, W. M., M.D., F.S.A., Excavations at Great and Little Linton in 1923. Williams, Rev. J. F., M.A., The Muniments of Queens' College. Moule, Rev. A. C., M.A., Rectors of the Church of the Parish of Trumpington. Steward, Sir Henry, Cromwell's Stuart Descent.

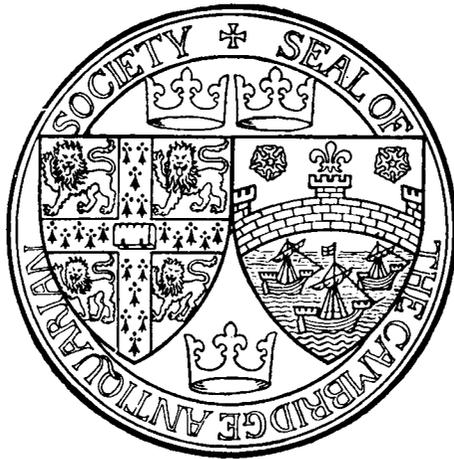
CAMBRIDGE ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY  
PROCEEDINGS AND COMMUNICATIONS

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The Volumes are now marked with the **earlier serial number** only. The "New Series" number and the "Communications" number are discontinued.

PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
**Cambridge Antiquarian Society**  
WITH  
COMMUNICATIONS  
MADE TO THE SOCIETY.

VOL. XXVIII.



1925—1926.

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# Cambridge Antiquarian Society

## REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR 1925.

Adopted at the Annual Meeting, 8 March, 1926.

During the year 22 Ordinary Members and two Associate Members have been elected. Six members have died and six have resigned.

Among those whom the Society has lost by death, Mr I. Abrahams, M.A., of Christ's College, should be mentioned. He read several interesting papers before the Society.

The numbers for last year and the present are as follows:

	Dec. 1924	Dec. 1925
Honorary Members	8	8
Ordinary        „	300	310
Associate        „	13	15
	<u>321</u>	<u>333</u>

Eleven Ordinary Meetings were held, at which the average attendance was 47.

The following communications were made:

- E. A. B. Barnard, F.S.A., F.R.Hist.S., "The excavation of a Saxon cemetery at Bidford-on-Avon, Warwickshire, 1921-2." 26 January.
- C. W. Cunnington, M.B., B.Ch., "Stone implements from Siwa in the Libyan desert." 9 February.
- R. L. Hobson, Keeper of Dept. of Ceramics, British Museum, "Chinese pottery." 23 February.
- C. F. Fox, Ph.D., F.S.A., W. M. Palmer, M.D., F.S.A., and W. H. L. Duckworth, M.D., Sc.D., "Excavations at the Heydon or Bran Dyke." 9 March.
- Rev. J. F. Williams, M.A., "The muniments of Queens' College." 27 April.
- T. C. Lethbridge, B.A., "Excavation of a Romano-British cemetery at Guilden Morden and of an Anglo-Saxon cemetery at Burwell." 11 May.

Dr T. J. Arne, of Stockholm, "The Goths in S. Russia in the V and VI centuries A.D." 25 May.

Sir Henry Steward, Kt., T.D., "Cromwell's Stuart descent." 19 October.

(1) H. H. Brindley, F.S.A., "The wall-painting lately discovered in Bartlow Church." (2) L. C. G. Clarke, F.S.A., "Recent Acquisitions to the Museum." (3) L. Cobbett, M.D., "The belfry of St Benet's." 2 November.

Prof. J. Stanley Gardiner, F.R.S., "Carnac." 16 November.

H. S. Kingsford, "Seal matrices in the University Museum of Archaeology and of Ethnology." 30 November.

#### EXCURSIONS.

On 4 June, Dr Palmer led an excursion which had been arranged to Melbourn, Heydon and the Bran Dyke. In Melbourn, the party visited Melbourn Bury, Sheen Manor and the Church, which dates from the Early English and Decorated periods, with a fine west tower of the Perpendicular period. Mr and Mrs Collis Palmer kindly entertained the members to tea at the Manor of the Argentines, and a visit was then paid to Heydon and its Church, and on the return journey to the Bran Dyke, recently excavated by Dr Fox and Dr Palmer. Ninety members and friends took part in the excursion.

On 16 July, a whole-day excursion was undertaken by 45 members and friends to King's Lynn, where under the energetic and experienced guidance of Mr E. M. Beloe, the party visited many places of interest in the town, including private houses containing antiquarian treasures, the Fishery Museum, the Churches and the Guildhall, where the Mayor kindly provided tea for the members, and where papers were read on King John's cup which was displayed, together with other possessions of the Corporation.

#### REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF EXCAVATIONS.

In the early spring of 1925 I carried out an investigation of a part of the Anglo-Saxon cemetery at Burwell. Work was confined to the allotment adjoining the Victoria Lime Pits and

resulted in the discovery of 24 skeletons. The grave goods accompanying these skeletons, although of poor quality, were of considerable interest. This excavation was carried out with funds provided by the Society.

In July, Dr Palmer and I continued Dr Fox's plan of investigating the Bran Ditch. The sector examined was that of the supposed crossing of the ditch by the Ickniel Way at a point about a quarter of a mile south-east of Heydon Grange. At this spot the supposed vallum is clearly visible and is utilised as a road to the Grange. Two sections were cut into the vallum as far as the margin of the road, and a section of the silting of the ditch was made, parallel to and close beside the lane representing the Ickniel Way. The ditch was found to be over 8 ft. deep at this point and very much greater than that revealed by Dr Fox's sections further north. It was also discovered that the Ickniel Way was not carried across the ditch at this point on a solid causeway of chalk, as described by Beldam.

In December I carried out some preliminary investigations on the supposed Romano-British and British site at Dale Hole, Eriswell. The results so far obtained seem to point to casual occupation of the site in Roman times.

We have to thank Lord Braybrooke, Lord Iveagh, Dr Lucas and the tenants of the above sites for much kindness and help.

THOMAS C. LETHBRIDGE,  
*Director of Excavations.*

#### LIBRARY.

The Society desires to express its grateful thanks to the following for kind gifts of books and pamphlets: The Bedfordshire County Record Committee, Rev. G. Montagu Benton, R. Griffin, C. W. Previt -Orton, Dr Palmer, R. Morton Nance, Lady Hope, Walter Rye, G. A. E. Ruck, P. H. Emerson and the Master of Jesus.

#### PUBLICATIONS.

The following publication has been issued during the year: *Proceedings and Communications*, Vol. XXVI, for the year 1923-4.

## NEW MEMBERS ELECTED IN 1925.

- Jan. 12. F. M. Walker, Rev. H. A. Swann, W. Tams, E. A. B. Barnard,  
D. J. Rygate, and Mrs Rygate (Assoc.).
- Mar. 9. Major J. McLean Griffin.
- Apr. 27. M. Palmer, P. A. Engelbrecht.
- May 25. J. E. Allen, C. Brown, G. S. Peeling.
- Oct. 19. C. H. Jones, Mrs M. Orr-Paterson.
- Nov. 2. Miss M. G. Blair, L. D. Pratt, Rev. H. H. McNeice, C. W. Previté-  
Orton, L. Hutchinson, Miss Rolleston, Miss K. Long, Mrs Tipping,  
Ll. Tipping (Assoc.).
- Nov. 30. Miss G. Oram.

## CORRIGENDUM.

In *Proceedings*, Vol. xxvii, page 4, line 2, the name of Dr Fox should have been given as joint-author.

# SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER 1925.

## CURRENT ACCOUNT.

<i>Receipts.</i>	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	<i>Expenditure.</i>	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To Balance brought forward from 1924		73 4 11	By Miscellaneous Printing . . . . .	31 6 8	
„ Subscriptions :			„ Proceedings, Vol. xxvi . . . . .	141 6 3	
Current . . . . .	250 10 0			172 12 11	
Associate . . . . .	8 14 0		„ Books and Stationery . . . . .		2 11 0
Arrears . . . . .	3 3 0		„ Subscriptions and Donations :		
Excavations . . . . .	1 19 0		Museum of Archaeology and of		
	264 6 0	264 6 0	Ethnology . . . . .	25 0 0	
„ Excursions . . . . .		1 10 6	Archaeological Congress . . . . .	1 0 0	
„ Interest on £420 L. and N.E.R.			“Earthworks” . . . . .	1 10 0	
4 per cent. Deb. Stock . . . . .	13 2 6			27 10 0	
„ Interest on £118. 4s. 10d. New			„ Clerical Assistance, etc. :		
Zealand Inscribed Stock . . . . .	4 2 8		Secretary . . . . .	50 0 0	
„ Interest on £39. 6s. 8d. Bank of			Attendants . . . . .	8 10 0	
England Stock . . . . .	3 14 4		Custodian of Cellarer's Checker,		
„ Interest on £350 5 per cent. War			Barnwell Abbey . . . . .	1 6 0	
Loan . . . . .	14 0 0		Care of Stock-room . . . . .	10 6	
„ Interest on £400 4½ per cent. War				60 6 6	
Loan . . . . .	14 8 0		„ Postage, Carriage and Sundries . . . . .	8 7 9	
„ Interest on £127. 14s. 9d. 3½ per			„ Excursions . . . . .	9 6	
cent. Conversion Loan . . . . .	2 4 8			8 17 3	
	51 12 2	51 12 2	„ Repairs to Cellarer's Checker, Barn-		
„ Sale of Publications :			well Abbey . . . . .	14 18 9	
Messrs Bowes and Bowes . . . . .	6 5 0		„ Insurance . . . . .	12 0	
„ Deighton, Bell and Co. . . . .	2 5 4		„ Subscriptions refunded . . . . .	2 6 0	
	8 10 4	8 10 4		289 14 5	
„ Income Tax refunded . . . . .		12 16 8	„ Balance as per Bank Book . . . . .	122 6 2	
		£412 0 7		£412 0 7	

ANNUAL REPORT, 1925

## DEPOSIT ACCOUNT.

<i>Receipts.</i>				<i>Expenditure.</i>			
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.			£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
To Balance brought forward from 1924		496 6 3		By Purchase of £127. 14s. 9d. 3½ per cent. Conversion			
„ Life Members . . . . .		31 10 0		Loan . . . . .		100 0 0	
„ Interest . . . . .		10 13 2		„ Balance as per Bank Book . . . . .		438 9 5	
		<u>£538 9 5</u>				<u>£538 9 5</u>	

## EXCAVATION ACCOUNT.

To Balance brought forward from 1924		62 2 4		By Excavations at Burwell . . . . .		14 0 0	
„ Subscriptions . . . . .	7 10 0			„ Balance as per Bank Book . . . . .		58 12 4	
„ Refunded from 1924 . . . . .	3 0 0						
		<u>10 10 0</u>					
		<u>£72 12 4</u>				<u>£72 12 4</u>	

## EXCAVATION DEPOSIT ACCOUNT.

To Balance brought forward from 1924		20 13 9		By Balance as per Bank Book . . . . .		21 3 5	
„ Interest . . . . .		9 8					
		<u>£21 3 5</u>				<u>£21 3 5</u>	

The capital of the Society consists of the following securities :

£420 L. & N.E. Railway 4 per cent. Debenture Stock.  
 £118. 4s. 10d. New Zealand 3½ per cent. Inscribed Stock.  
 £39. 6s. 8d. Bank of England Stock.  
 £350 5 per cent. War Loan.  
 £400 4½           "           "           "  
 £127. 14s. 9d. 3½ per cent. Conversion Loan.

Audited and found to agree with the Bank Books and Vouchers, showing Balances as follows :

	£	s.	d.
On Current Account . . . . .	122	6	2
„ Deposit Account . . . . .	438	9	5
„ Excavation Account . . . . .	58	12	4
„ „ Deposit Account . . . . .	21	3	5
	<u>£640</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>4</u>

There is a liability on Current Account estimated at £138 to meet the cost of Publications now in hand.

G. B. BOWES }  
 H. H. BRINDLEY } *Auditors.*

25 January, 1926.

## THE PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD OF CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

A Committee has been formed in conjunction with the Cambridge and District Photographic Club, for the carrying out of a Photographic Record of Cambridgeshire and District. The Photographic Record was begun twenty years ago, and a valuable but not very numerous collection was obtained, the contributors being few. To augment this collection, volunteers are desired to help, (*a*) by contributing prints from their own negatives; (*b*) by sending to the Secretary of the Society lists of any negatives which they are willing to lend to be printed from; (*c*) by absolute gift of negatives; (*d*) by taking photographs for the Record, preferably undertaking some definite village, district, or event.

When a negative has been destroyed, an old print is often useful: since, even if faded, it can generally be copied.

The Collection is housed in the University Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology and is accessible for inspection by members of both Societies.

ORDINARY MEETINGS WITH COMMUNICATIONS,  
MICHAELMAS TERM, 1925, AND LENT AND  
EASTER TERMS, 1926.

Monday, 19 October, 1925.

Mr M. C. BURKITT, President, in the Chair.

Sir HENRY STEWARD, B.A., read a paper on the Scottish origin of the family of Steward of Ely, in which he upheld the authenticity of the genealogical descent of Oliver Cromwell's mother from the Royal House of Sty-ward or Stewart (afterwards spelt Stuart).

The paper was printed in the Society's *Proceedings*, Vol. XXVII, p. 86.

Monday, 2 November, 1925.

Mr M. C. BURKITT, President, in the Chair.

The following short communications were given:

By Mr H. H. BRINDLEY, M.A., F.S.A., A WALL-PAINTING RECENTLY DISCOVERED AT BARTLOW CHURCH, probably representing St George and the Dragon. (Abstract at page 80.)

By Mr L. C. G. CLARKE, M.A., F.S.A., Curator of the Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, NEW ACQUISITIONS TO THE MUSEUM, bought with the C.A.S. grant—an antler axe, two spears, etc.

By Dr L. COBBETT, M.D., F.R.C.S., WINDOWS INSERTED IN THE TOWER OF ST BENET'S CHURCH, CAMBRIDGE, IN 1586. (Printed at page 83.)

By Sir WILLIAM RIDGEWAY, Sc.D., F.B.A., TWO OBJECTS ILLUSTRATING PASSAGES IN SHAKESPEARE, namely (1) A Candlestick in the form of a man-at-arms, bearing a torch in either hand, as illustrating the following lines in *King Henry V*, Act IV, Scene ii:

The horsemen sit like fixed candlesticks,  
With torch-staves in their hand:

and (2) A Shepherd's Clock, or Pocket Sun-dial, to illustrate Touchstone's "Dial in a Poke" in *As You Like It*.

Monday, 16 November, 1925.

Mr M. C. BURKITT, President, in the Chair.

Prof. J. STANLEY GARDINER, M.A., F.R.S., gave an account of his visit to CARNAC, in Brittany, and showed slides of the stone monuments there and in the vicinity. He pointed out that in many cases the alignment followed the lie of the land, the stones being disposed along the ridges where they would show well. The fact that some lines of menhirs ran over the tumuli showed that the stones had been set up at different times. Some very interesting rock scribings, one or two possibly representing ploughs and cattle, were shown.

Monday, 30 November, 1925.

Mr M. C. BURKITT, President, in the Chair.

Mr H. S. KINGSFORD, M.A., gave a lecture, with lantern illustrations, on the SEAL MATRICES IN THE UNIVERSITY MUSEUM OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND ETHNOLOGY, which he had recently catalogued. The museum collection contains many specimens of interest, showing the development of the art of cutting seals, and ranging in date from the XIII to the XVII century. The outstanding example was the seal of the staple of Lincoln, and Mr Kingsford showed examples from other museums to compare with the collection under review.

Monday, 25 January, 1926.

Mr M. C. BURKITT, President, in the Chair.

Mr JAMES HORNELL, F.L.S., F.R.A.I., gave a paper on THE ANTIQUITIES OF THE ISLAND OF GORGONA, OFF THE COAST OF COLUMBIA. In dealing with the history of the island, Mr Hornell said that Pizarro and his followers had spent seven months there, and that later it had been a haunt of buccaneers lying in wait for Spanish treasure ships, but had had no history since those days till the St George Expedition touched there in 1924. As a member of the expedition he then found many traces of Neolithic culture, stone implements and potsherds; and, above all, petroglyphs with representations of what might be termed sun-gods and

goddesses, monkeys, an alligator, and a kind of pheasant. The rocks also showed cup-markings, and all had evidently been executed with stone implements. These rock-scribings were mainly on boulders on the sea-shore; but in the interior of the island village sites were found, yielding pottery with a red slip, stone implements (axe-heads, hand-hammers, spindle-whorls, and wedges) at a maximum depth of only 24 inches. The culture was evidently superior to that of the coast natives on the mainland at the present day.

Monday, 8 February, 1926.

Mr M. C. BURKITT, President, in the Chair.

The following communications were given:

By the Rev. CANON STOKES, LL.D., Litt.D., F.S.A.,  
A BELL-FOUNDRY IN CAMBRIDGE. (Printed at page 93.)

By Prof. G. H. F. NUTTALL, M.D., Sc.D., F.R.S., THE  
ARMS OF MAGDALENE COLLEGE. (Printed at page 101.)

By Mr E. A. B. BARNARD, F.S.A., F.R.Hist.S., CAMBRIDGE  
AND THE GUNPOWDER PLOT. (To be printed in the next  
number of *Proceedings*.)

Mr Barnard's paper described a commission which sat to examine Nicholas Bestwick, who had been confined in Cambridge Castle for ten years, as a suspected papist, and on account of dark sayings which were thought to show that he had some knowledge of the plot. A point of interest was that Bestwick was said to be confined in "the lower chamber" of the Castle.

Monday, 22 February, 1926.

Mr M. C. BURKITT, President, in the Chair.

Mr RALPH GRIFFIN, Sec.S.A., gave an account of THE SOCIETY'S COLLECTION OF RUBBINGS OF MONUMENTAL BRASSES, and the useful objects it may serve. He began by saying how difficult it is to find young men with sufficient knowledge to help with excavations, or other work involving a certain acquaintance with antiquities; and suggested that a study of monumental brasses formed a very good starting-point, as it interested people in mediaeval matters, and took them into churches where their attention would probably be

drawn to other objects and to architecture. A study of brasses taught one three things: (1) the artistic development in this country from A.D. 1300 onward; (2) costume and armour; (3) heraldry. Mr Griffin then gave the meeting a glimpse of the collection of brass-rubbings, partly by means of the rubbings themselves, and partly by means of lantern photographs. At the close of the meeting Dr Haddon and Mr Louis C. G. Clarke spoke in warm terms of the work done for the Society by Mr Griffin and his band of helpers.

Monday, 8 March, 1926.

### EIGHTY-SIXTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

Mr M. C. BURKITT, President, in the Chair.

The Annual Report of the Council, and the Treasurer's Summary of Accounts for the year 1925, were approved and adopted.

The new Officers and Members of Council for 1926-27 were elected. (See list on page 14.)

The PRESIDENT laid before the meeting the following resolutions of the Council, which were approved and accepted by the Meeting:

(1) That so long as the Council shall so determine, there shall be a Director of Excavations, appointed annually, who is *ex officio* a member of the Council; and

(2) That Mr T. C. LETHBRIDGE be appointed Director of Excavations for 1926-27.

Miss H. M. CAM, M.A. London, read a paper on THE KING'S GOVERNMENT, AS ADMINISTERED BY THE GREATER ABBOTS OF EAST ANGLIA. The abbeys dealt with were Peterborough, Ely, Ramsey, and Bury St Edmunds, the account being based on records at Ely, the British Museum, the Record Office, the University Library of Cambridge, and the Bodleian Library. The geographical extent—28 hundreds in all—of these liberties, and the antiquity of their origin as local government districts, were discussed. Miss Cam pointed out the delegated character of the governmental functions of the abbots in question, showing the constant responsibility to the King's Government, enforced through the Exchequer

and the Sheriff, and kept alive by the routine of serving and returning the King's writs. Evidence from the XIII century Court Rolls of Wisbech Hundred, was brought to show the normal activities of the Hundred Court; these showed that the bailiffs and other officials of the liberties were known as "the King's bailiffs," and that the abbots were known as "the King's ministers."

Monday, 26 April, 1926.

Mr M. C. BURKITT, President, in the Chair.

Dr E. H. MINNS, F.B.A., F.S.A., gave a paper on THE RUSSIAN ICON. He pointed out that the subject had received new light from the scraping of ancient icons before the Russian revolution and still more since that event. The result is, early icons have been revealed under five or six layers of paint. Notably in the case of Our Lady of Vladimir shown to be a Byzantine original of the XII century. The lecturer traced the origin of the icon to the Hellenistic and Egyptian tomb portrait adapted to the memory of martyrs. In Russia the Greek school was succeeded by those of Suzdal, Novgorod and Moscow, lasting to the introduction of Western Art in the XVII century. The lecture was illustrated with many lantern slides, some in colour, and also with a small collection of later work belonging to the lecturer.

Monday, 31 May, 1926.

Mr M. C. BURKITT, President, in the Chair.

The following communications were given:

By Mr T. C. LETHBRIDGE, B.A., Director of Excavations: RECENT EXCAVATIONS AT BURWELL AND LITTLE WILBRAHAM. (Printed at page 116.)

By Dr W. L. H. DUCKWORTH, M.D., Sc.D., REPORT ON SKELETONS FOUND AT BURWELL. (Printed at page 124.)

Dr Duckworth also showed A SKULL WITH A HEALED CUT IN THE NASAL BONES, POSSIBLY THAT OF LAURENCE STERNE, from the Cambridge Anatomical Museum.

## NEW OFFICERS FOR THE YEAR 1926-27.

ELECTED 8 MARCH, 1926.

## PRESIDENT.

MILES C. BURKITT, M.A., F.S.A., Trinity College.

## VICE-PRESIDENTS.

Rev. H. P. STOKES, LL.D., Litt.D., F.S.A., Corpus Christi College.

Sir WILLIAM RIDGEWAY, Sc.D., F.B.A., Gonville and Caius College.  
*Disney Professor of Archaeology.*Miss CATHERINE E. PARSONS, *Horseheath.*

## ORDINARY MEMBERS OF COUNCIL.

ALFRED C. HADDON, Sc.D., F.R.S., Christ's College.

ELLIS H. MINNS, Litt.D., F.B.A., F.S.A., Pembroke College.

JOHN ARCHIBALD VENN, M.A., Trinity College.

## TREASURER.

HERBERT F. BIRD, M.A., 30 *Panton Street.*

## SECRETARY AND EDITOR OF PUBLICATIONS.

FRANK J. ALLEN, M.D., St John's College, 8, *Halifax Road.**For complete list of Officers see next page.*

## LIST OF OFFICERS, 1926-27.

## PRESIDENT.

MILES C. BURKITT, M.A., F.S.A., Trinity College.

## VICE-PRESIDENTS.

Rev. H. P. STOKES, LL.D., Litt.D., F.S.A., Corpus Christi College.

Sir WILLIAM RIDGEWAY, Sc.D., F.B.A., Gonville and Caius College,  
*Disney Professor of Archaeology.*

Miss CATHERINE E. PARSONS, *Horseheath.*

## ORDINARY MEMBERS OF COUNCIL.

ARTHUR GRAY, M.A., Master of Jesus College.

LOUIS C. G. CLARKE, M.A., F.S.A., Trinity Hall, *Curator of Museum of  
Archaeology and Ethnology.*

LOUIS COBBETT, M.D., F.R.C.S., Trinity College.

Rev. D. H. S. CRANAGE, Litt.D., F.S.A., King's College.

E. SAVILLE PECK, M.A., *30 Lensfield Road.*

J. M. DE NAVARRO, M.A., Trinity College.

WILLIAM M. PALMER, M.D., F.S.A., *Linton, Cambridgeshire.*

Rev. A. H. F. BOUGHEY, M.A., F.S.A., Trinity College.

ALBERT H. LLOYD, *73 Grange Road.*

ALFRED C. HADDON, Sc.D., F.R.S., Christ's College.

ELLIS H. MINNS, Litt.D., F.B.A., F.S.A., Pembroke College.

JOHN ARCHIBALD VENN, M.A., Trinity College.

## TREASURER.

HERBERT F. BIRD, M.A., *30 Panton Street.*

## SECRETARY AND EDITOR OF PUBLICATIONS.

FRANK J. ALLEN, M.D., St John's College, 8, *Halifax Road.*

## DIRECTOR OF EXCAVATIONS.

T. C. LETHBRIDGE, B.A., The Lodge, Waterbeach.

## LIBRARIAN.

Miss ETHEL S. FEGAN, Girton College.

## EXCURSION SECRETARY.

(Office temporarily vacant.)

ARGENTINE'S MANOR, MELBOURN,  
CAMBRIDGESHIRE. 1317-18.

By W. M. PALMER, M.D., F.S.A.

(Read 1 December, 1924.)

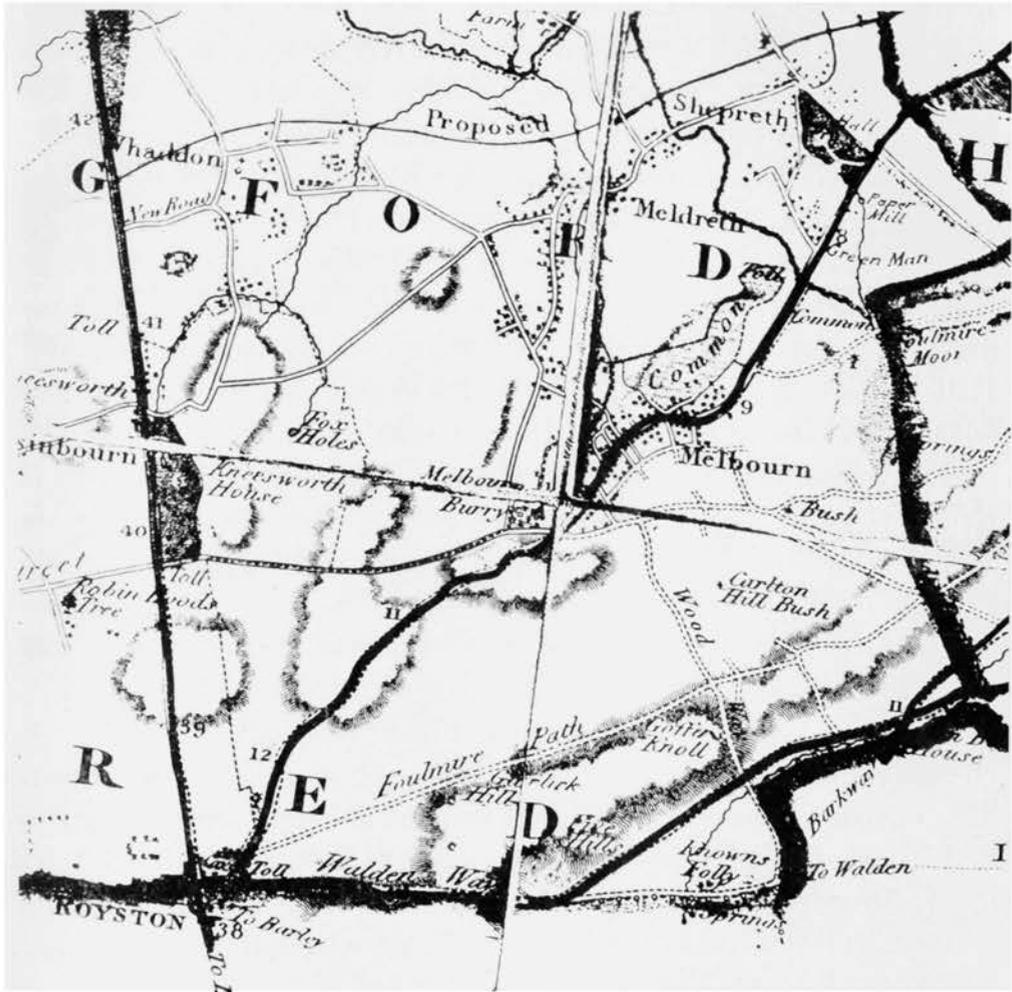
This paper has originated in the discovery of some ancient woodwork in the Lordship Farm, Melbourn, coupled with the existence in the British Museum of the account of a bailiff for that farm for the year 1317-18, *Addit. Charter* 25,866. This account is on a parchment roll about eight inches wide and several feet long. It gives a balance sheet of receipts and expenditure from Michaelmas 1317 to Michaelmas 1318, with a complete inventory of stock and crop. As the clerk who drew up the account had no income tax collector to best, it is, probably strictly correct, except for the small errors which always creep into mediaeval accountancy.

Before considering the account in detail, it will be best to say something about the village of Melbourn, the site of the Manor of Argentine, and the family which owned it.

Melbourn is a large village situated on one of the main roads from Cambridge to London in the south-western portion of the county. It is one of the largest villages in the south of Cambridgeshire, both as regards extent and population. It contains the Branditch and other earthworks, several mediaeval moated sites and a fine parish church, but in the many volumes published by the Cambridge Antiquarian Society during the last eighty years, there is hardly a mention of it. Therefore I thought it well to point out its position to you on Baker's map, published in 1828 (see Plan, no. 1), before many of the parishes were enclosed, and so before very great changes had been made on the face of the country.

In the year 1318, the main line of the village street ran much as it does now, it was a high road then as now, one of

the main roads from Cambridge to London. On entering the village from the Cambridge end, the open fields ran on the left of the road up to Drury Lane, if not farther. On the right was the large common known as Wright's Moor, which stretched towards Meldreth. When you got to the cross-roads you would have found in front of you the Lord



Plan no. 1. Part of Baker's Map of Cambridgeshire, 1829.  
(From a folded map.)

Argentine's pound, with the lordship house behind it. In this year nine sheep had been put in the pound as strays and added to the lord's flock. Round the cross-roads were gathered the cottages of the bondmen of the Argentines. As you proceeded up the village, you would have found the same number of cottages between the lordship and the church, including the vicarage house and buildings. On the left-hand

side of the road, the six complete lanes and several bits of lanes, which run off at right angles to the main street, remind one of the balks and half-acre strips of the open fields, and most of the holdings run from the front street to the back lane. When the Independents' chapel was built, it was quite in the fields and there were no houses east of it, nor were there any houses in Church Lane, up to a century ago, except the parish workhouse. The road to Meldreth ran past the mill doors, and through the present Sheen farmyard. The Sheen manor house stood on the mound in the meads and belonged to Norman monks. The New Road did not exist, the only means of getting to the Newmarket Road was by means of Wood Lane. The Ashwell Street ran close along the Bury manor, crossed the Royston Road at Townsend and was continued along the bottom of Carlton or Cawdon Hill to Black Peak and thence to Whittlesford. The oldest cottage sites now inhabited are those in Dolphin Lane and in the triangle between it and High Street and the Meldreth Road, they all had access to the river. A little way beyond the "Red Cow" a narrow lane now represents the road to the manor house of the Trayley's, a mound and dry moat known as the Old Farm mark the site, and about this road were the cottages of the tenants of that manor, whilst on the opposite side of the river was the manor house of Bury belonging to the Prior of Ely together with the cottages of his bondmen. The cottages were one-roomed houses shaped something like bee-hives, built by means of crocks or lean-to timbers, with no windows or chimneys, but with a hole in the roof for smoke. The farm houses had two, or at most three, rooms. There was no market at Melbourn, but marketing could be done at Royston or Fowlmere. There was, of course, the dedication feast of the church, which many of us remember being held on the green by the churchyard wall.

The only remains of that period above ground now are in the Lordship Farm and in the church, which then covered the same space as it does now, if not more, but the tower was built more than a century later. As regards the number of inhabitants, there were probably about 350 adults; from the taxation rolls we know there were about 103 houses in 1318,

that is less than a third of the number that there are now. So much for the grouping of the village itself; outside the whole parish was divided into four fields, and great fields they were, for the parish extended from Ashwell Street near Kneesworth to opposite Royston Town Hall, and then along the Newmarket Road to the Branditch. At least one of these fields, sometimes two, were fallow each year, one was reserved for spring corn, the other for winter corn. What made them look so very different from the present fields was that there were no hedges, and that they were divided up into half-acre strips by balks or paths. If one man owned 20 acres, they might be scattered in 40 different parts of the parish; hence a large number of paths and rights of way were required. Turnips, wurzels, kohlrabi and clover were unknown. To make up for the want of these, the fallow field with its balks and paths were used for grazing all the year round, and the spring corn field during part of the year. Besides this grazing ground there was a large extent of untilled land. For instance along the Newmarket Road there were at least 500 acres of virgin heath, and the moor and smaller commons extended to more than 300 acres. The meadows by the river were held more or less in common by the tenants and lords of the four chief manors, and were probably closed for haying and opened at Lammastide.

The Lordship Farm (see Illustration, no. 1), Melbourn, has been owned by only four families since Anglo-Saxon times, that is for 900 years, and has only been sold three times during that period. Before the Norman Conquest in the XI century, it belonged to an Anglo-Saxon thane named Edric the Plain. The Argentine family were in possession in 1166 and probably 80 years earlier. The last male Argentine died in the XV century, and the heiress married an Alington of Horseheath whose descendant sold it to the Hitch family of Melbourn, about 1700, and that was the first time the Lordship Farm had been sold. It was sold for the second and third times during the last few years, and now belongs to my brother, Mr Collis Palmer. The ownership of the Argentine and Hitch families lasted for over 800 years, a long spell.

There are estates which still belong to the families who owned them in Anglo-Saxon times, but they can be counted on the fingers of the hand, and even estates which have changed hands so few times as the Lordship Farm are rare. The Lordship Farm was not the chief seat of the Argentine family, that was at Great Wymondley in Hertfordshire. Little Wymondley Church is seen picturesquely situated amongst trees close to the right-hand side of the Great Northern Railway soon after you leave Hitchin. And several references to the Wymondley house are made in the accounts of the Lordship Farm. But the manor house at Melbourn was certainly used as a residence, as you will see later, and perhaps until the end of the XII century, when Reginald Argentine married the FitzTeck heiress and brought Wymondley into the family, the Lordship Farm may have been their chief seat.

Before describing the site of the manor house, I want to draw attention to some interesting points about the Lordship Farm enclosure, which contains 13 acres, a much larger area than is usual for a mediaeval site (see Plan, no. 2). Traces of the ditch and bank which surround it are still visible. Starting from the walled-in garden, the hedge along the village street is planted in the ditch and the bank runs inside the hedge. It then turns at a right angle, and the ditch contains running water, which rises on copyhold Argentine property on the other side of the road. Ditch and bank then proceed up to a curious angle which is artificial. The ditch would naturally have run down the mill backwater with another stream coming from the vicarage, but it has been diverted to the south. Here there is a small mound with an ash tree on it, and there was once a spinney on the bank on this side. All the land outside on the south and west was once common meadow. The ditch takes another right-angled turn and soon forms a boundary between Argentine and an old enclosure belonging to Peterhouse. Here the bank is broken and a broad depression runs across the meadow to the swollen-out backwater. A little farther on the bank turns once more to the right, crosses to the mill and thus completes the enclosure. The ditch used to run between the bank and



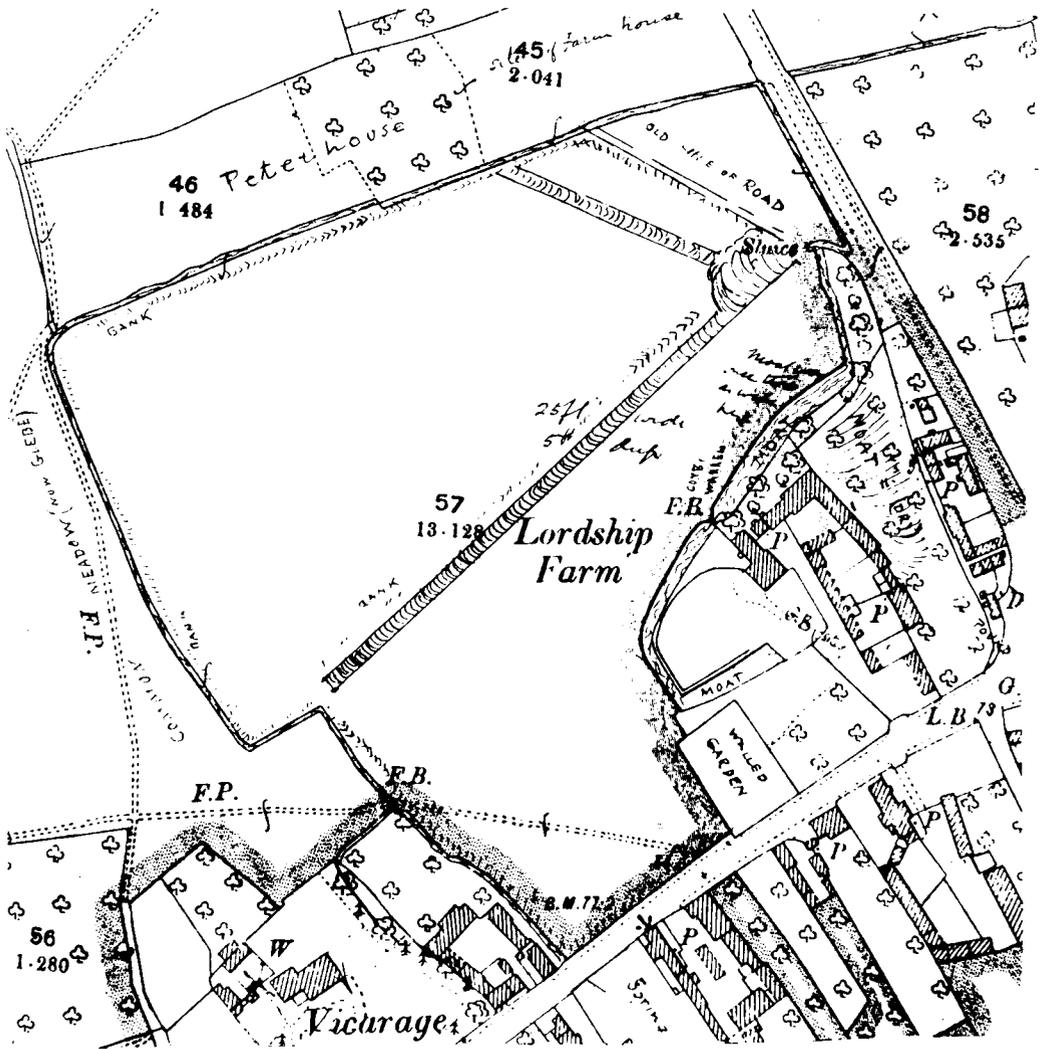
No. 1. The dry moat behind the Granary



No. 2. East side of Lordship Farm, Melbourn



the road, but has been diverted by the Enclosure Act. Perhaps this is an ancient cattle enclosure. As regards the Homestead Moat, more than half of it still contains water, which comes from springs in the bed of it. Where it ends it can be traced by the springs which ooze up in the road near



Plan no. 2

what was the site of the Great Bridge, and where it ran under the granary it is still seen. Behind the granary its course is obvious, for it was once about 50 feet wide.

We now come to the Argentine manor house buildings. The only certain points we know about these are that there was a hall and a thatched chamber, an outside staircase, which was also thatched, a chapel, kitchen, granary and

brewhouse. There must have been more rooms than the hall and chamber, because the lord's household consisted of himself, wife, baby, and four grown-up children, and in the labour account are mentioned the lord's chamber, the hall, and "other parts" of the house [the parts built in 1318 will be referred to later]. The buildings were surrounded by a deep moat, on which swans were kept—a pair of swans and seven cygnets were allowed six bushels of dredge corn for food in the year 1318. They were not kept as ornaments alone, for a roast cygnet was a dish fit for a lord's table.

In 1318 there were two bridges over the moat, one of them perhaps a drawbridge<sup>1</sup>. Judging from what is known to exist in other places, there was probably a gate house inside the bridge; and it was usual for the buildings to be arranged around a courtyard, the house and chapel on one side, the south probably, the kitchen and offices on another side, separated from the house because of the danger of fire (a separation seen on the plan to-day, see Plan no. 2), and the farm buildings on the other two sides. It is possible that the present farm buildings, as far as they are within the circuit of the moat, are on the line of the original buildings. The hall and chapel were where the house stands now, and the present lawn was the manorial herb garden. The lady of the manor walking in her garden to consult her sundial, as to whether it was time for her lord to be back from the assizes at Cambridge Castle, would see the church tower in the distance set in a frame of green, as the lady can see it at the present time.

The important part of the manor house was the hall; here the whole family and servants ate, and some of them slept, on the floor strewn with straw or rushes. The furniture was simple, a long table on trestles, wooden forms to sit on, armchairs for the lord and lady, perhaps on a raised portion, a cupboard or iron bound hutch for the silver cups and another for legal documents, and there was probably some kind of hanging or tapestry on the walls. In the hall were held the courts where tenants were admitted to copy property

<sup>1</sup> In 1382 a coroner's inquest states that a drunken woman was drowned in the moat near the Great Bridge, so I suppose there was a little bridge, leading to the coney warren.



No. 3. West side of Moat forming Mill Dam



No. 4. Mill Cut



and fined for breaking the ordinances of the court. The account tells us how much corn the steward's horses ate in 1318.

The Argentines were a family celebrated in history and in romance. Whether the family came over with the Conqueror is not proved, but they were certainly possessed of large estates within a century afterwards. It has been usual to graft the family on to David de Argentomago, who possessed the village of Croxton in Cambridgeshire in 1086. And the author of that curious forgery, the *Tabula Eliensis*, had no doubt about it, for he has given to David the well-known Argentine arms, on a late XIV century shield. But no Argentine ever had any possession in Croxton, although less than 50 years after the Domesday survey they owned other lands. I start the family with Reginald de Argentine, who was lately dead in 1130 (Dugdale, *Baronage*), from which year the descent is certain. The earliest record connecting the family with Melbourn is dated 1203 (see appendix). Members of this family had the full share in the government of the country. Reginald de Argentine who died in 1223 was sheriff of several counties, sat in Westminster Hall as a judge, rebelled against King John, and was at one time sent alone to treat with him, and his seal was appended to Magna Charta. His son Richard, born about 1200, was sheriff of several counties, governor of Hertford Castle and one of the stewards of the king's household. He went on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land, and owing to his prowess in war was known as "David's Tower." He was killed in 1246 in a battle with the Saracens before Antioch. During his absence several orders were issued by the king to supply his wife with firewood and venison from the forest of Essex (*Close Roll Calendar*). It is this man who was first identified with Melbourn, for in the year 1227 he obtained the papal licence to build a chapel in his manor there. It was finished by March 1229 when a list of rules to be observed by the chaplain was promulgated by the Bishop of Ely (see appendix). It seems to be necessary to assign a reason for getting the chapel built. It was an expensive business, for besides the cost of the papal sanction, he gave to the church a plot of land, probably that on which the vicarage now stands. Perhaps

on his departure to the Holy Land he gave up Wymondley to his eldest son, and settled Melbourn on his wife as a dower house. This is confirmed by the fact that his wife in 1257, when a widow, executes a deed concerning her messuage and land in Melbourn. It may be that as Melbourn was much nearer Cambridge than Wymondley, and Cambridge was of great strategic importance in the XIII century, that the Argentines found it convenient to have a complete establishment at Melbourn.

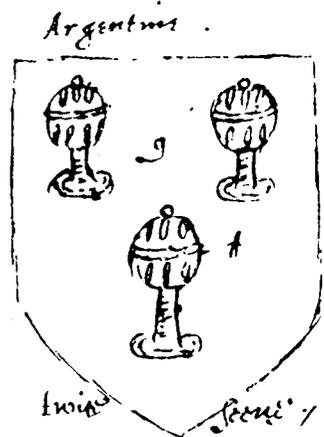
To Richard succeeded Giles, a knight of great valour, who took part with the rebellious barons. He was one of the Council formed to govern the realm after the king was taken prisoner at the Battle of Lewes, and his name was appended to all its decrees. He had four sons who grew up, of these the eldest, Reginald, received a summons to the House of Lords as a baron, but was the last of the family who took any part in government. The youngest son, Giles de Argentine, embodies the romance of the family. He was a Knight of St John of Jerusalem, or Knight Hospitaller, and won much fame in battles with the Saracens in Palestine, where Robert Bruce was his companion in arms. Sir Giles was killed at the Battle of Bannockburn. Several poets have sung the fame of this knight. Sir Walter Scott in *The Lord of the Isles* represents King Robert Bruce as mourning over the death of Sir Giles:

Bid Ninian's Convent light their shrine  
For death wake of De Argentine.

No other Argentine was called Giles after his death, but when the Argentine heiress was secured by the Alingtons, they revived the name Giles in honour of the crusader, and generation after generation were called Giles after him.

In 1318, the date of part of the present Lordship farmhouse, the head of the family was Sir John de Argentine, aged 41; that age would now mean a man in the prime of life, but then it often meant the border of old age, and as a matter of fact, he died in November of the same year. The glory of the race seems to have passed with Sir Giles, who had now been dead four years, and the race itself was with difficulty kept going for another century in the male line.

A curious hereditary post which the family held was that of serving the king at his coronation with a covered silver gilt cup of wine. The king paid for the cup, but the server claimed it as a perquisite, and some of the later members of the family mention these cups in their wills. The Argentines were so proud of this service, that they put the covered cups on their coat of arms, and there were formerly in the windows of Melbourn church, and probably also in those of the manor house, many red shields with three silver chalices painted on them<sup>1</sup>. Besides Sir John, the other members were, first the Lady Agnes, his wife. She was quite a young woman, because she lived for nearly 60 years after Sir John's death, and outlived two more husbands<sup>2</sup>. The next most important member of this household was the infant son and heir, born this spring, who was destined to be the last male of the family in the direct line. Then there were the two daughters of Sir John by his first wife, Lady Joan Bryan, of Throcking. She was an heiress, and as she had no son, her property was divided between her two daughters. Although the eldest could not have been more than 12 years old, they had already both been betrothed to two youths named Butler, and they also seem to have been members of Sir John's household. Lastly there was Lady Agnes' personal maid named Joan,



Coat of Arms drawn by John Layer of Shepreth from a window in Melbourn Church about 1619. Bodleian, Rawlinson B, 278

<sup>1</sup> This service, known as sergeanty, had no connection with the manor of Melbourn, but was attached to the manor of Great Wymondley in Hertfordshire, the owner of which continued to exercise it, until the banquet was abandoned after the coronation of King George IV.

<sup>2</sup> Lady Agnes' third husband was John, Lord Maltravers, who has earned an unenviable notoriety by having been in charge of King Edward in Berkeley Keep when he was murdered, and was held to be responsible for his death. She had a troubled third marriage, because Maltravers was sometimes under forfeiture for rebellion, and her dowry as an Argentine wife was sometimes seized with the Maltravers property. By this marriage she became the ancestress of the Stafford Earls of Devon. Her will is printed in Nicholas, *Vetusta Testamenta*, p. 92.

who was probably of gentle birth, and the bondservant housekeeper, whose rations,  $6\frac{1}{2}$  quartern loaves a week, are computed with those of the farm workers.

### THE FARM ACCOUNT OF 1317-18.

Now before considering this farm account, it may be useful to state the money value of farm products and articles used on a farm at this period, these values being taken from Rogers, *History of Agriculture and Prices*.

In 1318 a penny would buy:

25 hens' eggs.	1 oz. sugar.
1 lb. cheese.	1 cock (duck or hen $1\frac{1}{2}d.$ each).
3 pigeons.	2 gals. cider.
3-4 lbs. mutton.	1 gal. beer.
1 day's work in harvest.	1 pint of wine.
2 days' work taking letters.	1 hurdle.
1 pint of butter.	1 horseshoe.

The man who kept the account was called a prepositus, or reeve, his name was Hugh Nocky. He was a customary or copyhold tenant, practically a bondman. His wages were 3s. a year and 1d. at Christmas and a gosling worth 2d. A man named Jordon Nocky was a considerable taxpayer at the same time, and in 1356 Hugh's grandson held a fair-sized copyhold farm.

A short abstract, with remarks, may be interesting to those who do not wish to wade through the whole account.

### *Receipts.*

1st. Rents received, chiefly quitrents (more than a quarter of total receipts)

£11 7 6

"Guard money Rockingham Castle," 4s. 5d.

This was paid to avoid sending a man to serve in the guard at this Northamptonshire castle for a month every year. It was apparently charged on particular lands or tenements.

Price of wheat per qr.  
in Rogers.

{	1317	20s.	0d.	}
{	1318	6s.	8d.	}
{	1319	2s.	8d.	}

2nd. Corn sold; 69 qrs. wheat grown, 17½ being sold at 6s. 10d. qr.	}	£7	3	5
240 qrs. corn of all sorts grown, 21 qrs. sold				
3rd. 124 fleeces at 6½d. each		£3	7	2
4th. Cattle sold; 2 horses, 10s., 7s. (a low price, usually up to 20s.)	}	£5	10	9
1 draft ox, 14s. (usual price)				
46 sheep, average 1s. 1½d. each				
Pigeons, 4 doz. sold "when the groom came with the Dovehouse key," 2s. (In the inventory of stock "no account since the cook had the key.")				
5th. Aid for marrying the lord's eldest daughter		£6	4	0
Just as the king extracted an aid from his knights when his daughter married, so this was a compulsory wedding present for his knight's daughter Joan when she married John Butler, of whom more later				
6th. For small things sold (we should have liked this more expanded). One of the items was a pound of pepper (black) recd. as rent and sold for 10d.; it must have come from the East, worth about the same before the Great War, now 2s. 6d.		£3	11	6
The total receipts of farm and rents are		£38	1	7½

### *Expenses.*

These are more interesting than the receipts because they are put down in detail:

1st. The reeve notes that he paid out £6. 11s. 5d. more than he received last year. His payments were probably by tally, not by money. Tallies were then strips of wood with notches cut to represent pounds, shillings and pence.

2nd. He notes expenses of plough and ploughmen, carts and carting, sheep and shepherd.

For instance:

To a carpenter making new woodwork for the ploughs for 7 days, 20d.

To the smith for forging 12 pieces of iron into shoes and plough irons, at 3d. a piece, 3s.

There are also amounts for pieces of iron and sheaves of steel for shear tips.

For 30 shoes and nails and the shoeing of 2 cart horses for the year, 5s. 2½d.

- 3rd. Then there comes a heading "Small Expenses," one of which, the mending of a hair sieve, puzzled me. *Cilicium*, the word used for a hair sieve, also meaning a hair shirt.
- 4th. The labour bill was not excessive, the item for thrashing being largest—for thrashing wheat, meslin and peas 2*d.* a qr. was paid, for barley 1½*d.* and for oats and dredge 1*d.*
- 5th. For repairs to the manor house, outhouses and buildings, 1*s.* 8*d.* What a contrast to the expense of to-day!
- 6th. Purchase of stock and corn—a draft ox for 13*s.* He had sold one for 14*s.* The two wethers bought will be referred to under the flock.
- 7th. The lord's household expenses and cash payments to him are the largest items (these are put down as *foreign* expenses) and are referred to later on.

Altogether the reeve's payments for year	44	16	5
Receipts	38	1	7½
Loss on year	£6	14	9½

and on the two years ending Michaelmas 1318, £13. 7*s.* 4*d.*, that is more than a third of the gross income of the manor<sup>1</sup>.

If we take the receipts from farm alone for sale of corn and sheep they were £23, but the lord took £29 of the reeve in addition to the cash he had received from aid and rents, which accounts for the loss. If we multiply these figures by 20, which is more than the relative value of the pound then and now, the receipts come to £460 and the payments to £580; for a 300-acre farm such a turnover would seem absurd now<sup>2</sup>. We have now got to the end of one side of the account, leaving the farmer £260 to the bad, but the reeve starts off on the other side with the details of the wheat crop and so on—horses, foals, ewes, lambs and geese all accounted for. Some of the smaller live stock had been received as rent and poll tax from the villein tenants. It is rather strange that there are no pigs mentioned, nor any milch cows, and so no butter or cheese—nor any bees, nor were hens kept, so no eggs.

It may be worth while to try and piece together various

<sup>1</sup> In 1321 Sir John's widow brought an action against her reeve for not giving proper accounts, perhaps the balance was still on the wrong side.

<sup>2</sup> If I understand Mr J. A. Venn's returns correctly, the cost of such a farm as the Lordship would now be about £7 per acre. *An Economic and Financial Analysis, etc.* 1924-5.

items of the account so as to make a connected picture of the working of the farm six centuries ago.

The farm consisted of 300 acres of arable land mostly in half-acre strips of which sometimes a third, sometimes a half, was fallow. There was besides a large quantity of rough pasture for sheep, but practically no permanent pasture.

First with regard to the labour of the farm. There were 7 men who were boarded by the master; these were:

	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
2 Ploughmen who got 6 <i>s.</i> a year each and $\frac{1}{2}$ <i>d.</i> Christmas box ...	12	1
2 Ploughdrivers who got 4 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> a year each and $\frac{1}{2}$ <i>d.</i> Christmas box	9	1
1 Carter who got 6 <i>s.</i> a year and 1 <i>d.</i> Christmas box ...	6	1
1 Shepherd who got 6 <i>s.</i> a year and 1 <i>d.</i> Christmas box ...	6	1
1 Reeve who got 3 <i>s.</i> a year and 1 <i>d.</i> Christmas box ...	3	1

The above are all regular hands who were boarded by the reeve, had porridge for breakfast and 8 quartern loaves each per week for dinner and supper. Other incidental labour payments are:

Blacksmith 11 <i>s.</i> ; Carpenter and Wheelwright 3 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> ...	14	6
Thatcher 1 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i> ; Haulming 10 <i>d.</i> ...	2	6
For beer when washing 124 sheep ...	8	
Mending sieves 1 <i>s.</i> ; Repairs 1 <i>s.</i> 2 <i>d.</i> ...	2	2
Thrashing ...	1	11
	£4	7 11

If we add to this £4. 8*s.* 0*d.*, the value of the rations, we get £11. 12*s.* 0*d.*, or £220 of our money, as the cost of working a 300-acre farm, producing 270 qrs. of corn, and with a flock of 227 sheep. (The cost would now be at least £1200.)

It must be quite obvious that this could not represent all the work done, and as a matter of fact the main work was done by bondmen. The tenants of farms and cottages were bound to do so many days' work a year for the lord besides the money rent which they paid, each holding had a settled number. If the tenant was a woman, she had to hire someone to do the work. Perhaps one item from a rent roll of the Sheen manor for 1273 will explain what I mean. "Matilda de Chesewyk, widow, holds a cottage and three acres of land for 2 shillings a year, and owes 5 days' work in harvest with food at the lord's table, and she shall mow and carry hay for

one day, and gives a cockerel to the lord at Christmas, and pays poll tax and the best beast she has, as a heriot when it cometh." If a farm or cottage was vacant, the reeve had so many days less work to dispose of. This year a tenement called Valour was empty, so he subtracts 107 days' work.

The reeve sets out in detail how many days' work he could make use of and divides them up as follows:

Between Aug. 1 and Mich.	Harvest works	416
„ Mich. and Aug. 1.	Winter works	566
Days' work hoeing	... ..	33
Days' work reaping	... ..	21
Days' work haymaking	... ..	23
Days' work hay carting	... ..	8
Days' work harvest carting	... ..	16
Days' journey of man with horse and cart	... ..	63
Days' journey of man on foot	... ..	16
		1162

How the days' works were used will be shown by two entries from the balance sheet:

"*Hoeing*. Nothing was paid for hoeing this year, since it was all done by bondmen." It took 220 days' work.

"*Harvest expenses*. No further account of harvest expenses, since it was all done by bondmen, and all were fed at the table of the lord." It took 407 days' work.

Twelve days' work was expended in ditching, 58 in haulming, 12 in dung spreading, and so on; 30 were sold for 2s. 6d. This is much the same as one farmer lending a man to another farmer for one or more days.

Although these days' works or boon works became gradually commuted for payment of money as time went on, on the Sheen Farm as late as the end of the XVII century several tenements owed a certain number of bederepes, or days' work reaping in harvest, to the lord of that manor.

I have already stated that certain labourers were on rations; now the goodness of the rations depended on the success of the harvest. The harvest of 1317 having been a bad one, there was almost a famine in the winter covered by our account, so instead of a mixture in the proportion of

half a pint of rye and peas to half a peck each of wheat and barley the reeve mixed together:

- 6 qrs. Tail wheat.
- 14 $\frac{3}{4}$  qrs. Meslin.
- 3 $\frac{3}{4}$  qrs. Peas.
- 9 qrs. Mill corn (the lord's perquisite from tenants' corn ground at his mill).

Of this mixture the four ploughmen, the carter and the shepherd were allowed 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  pecks a week each, equal to 8 quartern loaves per head throughout the year, and a female servant or housekeeper was allowed 2 pecks or 6 $\frac{1}{2}$  quartern loaves of bread, and a boy helping the shepherd during lambing and the carter during seed time was allowed 2 pecks a week. In addition to this bread corn, the regular hands were allowed 2 qrs. of oats for porridge during the winter. (See appendix for more about rations.)

*The work of the farm.* The ploughing and preparation of the land for corn was nearly all done by the 2 ploughmen and 2 ploughdrivers, working with 4 stotts and 8 oxen, making 2 teams. The term stott now means a bullock in some parts of the country, but at this time it meant a horse. The harrowing was also done by the ploughmen, whose duty it was to feed their beasts. The oxen were given 3 sheaves of dredge corn between them each night, equal to a large peck, the stotts had half a peck each of a mixture of oats and tail barley. During the period St Thomas's Day to Epiphany—21 December to 6 January—these animals were on half rations, either because of the men not working during Christmas, or because of a hard frost. From 3 May to 18 October these animals got no corn at all, but fed on the open pastures. Halters for the stotts cost 1*d.* each, and 12 pieces of iron were made into shoes for them at a cost of 4*s.* The reeve must have relied chiefly for manure on his stock pasturing on the fallow, because only 12 days' work were expended on spreading dung, and at the rate men spread dung now, not much of the land could be covered in that time. But an item occurs amongst the winter bondwork which seems to show that the labourers sometimes worked hard in those days. "For breaking the soil, at the time of

sowing barley and dredge, 4 score and 2 days' work, when each bondman who did a full day's work had two days credited to him." This may refer to the use of the breast plough, or it may mean the breaking up of the fallow trodden hard by the cattle and sheep.

The broadcast sowing of the 82 acres of winter corn—wheat 3 bushels an acre, meslin  $3\frac{1}{2}$  bushels—took 10 weeks, and was done by the carter, with a young man or boy to help him. The sowing of the 110 acres of spring corn—barley 4 bushels an acre, oat and dredge  $3\frac{1}{2}$  bushels each—took 8 weeks and was done by the same men. The reeve is particular to mention how long it took to sow the corn, as he had to account for an extra 2 pecks of rations a week for the extra hand. These men used the 2 cart horses and fed them at the end of the day's work with half a peck of oats each and such hay as was available. These beasts had no deduction made for Christmas holidays or hard frost, but they went out to grass with no corn after May. One of them had a new cord halter this year, costing  $4\frac{1}{2}d$ .

The corn having been sown, it had to be kept clear of poppies and charlocks, etc.<sup>1</sup>, and some attempt was made to do this, because 253 days' work were spent on it—say 10 men for a month.

Whilst the preparation for the next crop was going on, the result of the preceding harvest had to be thrashed. As already stated, this was done by the bondmen of the manor by "the great."

The only mention of hay is in the labour list, where it is stated that 23 days' work was expended in making hay and 8 in carting it.

*The Harvest.* The whole of the harvest was got in by bondwork. The various tenants of the manor owed 416 days' work for the months of August and September, and besides some tenants owed particular kinds of work, such as "16 days' work with horse and cart," and "21 days' reaping," altogether there were 453 days' work available, which means that there could have been 12 men working 6 days a week for 6 weeks without pay, besides the 4 ploughmen, the carter and the

<sup>1</sup> Thistles and wyleets were the troublesome weeds at Kneesworth in 1597.

reeve, making 18 men, a fair allowance for a 200-acre farm in pieces scattered over eight square miles of country. And a record of the year 1307 says that there were 18 bondmen on this farm, 4 of whom did 144 days' work in harvest and at no other time of the year. One of the difficulties which the reeve had to contend with was that the bondmen were not allowed to work on Saints' days. Now in the harvest months are St Lawrence, Assumption, St Bartholomew, Exaltation of Cross and St Matthew. If they fell on a Sunday, well and good; but if they fell on week days, the lord lost the day's work, although it counted as a day's work for the bondmen. In this harvest the reeve lost what was equivalent to the work of one man for 21 days. Long after the Reformation farmers were liable to be fined in the ecclesiastical court for working on Saints' days.

The expenses of the harvest were only 3s. 8d., besides the feeding of the labourers. I think the 13 wethers mentioned later as given to the cook in harvest time were used for this purpose; at 3 stone each, and surely no Melbourn wether could weigh less, it would mean more than half a pound per man per day for 6 weeks. They probably supplied their own bread, just as they used to do when labourers were given a hot milk mess for breakfast. And they were allowed as much beer as they could drink—30 qrs. of malt were allowed to the manor house for strong ale, so the quantity of small beer was unlimited.

As all the corn was reaped with a sickle, there was always the haulm to be disposed of. Sometimes it was sold. Ten acres were sold this year at 4d. an acre, the payment of clearing it away when not sold, an operation called *calming*, was 3d. an acre.

*The Wheat Crop of 1317.* This is the crop which was sown in the autumn of 1316, harvested in 1317 and thrashed during the winter of 1317–18. The harvests of 1316 and 1317 were two of the worst on record, something like 1879 in our day. During the summers of 1316 and 1317 wheat rose to famine prices. The highest price of wheat in modern history was in 1801, when it reached 156s. a qr., which was about twice the average price. But in 1316 the price was five

times, and in 1317 four times, the average. This made seed corn very dear and perhaps poor in quality. The 1317 harvest was so poor in this manor that a portion of the 1318 wheat crop, equal to a quarter of the whole 1317 wheat crop, had been thrashed before Michaelmas.

The 1317 crop was harvested into two stacks and a barn called "the mysty," this means perhaps the middle bay of a building divided into thrashing floor, mowstead and mow.

It will be seen that  $65\frac{1}{2}$  acres produced a little over 70 qrs. of wheat, 3 bushels of seed per acre produced a crop of  $8\frac{1}{2}$  bushels<sup>1</sup>. In one of the stacks about one-sixth of the corn was tail wheat.

Almost the whole crop was consumed in the lord's houses at Melbourn and Wymondley, or used as seed. The tail corn was given to the servants or made into malt.

*The Meslin Crop.* This was a mixture of wheat and rye sown together. Sixteen acres produced 34 qrs. Three and a half bushels of seed produced a crop of  $18\frac{1}{2}$  bushels per acre. It was used chiefly for feeding the servants, or making malt. No tail meslin is mentioned.

*The Pea Crop.* Ten and a half acres produced  $8\frac{1}{2}$  qrs., and 3 bushels of seed produced  $6\frac{1}{2}$  bushels per acre. Being a famine year, a large part of this crop was used for feeding the servants.

*The Barley Crop.* Twenty-eight and a half acres produced 40 qrs., and 4 bushels of seed produced  $11\frac{1}{2}$  bushels per acre. As might be expected, more than half of the crop was made into malt. Some was used for mixing with oats to make new dredge seed.

*The Oat Crop.* Fourteen and a half acres produced 24 qrs., and  $3\frac{1}{2}$  bushels of seed per acre produced  $13\frac{3}{4}$  bushels per acre. The greater part was used for feeding the horses, but  $3\frac{1}{2}$  qrs. were consumed by the lord and his domestics as porridge.

<sup>1</sup> This reckoning of the return per acre for a given amount of seed sown is in this case open to fallacy, unless the same acreage was sown with each sort of corn each year. For the  $65\frac{1}{2}$  acres is the quantity of land sown for the *next* year's crop. But in an appendix is given a more reliable tabulation of yield.

*The Dredge Crop.* This crop, a mixture of barley and oats sown together, was a poor one although it had a larger acreage than any other. Sixty-seven acres produced only 48 qrs. Three and a half bushels of seed produced only 7½ bushels. More than half the crop was used as seed. The rest was chiefly used for feeding oxen in the sheaf, or made into malt.

Perhaps this is the place to say something about the receipts from the windmill which are mentioned as follows:

The perquisites of the mill for this year were 10 qrs. and a half, besides the corn ground for the use of the lord, namely 33 qrs. 3 oz., for which he receives nothing—

of which allowed to the miller one quarter this year, since his profits were not full.

From which entry it seems that the tenant paid twice for this privilege of grinding his corn at his lord's mill—to the lord and to the miller—and that, as it was a famine year and a small quantity of corn ground, the miller was allowed some of the lord's perquisites to make up his own deficit.

The only mill mentioned in the later surveys of the Argentine Manor is a windmill, although there were at least two watermills on the manor in 1086. But there was a watermill which was turned by the water from the spring in the moat. And besides this source, the water from all the springs in the immediate neighbourhood was diverted into the mill dam. This dam was of a complex nature (Illustration, no. 3). The north and west sides of the moat, fifty feet wide, held some water, but the greater portion was collected in the backwater running across the meadow. This is 200 yards long and is still 25 feet wide and 5 deep, and near the mill it extended to three times that width.

*The Flock.* The most valuable source of income on the farm was the flock of sheep. They cost next to nothing to keep, as they had no kind of corn but fed on haulm, hay, chaff and what they could pick up on the balks and commons. These as I have already indicated were very extensive. In the year 1840, when the majority of the balks had been done away with, they measured 165 acres. There were 775 acres of common land in the parish in 1840, so there must have

been more than double that amount in 1318. The sheep may not have got very fat, but they had no need to be hungry. The fleece was the valuable part of the sheep. English wool has played a great part in history. At this time you could buy a sound sheep for 1s. 3*d.*, shear it and get 6½*d.* for its fleece, kill it and get 7*d.* for the skin, and then have the carcass, a good two-pennyworth of meat left.

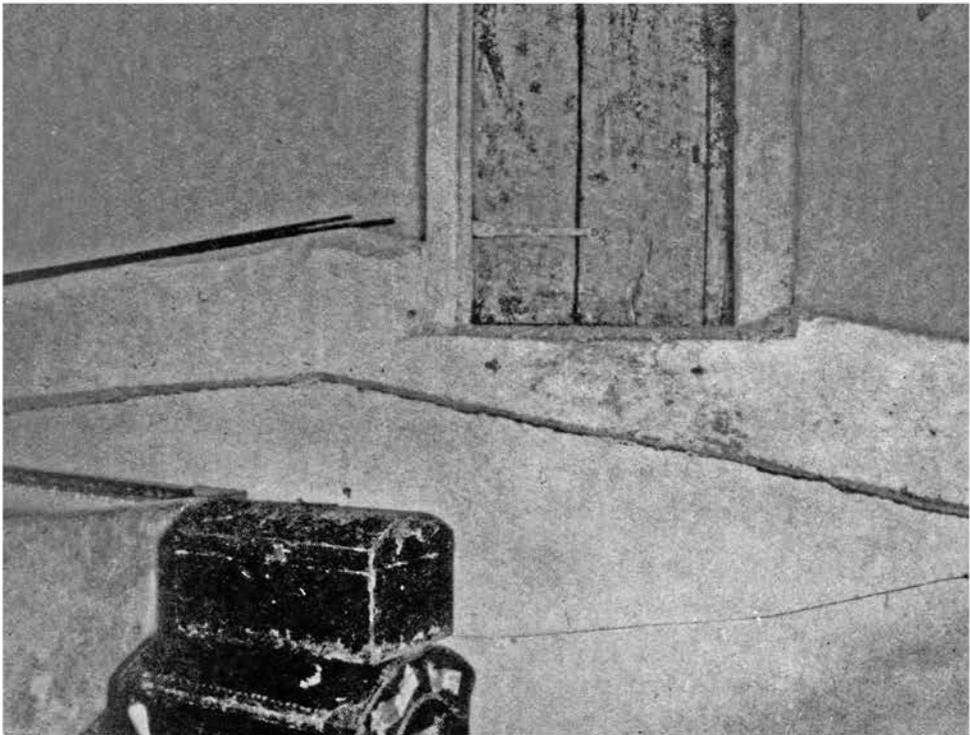
At Michaelmas 1318, there were at this farm 70 ewes, 94 wethers or muttons and 52 last year lambs. During the year 2 wethers were bought at a cost of 3s. 6*d.* each; at that price they must have been a special breed of ram; and 9 sheep were impounded as strays, making a respectable flock of 227. But this was a bad season, murrain was prevalent and more than two dozen of the flock died, and besides, 22 wethers were sold before shearing because they were not healthy, and two dozen ewes before shearing and lambing, probably for the same reason.

The 36 ewes left produced 34 lambs, as 2 ewes were sterile and there were no twins. Three ewes died of murrain after lambing, which left an ewe flock of 33 at Michaelmas 1318, instead of 70. But there would be added next year 16 two-year-old lambs. Of the wether flock, of 105, 2 died of murrain, 12 went to the cook at Christmas and 13 in harvest time. I think these 13 were for the food of the bondmen getting in the corn, and let us hope the dozen at Christmas were for a feast of the bondmen in the manor house. The carcass of a wether, even in good condition, could never have been fat and has been supposed to have weighed less than 40 lbs., but 13 of them would have given the harvest men many a bite. At the end of the year, Michaelmas 1318, there were 56 wethers instead of 105, but next year the flock would be increased by the addition of 26 hoggets.

Of last year's lambs, 10 died of murrain, the rest were added to ewe or wether flocks. Of the new lambs, 12 were sold for 12s., 2 were paid as tithe—it should have been 3, but, as usual, the simple parson was hoodwinked, the reeve did not pay tithe on the dozen he sold. This left 18 lambs, instead of the 52 with which the year started. Altogether the flock was reduced from 227 to 167.



No. 5. The Hall of Sir John de Argentine



No. 6. Lumber Attic: doorway into further attic partly cut through cambered beam



*The cost of the flock as I said was small:*

<i>Expenses</i>		<i>Receipts</i>	
		<i>s. d.</i>	<i>£ s. d.</i>
The shepherd's wages and Christmas			
box ... ..	6 1	Sheep sold ...	2 11 9
For beer when the sheep were washed	8	Fleeces ... ..	3 7 4
Ointment—"blue butter"—for the		Skins ... ..	13 0
scab ... ..	1 9	Eaten 25 @ 1s. 3d.	1 11 0
1 gallon of Stockholm tar ... ..	6		8 3 1
12 hurdles ... ..	2 0	Expenses ... ..	14 4
Milk for young lambs ... ..	3 4		
	<u>14 4</u>		<u>£7 8 9</u>

Profit £7. 8s. 9d.

“The good shepherd should never be without his tar box,” says an old farming book.

*Prices.*

1s. unsound ewes and wethers.	1s. new lambs.
1s. 3d. sound ewes and wethers.	6½d. fleece.
7d. sheep skin.	1½d. new lamb's skin.
6d. hogget skin.	

*Animals to be kept during the winter.* The number of animals which had to be kept on this farm during the winter of the year 1317–18, at which time there were no roots of any kind, no cake to be bought, no clover or sainfoin hay and very little good grass hay, were as follows:

Cart horses ... ..	2	Stotts ... ..	4
Colt and fillies ... ..	3	Oxen ... ..	8
Sheep ... ..	166	Lambs ... ..	52

The horses, stotts and oxen had corn from 18 October to 3 May, or as the reeve puts it “from the feast of St Luke the Evangelist until the invention of the Holy Cross.” The sheep and lambs and colts were on grass all the year round and all the other animals from May to October.

*The Lord's Personal Expenses.*

The entries which can be put under this heading are scattered in different parts of the roll, but when put together give some interesting points. As already indicated, the payments of the reeve for purely farm expenses were small, but the payments in cash to my lord or payments for his

personal expenses came to a larger sum than was received for sale of corn and cattle. For instance:

	£	s.	d.
Cash payments to Sir John of ... ..	14	10	8
To Lady Agnes ... ..	1	3	4
Expenses of my lord's journeys ... ..	2	11	0
The lord's expenses at Royston (perhaps on a market day)... ..	10	5	½
For divers things for the use of the house during the stay of our lord and his lady and their family at Meldeburne before our lord took his journey towards the north <sup>1</sup> ... ..	6	4	8¼
At the same time for 20 yards of best linen cloth 10s., saddle girths 8d. ... ..	10	8	
For 3 lots of herrings for my lord ... ..	1	7	
A horse bought for Jackbet when he went north with my lord	16	9	
	£26	9	2¼

Robert Bruce, King of Scotland, was then invading the northern parts of England, and the king had commanded his knights to repel him. Sir John might be said to be going north to avenge his uncle Giles.

Then there are of course large items in the labour bill which come under personal expenses, such as

	s.	d.
4 days' work cleaning the hall and other parts of the house before our lord's visit ... ..	2	
10 days' work getting in logs ... ..	5	
60 days' work of man and horse carting 22 quarters of coal from Cambridge ... ..	5	0
8 days' work of a man on foot carrying letters to Wymondley (it was 30 miles there and back) ... ..	4	

Some further interesting items of personal expenditure are the payments made for clothes for the two sons-in-law or sons-in-law elect:

	s.	d.
For 7 pair of little socks for the use of the son of the Lord Ralph le Boteller ... ..	3	0
For 2 pair of shoes for John Boteller ... ..	1	0
For slippers for John Boteller ... ..	6	
Linen cloth for the use of John Boteller and his brother (8 yds. of best or 16 of cheapest) ... ..	4	1

This John and William Boteller married Joan and Elizabeth Argentine, Sir John's daughters by his first marriage. Joan

<sup>1</sup> The family seem to have spent more than nine months of this year at Melbourn, which accounts for the excessive expenditure of the reeve.

could hardly have been more than 12 years old. Her mother came from Throcking near Buntingford, and after William had married Elizabeth he settled around Meldreth and was known as William de Throcking. Perhaps he lived at Chiswick End, where Mr Percy Elbourn lives, as that was Argentine property, and is an ancient holding. It has late XV century fireplaces and formerly had a dovecote.

A large quantity of food from the farm was consumed by the lord's household and took away from the profit of the farm. Fifty-one quarters of wheat were made into flour for this household and a quarter and a half of oatmeal was used for porridge, 74 capons were sent to Wymondley and 5 chickens were spent on my lord's breakfast. One hundred and three quarters of malt were brewed into beer, 67 qrs. at Wymondley, the rest at Melbourn; there must have been enough beer for both households to swim in. A purchase of  $12\frac{1}{2}$  qrs. of salt must have been for salting the family's winter supply of meat. Geese seem to have been a favourite dish. In the autumn 68 were bought at an average of  $3\frac{1}{2}d.$  each and delivered to the cook, and in the spring 80 more were bought at  $6\frac{1}{2}d.$  each. This latter quantity were fattened for a week on a quarter of meslin, and then used for a purpose which is not clear, but I think they may have been eaten at the common feast at the churching, or feast of the purification of the Lady Agnes. The birth of an heir to the Argentine family was no mean event and these geese were part of the food with which Sir John regaled the county.

#### EXPENSES OF THE NEW CHAMBER.

In this account there are several references to the building of a new chamber at Melbourn; they are rather scanty, but open out a pleasing line for research.

In one place the reeve charges himself with 2s. 10d. for a bushel of wheat baked into bread for 26 men coming from Wymondley with 13 cartloads of timber for the new chamber, and later 6 men with 3 cartloads had more bread. In other places there are items for thatching on the new chamber, for cutting down an ash tree near the granary, and sawing it up for the new chamber, and for work on the grice, stairs or

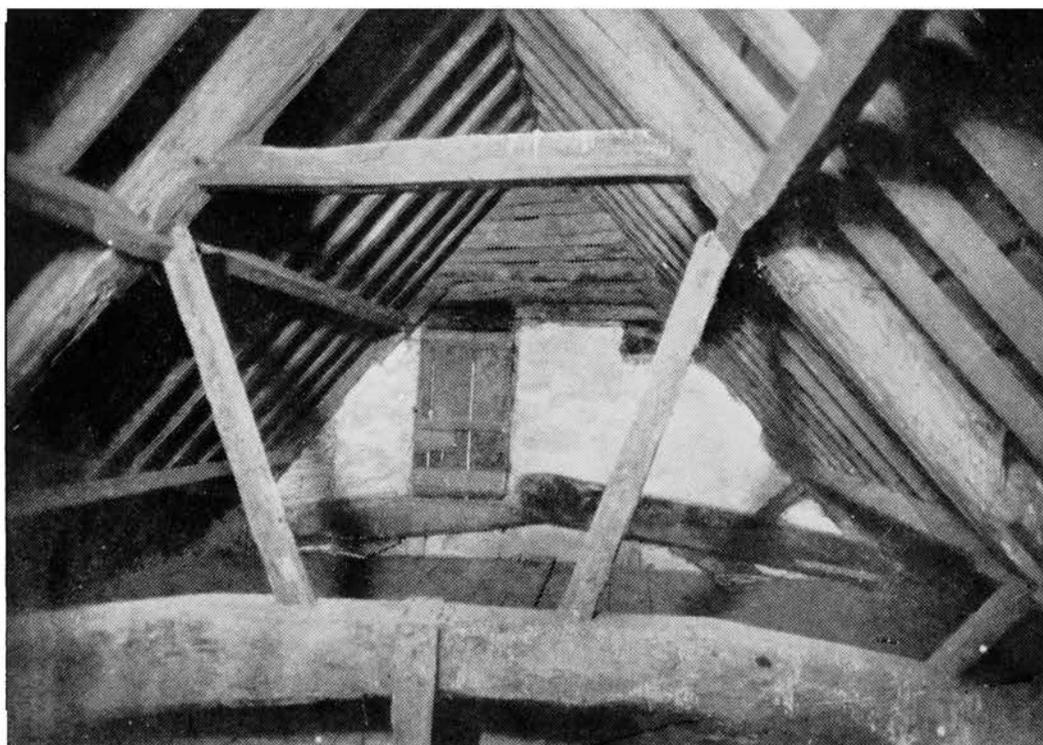
steps in the lord's chamber. Perhaps we may see the cause of building the new chamber in an event which took place in the spring of 1318. Sir John's young second wife presented him with a son and heir. Perhaps he was building her a new sollar or boudoir or nursery as a reward, and I am going to suggest that this sollar is enclosed in the present Lordship farmhouse.

The east side of the Argentine house does not promise anything very ancient (see Illustration, no. 2). Under the north gable is the date 1699, which I think is the date of the reconstruction of a modern farmhouse out of the ruined manor house gutted by fire. Nor does the north side (see Illustration, no. 5) strike one as being very ancient, unless you cut off the eastern portion, when it seems to be unduly high according to its length. It is 33 ft. long, 21 ft. to eaves, 30 ft. to gable and 18 ft. wide. And if you shut out from your mind's eye pantry and bathroom windows and soilpipe, you get a typical shape of a manor house of the XIV century, such as Boothby Pagnell manor house<sup>1</sup>. But you will think one must have a vivid and credulous imagination to see Boothby Pagnell manor house in the Lordship Farm. But the attic of the Argentine house tells a different story, for at either side are cambered beams 14 in. deep and 10 in. thick. The edges are carefully bevelled, and not intended to be hidden in an attic (see Illustration, no. 6). Portions of the brackets which joined these main truss or tie-beams to the upright in the outer wall or wall post can be seen (see Illustration, no. 8). In the centre of one beam is the place where a kingpost had been chopped off (see Illustration, no. 7). There is an oak-planked floor put in in 1699, and at the east end of the attic is a plastered-up window which was probably glazed when the roof was thatched, and the room used as a store or cheese room (see illustration, no. 7). When the thatch was displaced by slates, the room became unusable. At the east end the plaster is laid on reeds kept in place by a lath nailed on each end. Most of the timber in the roof is of deal, and recent, but the principal rafters and collar are of oak, and contemporary with the large beams. The undersurface of the

<sup>1</sup> See Hudson Parker, *Domestic Architecture*, vol. I, p. 52.



No. 7. Attic looking East



No. 8. Attic looking West



beams and rafters show signs of having been burnt, and similar signs were seen when some of the wall posts were uncovered below. [For a manor house of this kind and period see the description, plate and plan of Tiplofts Wimbish in *Essex, Ancient Monuments Com.* vol. I, pp. 351, etc.]

It is suggested that the beams shown are the remains of the chamber above the hall which John de Argentine built for his young wife in 1318. This is supported to some extent by documentary evidence. Melbourn was the dower house of the Argentine widow<sup>1</sup>; but a dowager who took to herself, one after another, two well-to-do husbands, had no need of such a dower house, and when Lady Agnes Maltravers died in 1375, the house and buildings were worth nothing beyond expenses, and in 1381 they were ruinous<sup>2</sup>.

When the Argentine heiress was captured by the Alingtons in the next century, they had no use for Melbourn as a residence, as they already had large houses at Wymondley and Horseheath. At least, I have no record of their having lived there. They did not even put their arms up in the church. So the manor site and buildings were let on lease, and of these leases we have two records in the XVI century (see Appendix). I am told that roofs of the kind described were not built after 1500, and between that date and 1318 I can find no owner who was likely to have built it, and anyway I cannot conceive that these massive beams were ever got into place for a tenant farmer's house.

There is a cellar under the Lordship, which contains a well of clear water, the level of which rises and falls with the moat. In one of the barns is a wooden thrashing floor, which with flail, bushel and strike was shown to the members of the Cambridge Antiquarian Society who visited Melbourn on 4 June 1925.

<sup>1</sup> *Inq. P.M.* 49 Edw. III, par. 2, No. 7.

<sup>2</sup> *Inq. P.M.* 7 Rich. II, No. 4.

The account of *Hugh Nocky*, reeve or bailiff in the manor of *Meldeburne*, from Michaelmas 1317 to Michaelmas 1318 (somewhat condensed).

The arithmetic is that of the original.

	<i>Receipts</i>					
RENT:	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Rents of Assize at Christmas ... ..	2	6	11 $\frac{3}{4}$			
Rent of Rose le Bond at the same term ...		5	0			
Rents of Assize at Easter ... ..	2	12	2 $\frac{1}{2}$			
Rent of Mark the Melward at the same term ...		5	0			
Rent of Rose le Bond at the same term ...		3	0			
Rents of Assize at Midsummer ... ..	2	6	8 $\frac{1}{2}$			
Rent of Rose le Bond at the same term ...		3	0			
Rents of Assize at Michaelmas ... ..	2	10	8 $\frac{1}{4}$			
Rent of Rose le Bond at the same term ...		3	0			
Rent of Mark the Melward at the same term ...		5	0			
Guard money for Rockingham Castle ... ..		4	5			
Of vj denarij of Norwich ... ..		6		11	7	6 $\frac{3}{4}$
<b>CORN:</b>						
4 bushels of wheat sold for ... ..		3	5			
14 quarters of wheat sold at 7s. per quarter ...	4	18	0			
2 quarters 3 bushels of wheat sold at 6s. 8d. per quarter ... ..		16	2			
1 quarter of wheat sold for ... ..		6	10			
3 quarters meslin (wheat and rye mixed) sold at 5s. 4d. ... ..		16	0			
4 bushels of barley sold ... ..		3	0	7	3	5
<b>STUBBLE:</b>						
6 acres of stubble at 4d. and 4 acres at 5d. ...		3	8			
1 day's work with horse and cart in harvest sold for ... ..			6			
4 days' work on foot sold for ... ..		2		4	4	
<b>WOOL:</b>						
6 score and 4 fleeces of wool sold in gross ...	3	7	4	3	7	4
<b>CATTLE:</b>						
Two stotts (horses) sold for 10s. and 7s. ...		17	0			
Two oxen, each 14s. ... ..	1	8	0			
One calf obtained as a heriot sold for ... ..		12	0			
17 wethers and ewes sold after Michaelmas in gross because they were not sound ...		17	0			
19 of the same sold in gross ... ..	1	3	9			
10 sheep ( <i>bidentes</i> ) sold ... ..		11	0			
and of the said sheep ( <i>ovibus</i> ) sold 22 were wethers and 24 ewes						
48 doves sold at Michaelmas at one time when the groom came with the dovehouse key	2	0		5	10	9

ARGENTINE'S MANOR, MELBOURN, CAMBRIDGESHIRE 51

SKINS:	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Skins of 2 wethers and 10 ewes who died before shearing ... ..	7	0				
Skins of 10 last year's lambs who died before shearing ... ..	5	0				
Skins of 10 this year's lambs ... ..	1	0		13	0	

AID:

He renders an account of the receipts from all the homagers towards the aid at the marriage of the Lord of the Manor's daughter				6	4	0
For small things sold ... ..	3	11	6	3	11	6
Sum total of receipts ...				<u>£38</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>7<math>\frac{1}{4}</math></u>

*Payments.*

SURPLUS:

of last year's account ... ..	6	11	3
of which was paid for the lord's composition for his turn of guard at Rockingham Castle ...			5 0

ALLOWANCES FROM RENTS:

Allowance to the reeve for his office each year	3	0	
Also to the same at Christmas ... ..		1	3 1

COST OF PLOUGHS:

For 2 sheaves of steel bought ... ..	2	0	
4 pieces of iron bought ... ..	1	4	
1 sheaf of steel bought ... ..		11	
For cutting 3 sheaves of steel ... ..	3	9	
4 sheaves of steel bought ... ..	3	4	
For cutting and placing the said steel on the plough irons, for each sheaf 15 <i>d.</i> ... ..	5	0	
8 pieces of iron bought ... ..	2	2	
For forging 12 pieces of iron partly into shoes and partly into plough irons, for each piece 3 <i>d.</i> ... ..	3	0	
For halters bought for stotts ... ..		4	
To a carpenter making new ploughs and erecting plough stalls and bolting the timber to the ploughs for 8 days, taking by the day 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ <i>d.</i>	1	8	
For 10 soles for shoes ... ..		9	
For shoeing 4 stotts for a year ... ..	4	0	
Allowances to 2 ploughmen for the year ...	12	0	
Allowances to 2 ploughdrivers ... ..	9	0	
For their "tips" ( <i>oblaciones</i> ) at Christmas and Easter this year ... ..	4		2 9 7

COST OF CARTS:		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
For putting axles on two carts 3 <i>d.</i> , for mending the same 2 <i>d.</i>	... ..			5			
For 1 pair of wheels	... ..	4	0				
For nails and hooks or skids ( <i>gropis</i> ) for the same	... ..	4	6				
For putting iron tyres on the same	... ..		6				
For mending one pair of wheels, using the wood and tyre of an old wheel	... ..			8			
For one halter of cord for a cart horse	... ..			4½			
For white cord to mend the harness	... ..			8			
For 30 shoes for cart horses for the year	... ..	1	10½				
For 200 nails 4 <i>d.</i> for the shoeing of 2 cart horses 3 <i>s.</i>	... ..	3	4				
Allowance to the carter for the year 6 <i>s.</i> , for his "tip" 1 <i>d.</i>	... ..	6	1				
For cart grease	... ..			8½			
For putting axles on two carts	... ..	3			1	3	5½
<b>COST OF THE HOUSES:</b>							
To one thatcher who did thatching on the "Ton-all" for 3 days and on the dovecote for 3 days and on the barn ( <i>Grang'</i> ) and staircase ( <i>Gerocerys</i> ) within the lord's chamber for 2 days, taking 2½ <i>d.</i> a day	... ..	1	8		1	8	
<b>COST OF FLOCK:</b>							
For one gallon of tar for the sheep	... ..			6			
For ointment bought	... ..	1	1				
For ointment for curing the sheep	... ..			8			
Given to a customary tenant for herding and washing 6 score and 4 sheep, for beer	... ..			8			
For milk for keeping the new lambs	... ..	3	4				
For twelve hurdles	... ..	2	0				
Allowance to the shepherd for the year 6 <i>s.</i> , for his "tip" 1 <i>d.</i>	... ..	6	1		14	4	
<b>MINUTE EXPENSES:</b>							
4 bushels of salt	... ..	2	4				
For mending a sieve and a curtain ( <i>Rydel</i> )	... ..		1				
For mending a hair sieve with another hair sieve	... ..	1	6				
For 2 fans ( <i>ceph</i> ) for winnowing	... ..			1½			
2 sacks	... ..	1	4				
For cutting down an ash tree near the granary and sawing it for the new chamber	... ..	1	0				
For allowances for the young lambs	... ..	1	6				
For calmyngg (or haulming) 3 acres of stubble in "The Forth"	... ..			10	8	8½	

GRINDING:	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
For grinding 70 quarters 2½ bushels of wheat and 32 quarters 6½ bushels of meslin at 2 <i>d.</i>						
a quarter ... ..	17	2¼				
For grinding 8½ quarters peas at 2 <i>d.</i> a quarter	1	5				
For grinding 40 quarters 2 bushels of barley, and 48½ quarters drag at 1½ <i>d.</i> a quarter ...	11	1				
For grinding 24 quarters 3 pecks oats at 1 <i>d.</i> a quarter ... ..	2	0		1	11	8
 <b>MOWING AND HOEING:</b>						
Given to a mower, mowing in the lord's meadow according to custom. For hoeing, nothing this year, since the hoeing was done by service work (that is, by bondmen) ...			6			6
 <b>HARVESTING:</b>						
Expenses of the carter (or ploughman) and another servant of the Hall after harvest "ad repareges" ... ..	1	2				
Allowance to one man stacking and thrashing the new grain in harvest ... ..	2	6				
And no further account of the harvest expenses because the lord provided for the same and all workers were at the table of the lord						3 8
 <b>STOCK:</b>						
1 ox bought ... ..	13	0				
2 wethers bought before shearing ... ..	7	0				
50 geese bought ... ..	15	0				
18 geese bought ... ..	6	0				
20 chickens bought ... ..	1	10		2	2	10
 <b>CORN AND MALT:</b>						
6 quarters of wheat bought at 5 <i>s.</i> per quarter	1	10	0			
6 quarters bought for the lord's use since the gules of August (August 1st) ... ..	1	8	0			
2 quarters of wheat ... ..	6	8				
7 quarters of malt bought for the lord's use since Aug. 1st at 6 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i> per quarter but 4 <i>d.</i> less on the whole lot ... ..	2	4	0			
8 quarters of malt bought at 6 <i>s.</i> a qr. ... ..	2	8	0			
4 quarters of malt bought at 6 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> a qr. ... ..	1	6	0			
4 quarters of malt bought at 6 <i>s.</i> 3 <i>d.</i> a qr. ... ..	1	5	0			
4 quarters of malt bought at 5 <i>s.</i> 9 <i>d.</i> a qr. ... ..	1	3	0			
6½ qrs. oats bought for feeding the lord's horses since August 1st, at 2 <i>s.</i> a quarter ... ..	13	0		12	3	8

FOREIGN EXPENSES:	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
For peas bought to send to Wymondley at one time ... ..			6			
For linen cloth bought for the use of John Botiller and his brother ... ..		4	1			
For linen cloth for the lord at one time ...		10	0½			
For saddle gerthys for the lord when he went north ... ..			8			
For 2 pairs shoes for John Botiller ... ..		1	0			
White cord for mending the lord's saddle ...			6			
For herrings bought for the lord at 3 times ...		1	7			
Expenses of the lord during one visit ... ..		1	2			
<sup>1</sup> [His expenses another time at Royston ...		10	5½			
For divers things for use of the house during the stay of our lord and his lady and their whole family at Melbourn before our lord took his journey towards the north, account passed by our lord as appears in a roll which John Hasard has in his possession	6	4	8¾]			
Expenses of 26 men with 13 carts coming with timber from Wymondley to Melbourn for the new chamber; 1 bushel of wheat bought for baking ... ..			2	10		
Expenses of 6 men with 3 carts coming another time with timber ... ..				10		
For 4 score and 4 geese and goslings ( <i>hocorys</i> ) bought for the churching feast of the Lady Agnes by tally ... ..		2	19	9½		
Expenses of J. de Bedeford and Alexander Scot and William del Warderobe for one journey to St Ives ... ..			1	0		
For one horse bought for the use of Jakebet when he journeyed towards the north with our lord ... ..			16	9		
For 7 pairs of little socks for the use of the son of the Lord Ralph le Boteller ... ..			3	0		
For shoeing our lord's horse during his stay ...			2	2		
For 12½ quarters of salt for the use of the house by the view of John de Bedeford and J. Bloumyld ... ..		1	5	6		
To the groom of John Boteller for slippers by the lord's order ... ..			6	6	5	0
 THE LORD'S EXPENSES:						
Expenses of my lord for his journeys by 5 tallies	2	3	6½			
His expenses at another time north by tally ...		8	1	2	11	7½

<sup>1</sup> Items in brackets crossed out in original.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Expenses of John de Meldeburne holding the Court by tally ... ..		4	0			
His expenses towards Halesworth for the same by tally ... ..		2	0	6	0	
Also paid to the lord by John de Bedeford by tally ... ..	2	3	1			
Also to the same by tally ... ..	5	4	0			
Also to the same by tally ... ..	5	3	7			
[Paid to the Lady at Brytwelle 13s. 4d., also to the same by the hand of Joan her maid 10s.]						
Also paid to the reeve of Wymondley by tally	2	0	0	14	10	8
Sum total of payments and expenses ... ..	51	7	8½			
and so the lord owes to his reeve ... ..	13	6	7¼			
Receipts ...				£38	1	7½

### Inventory of Stock.

Stock on hand from last year and added this year				Stock used or sold.				
WHEAT:	qrs.	bus.	pk.	Totals qrs. bus. pk.	WHEAT:	qrs.	bus.	pk.
Wheat in the mysty thrashed by bondmen ... ..	12	6	0		Sown upon 65½ acres of land at 3 bushels an acre, allowing 1½ bushels more on the whole ...	24	6	0
Tail corn of the same ... ..	1	4	0		Given to the ploughmen this year for codcorn ...	1	0	0
A stack of wheat thrashed by bondmen	26	4	0		Made into bread for the household of the lord ...	33	3	0
Tail corn of same ... ..	4	6	0		Made into bread for 26 men with 13 carts coming with timber from Wymondley for the new chamber, besides the bread bought as appears below ... ..			1
Another stack thrashed by bondmen ...	22	4	2		Mixed with the servants' rations, tail wheat ...	6	0	0
Tail corn of same ... ..	1	2	0		Sent to Wymondley, by tally ... ..	18	0	0
Of this year's wheat ... ..	16	4	0		In making malt, tail wheat ... ..	2	0	0
Wheat bought in the autumn at the lord's first visit ... ..	14	0	0		Wheat sold ... ..	17	7	0
Also of this year's wheat ... ..	2	0	0	102 6 2	Sold upon account for 10s. 6d. ... ..	1	4	0
					Sum total as opposite and nothing remains ...	103	6	0
MESLIN (wheat and rye):					MESLIN:			
Meslin remaining from last year ...	1	7	2		Meslin sown upon 16 acres, at 3½ bus. per acre, less on the whole 1 bushel this year ...	6	7	0
This year's meslin thrashed by bondmen	32	6	2		Mixed with the servants' rations ... ..	14	6	0
1 quarter 3 bushels thrashed by the ploughman domestic ... ..	1	3	0		In making malt ... ..	18	0	0
Meslin from this harvest ... ..	2	0	0		For fattening 4 score geese for one week for the churching feast ... ..	1	0	0
Meslin bought for seed ... ..	5	2	0	43 5 0	Meslin sold ... ..	3	0	0
					Sum total as opposite and nothing remains			

*Inventory of Stock (cont.)*

Number of stock during 1317, additions in 1318.

Stock remaining

	Totals		
<b>CART HORSES:</b>		<b>CART HORSES:</b>	
Remaining from last year, 2 cart horses   ...	2	Cart horses                                   ...	2
<b>STOTTS:</b>		<b>STOTTS:</b>	
Remaining from last year                   ...	4	2 sold because they were old, remaining   ...	4
Added                                       ...	2		
	6		
<b>COLTS (Pulluri):</b>		<b>COLTS:</b>	
Remaining from last year                   ...	2	2 added to stotts, remaining               ...	1
Added                                       ...	1		
	3		
<b>FOAL (Pullavi):</b>		<b>FOALS:</b>	
Remaining from last year                   ...	1	Added to colts and none remains	
<b>OXEN (Draft):</b>		<b>OXEN:</b>	
Remaining from last year 9 oxen		2 oxen sold because they were old, oxen re-	
Bought this year                   1 ox ...	10	maining                                       ...	8
<b>CALF:</b>		<b>CALF:</b>	
1 calf received as a heriot on the death of John		Sold as above and none remains	
Stibald                               ...	1		
<b>WETHERS:</b>		<b>WETHERS:</b>	
Remaining from last year                   ...	4 score and 14	22 wethers sold before shearing because they	
Bought before shearing                   ...	2	were not healthy                       ...	22
Received as strays since August 1st after shearing	9	12 delivered to the cook against Christmas, by	
	105	tally                                   ...	12
		Dead before shearing                       ...	2
		Delivered to the cook in harvest, by tally   ...	13
		Total   ...	<u>49</u>
		And remains 56 wethers                   ...	56

Totals

## PEAS:

Peas thrashed by bondmen this year ...	8 4 0	8 4 0
--	-------	-------

## VETCHES:

Vetches received in exchange for 3 bushels of peas ... ..	3 0	3 0
---	-----	-----

## BARLEY:

Barley thrashed by bondmen ... ..	40 2 0	
Tail corn of the same ... ..	6 0	41 0 0

## DRAG (oats and barley sown together):

Drag or dredge thrashed by bondmen	48 4 0	
Tail corn of same ... ..	4 6 0	
Drag still in sheaf by estimation ...	8 5 0	
Barley for making new drag ... ..	3 0 0	
New drag ... ..	7 0 0	71 7 0

## PEAS:

Peas sown upon 10½ acres, at 3 bushels an acre ...	3 7 0
Peas given in exchange for 3 bushels of vetches	3 0
Peas mixed with the servants' rations ... ..	3 6 2
Peas given to the lord's horse at one visit, by tally	3 0
Sum total as opposite and nothing remains ...	8 3 2

## VETCHES:

Sown upon 1¼ acres and nothing remains ...	3 0
--	-----

## BARLEY:

Sown upon 28½ acres at 4 bushels an acre ...	14 2 0
Made into malt ... ..	22 4 0
Mixed with oats for making new drag ... ..	3 0 0
Mixed with the food of stotts (tail barley) ...	6 0
Sold ... ..	4 0
Sum total as opposite and nothing remains ...	41 0 0

## DRAG OR DREDGE:

Sown upon 67 acres, at 3½ bushels per acre, allowing more on the whole 3 bushels ... ..	29 4 0
Made into malt ... ..	28 2 0
For feeding swans ... ..	6 0
Mixed with provender (tail dredge) ... ..	4 6 0
Food for 8 oxen for 61 nights from the Sunday after St Luke's day (October 18) to St Thomas's day (December 21), taking each night 4 sheaves of which 10 make a bushel	3 0 0
Food for the same for 16 nights until Epiphany (January 6) ... ..	3 0
Food for the same from Epiphany to St Gregory (March 12) for 64 nights, taking each night 4 sheaves, etc. ... ..	3 1 2
Sold upon account for 9s. 8d. ... ..	2 3 2
Sum total as opposite and nothing remains ...	71 2 0

*Inventory of Stock (cont.)*

OATS:				Totals		
	qrs.	bus.	pk.	qrs.	bus.	pk.
This year's oats ... ..	24	0	3			
Tail barley as above for mixing ...		6	0			
Tail drag as above for mixing ...		4	6			
Bought ... ..	6	4	0	36	0	3

OATS:						
	qrs.	bus.	pk.	qrs.	bus.	pk.
Sown upon 14½ acres, at 3½ bushels per acre ...	5	4	0			
Made into meal for the servants' porridge ...	2	0	0			
Provender for the lord's horses when he stayed, by tally ... ..	6	5	0			
Provender for the lord's horses at one visit, by tally		4	0			
Provender for the lord's horses at 3 visits, by tally	1	2	0			
Provender for John de Meldeburne's horse when he came to hold a court, by tally ... ..		2	0			
Provender for 4 stotts from the Sunday after St Luke's day (Oct. 18) to St Thomas's day (Dec. 21) for 60 nights, taking each night half a bushel ... ..	3	6	0			
Provender for the same until Epiphany at 1 peck per night and from thence to the Invention of the Cross (May 3) for 115 nights, at 2 pecks a night ... ..	7	1	2			
Provender for 2 cart horses from St Luke's day to the Invention of the Cross (May 3) for 9 score and 15 nights, at 1 peck a night ...	6	0	3			
Delivered to the cook when the lord stayed, by tally ... ..	1	2	0			
Sum total as opposite and nothing remains ...	34	7	1			

MALT:						
	qrs.	bus.	pk.	qrs.	bus.	pk.
Tail wheat malt ... ..	2	0	0			
Meslin ... ..	18	0	0			
Barley malt ... ..	22	4	0			
Increase of same ... ..	5	2	2			
Drag ... ..	28	2	0			
Drag ... ..	1	6	0			
Increase ... ..	2	0	0			
Bought since the first of August ...	27	0	0	106	6	2

MALT:						
	qrs.	bus.	pk.	qrs.	bus.	pk.
Sent to Wymondley, by tally ... ..	67	0	0			
Brewed into beer for the use of the house, by tally	36	0	0			
Sold upon account for 28s. ... ..	3	7	0			
Sum total as opposite and nothing remains						

## MILL:

Perquisites of the mill this year, besides the corn ground for the use of the lord, viz. 33 qrs. 3 bus., for which he takes nothing	...	...	...	10 2 0
--	-----	-----	-----	--------

## LIVING (or rations of the servants):

Mixture as above of tail wheat	...	6 0 0	
Mixture as above of meslin	...	14 6 0	
Mixture as above of peas	...	3 6 2	
Mixture as above of mill corn	...	9 0 0	33 4 2

## MILL:

Allowed to the miller this year, since the proceeds were not full	...	...	...	...	1 0 0
Mixed with the servants' rations	...	...	...	...	9 0 0
Sold upon account for 2s. 8d.	...	...	...	...	2 0
Sum total as opposite and nothing remains	...	...	...	...	10 2 0

## LIVING:

For rations of 4 ploughmen, 1 carter, 2 shepherds for the whole year	...	...	...	...	30 1 2
For rations of a boy helping the shepherd at the time of lambing	...	...	...	...	2 0
For rations of one maidservant from Michaelmas to the Tuesday after St Thomas of Canter- bury, for 40½ weeks	...	...	...	...	2 4 0
For rations of one boy helping the carter in the field with the seed, he bought for him whilst sowing corn for 10 weeks, 3 bus. (crossed out)					
For the same at the time of sowing oats, barley and drag for 8 weeks and this because they had not a head reaper ( <i>messarius</i> ), as they were accustomed to have	...	...	...	...	4 0
Sold on account for 14d.	...	...	...	...	2 0
And nothing remains	...	...	...	...	33 5 2

error

EWES:

Remaining from last year ... .. 70 70

YOUNG EWES (*Gerciones*):

Added this year ... .. 16 16

HOGGETS:

Added this year ... .. 26 26

LAMBS:

Remaining from last year ... .. 52  
 This year's lambs ... .. 32  
 and no more, since 4 ewes were sterile 84

FLEECES:

This year's fleeces of wool, 6 score and 18 138

SKINS:

Skins of 2 wethers died before shearing  
 Skins of 10 ewes died before shearing  
 Skins of 10 last year's lambs

EWES:

Died before lambing and shearing ... .. 10  
 Sold before lambing and shearing ... .. 24  
 Died after lambing and shearing ... .. 3  
 Total ... .. 37

And remains 33 ewes ... .. 33

YOUNG EWES (*Gerciones*):

Remaining ... .. 16

HOGGETS:

Remaining ... .. 26

LAMBS:

Died before shearing ... .. 10  
 Tithe of this year's lambs ... .. 2  
 Sold upon account for 12s. ... .. 12  
 Added to gerciones 16, to hoggets 26 ... .. 42  
 Total ... .. 66

And remains 18 lambs ... .. 18

FLEECES:

Paid in tithe 14 fleeces  
 Sold 6 score and 4 and none remain

SKINS:

All sold as above and nothing remains

*Inventory of Stock (cont.)*

	Totals		Totals
<b>SWANS:</b>			
Remaining from last year ... ..	2		
This year's swans ... ..	7	9	
<b>GEESE:</b>			
Bought ... ..	78	78	
Delivered to cook, by tally ... ..			78
<b>CAPONS:</b>			
Received as rent ... ..	19		
Received as poll tax from villein tenants ( <i>chevage</i> ) ... ..	12		
Newly made ... ..	28		
This year's ( <i>de exeuntis</i> ) ... ..	15	74	
Used at one visit of the lord, by tally ... ..			7
Delivered to the cook at Wymondley, by tally			12
Expended in feeding the lord, by tally ... ..			50
Expended in feeding the lord, by another tally			4
Sold upon account for 3 <i>d.</i> ... ..			1
and nothing remains			74
<b>COCKS AND HENS:</b>			
Received as rent 15 cocks, 32 hens ... ..	47	47	
Spent on the lord for his breakfast ... ..			5
crossed out			
Allowance to reeve ... ..			1
Delivered to cook at Wymondley, by tally ... ..			41
Sold upon account for 10 <i>d.</i> ... ..			5
and nothing remains			
<b>CHICKENS:</b>			
Remaining from last year ... ..	6		
Bought ... ..	27		
Made into capons ... ..			28
Sold upon account, 5 for 5 <i>d.</i> ... ..			5
and nothing remains			

GOSLINGS:

Received from customary tenants at Christmas 15

DOVECOTE:

The reeve has no accounts for the dove-cote because the cook had the key

DAY WORKS BY BONDMEN IN WINTER:

Of winter works from Michaelmas to Gules of August (August 1st) four hundred and sixteen, by the lesser hundred ... .. 446  
 [There were only two seasons in the reeve's calendar, winter and harvest]

DAY WORK:

Hoeing	...	...	...	...	...	...	33
Reaping	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Haymaking	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
Carting	...	...	...	...	...	...	8

GOSLINGS:

Allowance to reeve	...	...	...	...	1
Sold upon account, 14 for 2s. 8d.	...	...	...	...	14

DOVECOTE:

nil.

WINTER WORKS:

Allowed for the tenement "Valour" which is in the hand of the lord	...	...	...	...	82
Allowed to the customary tenants for holidays, Christmas week, Easter week, Pentecost week	...	...	...	...	18
Days' works in getting logs for burning	...	...	...	...	16
Days' works in making water ditches	...	...	...	...	12
Days' works in breaking soil in seed time for barley and drag. Each man who worked for a whole day had two days' works credited to him	...	...	...	...	82
Days' works in cleansing the lord's chamber and the hall and other parts of the house against his visit	...	...	...	...	4
Days' works in spreading dung	...	...	...	...	12
Days' works in hoeing corn this year because no one hoed for reward ( <i>donis</i> )	...	...	...	...	220
Sum as opposite and nothing remains					446
Expended on hoeing the corn	...	...	...	...	33
Expended in reaping	...	...	...	...	21
Expended in making hay	...	...	...	...	23
Expended in carting	...	...	...	...	8

*Inventory of Stock (cont.)*

	Totals		Totals
<b>DAY WORKS BY BONDMEN IN HARVEST:</b>		<b>HARVEST WORKS:</b>	
Of harvest works five hundred and sixty-six works, by the lesser number ... ..	566	Allowed to the reeve for his office ... ..	25
		Allowed for the tenement "Valour" in the hand of the lord ... ..	25
		Allowed to customary tenants for certain feast. Days' happenings on days when they ought to work	21
		Days' works in harvesting, 65½ acres of wheat, 1½ acres vetches, 16 acres of meslin, 28½ acres barley, 10½ acres peas, 67 acres drag, 13½ acres oats, at 2 works per acre ...	407
		Days' works in haulming and binding 29 acres of stubble at 3 works per acre ... ..	58
		Sold upon account 30 at 2s. 6d. ... ..	30
		and none remains	566
<b>HARVEST CARTING:</b>		<b>HARVEST CARTING:</b>	
Days' works ... ..	16	Expended in harvest ... ..	15
		Sold ... ..	1
<b>AVERAGES:</b>		<b>HORSE AVERAGES:</b>	
Day's journeys done by man and his horse ...	64	Allowed to reeve ... ..	4
		Expended in carting 22 qrs. of coal from Cambridge to Meldeburn ... ..	60
<b>AVERAGES:</b>		<b>FOOT AVERAGES:</b>	
Day's journeys done by man on foot ... ..	16	Expended in carrying letters to Wymondley ...	8
		Expended in driving sheep to Wymondley ...	4
		Sold ... ..	4
		and nothing remains	
<b>PEPPER:</b>		<b>PEPPER:</b>	
Received as rent 1 lb. of pepper		Sold on account 10d. and nothing remains	

## RATIONS.

The following tabulation shows the kinds of grain used in making bread for boarded labourers for various years in the XIV century, and for several different manors. It will be noticed that there was more variation in the earlier years, and that meslin, a mixture of wheat and rye, is the most frequent corn used. At Harston, in the dear year 1316, wheat was used apparently because no meslin was produced in that year, and was difficult to buy. When wheat was dear, the quantity of barley was increased, and sometimes dredge was added. The wheat used at Shelford in 1337 is called "siftings" (*de crebratione*), and in 1348 "Pykyng Wheat." The gross amount of the rations varies with the number of regular hands.

At Shelford (Bishop of Ely) there were six boarded labourers, four ploughmen, one carter and one shepherd; these had a quarter of corn every ten weeks.

At West Wratting (John de Freville, Kt.), two ploughmen and a shepherd had a quarter of corn every ten weeks in the winter, and every twelve weeks in summer.

At Harston (Robert de Madingly, Kt.), a hedger (*tener*) and a carter had a quarter every ten weeks and a driver a quarter every twelve weeks.

At Wilburton (Bishop of Ely), four ploughmen and shepherd had a quarter every ten weeks.

There was also at Shelford a female servant called a Daya, or Deye, who had half a bushel of corn per week. She looked after the manor house and cooked the men's meals. At West Wratting, the woman housekeeper had a bushel every three weeks, except in harvest time, when she had half a bushel a week; and on all the manors there were men temporarily at the table of the lord. In the lean year 1317, some of the casual labour was dispensed with, as the rations issued were less. In 1388 at Harston, the names of the workmen are given. Roger Northarm was master ploughman, William Wymer was cowman, John Brol and William Gooding ordinary ploughmen, and Simon Wardesman and John Hadstone temporary ploughmen<sup>1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> *B.M. Addit. Charter* 18,528. These accounts contain many interesting details apart from farming items, e.g.:

*Rations.*

The figures in italics represent the average price of wheat per quarter in that year.

	<i>West Wrattling</i>						<i>Harston</i>			
	1312		1313		1314		1315		1316	
	<i>4s. 6d.</i>		<i>3s. 8d.</i>		<i>6s.</i>		<i>8s.</i>		<i>18s. 2d.</i>	
	qrs.	bus.	qrs.	bus.	qrs.	bus.	qrs.	bus.	qrs.	bus.
Wheat	4	7	4	7	5	0	2	0	13	0
Rye	11	3½	12	4½	10	4¾	—	—	—	—
Meslin	—	—	—	—	—	—	13	3	—	—
Barley	1	5	1	5	5	0	6	2	8	0
Dredge	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	2	3	0
Peas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
Beans	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	17	7½	18	0½	20	4¾	27	1	24	0

	<i>West Wrattling</i>				<i>Harston</i>			
	1316		1317		1317		1318	
	<i>16s.</i>		<i>16s.</i>		<i>5s. 8d.</i>		<i>5s. 8d.</i>	
	qrs.	bus.	qrs.	bus.	qrs.	bus.	qrs.	bus.
Wheat	—	6	—	6	1	6	10	2
Rye	8	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meslin	—	—	9	6¼	7	6	—	—
Barley	7	6	6	7½	10	2½	6	2
Dredge	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	2
Peas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Beans	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	17	7	15	19¾	19	6½	22	6

*Continued from preceding page*

1314–15 For making 8 perches of wall at the Postern gate and in Goldherne, 12*d.*

1315–16 For two locks and one key for the garden, 2*d.*

1316–17 For a hanging lock and key for the wardrobe 1*d.*, and a lock for barn door, 3½*d.* Expenses of Robert the Baker of Royston and his man for one night at my house, 6*d.*

1317–18 To the fisherman of Hauxton for keeping the swans, 5 bushels of wheat.

To Golyf, the messenger of the Lord Emery de Valence, as a gift a quarter of wheat. (Aymer de Valence, Earl of Pembroke, was returned as one of the lords of Trumpington, Great Shelford and Ickleton—1315—and was also guardian of the de Freville heir in Little Shelford.)

To ringing and celebrating for the souls of Nigel and Ralph de Hardelston, 4*d.* *In pane benedicto*, 1*d.* For making one chest for le Pollkat, 1*d.*

	<i>Little Shelford</i>									
	1323		1338		1339		1340		1346	
	qrs.	bus.	qrs.	bus.	qrs.	bus.	qrs.	bus.	qrs.	bus.
Wheat	3	2	1	5	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rye	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meslin	11	7	32	6	35	4	34	6½	34	0
Barley	14	7¾	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dredge	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Peas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Beans	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	30	¾	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

	<i>Little Shelford</i>									
	<i>Wilburton</i> 1347		1347		1348		1351		1352	
	qrs.	bus.	qrs.	bus.	qrs.	bus.	qrs.	bus.	qrs.	bus.
Wheat	13	0	4	1	1	2	—	—	—	—
Rye	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meslin	—	—	18	1½	31	5	34	3	34	0
Barley	13	0	8	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dredge	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Peas	—	4	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Beans	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	27	0	34	3½	32	7	—	—	—	—

	<i>Little Shelford</i>				<i>Wilburton</i>					
	1353		1354		1389		1394		1401	
	qrs.	bus.	qrs.	bus.	qrs.	bus.	qrs.	bus.	qrs.	bus.
Wheat	—	—	—	—	7	7	7	7	9	1½
Rye	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meslin	34	3	34	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Barley	—	—	—	—	7	7	7	7	9	1½
Dredge	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Peas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Beans	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	34	3	34	3	15	6	15	6	18	3

### YIELD OF CORN PER ACRE.

In the well-known work of Walter de Henley, a steward of an English manor in the XIII century, it is stated that the various kinds of corn should give the following yield: wheat five times, dredge six, meslin six times, rye seven times, and barley eight times the amount of seed sown. In the manor of Little Shelford, the amount of seed sown per acre was wheat, rye and meslin 3 bushels, barley 3¾ bushels, dredge and oats 4 bushels, so that the yield of wheat and barley should have been 15 bushels and 30 bushels per acre respectively.

But, as will be seen from the tabulation, the yield never came up to that, wheat varying from only 3 bushels in 1346 and 1350 to  $11\frac{3}{4}$  in 1329, and barley from  $5\frac{3}{4}$  in 1327 to 17 in 1326. Mr H. W. Saunders, whose elaborate work on monastic finance we hope to see published shortly, tells me that this low yield is not exceptional. The best farmed Cambridgeshire manor, the accounts of which have been examined, is Harston, where from 1314 to 1319 the yield per acre of wheat varied between 11 and 15 bushels and of barley between 11 and  $13\frac{1}{2}$  bushels. In Little Shelford manor the largest amount of land under corn in any year was in 1327, 268 acres, and the smallest in 1337, 206 acres. The largest yield of corn was in 1324, nearly 400 quarters, and the smallest in 1350, the year after the Black Death, 133 quarters from 222 acres.

*Yield of Corn on the Manor of Little Shelford for Various  
Years of the XIV Century, for which  
Accounts exist.*

1321-2		Area sown	Total yield		Yield per acre
			qrs.	bus.	
Wheat	...	50 acres	30	7	5 bushels
Meslin or rye		50 "	20	6	$3\frac{1}{4}$ "
Dredge	...	63 "	41	7	5 "
Barley	...	72 "	52	7	6 "
Oats	...	17 "	19	4	9 "
Peas	...	4 "	2	4	5 "
Total acreage		256 "			
1324-5		Area sown	Total yield		Yield per acre
			qrs.	bus.	
Wheat	...	Unknown as	109	7	
Meslin or rye		no account	69	5	
Dredge	...	for 1323-4	100	0	
Barley	...	exists	101	0	
Oats	...		13	5	
Peas	...		2	3	
Total yield			396	4	
1325-6		Area sown	Total yield		Yield per acre
			qrs.	bus.	
Wheat	...	70 acres	71	0	8 bushels
Meslin or rye		35 "	55	0	12 "
Dredge	...	58 "	47	0	$6\frac{1}{2}$ "
Barley	...	59 "	110	0	$14\frac{1}{4}$ "
Oats	...	14 "	13	0	$7\frac{1}{2}$ "
Peas	...	8 "		*	
Total acreage		244 "			

\* Too dry a season; but  $2\frac{1}{2}$  qrs. were "bought for fattening a boar and 8 hogs for my lord."

1326-7	Area sown	Total yield		Yield per acre
		qrs.	bus.	
Wheat ...	79 acres	76	0	7½ bushels
Meslin or rye	45 "	48	0	8½ "
Dredge ...	43 "	60	0	11 "
Barley ...	56 "	121	4	17 "
Oats ...	14 "	13	5	8 "
Total acreage		237		
1327-8				
Wheat ...	62 "	81	4	10½ "
Meslin or rye	40 "	48	0	9½ "
Dredge ...	60 "	38	0	5 "
Barley ...	93 "	69	0	5¾ "
Oats ...	13 "	12	0	7 "
Total acreage		268		
1328-9				
Wheat ...	56 "	56	0	8 "
Meslin or rye	37 "	46	0	9¾ "
Dredge ...	38 "	55	0	11 "
Barley ...	69 "	86	0	9½ "
Oats ...	12 "	13	0	8¾ "
Peas ...	—	2	0	—
Total acreage		212		
1329-30				
Wheat ...	62½ "	91	0	11¾ "
Meslin or rye	39 "	43	0	8 "
Dredge ...	41 "	57	0	11 "
Barley ...	54 "	90	0	11½ "
Oats ...	12 "	13	0	8¾ "
Peas ...	2½ "	4	4	14 "
Total acreage		211		
1330-1				
Wheat ...	57 "	66	0	9¼ "
Meslin or rye	40 "	46	0	9 "
Dredge ...	52 "	58	4	9 "
Barley ...	73 "	93	0	10 "
Oats ...	7 "	13	4	15 "
Peas ...	5 "	4	4	7 "
Total acreage		234		
1331-2				
Wheat ...	54 "	49	0	7 "
Meslin or rye	37 "	43	0	9 "
Dredge ...	43 "	51	0	9½ "
Barley ...	63 "	81	0	11½ "
Oats ...	11 "	11	0	8 "
Peas ...	4 "	5	4	11 "
Total acreage		212		

	Area sown	Total yield		Yield per acre	
		qrs.	bus.		
1340-1					
Wheat ...	60 acres	62	4	8	bushels
Meslin or rye	31 "	37	7	9 $\frac{3}{4}$	"
Dredge ...	36 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	55	4	12	"
Barley ...	68 $\frac{3}{4}$ "	92	3	10 $\frac{3}{4}$	"
Oats ...	8 "	7	0	7	"
Peas ...	7 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	10	1	12 $\frac{1}{2}$	"
Total acreage	211 $\frac{3}{4}$ "				
1341-2					
Wheat ...	65 "	68	4	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	"
Meslin or rye	42 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	44	0	8	"
Dredge ...	48 "	44	1	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	"
Barley ...	57 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	101	3	14	"
Oats ...	11 "	4	7	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	"
Peas ...	5 "	9	5	15	"
Total acreage	229 "				
1345-6					
Wheat ...	63 "	47	5	6	"
Meslin or rye	35 "	27	0	6	"
Dredge ...	47 "	47	0	8	"
Barley ...	78 "	85	2	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	"
Oats ...	4 "	Used as fodder			
Peas ...	4 "	6	0	12	"
Total acreage	231 "				
1346-7					
Wheat ...	99 "	38	2	3	"
Meslin or rye	33 "	25	4	6	"
Dredge ...	31 "	31	2	8	"
Barley ...	91 "	107	6	9	"
Oats ...	8 "	9	0	9	"
Peas ...	4 "	5	2	10	"
Total acreage	266 "				
1350-1					
Wheat ...	56 "	22	0	3	"
Meslin or rye	50 "	36	0	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	"
Dredge ...	32 "	31	0	7	"
Barley ...	76 "	42	0	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	"
Oats ...	8 "	2	4	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	"
Total acreage	222 "				
1351-2					
Wheat ...	53 "	69	0	10	"
Meslin or rye	43 "	52	0	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	"
Dredge ...	28 "	17	0	4 $\frac{3}{4}$	"
Barley ...	96 "	60	0	5	"
Oats ...	6 "	Used as fodder			
Total acreage	226 "				
1353-4					
Wheat ...	45 "	34	0	6	"
Meslin or rye	35 "	60	0	13 $\frac{1}{2}$	"
Dredge ...	33 "	32	0	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	"
Barley ...	79 "	64	0	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	"
Oats ...	9 "	Used as fodder			
Total acreage	201 "				

## APPENDIX.

## ANNALS OF LORDSHIP FARM, MELBOURN.

1042-65.

In the reign of Edward the Confessor the Lordship Farm was held by a king's thane named Edric the Plain (*Edricus purus*). (In the same village *Eddeva pulcra*, Edith the Fair, held land.) He had about 600 acres of land.

1086.

By this time the farm had been taken from the Saxon thane and given to a Norman named Guy de Reinbudcourt, ancestor of the Lords Latymer of Rockingham Castle. He had also seized lands in Melbourn and Meldreth belonging to the Abbot of Ely. His holding as described in Domesday Book included the manors of Trayley in Melbourn and Veysey in Meldreth. He held 1920 acres, of which 600 were farmed by his bailiff and the rest let to tenants, viz. 6 farmers and 36 smallholders. There were two watermills on the estate and another was shared equally with the Abbot of Ely. Enough meadow land was enclosed to pasture 88 draft oxen or 11 teams; there was a flock of 350 sheep and a herd of 62 swine. This estate had been worth £18 a year in King Edward's time, but the value had sunk to £9. 10s. when it was given to Guy, but by 1086 the value had risen again to £14. From these figures we may surmise that much misery was endured in the villages during the pacification of the country by the Conqueror. Even in 1086 as much as 240 acres of the lord's own land was uncultivated. There was one slave on this estate.

1135.

Maud, widow of Reginald de Argentine, gave a fine to the king in order to be allowed to marry again. Dugdale, *Baronage*, quoting the Suffolk Pipe Roll.

1166.

John de Argentine holds one knight's fee of Robert Foliot of old feoffment. *Red Book of the Exchequer*, I, p. 331.

This was in Melbourn. "Old feoffment" means that he or his ancestor held it in 1135.

1195

Richard the First granted to Reginald de Argentine the land of Guy son of Teck his ancestor (*avi sui*). Davey MSS., B.M. Addit. MS. 19,115.

In 1202 Reginald de A. had a plea with the Prior of St Neot's concerning the advowson of Chederton, Beds, of which Ticia his grandmother (*avia*) was seised. From Ticia it descended to Guy and from him to Guy father of Reginald. *Rot. Cur. Regis*, Vol. II, p. 135.

1203.

Isabel de Argentine gave up to Richard de A. all the rights which she had in Melred (and Melbourn) and Wymondley as dowry from Reginald her husband, and received a free tenement at W. to live in, in exchange. *Feet of Fines* (divers counties), 5 John.

1204.

Richard de Argentine seeks against Robert de Bray his daughter Margaret whom he unjustly detains from him. Robert says that he has Margaret in his custody because she is his heir and he has no other. Moreover he says that Richard's daughter was born in his chamber (*thalamo suo*) and that he has kept her hitherto. *Abbreviatio placitorum*, p. 45.

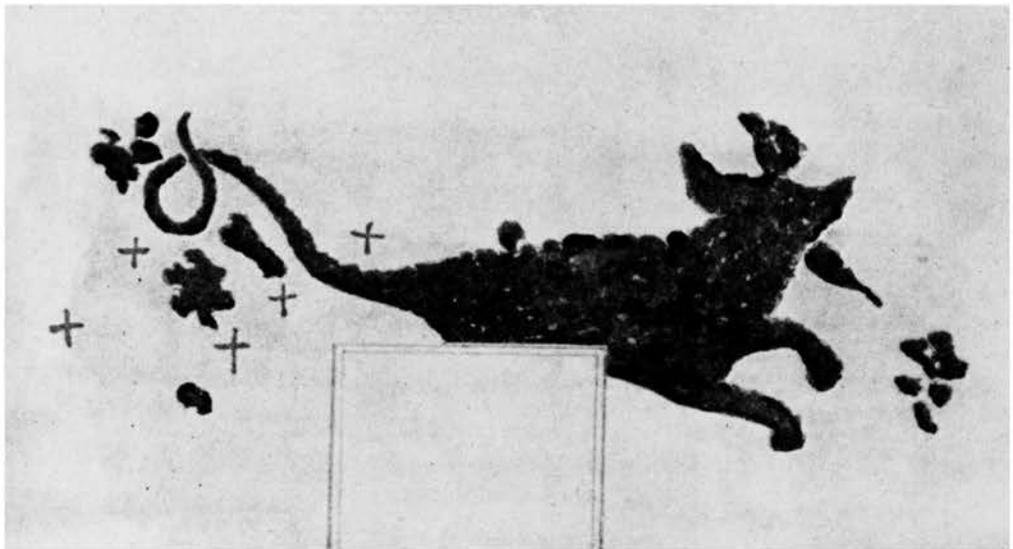
1210.

Richard de Argentine held one knight's fee in Melbourn. *Red Book of the Exchequer*, II, p. 514.

1229.

The Pope Gregory IX, by a letter dated at the Lateran palace in Rome, 8 March 1227 (that is, within a few days of his election to the papal chair), gave permission for Richard de Argentine to build a chapel in his manor of Meldeburn and to keep a chaplain there. The following rules for the same were drawn up by the Bishop of Ely and dated

BARTLOW CHURCH, CAMBS



Mural painting on north wall (sketch and photograph, 1925)

BARTLOW CHURCH, CAMBS

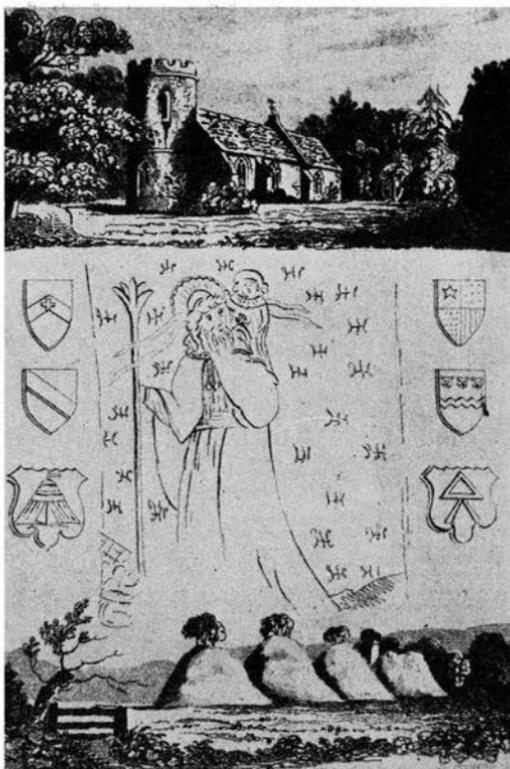


Plate in *The Gentleman's Magazine*, 1822, and sketch of the mural painting of St Christopher, 1921

7 March 1229. The chapel had perhaps taken nearly two years to build.

1. The chapel was for the use of himself, his family and guests.
2. The knight was to attend the mother church with his family on all the great feast days.
3. All churchings and weddings were to be in the mother church.
4. No Mass or Canonical Hours were to be said when the knight was away.
5. The chaplain to owe obedience to the Rector of Melbourn.
6. The chaplain to hand over all offerings except service books, vestments, and ornaments to the mother church.
7. The chaplain to hear no confessions except in case of dire necessity.
8. The chaplain to accept no week's-, month's- or year's-days.
9. The Rector of Melbourn to have power to suspend the chaplain if he disobeyed, and also to relax any of the above rules.
10. The knight to give to the church  $2\frac{1}{2}$  acres of his demesne land near the house of Alexander son of Brice.

Bishop's Muniment Room Ely, MS. M.

1257.

Margery de Argentine (qy if she was the widow of Richard de A. who died in 1246?), wife of Roger de Cantelow of Chesterton, Hunts, on her husband's fulfilling a vow of pilgrimage, grants her land and messuage in Melbourn, with wardship of any heirs begotten or to be begotten, to Adam de Chesterton clerk, from Whitsunday 1257, until the heirs are of age. *Cal. Pat. Roll.*

1265.

Giles de Argentine was an adherent of Simon de Montfort, and immediately after the battle of Evesham, Warin de Bassingbourn, a king's man, seized the Lordship Farm,

Melbourn, and took the rents at Michaelmas next, 20s., by the hand of Nicholas the Bachelor. Afterwards the king gave that land to Roger de Mortimer, and Giles de Argentine paid him a fine to redeem it. *Assize Roll* 83, m. 33.

## 1282.

Sir Giles de Argentine died, leaving Reginald his son and heir aged 40. In order to assess his "relief," an enquiry was made as to his possessions in Melbourn by the king's escheator on the evidence of the following inhabitants: John de Foxton, Wm de Wendeye, Ralph de Wendeye, William the White, Adam de Wangford, Carlos Wardeben, Robert Morice, Wm son of Henry, Henry son of Robert the Acatur (or Atacur) and Robert Prat. They stated that he held nothing direct from the king, but he held the manor of Meldeburne of Gerard de Fornival (heir of Reinbudcourt) for the service of  $1\frac{3}{4}$  knights' fees and a rent of 5s. (the latter was ward money for Rockingham Castle). The manor consisted of a capital messuage worth half a mark a year; 8 score acres of arable land worth 4*d.* an acre, one acre of meadow worth 2s., 2 acres of pasture worth 2s., a windmill worth half a mark a year, rents £4 a year, view of Frankpledge half a mark a year, works of customary tenants if sold worth 20s. Total value £9. 4s. *Inq. P.M.* 11 Edw. I, no. 19.

## 1299.

In this year all the franchises of lords of manors were investigated by the King's Court. Richard de Argentine stated that himself and his ancestors had had in Melbourn beyond the memory of man, view of Frankpledge and supervision of brewing beer and baking bread, and all fines connected therewith, and his claim was allowed. *Placita de quo warranto.*

## 1302.

Agreement between Reginald de A. and Roger Bryan that John son of Reginald shall marry Joan daughter of Roger, he settling on them the manors of Fordham, Hattele and Throcking. "Lord Montford's papers," Cole, *Addit. MS.* 5809, p. 2.

1307.

Reginald de Argentine died, leaving John son and heir aged over 30. The inquisition was taken on 10 March 1307, on the evidence of Geoffrey de Kneesworth, Hamon de Ware, Thomas Paynell, Hugh Attechurch, Thomas Lamb, Wm de L..., John and Wm de Foxton, John Sa..., John and Le Rous. They stated that he held Meldeburne manor of the Lord Wm le Latymer for service of two knights' fees. That the manor consisted of a capital messuage, with curtilage, gardens and dovecote, worth 3s. 4d. a year beyond expenses; that there was in the said manor 100 acres of lucrative land, by the lesser hundred, worth at 4d. an acre 33s. 4d., 3 acres of several meadow worth 18d. a year; a windmill worth yearly beyond expenses 6s. 4d.; that there were 10 free tenants, who paid at Easter, St John the Baptist, Michaelmas and Christmas £4 in equal portions; 14 customary tenants (or *nativi*), each of whom held 15 acres of land, 4 cottagers each of whom held a cottage and 2 acres, and who do no boon works between Michaelmas and 1 August, but who do 144 works between 1 August and Michaelmas, worth 30s. at 2½d. a work; view of Frankpledge worth 6s. 4d. *Inq. P.M.* 1 Ed. II, no. 41.

He was a knight of St Mary the Virgin, and was buried in Baldock Church, Herts, in a chapel built by himself. Weaver, *Funeral monuments*.

1318.

John de Argentine died, leaving John son and heir aged 6. Inquisition taken at Meldeburne on Monday after the feast of St Catharine the Virgin (25 November) 1318, on the evidence of Humphrey att Ree, Roger de Clopton, Wm Marionn, Robert de Patteworth, John atte Strate, John de Wangworth, Wm son of Gilberts, Thomas atte Halle, John the Clerk, William the Lord, John Paynol and John the Monk, who said that John de Argentine deceased held the manor of Meldeburne in demesne of the heirs of Wm le Latymer, for 5s. a year and scutage when it cometh; there was a capital messuage with dovecote worth 6s. 8d. a year; there were 4 score acres of arable land worth 6d. an acre and

6 score acres worth 4*d.* an acre, total £4; 1½ acres of meadow worth 3*s.*, a windmill worth 13*s.* 4*d.*; rents of free and customary tenants £10. 3*s.* 6*d.*; view of Frankpledge 10*s.* Rent paid out 5*s.* (Rockingham Castle ward money). Clear annual value £15. 11*s.* 6*d.* *Inq. P.M.* 12 Ed. II, no. 43.

## 1321.

Agnes widow of John de Argentine appealed William Marionn of Meldeburne of entering her manor there by force, and stealing goods to value of £40 and doing other enormities; also for not rendering an account of moneys taken when he was her receiver. The sheriff was ordered to arrest him and distrain his goods. *De Banco Roll*, Trinity and Mich., 15 & 16 Edw. II.

## 1327.

By this time Lady Agnes had married Sir John de Nereforth, as he is taxed in Melbourn in the subsidy of that year. He died in 1329.

## 1331.

The Lady Agnes Archenton was presented at the Court Leet of the honour of Clare in Meldreth for unjustly impounding beasts from the common belonging to John Rodland and of unjustly distraining Martin Passessone, Peter Knight and Margaret Passon of certain cows. *P.R.O. Court Roll*, 155/64.

Lady Agnes was now married to Sir John de Maltravers, who was in rebellion against the king. Her property was seized with her husband's, but at the queen's request the manor of Melbourn, with the corn on it, was returned to her on payment of £40. *Patent and Originalia Rolls*.

## 1347.

Twenty-two stone of wool were demanded of Lady Agnes for the manor of Melbourn for carrying on the French war. *Lay Subsidy*, 242/8.

## 1375.

Agnes wife of John de Maltravers senior, who died 1364, and formerly wife of John de Argentine died, leaving John

son and heir aged 50 and more. Inquisition taken at Cambridge. She held the manor of Melbourn of heirs of Wm le Latymer for knight service and 5s. rent. There was a house and buildings worth nothing beyond expenses.

A dovecote worth 6s. 8d. a year; garden, 4s.; rents, £10. 10s.; windmill, 6s. 8d.; 140 acres of land, £3. 10s.; 40 acres heath worth nothing; 3 acres of meadow in Meldreth, 6s.; view of Frankpledge, 40d. *Inq. post mortem*, 49 Edward III, File 250.

In her will she makes no reference to Melbourn, but directs that she was to be buried at Lycet Maltravers (the chief seat of her late husband) if she died in Dorset or Wilts, or at Wymondley priory if she died in Cambs or Herts. Nicholas, *Vetusta Testamenta*, p. 92.

## 1382.

John de Argentine died on Tuesday after the feast of St Catharine, leaving three daughters but only one illegitimate son.

Inquisition held at Cambridge. He held for the term of his life the manor of Meldeburne with appurtenances in Meldeburne and Meldreth of Lord Latymer as of the honour of Rockingham for the service of one quarter of a knight's fee, paying annually 5s., in which manor are certain buildings which are worth nothing a year as they are all ruined; there is also a dovecote worth beyond expenses 40d., a windmill worth nothing because it is old and ruined; 2 acres of pasture worth per annum 2s.; the herbage of certain garden there is worth 12d. a year; 200 acres of land worth 4d. an acre and no more, since half of it lies fallow and in common each year; the rents of free and customary tenants £5 a year; 20 boon works summer and winter worth 10d. View of Frankpledge worth 40d. The reversion of the manor belongs to Wm de Argentine and Isabel and their heirs.

In 1381 Sir John obtained licence from the king to alter the entail, or his three daughters would have inherited.

He made his will at Halesworth, Suffolk, 1 August 1382, and it was proved on 7 March next. It contains no reference to Melbourn. *Inq. P.M.* 7 Rich. II, no. 4.

## 1382.

Meldeburne. An inquest held there on Saturday after the feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary 1382 before Adam Hobeldod of Tadlow, coroner, concerning the death of Elena the wife of Hamo Priour by the four neighbouring villages of Whaddon, Meldreth, Kneesworth and Royston together with Melbourn, and by twelve jurymen namely Robert le Wyte, Thomas Pekham, Robert Hornby, John Redland, Hugh Hoker, Hugh Marten, John Smith of the East End, John Smith of the West End, Thomas Russell, John Baker, William Ferrour and John Payn, who say on their oath that it happened on the Wednesday preceding that Elena Priour came from a tavern in the village of Meldeburne in the dusk to the manor of William de Argentine, and as she came near the pond called "the Moot" near the great bridge of the manor, she accidentally fell into pond and was drowned, so that she died, and no one was guilty thereof. She did not have ecclesiastical rights. And they say that John Cawe first found her and he is not suspected. Her nearest neighbours were William atte Gode, Alan Rolf, John Cawe, Roger Cobold. (Hugh and Thomas Nokky also mentioned.) *Coroner's Roll*, 24.

## 1386.

An entry on the Close Roll of this date concerning land in Little Chishill gives the following pedigree. In the time of King Henry the third, Giles de Argentine was seised of these lands and had four sons, Reynold, Richard, William and Giles. He gave these lands to Richard, with remainder to son Giles, and remainder to father Giles and his heirs. Richard and Giles were seised and died without heirs, whereupon John son and heir of Reynold son and heir of Giles inherited and died seised and his son John inherited.

## 1399.

Sir Wm de Argentine, relation of Reginald de Argentine, obtained a royal confirmation of his lands, with all the privileges granted to his ancestor by King Henry III.

He was in the retinue of the Earl of Suffolk at the battle of Agincourt. *Patent Roll*.

1417-59.

In 1417 Sir Wm de Argentine died and was succeeded by his grandson Sir John, who died without heir in 1423, and his sister Elizabeth who had married Sir Wm Alington of Horseheath succeeded to the property. In 1459 died Sir Wm Alington. The inquisition taken at Cambridge states that the manor of Meldeburne was worth nothing beyond expenses; there were 298 acres 3 roods of land worth 4*d.* an acre; 3 acres 1½ roods of meadow worth 12*d.* an acre. Rents £5. 11*s.* 9¾*d.* Paid out 5*s.* to Rockingham Castle. *Inq. P.M.* 39 Hen. VI, no. 42.

1573.

At this date the manor place of Argentines in Melbourn with all the demesne lands (that is the Lordship Farm) were let to Flower Leete, widow, for 21 years, at a rent of £6. 1*s.* 1½*d.* for the first four years, and of £10 afterwards.

1593.

The manor house, the demesne lands, and a sheepwalk for three hundred, were let to John Harvey, yeoman of Coton, for £23 a year. He lived in the manor house for many years. He was once bailiff of the manor and used his knowledge so obtained to get an unjust lease—that is what Mrs. Margaret Elrington alleged. She was the widow of Sir Giles Alington and had married again, the manor of Melbourn forming part of her dower. She said that Harvey had taken advantage of her ignorance to include more in the lease than she intended to be in it. She had hitherto thought him of honest and good report, but finds that he is a man of irreligious behaviour, and of bad conscience and conversation. *Chancery Proceedings*, Elizabeth, Ee. 43.

## A RECENTLY DISCOVERED MURAL PAINTING IN BARTLOW CHURCH, CAMBS.

By H. H. BRINDLEY, M.A., F.S.A.

(Read 2 November, 1925.)

The parish church of St Mary, Bartlow, is noteworthy by reason of its round Early Decorated tower and the remains of a painting of St Christopher on the south wall. The latter has now a companion in a fragmentary picture which was discovered by the present Rector, the Rev. G. C. Carter, M.A., in 1923, in the course of replastering the north wall, which involved removing the old coat. I am indebted to the Rector for much kind assistance on my visits to examine the fragment. Its appearance is shown by the illustrations: the upper one is a sketch made in September, 1925, by my daughter, Mrs Copland Vines, as the small amount of light in the church renders a photograph unsatisfactory. It is unlikely that more of the composition will be revealed, as careful scraping round the margins brings to light nothing but the bare wall. The colour is the red ochre so commonly employed for mural paintings during the XIV and XV centuries. The monster depicted is 11 feet long, including his tail, and 5 feet 6 inches from tip of ear to right paw, 2 feet 4 inches from shoulder to paw. There is not much doubt that what we see is the Dragon in the conventional picture of St George rescuing the Princess Cleodilina, in which the monster is usually depicted turning his head in rage towards the saint as the latter transfixes it. It is not difficult to see at least a vague suggestion of a horse's hoofs in the patches of colour nearest the head. St George was a very favourite subject for English mural paintings in the Middle Ages, the number of examples known being exceeded only by those of St Christopher. In Keyser's *List of Buildings in Great Britain and Ireland having Mural and other Painted Decorations of dates prior to the latter part of the sixteenth century*, published in 1883, St Christopher comes first with 185 paintings, followed by St George, 72, St Katherine, 60,

and St Michael, 56. The number of paintings of St Christopher known as vanished or surviving has increased to 237 since the *List* was published, and the examples of St George have also received additions (*The Antiquaries Journal*, Vol. IV, July 1924, p. 228). The two saints are not infrequently companions in mural paintings in churches.

The lobular patches near either end of the monster are puzzling: close examination suggests that it is not unlikely that they are the remains of vegetation shown conventionally. Of more interest are the plain Roman crosses in the field. They are painted on the same layer of plaster as the monster, but their form and their being in black render it likely that they are an addition. Probably the whole picture was once *semé* of crosses, which have a parallel in the *fleurs-de-lys* of XV century form in the St Christopher painting.

The present condition of the St Christopher painting I have described in *The Antiquaries Journal*, *loc. cit.* p. 236, with a sketch made in 1921, which is here reproduced together with a drawing, somewhat inaccurate in respect of details, published in *The Gentleman's Magazine*, Vol. 92, October 1822, p. 305. The latter shows that in the course of a century more than half of the picture, stated in 1822 to be about 15 feet high, has vanished under operations of which no records appear to survive. There has been retouching at some time or other, so we cannot be certain that we now see the original colouring. The turban or turban-like cap on the saint's head occurs in about 18 other pictures of St Christopher, and is probably a reference to his legendary Eastern origin, but the Bartlow painting alone possesses the long streamers attached to the turban. The *fleurs-de-lys semé* on the red ground appear to be on the same layer of plaster as the figures, though their arrangement somewhat suggests that the latter are super-imposed. The north wall is the usual position for paintings of St Christopher, very commonly they are opposite the south or principal entrance, so that the saint might be seen at once by those entering, with the benefit expressed in

Christophori sancti speciem quicumque tuetur  
Isto nempe die non morte male morietur,

which couplet or one in similar words was often inscribed above or below the picture. Among English examples whose position is known, 131 paintings of St Christopher are on the north wall, 33 on the south wall, and 18 in other places.

It will be noticed that the artist of *The Gentleman's Magazine* plate gave rein to his imagination in depicting the "Bartlow Hills." The dark building to the right of the church is the rectory, as at the present day. The carved shields in the church are attributed to the Vere and Pultney families.

WINDOWS INSERTED IN THE TOWER OF  
ST BENET'S CHURCH, CAMBRIDGE, IN 1586.

By L. COBBETT, M.D., F.R.C.S.

(Read 2 November, 1925.)

The tower of St Benet's Church differs from any other Saxon tower, so far as I am aware, in possessing lateral windows in its belfry stage; and the purpose of this communication is to show that these windows are not part of the original Saxon work, but were pierced through the walls after the Reformation.

This proposition may appear self-evident in face of the fact that one of the windows bears a very obvious date in the reign of Queen Elizabeth. But, peculiar though the windows undoubtedly are, it seems that no one has suspected that the date referred to anything more than some repairs done at the time, and I believe that the Saxon origin of the windows themselves has never been questioned. Atkinson and Clark<sup>1</sup> betray no suspicion, and Willis and Clark<sup>2</sup>, though they mention the date, do not imply that it refers to the construction of the windows, and add that this stage of the tower "has not been much meddled with." This is repeated by J. W. Clark<sup>3</sup>, who quotes a description of the tower by the Rev. D. J. Stewart which contains the statement about non-interference.

The openings in the uppermost stage of the tower are described by Atkinson and Clark as follows: "The belfry windows are of two sorts; the central window on each face is of two lights, divided by a mid-wall baluster shaft supporting a through stone of the usual character. On each side of this window there is a plain lancet at a somewhat higher level and with rubble jambs. Above these latter are small round holes—they can hardly be called windows."

<sup>1</sup> Atkinson and Clark, *Cambridge Described and Illustrated*, p. 132.

<sup>2</sup> Willis and Clark, *Archit. Hist. of the Univ. of Cambridge*, vol. I, p. 274.

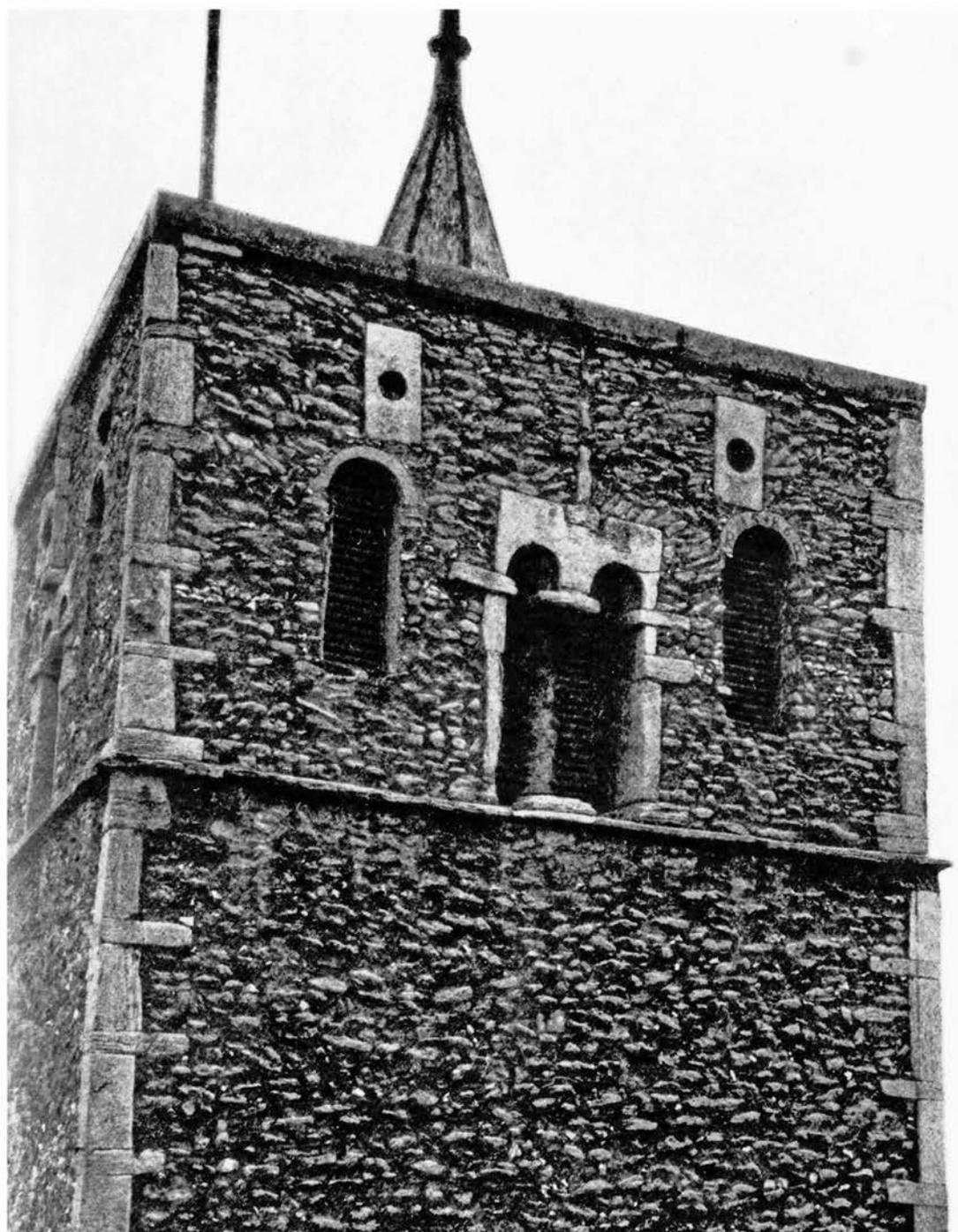
<sup>3</sup> J. W. Clark, *Historical and Picturesque Notes*, p. 31.

The windows which I believe to be of post-Reformation date are the so-called lancets. They have, however, round heads, and are not particularly narrow. They are very slightly splayed internally; their jambs and sills are composed of the ordinary rubble of the tower wall; and so too are their heads, except for a semi-circular head-stone of ashlar which is so shallow that it penetrates only a short distance into the wall. One of these heads is missing; the remainder are semi-circular both in their upper and lower margins, and the latter are interrupted in the middle by small pendent bosses, only three of which now remain. It is worth noting that these are ornamented with incised circles picked out with some black substance—probably pitch—which is used also to pick out the date.

The date itself is to be seen on the head of the right-hand window in the western face of the tower. It is 15 ✠ 86—the central figures being separated by a small cross—and the letters R and P are incised on the lower corners of the stone (Fig. 1).

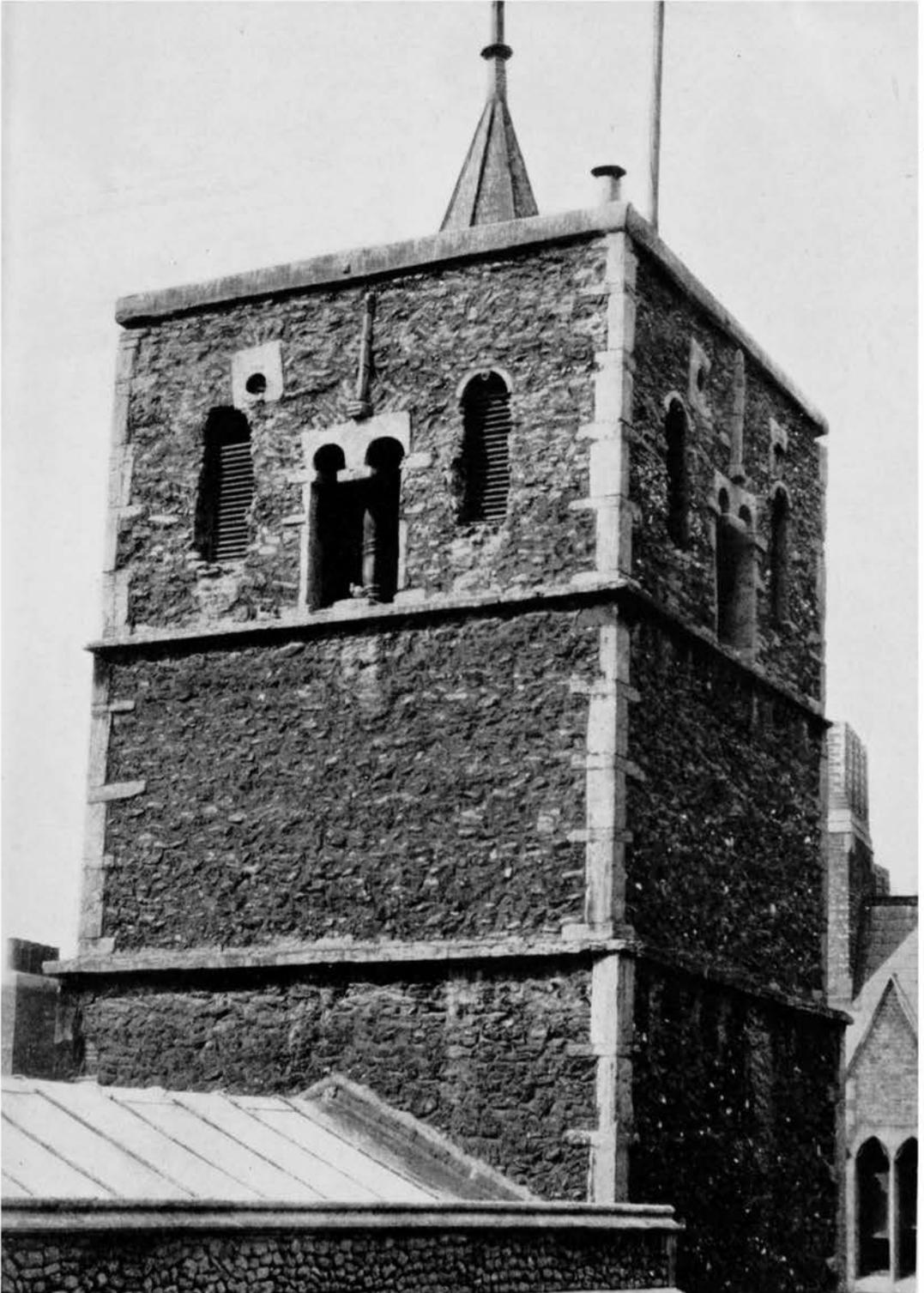
All this is well known, but probably few are aware that on the corresponding head of the fellow window the date is repeated, but without the cross between the 5 and the 8, and with the letters T and E at the lower corners. All the black has dropped out on this side, and scarcely anything is visible without a good glass.

This date I, for one, never took seriously, but thought it referred to some minor repairs done at the time, and this view seemed to be supported by the appearance of the stone on which the dates are inscribed; for, being much smoother than the Barnack of which the rest of the ashlar work of the tower is composed, it seemed to me to be covered over with cement. But in this I was mistaken; closer inspection showing that the window heads are composed entirely of stone, not Barnack indeed, but some smooth-grained oölite not unlike Ketton. Mr King, of the Sedgwick Museum of Geology, has kindly examined it for me and has reported that it resembles the stone used in the later (upper and western) part of King's College Chapel, which came from Weldon.



No. 1. St Benet's Tower. West face. Showing the date 1586 and initials R and P on the head of the right-hand window. On the left-hand window traces of a similar date and the letters T and E may be made out with a field glass.





No. 2. St Benet's Tower. East face. Only one round opening is visible on this side. One of the circular window-heads of Weldon stone has disappeared, but the other shows the little central pendant once present on all of them.



My suspicions concerning the windows were first aroused some years ago when, visiting the belfry, I examined the inner faces of the walls. I then noticed that while the double central openings were roughly bridged with rubble voussoirs forming rude arches, and even the inner faces of the round opening, which have a wide internal splay, were strengthened in this manner, the heads of the lateral windows were unprovided with arching of any kind, but appeared as though merely cut through the existing wall, the damage done to the edges of the openings during their formation being repaired with rubble.

This view was confirmed by the round openings. Of these there are but seven remaining, one of the pair on the eastern face of the tower having been blocked up (Fig. 2). The reason for this is evident on examination from the interior. The inner part of the opening is still there, but it comes into conflict with the lateral window next to it, as the accompanying photograph shows (Fig. 3). The fact is that these openings are irregularly spaced and of very varied width internally. This one happens to be a particularly wide one, and, being too close to the lateral window about to be cut, had to be blocked up.

Why were these windows pierced in the tower in the XVI century? The answer is that they were made to let out the sound of new bells which were about to be hung. The oldest bell now existing is dated 1588, two years after the windows. Others followed. Raven<sup>1</sup> thinks that the old bells, which in the reign of Edward I used to call undergraduates to important lectures and functions, disappeared at the Reformation, probably in the reign of Edward VI. They certainly began to be replaced in Elizabeth's reign.

The evidence that these lateral windows are post-Reformation in date may be summed up as follows:

(1) They are not arched internally as those of the other openings are, and their jambs and sills are composed of rubble.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. J. J. Raven, "The Church Bells of Cambridgeshire," *Camb. Antiq. Soc.* 1882, 8vo. publication, xviii-xix.

(2) Their ashlar heads are composed of a different stone from that used in the rest of the tower.

(3) They bear a date, namely 1586.

I have not been able to find out to whom the initials on the window-heads refer.

One word more: the baluster shafts of the double openings are, in St Benet's at least, not truly mid-wall shafts, but are placed (nearly all of them, for they are very irregular in this respect) nearer the inner face of the wall than the outer. It seems probable therefore that the Saxon builders did not put them approximately in the middle plane of the wall for structural reasons only, but, partly at least, because they liked the effect of the shadow cast by such deep recessing.

The tower is built in three stages and is deeply set back at each of its string courses. The result of this recessing is that the thickness of the wall, which is a little more than 3 feet at the first stage, is reduced to about 2 feet at the stage of the belfry.



No. 3. Interior of St Benet's Tower. East face. On the left the head of the lateral window is seen encroaching on the widely splayed round opening above it. The latter has consequently been blocked up. Note the presence of arches over the inner ends of the round openings and over the double opening in the centre, and their absence over the lateral windows.



## A CAMBRIDGE BELL-FOUNDRY.

By THE REV. CANON STOKES, LL.D., Litt.D., F.S.A.

Hon. Fellow of Corpus Christi College.

(Read 8 February, 1926.)

This paper deals with the entrance yard to the New University Lecture Room in Bene't Street.

Nos. 12 and 13 Bene't Street are separated from the Church of St Benedict by Free School Lane. These two houses (now occupied by a coffee house called the Friar House and the bookshop of Messrs Tomlin) have lately been bought by Mr Charles Armstrong, of the Grove, Huntingdon Road. That gentleman was good enough a while back to come over to my rectory with a large number of documents and deeds, relating to the property and going back to the time of Queen Elizabeth.

These houses stand at the N.W. corner of what was formerly the monastery of the Augustinian Friars; though it is not certain that they were actually within the bounds of the convent. Yet at the Dissolution they seem to have passed with the rest of the property to William Keinsham; as recorded in a paper read before this Society (in conjunction with Dr Cranage). They are, however, said in the first of our deeds to have been "parcell of the said Friars."

Keinsham sold the estate to John Hatcher, M.A., M.D., sometime Regius Professor of Physic in the University. "By his will, in default of issue male of his grandsons and nephews, he devised the site and circuit of the late Austin Friars to the Chancellor, Masters and Scholars of this University, to be employed as a Hall for Students, and to be called Hatcher's Hall." This is one of "the might-have-beens" of Cambridge; for his descendants survived to inherit and transmit the property; his grandson, Sir John Hatcher, succeeding him. This gentleman, in 1612, sold the estate to William Beck, of Caius, who married the sister of Stephen Perse, the well-

known Cambridge benefactor. Mr Beck died in 1614, and Dr Perse, who had acquired the property, only survived his brother-in-law one year. By his will he left much of the estate to his sister, Mrs Catherine Beck.

We must limit ourselves at present to Nos. 12 and 13 Bene't Street.

The first of our deeds (dated 1612), relating to the former of these houses, describes it as "all that messuage...parcell of the said Augustine Friers...betweene the Lane comonlie called Lothburgh Lane on the one side and the tenement and yard parcell of the said Friers in the occupation of William Ashby tailor on the other side, one hed thereof abutteth on a tenement late in the occupation of John Trene carpenter towards the south and the other hed abutteth on the streete towards the north."

We must not follow in detail the descent of this house. But it may be stated that in 1652, it passed to John Welborne, a relation of Alderman Samuel Newton, whose diary our Society has published. It went afterwards to the Pettits mentioned in the same volume. Dr (afterwards Sir) John Ellis had a mortgage on it in 1696. In the last century Gilbert Ives, whose picture hangs in St Bene't's vestry, was the owner.

Turning to No. 13, we have in 1612 an indenture of sale, whereby William Beck, of the Middle Temple, London, Esquire, sells to Robert Pillay, of Cambridge, yeoman, for £35 "all that messuage or tenement with a yard thereunto adioyning now in the occupation of William Ashby tailor; being parte parcell or member of the scite or circuite of the late Augustine Friers; situate in the parish of St Edwardes in Cambridge aforesaid, between the tenemente and ground of Andrew Johnson, Cooke, on the one parte, and a piece of ground called the bell-yard, heretofore used by the bell founders on the other side; one hedd thereof abbuttes on the streete; and the other hedd abbuttes on the ground of Perseuall Aunger musician."

Four years later, the eastern abuttal is said to be "a piece of ground of Jeremy Davers gent. called the Bell yard or used heretofore for a Bell yard."

In 1635 the ground just mentioned was in the occupation of Ann Knights, a daughter of the well-known Thomas Hobson.

In 1648, the house had passed to the Pikes, a family often mentioned in Newton's Diary. Later on it was occupied by Christopher Green, a carrier.

It had been previously known as "The Three Tuns," in 1659; while a century later it was called "The Admiral Vernon," at least during the popularity of that naval officer.

To complete the succession, for several generations and down till quite lately, it was used as a place of business by various butchers—the last being those named Robinson.

It may be added that it was rebuilt towards the end of the last century.

It is now occupied by Mr Tomlin, the bookseller.

[Attention may be drawn to the curious outbuildings, and to the still more curious structure next to and back of, those still forming No. 2 Free School Lane.]

Before we pass to the consideration of the garden, above called the Bell Founder's Yard, we may turn to the two or three houses to the east—now Nos. 14, 15 and 16.

These have been for many years the property of the Mortlock family. The deeds relating to them are in the hands of Barclays Bank; and by the courtesy of Mr E. H. Parker, the present writer has been allowed to inspect them.

Again, with regard to No. 14, the first deed is from William Beck, Esquire, of The Middle Temple, and is dated 1610, and two years later he grants the house to Henry Goudge. It was called "the Cock" or "the Fessant Cock," and is described as "lieing and being in Cambridge aforesaid betwene a pece of ground called 'ye bell yard' on thone side, and a garden late in the occupation of John Baxter one of the esquire bedles of the University of Cambridge."

Passing to the year 1662, the house is still called "the ffeazant Cock," and is still connected with the Goudge family. It is described as "next the garden belonging to the Chancellor and Fellows of the University of Cambridge, now in the occupation of Mary Bainbridge on the West, and next the houses and grounds of Edward Stoyte, Doctor of Physick

on the East; the King's Way on the North, and the garden ground of Thomas Buck, esquire bedle, in the occupation of Richard Pyke, gent. on the South."

The Mortlock deeds contain a long list of names down to that of John Lee, which still remains cut in bold letters outside the office now occupied by his successor. The shop is known as "the globe."

Nos. 15 and 16 now form the mansion which was built by a Mr Finch; a description of the erection of it, quoted from Wm Cole's account in the British Museum, may be seen in the writer's remarks on those houses already alluded to.

There also may be seen the references to the old gate of the Augustinian Monastery which stood in this neighbourhood.

Again, before we return to the Bell Founder's Yard, we must refer to a well-known house, No. 3, on the north side of Bene't Street: viz. the Bath Hotel, which is the property of the University.

In the Registry may be seen an immense number of deeds relating to this property, going back to the middle of the XIV century. The late Registry courteously allowed the writer to go through these documents. Many well-known Cambridge names occur in the list of those connected with this estate—such as William son of Henry Gogging, Adam Leverington, Thomas Hierman, Walter Smyth and Thomas Cosyn, and John Puregold.

Here it should be remarked that the reason for referring to No. 3 Bene't Street is that for many a long year there had been attached to this house the garden opposite, that which has been noted above as the *Bell Founder's Yard*.

Certainly, when in 1542 John Mere, the celebrated Registry and Esquire Bedell, occupied the house (No. 3) with which we are dealing, he was the proud owner of the Augustine Priory Garden across the road. This University benefactor not only owned two houses on the north side of the street, but also he had "for a terme of yeeres certen garden growndes with the howsyes and chambers thereon buylded by Indenture of John Hatchet doctor in phisike, late parcell of the Fryers Augustynes lying over against his said ij tenementes."

These tenements, and the unexpired lease of the garden opposite, John Mere bequeathed to the University in connection with the sermon called after his name. The garden which Mere leased had a summerhouse and a sundial.

It may be noted that the house on the west of Mere's property was owned by Nicholas Spearing, the printer.

John Baxter, another Esquire Bedell, was the occupier of No. 3 in the year when Shakespeare was born.

Later on, Sir Henry Cromwell put forward a claim to the Mere property.

### THE BELL FOUNDRY.

We may now return to the Garden or Bell-Foundry to which we have been leading up. We have already several times alluded to it, in giving the abuttals of the neighbouring houses.

The first description of this plot of ground is given in one of the University deeds, where it is stated to be bounded on the N. by the street, on the S. by the prior's garden, on the E. by the house of Agnes Cheke<sup>1</sup> widow, and on the W. by the property of John Hatcher. This document is dated 38 Henry VIII (1546); not long after the Dissolution of the Augustinian Friary.

At the date just mentioned the garden was hired by the well-known Esquire Bedell, John Mere, who lived in the

<sup>1</sup> Mrs Agnes Cheke was the widow of Peter Cheke, one of the Esquire Bedells of the University, and the mother of the celebrated Sir John Cheke and of Mary wife of William Cecil, afterwards Lord Burghley. Mrs Mary Cecil's only child was Thomas Cecil, afterwards Earl of Exeter; she died 22 February, 1543.

Mrs Agnes Cheke's will, dated 23 December, 1548, is an interesting document. She left property in Cambridge and in Wilbraham to John Pyckerell, her son by a former husband, also an Esquire Bedell. The following extract from her will is of special interest, now that the terms of Shakespeare's will are being discussed: "Allso I bequeyeth to Thomas Sysell my new Fether Bed with the Bowlster to be fylled with fethers and one pelow, one pelowbere, one payre of Shettis and my coverynge of polam worke, the colours thereof, red, blew and yelow, and a sparver frynged with sylke. And I wyll all the foreseyde things to be kepte safely in the hands of my executors untill the sayd Thomas shall come to Schole to Cambrigg, and then immediately to be delivered unto the said Thomas. Allso I gyve and bequeythe to Alys Alington my second Fether Bed, etc."

house (or houses) on the N. side of Bene't Street, now No. 3 (the Bath Hotel).

The garden is said to have been 11 yards or thereabouts by 19 yards or thereabouts.

We have already alluded to the summerhouse and the sundial erected by John Mere; and have noted that the lease of the plot was bequeathed by that benefactor to the University.

This "garden, place, or parcel of ground," the ownership of which had passed to Dr Stephen Perse, another well-known benefactor, was sold for £40, on 8 September, 1613, to Jeremy (or Jerome) Davers, of Clare College (B.A. 1571, M.A. 1575).

In 1625, his widow, Alice Davers, conveyed it to Samuel Ward, D.D., then Lady Margaret Reader, and his successors. In the conveyance it is described as "all that gardine, place, or parcell of grounde, situate and being in the parishe of St Edward's in Cambridge aforesaid betweene the mesuage or tenement called the Phesant Cock nowe or late in the tenure of Henry Gooche on the East, and a mesuage or tenement nowe or late in the tenure of Robert Pillay or of his assignee or assignees on the west, the north head therof abutting on the common streete leading from St Benedict's Church towards the Peaze market hill in Cambridge aforesaid, and the south head therof abutting on a parcell of a tenement late in the occupation of Anne Ellwyn widoe or of her assignee or assignees, which said gardine, place or parcell of ground conteyneth from east to west eleven yards or thereabouts, and from north to south nineteen yards or thereabouts."

We may here repeat that when William Beck sold the house, now No. 13, to Robert Pillay in 1612, the east abuttal is said to have been "a piece of ground called *the bell yard, heretofore used by bell-founders*"; and so when Robert Pillay sold this house in 1616, the same eastern boundary, then in the possession of Jeremy Danvers, is called "the Bell yard, used *heretofore for a bellyard*." Again, in the year 1635, when the house was sold to Thomas James, "traventer<sup>1</sup>," one plot

<sup>1</sup> *Traventer*: query, a collateral form of *tranter*, or *traunter*, a carrier. See Halliwell's *Dictionary of Archaic and Provincial Words*, and Wright's *Dialect Dictionary*.

on the east, then in the occupation of Ann Knights, daughter of Thomas Hobson, the celebrated carrier, is spoken of as “*heretofore called the Bellyard.*”

In the year 1662, the garden is said to belong to the Chancellor and Fellows of the University of Cambridge, and to be in the occupation of Mary Bainbridge. Mrs Bainbridge was the widow of Dr Thomas Bainbridge, Master of Christ’s College from 1622 to 1646; she was the owner of No. 12 in 1658; and died on 25 February, 1671, being “buried in St Edward’s Chancel on Tewsday night between 8 and 9 of the Clock.”

As we have said, the garden remained in the possession of the Lady Margaret’s Professor, in right of his Professorship from 1625 onwards; and allusions are made in various documents to these owners—such, for instance, as Dr John Newcome, Master of St John’s, who held the office from 1727 to 1765.

When the University acquired a site to the south of the garden from Messrs Mortlock in 1896, it was thought desirable to acquire this plot for providing convenient access to the new Lecture Rooms, and Dr Inge, who then held the Professorship, consented to sell the property to the University in 1908.

#### BELLS MADE IN CAMBRIDGE.

We have dealt with “a Cambridge Bell Foundry” and its site. But what of the Bell Founders? what of those who cast the bells?

It will, of course, be remembered that Cambridge has at least three great connections with the History of Bells.

1. Henry VI; magnificent plans of his College included the erection of a lofty bell-tower to the S.W. of the splendid King’s Chapel. The latter was fortunately carried out; but though the design of the former exists, it was never carried into effect. A splendid peal of bells was, however, presented to the College.

2. The celebrated campanologist, Fabian Stedman, was connected with St Bene’t’s, Cambridge; and the changes and variations recorded in his *Tintinnalogia* have been copied in all subsequent works on Campanology.

3. The far-famed Cambridge chimes still sound from the tower of Great St Mary's Church and from many another church tower or hall in England.

Turning to bells, here and there in our town and county and neighbourhood there are bells bearing the inscription "made in Cambridge." The treble bell at Great Shelford, for instance, was made in our town by Richard Nicholson in the year 1590; and the fourth bell at Bottisham was cast by the same bell founder; who, by the bye, was a member of Christ's College. The Saint's bell at Great St Mary's was the work of John Warren in 1607.

Richard Oldfield (or Holdfield) and his successor, William Hawsly, did work which is described in Raven's well-known book. This was at the end of the XVI or the beginning of the XVII century. The silver bell at St John's College, and the clock bell at Trinity may be noted.

Later on we meet with the work of Thomas Newman, who cast bells at Cambridge in the XVIII century; and of Thomas Safford in the early part of the last century.

But all these names are cut out of our consideration by the one word "heretofore" used in the first deed in Mr Armstrong's collection, where, it will be remembered, we read that the eastern abuttal of No. 13 Bene't Street was "a piece of ground called the Bell Yard, heretofore used by Bell Founders." This is dated 1612. But, as we have seen, for at least 70 years before, the yard had been used as a garden. So that we are not able to give an actual date when the plot of ground was "a bell foundry."

We can only state that its employment for that industry must have been before the middle of the XVI century. We must leave it at that.

THE ARMS OF THOMAS LORD AUDLEY OF  
WALDEN (1488–1544), FOUNDER OF MAGDALENE  
COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE.

By PROF. GEORGE H. F. NUTTALL, Sc.D., F.R.S.

(Fellow of Magdalene College.)

(Communicated 8 February, 1926.)

On Armistice Day, 11 November, 1918, having decided to present a piece of plate to the College in commemoration of the event, my critical attention was drawn to the Audley arms as represented in and about the College. One of the Fellows having suggested that the plate should be engraved with the shield, crest, motto and supporters, I sought for accurate representations of each of these, but encountered difficulties which were only surmounted after some labour as the sequel proves. It may be stated at once that the armorial bearings, apart from the shield, were found by me to be represented with astonishing inaccuracy throughout the College, although they have now been in use for about 385 years, Lord Audley having founded Magdalene College in 1542.

The following account is written in the hope that the Audley arms may be correctly represented in the future and that perhaps, with time, some absurd mistakes may be rectified.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE ON LORD AUDLEY.

Thomas Audley was born in 1488 at Earl's Colne, Essex, his family being "unknown to good genealogists."<sup>1</sup> His name appears in the oath-book of the Corporation of Colchester in 1516 as "natus in Colne Com. Essex Burgeus." He studied law, was town clerk of Colchester in 1516 and on the Commission of the Peace for Essex in 1521. He became M.P. for Essex in 1525, Autumn Reader in the Middle Temple in 1526, and in the following year groom of the chamber and member of Wolsey's household. In 1529 he was made Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and Speaker of the House of Commons, presiding over the Black or Long Parliament which

<sup>1</sup> *Dict. of National Biography.*

abolished papal jurisdiction. In 1531 he became serjeant-at-law and King's Serjeant. He was knighted 20 May, 1532, succeeded Sir Thomas More as Lord Keeper of the Great Seal, and on 26 January, 1533, became Lord Chancellor. He aided Henry VIII to divorce Catherine and marry Anne Boleyn, presided at the trial of Fisher and More in 1535, and that of Anne Boleyn in 1536, being present on the scaffold at her execution. By letters patent dated 29 November, 1538, he was created Baron Audley of Walden in the County of Essex. In April 1541 he was elected and on 8 May following installed Knight of the Garter. The attainder of Thomas Cromwell, Earl of Essex, and the dissolution of Anne of Cleves' marriage with Henry VIII were managed by him. He resigned the Great Seal and nine days later, on 30 April, 1544, he died at his mansion at Crechurche. He lies buried in the handsome tomb at Saffron Walden which he had himself erected. His altar-tomb stands in the south aisle. Fuller has been frequently quoted as having written of Audley's tomb: "The stone is not harder, nor the marble blacker, than the heart of him who lies beneath."

The Charter of the College of St Mary Magdalene is a Signet Bill (now at the Record Office) inscribed with the date 3 April, 1542. Thereby Lord Audley re-endowed and re-established the older foundation of Buckingham College. The Charter is written in Latin with many abbreviations; the text has been printed by Purnell<sup>1</sup> from whom the writer has drawn some of the information comprised in the foregoing brief account.

#### EARLIER ARMS OF AUDLEY OF ESSEX.

As shown in Fig. 1, reproduced from an old MS. in the College of Arms (*E.D.N.* LVI, p. 35*b*), containing Barker's Grants, etc., the Audley family bore arms prior to those granted to Lord Audley in 1538. The written note above the figure of the coat reads: "Audeley of Essex: since changed. hee was Lo Chancellor, etc Xpofer Barker Garter H: 8:"<sup>2</sup>

These arms may be described as follows:

*Arms:* Or, on a fesse azure between 3 hares courant sable, as many martlets argent. *Crest:* a demi hare doubly collared or, pawing a branch leaved vert.

We can but guess at the reason that led Lord Audley to apply for a fresh grant of arms; perhaps the hares appeared to him too timorous and lowly for a man of his position and tendencies. Certainly the two eagles in the coat of 1538 are

<sup>1</sup> Purnell, E. K. (1904), *Magdalene College* (Univ. of Cambr. College Histories), London, F. E. Robinson and Co.

<sup>2</sup> Purnell (*loc. cit.* p. 31) states that "No arms appear to have been granted to this family until, in 1538...." This statement does not therefore appear to hold.

of higher rank among heraldic animals, standing but second to the lion. A trace of the old coat lingers, however, in the new, for the old coat has a fesse azure bearing three martlets argent and the later coat has a bend azure bearing two martlets or with a fret between them.

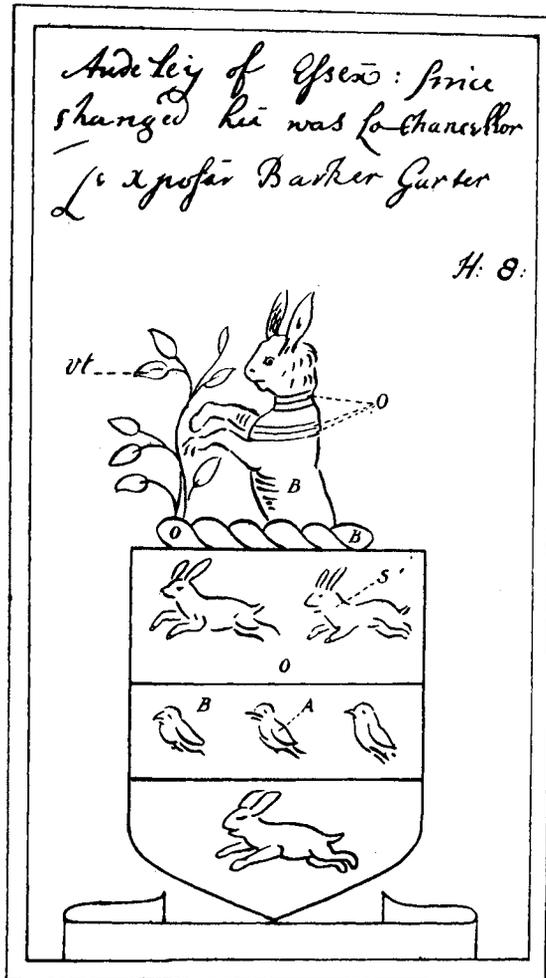


Fig. 1. Earlier arms of Audley of Essex as recorded at the College of Arms.

ARMS GRANTED TO THOMAS LORD AUDLEY IN 1538.

The original Grant of arms to Lord Audley has been preserved at Audley End where Lord Braybrooke found it after some searching and kindly gave me facilities for examining and photographing the document. Owing to the parchment being much worn in some places where folded and the large size of the document, it has not been found

possible to secure a suitable photograph for purposes of reproduction. The top and sides of the parchment are occupied by an ornate border of crude design, the arms being depicted to the left where the border is widest; the lower portion is folded up and bears two pendant seals of the College of Arms (left) and Garter (right) respectively. The gothic script starts with an ornamental T in a square at the left top corner within the border. The arms are depicted, as carefully

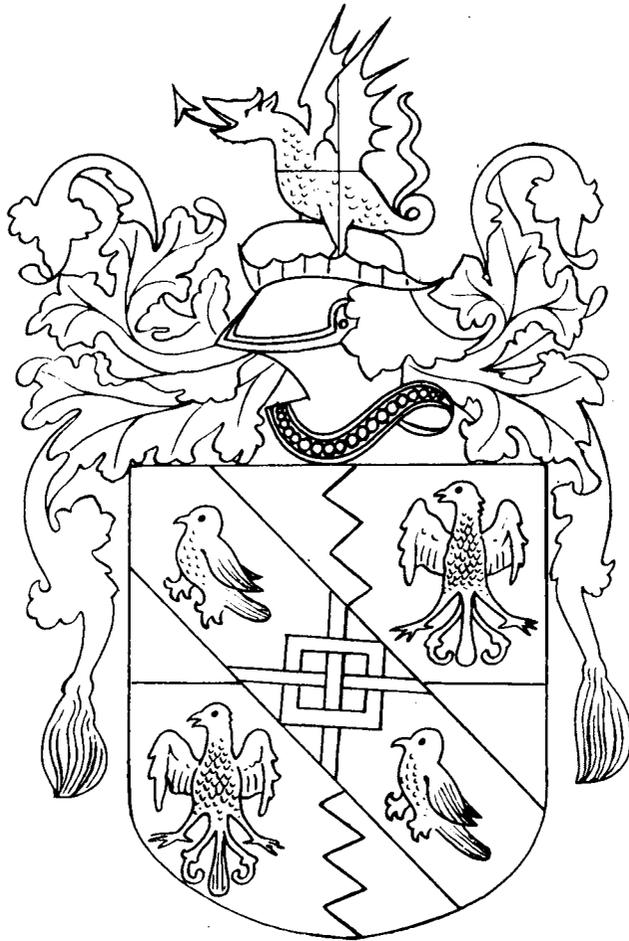


Fig. 2. Arms as figured on the original Grant of arms to Thomas Lord Audley, 18 December, 1538 (original coloured).

outlined in Fig. 2, without supporters and motto. The Patent is signed and sealed by Christopher Barker, Garter King of Arms, the signature being no longer clearly decipherable but for "Gartier" beneath. The date, 18 December, 1538, is

written also on the back. The document is an excellent example of what Sir William St John Hope described as “extravagant verbosity.” The patent, deciphered with some difficulty, reads as follows:

“To all present and to come whiche thies present letters shall see here or rede I Christofore Barker esquier otherwise cal | lid Gartier kyng at armes of the moost noble order of the Gartier principall kyng of armes of Englishmen Sendith | due and humile recomendacion and gretying Equite willeth and reason ordenith that the men vertuose and of co- | mendable disposicion and lyvving be by their merites renoumed honored and rewarded in their parsonnes in this | mortall lyfe so bryeve and transitorye and in every place of honour before other to be exalted in shewing sig- | nes and demonstracions of vertue honour and humanite For whan before this tyme many noble men as | well in the begynnyng of the worlde as in these last tymes and ages with all thir inforcyng and strength amōg | all other acts that they dyd and not with small industry unto oure dayes have applied their mynds before all other thyngs to folow | vertue and nobilite to the which it behovith to be enhaused or promoted to condigne state of honour by juste equite and reason | And because the vertue praysid may be the more kyndeled with gretter studye of laude For the which cause it hath pleased Emperouſ | kynges and other noble princes both in the begynnyng and also now in this last age consideryng the faythfull servyces and noble actes | of their true and faithfull subjects which eyther by ...de or studie have doon any laudable acte or deede wold have them rewarded with a per- | petuall note and excellent renoune of honnour and among all other not nobilite or noblesse with honorable ensignes of armes | have principally decorated and beautified them whiche they and their posterite may use both in peece and bataille. And forasmoch | as the right honorable Sir Thomas Audeley Knyght lord Audeley of Walden and Chancellor of England not being contynned in nobi- | litè beryng armes and is descended of antient Stocke by his auncestours and predecessors by consanguinity and lynage (?) Qnd he not wil- | ling to use or bere armes that shulde redounde and damage or reprove of any of the same name or consanguinitè or of any other parson | hath councellyd and desirid me the said Gartier principall kyng of armes to assigne Ratifie and conferme unto hym and his posterite | the blason of armes with helme and creste to them lawfull and convenient. Wherefore accordyng to the auncyent custome afore tyme | used unto and for all gentill and noble men and consideryng the request to be so honorable iuste and reasonable. And for the reme- | brance and consideracion of the same his vertue habilitè and gentilnes by vertue of the Jurisdiction power and auctorite unto myn office | of principall kyng of armes annexed and attributed I have ordered ratified confermed and assigned unto and for the said Sir Thomas | Audeley and his posterite the armes helme and creste in maid (?) and fourme folowyng. That is to say Quarterly gold and asure per pale | indented ii Eagles golde over all a bende of the second quarter. on the bende a ffrette betwene ii martlett’ of the first quarter upon his creste | or helmet a wyffer quarterle gold and asure

rysing upon an hatt vert lyned ermyne the mantelet goules doubled argent botened | gold as it aperith in this margent. To have and to holde unto the said Sir Thomas Audeley and his posterie with their due differeng | therin to be re..ested to their honnour for evermore. In witness wherof I the said gartier principall kyng of armes have signed thies | presents with myne owne hande and have sett therunto as well the Seale of myne office as also to the seale of myne armes Vouen | at London the 18 Day of December in the yere of our lorde Jesu Cryste a thousand fyve hundreth thirty and eight and of the Reign | of our souveraigne lorde kyng henry the viii by the grace of god Kyng of England and of ffrance defender of the feith lorde of Irland and | in Erth under christ supreme hedde of the Church of England the thirty yere.”

### ARMS ON LORD AUDLEY'S GARTER PLATE (1541).

The Garter Plate in St George's Chapel, Windsor, is illustrated in Fig. 3. The shield is surrounded by the Garter

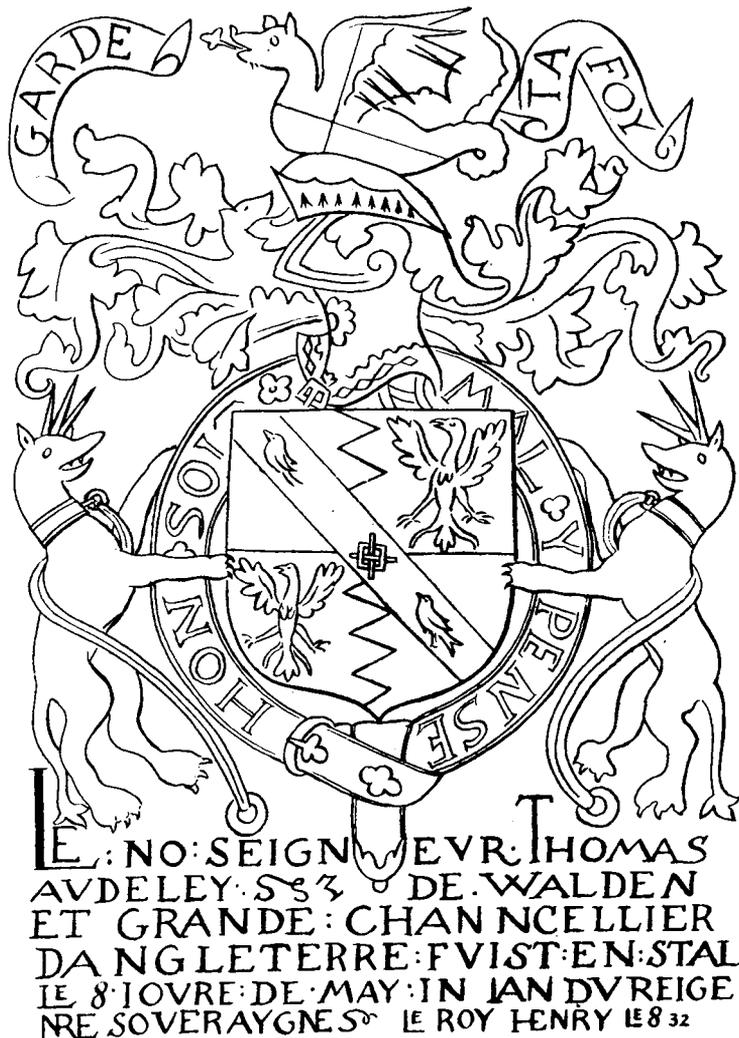


Fig. 3. Arms of Thomas Lord Audley as outlined on his Garter Plate, 1541 (original in coloured enamels).



Fig. 4. Arms of Thomas Lord Audley and the inscription on the headstone to his altar-tomb. He died 1544.

bearing the well-known inscription. The supporters and motto “Garde ta foy” occur here for the first time, the motto appearing on two scrolls on either side of the crest upon the helm. The Plate is enamelled in the colours. The wyvern appears legless and the supporters red with *three* golden rays issuing from the head. The inscription beneath the arms is in French with some words abbreviated and reads as follows in English translation:

“The Noble Lord Thomas | Audeley Lord of Walden | and Grand Chancellor | of England was installed | the 8th day of May in the year of the reign | (of) our Sovereign Lord King Henry the VIIIth 32.”

Fig. 3 is reproduced from a tracing at the College of Arms (vide *Garther Plates I, S.M.L. xxxix*, p. 144), which the Dean of Windsor has very kindly compared for me with the original Plate.

#### ARMS ON LORD AUDLEY'S TOMB (OB. 1544).

The head of the altar-tomb at Saffron Walden serves as a base for a vertical stone resting against the wall beneath a window in the south aisle. This stone (Fig. 4) is very finely and elaborately carved and it is difficult to do justice to it in a photograph because of its dull gray colour. Flash-lights had to be employed to secure photographs owing to the poor natural illumination. The arms, as seen from the illustration, occupy the central space in a frame of renaissance architectural design of considerable merit. The armorial bearings agree essentially with those on the Garter Plate previously described, but as a whole the design and workmanship are incomparably finer. The wyvern has legs and the dog-like supporters have *three* rays issuing from the head. The motto “Garde ta foy” is carved in large letters across the entablature and below there occurs the appended inscription in which some letters are omitted, separated, or run together in manner to puzzle the reader—witness “theight” (for the eighth) and “ul | timodie” (for ultimo die).

*Tomb Inscription*<sup>1</sup>.

THE STROKE OF DEATHES IEVITABL DART \* HATH  
 NOW ALAS OF LYFE BERAFT THE HART \* OF SYR  
 THOMAS AVDELEY OF THE GARTER KNIGHT \* LATE  
 CHANNCellovROF ENGLOND VNDEROWR PRINCE OF  
 MIGHT \* HENRY THEIGHT WVRTHY HIGH RENOVN \* AND  
 MADE BY HIM LORD AVDELEY OF THYS TOVN \* OB'IT VL  
 TIMODIE APRILIS ANNO DOMINI.1544.REGNI REGIS \*  
 HENRICI8 36.CANCELLARIATVSSUI.13.ET SUÆ ÆTATIS.56

ARMS ON PORTRAIT OF LORD AUDLEY'S DAUGHTER (OB. 1563).

The Audley shield and the upper part of a supporter figure in the left upper corner of a portrait of Margaret, Duchess of Norfolk, which hangs at Audley End. Margaret was the younger daughter of Thomas Lord Audley and second wife of Thomas, fourth Duke of Norfolk, K.G. (beheaded 1572). She died in 1563 aged 23 years<sup>2</sup>.

Disregarding the shield, it is worth noting that the supporter appears dog-like, it is coloured red and has *two* long rays pointing obliquely forward from between the ears, besides a tusk on the lower jaw (as in Fig. 5). The teeth, collar and chain are golden, the two rays, once apparently argent, are now greenish.

ARMS OF LORD AUDLEY FIGURED IN RECORDS OF THE  
 COLLEGE OF ARMS.

A supporter holding the banner of Lord Audley (Fig. 5) is illustrated in the MS. volume known as "Prince Arthur's

<sup>1</sup> The stars represent trefoil-like stops after words ending lines that rhyme. The doggerel is said to have been of his own composition.

<sup>2</sup> Lord Braybrooke has kindly furnished me with the following information concerning this portrait:

It was always supposed to have been painted by Lucas de Heere, but Mr Lionel Cust states that it was painted by Hans Eworth, a Flemish artist, who executed many portraits that have been attributed to others. This artist signed "H.E." (the two letters being fused so that the vertical line of the E and the right vertical line of the H are one) and his monogram, though but faintly visible, has been discovered upon the picture which dates probably from the year 1560. Originally the Duke and Duchess were painted on the same panel, but the panel was cut in half and the Duke's portrait is now at Tring in the possession of Lord Rothschild, having previously belonged to Lord Westmorland.

Book” (i.e. *Vincent*, CLII, p. 107). The original figure is charmingly executed in colour. Garter informed me that “all that can be said with certainty is that the painting dates from before 1610,” this does not exclude its being of earlier date. Compared with the earlier representations the supporter in Fig. 5 has somewhat lost its dog-like character, having a pointed snout and tusks. It has *two* golden rays issuing from its head.

The shield, crest and supporters, with indications as to tinctures (Fig. 6), occur in *Vincent*, CLXXXIII, 71, with a note beneath the sketch reading: “Lord Audeley of Safron Walden Lord Chancellor of England.” Here the wyvern has legs and the supporters bear *three* golden rays upon the head;

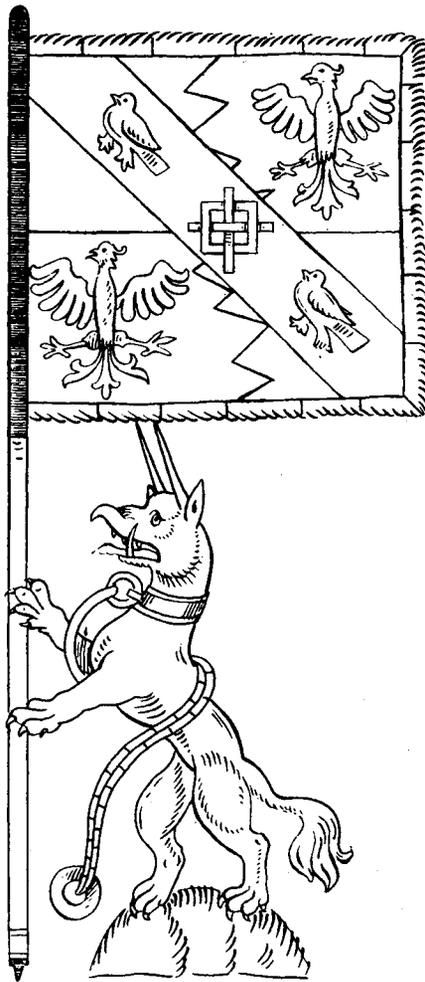


Fig. 5. Banner and Supporter of Thomas Lord Audley as recorded at the College of Arms. From “*Prince Arthur’s Book*” (original coloured).

the supporters having become still less dog-like than earlier examples. Both Figs. 5 and 6 are reproduced from accurate tracings made upon the original drawings.

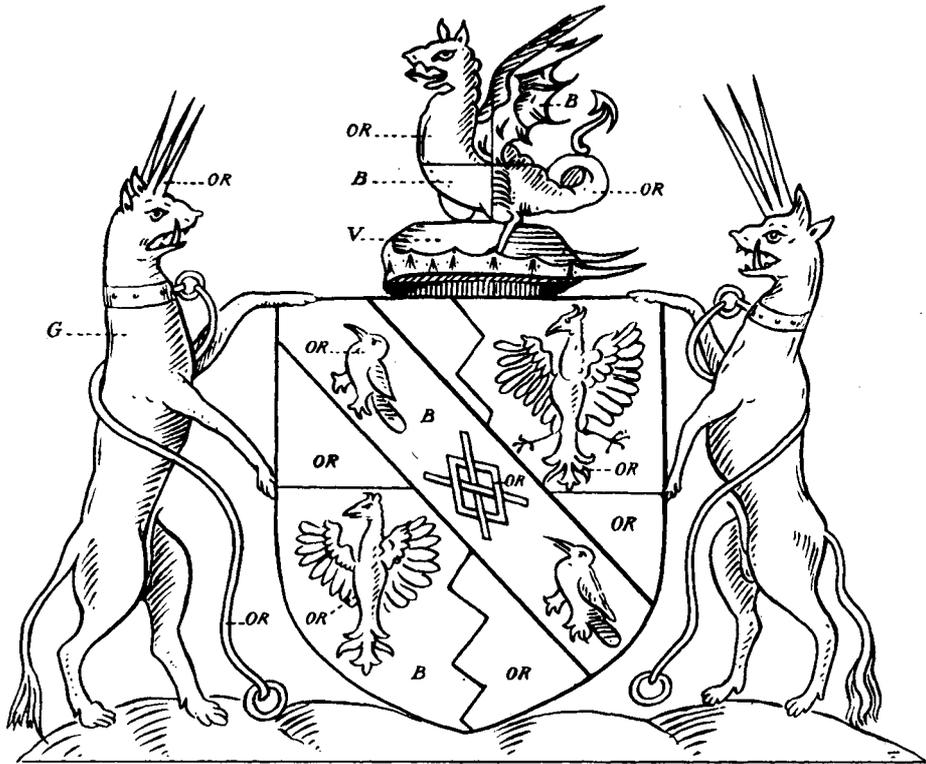


Fig. 6. Arms inscribed as of "Lord Audeley of Safron Walden Lord Chancellor of England." Recorded at the College of Arms.

Finally in *Vincent*, xviii, p. 194, there is a figure of the wyvern quartered or and azure, but legless, whilst the supporters bear *two* golden rays upon the head.

#### DISCUSSION.

In considering the foregoing evidence and its bearing upon what should constitute the accurate representation of the arms of the Founder of Magdalene College, it may be stated at once that the original Grant of arms by Garter (1538), still happily preserved, affords conclusive evidence in respect to the shield, crest and mantling. If the wyvern is legless in the Garter Plate (1541), it is due to error on the part of the metal worker, this contention being also upheld by the

sculptured tombstone (1544)<sup>1</sup>. Both the Garter Plate and tombstone supply the first information regarding the motto and supporters—the latter appear dog-like, have no tusks, but have *three* rays issuing from the head in a horn-like manner. In the Garter Plate, and in all illustrations at the College of Arms, the rays appear golden. At a subsequent date liberties were taken in delineating the supporters. This led to their losing their dog-like characters (except for the feet) in that their heads became malformed and they developed tusks; incidentally the beasts shed one of their golden rays. The tusks should be discarded as fanciful additions of later artists. In respect to the coloration of the supporter, we may accept that given in the Garter Plate and the old coloured figure outlined in Fig. 5: the beasts are red, the rays, teeth, claws, collar and chain being golden.

There is no record as to when the supporters were assumed by Lord Audley. As previously stated, they first appear in the Garter Plate. They cannot be styled “heraldic antelopes,” since they possess canine characters throughout but for the fanciful pendant tail with a tuft of hair at the end. The supporters have not the horns, cloven feet and stubby tails that characterize an antelope or similar ungulate animal. Failing a definition—for I have not found a similar heraldic beast recorded—I suggest that the animals be styled the “Audley beasts.”<sup>2</sup> The golden rays issuing from

<sup>1</sup> Benedict Spinola, who died in 1580, presented an oval silver common seal to the College which is illustrated by Purnell (p. 68; see ref. in footnote, p. 102). Beneath the figure of St Mary Magdalene there is what Hope (*Camb. Ant. Soc. Proc.* Vol. VIII, 1892, p. 126) describes as a “foreign looking shield” bearing a legged wyvern, this being the Founder’s crest “treated as a badge.” The seal is preserved at the College but no longer used.

<sup>2</sup> Two leading heralds, whose opinions I have obtained regarding the nature of the “Audley beasts,” have expressed divergent views. The one said they were “heraldic antelopes,” the other that they were “male griffins,” these being wingless. I learn that the Marquis of Ormonde bears such a griffin as a supporter, the beast having two (or three) rays issuing from its head. The beast illustrated in Fig. 5 certainly has a hooked and beak-like upper jaw recalling that of a griffin, but this feature is absent in earlier representations to which surely most weight must be attached. A griffin has a beak like a bird of prey, whilst the “Audley beasts” have teeth. A griffin’s forelegs are eagle-like.

their heads conform to the conventional sunbeams of heraldry. By removing one ray, and twisting the remaining two spirally, by amputating the tail and replacing canine paws by cloven feet, the delightfully puzzling Audley beasts have been converted, in course of time, into commonplace modern "antelopes proper" within the precincts of Magdalene College. We may therefore conclude that the following affords a correct description of the Founder's armorial bearings since it is based upon authentic sources.

#### CORRECT DESCRIPTION OF THE ARMORIAL BEARINGS.

*Arms:* Quarterly, or and azure, per pale indented, in the 2nd and 3rd quarters an eagle displayed gold, over all on a bend azure, a fret between two martlets or.

*Crest:* On a chapeau vert, doubled ermine, a (legged) wyvern rising, quarterly or and azure.

*Mantle:* Gules, doubled argent, buttoned or.

*Motto:* Garde ta foy (retaining the old spelling).

*Supporters:* Two dog-like "Audley beasts" gules, armed or, with three golden rays issuing horn-like from the head, collared and chained or, the chain reflexing over the back.

*Banner:* The arms, bordered by a fringe gobony or and azure (Fig. 5).

To supplement the foregoing description and prevent further confusion regarding the manner in which the arms of Lord Audley should be represented, I give an illustration (Fig. 7) which I trust may be regarded as authoritative. The figure is reproduced from a drawing made under my instructions by one of our ablest heraldic artists, Mr A. G. Law-Samson of the Court of the Lord Lyon, Edinburgh.

#### SOME FAULTY REPRESENTATIONS OF THE ARMS IN MAGDALENE COLLEGE.

*Sculpture:* (1) Over the archway leading from the first to the second court: The shield, surrounded by the Garter, is in good taste. The supporters appear as two hideously sculptured *lions* which have been painted gray with black manes. The mantling, gules lined argent, is surmounted by what may be assumed to represent a Baron's coronet, although devoid of pearls. It would be interesting to discover when this thoroughly bad erection was made. (2) Beneath the oriel window facing the river and close to Magdalene Street whence it can be viewed, the arms appear sculptured in excellent taste. The crest is omitted, the supporters lack the rays upon the head,



Fig. 7. Arms of Lord Audley as they should be represented. From a drawing executed for the author in January 1926, by Mr A. G. Law-Samson, Court of the Lord Lyon, Edinburgh.

but otherwise recall those on Lord Audley's tomb, after which they may well have been modelled.

*Painting:* In the large oil painting on the wall at the head of the Hall (dating from 1707-14, judging from the quarterings represented in the royal arms occupying the centre), the arms of Lord Audley occur in the upper right-hand corner. Owing to the darkening of the varnish, their position and the poor illumination, the arms are difficult to see except on bright sunny days. Confining our attention to the supporters I may say that they constitute the turning-point in the development of an antelope from an Audley beast. They are red, have the head and body-form as represented in Fig. 5, but have pendant tails ending in a small leonine bunch of golden hair, golden *cloven* feet and *three* rays issuing from the head, the middle ray being red, the others gold but marked transversely by oblique lines giving them a spiral structure.

*Printing:* (1) Bookplates, (*a*) of eighteenth century design bearing the inscription "Collegium Magdalene Acad. Cantabr." has an ornate shield of poor form with inconspicuous fret and badly drawn eagles. The crest is lacking and two *antelopes* (with cloven feet, stub tails and spiral horns), standing on an absurd substructure, serve as supporters, the motto being inscribed beneath upon an extraordinarily wavy riband. (*b*) This bookplate is devoid of supporters and crest, the arms are rendered in an oval and are accompanied by the same inscription as the preceding bookplate. The design is very poor. Both bookplates are printed from a copper plate. (2) The designs of the arms on the covers of the *Magdalene College Magazine* and on the *Reports of the Magdalene College Club* are faulty and bad, representing modern heraldry at its lowest ebb; their use should be discontinued and better dies substituted. (3) The die used for printing embossed arms on menu-cards, etc. in respect to its design, is based on that of bookplate (*a*), except for the addition of the crest (cap and wyvern); two antelopes with arched necks and manes as in unicorns (!) serve as supporters.

*Chinaware* in daily use: Here the shield, motto and substructure are similar to what is seen in bookplate (*a*). A legless wyvern rests upon the chapeau or cap of maintenance. The supporters are dog-like, have *two* horns with spiral markings and tails groomed and elevated as in unicorns. Except in parts of the shield, the colours, where indicated by shading, are wrongly rendered. The same design appears on the cover of *Reports of the Magdalene College Club* previously mentioned.

*College Boat-flags:* The two hanging in the Hall have brown antelopes as supporters, on one the wyvern has legs, on the other the wyvern is legless. The wyverns and caps of maintenance are wrongly coloured.

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

In collecting the evidence presented in the foregoing pages I have had great help from the following gentlemen: Lord Braybrooke, Hereditary Visitor of Magdalene College, made an extended search before finding the original Grant of

arms to Lord Audley among the documents at Audley End; he afforded me facilities for photographing the Grant and has been especially helpful in deciphering words in the text that offered special difficulties. Sir Henry Farnham Burke, Garter, likewise gave much of his valuable time to searching out records relating to the Audley arms when, on two occasions, I visited the College of Arms for the purpose. He also had accurate tracings made which served as a basis for Figs. 1, 3, 5 and 6 that illustrate this paper. The Very Rev. Albert Baillie, Dean of Windsor, kindly compared a tracing of Lord Audley's Garter Plate with the original in St George's Chapel, thereby saving me a journey to Windsor. I offer these three gentlemen my warmest thanks for the kind interest and sympathy they have shown in furthering my investigations.

Acknowledgments are also due to my assistants Messrs H. Gillings and C. Harpley for overcoming the difficulties of taking the necessary photographs of the Grant and tombstone. Moreover, under my direction, Mr Gillings executed the accurate line drawings needed for reproduction in this paper.

CAMBRIDGE,

30 Dec. 1925.

## THE ANGLO-SAXON CEMETERY, BURWELL, CAMBS.

## PART II.

By T. C. LETHBRIDGE, Director of Excavations.

(Read 31 May, 1926.)

The excavations on this site in 1925 were confined to the allotment adjoining the Victoria Lime Pits, and as I described (*Proc. C.A.S.* Vol. XXVII), twenty-four graves were found scattered all over this area. In February this year (1926) excavations were carried out on such parts of the next allotment as were not covered by pig-sties, haystacks, etc. Graves were found in the same fashion as before, dotted about anywhere, shallow and quite unlike the packed cemetery at Little Wilbraham as described by Neville (*Saxon Obsequies*). Seventeen graves were found containing twenty-one skeletons in all (see Plan, Fig. 1).

In one case only was there any attempt at arrangement. On what seems to be the edge of the cemetery occurred a little group of five burials side by side, Nos. 27-31. Possibly this is a family group or the result of some plague.

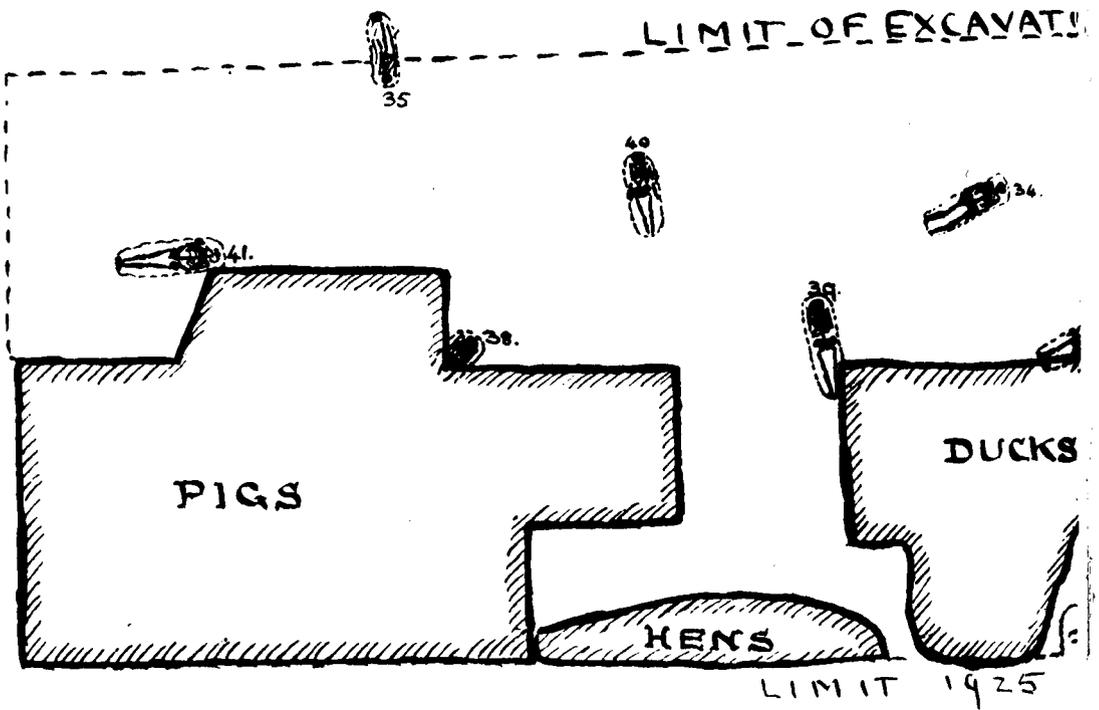
The grave goods were slightly richer than last year, but they still give one the impression that they belonged to a poor people. The majority of burials were with the head to the west.

*Detailed description of those graves which had objects associated with the bodies.*

All heads to the west unless otherwise stated.

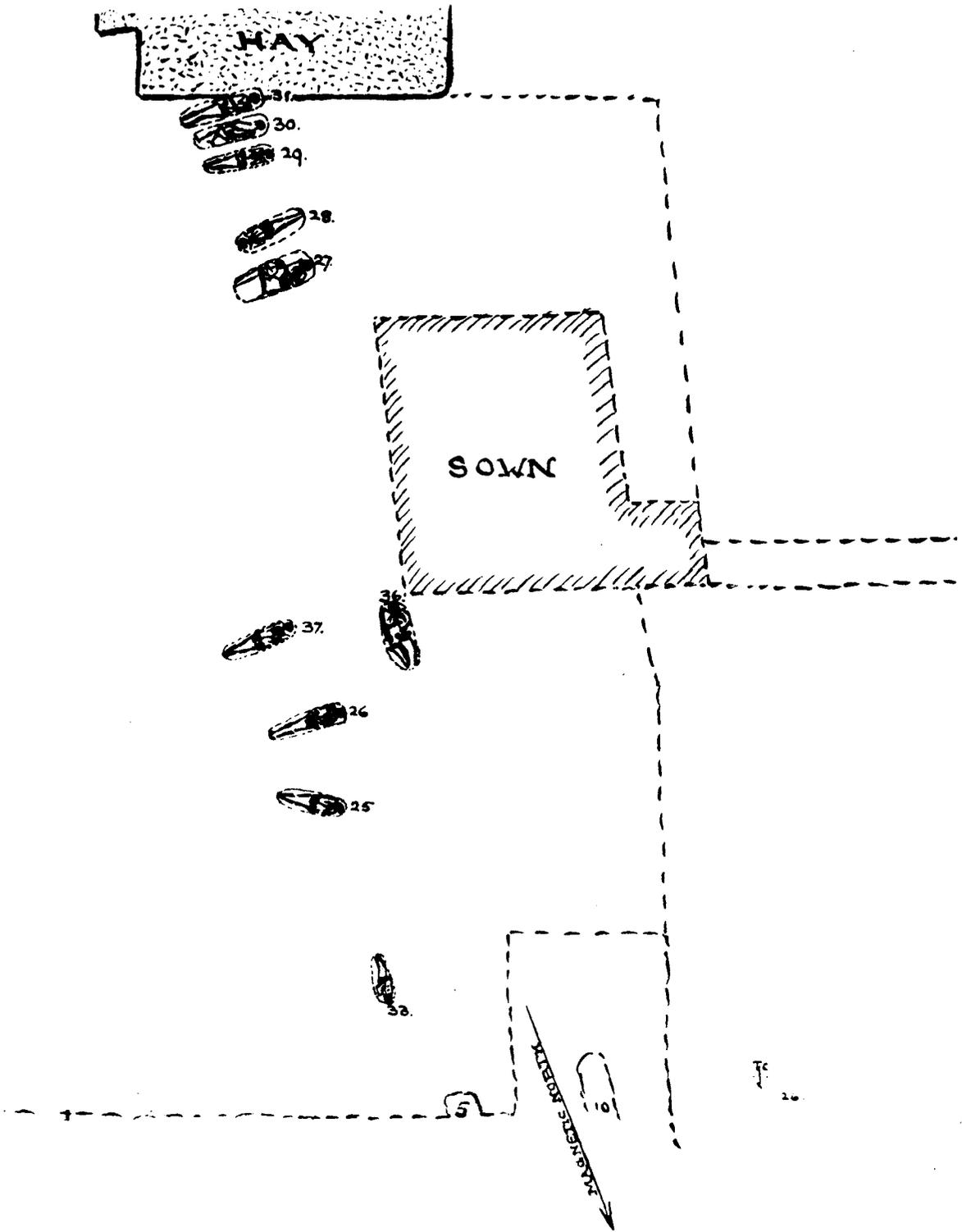
*No. 25.* A well-cut grave of a woman (?). Beneath the chin and broken by pressure was a thin silver disc pendant 1.4 inch in diameter with a hammered central boss and dotted ornament of concentric and radial pattern (Fig. 2, no. 1). It is almost exactly the same size as that found with a female skeleton on the site of the Victoria Pits about 1887 (Dr C. Fox, *Archaeology of the Cambridge Region*, Pl. XXXIV).

PLAN OF THE  
EXCAVATIONS IN THE  
BURWELL CEMETERY  
1926.



between pp. 116 and 117

Scale: C.



6' long.

Although this has a bronze back, five bosses and slightly different dotted ornament, the technique is so similar that it is hardly possible to doubt that they are from the same place of manufacture. Three similar pendants were found by Fausset and figured on Pl. IV, nos. 20, 22 and 24 of *Inventorium Sepulchrale*. A thin ring of silver wire had passed through the loop of this pendant, but only fragments remained.

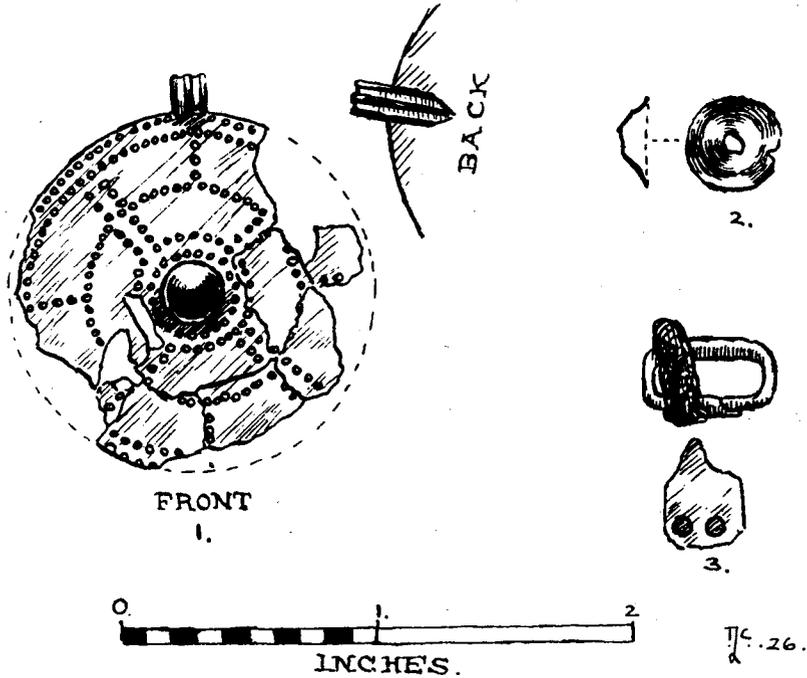


Fig. 2.

No. 1. Silver Pendant. Grave 25.

No. 2. Bronze Boss. Grave 30.

No. 3. Bronze Buckle. Grave 34.

The silver was very impure. On the right femur, some inches from the pelvis, lay a small iron knife. The right hand rested on the head of the femur and near it lay a stone bead or whorl.

No. 26. A well-cut grave having definite shoulders. The skeleton was apparently that of a male. In the angle formed by the collar bones lay a green glass bead about one inch in diameter and a quarter of an inch thick (Fig. 3). The bead was inlaid with ropes of mosaic glass forming a rosette pattern. These ropes were chiefly of blue and white glass but some were yellow and green. It was suspended in a

“hitch” of silver wire. Directly beneath and touching the bead was a silver wire ring about one inch in diameter and of the “elastic” type. This ring had probably been fastened on to the wire mentioned above and the whole had formed a pendant (see Fausset, *Inventorium Sepulcræ*, Pl. VII, no. 3).

Beads of this type inlaid with mosaic glass are uncommon. Mr Reginald Smith figures one (*Proc. Soc. Ant.* Vol. xviii, 254) from near Leatherhead. Two more are figured in Roach Smith's *Collectanea Antiqua*, Vol. II, from Sittingbourne. Three more are figured in *Inventorium Sepulcræ* from Sibbertswold, Barfriston, Gilton or Kingston (Pls. V and VI). The method of suspension of beads as pendants on silver or gold wire is to be seen in *Inventorium Sepulcræ* from several Kentish cemeteries.

No. 27. This large grave contained the skeletons of a man and a child. Beneath the left ribs of the man was a small iron knife.

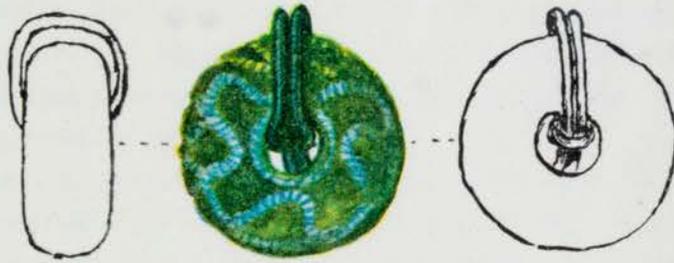
No. 28. With this skeleton, whose head lay to the east end of the grave, was a small iron knife.

No. 30. A set of five glass and paste beads with a tiny perforated, hollow, bronze boss (Fig. 2, no. 2) lay about the clavicles of this skeleton, which rested on the right side. From the position of the beads it seemed probable that they had been secured to some form of neckband by means of a pair of the little bronze objects, only one of which remains. I suggest that the bosses were enclosed between two thicknesses of cloth, one at each end of the string of beads, thus concealing the knots.

No. 32. In this case the grave was well and squarely cut, rather above the average depth of one foot in the chalk. In it a female skeleton lay with the bones of a very young child. The child's skull rested on the woman's right shoulder and her left arm lay across the body as if to hold it. Under the right forearm of the female skeleton was a large curved bone comb six inches long (Fig. 4, no. 1). It is made in three sections riveted together by seven rivets (one now lost) and ornamented with five sets of transverse cuts and two rows of rings and dots. The back is not ornamented. The comb is of late type and possibly VII century (Baldwin Brown,



1.



2

Fig 26

Fig. 3. Pendant from grave 26.

1. Silver ring.
2. Glass bead with mosaic glass inlay.

Scale 1/1.

*Arts in Early England*, Vol. IV, Pl. LXXXVI, fig. 1; Mortimer, *Forty years digging*, etc., Fig. 671; *Inventorium Sepulcræ*, Pl. XIII, no. 2. For an earlier example see *Inventorium Sepulcræ*, Pl. XXIII). Under the chin of the skeleton and so covered by it that they could not possibly have fallen from the ear, were five small glass and paste beads with two silver wire rings of the elastic type, one of which is ornamented with incised lines. The lower jaw was stained in two places close together by the rings, and the beads were between them. I have no doubt that the rings were sewn on to the clothes or neckband and the beads were strung with a ring at each end (Fig. 4, no. 2).

No. 34. Another well-cut and deep grave containing, as it seemed, a male skeleton. In the crook of the right elbow was a very minute bronze buckle with an iron pin (Fig. 2, no. 3). At the right hip lay an iron knife with remains of a sheath on it.

No. 35. A north and south grave with the skeleton of a child at either end. At the throat of the one with the head to the south was an amber bead of rectangular shape, rather thin and with a central perforation.

No. 36. This contained the skeletons of a woman and child much cramped for space and very shallow. An iron knife was at the woman's left side. Both heads were to the south.

No. 37. Here a middle-aged male (?) had been buried in a very narrow grave. At his feet was a large iron knife, almost a miniature scramasax, seven and a quarter inches long. An iron buckle with a long iron chape was with the knife.

No. 38. The head of this grave lay to the south-west. The legs were right under the pig-sty and could not be cleared. At the right hip was a small iron knife and three small awl-like objects of iron with wooden handles.

No. 39. At the feet of this skeleton, whose head was to the south, were two iron knives overlying a much abraded piece of thick green glass. The glass may be a fragment of a Roman jug or cinerary urn. One of the knives was in a sheath.

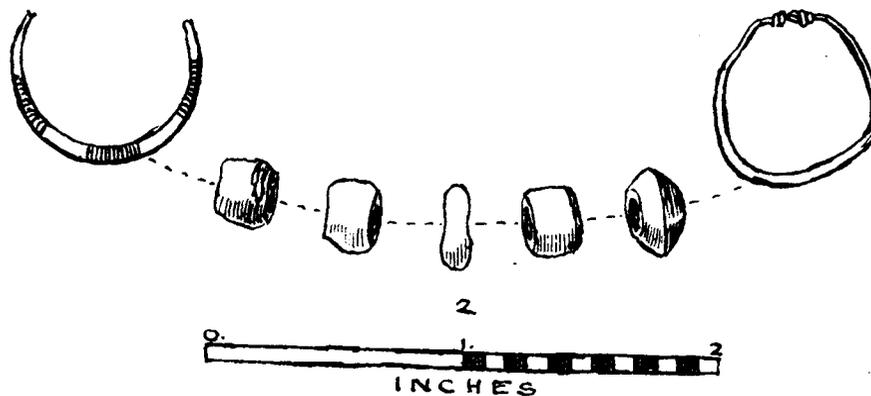
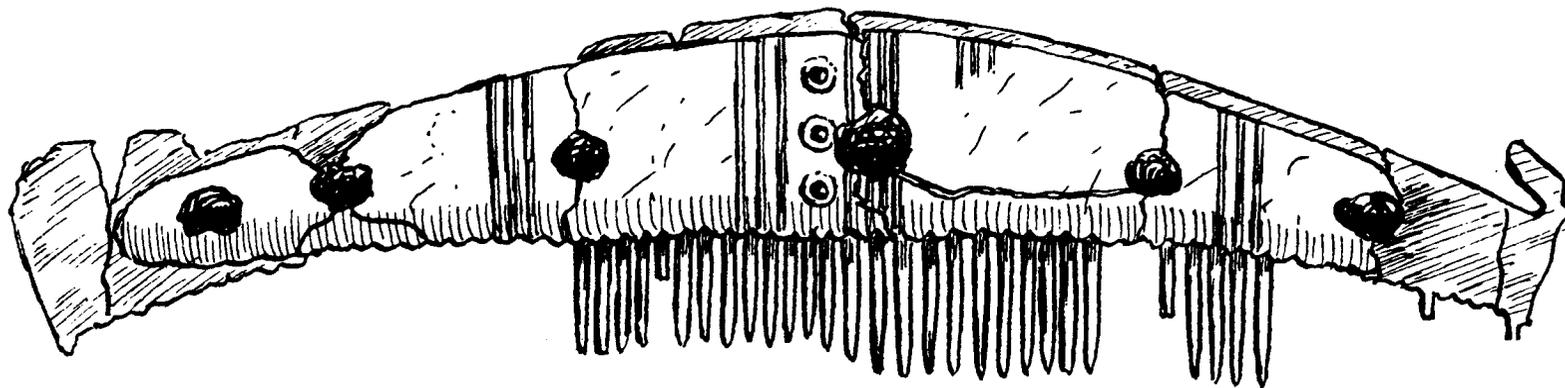


Fig. 4.  
Grave 32.

No. 1. Bone Comb (back unornamented).

No. 2. Necklace as worn (?), silver rings with paste and glass beads (red, green, blue, green and red).

No. 40. Head to the south. An iron knife lay at the left armpit.

*Summary of results.*

I must now try to draw some conclusions from the exploration of the cemetery, as carried out officially and by casual examination of the clunch diggings years ago.

(1) There is some evidence as to the manner in which beads and pendants were worn. I think, from their positions on the skeletons, that they were all worn sewn on to the clothing or a neckband and that no string went round the neck. If a string had been employed the pendants found with graves 25 and 26, which were both hanging from silver wire rings, would not have lain flat on the body. If, on the other hand, the silver rings were sewn on to a flat surface, the pendants would have hung in the proper manner. The same proximity to the throat was observed in the case of the little strings of beads which were attached to metal objects as stated above.

(2) I am very doubtful as to whether the so-called stone spindle whorls, three of which were found last year and one this year, were intended for use as spindle whorls. From their position I think that it is more likely that they were employed as toggles for fastening the belt. In no case were they found with a buckle, but always in the position which the buckle would have been expected to occupy.

(3) The cemetery seems to be a very late one. The two silver pendants must surely be of VII-century date. The gold pendant mentioned last year shows workmanship round its edge which is very similar to the famous Kingston brooch. The bone comb is a late type which seems to have gone on right through the Viking Period and has even been found amongst the Norse remains in Greenland (*Meddelelser om Grønland*, Bind LVII, p. 18). I think a VII-century date is as likely for it as any other. Three bronze fittings found last year (*Proc. C.A.S.* Vol. xxvii, p. 77, fig. 6) can be compared with one found in the Asthall Barrow and described by E. Thurlow, Leeds (*Antiquaries Journal*, Vol. iv, no. 2, p. 119, fig. 5 B, lower portion).

(4) In spite of the small quantity of the grave goods, it is obvious that this is not a cemetery of the usual local Anglian type. I can find no trace, with the exception of the very doubtful entry in the *Proc. C.A.S.* referring to an "iron" fibula found in 1887, of any brooches from the site. Over fifty graves are known to have been opened and this absence of brooches is very remarkable. It can hardly be accounted for on the score of poverty alone, for people who could afford gold and silver pendants, buckles set with gold and garnets, silver rings, etc., could surely have easily got possession of the plain "annular" and "small-long" brooches so common in our other local cemeteries. It is possible that these Burwell people wore a different kind of dress and either did not need or did not fancy brooches to fasten it.

Another difference can be seen in the curious scattered occurrence of the burials. The prevalent custom at Little Wilbraham, etc., was to bury the corpses close together and in deeper graves than at Burwell. I think that at Burwell burial may have taken place in small barrows. This would account for the sporadic occurrence of the graves and also, since the barrows would have long been ploughed flat, for the shallow nature of the graves.

The only objects of note represent, as I have said, a culture which is not the local Anglian one. In fact it is much more like that found in poor areas in certain Kentish cemeteries. Even in one case, a little buckle found in grave 16 last year (*Proc. C.A.S.* Vol. xxvii, p. 77, Fig. 11) is of a type unrepresented in the large collection of local buckles in our museum and is a Kentish type. There is not a single object that I can trace from this cemetery which can be called Anglian with any confidence, the nearest approach being the iron girdle-hangers found in grave 3 (*ibid.* Fig. 10). As against the girdle-hangers we have: (1) A gold pendant set with shell and garnets—shell is not common in Frankish jewellery and this may be probably considered "Kentish." (2) Two silver pendants of "Kentish" type. (3) Sir W. Ridgeway's bronze buckle with garnet, gold and shell inlay. (4) A set of silver toothpicks and a perforated silver spoon. (5) An amethyst and possibly a set of three found between

Burwell and Exning. (6) The small bronze buckle. (7) The mosaic glass bead in silver wire. (8) Numerous silver wire rings of the elastic type which are most common in Kent.

Less than six miles away is the Little Wilbraham cemetery where a warlike race was buried with its arms and typical local ornaments. At Exning also grave goods are of the normal local type. It is so curious that the intermediate Burwell cemetery, which must be contemporary with some of the late burials at Little Wilbraham, should differ so greatly from its neighbours, that I feel that it can only be accounted for by assuming that the Burwell race was in some way different from the predominant local one.

REPORT ON HUMAN BONES FROM THE ANGLO-SAXON CEMETERY AT BURWELL EXCAVATED BY MR LETHBRIDGE IN 1925-26.

By W. L. H. DUCKWORTH, M.D., Sc.D.

(Communicated 31 May, 1926.)

The human bones from Mr Lethbridge's excavations at Burwell in 1925 and 1926 came to the Anatomy School in two consignments. The former of these comprised skulls and bones from the first 24 graves examined, and to these specimens this report has reference. The remainder, some 12 or more individuals being represented, awaits the completion of the processes of cleaning and repair. The crania of the first consignment appear to me to include representatives of several types. None of them has yet been found to be peculiar to Burwell. Some allow of close comparison with examples assignable to the pre-Roman period. Others are comparable to specimens of the Roman period. They suggest that the invasions by Saxons commenced much earlier than the V century A.D.

The skulls themselves fall into three main groups to which two others are subsidiary. Skulls to which the female sex is assigned fall into the two latter.

Of the three main groups two may be described as characterized by the "globose" appearance of the brain-case. This however is of the dolicho-cephalic order though its narrowness is not pronounced. The specimens thus grouped are subdivisible into larger and smaller sub-groups according to their absolute dimensions. The stature of these individuals is judged to have been of moderate degree, without examples of extremes in either direction.

The third group contains crania which are much more definitely narrow (than those just described). The brow-ridges of these skulls are more prominent, and the associated skeletons include bones denoting distinctly tall stature in two or three instances.

It seems probable that the men with skulls described above as "globose" will be found representative of the invaders traditionally termed "Saxon." But the point here insisted upon is the variety of the specimens, and the indication thus given of the simultaneous presence of several types of mankind. So far no specimen has been found identifiable with the Long Barrow type, and there is quite definitely a lack of the round-headed or brachy-cephalic type found so frequently in sites connected with former monastic establishments in this neighbourhood and some others.

## THE CHAPEL OF SAINT MARY MAGDALENE AT STURBRIDGE, CAMBRIDGE

BY CHESTER H. JONES

Read 18 October, 1926.

The chapel, dedicated to Saint Mary Magdalene, in the parish of Saint Andrew the Less, is a small Norman building dating from the XII century, and consists of nave and chancel elaborate in detail, and characteristic of the best work of the time. It now stands isolated in a field beside the Newmarket road on the outskirts of Barnwell, at a distance of about two miles from the Market Hill, Cambridge.

It is perhaps more commonly known as Sturbridge Chapel, a name which Carter<sup>1</sup> derives from the bridge over the river Stour. Francis Blomefield however in his *Collectanea Cantabrigiensi*, published in 1751, tells us that "Steres-brigge, or Sturbrige, where the famous Mart or Fair (commonly called Sturbrige Fair) is kept, does not take its name from the Bridge over the River of that Name, but from the Toll or Custom that was paid at it, for all Steres and young Cattle that passed here. . . ." The correct derivation is no doubt that given by Professor Skeat, who, in his *Place Names of Cambridgeshire* (C.A.S. 8vo Pub. xxxvi, 2nd ed., p. 33) points out that "Steres" in this name is in the genitive case, which indicates that it was a personal name. The names of animals were not usually put into the genitive, and the custom still persists. As an instance we say "cowhouse" and not "cow's house." But when Steer, the owner, was dead, the personal connexion was forgotten, and the bridge was supposed to have been built for steers to pass over.

The building is of distinct interest, and we shall trace its history so far as is possible from the scanty records which remain, before describing it as it stands to-day.

<sup>1</sup> Edmund Carter, *History of Cambridgeshire*, 1753.

## HISTORY OF THE CHAPEL

In the days when leprosy was one of the many diseases rampant in the country—encouraged by the filthy and unwholesome conditions under which the mediaeval community lived—a leprosy hospital was founded on this spot. It was built at a safe distance from the dwellings which must then have clustered by the river round the pre-Conquest church of St Benedict, which formed the nucleus from which our modern Cambridge has grown. The little chapel, frequently called the “Leper chapel,” was attached to this hospital and is all that now remains of it.

The earliest record that we possess of the hospital occurs at the end of the XII century with reference to endowments in Comberton. Walter de Brumford “deseised the lepers of Stiebrige of their free tenement in Cumberton,” and later in 1199, the lepers recovered, in the King’s Court, a free tenement in Comberton of which Alan de Berton had deprived them<sup>1</sup>. No record of the foundation of the hospital exists, but it is most probable that it had been in existence some sixty or seventy years before this time, contemporary with other Norman work of early XII century date which showed itself on the neighbouring banks of the Granta in the churches of Saint Peter by the Castle, Saint Giles, and Holy Sepulchre.

Charles H. Cooper, in the *Annals of Cambridge* (1842), records that about the year 1211 “King John granted to the lepers of the hospital of Saint Mary Magdalene at Sturbridge, a fair in the close of the hospital, on the vigil and feast of the Holy Cross.”<sup>2</sup> Although it is difficult to say whether the fair had not already been in existence, it is from this grant that the famous Sturbridge Fair is said to have originated, and the histories of fair and chapel were later closely connected.

In 1245 Hugh de Norwold, or ‘Northwold,’ Bishop of Ely from 1229 to 1254, a man renowned for his generosity and piety and a great benefactor of the monastery there,

<sup>1</sup> R. Cur. Reg. I, 329 and II, 62.

<sup>2</sup> R. Hun. vol. II, 360.

appointed a master to the chapel. The patronage had been previously in the burgesses of Cambridge<sup>1</sup>.

In 1278 commissioners were appointed by the king, Edward I, to enquire into various matters of revenue, etc. The property of each house and the means by which it was obtained were distinctly specified, and it was stated that the advowson of the mastership of "Steresbrigge belonged to the burgesses of Cambridge, but had been taken away from them by Hugh de Norwold, formerly Bishop of Ely, and his successors, and that the warden of Steresbrigge did not sustain any lepers in that hospital as he ought of right to do."<sup>2</sup>

In 1340 the "Rector of the church of Steresbrigge" was charged £1. 7s. 0d. in a levy on "the ninth part of the goods and chattels in cities and boroughs" voted by Parliament to the king in the reign of Edward III<sup>3</sup>.

The corporation made an ordinance in 1376 prohibiting any burgess to take Sturbridge chapel to farm, except to the use of the mayor and bailiffs, or to keep market there, under the penalty of 10 marks, or to make any booth there, or let any place for the building of a booth, under the penalty of 10s.; and any burgess convicted of a breach of this ordinance before the twenty-four, was to be deprived of his freedom at their discretion<sup>4</sup>.

John Fordham, Bishop of Ely from 1388 to 1425, granted on 19 July, 1390, forty days' indulgence to all who assisted to repair the chapel, and Cotman suggests that "it is probable the present elegant roof, and many alterations observable in the building, were made about that time."

Blomefield<sup>5</sup> tells us that:

In 1391 Robert Takell then Custos died, and Bishop Fordham collated John Metfield LL.B. . . . He resigned it to Rob. Flate, and he in 1391, exchanged it with Thomas de Pattesle, for Waldeneuton in Winchester Diocese, who resigned it the same Year, and Metfield had it again, and again resigned it to John Wynkeperie, who in 1395 resigned, and Metfield had it again, who resigned to Flate in 1402, and in 1403, Metfield had it at Flate's resignation; and in 1407 exchanged it with Will. Wynwyk for the Custody of the Free-Chapel of St Radegund, in the Arches under St Paul's in London, he changed it with Will. Waltham, who resigned in 1408 to Metfield again.

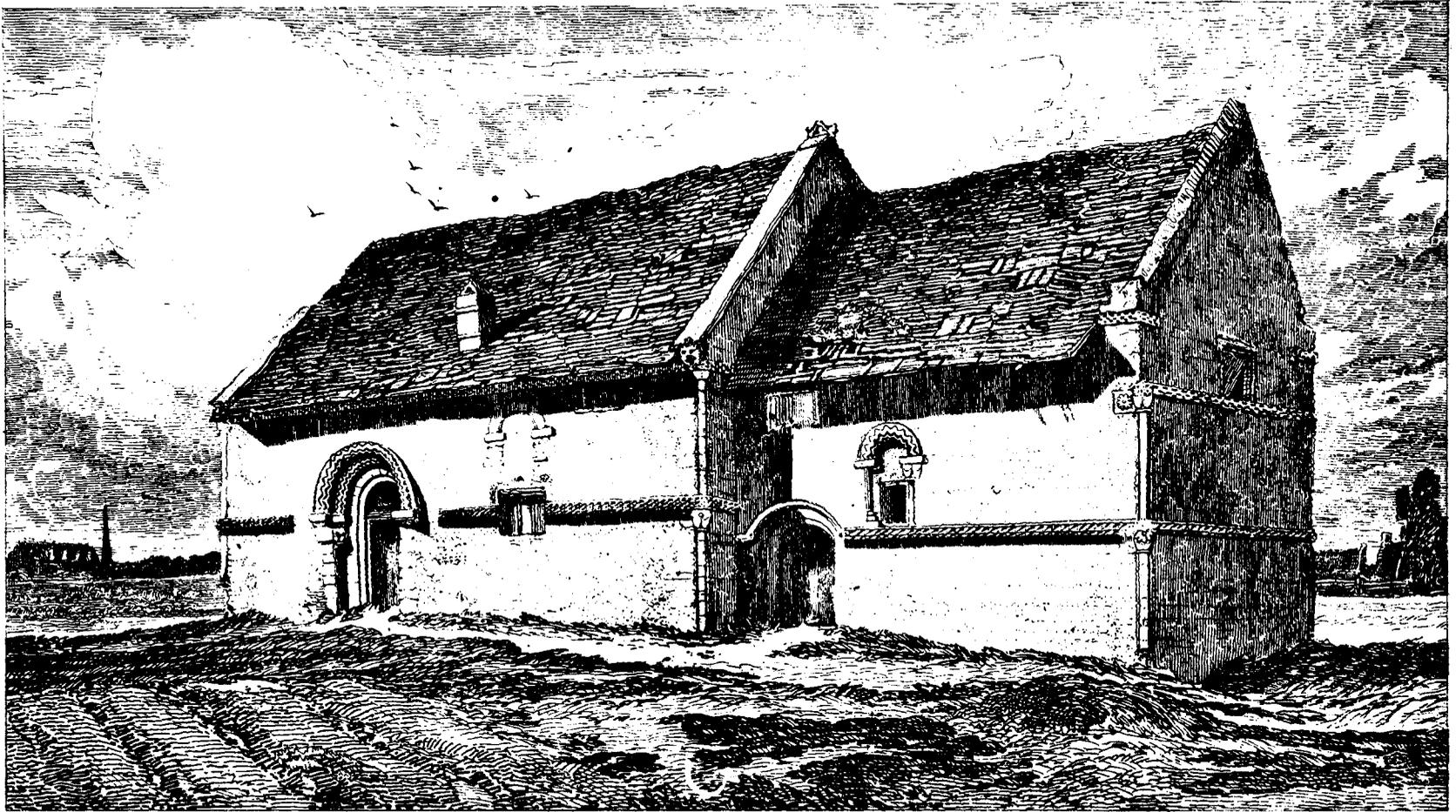
<sup>1</sup> J. S. Cotman, *Antiquities of Saint Mary's Chapel, at Stourbridge, near Cambridge*, 1819.

<sup>2</sup> C. H. Cooper, *Annals of Cambridge*, 1842.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibidem*.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibidem*. MS. Baker xxxvi, 218.

<sup>5</sup> F. Blomefield, *Collectanea Cantabrigiensa*, 1751.



1818 Drawn. Etched & Published by J. S. Colman.

South-east view of St Mary's Chapel at Sturbridge near Cambridge.

An interesting lawsuit took place in November 1411, when John Arondell, warden of the chapel, sued the bailiffs in exchequer because they would not allow merchants to build shops in the chapel-yard, thereby depriving him of stallage to the value of 10 marks, "to the dishersion of the chapel, and to his damage of £10." The verdict was decided in favour of the warden, so that the keepers of Sturbridge Fair evidently continued to make use of the chapel ground.

On the 7th of August, 1497, Master John Fynne Bachelor in the Laws, Perpetual Chaplain and Incumbent of the Free Chapel of blessed Mary Magdalene of Barnwell, commonly called Sterbrigge Chapel, with the consent of the Bishop of Ely the Patron and Diocesan (then Bishop Alcock), and the Prior and Convent of St Etheldreda in Ely, demised all lands, tenements, meadows, feedings, pastures, waste places, liberties, franchises, profits, and emoluments, rents, and services to the said free chapel belonging, except the chapel itself, the oblations, and fourteen feet of ground on each side and at each end of the chapel, to the mayor, bailiffs, and burgesses for ninety-nine years, they rendering £12 yearly on the morrow of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, and finding yearly at the Nativity of the Virgin, and placing before the image of the blessed Mary Magdalene, in the said chapel, five tapers of wax, of equal weight, and together weighing three pounds<sup>1</sup>.

In 1534, in the valuation of the first-fruits, the chapel of Sturbrigge was rated at £10. 10s. 0d.

At the Dissolution Christopher Fulneby was Custos, and in Cooper's *Annals* we read:

On the 27th of September (1544), Thomas Bishop of Ely, the Dean and Chapter of the Cathedral Church of the Holy and Undivided Trinity of Ely, and Christopher Fulneby incumbent of the free chapel of St Mary Magdalene called Styrrebrige, in the county of Cambridge, demised to the mayor, bailiffs, burgesses and commonalty of the town of Cambridge, the aforesaid chapel, with all glebe lands, lands, tenements, meadows, pastures, booths and boothgrounds, standings, liberty of building booths, rents, hereditaments, oblations, commodities, and profits, (except the advowson, patronage, and donation of the same free chapel) for sixty years from the preceding feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross; rendering to the said Christopher Fulneby and his successors £9. annually in the church of St Mary in Cambridge, called the University church, on the feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, between the hours of one and five in the afternoon<sup>1</sup>.

In a footnote we read:

Among the Corporation Muniments is An account of the possessions of the free chapel of St Mary Magdalene, commonly called Sturbridge chapel,

<sup>1</sup> Cooper, *Annals* (quoted from the Corporation Muniments).

within the precincts of the town of Cambridge, taken by Matthew Parker and John Redman Doctors in Divinity, and William Mey LL.D. the King's Commissioners, Feb. 1545-6. From this it appears the revenues were as follows:

	£.	s.	d.
Farm of 26A. 3R. of land lying dispersedly in the fields of Cambridge, Chesterton, Ditton, and Landbeach, with the pasture about the chapel ... ..	1	6	8
Farm of Stirbridge close ... ..	1	6	8
Rent of the chapel during the time of the fair on the feast of St Mary Magdalene, communibus annis ... ..	10	0	
Oblations in the same chapel on the day of St Mary Magdalene, and the time of the fair annually holden ... ..	4	0	0
Farm of divers standings particularly specified ... ..	3	14	10
	10	18	2
Reprises.			
Decay of oblations	4	0	0
Decay of certain booths	1	0	0
	5	0	0
Remained clear	£5	18	2

In the accounts of Edmund Lamberde and Thomas Scotte, treasurers of the town for the year ending Michaelmas, 1546, is included payment of 2*d.* to Jenings, the carpenter, for hanging up the bell at the chapel, and for fetching a ladder, and an additional 2*d.* for the rope for the same bell.

Later in 1565, in the accounts of Roger Smith and William Hodson, treasurers of the town, we find an entry of 8*d.* for rushes and straw in the chapel, and 8*d.* for "carriage a pulpit to ye chappell, and bryngynge it home ageyne."<sup>1</sup> It appears that the chapel was in use as a place of worship at this time, else there would have been no necessity for a bell, rushes and straw, and a pulpit. The latter, however, seems to have been required only for a very short time, no doubt for some very special celebration held in the chapel.

On the 22nd of February 1596-7, Queen Elizabeth, by letters patent, in consideration of a fine of £9., and the surrender of a lease for sixty years, dated 27th September, 36 Hen. VIII (see above) by the advice of William Lord Burghley Lord Treasurer of England, and Sir John Fortescue knt, Chancellor and Under Treasurer of the Exchequer, granted and demised to the mayor, bailiffs, and burgesses of Cambridge, All the free Chapel of Saint Mary Magdalene, called Styrbridge Chapel, in Cambridge, With all glebe

<sup>1</sup> Cooper, *Annals*.

lands, tenements, meadows, pastures, booths and booth grounds, standings, liberty of building booths, rents, hereditaments, oblations, commodities, and profits, with their appurtenances (except great trees, woods, underwoods, minerals, and quarries, and the presentation and donation of the said free chapel), To hold from the feast of St Michael then last past for twenty-one years. Rendering the annual rent of £9 at Lady Day and Michaelmas. The Queen further granted to the lessees, housebote, hedgebote, firebote, ploughbote, and cartbote, and liberty to take timber for repairs by the assignment of her Steward, Under Steward or Officers<sup>1</sup>.

On the 20th of July 1620, Mr Chace and others were appointed to rate all that held any booths or boothgrounds on any of the Chapel lands in Sturbridge fair towards the defence of the suit between the town and Mr Wyllis. On the 29th of September, a general assessment was ordered on all booth-holders in the fair for defraying the charges of suit with Mr Wyllis, such assessment to be larger on the booth-holders in the Chapel ground than the others. The assessment was made on the 17th of April, 1621, one proprietor of booths upon the Chapel ground being rated at 3s. 4d. in the pound; the others there and in Cheapside, Cook Row, and Pewterers' Row, at 2s. 6d. in the pound, and all the other booth-holders at 8d. in the pound. The total rental £710. 10s. 0d. Amount of the assessment, £50. 3s. 5d.

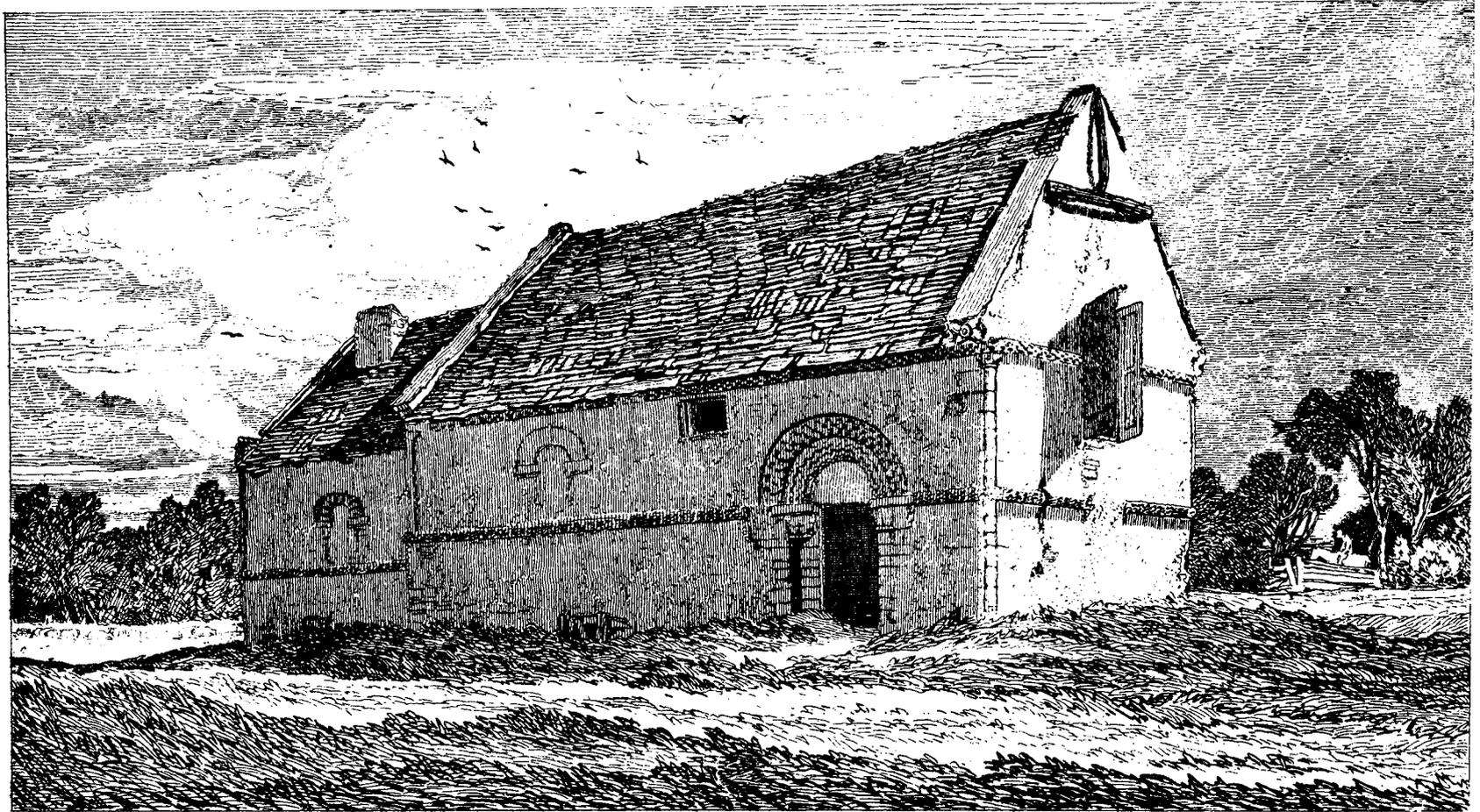
Several orders were made authorising proceedings against such parties as refused to pay this assessment, and on the 7th of May, 1622, it was ordered that if the rate should be insufficient, all the free burgesses should be assessed<sup>2</sup>.

In 1622, says Cooper,

an end seems to have been put to a suit which had continued for some time with respect to the right of erecting booths in the yard of Sturbridge Chapel. An action was commenced in the King's Bench by Thomas Willys and Richard Willys Esq. against John Durrant and Matthew Dennys. The declaration alleged that the defendants on the last day of August, 16 James I., with force and arms broke and entered the close of the plaintiffs at Cambridge and Barnwell, viz. one close of pasture called the Chapel Ground, otherwise Sturbridge Chapel Ground, otherwise the Chapel Yard, in Cambridge, and one other close of pasture called the Chapel Ground, otherwise Sturbridge Chapel Ground, otherwise the Chapel Yard, in Barnwell, and that the defendants, with their feet in walking trampled upon and consumed the herbage there growing of the value of £10., and dug the soil and erected ten posts and two stalls, called Berrybooths, otherwise the Wheat Sheaf, and put out the plaintiffs from the day above mentioned, till the 1st of October next following. The defendants pleaded not guilty, and had a verdict, upon which in Michaelmas term judgement was given in their favour, and £10. adjudged them for costs. The proceedings in this case were subsequently exemplified by letters patent, dated at Westminster the 12th of February 1622-3, and tested by Sir James Ley knt.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Cooper, *Annals* (quoted from the Corporation Muniments).

<sup>2</sup> Cooper, *Annals*.



1818 Drawn, Etched & Published by J.S. Cotman.  
North-west view of St Mary's Chapel at Sturbridge near Cambridge.

Relations between Sturbridge Fair and the chapel seem frequently to have been rather strained. The close proximity of the fair caused it to play an important part in the chapel's history, and a description of the latter would be incomplete without reference to it.

Sturbridge Fair is certainly of great antiquity. Lysons, in his *Magna Britannia* (1808) suggests that "it seems probable that it was to this mart at Cambridge that the Irish merchants brought cloth, and other goods, in the reign of King Athelstan, as may be collected from a passage in the ancient history of Ely" (foot-note: "*Hist. Angl. Scrip.* III, 482"). A vivid description of the fair is to be found in Carter's *History of Cambridgeshire*, published in 1753. He tells us that it

was thought some years ago to be the greatest in Europe. . . . The shops or booths are built in rows like streets, having each their name, as Garlick Row, Booksellers'-row, Cook-row, etc. And every commodity has its proper place, as the Cheese Fair, Hop Fair, Wool Fair, etc.; and here, as in several other streets or rows, are all sorts of traders, who sell by wholesale or retail, as goldsmiths, toy-men, brasiers, turners, milliners, haberdashers, hatters, mercers, drapers, pewterers, china warehouses, and, in a word, most trades that can be found in London, from whence many of them come. Here are also taverns, coffee-houses, and eating-houses, in great plenty, and all kept in booths, in any of which (except the coffee-booth) you may at any time be accommodated with hot or cold roast goose, roast or boiled pork, etc.

On the other side of the main road was the Duddery, a great square formed by the largest booths, with room for waggons to load and unload;

and in this Square, on the two chief Sundays during the fair, both forenoon and afternoon, Divine Service is read, and a sermon preached from a pulpit placed in the open air, by the Minister of Barnwell; who is very well paid for the same by the contribution of the fair-keepers.

He also tells us that "the Fair is like a well-governed city; and less disorder and confusion to be seen there than in any other place where there is so great a concourse of people"; but he observes "how inconveniently a multitude of people are lodged there who keep it." Carter's account of Sturbridge Fair will be found printed in full in *Highways and Byways in Cambridge and Ely*, by the Rev. Edward Conybeare.



1818 Drawn, Etched & Published by J. S. Cotman.

Interior view of St Mary's Chapel at Sturbridge near Cambridge.

(The corbel shown on the north wall is actually in the splay  
of the window.)

The fair keepers found the chapel useful and no doubt kept it in good repair, for Francis Blomefield<sup>1</sup>, writing in 1751, described it as "an antient Chapel built of Freestone, the Nave and Chancel of which are tiled, and serve now for a Repository for the Stuff to build the Fair with. This had formerly a Burial Place, and Houses round it for Lepers to inhabit...."

Dr W. M. Palmer, M.D., F.S.A., in the *History Teachers' Miscellany* for September 1926, prints the following extract from the *Cambridge Chronicle* for 13 September, 1783:

"To be sold, a freehold building known as the chapel of Stirbitchfair. The tenant draws between 7 and 8 barrels of beer during the fair. It is also convenient for laying up building materials for the fair. It has a right of causeway at all times of the year of four feet in breadth from the chapel to the turnpike road."

The chapel subsequently passed with the Barnwell Priory estate to George Riste, Esq., and in 1780 it was sold by his devisee, Mrs Anne Bentham, to John Gillam, Esq.

The Rev. Thomas Kerrich, M.A., Fellow of Magdalene College, and principal librarian of the University (1797-1828) bought the chapel from Frederick Markby, Esquire, for £160 on the 19th January, 1816. The condition of the building had attracted attention during the previous year, for the following Grace passed the Senate on 24th October, 1815:

"Cum nonnullis in hac Academia bene visum fuerit pecunias quasdam conferre ne vetustissima illa quae in agro Barnwelliano sita est aedes funditus eruatur:

Placeat vobis ut summa quinquaginta librarum ex cista communi in eundem usum erogetur, sintque Doctores Procter et Clarke et Magister Kerrich Syndici vestri constituti qui accepti et expensi vobis rationem reddant."

The total amount subscribed, including £30 from Mr Kerrich himself, was £174.

In the deed dated 29 May, 1817, by which Mr Kerrich conveyed the building to the University, it is described as follows:

All that building called the Chapel House situate in Stourbridge alias Stirbridge Fair Field next Paper Mills Turnpike facing the turnpike road there on the South containing in length 57 feet on the North 57 feet the

<sup>1</sup> Francis Blomefield, *Collectanea Cantabrigiensia*, 1751.

West end 22 feet and the East End 18 feet heretofore in the occupation of John Hillson with a baulk or piece of ground adjoining to and lying round the said House containing in width three feet and a half or thereabouts and the pathway leading from the turnpike road together with all and singular Eaves Drips Gates Stiles Fences Ways Watercourses Paths Passages Rights Privileges and Appurtenances whatsoever to the said building and premises belonging or in any wise appertaining.

At the end of the deed the following proviso occurs:

And the said Chancellor Masters and Scholars for themselves and their successors do hereby covenant promise and agree to and with the said Thos. Kerrich his heirs and assigns in manner following (that is to say) that they the said Chancellor Masters and Scholars and their Successors shall not nor will at any time hereafter pull down or remove or cause or suffer to be pulled down or removed or fall into decay the said building hereby conveyed or intended so to be but shall and will at all times hereafter maintain and keep the same in good repair and condition and preserve it as it now is as far as possible without altering on any account the style or form thereof<sup>1</sup>.

J. S. Cotman<sup>2</sup> wrote in 1819:

Of late years it (the chapel) has served as a stable, and very recently was threatened with complete destruction, from which it has happily been rescued by the care of a few gentlemen, who had knowledge to appreciate its value, and spirit to exert themselves to preserve it. Among these was most conspicuous the Rev. Thomas Kerrich F.A.S., Librarian of the University,

to whose kind suggestions he attributes the origin of his book.

In Richard Grey Baker's map of Cambridge, dated 1830, the building is described as a "Roman Catholic Chapel in ruins."

In August, 1842, an appeal was made in *The Ecclesiologist*, the publication of the Camden Society, for the use of the building as a burial chapel.

The chapel was repaired by the University in 1843 at a cost of £84. 15s. 1d., the Rev. T. Kerrich, son of the late Librarian of the University, giving £30.

On 13 November, 1844, when the Eastern Counties Railway was under construction, the following Grace passed the Senate: "To allow the Chapel of St Mary, at Sturbridge, to be placed at the disposal of the Committee" for providing

<sup>1</sup> *Endowments of the University of Cambridge*, edited by J. W. Clark, 1904.

<sup>2</sup> J. S. Cotman, *Antiquities of Saint Mary's Chapel, at Stourbridge, near Cambridge*, 1819.

religious instruction for the Railway Labourers "for the celebration of Divine Worship." A subscription was raised for a salary for a chaplain.

In 1865 an appeal was made by the Cambridge Architectural Society for funds with which to restore the chapel. A circular was issued which contained the following:

"The dilapidated condition of the Chapel on the Newmarket Road, commonly called Stourbridge Chapel, has long been a subject of regret to all who value the Ecclesiastical remains of Antiquity.

The Cambridge Architectural Society are willing to undertake the Restoration of this interesting building, on the understanding that the consent of the University be obtained, and that promises of subscriptions sufficient to justify an expectation that the sum (£500), necessary for the work, will eventually be raised.

Independently of the Chapel being in itself highly worthy of restoration, as a fine specimen of Norman work, a still stronger argument for rescuing it from its present state of ruin, is found in the increase of Church accommodation, which the Chapel, if restored, would provide for the spiritual necessities of the overgrown Parish of S. Andrew the Less, Barnwell" etc.

A subjoined letter from the Rev. G. W. Weldon, the incumbent, contains the words:

I may mention for the information of the Committee, that there is a scattered population of about 200, living in the adjacent brick-fields, and since the Chapel was closed, on the completion of the Railway, these persons have seldom, if ever, attended a place of Worship.

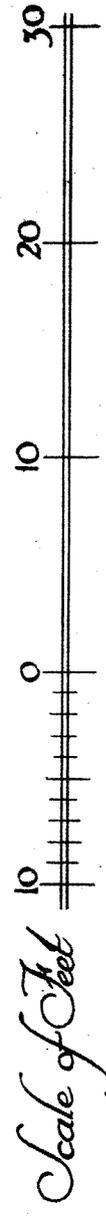
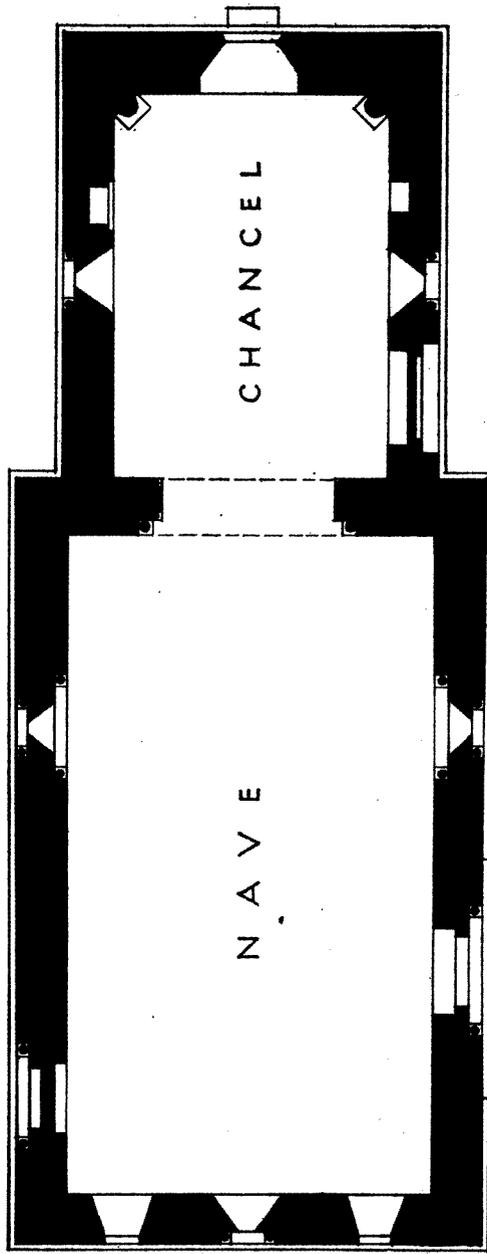
As a result of this appeal a restoration was undertaken in 1867 under the direction of the architect, Sir G. G. Scott, and the west wall of the nave was remodelled.

In 1918 the chapel was lent to the nursing and police staff of the Barnwell Military Hospital, and an adjacent detachment of the Army Ordnance Corps.

#### DESCRIPTION OF THE CHAPEL

The work of the rebuilder and the restorer is to be seen as much in the little chapel of Sturbridge as in many other much larger buildings and churches which our ancestors have passed on to us. Seven hundred years have not left the chapel untouched, and as we have seen in our historical account of it, neglect, alteration, and repair have all played their part in changing its original appearance.

Chapel of Saint Mary Magdlene, Sturbridge, Cambridge



The Ground Plan

CHESTER H. JONES MENS. ET DELT. 1925

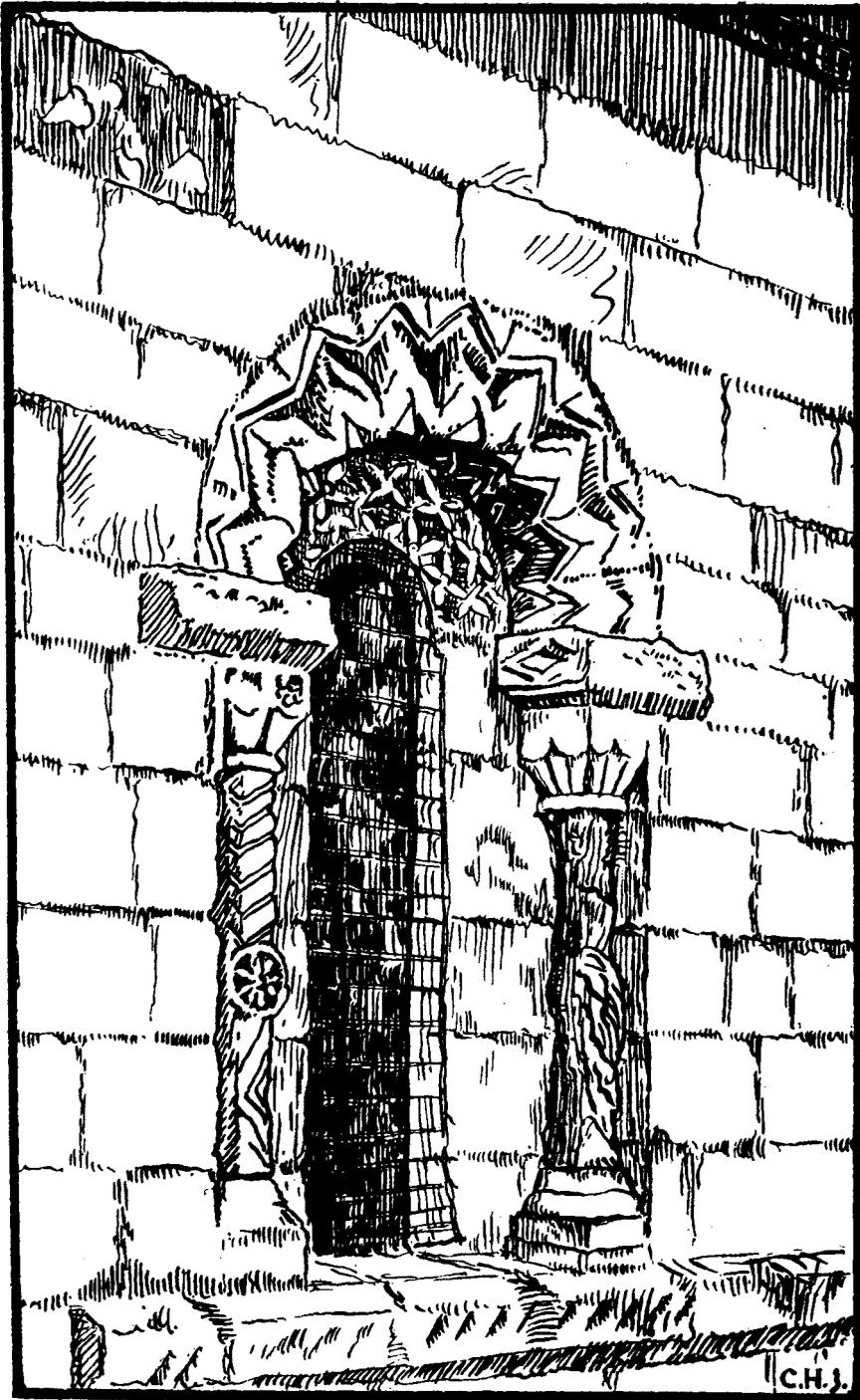
Used as a barn, a cattle shed, a support for the booths of the famous Sturbridge Fair, a repository for the material of which the fair was built and sometimes as a house of prayer, it could hardly be expected to have remained unchanged for seven centuries; yet, in spite of all this, it retains in the main its original form, and the ground plan, with its square east end typical of the English Norman church of that date, is no doubt original.

In plan the chapel consists of a nave measuring internally 30 feet 11 inches long by 16 feet 11 inches wide, and a chancel 18 feet long, by 12 feet 8 inches wide, divided from the nave by a chancel arch of 8 feet 1 inch span and 2 feet 5 inches deep. The nave originally had two doorways, north and south, but that on the north side has been bricked up, no doubt to get rid of the draught which the two must have created. The chancel is faced externally with ashlar and the nave walls are of flint with stone quoins; internally the walls are of rubble which was originally plastered throughout. The stone is oölitic limestone, no doubt from the Barnack or Weldon quarries of North Northamptonshire.

The chancel offers interesting study for the archaeologist. It appears to have been vaulted originally with a single quadripartite vault, springing from shafts in the angles, some five feet in height. The outline of the vault against the wall can be plainly made out, and portions of the eastern shafts remain, that on the north still retaining its cushion capital, carved with rosettes. Probably the chancel vault of Sturbridge chapel—if it was ever completed—shared the same fate as so many of the Norman endeavours to roof their churches in stone, but no record of its collapse exists, and it may probably have remained until the fifteenth century when the present roof was built.

The east window, rectangular in shape, is very plain, has a wooden lintel and is splayed on the inside; it was probably put in in the XVI or XVII century to admit more light. There may originally have been no east window, unless there was one above, where the wall has been patched up with brick beneath a wooden lintel. This patching was done some time during the last century, for in one of J. S. Cotman's

ST. MARY MAGDALENE, STURBRIDGE



EXTERIOR OF SOUTH CHANCEL WINDOW

drawings, published in 1819<sup>1</sup>, the present east window does not appear, and another square window is shown immediately above the upper external string-course. No doubt the present window, then unglazed, was blocked up to allow hay to be stacked up against the wall inside. Cotman's drawings are of great interest in showing us the appearance of the chapel over a hundred years ago.

In the opinion of Dr Cobbett, M.D., the north and south walls of the chancel have at some time been raised, thus accounting for the lower position of the external billet string-course on the east wall.

There are small, narrow, round-headed Norman windows north and south of the chancel, splayed on the inside and decorated with jamb shafts on the outside. The external voussoirs of the north arch are ornamented with a peculiar pattern resembling a flower enclosed by two leaves and those of the south with the familiar chevron or zig-zag pattern. The south window has a curious hexagonal western shaft decorated with the chevron ornament and having a rosette in the centre. The rosette appears again in the capital and immediately above the opening.

A remarkable feature of the chancel is the very curious, low, segmental archway in the south wall, measuring internally 7 feet 3 inches high to the crown of the arch by 4 feet 5 inches wide, and externally 5 feet 8 inches high for the inner order, and for the outer 6 feet 1 inch high by 5 feet wide. Outside the archway is of two orders and is protected by a hood-mould. It is certainly not original work and it is difficult to ascribe a use for it. Its width and lowness, taking into account the former chancel floor, makes it improbable that it was ever a priest's door, and a more feasible reason for its origin seems to be in the provision of an archway for cattle to enter the building when the chancel was used as a cattle shed and perhaps divided off from the nave. It may be that the nave doors were found insufficient when the chapel was in use as a repository for the materials of which Sturbridge Fair was built, but if this was its purpose it

<sup>1</sup> J. S. Cotman, *Antiquities of Saint Mary's Chapel, Stourbridge, near Cambridge*, 1819.

is remarkable that the builders should have troubled to place a hood-mould over it. It is not improbable that the chancel was inhabited during the XVII or early XVIII centuries and separated from the nave, and the existence of a chimney rising above the chancel roof and another over the nave in Cotman's drawings lends weight to this suggestion. We shall see further on that there was almost certainly a middle floor in the nave.

The use of churches for human habitation was by no means uncommon in the past. It is interesting to note that the chancel was sometimes called a "chamber," and the chancel of Prestbury, in Cheshire, was divided from the rest of the church by a timber partition, removed in 1637. Mr S. O. Addy<sup>1</sup> gives evidence to show that priests and others dwelt and slept in churches and he tells us that the Saxon church of St Lawrence at Bradford-on-Avon was, at least for two centuries before 1858, used as a dwelling house and contained an intermediate floor and fire-place, "the chancel being recognised in what had been a two-storied cottage." Probably the chancel of Sturbridge chapel has served a similar purpose, so that the east window which appears in Cotman's drawing would light the first floor room, the archway in the south wall being kept low to make room for the floor above it. In the same work we read: "Over the vaulting of the chancel at Leckhampton church, Gloucestershire, is a room lighted from the east. . . . Such chambers are not, even yet, very uncommon. . . ."

There are two small recesses in the chancel, one in the north and one in the south wall, which probably served the purposes of aumbry and credence respectively. That on the north originally had doors.

The chancel arch, of which Cotman has made a careful drawing<sup>2</sup>, is rich but unusual in design, and in a remarkably perfect state of preservation. It has a span of 8 feet 1 inch, and a height of 10 feet 8 inches to the crown of the arch, and

<sup>1</sup> S. O. Addy, *Church and Manor*, 1913.

<sup>2</sup> It is interesting to note that in this picture several stone slabs are shown leaning against the wall. If not entirely fictitious they may once have formed part of a stone floor.

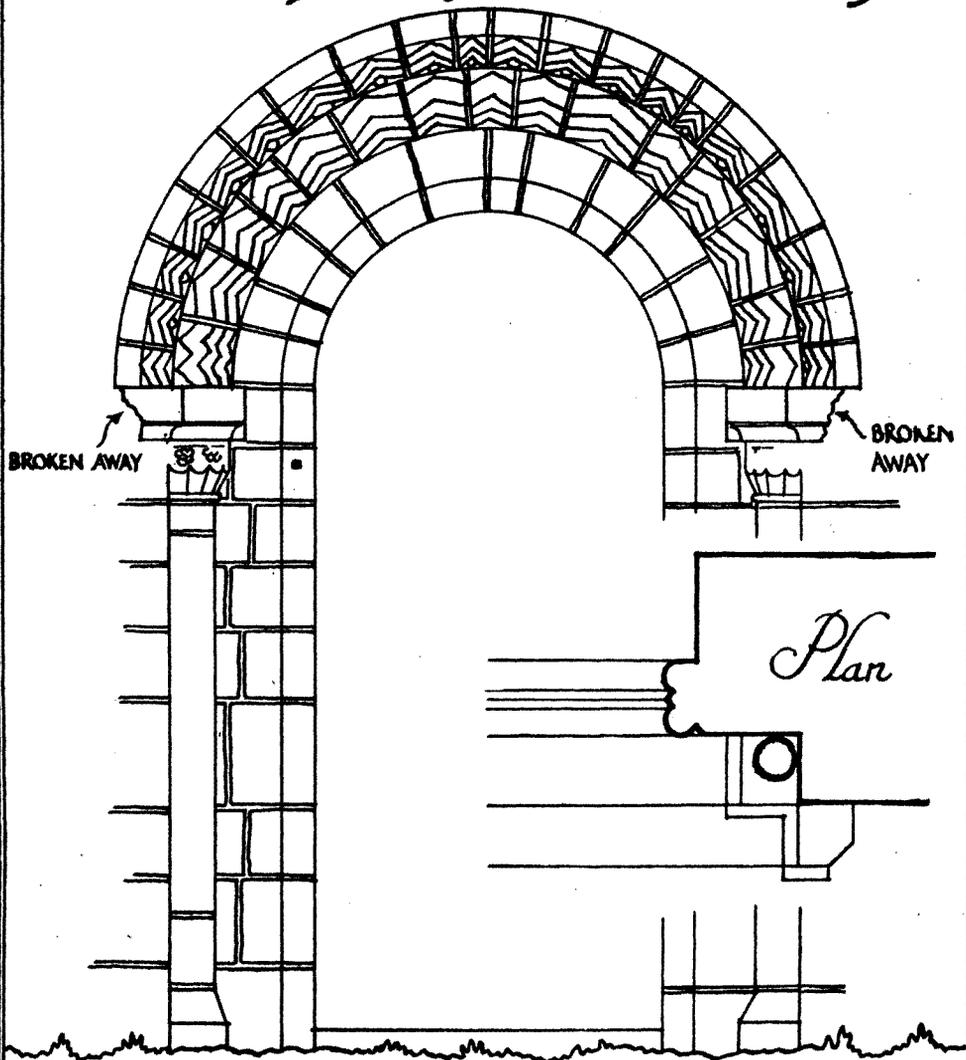
a depth of 2 feet 5 inches. The western face consists of two orders with peculiar and deeply cut forms of the chevron pattern, and the jambs are ornamented with shafts having elaborate scalloped capitals with heavy abacus, the design of which on the inner order is carried through the depth of the arch, emphasizing the springing line. The capitals of the north side are decorated with a rosette pattern. The capital and arch moulding are figured in Rickman's *Gothic Architecture*.

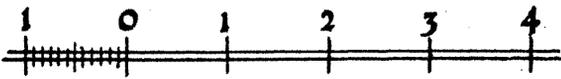
The nave has two original Norman windows, one in the north and one in the south wall, splayed on the inside, and ornamented both inside and out with shafts and zig-zag voussoirs similar to those in the south chancel window. Note the extreme narrowness of the original Norman windows which are only 7 inches wide in the nave and 8 inches in the chancel and set high in the wall. They are reminiscent of times when it was necessary to build with a view to protection against enemies, and the very shape of the windows with their wide splay and narrow external openings reminds us of the slits in the wall of the mediaeval castle from which the archer could aim his arrow with a considerable choice of direction and the greatest possible protection for himself. In the rise of Romanesque and Gothic architecture it is interesting, when possible, to compare the domestic with the ecclesiastical and to note the marked similarity between them.

Of the two doorways in the nave that on the south is the larger and more elaborate, as is generally the case; for since that side of the church faced the sun it was usually chosen for decoration and for the principal entrance to the building. This doorway is of two orders, the outer supported on shafts with capitals bearing traces of the rosette pattern. A third order of the arch projects beyond the wall face, supported on a projection of the abacus above the columns. It has the appearance of a big hood-mould or canopy and may have been also supported on columns. There may originally have been a porch, as is suggested by Messrs Atkinson and Clark<sup>1</sup>. The outer two orders are ornamented with the zig-zag pattern, and the soffits of the voussoirs of the outermost are decorated

<sup>1</sup> Atkinson and Clark, *Cambridge, Described and Illustrated*, 1897.

# Saint Mary Magdalene, Sturbridge



Scale of Feet 

❖ The South Doorway ❖

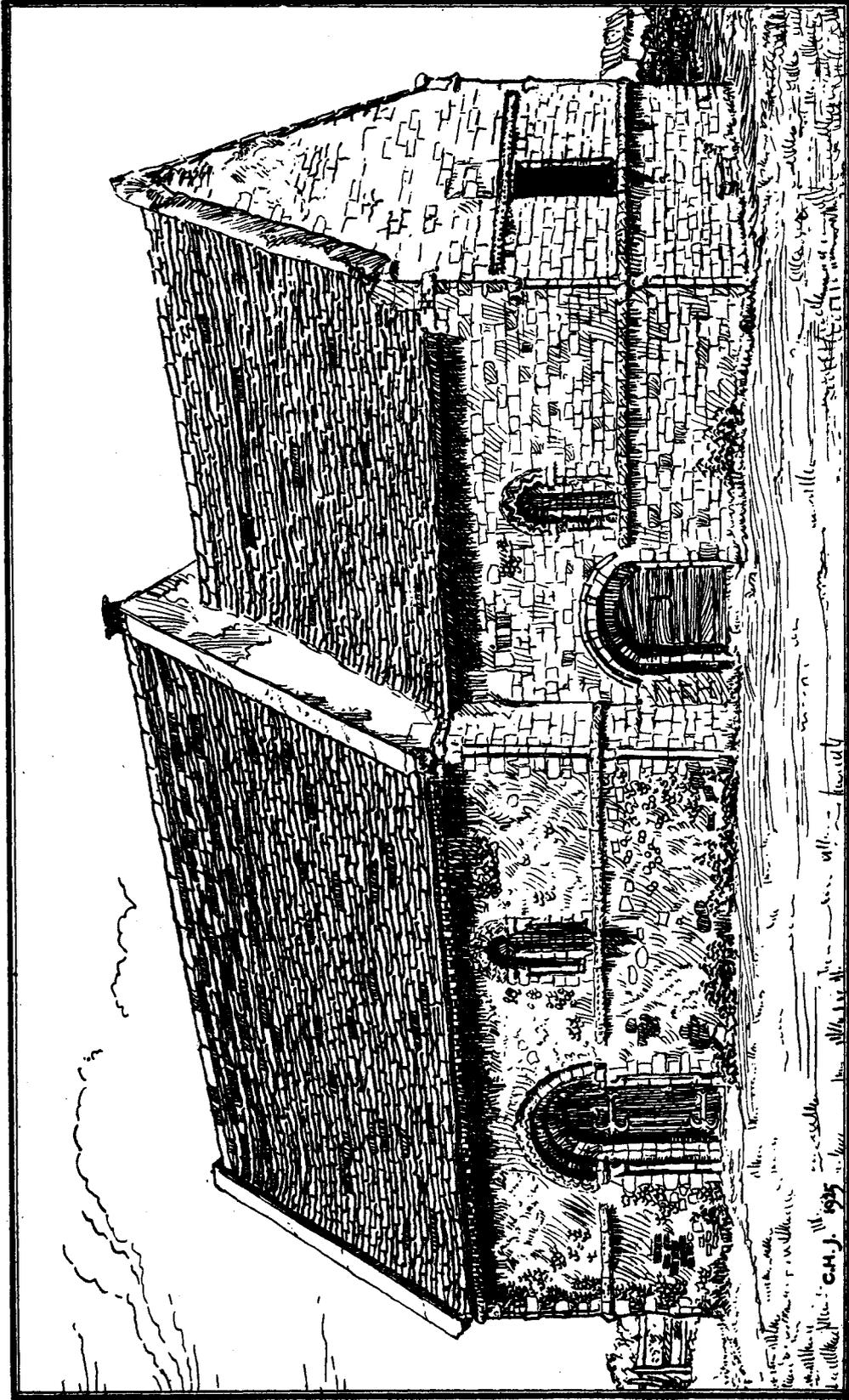
C.H.J. M.&D.

with a variety of shapes, such as the flower with four petals, the diamond and the arrow-head. The level of the earth floor was a foot below the level of the surrounding ground, so that one had to step down into the church. However the base of the walls of the nave, though considerably restored with brick footings, suggested that there was originally a floor several inches higher. A tiled floor has just been completed under the direction of Mr Wilfrid Bond, F.R.I.B.A.

The north doorway, which is closer to the west wall, is considerably smaller and has a stone lintel and rubble tympanum. It has, like the south doorway, a projecting order; but this differs from the inner order, which is of the zig-zag pattern, and is decorated with the round billet moulding much worn, similar to the string-course which passes round the chapel beneath the eaves. The opening has been bricked up.

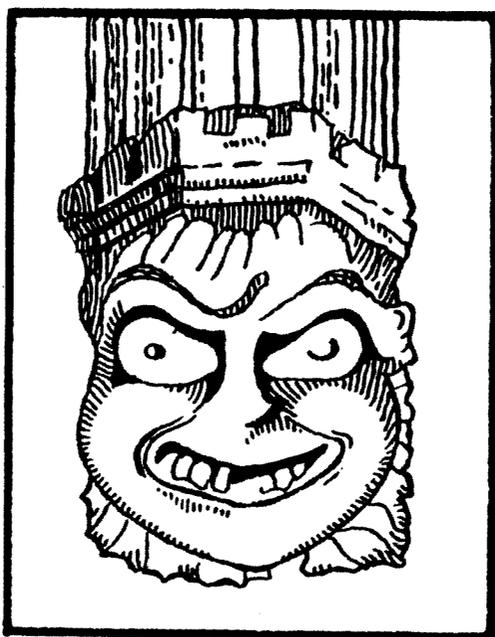
The west wall of the chapel was very much altered by Sir G. G. Scott in his restoration of the building in 1867. In Cotman's drawing double doors are shown above the lower string-course, and these probably led into a loft above the nave. No trace of this opening remains and the wall is pierced by three windows—one in the centre, of Norman design, immediately above the upper string-course, and resembling the others in the nave; and on either side of it a small circular window 1 foot 8 inches in diameter, splayed on the inside, and on the outside decorated with a round moulding. These two circular openings appear to be original. In two of Cotman's drawings openings may be seen inserted beneath the eaves in the nave, probably taking the place of the Norman windows, which were stopped up to allow of hay being stacked against the walls. It will be noticed that the threshold of the double doors in the west wall is raised above the lower string-course, and the intermediate floor would thus come immediately above the window which Cotman shows inserted in the south wall of the nave. Windows were not usually found necessary for barns, which gives additional support to the theory that the chapel might at one time have been used for habitation.

The roofs of the chapel present an interesting problem. They are of XV century date, simple in character and of a



Chapel of Saint Mary Magdalene, Sturbridge, Cambridge, from the South-East ❖

steep pitch; that above the nave is divided into four equal bays by arched moulded principals without collars and bound together by a single purlin. The rafters rest on the outside of the wall, and are supported by pendant-posts which stand on a moulded cornice, while the principals rise from carved corbels some four feet below the top of the wall. The chancel roof, smaller in size, is divided into three bays and is similar to that over the nave, save in the moulding of the principals and in the absence of pendant-posts, the rafters rising direct from a wall-plate hidden by a moulded cornice. In the chancel



A CORBEL *from the NAVE*

the corbels do not interfere with the windows. It is remarkable that the nave roof has not been constructed to match the original building. Thus its division into four equal bays has necessitated placing corbels in the splay of the windows. Only two solutions can be found for this—unless we are to regard the mediaeval carpenter as exceedingly careless. Either it was intended to remodel the walls of the chapel, destroy the small Norman windows and insert others of larger dimensions; or else the roofs were brought from elsewhere and made to fit the chapel as well as possible, which would account for the fact that on the south side the nave

roof interferes with the arch of the window. A careful examination however reveals no constructional alterations in the roofs to make them suit a new span. Note the grotesque carved corbels which remain.

Externally the chapel exhibits very pleasing proportions and the detail deserves careful examination. It is divided into two stages by a horizontal moulded band of the "hatched" pattern, which passes right round the building at a height of about 5 feet above the ground. In the chancel it is at a slightly lower level and consequently returns twice against the east wall of the nave. This band serves excellently to unite nave and chancel, and it forms a base line for the windows and a springing line for the arch of the nave doorways and the segmental-headed archway in the chancel. At the same time the angles of both nave and chancel are ornamented with attached shafts, the capitals of which support the band, which in its turn forms a base line for another set of angle shafts above. A second string-course, of the round billet design, passes round the chapel beneath the eaves. On the east wall it forms a separate band at a lower level, supported as in the nave by the capitals of the upper angle shafts. Note that a rosette is carved on the stone adjoining the capital of the upper south-east angle shaft of the chancel. In the masonry of the north wall of the chancel there is a zig-zag voussoir which may have come from a destroyed east window similar to the others in the chancel.

There are good carved springing stones to the coping of the nave, but of the gable crosses only the bases remain.

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#### ILLUSTRATIONS OF THE CHAPEL OCCUR IN THE FOLLOWING WORKS

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1. View from the North-West.
2. View from the South-East.
3. North Doorway.
4. South Doorway.
5. Details.
6. View of the Interior.

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The South Doorway.

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From a drawing by Frederick L. Griggs.

#### POSTSCRIPT

Dr W. M. Palmer sends me the following:

1299. "Master Robert de Wynewik custos capelle de Steresbrigg" dug the mill pond of Steresbrigg which is in the King's hand by reason of the vacancy of the See of Ely. This is presented by the jury of the Hundred of Flendish in the Eyre of 27 Edw. I. It comes under the head of "encroachments." The Sheriff answered that Robert has no lay fee and the jury are fined for their presentment.

*P. R. O. Assize Roll, 96.*

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