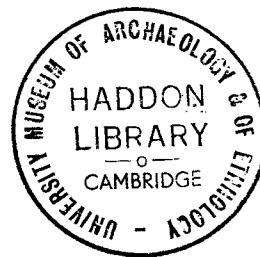


PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
Cambridge Antiquarian Society,

OCTOBER 1934—OCTOBER 1935



VOLUME XXXVI

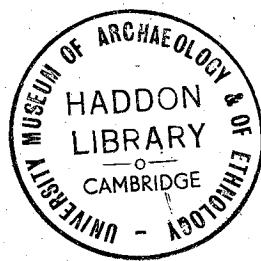
Edited by W. P. BAKER, M.A.

Cambridge:

Published for the Cambridge Antiquarian Society
By BOWES & BOWES

1936

Price Twenty-five Shillings net



CAMBRIDGE
ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY
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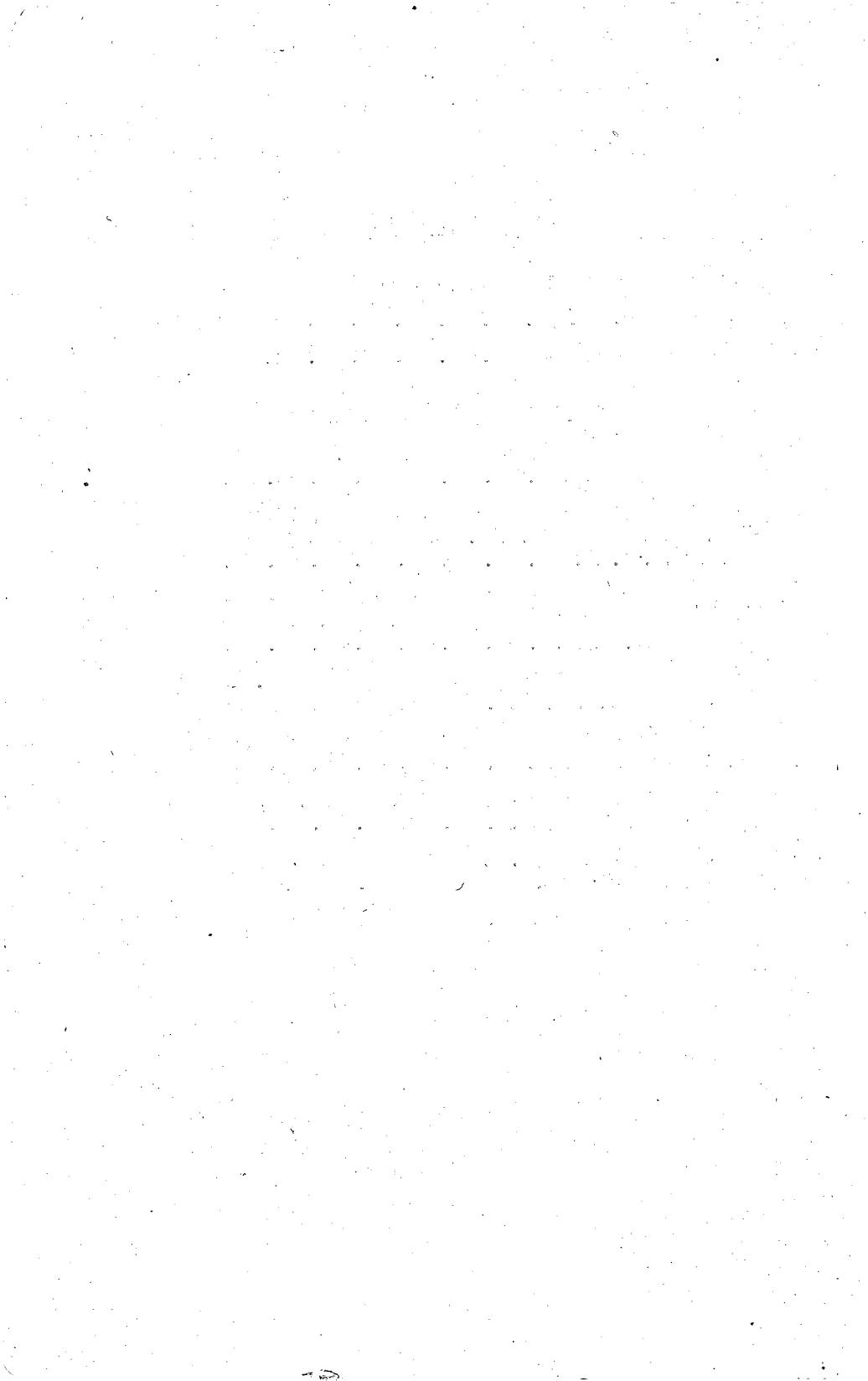
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PRINTED IN GREAT BRITAIN

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THE HOSPITALS OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST AND ST MARY MAGDALENE AT ELY¹

PART II

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

The origin and purposes of these hospitals are obscure, chiefly because no chartulary relating to them is known to exist. Any record of that kind must have passed into the possession of the Bishop of Ely long before the hospital property came to Clare College. As the majority of the chartularies of the bishopric have been lost, it is not surprising that the chartulary of St John's Hospital, as well as those of the nunneries of Swaffham Bulbeck and Ickleton, which also fell to the bishop, are not now forthcoming. In an attempt to remedy the want of a chartulary for the Ely hospital, a series of extracts and transcripts has been made from available sources, and they are set out here in order of dates. A careful perusal of these will give some idea of what kind of institution the hospital was. The documents should speak for themselves, but having been warned by Dr Cobbett that documents without an introduction are useless, I have with some trepidation ventured on one.

The chief sources of information have been:

(1) The abstracts of the registers of the Bishops of Ely made by the late Canon J. H. Crosby and printed many years ago in the *Ely Diocesan Remembrancer*. Few people know what a mine of valuable information was made available by this monumental work on the registers, because the *E.D.R.* was an ephemeral publication and became extinct long ago.

¹ The chief printed source of information concerning these hospitals is to be found in the supplement to Bentham's *History and Antiquities of Ely*, published by William Stevenson in 1817, pp. 88-9. This includes the information collected by James Nasmyth in his edition of Tanner's *Notitia Monastica*. The petition of Edward Leeds, mentioned in a note on p. 89, is not included in this printed Calendar of State Papers.

Except in a few cases I have relied entirely on the canon's English abstract.

(2) The documents which were transferred with the hospital property to Clare College. Here it is a great pleasure to acknowledge the courtesy of Mr W. J. Harrison, the bursar, in granting me full access several times to these in most comfortable surroundings; even the summer audit was not allowed to disturb me. Besides the documents relating to Ely itself, there are many others relating to the property of the hospital in other parishes.

It should be distinctly understood that the following list of documents is not exhaustive. Many other sources of information are available for research, such as the unprinted Pipe Rolls. The records of the Cambridgeshire Eyres of 1272, 1286 and 1299 are an almost unworked source of information. Unfortunately few early receivers' accounts of the bishopric have survived at Ely. But a book of receipts and payments by Richard Wilkes (1541-2) might contain references to the hospital.¹ It looks as if Richard's wages as receiver were being paid with the income of St John's Hospital, of which he was master.

There are in the Public Record Office receivers' accounts during the vacancy of the See for the years 1286, 1298-1300, 1311, 1316. The references to these are Ministers' Accounts, 1132 1132
9-10, 12-13. All these and other sources will no doubt be studied by the writers on Cambridgeshire religious houses for the *Victoria County History*.

THE DOCUMENTS RELATING TO THE HOSPITALS OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST AND ST MARY MAGDALENE AT ELY

The earliest mention of any hospital at Ely is in 1162, when amongst the sheriff's payments of alms is one of five shillings to the Bishop of Ely "for the immunity of his hospice". The same entry occurs in the two following years. Nigel was then Bishop of Ely. The entry may mean that he

¹ Gibbons, *Ely Episcopal Records*, p. 97.

should have paid 15*s.* for a licence to endow his hospice. However that may be, the entry is at least a proof that the bishop had a hospice as early as 1162 (Doc. No. 1).

There are no further payments or allowances by the sheriff until the year 1170, at which date and for two following years he records the payment of £8 8*s.* to the hospital of Ely on account of the manors of the bishopric. This payment was made by the sheriff, as the See was vacant, and he was managing the episcopal estates (No. 2). By 1173 Geoffrey Rydel had become bishop and payment by the sheriff ceases. This annuity of eight guineas may have been given to the hospital by the founder. Many years afterwards the following references to this annuity are found in the Public Records. During the short interval between the reigns of Bishops Hotham and Montacute, and again during the troubrous reign of Bishop Lisle, the keepers of the temporalities of the bishopric refused to pay the annuity. The master of the hospital petitioned the King and Council, proving by records that his predecessors had received it during the reigns of Henry III and his son, and the Prior and Convent, who were the keepers of the temporalities, were ordered to pay the annuity, which had been increased to £11 14*s.* 1*d.* (Nos. 15 and 29). How long the annuity continued is not known, but it is not included in the revenues of the hospital drawn up by Dr Leeds in 1576.

Previous to the time of Bishop Northwold (1229–54) there were two hospitals at Ely, one dedicated to St John and the other to St Mary Magdalene. The first dated gift to either hospital was the appropriation of the tithes of Littleport to the hospital of St Mary, about the year 1225. The whole parish of Littleport belonged to the bishop, so he, Geoffrey de Burgh, could have met with little opposition to the appropriation (No. 3). The tithes of so large a parish were a great gain to the hospital and perhaps put it in front of St John's in the matter of revenue. The only other donation of which any record has survived is a gift of land and meadow in Ely by John de Beverand to the hospital of St John (No. 4). The deed is undated, but from the character of the handwriting might belong to the early thirteenth century. Such gifts to

hospitals were common in that century, as may be seen in the extracts from the chartularies of the Royston hospitals in the volume on John Layer published by this Society.

As related in another part of this paper the two hospitals were united about 1240 by Bishop Northwold and the united hospital given the name of St John the Baptist and St Mary Magdalene.

As soon as the hospitals became landowners they were liable to the burdens imposed on land, and at the grand inquest held during the Cambridge Assizes of 1299 the brethren of the hospital of St John were indicted for not repairing two bridges between Ely and Witchford. Although their attorney pleaded that they were not liable, a local jury declared that the brethren held land near the bridges on condition that they should keep them in repair. So they lost the day and were fined. It must have been a new master who led the brethren into this unnecessary expense (No. 8).

Another document (No. 10) is about land lying on Witchford way near the above-mentioned bridges. The hospital is not mentioned in it, but it was probably part of the title deeds to certain lands owned by the hospital. It is printed here because of the place-names mentioned in it.

We now come to the period of the hospital's greatest prosperity, when it began to buy land. Having received the King's licence to buy and hold in mortmain land to the value of ten marks a year (No. 11), they proceeded to do so whenever the opportunity offered, which was not often. In 1327 they bought property in Ely to the value of about five marks (No. 13). But it was not until about thirty years later that they were able to buy household property, land and water rights in the Isle of Ely to the full value of their licence (No. 30). In connection with the latter transaction a curious thing happened. Some land in Haddenham had been bought and taken into their possession, but had not been included in the return to the escheator, perhaps because its inclusion would have made the total purchase exceed the ten marks annual value. The master's legal adviser doubtless hoped that the fraud on the King might not be found out. But the wheels of feudal officialdom, working slowly but surely, found

out the irregularity in 1376. Then the hospital lost the Haddenham land, it was seized by the King's escheator, and given to a member of the King's household. The hospital lost all the money which had been paid for it (No. 31). Undeterred by this mishap, and the funds still being ample, a further licence was obtained in 1383 to acquire lands of the value of £10 yearly (No. 36), and in 1392 the hospital bought land in Ely and Downham to the yearly value of £5. This is the last record of the hospital buying land (No. 43).

THE INCOME OF ST JOHN'S HOSPITAL

If the annual value of lands bought by the hospital in the fourteenth century is added to the annuity received from the bishop, the total is over £19. To this has to be added the value of the rectory of Littleport, which in the Norwich valuation is given at twenty marks, so the total value in the fourteenth century was at least £32 17s. 9d. We know from entries in the bishop's register that the hospital paid no taxes (Nos. 16 and 50). In the Poll Tax of 1379 the value of the hospital is given as under £20 (No. 34). The amounts of rent paid are illegible in the terrier of 1529 (No. 52). In the *Valor Ecclesiasticus*, 1535, the value is given as £25 5s. 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. The government certificate of the value of the hospital when granted to Clare Hall in 1561 gives it as £5 clear, which seems an understatement (No. 64). Dr Leeds, who had acted as master, that is, had taken the revenues for several years, estimated the yearly income as £28 15s. 2d. (No. 65). After that the value increased rapidly, and in 1655 it had risen to over £90 (No. 69). During the present century the value of the college property in Ely has increased considerably, and houses and lands to the value of over £12,000 have been sold (from the information of Mr W. J. Harrison, bursar).

BUILDINGS OF THE HOSPITALS

In the fourteenth century the buildings of the hospitals consisted of chapel, infirmary, refectory, dormitory, cloister: these are all mentioned in Doc. Nos. 5 and 9, and as references are made to sisters and guests, there must have been lodgings

for these also. Moreover, as John Cardinal had choice of living rooms when he was pensioned (No. 42), there were living rooms in addition to refectory and dormitory. Chapters were to be held frequently; these may have been held in the chapel, but that there was a chapter house is possible. Leaving out the kitchen, which was perhaps outside the other domestic range, there were ample buildings to enclose the cloister and garth. The latter was not very large because sick people other than brothers dying in the infirmary had to be buried in the parish cemetery of St Mary's Church.

THE RULE OF THE HOSPITALS (Nos. 5 and 9)

The number of inmates was fixed at thirteen and not more by the Rule of 1240 (No. 5), but sixty years later the Rule says that the number of thirteen must be maintained (No. 9). This looks as if there had been a falling off of applications for admission. The head of the hospitals is called "Master" or "Custos", and he in his turn was under the rule of the sacrist of the monastery as vicar of the bishop. The master had control of all the property of the hospitals under certain limits. He had a room of his own, but he was forbidden to dine there alone; he was always to dine with the brethren in the refectory. He could keep two horses and no more for the use of himself and the brethren.

The inmates of the hospitals are distinguished as chaplains and brothers, or clerical and lay brethren. Of the fifteen admissions recorded in the bishops' registers all except four relate to priests. The brethren, clerical and lay, were all to dine in the same room, and also to sleep in the same room if possible, if not, the clerics to sleep in one room, the lay brethren in another. Little talk was to be allowed at meal times, even guests had to be addressed in a low tone. Due precedence was always to be observed, but seniors and juniors were always to respect each other. The brethren were to be clad in cloth of the same colour and one suitable to their office, their garments were to be closed in front, and always to be worn, both in the hospitals and when they went abroad.

The chaplains were all to rise at matins, and were to sing at all the canonical hours. They were to make daily

remembrance of the Bishop of Ely and the Prior and Convent, and all benefactors. Certain chaplains would have particular duties, such as those appointed by John de Beverand and Lady Mary de Bassingbourn. When not singing masses the chaplains were to give themselves up to contemplation and the study of Scripture. The lay brethren, instead of serving at the canonical hours, which might have interfered with their daily work, for matins were to say the Lord's Prayer twenty times and at each hour the *Salve Regina* seven times.

The Rule seems to insist that the chaplains should never be alone, even shaving was to be done in company. A great difference between the chaplains and the inhabitants of the nearby monastery was that the chaplains could with the permission of the sacrist dine in the town, and even be absent from the hospital for the space of three days; but there were always to be two of them together (No. 9).

THE INFIRMARY

Very little can be gathered from the two Rules as to provision for the sick. The Rule of 1303 (No. 9) says: "Let there be a separate house for the infirm with one or two of the brethren to wait on them." This cannot refer to infirm brethren alone, because Bishop Northwold's Rule provides for the burial of two classes of corpses from the hospital, those of the brethren and those of the poor. All we can be certain of is that there was an infirmary into which others than the brethren were admitted. Amongst the "others" may have been sick pilgrims.

WHY WERE THE HOSPITALS FOUNDED?

The original purpose for which these two hospitals were founded nearly eight centuries ago, and whether or not they were established for the same purpose, we do not know, nor why they were placed so close together. This is, of course, assuming that the remains as we see them to-day do include both the sites of St John the Baptist and St Mary Magdalene. But that can be by no means certain. The two hospitals at

Royston, which were united about the same time as the Ely hospitals, were a little farther apart, but were in different counties, and moreover were at the crossing of two of the main roads of the kingdom. Ely was on no main road, but all roads in the neighbourhood led thither, to the shrine of St Awdrey. The monastery had its own guest house and infirmary, but it may not have been possible, or even desirable, that pilgrims of all degrees of health and poverty should be housed therein. And it may be that one of the hospitals was founded by Nigel to accommodate pilgrims, and the other for the same purpose by an unknown benefactor. The assertion by Conybeare (*Highways and Byways in Cambridge and Ely*, p. 382), that they had been founded for the use of monks "who though residing in Ely wished to be independent of the greater monastery", does not seem to be likely, as the hospitals were still under the rule of the sacrist of the monastery. The pilgrim hostel suggestion seems to be more likely.

THE RULES IN CONNECTION WITH BUILDING OPERATIONS

The several different times when the Rule of these hospitals came under the consideration of the bishop of the diocese will strike the reader as remarkable. Bishop Nigel must have provided his hospital with some kind of Rule, yet Bishop Hugh de Northwold, when he united the hospitals less than a century later, made a new Rule. Bentham (*History and Antiquities of Ely*, 1812 ed., p. 147) seems to imply that this Rule was something new. It may have been, but there is no proof that it was so, except that de Northwold does not mention Nigel's Rule. Then when Bishop Robert de Orford published his much longer Rule in 1303 (No. 9), he refers to the Rules laid down by Bishops Hugh¹ (1257–86) and Ralph (1299–1302). Much later, in 1409, Bishop John de Fordham copied both de Northwold's and de Orford's Rule into his register. Although he made no addition the Rule must have been under consideration. Perhaps suppression had been in John de Fordham's mind. As the 1302–10 register has been

¹ Hugh de Belesale, commonly called Hugh de Balsham.

lost for centuries, the inspection and transcription of his Rule was a fortunate thing for the history of the hospitals. From the above remarks it will be seen that the Rule for the government of the hospitals had been under review by five different bishops.

It should be borne in mind that the Rules of 1240 and 1303 may have been issued after building operations. We know that some alterations must have taken place in 1240, and the study of existing remains may show traces of fresh work done in the early fourteenth century.

The exact wording of the Rule of 1240 (No. 5), which united the two hospitals, is worthy of study because of the light it might throw on the existing buildings. At the beginning of the Rule it is stated that the hospital of St John is to be united to the hospital of St Mary (*hospitale Sancti Johannis predicto hospitali Sancte Marie Magdalene uniatur*). And the last sentence before the sealing clause states that the chapel of the hospital of St John should be left at the disposition and in the custody of the sacrist (*Capella vero beati Johannis Baptiste de Ely Sacriste predicti dispositioni et custodie relinquatur*).

From these extracts it is plain that, whatever ultimately happened, the bishop intended that the hospital of St Mary Magdalene only should be used for the future and that the hospital of St John the Baptist should be secularised. It may be that the buildings of St Mary's were the better of the two, for the bishop takes no account of any building of St John's besides the chapel.

The united hospitals went by the name of St John and St Mary long after their religious character had ceased, that is, after they had come into the possession of Clare Hall. That certain buildings in Ely now called St John's Farm should be the remains of a hospital which was united to St Mary's Hospital in 1240 is unlikely. The farm should be called "St John's and St Mary's".

In this connection see the remark appended to Doc. No. 20.

THE HOSPITAL AND CORRODIES

According to the preamble of an Act of Parliament passed in the year 1414, the excessive granting of corrodies or free lodgings had been a cause of the insolvency of hospitals. That however did not happen to St John and St Mary at Ely, for that institution remained flourishing until it fell like a ripe plum into the lap of the bishop. Three instances of corrodies occur in connection with the Ely hospitals, two of which were granted to women. In 1295 William de Luda, Bishop of Ely, bought, for a yearly payment of five marks, that is, a little over twopence a day, free board and lodging for the widow of one of his dependents in the hospitals of St John and St Mary (No. 7). The grant does not specify what the quarters of the lady were to be, but it does specify that her daily diet was to be ample, that is, she was to have two gallons of ale, two loaves of bread and twice as much cooked meat as any brother had. As the brethren were only allowed meat on three days a week, the large quantity of beer must be looked upon as food.

The second instance can only have been a complimentary corody (No. 12). Mary de Bassingbourn was a lady of high lineage and considerable wealth. She was the sole heiress of the Thorntons of Thornton Steward in Yorkshire (see Farrer, *Feudal Cambridgeshire*, p. 147), and had married Humphrey, the head of the de Bassingbourn family, who died in 1298. Mary's lands in this county were in Fordham and Wicken. It is hardly likely that a lady who could afford to give a gross of loaves of bread away on her birthday or death day, would require the bread and beer of St John's Hospital. The real interest of the document (No. 12) is that it mentions the sisters of the hospital as if they were a regular part of it. It is the only reference found to sisters at Ely, although at Royston, where many more documents are available, they are frequently mentioned. A hostel for pilgrims must have contained some arrangement for the accommodation of women; but perhaps such an idea comes from a mind used to the conventions of the twentieth century.

The other corrody is of a more regular character and such as was of more frequent occurrence, the pensioning of a former master and his servant. The only point to remark on in this document (No. 42) is that John Cardinal was practically offered a choice of chambers. One would have thought that the master's chamber was the only one available, but evidently that was not so.

THE FATE OF THE HOSPITALS

The documents here printed seem to show that the Ely hospitals gradually became starved of men and not of means. Bishop Northwold had to restrict the number of brethren to thirteen. Sixty years later the number was ordered to be made up to thirteen. In 1379, although the hospital had been buying land, it only contained five brethren and a master (No. 34). Some years later it was still buying land. Brethren were admitted up to 1402, when comes the gap in the registers, 1413 to 1443. In 1454 a Scotch bishop is appointed master in order to put the finances of the hospital straight, and he is followed by the bishop's domestic chaplain (Nos. 46-7). These secular priests must have put things in order, for towards the end of the century three masters were collated, that is appointed, by the bishop. This was done because there were no brethren by whom an election could be made in the ordinary way. The hospital and its revenues had fallen into the lap of the bishop, and a series of collations to needy prelates was the result (Nos. 53-4).

DOCUMENTS RELATING TO THE HOSPITALS OF
ST JOHN THE BAPTIST AND ST MARY
MAGDALENE AT ELY

Pipe Rolls. From the printed version of the Pipe Roll Society.

8-10 Henry II (1162, 1163, 1164).

[In elemosinis constitutis.]

1. Et episcopo de Ely in quitantia hospitii sui. 5*s.*

11-15 Henry II (1165-9). No mention of the hospital.

16 Henry II (1170).

2. Et in elemosinis constitutis Hospitali de Ely viij^l viij^s per maneria Episcopatus.

17 Henry II.

Et in elemosinis constitutis Hospitali de Ely viij^l viij^s. Et eisdem xvij^s v^d in decimis anguillarum de Welle.

18 Henry II.

The same entries as preceding year. The Pipe Rolls of 19-34 Henry II, of Richard I and John contain no mention of the hospital, as the payment was being made directly from bishop to hospital.

[See nos. 15 and 29, where it is stated that £11 14*s.* had been paid to the hospital in the time of Henry III, Edward I and Edward II.]

3. *Gray's Register*, fo. 115. Brief to the Bishop, asking whether, and, if so, since when, the church of Litelport is appropriated to the Mastership of S. John's Hospital, Ely; was a vicarage founded therein at the time of the appropriation, what sums do the said Master and Vicar pay to Tenthys?

25 April 1464.

Bishop's certificatory. We find that the church of Litelport was appropriated to the Hospital of S. Mary Magdalen, Ely, in 1225, and that subsequently Bishop Hugh united the two Hospitals of S. John and S. Mary Magdalen, since which date the said church has been held by the Master of the united Hospitals; a vicarage was founded and endowed at £6 13*s.* 4*d.*: in 1291 its assessment became 100*s.*; in 1414, by order of the Archbishop of Canterbury, it was reduced to 6 marcs; but it has been the custom of ourselves and our predecessors to exempt them (the Master and Vicar) entirely from payment of tenths. Somersham, 16 May 1464.

4. *Clare College MSS.* Know, etc., that I John de Beverand grant and by this my charter confirm to the hospital of St John the Baptist outside the town of Ely for the support of a chaplain ministering there for the living and dead benefactors of the hospital, for the safety of my soul etc., those five acres and three roods of arable land and one rood and a half of meadow which I held of the fee of William son of Philip Kyleware in the fields of Ely. To have and to hold for ever paying to the almoner of Ely at the four usual terms, three halfpence for all service etc. as is contained in the charter which William gave me concerning that land, which charter, together

with that which I had of him concerning the said service of sixpence to be paid to the Almoner, for the greater precaution and security I have delivered, in which charter the exact situations of the said lands are plainly contained. [Sealing clause.]

Hic testibus: magistro Johanne decano, Willelmo Petro Ricardo capellani, Elya clero, Willelmo et Nicholao filiis suis, Moricio janitore, Johanne culcitrario [mattress maker], Salomone aurifabro, Henrico de Ribure, Aluredo coco, Gilberto de Treford, Godardo corvesario, Ricardo de Sancto Albano, Hugone clero, Johanne filio suo et multis aliis.

190 by 120 mm. Seal lost. Thirteenth century or earlier.

5. *Old Coucher Book*, fo. 228. *MS. M.*, fo. 186. *Fordham's Register*, fo. 219. Regulations made by Bishop Northwold, with the consent of the Prior of Ely, under their seals, in regard to the two Hospitals of St John and St Mary Magdalene in Ely. [Paraphrase by J. H. Bullock.]

On the ground of redundancy the two Hospitals are to be united. The chaplains and brethren under [religious] rule to dine in one refectory and sleep in one dormitory; they are to wear garments closed [in front] of a cloth suitable to them¹. The total number not to exceed thirteen. Every one received into the brotherhood to obey the Sacrist, as the Bishop's deputy, in everything affecting the Hospital and its usefulness. The Sacrist to see (by himself or by deputy) that the rents and profits are spent on the brethren and the poor, not taking anything for himself. Both chaplains and brethren to be appointed and discharged by the Bishop or the Sacrist acting for him, and none of the real estate (*immobilia*) to be disposed of without their consent. The chaplains to be sworn not to take any offerings from the parishioners at the four big festivals, and not to hear confessions except the Sacrist permits. They are not to persuade anyone to will property to the Hospital to the detriment of the parish church. The Sacrist to be able to inflict any punishment short of expulsion on any chaplain or brother committing an offence. The poor who die in the Hospital are to be buried at the parish church, chaplains and brethren in the Hospital graveyard. The chapel of St John the Baptist and its disposal to be vested in the Sacrist.

6. *Coucher Book*, p. 7b 2, A.D. 1251. Downham. Free tenants. The brethren of the hospital of St John of Ely hold three and a half acres of land which were Roger le Grant's, for which Roger used to lodge the bishop's messengers, to dig his portion in the vineyard and to work on the causeway of Aldrehere to the length of fifteen feet or pay twopence if the lord so willed.

MS. Cotton, Tiberius B ii, fo. 94. The above holding is thus described A.D. 1222, before the hospital acquired it:

Simon son of William holds a cottage and gives for "witepunt" three

¹ *Et clausa de panno sibi convenienti deferant indumenta.* I am indebted to Dr G. G. Coulton for the above rendering of this difficult clause. He says:

"By the regulations the cleric must wear a gown nearly down to the ankles and buttoned or fastened down the front; it was the father of the modern cassock. As to colour that was absolutely at his own choice barring the three expensive and worldly colours of red, green, and the striped or parti-colour."

pence a year, and for "segsilver" two pence, one hen and ten eggs; he owes one day's work each week; and shall stack the hay and corn of his lord, and have one sheaf in the evening; he owes one day's work at the bridge of "Alrethe" or shall give two pence, and one day's work in the vineyard of Ely or give one penny.

Roger le grand holds three acres and a half and ought to lodge the Bishop's messengers, etc.

7. *Assize Roll 96. Membrane 69.* William Tuchet was summoned to answer Roger the Master of the Hospital of St John and St Mary in Ely for arrears of an annual rent amounting to five marks.

The Master stated that he and the brethren had granted by their letters patent, at the instance of William [de Luda], formerly bishop of Ely and ancestor of Tuchet whose heir he is, on 23 September, 1295, a corrodoy in the said hospital to Maud, the widow of William de Tawell, knight; for her sustenance she was to receive every day two loaves and two gallons of ale of the better sort which the brethren had at the common table, two dishes of cooked meat such as two brethren had, and the pittance whenever paid. In return for which corrodoy the Bishop bound himself and his heirs to pay five marks a year during Maud's life. That amount was secured on the manor of Tawell¹, and all the Bishop's other lands. The Master received the rent during the Bishop's life, but now William Touchet, cousin and heir of the late Bishop; who holds the manor of Estworth within the liberty of the Isle of Ely, of which Bishop William was seised at the time of the agreement, keeps back the yearly payment to the damage of one hundred shillings to the Master. Tuchet appears and denies his liability. [The Master then quotes the letters patent of William de Luda dated at Doddington, 6 March 1294, the substance of which is given in the Master's plaint.]

Then Touchet, having heard that writing read, and understood it, acknowledges to be true whatever is said in it. Moreover he says that it is plain from that writing that William, late Bishop, bound himself and all his heirs, his lands and tenements to pay that yearly rent, but he, Tuchet, has a coheir and partner in the hereditaments of the late bishop, namely Isabella, wife of Roger de Morteyn², and asks the opinion of the Court as to whether he ought to answer without his coheir and partner.

Tuchet, asked if he has anything more to say, says nothing, and judgment is given for the Master of the Hospital. The record is sent to the King at the instance of Tuchet.

Damage and arrears 4*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* of which 20*s.* C.

8. *P.R.O., Assize Roll, 96, A.D. 1299. Membrane 80.* Concerning bridges. The jury of the hundred of Ely say that the brethren of St John's Hospital in Ely ought and used to repair the two small bridges at Dethesdene between Ely and Wycheford which are now broken down and useless.

¹ Tatthewell, Lincolnshire, about four miles from Louth. The Bishop held lands there of Philip Marmioun. Cal. Inq. P.M. 20 Edw. I, p. 21.

² William de Luda died seised of the manor of Ludgarshall, Bucks.; William Touchet and Isabel, the wife of Roger de Morteyne, were the next heirs, and of full age. Cal. Inq. P.M. 26 Edw. I, No. 482.

The brethren appear by attorney and deny that they are liable for such repairs, since they do not hold any land near the bridges. But the jury say that the brethren hold two strips of arable land near the said small bridges given to them by Bartholomew Whiteside under the condition that they should keep the bridges in repair. Therefore the verdict is that the brethren shall repair the bridges and be amerced for a false plea.

9. *Fordham's Register*, fo. 218. 1303. Ordination of St John's Hospital, Ely, by Bishop Robert de Orford, after inspecting the rules laid down by Bishop Hugh [de Balsham] and Bishop Ralph de Walpole. Let all the brethren, clerical and lay, live by rule, exhibiting sobriety in deed, behaviour and attire, all are to eat and sleep together in one house, if of sufficient capacity, otherwise let the clerics sleep in one house, the lay brethren in another; no one to be absent from the divine offices without permission, they must be silent during celebrations, and refrain at all canonical hours from over-much talking; silence to be observed in cloister, refectory and dormitory after compline, except it be necessary to speak for a guest, and then it must be short and subdued; the master and brethren, clerical and lay, must confess their mortal sins to the Sacrist of the Priory, and to none other, except with the Sacrist's permission; lighter sins may be confessed to one another, the chaplain shall make daily remembrance of the Bishop, the Prior and Convent, and all benefactors with masses for those who are dead; no one to be absent from the house beyond, at most, three days, without revealing the reason to the master or an elder; two masses with note to be celebrated daily in the chapel with all present; all to rise for matins and for all the hours to be said with note; the lay brethren, whether they have been present at matins or not, shall say for their matins the Lord's Prayer twenty times, with as many salutations of the B.V.M., and for each of the hours, seven; lay brethren to say, before and after dinner, a *pater noster*, humbly bowing; the master is not to have delicate food in his own chamber, but to dine in refectory with the others; after dinner let all go to the church, devoutly singing the *miserere*, and there give thanks to God; let two wait faithfully upon all the brethren, not upon one or two only, by day and by night in the divine offices; all to be clad in cloth of the same colour and shape; let none stand in church at the hours, or go abroad without the habit of the house; let all be shaved together, none separately, except with reasonable cause; illicit consortings with women and babblings to be avoided in all places, especially in church and in the precincts of the house; they are to live continently and free of vice, avoid drunkenness and taverns; must not play with dice or be present at such play, must give themselves up to contemplation and study of scripture; no private feastings or potations, especially extravagant ones; not to go to towns or public places singly; not to eat or drink in any town except by permission of the Sacrist; no quarrellings; no meat to be eaten except on Sundays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays, none at all from the first Sunday in Advent to Christmas, nor from Quinquagesima to Easter; let there be a separate house for the infirm, and every attention given to them, with one or two of the brethren to wait upon them; remnants of food from the common table to be distributed amongst the poor, without favour; all their goods to

be in common; the purveyor of the house not to buy or sell except in presence of another brother; all moneys to be kept in a chest with two keys; movables may be bought or sold by the master with the consent of the brethren, immovables only by permission of the Bishop and Sacrist; the master may not keep more than two horses in the stable for himself and the brethren; the ordination of Bishop Northwold about S. John's Hospital is to be observed in all its particulars; chapters to be held twice or thrice weekly and faults corrected there, not privately; no one to speak at Chapter except by Master's permission, unless it be to confess his own errors or to denounce those of others; about temporal things let all be heard in their turn; the Sacrist to be obeyed in all things, as specially mentioned by Bishop Northwold; the due precedence of the brethren is to be always rigidly observed, but let seniors respect juniors, and juniors seniors; as we know the property of the Hospital to be ample, let the full number of thirteen brethren be always maintained; transgressors of these rules to be fed on bread and water until freed therefrom by the Bishop or Sacrist; these rules to be read three times at least yearly; admission to the Hospital to rest solely with the Sacrist. 6 August 1303. Collated with the original, 26 April 1407.

Fordham's Register, fo. 219. Ordination of the Hospitals of S. John Bapt. and S. Mary Magd., Ely, by Bp. Northwold. As the revenues of the latter hospital are more than it needs, we unite to it for ever the Hosp. of S. John, the united number of brethren to be thirteen, by whom obedience is to be rendered to the Sacrist of the Priory in all things, etc. No date. Collated with original, 1 December 1409.

10. *Clare College MSS.* 1306. Know that I Henry son and heir of Henry de Walepol formerly Knight (or knight?), of Ely, grant and confirm to Hugh de Denever of Ely and his heirs for a certain sum of money paid to me in advance two acres and a half and one selion of my arable land lying in parcels in the fields of Ely: one at Wycchefordcruch in three selions, between the lands of the Bishop of Ely and of Agnes le Bray, abutting one head on Wychefordweye, the other upon Cleyhul; one rood between the Bishop's land and the land of Robert son of Robert Beneyt; one rood lies "in length" near West Weye on one part and the customary land of the Bishop on the other, one acre called "the Thurnaker" with one [buteria] butt lying at Beledich; one selion near Beleweye etc. To be held of the chief lord of the fee for service owed for ever. Witnesses: Benedict de Helgeye, John de Leghton, John Michel, Nicholas Joye, Robert son of Robert Beneyt, William Bural, Roger de Denever, William Brewer (Braciator), Roger de Griston. Dated at Ely Sunday after SS. Peter and Paul, 34 Ed. I.

11. *Calendar of Patent Roll*, p. 319. 1319. Licence for master and brethren of St John's Hospital, Ely, to acquire in mortmain lands and tenements to the value of ten marks a year.

12. *Clare College MSS.* 1323. This indenture made on the Friday after the feast of St Thomas of Canterbury in the sixteenth year of Edward son of King Edward between Mary de Bassingburne of the one part and the master and brethren of the hospital of St John the Baptist and St Mary Magdalene of Ely on the other, witnesses that I Mary de Bassingburn

confirm to the said hospital in pure alms a messuage with appurtenances in Ely lying in the lane which is called Patiz lane between the tenement of the said hospital on the one part and the tenement of Philip Cocus on the other, which messuage I had of the gift of Baldwin the son of Walter of Tylney, for an alms every year for my soul and the souls of Humphrey and John my husbands and of my ancestors, for observing faithfully the day of my obit and to ensure the payment annually on my Anniversary to seven score and four poor people to each one of them one farthing's worth of bread at the cost of the said hospital in Ely. Heirs of Mary to have power of entry if the charity is not carried out. And the brethren on their part agree to receive the said Mary as one of the sisters and admit her to share all benefits. Witnesses: John de Leighton, Simon de Ketene, Walter clerk, John Michel, Henry de Fenlonde, Peter de Schroppham, John de Helegeye, Robert Beneyt, Robert de Capella, Roger de Denever, Bartholomew de Bradefield and many others.

[Paraphrase by J. H. Bullock.] Dated at Ely, 1323. 250 by 200 mm. fragment of armorial seal.

13. *C.P.R.* p. 144. 1327. Licence for alienation of messuages, land and rent in Ely and Downham to the master and brethren of St John the Baptist, Ely, by Walter Feuger, Alice late wife of John de Welle, Martin Man, chaplain, Mary de Bassingburne, Baldewyn de Tylney, and William and Edward, his brothers (land and yearly rent of 8s.) John le Barkere and Margaret, his wife (a yearly rent of 2s. 9d.), Nicholas de Arnyston, chaplain, William de Brundish, Clerk, and Nicholas Sicut of Duneham, which messuages, land, etc., are returned by William Trussel, escheator, as of total yearly value of 28s. 4d.

14. *C.P.R.* p. 411. 2 March 1333. *Insperimus* and confirmation, at the request of John, Bishop of Ely, to the master and brethren of the hospital of St John the Evangelist, Cambridge, confirming a Statute of Bishop John de Hothum, 1333, that if a fit person should not be in the lap of the hospital to be made Keeper, then they shall nominate to the bishop "one of the brethren of the College of the hospital of St John Ely". If a fit person cannot be found at either hospital, the bishop to nominate, without prejudice to the rights of the brethren.

[Mr Hugh Gatty of St John's College, who is working on the history of the hospital of St John the Evangelist at Cambridge, tells me that there is a copy of Hothum's statute in the Chartulary of that hospital.]

15. *Calendar of Close Roll*, p. 75. 1337. To the prior and convent of Ely. Order to pay the master and brethren of the hospital of St John the Baptist, Ely, 58s. 6½d. without delay, for the term of the Annunciation last. The master and brethren had shown to the King and his Council that they and their predecessors had received 11li. 14s. 1d. from the Exchequer of Ely, by the hands of the bishop, or by the hands of the keeper of the temporalities, the see being void, of certain alms appointed in times past. The prior and convent now in possession of temporalities had refused to pay these alms.

16. *de Montacute's Register*. 6 April 1339. St John's Hospital, Ely, claimed exemption from paying procurations because of poverty.

30. *C.P.R.* p. 15. 1358. Licence for the alienation in mortmain by Thomas Darrant, parson of Stretham, Richard de Middleton, parson of Lyttlebury, Robert de Ickelynton of Ely, chaplain, Robert le Hundreder of Ely, to the Master and brethren of St John's, Ely, in full satisfaction of 10 marks yearly of land and rent which they had the late King's licence to acquire, of 14 messuages, 3 shops, 50 ac. 3 rods of lands, 1 acre of meadow, 67 ac. 3 rods of marsh in Ely, Littleport and Downham, Dodyngton and Elm, and free fishing in the water of Stanmire and a moiety of a weir in the water of Benwick not held in chief and of the value of 48s. 8½d. yearly, as has been found by Nicholas de Styvecle, late escheator in Cambridgeshire.

31. *C.P.R.* p. 277. 20 May 1376. Grant for life to the King's esquire, Thomas Hauteyn, of a messuage and 5 acres 3 rods of land in Hadenham in the Isle of Ely, which are forfeit to the King because the Master and brethren of the Hospital of St John, Ely, acquired the same in mortmain by Richard Tyd and Robert Hykelyngton, brethren of the house, without the King's licence, contrary to the statute, as has been found by inquisition taken before the escheator.

32. *de Arundell's Register*, fo. 21b. Admission of Henry de Wycheham, acolyte, as brother. 5 January 1376-7.

33. *Ibidem*, fo. 28. Admission of dns. John de Stanton, priest, as brother. 1 February 1378-9.

34. *P.R.O., Clerical Subsidy*. 23/1. 1379. *Clerical Poll Tax*.

Frater Johannes Cardinal, Magister hospitalis sancte Johannes civitatis Eliensis, infra xx ⁱⁱ	vs.
Thomas de Brunne, confrater ejusdem	iiij ^d .
Alexander Springaunt , ,	iiiij
Henricus Wicham , ,	iiiij
Johannes de Wysebech , ,	iiiij
Johannes Dounham , ,	iiiij

[At the hospital of St John the Evangelist in Cambridge were a master and five brethren. At St Radegund's a prioress and ten nuns. At Denny an abbess and forty nuns. At the Priory of Ely a prior and forty-five monks.]

35. *de Arundell's Register*, fo. 44. Mast. Robert de Tunstede, priest, junior, as brother; inducted by the Sacrist of Ely. 24 March 1382-3.

36. *C.P.R.* p. 299. 1383. Licence for the acquisition in mortmain by the warden and brethren of the hospital of St John etc., Ely, of lands, tene- ments and rents, not held in chief, to the value of £10 yearly.

37. *Arundell's Register*, fo. 50. Composition between the Master, John Cardinal, and Brethren of S. John's Hospital, Ely, and Walter de Bredon, Perp. Vicar of Lytelpore, respecting certain tithes. 28 July 1384. [The composition, the original of which has been seen, enters into many details concerning the tithes, but does not throw any light on the working of the hospital.]

17. *Ibidem.* 14 June 1342. Roger de Buckworth pres. to brotherhood of S. John's Hospital, Ely, by Master and Brethren.
18. *Ibidem.* 3 September 1342. Lic. to Brother Robert de Marham of S. John's Hospital, Ely, to go to the Roman Curia, returning as quickly as he can. He swears to do nothing hurtful to the Hospital, or Church of Ely.
19. *Ibidem.* 12 April 1344. John de Cotone admitted master of Hospital of S. John and S. Mary, Ely, in succession to John de Walcote.
20. *de Insula's Register*, fo. 47. Visitation of S. John's Hospital, Ely, by Hugh de Seton: their church and cemetery are to be consecrated at once. 20 July 1345. [The visitor seems to be making an order about a newly built church: "*Ac quod ecclesiam vestram in honore sancti Johannis Baptiste et Sancte Marie Magdalene laudabiliter constructam et nominatam temporibus retroactis in Dei et sanctorum predictorum nomine consecrari procuretis instanter.*" These words would not have been used if the church to be consecrated had been the old church of St Mary Magdalene remaining after the junction of 1240. It is more likely to have been a new church with a joint dedication. The visitor goes on to say that the diocesan should consecrate a burial ground for the brethren and the sick poor. But he forbids the old burial grounds to be used, however suitable they may be, until they are reconsecrated.]
21. *Ibidem*, fo. 2. Admission of John de Wivelingham, priest, as brother on pres. of Master and Brethren. Somersham, 1 December 1345.
22. *Ibidem*, fo. 15b. Adm. of Augustine de Coppenhale, clerk, as brother. 7 September 1348.
23. *Ibidem*, fo. 23b. Adm. of Richard of Tydd S. Giles, cleric, as brother. 4 July 1349.
24. *Ibidem*, fo. 25b. Licence to the Master and Brethren of the Hospital of St John and St Mary, Ely, to reconcile their cemetery, polluted by blood, by any Catholic Bishop. By virtue of this licence the Bishop of Leighlin reconciled the cemetery. N.D. [? July or August 1349].
25. *Ibidem*, fo. 25. Adm. of Richard of Adynburgh, pr., as brother. 19 July 1349.
26. *Ibidem*, fo. 36. Adm. of dñi. Thos. de Brunne and Thos. Pessok, priests, and John Cardinal, deacon, as brethren. 8 April 1350.
27. *Ibidem*, fo. 40b. Adm. of John, son of John of Dounham, as brother. 3 October 1351.
28. *Ibidem*, fo. 42. Adm. of John, son of Edward Prat of Soham, as brother. 12 April 1352.
29. *C.C.R.* p. 359. 1357. Order to John de Wesenham, keeper of temporalities of the Bishopric, to pay 11*l.* 14*s.* 1*d.* for the term of St Andrew to the Annunciation last. They have received this amount at the usual terms in equal portion, as certified by the barons of the Exchequer, as well in the time of Henry III, as of Edward I and Edward II.

38. *de Fordham's Register*, fo. 4. Admission of dns. Peter de Bury as brother. 22 October 1388.

39. *Ibidem*, fo. 173. Admission of Br. John Cardinall to the Mastership. 13 July 1390. [But see no. 32.]

40. *Ibidem*, fo. 176. Admission of Thomas de Brampton, Brother of S. John's Hospital, Ely, to Mastership, on resignation of Br. John Cardinal. 14 February 1390-1.

41. *Ibidem*, fo. 179. Admission of Robert de Stretham as brother. 21 December 1392.

42. *Ibidem*, fo. 177. The Bishop decrees, with the consent of the present Master and Brethren, that John Cardinal, late Master, shall receive daily, in recognition of his former services, 2 white loaves, 2 gallons of the best ale, with such other food, clothing, lights and necessaries as the Brethren are wont to receive; and for his servant, 1 black loaf, 1 gallon of "second" beer,¹ the servant's stipend and clothing to be provided by the said John. The Bishop assigns him the chamber which he now occupies, unless he prefers some other. 28 March 1391.

43. *C.P.R.* p. 144. 1392. Licence for alienation in mortmain by William Frankeleyne, clerk, and John Pulham, of 11 messuages, 2 tofts, 20 acres of land, 2 acres of meadow, and 5s. rent in Ely and Downham, not held in chief, and of the yearly value of 2 marks exclusive of the same rent, as found by the escheator, to the warden and brethren of the hospital of St John etc., in aid of their maintenance, in part satisfaction, viz. 100s., of a licence to acquire lands of £20 yearly value.

44. *de Fordham's Register*, fo. 194. Admission of Thomas Child and John Patrik as brethren. 11 March 1401-2.

45. *C.P.R.* pp. 183-95. 1418. Confirmation of arbitration between Bishop and monks of Ely concerning their rights;...

Sacrist to have jurisdiction in the hospital of St John the Baptist within the city—the Bishop to have all other spiritual jurisdiction;...

On the west of Brode land towards Newenham, opposite the butchers' stalls...three cottages under one roof pertaining to the house of St John....

[Several other possessions of the hospital are mentioned, but they do not add to our knowledge of the hospital itself. This is a valuable topographical account of Ely streets, and is different from that given in MS. Cotton, *Vesp.* A 19, fo. 76 etc.]

46. *Bourchier's Register*, fo. 40. Collation of William, Bishop of Dunkeld, to the Mastership and administration of the Hospital of S. John etc. which, though usually governed by regulars and religious, has fallen, through the neglect and bad administration of its Masters, into so great poverty, ruin, and wretchedness that no regulars can be found capable of effecting its recovery. Dounham, 4 April 1454.

47. *Gray's Register*, fo. 33. Collation of Mastership to Master Robt. Norman, M.A., Bp.'s domestic chaplain. Its previous maladministration,

¹ This word is used in Crosby's abstract: but beer or hopped ale did not come into use until the sixteenth century.

by "regular" and "religious" persons, has reduced it to the utmost want and misery, and no "religious" persons can be found capable of relieving it; we feel confident however that your sagacity and probity, etc., Do., 9 October 1458.

48. *Gray's Register*, fo. 98. Collation of James Frost to the Mastership, having been vacant since the death of Thomas Rowfote from unsufficiency of statutable electors on the staff. Do., 8 July 1478.

49. *Clare College MSS.* Original in Latin. This indenture between James Frost master of the Hospital of Saints John the Baptist and Mary Magdalene of Ely and the brethren there of the one part and John Stukle of Ely, butcher, of the other part, witnesseth that the master etc. demises to Stukle a tenement lying in "Le Bocheri" in the parish of Holy Trinity, Ely, between the highway east, the tenement belonging to Clement Clyenc west, the lane called "Le Buchery" north, and the tenement of William White-payne south, containing from east to west $4\frac{3}{4}$ rods, from north to south 4 rods and 6 quarters, to be held from Ladyday last for 99 years, paying three shillings rent, and two beasts, one in summer and one in winter. Stukle to do repairs. Dated at Ely, 27 March 1483.

50. *Alcock's Register*, fo. 142. 13 April 1487. St John's Hospital, Ely, exempted from paying tenths.

51. *Alcock's Register*, fo. 123. Collation of John Fyssher, Brother of the Hosp. of S. John Baptist and S. Mary Magdalene, Ely, to its Mastership, on death of James Froste, with mandate to William Doughty, the Bishop's Chancellor, to induct; Downham, 15 May 1500. This collation fell to the Bishop because "the said Hospital had been for a long time 'unofficered', and there are not now, and have not been for a long period, any Brethren by whom the election could be statutably made".

[Amongst the Clare documents are several terriers giving a list of the lands belonging to the hospital. The dates of the two earliest are over a hundred and forty years apart, during which period the ownership had changed from a monastic establishment to a secular college, but the extent of the property had altered very little. In the terrier of 1655 the amount of rent taken is given. It amounts to 11s. per acre. Evidently that amount includes the rents of houses on the land. No rents are given with the earlier terrier and in the rental of 20 Henry VIII, only the names of tenants are legible. See the end of No. 52. There are several later terriers, those dated 1732 and 1807 entering into great detail.]

52. *Clare College MSS.* A folio paper book of twelve leaves without covers.

"Terrarium dⁿⁱ Willielmi Graunth Episcopi
 Panaden¹ et Suffrigann' domino Jacobo
 Stanley permissione divina episcopo
 Elien' magistri domus et hospicii Sancti
 Johis et Mar' Magdalene in Ely in anno
 dⁿⁱ Millesimo quingentisimo xiiiij^{to} pro
 tempore ipsius."

[This title occurs at the end of the terrier on the back of fo. 10.]

¹ Panaden was in Thrace. See the end of document.

fo. 1-5 blank.

fo. 6. Dounhamfyld.

[38 pieces of land]

The Master of St John in Ely holds 24 acres of land belonging to the house of St John the Baptist in Ely lying in divers fields as follows

One half acre of land lies in a furlong near the Pimfald¹ of the lord Bishop of Ely near the land of John Morton on each side west and east and abuts on the close of John March towards the south.

One rood of land lying in the same furlong between the land of John Lane S. and Nicholas Tyler N. abutting on the way leading to Orrell Pytt.

[In a paper concerned with the architectural and monastic history of St John's Hospital it did not seem necessary to print this document in full, and the remainder is given in abstract, only the total amounts of land in each field and the place-names being printed.]

The common way called "Stonwey"—The way to "Orrell pytt" W. and "Downham Crosse E."—Land lying in Sneth in watery furlong—One rood and a halfe called "A Noterell rode" abutting on West fen way—Two acres and one rood of meadows lying in "Marshall meadow"—One and a half acres of meadow planted with "bouschet" called "the Harppe" lying near Marshall meadow—fo. 7. One acre called "the Well Aker"—The cross called "Downham Crosse".

Prystmedowfyld [14 pieces of land]

The same Master holds 8 acres lying in Prystmedowfyld in divers places, and 2 acres one rood of meadow—one acre near "prystmedowgrene"—One acre abutting on Stake hove E. and Orrell pytts. W.—One acre lying near Seynt Jones Bousch S. and the cross called Chettisham Crosse E.—One acre of meadow near John Foleyett's one acre—One rood of meadow near Knythesmere S. and Orrell pytts E.—One acre of meadow called "Boushey acre" lying near the common moor—One acre of meadow "Seynt Jone bousch" standing in the middle of the same on the east of Newberneyfyld—One acre of land in Newberneyfyld abutting on "Ketylforth closse" N. and Redmore W.—

Gruntyfenfyld [21 pieces of land]

The Master of St John's holds 24 acres of land in divers places as follows and 5 acres of meadow,

Five roods of meadows near the way from Ely to Wytchford—One acre of meadow called "Roushy Medow" lying in Fynnellfeld—Six acres lying in "Fynnell" near the way to Brame and Stretham abutting on "Gresseley hyll"—Half an acre abutting on "Bedwellfyld heye"—One half acre abutting on Hawke medow E. and Gruntyfen way W.—One acre called Skacched Akyrr on the way leading from the windmill to Wycheford—

Dedhyllfyld [23 pieces of land]

The Master of St John's holds 26 acres of land in divers places and 4 acres of meadow near Holbroke. One acre near Seynt Jones Bousch called "Watery hove"—several pieces near the Cross called Wychford Crosse—One acre abutting on Alderforth fen—Several pieces near "Bile Closse"—Two acres

¹ Pinfold.

of meadow called "The harppe meadow" abutting on Gruntifen Way S. and Wychford Way N.—One rood of meadow abutting on the Marsh called Alderforth fen.

fo. 10

Debdenfyld

[21 pieces of land]

The Master of St John holds 16 acres of land in Debden fylde in divers places and two pieces of meadow. One acre of land called "Brode ars akyr"—One acre called a "thorowytt acre"—One half acre near Pyckeswey—One hedland lying under the close of the hospital on the West—One acre and a half under the close of the hospital, abutting on the way from the Hospital house to Wychford E. and the way called Pyckesway W.—One piece of meadow called Seynt Jones Chekyr abutting on Westfen towards the west—Three roods of meadow near Seynt Jones Chekyr on the S. and three roods in tenure of John Gylbard on the N.

Total 97 acres of arable land, ten and a half acres of meadow land besides the "Checker Meadow".

On the back of folio 11 is "A list of those who hold tenements of the Hospital", 22 names. On the back of folio 12 is a "Rental of all lands and tenements in Ely 20 Hen. VIII", 32 items.

On p. 3 is written in eighteenth-century hand: "See y^e old register booke fol. 359, where this Terrar is transcribed."

For William Graunt Dr Coulton referred me to C. Eubel's *Hierarchia*. In vol. III, p. 286, he is stated to have been appointed bishop of Paneaden in Thrace on 27 July 1513, and also on the 15th of December following to have had a grant of the hospital of St John "Dely", Ely diocese *in commendam*; this information must have been obtained from Bishop Stanley's register which perished more than two centuries ago.

53. *West's Register*, fo. 43. Concession of S. John's Hospital, Ely, to John, Bishop of Lydda, *in commendam* for six months. Ely, 17 April 1528.

Addit. MS. 5809, fo. 101. Coles' transcript of Brock Rand's collections. John Holt, Bishop of Lydence, was master 23 and 30 Hen. viij, that is, in 1531 and 1538.

54. *Goodrich's Register*, fo. 132. Collation of Robert, Bishop of Down, to S. John's Hospital, Ely. 7 January 1540-1.

Addit. MS. 5809, fo. 101. Robertus Blitt, Bishop of Downe, was master 34 and 36 Hen. viij. 1542 and 1544.

55. *Ibidem*, fo. 161. Amongst a list of names of stipendiary priests celebrating in the diocese, and the names of persons providing the stipend, is this entry, A.D. 1543:

St John's Hospital, Ely; Alan Kendall, chaplain celebrating for Robert, Bishop of Down.

56. *Ibidem*, fo. 185. Collation of Richard Wilkes, S.T.B., the Bishop's chaplain, to Mastership of S. John's Hospital, Ely. Downham, 5 October 1547.

57. *Addit. MS. 5809*, fo. 101 verso. Richard Wilkes was master 6 Edw. vij and 2 & 3 P. and M. 1552-3 and 1555.

[Wilkes was one of the commissioners who inspected the church furniture

of Cambridgeshire parish churches in July and August 1552, and ordered most of it to be confiscated. When he was appointed master the Act of Parliament vesting all hospitals in the crown was passed, or on the point of being passed. In March 1561-2 Edward Leeds was master (No. 58). No record of his appointment has been found.]

58. *Clare College MSS.* The sense of this letter from Matthew Parker to Richard Cox is obscure because of the badness of the paper, the ink and the writing. A possible explanation of the letter is this. We know from Document No. 64, which was produced in the suit between Bishop Wren and Clare Hall in 1665, that the Hospital of St John at Ely had not been surrendered to the Augmentation Office after the Act of 1547 for the dissolution of guilds and hospitals had been passed. Both Wykles and Leeds enjoyed the revenues long after that date. In 1547 the Hospital had become the property of the Crown, and as it had not been given up, it was described as having been "concealed" from her Majesty. During Elizabeth's reign many "special commissioners" went into the country to search for "concealed" lands and private spies were also on the look out. As soon as such lands were discovered, they were usually sold to the highest bidder, but this does not seem to have been the case with St John's Hospital. Apparently the Bishop of Ely thought that he had some claim to the Hospital despite the Act of 1547. This claim was to be met by giving him the right of presenting to two of the new Clare scholarships.

The letter is a draft only, the last paragraph has been re-written: the longest version only has been printed.

My Ld

I chaunced by occasion to be present when mention was made of certen hospitalls and amongst others of yours in Ely wherein I suppose I knewe as mytche as some others who were occation of suche motions, briefly the drife of that talk was to endanger that house there wanted neyther learninge to judge nor habylitye in the parties whose fances were that ways bent, beinge in place and having good oportunitye I thought good not to use directe speache for defence of your hospital as it hath ben used the case being suche and the certificate toward that such placety required at our handes, wherefore with suche perswasions as they were occurf^g. I moved yt it might be converted to the sustentation of some scollers of Cambridge and layde to some howse w^{ch} were not alredy furnished, which motion was favorably harde, and friendshipp presently offred to that ende. I for my parte undertooke yt yo^r l^p and the incumbent shulde release yo^r interests for thassurance of all tithes to that use. The Quen's highnes sithen moved is well pleased to affirm and gyve it to ther Colledge of Clare halle, which is a large house and smally endowed for the founding of 10 Scollershipps there for ever. for the furtherance of which good deede yo^r towrness will be well liked. I think good therefore yt yo^r l. promptly confyrme by your seale yt release yt is demised for Mr Leeds the incumbent uppon the sighte whereof I truste the quene's maiestie will gyve her resolute graunte. I will provide that y^r l. and yo^r successors shall ever hereafter give two of the seyde Scollerships. Wherein yor see shall be well recompensed, for yt

little interest it hath, and you presently pleased which by reason of adousons yet to be spedde ye were not lyke to injoye in yo' tyme.

Mr Leedes wold not in any wyse depart with his possession untyll he might understand your forwardness in this matter, ye maye not therefore use any difficulty least he havinge [? ye] to his present comodytye revolt from it [or that] he is brought to and soe my request made for good purpose come to smalle effect and the things [between] you both growe without remedie endorsed

"My L. of Cant., to my L. of Ely"

"a devise to pull [or putt] on my L. of Ely to yielde that the Hospital of St John's should be granted to Clare Hall".

59. Queen Elizabeth's grant by Patent. The document fills about six foolscap pages, but the substance is in the Act of Parliament which follows. The date is 22 March 1561-2.

60. An Acte for the assurance and confirmation of the late Hospitall of St. John Baptist and Marie Magdalene in Ely within ye Isle of Ely unto ye Master fellows and schollers of Clare Hall, in Cambridge. Ano 27 Eliz. No. 32.

Whereas the Queen's Majesty for ye increase of learning and for ye maintenance and sustentation of tenne schollers or students in ye Colledge or Hall commonly called Clare Hall in ye University of Cambridge within the county of Cambridge of her special grace certaine knowledge and meene motion by her letters patents dated at Westminster the 22 day of March in ye fourth year of her Majesty's reigne did give and grant unto Edward Leeds by ye name of Edward Leeds master or warden of ye Hospitall of St. John Baptist and ye blessed Mary Magdalene in Elie within ye Isle of Ely in ye forsaid County ye said Hospitall of St. John Baptist and ye blessed Mary Magdalene or by what other name or title ye same hospitall was at any time before called or knowne and all ye scite ground circuite and proximet of ye same hospitall and all and singular buildings edifices coverings iron glasse and lead which now of in and upon ye said Hospitall and other ye premises, and also all and singular mannors, messuages, granges, tofts, cottages, gardens, lands, tenements, medowes, herdings, pastures, woods, underwoods, rents, reversions, services, commons, liberties, franchises, jurisdictions, offices, courts leete, views of frank pledge, faires, markets, waters, fishings, waies, voidgroundes, rectories, vicaridges, pensions, portions, annuities, tithes, oblations and all and singular other rights profits, possessions and hereditaments whatsoever within ye realme of England to ye same hospitall in any wise belonging or appertaining or as members parts or parcels of ye possessions and revenues of ye same hospital had, knowne, accepted, used or reputed and also all and all manor of woods underwoods and trees whatsoever groweing and being of in and upon ye premises or any parcel thereof and ye reversal and reversions whatsoever of all and singular ye premises and of every parcel thereof and also ye rents and yearly profits whatsoever reserved upon whatsoever grants of ye premises or of any part thereof by any manner of meanes made, to have holde and enjoye ye said hospitall manners, messuages, lands, tenements and all and singular other

ye premises with all their appurtenances to ye foresaid Edward Leeds Master of ye said Hospitall and his successors for ever and did further of her abundant grace certaine knowledge and meene motion give unto ye said Edward Leeds master of ye hospitall aforesaid speciall power and authority to give grante and assure all ye said hospitall and all and singular ye aforesaid mannors, lands, tenements and all other ye premises with all their appurtenances to Philip Bates professor of Divinity and Henry Harvey Docteur of ye Law their heires and assigned to ye use and behalfe of ye Master fellows and schollers of Clare Hall aforesaid as by ye said letters patents more at large it doth and may appear. And whereas ye said Edward Leeds by ye name of Edward Leeds Clerk master or Warden of ye said hospitall by his deed dated ye 24th day of March in ye foresaid fourth yeare of her Majestys said reigne did give and grant unto ye aforesaid Philip Bates and Henry Harvey all the aforesaid hospitall and premises with their appurtenances to have and hold ye said hospitall and premises with their appurtenances unto ye said Philip Bates and Henry Harvey and their heires to ye use of ye Master fellows and schollers of Clare Hall aforesaid and their successors forever. Which said gifte and grant of ye aforesaid hospitall and premises Richard by ye providence of God then Bishop of Ely and ye Deane and Chapter of ye Cathedrall Church of Elie have ratified and confirmed, for the stablishing and confirming of which said hospitall and all ye lands tenements and hereditaments thereto belonging unto ye said Master fellowes and schollers of Clare Hall aforesaid and their successors. And for ye avoyding of all questions ambiguities and doubts which may rise or grow upon ye foresaid letters patents or ye gift or grant made by ye saide Edward Leeds unto ye said Philip Bates and Henry Harvey as aforesaid, Bee it ordained established and enacted by ye authority of this present parliament at ye humble suite of ye said Master fellowes and schollers of Clare Hall aforesaid, that ye said Master fellowes and schollers of Clare Hall aforesaid (or by whatsoeuer other name or title they be incorporate) shall have and enjoy ye aforesaid hospitall and other said lands, tenements and hereditaments and all ye premises with their appurtenances mentioned in ye aforesaid letters Patents to them and their successors for ever according to ye intention sett downe in ye said Letters Patents and according to ye purport of ye said gift and grant made by ye said Edward Leeds to ye said Philip Bates and Henry Harvey to ye uses before mentioned, saving to all persons bodies publick and corporate (other than ye Queen's Majesty her heires and successors, and ye patron founder or founders of ye said Hospitall their heires and successors) all such right title and interest as they and every of them should and might have had if this Act had never beeene had nor made any thing in this present Acte to ye contrary thereof in any wise notwithstanding.

61. Dr Leeds his assignment of St Johns in Ely to Dr Baker and Dr Harvey for the use of the master and Fellows of Clare. Dated 24 March 1561-2.

62. Confirmation by the Bishop of Ely, dated at Downham, 26 March 1561-2.

63. Confirmation of the Dean and Chapter of Ely, dated 27 March 1561-2.

64. *Clare College MSS.* (Original in Latin.)

Cant' | Parcel of the lands and tenements being in the said counties
Hunt' | concealed from Her Majesty and her predecessors and lately
discovered.

Farm of the late hospital or chapel of St John the Baptist and Mary Magdalene called "St Jones" within the city of Ely with site of the mansion house, houses, buildings and all other appurtenances, and of all messuages, lands, tenements, cottages, orchards, gardens, pastures, meadows, rents, rectories, tithes, glebe lands and hereditaments, temporal and spiritual whatsoever in Ely, Littleport, Downham, Witchford, Witcham, Haddenham, Sutton, Doddington and Elm, within the Isle of Ely, in the town of Cambridge or elsewhere, lately in the tenure of Richard Wylks clerk or his assigns worth per annum five pounds.

Memorandum by a certificate made primo die Octobris anno quinto decimo dñe regine nunc Elizab' by Thomas Rowsleye, Edward Payne and John Mynere gentlemen by vertue of the Quenes Majestie's commission out of her highnes Courte of Exchequer unto them directed, it is certified that the premises dothe lye and be in manner and forme aforesaid and of the clere yearly valewe as above is particularly recited, and that the same came or ought to come to the Queen's hands by reason of certain Acts of Parliament heretofore made, and that all the same have bene and yet are concealed withdrawn and unjustly detained from the Queen's majesty and that the said tenants and occupiers thereof have and yet doe severally receave the issues and profits of the same as the commissioners were credibly informed, as by the said certificate remayning in the custodie of the Treasurer's remembrancer in the Exchequer, it doth and may appear.

Taken out of the Augmentation Office and read at the hieringe. [The hearing of Bishop Wren's claim against Clare Coll., see Nos. 66 etc.]

Ex^d et concord' cum record' xxi die Novembris 1666.

Sam^l Spalding
John Cranwell

65. J. R. Wardale, *Clare College*, 1899, p. 54. Dr Edward Leeds, sometime Master of the Hospital, towards the close of his life (upon 28 March 1576) drew up a rental of St John's, as follows:

	£	s.	d.
Ely	14	5	10
Littleport	9	0	0
Downham	12	8	
Witchford	3	0	0
Haddenham	5	0	
Doddington	13	4	
Witcham	17	0	
Cambridge	1	4	
Total	<u>28</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>2</u>

66. *Clare College MSS.* This is a large bundle of depositions and other papers of about the year 1568 concerning St John's Hospital lands. They relate to a suit brought by Thomas Goodrich, tenant of Richard Cox, bishop of Ely, against Clare Hall.

Included is a letter of Richard Cox, without date, directed to the Lord Keeper of the Great Seal. From this it appears that another suit had been brought by the Master and Fellows against Thomas Goodrich concerning lands and evidences withheld from them. Goodrich had sought the aid of the Bishop, who having informed himself concerning the matter, came to the conclusion that the demands of the Master and Fellows were justified. He therefore asks that the case may be proceeded with according to justice and equity, without respect of any person. Suggests that His Grace of Canterbury (Parker), who was sometime of the church of Ely, might know the honesty of the deponents.

One deposition is made on the back of a much older inventory concerning "Certyn stuff; remayning in Lincolne house" "In the Chapel" "In my lord's bedchamber" etc., etc.

Here is a specimen of these quaint but wordy depositions:

William Smyth of Ely aged 58, Yeoman. He knoweth well St Johns Busshe and hath known it for 40 years and judges in his conscience and so is the opinion of the auncient men of Ely that the lande where that busshe groweth did belong unto the hospital of St Jones and now to Clare Hall, what the grownde containeth he cannot tell, he hath harde John Wryth who was an honest and credible man say that he did mowe ther grasse growing upon that ground where the bush groweth, about 23 or 24 yeres past, one W^m Godbyrd then farmer of St Johns and he hard John Wells of Ely say that his wyff did make haye on that grounde for the Mr of the Hospital and he sayeth also, he hath heard divers honest persons say that there was more land which is now enclosed did belong to the Hospital, and he doth remember that there was a farrow drawnen from a ditch called Blundall ditche, which did dissever that land with divers other mens lands lieng there from Newberns land, etc., etc.

Most of the depositions mention "St John's Bush standyng between Newbernes pasture and Waterden".

67. *Clare College MSS.* [Dr Leeds to the master of Clare Hall.]

Sir

I sende you at length the evidence of yor Colledg howses in Elye wth the pleadings in a controversie yt I had wt Tho. Goodricke and Bishopp Coxe as pray in ayde for thre acres of pasture whereunto yo^r Colledge hath good title. I did feare yt theis books had ben conveyed from me, but I have found them at length, and do send them to that ende yt you should proceede in the pursute thereof. I talked withe Mr Bracken about 7 or 8 yeres agoe who hath maryd Thomas Gooderick's widow. He then offered to come to some reasonable order and composition for the same, which I wish might take place. Richard Massie hath bought a howse in Elye the one half whereof is yo^r Colledg except I be greatly deceaved. There was wonte to be paid therefore xiiij^d a yere w^{ch} he now deteyneth. There is amonge the evidence

certen dedes endorsed *de medietate tenementi* w^{ch} I think will bring to light the truth of this matter. It shall do well to appoint some trustie man to search for those deedes: and then to use the matter as ye shalbe thereby ledd. I wish the man had no favo^r because he denyeth the rent, except we do shewe for yt. It is reason therefor ye have all yt ever ye shew for. Concerning Apesholt's¹ sute I marvell that Mr Arkinson proceeds not therewith. I assured him that my brother's interest should not hinder his cause. The grant thereof was for terme of my life. And because you shal be out of doubt thereof I sende it you by this bearer, to keep and to shew when occasion requireth. What I think further I commit to this bearer.

There is one Mathew Marshall who hath a sute against William Hatley his brother-in-law, the matter hath ben reasonably ordered already compromise, but the said William seemeth to me to be led more by will then by reason. I pray you very hartily to do them justice with expedition the rather at my request.

Mr John Coxe as I understand demandeth 1^s a yere for the space of xx yeres due for the tenth of St John's. I think your colledge is discharged thereof by your letters patent, which as I think beare date before ye Bishopps, yf it be so y^t is the best discharge. Yf not yet we have to shewe the Bishopps release confirmed by ye Chapter's seale, which I thinke I have heretofore shewed and delivered you. I pray you hartely endeavour to cleare thees former matters while I live, whereunto I will always help with all my power, God willinge, unto whose blessed tution I commende you as my selfe. Croxton, the last of May 1588.

Yors ever assuredly
Ed. Leeds

To the right worshipfull Mr Doctor Bynge.

67 A. In the second Register of the College (1604-56) there are three leases of St John and St Mary Magdalene which are all in the same form.

p. 141. Michaelmas 1620. Lease to John Orwell of Ely, gent. "All that manor place, farm hold, or mansion house, with a house called the Hospital with a yard thereto belonging." Rent £4 12s. 2d., 3½ qrs. wheat, 4 qrs. 5 bus. malt; and to give hospitality to the master or his representative for four days yearly when they came to survey the buildings. The second lease is to Orwell's widow and the third to Richard Pratt, 1644.

68. *Clare MSS.* 6 October 1630. Lease by Clare Hall to Oliver Cromwell of Ely, Esq., of "one plot of ground in Newnham in the city of Elie, 40 yards long even so as it lieth between the lands of the Almoner of the Abbey of Elie, East and West abutting on the highway South and against the close of the Prior of Ely called Parradise North" for 21 years at 8d. a year.

(Signed) Oliver Cromwell

¹ This may be the origin of the name of the farm now known as Ape's Hall in the parish of Littleport.

69. *Clare College MSS.* Terrier of lands belonging to St John's Hospital in Ely, 6 October 1655.

[Six foolscap pages folded so as to make twelve quarto pages.]

Deadhill field

The Manor Place, with orchards, and garden and the closes } This worth
adjoining, with the stone barn and other houses of office } to be let at
and one little tenement containing 20 acres } £25 a year

[Total of pieces in each field]

	a. r. p.	£. s. d.
Debdon Field	17 3 0	12 12
Bramfield	21	8 8
Priest meadow	9 3	3 18
Downham Field	24 3	9 18
Deadhill	29 2	28 16
	<hr/> 102 3 0	<hr/> 63 12 0
Padnell, 7 acres in fen		2 0 0
		<hr/> 65 12 0

The Sheep Walk lost. If it could be found, it would be worth £4 per ann. and more.

Clare College MSS. [Soon after the Restoration Bishop Wren laid claim to the tenths of the revenues of the hospital of St John, which he considered belonged to him as Prince Palatine of the Isle of Ely. The success of his claim depended on the nature of the original grant to Clare College, as appears in the letters of Samuel Spalding. This was a matter of fact, which the learned prelate might have found out for himself, as he was skilled in using legal documents. His long imprisonment had probably obscured his mental vision and increased his obstinacy.¹

The chief documents relating to this matter in the possession of Clare College are as follows:]

70. (1) The Bishop's "Bill" or Petition to the High Court of the Exchequer. This is directed to the Earl of Southampton, Lord High Treasurer, Lord Ashley, Chancellor, and Sir Matthew Hale, Lord Chief Baron.

He claimed arrears of tenths for twenty-five years, that is, from the date when he was translated to Ely. He stated that he had demanded them from 1638 to 1640, but had been refused. He seems to suggest that it was due to his long imprisonment that he had not received his dues.

71. (2) The answer of the Master and Fellows in which they say that they have never paid tenths to Queen or Bishop.

72. (3) The dismission of the petition without costs.

¹ Bentham, II, 89, quotes Wren as saying that "they (the hospitals of St John and St Mary) were well endowed by the Bishops of Ely, and did wholly belong to that see, as other parts of their demesnes did".

73. (4) The depositions. These are long and wordy; but very little of interest worthy of being printed in an account of a mediaeval hospital. It was unfortunate for the Bishop that Robert Twells, his own official, could not support him. A few notes are given to show the style.

Depositions on the part of plaintiff. Taken before Clement Spelman, one of the barons of the Exchequer, 10 June 1665.

Barnabas Oley, Vicar of Great Gransden, Hunts, aged 63.

Says that about 1621 Mr Orwell was tenant of the Hospital.

Says that during the Bishop's imprisonment the late usurped powers claimed £2 10s. 6d. for tenths of the Hospital, but he never heard that the tenants were before or afterwards troubled about this.

None of the Bishop's witnesses could say that the tenth had ever been paid, because all except Oley were Londoners.

Depositions on the part of the defendant. Taken at "The Three Tuns", 19 May 1665.

Barnabas Oley (as above) Bursar of Clare Hall. He never knew anyone but the present Bishop claim the £2. 10s. 6d.

Robert Twells, gent. 50. Deputy register of the Lord Bishop. Hath seen no such payments in the Bishop's registry. [Amongst the Clare documents is an attestation by Robert Eade and Thomas Buck that documents 47, 48 and 54 in this chronological arrangement were shown to Twells at his examination, 19 May 1665. Why they were shown is not clear.]

William Malden, gent, aged 23, of Cambridge. Has seen the register of Clare Hall and found no such payments therein.

(5) The letters of the College Lawyer from London. Samuel Spalding is a well-known Cambridge worthy. He had been town clerk and mayor, and had come through the period 1640 to 1660 with unshaken credit.

74. [Samuel Spalding to Dr Dillingham.]

Honored S:

Last Satterday yo^r colledge cause came on to be heard upon the Queene's release and the statute of limitacons onely, much debate there was by the Councell on both sides, 3 for his Lo^{pp} and as many for ye Colledge. In conclusion the Court ordered that the Colledg shall putt in an other answer by the next terme and pay the Bishopp 40^s costs if he will take it. My Lord Cheife Baron said he thought he would not take it: but it is the course of the Court to give the comptl. costs in all such cases: yo^r Counsell is of opinion all of them, that when you have answered and the cause is brought to a hearing upon proofs on both sides (which cannot be untill Trinity Terme) the court cannot decree it against you but referr it to a tryall by a jury in the countrey. One of the Barrons saide his Lo^{pp} should have gone that way at the first, and not this way by English bill: Mr Thirsby and the rest tooke a great deale of paynes, and they will consult together what answer to drawe, and would gladly know what ancient evidences and writings you have concerning the hospitall, and when and by whom founded and whither it were a lay hospitall or spirituall, and how and when dissolved, and how this tenth came to the crowne, and if Dr Leedes the governor did not first surrender his interest to the Queen, before he took a grant and release from her,

which they conceive is very probable was done or else why should there be a grant and a release, if the hospitall and ye tenth were in the crowne both together, the tenth is extinguished for ever. Mr Herne was arrested and till then would not appeare, my Lord Chancello^r will be moved this thursday that he may speedily answer or stand committed, my best respects presented to you I rest

Sam^l Spaldyng

Barnard's Inn, Nov. 26. 1664.

[Directed] To his Much honoured frend Doctor Dillingham Master of Clare Hall, these present.

75. [The same to same.]

S^r

My Lord of Ely proceeds to publication ag^t yo^r Colledge, so as undoubtedly there will be a hearing next terme I have retayned Mr Edward Atkins for you who remembers very well (he being then at ye barr) the former debate in Court, he thinks it will be putt of to a triall at lawe, but if it could be made appeare that the revenues of the hospitall in primo Elizabeth were employed for the sustenance of poore people, that act would putt an end to the sute, thos bookes and papers to w^{ch} any witnesses were examined before the Com^{rs} must be showne at the hearinge and when that will be, after this terme is ended, I shall knowe and shall (God willing) bring downe wth me coppies of the depositions on either side: my best respects presented to you I rest

Sir Yo^r humble serv^t
Sam^l Spaldyng

Barnard's Inne
May 9. '66

S^r Robert Barnard was buried almost three weeks since. 13 more of the sicknes this last week then there was the weeke before

76. "Thyse to his honored frend Doctor Jackson at Clare hall in Cambr."

Worthy S^r

My lo. B^p brought on his cause ag^t yo^r Coll. to hearing agayne this day, wth success bad enough for after a very full hearinge and longe debate by Councell on both sides, the Court fairly dismist his Lo^{pp}s bill. So an end, is now at last putt to that tedious sute. Our Councell prest hard for the Coll. to have had costs against his lo^{pp} but (w^{ch} is the worst of o^r case) the Court would not grant it. I suppose it will be wellcom newes to the Master, therefore as he sent my former l^{re} to you, so if you please you may send this to hym. My Kinde respects presented to you I rest

Barnard's Inne
Nov. 23 1666

S^r Your humble servant
Sam^l Spaldyng

77. *Clare MSS.* [To Dr Dillingham.]

Honoured S^r I have been amongst the Tennants but have not as yett gotten much of the Rents But that which occasioned my wrighting at this time is The Tennants that have payed their Decree moneys are extreamly angry with me Because I was so importunate with them for their monies

and others are left alone that have not paid And as some of them say they laugh at them and call them fools for being so forward to part with their monies so I have much anger amongst them, and they vexed and unsatisfied, whereas If one had paid as well as another all had been quiett S^r I could wish sum course might be taken in it and that you would please to wright your minde to me concerning those that are behinde that I may know what to say to the Tennants when I goe amongst them againe for their better satisfaction If it may stand with your convenience I would desire an answere hereof by this returne. In expectation whereof I rest and shall remayne y^r Worships humble servant to my power

from Ely this 5th Dec. 1673

Richard Ridler

LIST OF MASTERS

Date		Doc. No.
1299	Roger	7
1344	{ John de Walcote	19
1344	{ John de Coton	19
1379	John Cardinal	34, 37
1384	" "	
1390	" "	39, 42
1391	Thomas de Brampton	40
* * *		
1454	William Gunwardly, Bishop of Dunkeld	46
1458	Robert Norman, M.A.	47
1478	{ Thomas Rowfote	48
1478	{ James Frost	48
1500	John Fisher	51
1513	William Graunt, Bishop of Panaden, <i>in commendam</i>	52
1528	John Holt, Bishop of Lydda (? Killala), <i>in commendam</i>	53
1541	Robert Blitt (Blyth), Bishop of Down	54
1547	Richard Wilkes, S.T.B.	56
	He was Master in 1554	57
1561	Edward Leeds	60

The first six masters were elected by the brethren. The others were all collated by the bishop owing to want of electors. A bracket denotes stated succession.

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