

Melbourne Castle and Park.

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THE following extracts from the Duchy of Lancaster Ministers' Accounts (formerly preserved in the Savoy Chapel, but now in the Public Record Office in London) relate to the ancient Castle and Park of Melbourne in Derbyshire.

The Castle stood at the eastern side of the town, opposite to the end of Potter Street (a street so called in an existing deed of 5 Henry VIII.). Remains of the Castle are still visible in a ruinous wall, formerly of great thickness, standing on the southern verge of the "Castle Farm" yard, and in the semi-circular base of a turret recently unearthed in the garden of "Castle Cottage." About five years ago considerable foundation walls were uncovered (and covered again) in many parts of the garden which lies between that ruinous wall and that turret, now the property of Lord Donington.

The Manor of Melbourne ("Mileburne") is described in the Domesday Record as belonging to the King.

The Rectory of Melbourne was annexed to the Bishopric of Carlisle at or soon after the creation of that See in A.D. 1132.

In the Itinerary of King John, compiled by the late Sir Thomas Duffus Hardy, it appears that that monarch lay at Melbourne at five different times during his reign. Whether the place of his abode was a royal mansion, or the Rectory-house, is uncertain. The King long kept the Bishopric of Carlisle vacant, and the Rectory-house of Melbourne was at his disposal.

In the Calendar of Close Letters (page 51) is an order of King John in A.D. 1205 that 40 tuns of wine be conveyed from Bristol

to Nottingham, of which two tuns were to be conveyed from Nottingham to Melbourne. In A.D. 1206 (page 936) he ordered 9 marcs to be paid for three casks of wine bought to be used by him at Melbourne. In these records there is no mention of a Castle at Melbourne. Nor is there any mention of a Castle in the grant, A.D. 1259, of the Manor of Melbourne by King Henry III. to Simon de Montfort Earl of Leicester and Eleanor his wife, "sister of the King." (Calendar of Patent Rolls, p. 31, and Calendar of Charter Rolls, p. 88.)

In the Inquisition after the death of Edmund Earl of Lancaster and Leicester "Brother of the King" (Edward I.), A.D. 1297, mention is made of the Manor of Melbourne, but not of a Castle there. (Cal. Inquis. post Mortem, vol. 1, p. 136, No. 51.)

His son and successor, Thomas Earl of Lancaster and Leicester, appears to have granted to his adherent, Robert de Holland, the Manor of Melbourne and a "mansus" there; for in A.D. 1311 Robert de Holland obtained from King Edward II. letters patent of license to "kernellate" his "mansus" of Melbourne. (Cal. Rot. Pat., p. 72, No. 4.) Robert de Holland's possession of the Manor of Melbourne was confirmed by King Edward II., A.D. 1326. (Cal. of Charter Rolls, p. 140.)

This is perhaps the origin of what was thereafter known as Melbourne Castle. Probably it was not erected as a place of strength, but was a nobleman's mansion converted into a place of strength.

Accordingly, the first mention in the Public Records of the Castle of Melbourne appears to be in the Inquisition taken 1 Edward III., A.D. 1327, of the possessions of Thomas Earl of Lancaster and Leicester, who had been beheaded at Pontefract in A.D. 1321. (Cal. Inquis. post Mortem, vol. 2, p. 8.) This was preliminary to the transfer of those possessions to his younger brother, Henry, with the Earldoms of Lancaster and Leicester, in the first Parliament of King Edward III.; which Henry was succeeded by his son Henry, created Duke of Lancaster, 23 Edward III. In 1361, Henry Duke of Lancaster died; and in the Inquisition taken after his death, Melbourne Castle is specified

among his possessions. From him it passed to his daughter Blanche, and her husband, John of Gaunt, Earl of Richmond, who was created Duke of Lancaster by his father, King Edward III., A.D. 1363.

Upon John of Gaunt's son becoming King Henry IV., the Dukedom of Lancaster was erected by Act of Parliament into a Principality, separate from the Crown, and thenceforth the Manor and Castle of Melbourne became "parcel of the Duchy of Lancaster."

Of the formation of the Park of Melbourne there does not appear to be any trace in the Public Records. The ordinary license from the Crown to authorise a subject to inclose a park was not necessary, as the park was formed in the King's own demesne. The limits of the Park are well marked by the bank (formerly carrying a paling) which is still conspicuous in the ground, and is defined on the recent Ordnance Survey with a circuit of $3\frac{3}{4}$ miles. It occupied the south-eastern portion of the parish of Melbourne, and is now divided into fields, in the occupancy of three tenants of Earl Cowper. The farm-house and buildings now known as Park Farm, were formerly called Lodge Farm, and occupy the site of the "Lodge" mentioned in the "Minister's Accounts." Near it are grounds, designated in an old map "Queen's Garden" and "Queen's Walk," perhaps from Melbourne Manor having been part of the dower of Katharine, widow of King Henry V., the Queen referred to in the latter part of the extract from Minister's Account, No. 6174, and who died 3 January, 1437-8.

Duchy of Lancaster. Ministers' Accounts.
Extracts (extended).

A.D.	No. 6,149.	}	Compotus Petri de Melborne Constabularii
1392-3	Melborne		Castris ibidem a festo Sci Michaelis Arch- angeli anno regni Regis Ricardi Secundi post conquestum xvj usque idem festum proximum sequens anno ejusdem Regis xvij per unum annum integrum.

Firme Piscarie } De xvij s. receptis de firma piscarie de Trent
 per dimissionem } hoc anno Et de ij s. de incremento ejusdem
 firme hoc anno Et de xvij d. de piscaria de Karebrok dimissis
 Johanni Warner ad terminum xx annorum hoc anno xx^m et
 ultimo * * *

Custus Castri } Et in stipendio ij hominum serrancium
 maremium pro bordis faciendis pro ariis camerarum bordandis per
 unam septimanam iiij s. iiij d. Et stipendio [ij hominum] per
 unam septimanam capiencium inter se iiij s. vj d. faciendo diversas
 fenestras in communi aula et magna camera ibidem iiij s. vj d.
 Et in stipendio [unius hominis] operantis ibidem in eodem opere
 per duas septimanas viz usque xij diem Octobris iiij s. viij d. Et
 in M D sclatis emptis pro coopertura unius bachous
 infra castrum iiij s. ij d. Et in cariagio eorundem per ij carectas
 de Swytheland usque Melborne vij s. vj d. Et in C C C dimidium
 Lattenayle emptis pro eodem vij d. Et in xl spykynges pro
 eodem opere ij d. Et in iiij quarteriis calceti emptis pro eodem
 opere et aliis operibus apud Damhed. ad vj d.—ij s. Et in i
 carecta zabuli pro eodem ij d. Et in cariagio . . . calceti
 vj d. Et solum cuidam plumbario removenti telas plumbi et
 sodanti diversos defectus super diversa loca per xvj dies per diem
 vj d. [viiij s] Et in viij libris stanni emptis pro eodem opere ad
 iiij d.—ij s Et solum cuidam tegulatori tegulanti super dictam
 domum del Bachous . . . x s. vj d. Et in xx comis pro
 crestyng ejusdem domi cum ij d. pro cariagio eorundem xxij d.
 Et in cariagio ij carectarum lapidum pro j brect (?) . . super
 le Poleshed vj d. Et solum cuidam cementario facienti dictum
 brect (?) xij d. Et in xvij copulis vectium ferri infra castrum
 pro fenestris predictis pendendis cum xvj hamis pretium copuli
 xij d.—xix s. vj d. Et in xvij^{xx} grossis clavis quadrato capite emptis
 pro eadem pretium . . . xij d. Et in xvij clattes ferri emptis
 pro eisdem claudendis pretium pecie iiij d.—iiij s. vjd. Et solum
 pro lxxviiij pedibus quadratis vitrei empti pro v. fenestris vitrandis
 in capella et closetta domini ibidem pretium pedis vj d.—xxxix s.
 Et in c grossis spykyngs emptis pro operatione (?) ariarum
 camerarum viij d. Et in ij^c bordnaills pro fenestris predictis viij d.

Et in ij^c midilspykyngs emptis pro eodem vj *d.* Et in stipendio unius cementarii anglice Rygallyng parietes (?) lapideos pro fenestris vitrandis et illos perforantis pro hamis figendis per iij dies xij *d.* Et solutum . . . hominibus findentibus bordas et illas scapulantibus per ij septimanas capientibus per septimanam inter se iij *s.* vj *d.* vij *s.* Et in CC clavis vj *d.* Et in dimidium C spykyng iij *d.* Et solutum Henrico Wryght operanti ibidem post xij diem Octobris ut supra per j septimanam ij *s.* iij *d.* Et in uno equo conducto de Melborne usque Duffeld pro . . . ij *d.* Et in v hyrdels emptis pro les flodgates molendini xx *d.* Et in pergameno empto pro rotulis curie xij *d.*

Summa vj *li.* xij *s.* v *d.*

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No. 6150. Compotus Petri de Melborne * *

A.D. 1393-4. Custus Parci} Et ij *s.* iij *d.* solutis pro decima agistamenti parci ibidem hoc anno Et in iij^{xx} ix acris j roda nove haie claudende circa parcum ibidem hoc anno acra ad vj *d.* —xliij *s.* vij *d.* Et in j carecta conducta ad carandum ramellos et clausuram pro dicta haia facienda per xxx^{ta} dies capiente per diem xij *d.*—xxx *s.*

Summa lxxvj *s.* xi *d.*

Custus Castri} Et solutum cuidam cementario emendanti et reparanti diversos defectus unius pontis ibidem cum serviente suo sibi auxiliante ex convencione in grosso xvij *d.* Et solutum cuidam homini carianti cum j carecta mailon pro reparatione dicti pontis per iij dies capienti per diem xij *d.*—iij *s.* Et in pergameno empto pro officio seneschalli ibidem hoc anno xij *d.*

Summa v *s.* vj *d.*

No. 6154. Compotus Petri de Melborne * *

A.D. 1399-1400. Custus Castri} Et solutum uni plumbario emendanti diversos defectus camerarum infra Castrum ex convencione secum facta in grosso xvij *d.* Et solutum eidem pro soudura empta pro iij brect. ibidem emendandis ij *d.* Et in una carecta argille cariate ad opus predictum ij *d.*

Summa xxij *d.*

Custus Parci} Et in lxiiij acris nove haie facte hoc anno circa parcum ibidem acra ad vj *d*—xxxj *s*. vj *d*. Et in una carecta cariante ramellos ad dictam haiam per xxviiij dies capiente per diem xij *d*—xxviiij *s*.

Summa lix *s*. vj *d*.

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Memorandum de vj peciis plumbi precio xx *s*. provenientius in manum domini per forisfacturam Roberti Grenesmyth de Bomersale per extractum Johannis Busshy capitalis seneschalli prout notatur in compoto Ballivi Hundredi de Gresley de anno xx^o qui quidem Ballivus liberavit constabulario castri de Melborne predictum plumbum pro stauo dicti castri unde remanent predicto constabulario ibidem vj pecie dicte plumbi.

No. 6157. Compotus Petri de Melborne * *

A.D. 1402-3. Custus Parci} In xlviij acris dimidium nove haie facte hoc anno circa parcum ibidem acra ad vj *d*—xxiiij *s*. iij *d*. Et in stipendio unius hominis emendantis diversos defectus haie circa dictum parcum per iij dies capientis per diem iij *d*—ix *d*. Et in stipendio unius carpentarii emendantis diversos defectus logie infra parcum predictum ex convencione in grosso ij *s*. Et in stipendio unius cementarii emendantis muros lapideos dicte logie per j diem—iiij *d*. Et solutum pro ij carectis de plastro empto ad idem opus xiiij *d*. Et solutum pro cariagio dicti platri ex convencione xvj *d*. Et solutum j plasteri operanti super dictam logiam et emendenti diversos defectus ejusdem ex convencione iiiij *s*. Et solutum j mulieri portanti aquam ad idem opus per iij dies—vj *d*. Et solutum pro j summagio carbonum emptorum ad comburendum dictum plastrum iiiij *d*. Et in stramine empto pro coopertura dicte logie—xx *d*. Et in cariagio ejusdem—xij *d*. Et in stipendio unius tectoris cooperientis dictam logiam—xx *d*. Et in stipendio j mulieris eidem servientis per v dies per diem ij *d*—x *d*. Et in j hurdell empto pro les floodyates molendini ibidem vj *d*.

Summa — xl *s*. iiiij *d*.

No. 6159. Compotus Petri de Melburne * *

A.D. 1404-5. Custus Parci } Solutum j carpentario pro factura
ij novarum portarum in parco ibidem ex convencione in grosso
vj s. Et in clavis emptis pro predictis portis v d. Et solutum pro
j hope j plate j goion iij d. Et solutum j laborario operanti et
emendanti diversos defectus infra parcum iij d. Et in xiiij acris
nove haie facte hoc anno acra ad vj d—vij s. Et solutum pro
factura et emendacione capitis stagni infra parcum ibidem ij s.

Summa — xvj s.

No. 6163. Compotus Petri de Melbourne. * *

A.D. 1409-10. } Solutum uni plumbario conducto per iij^{or}
Custus Castri. } dies pro emendacione castri ibidem capienti
per diem viij d.—ij s. viij d. Et solutum uni
sibi servienti per idem tempus per diem iij d.—xvj d. Et solutum
pro ij libris de Tyn emptis ad idem opus viij d. Et solutum iij
cementariis emendantibus cameram ibidem per unum diem—
xviiij d. Et solutum j carpentario et uni tegulatori operantibus
ibidem per iij dies—xviiiid.

Summa—vij s. viij d.

Custus Parci et } Et in xvij acris novæ haie facte circa parcum
feni pro feris } ibidem hoc anno in diversis locis acra ad vj d
in parco. } —vij s. vj d. Et solutum uni carecte carianti
ramellos pro dicta haia facienda per viij dies
per diem xij d.—vij s. Et xxj d. in falcacione iij acrarum prati
vocati le Russhes assignati pro feris domini in parco ibidem in
yeme et xij d. in herbagio spergendo et feno inde levando et
faciendo Et xij d. solutum pro una carecta cariante dictum
fenum per unum diem Et solutum pro pergameno empto pro
rotulis curie et compoto hoc anno xij d. Et allocatur eidem
iij s. jx d. pro feno et pergameno emptis pro anno precedente
ibidem omissis et non allocatis prout patet per inspectionem
compoti anni precedentis.

Summa—xxvj s.

No. 6163A. Compotus Petri de Melburn.

A. D. 1410-1. }
 Custus }
 Portiflumiorum. }
 In ij carectis conductis ad carianum mare-
 mium de bosco Regis usque molendinum
 ibidem pro porti flumiorum ejusdem
 per iiij dies—per diem xij *d.* viii *s.* Et in
 stipendio unius carpentarii conducti ad facienda dicta porti-
 flumia cum dicto maremio ex convencione in grosso xlvi *s.* viij *d.*
 Et in iiij quarteriis calcis emptis pro emendacione et reparacione
 eorundem hoc anno ij *s.* vj *d.* Et in stipendio unius [cementarii]
 conducti per iiij dies ad facienda reparanda et emendanda dicta
 portiflumia per diem vj *d.* ij *s.*

No. 6165.

A. D. 1415-6. }
 Melburne. }
 Compotus Petri de Melburne constabularii
 Castri ibidem a festo Michaelis anno regni
 Regis Henrici filii Regis Henrici tercio usque
 idem festum ex tunc proximum sequens anno ejusdem Regis
 quarto per unum annum integrum

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Custus Parci. }
 Solutum pro factura x acrarum nove haie
 in locis defectivis circa dictum parcum acra
 ad vj *d.*—v *s.* Et solutum pro emendacione
 haie circa le Spryng ibidem in locis defectivis ex convencione
 in grosso ij *s.* viij *d.* Et solutum pro coopertura pontis apud les
 flogedatis cum petris ex convencione in grosso ij *s.*

Summa ix *s.* viij *d.*

Custus feni et }
 pergameni. }
 Et xxj *d.* in falcacione iiij acrarum prati
 vocati les Russhes assignati pro feris domini
 Regis in yeme acra ad vij *d.* Et xij *d.* in
 herbagio spergendo et feno inde levando et faciendo Et xij *d.*
 pro una carecta cariante dictum fenum per unum diem Et
 solutum pro pergameno empto pro rotulis curie hoc anno xij *d.*

Summa iiiij *s.* ix *d.*

Custus Castri. }
 Et in diversis custubus missis et expensis
 factis tam super reparacione murorum castri
 quam domorum infra castrum ex ordinacione

Receptoris et Thome Grysley militis eo quod ordinatum fuit per Regem ut dicebatur quod diversi duces et alii diversi domini Franchie prisonarii ibidem salvo custodirentur sub custodia dicti Thome *xlviij s. ij d.* ut patet per parcellam super hunc compotum examinatam.

Summa *xlviij s. ij d.*

No. 6174.

A.D. 1429-30.

Melbourne.

Compotus Thome Staunton Constabularii
Castri Parcarii ac Collectoris reddituum ibidem
et firmarum a festo Sancti Michaelis anno
regni regis Henrici Sexti octavo usque idem festum Sancti
Michaelis extunc proximum sequens anno ejusdem Regis nono
per unum annum integrum

Custus
Reparacionis
domorum et
turrium castri.

In stipendio unius carpentarii unam peciam
maremii queurcini scapulantis et squarrantis et
eandem peciam in trabem formantis et in
quamdam domum (sic) dicti castri loco per-
sitato erigentis et ponentis per convencionem
in grosso *ij s. ix d.* Et in viij *lbs.* soulduræ emptæ pro souldacione
rupturarum telarum plumbi ibidem per convencionem in grosso
ij s. Et in stipendio unius hominis reparantis et emendantis
unam gutteram super coquinam in opere ligneo infra castrum
predictum per convencionem in grosso *xviiij d.* Et in stipendio
iiij^{or} hominum per *iiij* dies mundancium domos et turres castri
supradicti de stramine rubiso et aliis nocumentis in eisdem
existentibus quolibet capiente per diem *iiij d.—iiij s.*

Summa *x s. iiij d.*

Custus Clausure
Parci cum aliis.

Et in stipendio diversorum laborariorum
succidencium Tynet et cum eodem de novo
faciencium et erigentium *xxviiij* acras nove
sepis circa parcum hujus Dominii prout opus erat pro factura et
erectione cujuslibet acre sepis *vj d.—xiiij s.* Et in stipendio
eorundem consimili forma succidencium et cariencium tynet et
cum eodem faciencium et erigentium unam sepem circa
quamdam clausuram infra dictum parcum pro conservacione

ejusdem per convencionem in grosso ii s. ij d. Et in uno Goion ferri iiij d. empto cum clavis ij d. ad reparacionem portarum parci predicti apud Quarrecam vj d. Et in stipendio unius laborarii falcantis ferne et brakes in quadam landa infra parcum pro meliori crescencia herbagii ejusdem habenda per ij dies viij d. Et in stipendio unius hominis per iiij dies succidentis tynet et cum eodem facientis et emendantis sepes cujusdam clausi vocati le Karre prout opus erat capientis per diem iiij d.—xvj d. Ac eciam consimili forma alia vice emendantis et facientis parcellam sepis clausi predicti per convencionem in grosso in toto xxij d. Et in stipendiis Willielmi Rudde et sociorum suorum mundancium et escurancium caput stagni predicti parci de luto et mudde pro meliori aqua infra dictum stagnum habenda et conservanda per convencionem in grosso viij s. Et in cariagio duarum carectarum maremii quercini per carpentarium inferius succisi et scapulati de boscis Regine vocatis les Outewodes ad predictum stagnum pro reparacione pipe capitis ejusdem x d. Et in stipendio duorum sarratorum per unum diem parcellam maremii predicti in bordas et alias pecias maremii aptas ad reparacionem dicte pipe x d. Et in stipendio Willielmi Wryght carpentarii per viij dies predictum maremium quercinum succidentis scapulantis et squarrantis et cum eodem predictam pipam stagni supradicti in opere ligneo prout opus erat facientis et reparantis capientis per diem vj d.—iii s. Et in falcacione spergicione levacione cariacione et mullionacione iiij carectarum feni ordinati pro feris predicti parci tempore yemali anni futuri pascendis per convencionem in grosso iiij s.

Summa xxxvj s. x d.

NOTES.

Maremium—timber.
 Zabuli—sand ("sable" Fr.).
 Sodare, soudare—solder.
 Stannum—tin.
 Comis—ridge tiles?
 Vectium—bolts or bars.
 Rygallyng—grooving.
 Summagium—a horse load.

Serrare—to saw.
 Scapulare—to adze.
 Polished—Head of the Pool.
 Rubiso—rubbish?
 Tynet—brushwood.
 Escurancium—scouring-out.
 Mullionacione—stacking.