



## Swallowfield and its Owners.

*By Lady Russell.*

*(Continued from page 154.)*

1376. At the death of Edmund de la Beche, Swallowfield passed into the hands of King Edward III., and among the memoranda of the Treasury, the following is recorded: "Memorandum quod XIII. die july anno XLIX. liberatæ fuerunt in Thesauro per Adam de Hertynndon 2 litteræ de quietâ clamiâ de manerio de Swallowefelde et imponuntur in quâdam pixide in cista, &c., ad vale.

Signum



This shews there was a quit-claim at this date confirming the Manor to the Crown, though the Earls of Warwick held it in chief as before, the Crown only dealing with the Earl's tenants or reputed tenants. The sign at the end of the above memorandum seems to have been the symbol for Swallowfield at the Exchequer.

Adam de Hertynnton, Canon of Windsor, was one of the Chamberlains of the receipts of the Exchequer, and he was also Surveyor of the Works at Windsor Castle. It was part of his duty to collect money for the works at Windsor, and he probably obtained some from Swallowfield.

1377. King Richard II. on his accession granted to Sir William Arundel for the term of his life, "the Manor of Swalfeld, with parks, woods, and all other commodities to the same manor belonging, in the counties of Berkshire, Wiltshire, and Southampton." [*See Memoranda Roll. 3. Hen. IV. Adhvc. Record Roll. 27.*] Sir William was the 2nd son of Sir John Arundel, Marshall of England, by his wife Alionore [grand-daughter and heir of Lord Maltravers] and grandson of Richard Fitz-Alan, 9th Earl of Arundel, by his 2nd wife Eleanor Plantagenet, daughter of Henry Earl of Lancaster. His father and his uncle the Archbishop of Canterbury having dropped the family name of Fitz-Alan and assumed that of Arundel,

Sir William continued to use the latter name. The grant of Swallowfield to Sir William was no doubt attributable to the fact that his uncle Richard Fitz-Alan, Earl of Arundel, was one of the King's Councillors at this time.

1379. In 1379 Sir William lost his father, Sir John Arundel, who was drowned with many others when at the head of an expedition sent to assist the King of France. Baker, in giving an account of this fatality, says: "It may not be impertinent to note here the sumptuousness of these times, for this John Arundel was then said in his furniture to have 52 new suits of apparel of cloth of gold and tissue all lost at sea." Sir John left his son 500 marks.

1383. In 1383 we find Sir William engaging in the crusade of which Henry Spencer, the warlike Bishop of Norwich, was declared General. This Crusade was raised by Pope Urban VI. against his rival Clement the VII., France having espoused the cause of the latter and England of the former Pope. John Kuton, of Sandhurst, and John Chewes, of Wokingham, were appointed "Collectors of the Bishop of Norwich" to recruit for the expedition in this neighbourhood.—[*West: O. VII. 398.*]

1389. In 1389 Sir William Arundel had, together with Sir Simon Felbrigge and Robert Teye, a licence to travel, and they were allowed by the licence to take twelve horses with them. (*Pat. 13, Rich. II., p. 2, m. 12.*)

1394. He attended Richard II. when he went to Ireland to quell a rebellion in 1394.—*Froissart com. xii. p. 201.*

1395. In 1395 Sir William was admitted to the Order of the Garter, and succeeded to the stall of Sir Nicholas Sarnesfield.

This same year he was made Custos, or Constable, of Rochester Castle and Governor of the City of Rochester. In Devon's "Issues of the Exchequer," mention is made of a writ directed to Sir William Arundel, this year, for repairing a defect of the New Tower, near the bridge in Rochester Castle, and in "Additional Manuscripts" in the British Museum there is a mandate directed from "The King to his dear and faithful William Arundel, chevalier, Constable of his Castle of Rochester," desiring him to see that the High Street of Rochester is newly paved.

1397. In 1397, Thomas de Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick, the owner-in-chief of Swallowfield, was seized at a feast given to him by the King and condemned to death, together with the Earl of Arundel (Sir William's uncle). The latter was executed, but the Earl of Warwick's sentence was commuted to banishment to the Isle of

Man, while his estates were granted to Thomas Holland, Earl of Kent, nephew to Richard II. We may conclude, therefore, that Swallowfield went to the said Earl of Holland, but Sir William Arundel held it "for the term of his life of the grant of the King," and in less than a month after his uncle's execution he was given the lucrative offices of Constable and Warden of Reigate Castle with Rangership of the surrounding parks and chases. The Grant is addressed to "dilecto et fideli consanguine onostro Willielmo

Aroundell chivaler." Sir William appears to have had a great deal of power at this time, and we find that in 1398 he granted to the Earl of Wiltshire and others the Manor of Brandenn (Brandon), Warwick.—*Harleian Charters*, 45-50. This Earl of Wiltshire was Sir William le Scrope, K.G., Lord Chamberlain, eldest son of Richard, Lord Serope of Bolton, in favour of whom the celebrated suit with Sir Robert Grosvenor was decided in 1390, confirming to him the right to bear the arms azure, a bend or.

1399. In the account of the Feast of the Order of the Garter this year we find that robes of scarlet were provided for Sir William Arundel, and robes were also provided for Lady Agnes Arundel, his wife.

1400. Sir William Arundel died in August, 1400. He made his will in London on the 1st August of that year, wherein he directed the interment of his remains in the Church of the Priory of St. Andrew at Rochester, at the back of the high altar, and adds, "To my wife Agnes, all my jewels; to my carnal brother Sir Richard Arundel, my lands; and my vessels of silver to my loving nephew Sir William Arundel, Kt."

The will of Agnes, his widow, bears date 6th September, 1401, and was proved 8th October following.—[*Reg. Arundel Lambeth*, fo. 173 and 192.]—In it she desires to be buried near her husband, under a tomb upon which their effigies had been sculptured, and she leaves bequests to the Countess of Hereford (Joan, daughter of the 9th Earl of Arundel, her husband's aunt); to my Lady mother, to my sisters the ladies Ross (her husband's sister Margaret, who married Thomas 7th Baron de Ros) and Brian (her husband's sister Joan, who married Sir William de Brienne), and Margaret Cobham (Margaret, daughter of Hugh Courtenay, Earl of Devon and wife of John, 2nd Baron Cobham, cousin of her husbands) to my brother Sir Richard de Arundel (her brother-in-law), to dame Margaret Felbryge (probably widow of the Sir Simon Felbrigge with whom her husband travelled in 1389), to dame Catherine St. Liz;

to dame Isabel Vache (wife of Sir Philip la Vache, K.G., Chamberlain of Queen Isabella).—*Nicholas's Testamenta Vestuta*. Mr. W. B. Rye in vol. xiii. of *Archæologica Cantiana* (1878-80), says that the monument of Sir William Arundel "was unavoidably disturbed during the recent restoration of the Choir," and that "when the large stone slab, which had contained effigies in brass, was removed, a leaden coffin, and the body of a woman closely wrapped in lead, became visible. The brasses had been torn from their slab, but the matrix clearly showed the figure of a knight in armour, holding the hand of a lady by his side." After the accession of Henry IV., Thomas Holland, Earl of Kent, who held Swallowfield, being engaged in a conspiracy against the King, was taken prisoner and executed and his honours and lands were forfeited.

At the same time, Thomas Beauchamp, 4th Earl of Warwick, was released from his imprisonment in the Isle of Man, and reinstated in his possessions.

1401. He died the following year seized of Swalufeld, and we find a grant dated 12th Nov. of this year, to John de Lancaster, the King's son, of the custody of the house (this seems to be the first mention of a house) of Swalfeld, with parks, woods and all other commodities to the same Manor, belonging to the counties of Berkshire, Wiltshire and Southampton, to have for twenty years from the time of the death of William d'Arundel, chivaler. This John de Lancaster was the Duke of Bedford, Regent of France, who sullied his great name by his inhuman treatment of Jeanne d'Arc.

1403. In an Inquisition, "Capt apud Remenham, on Monday of the Feast of All Saints, 4 Henry IV., before the Escheator of Berks and a jury, we find, "item dimid feros militis in Swalufeld et Shynyngfeld heres Johannes de St. John de Lageham tenuit de dicto Comite (Warwick) et valuit per annum £20."

1407, In another Inq. P. M. 8 Henry IV. "Swalufell et Shyngfell, ½ fee of which heirs of St. John hold is in possession of Margaret, widow of the 4th Earl of Warwick." She was daughter of William, 3rd Lord Ferrars of Groby.

1420. In 8 Henry V., there was a suit at Westminster between John ffitz Elys and Walter Walkestede, clerk, plaintiffs, and William Danvers and Joan his wife, deforciant, concerning lands in the parish of Swalefeld. John Fitz-Elys was no doubt a descendant of the William Fitz-Ellis who married Joan de la Beche and succeeded to a share of Beavmys in 1349. The name without the "Fitz" continued in the neighbourhood for some generations, and a "John

Ellys, gent., of Sheynefyeld," was buried there in 1617. William Danvers, the Deforciant, must have been the descendant of Robert d'Anvers who married Alice de la Beche and succeeded to the other half of Beaumys. This name we also find continuing in the neighbourhood. The suit ended in "William Deanvers" and Joan his wife granting the land to John Fitz Ellis and Walter Walkestede, and to the heirs of John, and they were to receive 100 marks for the concession.

1424. And again in 2 Henry VI., there was a suit between John fferiby, Edmund Rede, Thomas Grene, Richard Paulyn, Chaplain, and William Perkins, plaintiffs, and William Deanvers and Joan his wife, deforciants, for 10 marks rent issuing out of the Manor of Beaumys, which is described as being both "in Swafeld Wilts, and in Swafeld Berks."

The deforciants grant to the plaintiffs the said rent and liberty to distrain for same if in arrear. The plaintiffs give the deforciants £40 for the concession. John fferiby was of course the representative of that John de Foureyby, valet of Edward III., who had a grant of land in Swallowfield in 1357, and he was probably related to John de fferiby, Richard II.'s faithful clerk who shared his most private counsels, and who joining in the conspiracy against Henry IV. in the 1st year of his reign, was taken prisoner and executed with Sir Bernard Brocas and Sir Thomas Shelley. Sir William Feriby, who was one of those who fled with Richard II., was no doubt of the same family.

