



A Surbey of Wallingford in 1550.

(Continued from page 85, Vol. 21).

- (18) vij*l.* xvjs. viij*d.* The said William holds a tenement called the Kinges Hedde with garden, orchard and curtilage adjacent, containing by estimation one acre, now occupied by John a Deane [Robert Sparrowe, 1561], paying to the lord ix*s.* iij*d.* by the ancient rental, and xs. to the college.
- (19) The aforesaid William a Deane holds a tenement with garden adjacent [near the Courtes lane, 1561], in occupation of John Barker [formerly Jenens, 1561], paying viijs. ix*d.* to the lord.
- (20) Thomas Herbert holds at will a tenement [Albon' Ruston holds by copy a customary tenement, 1561] now very ruinous for lack of timber and tiles, paying to the Priory vis. viij*d.*
- (21) xxxiijs. iv*d.* John a Deane holds a tenement with garden and curtilage, called Brasyers, in occupation of Richard Smith, paying to the lord xiiij*d.*
- (22) Geoffrey Pollynton holds [xxxs. Ralph Pollington holds freely, 1561] a tenement with garden and curtilage [called Kemsalles, 1561] lately held by Edward Wykeham, now in occupation of William Welles, paying ijs. iv*d.* to the lord and vs. j*d.* [freely, 1561] to the Priory.
- (23) John Norres esquire holds by letters patent of the King to himself and his heirs the site, precinct, circuit, etc., of the late Priory there with all lands, demesnes, meadows and pastures pertaining to the same, containing by estimation 280 acres $3\frac{1}{2}$ roods, and pays as tithe to the Priory xxiijs. x*d.* [freely, 1561].
The same late Prior owes rent to the lord ——— for all tenants of the said Priory there xxxs. iv*d.* obit.
- (24) Nicholas Aste (or Aston) holds a tenement called Stonehall with small close called Stone close, containing one acre, paying to the Priory xvs.

Folio 4.

- (25) William Stacy holds at will a tenement with garden adjacent, 90ft. by 55jt., paying to the priory vjs. viij^d.
- (26) John Purdon holds at will a house called a shepehouse, 30ft. by 28ft., and the bank containing by estimation 3 roods of pasture, paying to the Priory iij^s. viij^d. [to the last three entries the word *custum* is added at the end, 1561].

Thus we have a series of twenty-six tenements ; and these will be found on examination to correspond with the present number, allowing for the fact that one would sometimes be divided and two or more would sometimes be united. They begin with two which were ruined, held by the porter of the Castle and close to the east gate of the town. These would be the sites now occupied by the "Town Arms" Inn and the adjacent house, between the Castle gate and the approach to the bridge ; or the second may have been west of the Castle gate. The last of the twenty-six is also identified by the three roods of pasture called "the banke" ; for this is evidently the bank on the north side of the road, continuing the line of the Kinecroft banks, and having on its summit the boundary wall between the Priory grounds and the premises of the "Cross Keys" hostelry : hence the "sheep-house," with a frontage of 30 feet, may be placed in the south-west angle of the Priory grounds. William Stacy's tenement and garden of 90 feet in length intervened between this and Stone Hall, which name is still borne by what is now the westernmost house in the High Street. Next is the Priory site, upon which the Elizabethan house now disputing with the other the name of Stone Hall was afterwards built, very probably by John Norris himself, or by Christopher Avelyn to whom he conveyed the estate in 1553.* Norris had obtained the Priory estate by exchange from the Crown in 1546, after the attainder of Cardinal Wolsey to whom it had been granted after the Dissolution in 1525.† John Purdon, who held the westernmost tenement in the Survey, was tenant of the Priory estate.‡ A tenement in the lower part of the street still retaining the name that it bore in 1561 is "The George." Its name appears in the 17th century as "The George and Dragon."§

* Hedges' *Hist. of Wallingford*, ii. 358.

† Dugdale, *Monasticom*, vi. 1330.

‡ Ibid.

§ Hedges, ii. 130, 174, 175.

The Survey does not indicate the point in a street at which a cross street leads out of it, and thus we are not told here the position of the entrance to Castle Street. But it is not difficult to discover. To the north of the High Street in the eastern portion the Collegiate Church of St. Nicholas was the predominant institution, as was the Priory in the western portion, and Castle Street (which is named later in the Survey) passed between. Then we find that in the eastern portion of the street only one tenement, namely the tenth, pays dues to the late Priory; but from the 12th tenement to the 18th six of the seven pay dues to the college (which had not yet been dissolved), and of the eight tenements in the western part of the street all but two pay dues to the Priory estate. The last of the former six, paying to the College, is "the King's Hedde," which is the fourth tenement from "The George," and has an acre of ground. Thus its position corresponds with what is now the Lamb Hotel, with its ground extending some distance up Castle Street. The King's Head does not appear to be named elsewhere. In 1690 the Lamb was known as "the Bell,"* but in the Survey the Bell is on the opposite side of the street. We may probably infer that when the Bell was removed its name was transferred to the King's Head, which in 1709 had become the Lamb.†

We conclude therefore that the tenement next after the King's Head in the Survey (paying dues to the lord only) is on the west side of Castle Street. It is marked in 1561 as "near the Courtes lane," which would seem to be a by-way either west of it from High Street or north of it from Castle Street.‡ It should be noted that for this and the remaining tenements, except the last two in the street, no measurements of the land are given, perhaps because the Priory estates had not yet been definitely parcelled out. The "Chapel called St. Mary Grace at the Bridge-foot," mentioned in the additional note of 1561 at the commencement of the Survey and frequently named in the records of this period, was evidently a bridge-chapel adjoining the east gate of the town. It was destroyed in the Civil War in or about 1643.§

* Hedges, ii. 410, 414. † Ibid. 182.

‡ Probably it is represented either by Victoria Court (lately closed) in High Street or by the entry at the back of the first premises in Castle Street, each of which appears to have been a passage leading to the Priory buildings.

§ Hedges, ii. 400.

J. E. FIELD.

(*To be continued.*)