



A Survey of Wallingford in 1550.

(Continued from page 25.)

Folio 5.

High Street—south side—continued from the entrance of Fish Street.

- (9) Anne Rede, widow, holds one shop (*shoppam*) with the "soller" (solar), and pays *vjd.* to the lord of the Honor.
- (10) Alice [Agneta, 1561] Benet, widow, holds three shops and pays *xxd.* to the lord.
- (11) Andrew Harryngton holds one tenement with curtilage adjacent, lately Thomas Barber's, in length 40ft., in breadth 35ft., and pays *per annum* upwards of *xvjd.* to the parish church of St. Peter, and *xijd.* to the rector of the church for parcel of the cemetery there; the dues are *ijs.* to the lord and *xvjd.* to the Bridge-house.
- (12) Jerome Smythe holds one tenement and a garden, 57ft. in length and 40ft. in breadth, and pays *xs.* to the Bridge-house. [*Add*, 1561: Query purchased by Thomas Morris for Ralph Pollyngton as appears by letters patent given 10 May, 3 Edw. VI.]
- (13) Robert Coxson holds one tenement and a garden, lately John Higgyns, containing in length 32ft. and in breadth 32ft., and pays *per annum* *xvjd.* to the lord.
- (13^b) The same holds of the Church of St. Peter one parcel of land at the back of the said tenement containing in length 40ft. and in breadth 46ft., which parcel of land was formerly parcel of the free chapel of St. John there, as appears in the ancient rental, and pays *per annum* to the aforesaid church *vd.*
- (14) John Croke [lately] holds one tenement with garden adjacent, 64ft. in length, 22ft. in breadth, and pays *per annum* *1d.* By the ancient rental it is *vijs.* [Now John Colche's, 1561.]

- (15) William Mollens esquire holds [freely by charter, 1561] one tenement and curtilage, 64ft. in length, 50ft. in breadth, with one small close there adjacent, containing one rood, lately Thomas Vincent's, and pays *per annum* iijs. ijd. to the lord.
- (16) Lady Anne Reede, widow, holds one tenement there, called Fessantes (Pheasants?) with one curtilage, 79ft. in length, 50ft. in breadth, and pays *per annum* ijs.
- (17) Stephen Faryngton holds of John Stampe one tenement called the Smythes forge, with curtilage adjacent, 35ft. in length, 24ft. in breadth [Note, for the King, 1561], lately pertaining to the free chapel of St. John there as appears in the ancient rental, and pays *per annum* xvijd. to the lord.
- (18) John Stampe holds one tenement there in occupation of William Eyre, with curtilage adjacent, 30ft. in length, 30ft. in breadth, lately in the tenure of John Due, and pays *per annum* ijs. vjd.
- (19) Lady Anne Reede, widow, holds there one tenement with curtilage adjacent, in the occupation of John Barnard, 126ft. in length, 80ft. in breadth, and three acres of land lying in Saint John's felde, and pays *per annum* vijs. viijd. to the lord.
- (20) Richard Greneway, porter of the Castle, there, holds by right of his office as porter one tenement, and curtilage, 30ft. in length and 30ft. in breadth, with one small close of meadow in Cromersshe [containing one acre, 1561], and pays 1d. to the lord.
- | | |
|---------------|-----|
| Johane Morten | xs. |
| Henry Castell | xs. |
- [There two lines are deleted, 1561.]

(9, 10) The last tenement in the previous section of the High Street was described as abutting on Fish Street eastward, and it therefore occupied the angle. The tenement on the other side, abutting on High Street northward and on Fish Street westward, is not mentioned here, but will presently be found as the first in Fish Street. Since it does not appear in the account of High Street we may infer that it did not occupy the actual angle, but stood back a short distance up Fish Street. And this is borne out by the fact

that in the actual angle numerous human bones have been found in recent building operations, showing that this was one of the ancient burial-grounds of the town. Hence the shop of Anne Rede (9) with its solar, or upper storey, mentioned as the first in this section of the High Street, must have had the open space of the burial-ground intervening between it and Fish Street.

The three shops of Agnes Benet (10), mentioned next to Anne Rede's, were probably mere stalls. It should be noted that we have no account of the measurement of either of these tenements, whereas we are told the length and breadth of every tenement that follows along the remainder of the street. Presently, when we come to Wood Street, we shall find that the Survey describes only the east side and tells us nothing of the west; and we infer that the west side of Wood Street consisted (as a great part of it consists still) of nothing but the backs of the tenements in Fish Street and the Market Place. We may conclude that the shops of Anne Rede and Agnes Benet were the only tenements upon the portion of High Street which intervenes between Fish Street and Wood Street.

(11) The first tenement, therefore, on the east side of Wood Street is that which had lately passed from Thomas Barber to Andrew Harryngton (11), having a frontage of forty feet on High Street and thirty-five on Wood Street. Since a payment to St. Peter's Church was charged upon it we may conclude that it was in that parish, and that Wood Street had been the boundary between this and the parish of St. Mary the Less before they were united in 1374. Harryngton also rented a portion of St. Peter's churchyard, perhaps for the erection of a stall for merchandise.

Jerome Smythe's tenement (12), like others that have been mentioned,* had passed in 1549 through Thomas Morrys to Ralph Pollyngton.

The next tenement (13), lately held by John Hyggins, is now held by Robert Coxson. He was Mayor in 1547 and 1553.† It is

† Hedges, II., 228, 255.

only 32ft. square; but he holds also a larger piece of ground behind it belonging now to St. Peter's Church and previously the property of the Free Chapel of St. John's Hospital. A later entry in the Survey, folio 12, shows that the Hospital had been dissolved in 1543.

The next tenement (14) is of special interest. The combined frontages of the three last-named measure 129 feet; and taking that distance from the corner of Wood Street we find that this next cor-

* xxj. 85, No. 15 (where for *enquired* read *purchased*); xxij. 22, No. 3.

responds with the ancient house still standing here and remarkable for its cellar built with fine fourteenth-century vaulting-ribs and fragments of Norman work. It is most improbable that these can have come from any other building than the Priory church; and since half of that church was bought in 1530 for the repair of the bridge† we may infer that this house was built about the same year. The original writing of the Survey states that "John Croke lately holds it" (*nuper tenet*); but in 1561 the word *lately* is deleted, and at the end the words "now of John Colche" (*modo Johannis Colche*) are interlined. They may relate to the tenement next described; or the name which appears to be *Colche*, obscurely written, may be intended for *Croke*. John Croke appears later as rector of St. Mary's.

† Hedges, II., 254.

J. E. FIELD.

(*To be continued*).

History of the Parish of Beenham.

By Mary Sharp.

(*Continued from Vol. 21, No. 2, page 53,*).

PARISH REGISTERS.

The oldest Register book of Beenham is in parchment. The entries are headed with the following statement:—

THE REGISTER BOOKE OF BEENEHAM.

ANNO DM̄ 1561.

It is in very good condition and the handwriting almost throughout is clear and legible. It goes on till 1778. The first Vicar's signature is that of William Elton in 1614. He dates the pages from the following year not only Anno Dm̄. 1615, but also adds the year of the King's reign—*James 13*,—and the same form is continued till 1648—*Regis Charles 24^o*—after which the date of the year only is given till 1661, when *Regis Charles 2-13th* is added, for, according to the usual custom, the reign of Charles II. was always counted as beginning from the year of his father's death. The