

Berkshire Charters.

BY G. B. GRUNDY, M.A., D.Litt.

Continued from p. 62, Vol. XXXI, No. i.

ABBREVIATIONS.

AS., Anglo-Saxon; B. (with a number), number of Charter in Birch's *Cartularium Saxonicum*; K. (with a number), number of Charter in Kemble's *Codex Diplomaticus*; By., Boundary; TA., Tithe Award; p.n., personal name; Pl.N., Place Name; fur., furlong.

MILTON.

Milton is a parish about $3\frac{1}{2}$ m. S. of Abingdon.

In B. 935, K. 444, it is called *Middletun*. In the document 'De Hidis pertinentibus ad Abbendonian in Barrokeschire' it is called *Middleton*. In the second Harwell charter (v. Harwell), its boundaries are referred to as the *Middelthaema Gemaere*. The meaning is 'Middle Village' or 'Farm.'

By the charter B. 935, K. 444, King Eadwig grants to Aelfwine 15 hides at *Middeltune*. The reputed date is A.D. 956.

SURVEY.

The survey is of the Saxon age, perhaps contemporary with the grant.

1. *Aerest of Cealc forda on Ealdan Lacing*: 'First from Chalk Ford to Old Lacing.'

It is fairly clear that this ford was on the brook on the W. By., a furlong N. of Milton Mill (OM1), at the S.E. angle of Drayton parish. The *Eald Lacing* is the brook which forms the N. part of the W. By. Higher up its course it is called *Lacynge Broc* in the Hendred charter. The upper course of it is now called Ginge Brook, and the lower course Mill Brook.

2. *Thanne on Dythmere*: 'Then to Fuel Pond.'

Such is the meaning of *dyth* as given in the supplement of Bosworth and Toller's Dictionary. But I am inclined to think that the word is the first element in the word *dythhommar*, 'papyrus,' and that it means a reed.

The pond was probably on the N. By. W. of Drayton Mill (OM1).

3. *Thanne on Sceortan Mor*: 'Then to the Short Swampy Ground.'

4. *Thanne on thone Anlipan Beorh* : 'Then to the Single Barrow.'

5. *Thanne on Haesel Broc* : 'Then to Hazel Brook.'

This brook is almost certainly that which forms the S.E. By. S. of the railway. Cf. *Heslea Broc* of the Harwell charter.

The *Sceort Mor* must have been to the E. of the village.

The Barrow must have been also there ; but no trace of it survives.

6. *Thanne up to Gynan Baece* : 'Then up to Gyna's Intermittent Stream.'

There is a spring at the cottage on the road a furlong N. of the S.E. corner of the parish. In wet weather a stream runs E. and then N.E. from there along a line of footpath. This may be the *Gynan Baec*.

7. *Thonne to tham Stodfalde* : 'Then to the Horse Fold.'

8. *Thanne to Seofan Thornum* : 'Then to the Seven Thorn-trees.'

I can only guess that these lay respectively at the S.E. and S.W. angles of the parish.

9. *Thonne to Smalan Wege* : 'Then to Narrow Way.'

10. *And on Lacing and syx Cotsetlan* : 'And on Lacing (and) Six Cottage Dwellings (?).'

These two last points are very vague. Probably they have come down to us in a garbled form. The *Smal Weg* is probably represented by the road from Hendred to Abingdon which for $\frac{3}{4}$ m. forms part of the E. By., and joins the Abingdon-Newbury road to the N. of Milton Hill. *Lacing* is, as we have seen, the brook at Milton Mill. What point 10 means I cannot say.

FIELD NAMES.

The Fleet : Name of what are now two fields on the N. By. just W. of the road to Abingdon. The name originates probably in the AS. *Fleot*, a 'stream,' and has reference to the neighbouring brook.

Great Hale : On W. By. E. of the N. end of Steventon. AS. *Healh*, 'hollow,' having reference to what may be some quite insignificant hollow in the field. The name is fairly common as a field name in Berkshire.

The Severals : Near the W. By. just east of Steventon House.
(OM6). Land in private ownership.

Great Heath : In S.W. angle of the parish, S. of the Wantage road.

NORTH MORETON.

North Moreton is a parish situated $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. W. of Wallingford.

Its lands are included in the Blewbury charter. The name is only once mentioned in the charters, namely in the Hagbourne charter where one landmark runs : " then to *Haccaburnan* (Hacca's Brook) about *Mortun*." The name means ' Farm or Village of the Swampy Land.' Various old names on its By. are mentioned in the Blewbury, Brightwell and Hagbourne charters.

THE OLD MAP OF THE PARISH.

The T. A. of North Moreton, like those of Cholsey and Steven-ton, was made before the Enclosure Act was applied to the parish. It gives a picture of the parish which must very much resemble what it was in Saxon times. It is not quite typical of the Saxon land unit, for there was no *leah* or uncultivated pasture land. It is a small parish, only 1,102 acres ; and except for a piece of *maed*, mead or hay land, the whole area was arable. That mead was almost entirely in the S.E. part of the parish between Mill Brook and Kibble Ditch. The arable land was divided into primary divisions, called, as usual, furlongs. Each furlong was divided into a number of strips, the narrowest having a breadth of $5\frac{1}{2}$ yards, and others having breadths of various multiples of $5\frac{1}{2}$ yards up to 44 yards. It was rarely the case that two adjacent strips were cultivated by the same holder. This small parish of 1,102 acres contained no less than 1,672 separate plots of land. The largest holder cultivated a little more than 100 acres ; and his holding was distributed in more than 100 plots scattered over the whole parish.

People do not as a rule realise that the Enclosure Acts of the latter part of the 18th and the earlier part of the 19th century completely revolutionised both the system of land-holding in this country, and also the system of cultivation. Also from the name ' Enclosure Acts ' they are apt to conclude that the main

object of them was to bring common and waste land into cultivation. That was one object, and a very important one, too. But the most important was the concentration of single holdings, so that the holder might have his land in one plot, as it were, in order that he might be able to work it economically. This was effected by a process of exchange. The expenses of working a farm under the old system must have been at least double that under the new. A few facts with regard to the lands of the largest holders in the parish will show the difficulties with which a farmer had to contend in the days before the Enclosure Acts.

The arable land of the parish, which comprised in the case of North Moreton about nine-tenths of its area, or, roughly, about 1,000 acres, was divided into 65 furlongs. The number of separate strips held by Thomas Bannister was 73, distributed over 33 furlongs. The number of separate strips held by William Blunsdon was 59 in 32 furlongs. The number of separate strips held by William Dearlove was 152 in 53 furlongs. By separate strips is here meant separate plots of land no one of which was adjacent to the other.

What would be the feelings of a farmer of the present day who was faced with the problem of working such a holding as that of William Dearlove ! It amounted to little more than 100 acres ; yet it was in 152 separate plots. In Saxon times the face of the land of North Moreton was the same ; and the farming system must have been much the same ; but, though the family holdings of that period must have been distributed among the various furlongs, it is improbable that the distribution was so complicated as it had become in the earlier half of the 19th century.

FIELD NAMES.

Upper Furlong West Down : In N.W. corner of parish, W. of Upper Farm (OM1).

East Down Furlong : In northernmost angle of parish, N. of Upper Farm (OM1).

West Chandrey Piece : East Chandrey Piece : S. of Upper Farm (OM1). Chandrey may be a personal name. But there is also a word 'chandrey' meaning a place where candles were kept. Possibly some place where candles were made, stood formerly on this land.

Womin : On N.E. By. due E. of Upper Farm (OM1).

Great Combs : On N.E. By. S. of last.

Hanging Combs : S. of last. 'Hanging' implies on a slope.

Little Combs : S. of last.

Maple Furlong : S. of last.

Little Rye Furlong and Great Rye Furlong : Near the Didcot-Brightwell road.

Teen Acres : S. of last on N.E. By. 'Ten Acres.'

Mead Husk : S.E. part of parish ; $\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.S.E. of the church.

Upper Dollots : Immed. N.W. of last.

Standel : On S. By. $3\frac{1}{2}$ furlongs S.W. of church. 'Stonepit' or 'Quarry.'

Height Furlong : Immed. N. of village.

Fulham Way : At S.W. corner of parish. Probably *Ful-hamm*, 'miry enclosure.'

Great Summerleaze : Immed. N. of the Star Inn (OM1). 'Summer Pasture.'

SOUTH MORETON.

South Moreton is a parish about $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. W.S.W. of Wallingford.

The parish is included in the Blewbury grant, for which see ancient names on its By. See also the Cholsey charter.

FIELD NAMES.

Dennis Haddon : Just S. of the railway at Fulscot Bridge (OM1).

Named from the neighbouring Hadden Hill, the *Haethdun*, 'Hill of the Heath,' of the Hagbourne charter.

Great and Little Louse Lands : Immed. S.E. of last. 'Louse' means 'pasture.'

Fulscot Farm : (OM1). Probably AS. *Ful-sceat*, 'a dirty or muddy detached piece of land.'

Great Hay Butts : $\frac{1}{4}$ m. N.W. of last (OM1). Butts were strips of ploughland shorter than the usual length of approximately one furlong.

Lack Furlong : On W. By. W. of last.

Cross Furlong : On W. By. due W. of Fulscot Farm (OM1).

May be named from some old cross which stood near it ; but more probably means a furlong, *i.e.*, ploughland, the strips of which ran at right angles to the strips of a neighbouring furlong.

PANGBOURNE.

Pangbourne is 5 m. W.N.W. of Reading.

FIELD NAMES.

Shooter's Hill : $\frac{1}{4}$ m. W. of railway station.

Cleaver Field : $\frac{1}{4}$ m. S. by W. of railway station. Probably AS.
Clæfer, 'clover.'

Hoare Croft : Immed. E. of Lower Bowden Farm (OM1).

Lower Bowden Farm : (OM1). Probably 'Bent Dean or Valley.'

Staveley Heath : Called Bowden Green in OM6. $\frac{1}{4}$ m. S. of same farm.

Lyford's Lane Pightle : $\frac{1}{4}$ m. N.E. of Upper Bowden Farm (OM1). 'Small Enclosure.'

Grave Dean : $\frac{1}{4}$ m. S.W. of same farm.

Bere Court : (OM1). AS. *Baere*, 'woodland providing pasture for swine.'

Lakard : $\frac{1}{4}$ m. S. by E. of Blenheim Barn (OM1).

Great Otwells : $\frac{3}{4}$ m. S.W. of Bere Court.

MARCHAM.

Marcham is about $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. W. of Abingdon.

B. 1169, 1170, K. 1255, is a charter headed Marcham ; but as the survey shows, it is really a grant of the lands of Tubney and Frilford, both of which were parts of Marcham. (See notes on Tubney).

It is probable too that the appendage to the Chilton charter, (see notes on Chilton), referring to lands at what is called *Thaecleah*, refers to land at Oakley in the N. part of this parish.

FIELD NAMES.

Pizzie's Moor : On N.W. By. about $2\frac{1}{2}$ fur. W.N.W. of the church.

Picked Acre : Just S. of the road to Frilford about $\frac{1}{2}$ m. due W. of the church. 'Having an acute angle.'

Great Ground : 5 fur. W.S.W. of the church.

Crendall : Immed. S. of the last, on the other side of the road.

One of the variant modern forms of the AS. *crundel*, a stone-pit or quarry.

LYFORD.

Lyford is a small parish in the Vale of White Horse about $4\frac{1}{2}$ m. N. of Wantage.

It is mentioned first in the charter B.798, K. 1150,¹ whereby King Eadmund grants to the thegn Aelfheah in A.D. 944 six hides. *aet Linforda*. This shows the name to mean 'Ford of the Limetrees' or possibly 'Flax Ford.'

The survey given is very brief.

'These are the land boundaries at Linford :—Between *Eccene* (the River Ock) and *Cilla Rith* (Childrey Brook).,

Another document relating to it is K. 746, a charter whereby King Cnut grants two hides at *Linford* to the Monastery of St. Martin in Oxford. But this charter really refers to land which is now in West Hanney. (See W. Hanney). I have not been able to get a copy of the TA. of Lyford.

PADWORTH.

Padworth is 8 m. S.E. of Reading.

CHARTER.

B. 984, K. 1204, is a charter whereby King Eaduuig grants to his man Eadric land at *Peadanwurthe*. This in 956. It consists of 5 hides.

SURVEY.

The survey is at least a copy of a survey of the Saxon age.

1. *Aerest of Aelflaede Gemaere north on thone Hagan* : 'First from Aelflaed's Balk (or Boundary) north to the Game Fence (or Enclosure).'

2. *Andlang Hagan on Standan* (read *Standene*) : 'Along the Game Fence to Stone Dean.'

3. *Thonne on tha Dic* : 'Then to the Dyke.'

4. *Th'thonne on tha Ea* : 'Then to the River.'

5. *Andlang Ea on thone Mulen Ger* (read *Wer*) : 'Along the river to the Mill Dam.'

¹ In Birch C.S. this charter is attributed to Linford, Bucks.

6. *Thonan andlang thaere Mylen Dic eft on tha Ea* : 'Then along the Mill Dyke (Mill Stream) once more to the River.'

7. *Andlang Ea oth tha Byrcg* (read *Brycg*) : 'Along the River as far as the Bridge.'

What follows is apparently a list rather than a survey of the appendages of the grant :—

& se Mylen Stede & th' land be northan Ea the thaer to hyrth ; & thara oxena Wic ; & seo Maed on tun ege (read *ige*) *the thaer midrihte to gebyreth & seo East Mer ac eal se haga sceat eft on Aelflaede Mearce & tha Wer Baera & seo Maed be northen Ea & tha Hammas the ther midrihte to gebyrath* : 'and the Mill Steading and the land north of the River which belongs to it ; and the (Dairy) Farm of the Oxen ; and the Mead on the island of the village (or land-unit) which rightly (?) belongs to it and the East Balk as (?) the Game Fence runs once more to Aelflaed's Balk, and the Woodland Swine Pasture at the Weir (Dam) and the Mead north of the river, and the Enclosures which there rightly (?) belong to it.'

1. Aelflaed's Balk or Boundary ran along the S. By. of the parish, along the county By.

2. The *Haga* was a fence along the W. By. along the edge of woodland on the site of the extensive woodland in the E. part of Aldermaston parish. The *Standenu* is the valley, now called Padworth Gully (OM6), along which the W. By. of the parish runs.

3. The *Dic* is that backwater of the Kennet on which the W. By. abuts about 3 fur. W.N.W. of the church. The By. runs along this dyke first W.S.W. and then N.W. to abut on the Kennet a little more than 1 fur. W.S.W. of Padworth Mill. (OM1).

4. See last line.

5. It passes along the Kennet (the *Ea*) as far as the weir of the mill, which was probably on the site of the present mill.

6. It then passes along the short millstream below the mill and re-enters the Kennet.

7. It then goes along the Kennet to a bridge which was probably on the site of the present bridge near Padworth Lodge Farm (OM1).

Here the actual survey ends ; and the statement goes on with a list of what are evidently the mead lands and swine pasture of the land unit which include all the low-lying hayland

N. of the Kennet. The *Mylen Stede* would be outhouses attached to the mill and probably adjoining it. The *Oxena Wic* would be the farm steading belonging to the community in general in which the oxen were kept, and, like all *wics*, would be on the hayland of the community.²

The *hammas*, 'enclosures,' are expressly mentioned with the mead because they were enclosures of bits of hayland which had come to be allotted to individual landholders in the unit. But it looks as if the rest of the mead remained what it had originally been, common hayland of the produce of which the other holders had a proportionate share.³

² I have not as yet published the evidence on the subject, but as a fact *wic* was in its most usual technical sense a farmstead where cattle or sheep were kept; and, as they had to be fed in the winter at least, such farmsteads were on the mead. Anyone who examines the Wicks of the modern map will notice that they are nearly always near streams, because watermeadows formed almost the only hayland in the country. Also they are seldom very near the original village centre of the parish, because the site of that was always in the centre of the original ploughland of the land-unit, since it was that on which most labour was expended; and the workers preferred naturally to live near their work. Another thing which may be noticed is that the term *wic* in compounds is hardly ever accompanied by a first term consisting of a personal name, contrasting in this respect with the word *worth*. That shows pretty clearly that the *wic* was communal and not private property.

As the *wics* were naturally the places where butter and cheese were made, the term got to be used of places where other articles were produced. Cf. the common name Honeywick, or the name *Sealtwic*, the old name of the salt-producing Droitwich.

³ The evolution of ownership with respect to mead is pretty clearly shown in chance references in the charters. In the first place it was as land far more valuable than ploughland, because the amount of hayland available was much less than that of arable. In 1349, the date of the Black Death, mead land was six times the value of arable. Originally mead was communal, each holder receiving a share of the crop proportionate to the size of his holding, originally no doubt equal shares, since the Hides or family holdings of the original settlement would be approximately equal in one and the same land-unit. But the communal ownership of the mead was dying out in Saxon times, and in many land-units the mead had been divided up among the holders. They naturally enclosed the ground allotted, and thus formed '*hammas*,' the modern '*hams*.' Even in the days of the charters, ownership of strips of the mead in severalty had become the rule rather than the exception, for the expression '*seo maed is gemaene*' is used in more than one charter, showing that common property in the mead had to be emphasised in such cases as it existed inasmuch as it was at the time held usually in severalty. But, in Saxon times at any rate, the *wic* or farm-steading on the mead was still communal. In post-conquest times place-names show that individual holders established *wics* of their own on the meads, though judging from the number of cases in which wick is preceded by a personal name in the possessive case, this was even then exceptional. The fact that meads became very subject to enclosures or '*hams*' has led to the misinterpretation of this word in modern dictionaries, where it is defined as meaning a '*watermeadow*.' As a fact, even in surviving field-names, '*hams*' occur far from streams; and the real meaning of the name is '*enclosure*' without regard to the situation.

The words in the appendage ‘ & seo Mearc eal (?) se haga sceat eft on Aelflaede Mearce ’ are really a resumption of the survey, and refer to the E. By. of the parish. The *haga* was evidently a fence running along the W. side of woodland on the site of what is now Ufton Park (OM1) and the woods adjoining it. The *Wer beare* was probably woodland on the By. near Ufton Court (OM1). The weir would be in the neighbouring stream. The name Weary Hill (OM6) occurs $\frac{1}{4}$ m. S. of Ufton Court, a name in which the memory of the old weir may be preserved in a corrupted form.

Tun Ig is that eyot of the Kennet now called Towney in the N. extension of the parish along the river. It may be suspected that the *midriht* implies that there had been some dispute with a neighbouring land-unit as to the ownership of this all but detached part of the parish.

FIELD NAMES.

Towney Bridge and Lock : (OM6). N. end of parish. See *Tun Ig* of the charter.

Oar Ditch : Field $1\frac{1}{2}$ fur. N.N.E. of Padworth Lodge Farm (OM1). AS. *Ora*, a hillslope, generally one going down to a stream.

Great Oar Close : Immed. S.E. of last.

Little Nutches Mead : Immed. N.E. of above farm (OM1).

Miry Pightle : 1 fur. S.E. of above farm (OM1). ‘ A small enclosure.’

Titmore Meadow : On E. By. $3\frac{1}{2}$ fur. E.N.E. of above farm.

Doiley Close : 3 fur. E. by N. of above farm.

Great Wallingford Lands : $3\frac{1}{2}$ fur. due E. of above farm. Probably named from a ford on the stream which forms E. By. of parish. Wallingford, Berks, is *Wealinga Forda* ‘ Ford of the Welshmen or foreigners.’

Blackmore Close : $2\frac{1}{2}$ fur. S.E. of above farm. ‘ Dark coloured swampy ground.’

Damasc Field : Immed. W. of Old Farm (OM1). This name is found elsewhere in field-names. It may be due to the land having been planted with a kind of plum which was introduced from the East, called ‘ damask ’ from Damascus.

Great Soverley : Immed. E. of last farm.

Broad Halfpenny : Immed. S.W. of same farm. A name applied to land on which booths might be set up for a fair or market on payment of a toll to the lord of the manor.

Lower Halfpenny : Immed. S.S.E. of the last.

Great Burville : Immed. W. of last, on other side of road.

Drudge Close : Immed. S.W. of last, on other side of road.

'Drudge' means oats mixed with barley.

Nonnan Moor : 3 fur. N.N.E. of Old Farm (OM1). Called Normoor in OM.

Hockley's Pightle : 3 fur. S. of same farm. Probably *Hoc-leah*,

'Lea where the mallow grows.'

Little Pleck : 3 fur. S.S.E. of same farm. 'A small enclosure.'

No longer a separate enclosure.

Mam Hill : 3 fur. S.S.E. of same farm, where the BM. 310, 8 is marked on OM6.

Beachastas : Immed. S. of last, on other side of the track.

Grim's Bank : Immed. E. of last. Named from Grim's Ditch.

See OM6. AS. *grima*, 'ghost.' Implies a supernatural origin for the great ditch. Perhaps another name for 'devil.'

Picked Close : 3¼ fur. S.S.E. of the Rectory (OM1). 'Having an acute angle.'

SHELLINGFORD.

Shellingford is just S.E. of Faringdon.

The modern form of the name is post-conquest, an 'l' having taken the place of an original 'r.' The original form of the name occurs in B. 683, K. 357, where it is spoken of as that 'locus celebre *Scaringaford*,' 'the Ford of the Scarings,' a family name. By this charter King Aethelstan grants to the Monastery of Abingdon 12 hides of land at *Scaringaford* in A.D. 931. In an obviously post-conquest superscription to the document the place is called *Xalingeford*.

SURVEY.

The survey is given in B. 684. It originates undoubtedly in the Saxon age, and may be contemporary with the charter.

1. *Aerest on Eoccen aet Sandfordinga* (read *Stanfordinga*) *gemaere*: 'First to the Ock at the Boundary (or Balk) of the people of Stanford.'

The corrected reading is due to the fact that the survey begins at the S.E. corner of the parish on the boundary of Stanford-in-the-Vale, and on the river Ock, 3 fur. E. of the S.E. angle of Rosey Copse (OM1).

2. *Swa ut on gean stream to Snitan Ige, on north healfe thaes igethes*: 'And so out against stream to Snipe Island, on the north side of the eyot.'

By reference to the map it will be seen that at the southernmost point of the parish the Ock divides into two branches which unite again about $\frac{1}{2}$ m. down stream close to the S.W. angle of Rosey Copse (OM1). The eyot thus enclosed is the *Snitan Ig* of this landmark. It is noticeable in relation to the next landmark that the southern of these two branches of the Ock is now called Bagmore Brook (OM6). The exact point indicated in this present landmark is the E. end of Snipe Island.

3. *And swa on Baccan Mor middeweardne*: 'And so to Bacca's Swampy Ground through (?) the middle of it.'

This *mor* is commemorated in the name Bagmore mentioned above. The field names of the neighbouring parish of Balking show that the name was applied to an extensive piece of marshy ground on this part of the Ock. No doubt it extended into the S. part of Shellingford; and hence the By. is described as passing through it.

4. *Swa andlang Mores on Fisclace innan Crypeles Heale*: 'So along the Swamp to Fishlake (slow-flowing stream) to Cripple's Hollow.'

The Fishlake is the N. branch of the divided Ock. The Hollow was at the southernmost point of the parish. It may have been some quite insignificant hollow such as would hardly be noticed, still less named, at the present day. Men who live in very restricted areas are apt to be minute in their nomenclature of the region known to them.

5. *And th' andlang Fearnbroces th' hit sticath up on tha Readan Dic* : ' And then along Fern Brook until it comes up to the Red Dyke.'

The Fern Brook is that which forms the S.W. boundary of the parish dividing it from the neighbouring parish of Fernham. The connection between the name of this parish and that of the brook is obvious. The next landmark shows that the Red Dyke was a ditch running from the head of Fern Brook to the S. side of Cole's Pits (OM1).

6. *Swa andlang Dic th' on Hlydan* : ' So along the Dyke on to the Steep-sided Stream Valley.'

Hlyd is the origin of the name Lyde, which is not uncommon in the local nomenclature of the southern counties. Its meaning is not given correctly in the dictionaries ; but, judging from the instances of the use of the term in ancient and modern nomenclature, I am inclined to translate as above, understanding by ' valley ' little more than a place where a stream has cut somewhat deeply into the land. In the present instance the name survives on the modern (OM6) map in that of Lyde Copse, the small piece of woodland on the W. By. of the parish adjoining Cole's Pits (OM1) on the E. It will be seen that a brook flowing N.E. begins at this point to form the W. By. of the parish.

7. *Andlang Hyldan on Bradan Mor* : ' Along the Stream Bed to Broad Swamp.'

This swamp must have been on the last-mentioned stream somewhere S.W. of Wickwood Farm (OM1).

8. *Of Bradan More to Preosthamme up on Myos Wyllan* : ' From Broad Swamp to Priests' Croft (or Enclosure) to Moss Spring (or, possibly, Brook).'

This is probably the brook which enters the parish at the re-entering on the By. $\frac{1}{4}$ m. N. of Wickwood Farm (OM1). The Priests' Croft was probably there also.

9. *Of etc. on the Hricg Weg* : ' From Moss Brook to the Ridgeway.'

This is now the Faringdon-Wantage road which the W. By. meets at Bowling Green Farm (OM1). This road follows a local watershed till it descends to what must have been the ford

at Stanford-in-the-Vale. There are many more ridgeways in the charters than there are roads on the modern map called by that name.

10. *Andlang Hrcgeweges to tham Cristes Maele*: 'Along the Ridgeway to the Crucifix.'

The ridgeway forms the whole of the N. By. of the parish. The Crucifix must have been at the point where the E. By. leaves it to run S.

11. *Thonne suth th' hit sticoth eft on Eoccen th' hit onfeng*: 'Then south till it comes again to the Ock where it began.'

LOCAL NAMES.⁴

Kitemore House: (OM1). AS. *Cytan-mor*, 'Kite Swamp.'

Wickwood Farm: (OM1). *Wicwudu*, 'Wood of the Dairy Farmstead.' For *wic* see notes on Padworth. N.B. that the farm is near a stream and some way from the village.

Rosey Copse: (OM1). Probably 'Island where wild roses grow.'

SHRIVENHAM.

Shrivenham is about 5 m. S.S.E. of Faringdon.

FIELD NAMES.

Various old names on its boundaries will be found in the Watchfield, Ashbury, and Uffington charters.

Harestone: Fd. $\frac{1}{4}$ m. N.W. of Stallpits Farm. Called Hurststone in OM6. Almost certainly AS. *Har-stan*, 'Hoar Stone,' a name very common in the charters.

Great and Little Pancetts: Two fields respectively 3 fur. W. by N. and $\frac{1}{4}$ m. W. of same farm.

The Lakes: Fd. $\frac{1}{4}$ m. S.W. of same farm. 'Sluggish streams.'

Stall Pit Great Mead: $3\frac{1}{4}$ fur. S.W. of same farm.

The Rymes Meadow: 3 fur. S. of same farm.

Abbot's Hill: 300 yds. N.W. of the church.

The Slade: 300 yds. N. of the church.

Brenhill: 3 fur. N.E. of the church.

Barnacles: 300 yds. E. of the church.

⁴ I could not find the TA. in the Oxford Diocesan Registry, and so am not able to give the field names.

- Skillings : Small enclosure 300 yds. E.S.E. of the church. May possibly be a variant of the dialectic 'shillings,' rough sheds.
- Great and Little Breach : $\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.E. of the church. 'Land broken up by the plough.'
- Ham Leaze : $2\frac{3}{4}$ fur. N.N.W. of the station.
- Severals : 3 enclosures about $\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.E. of the station.
- Pateas : 300 yds. N.N.W. of Cowleaze Farm.
- Copythorn : $\frac{1}{4}$ m. E.N.E. of Stainswick Farm. 'Copped Thorn,' pollarded thorn tree.

SUTTON COURTENAY.

Sutton Courtenay is about 2 m. S. of Abingdon.

Ancient names on its By. will be found in the Drayton, Milton, Harwell, Hagbourne, and Appleford charters.

FIELD NAMES.

- Gilbourn's Farm : In extreme W. of parish (OMI). The name is very likely that of the brook which flows by it.
- Great and Little Lummisham : Two fields immed. N.N.E. and N.E. of above farm.
- Little Otney : $3\frac{1}{2}$ fur. W.S.W. of the church (OMI). The name of the large eyot which is just N. of it. That eyot is in Oxfordshire, though S. of the main Thames.
- Mill Swathes : Just W. of the S. end of the village, $\frac{1}{2}$ m. E. of Drayton Mill (OMI). A swath is a line of mown grass ; and the name is generally applied to a narrow piece of land having the breadth of the sweep of a scythe.

TUBNEY.

Tubney is about $3\frac{1}{2}$ m. W.N.W. of Abingdon.

It seems to have been in Saxon times part of Marcham. Later it seems to have been recognised as having something like an independent existence, for it is mentioned under the name *Tubbeneia*, 'Tubba's Island,' in the document giving the lands and military services of Abingdon in the reign of William I., and also in the privilege granted to Abingdon by Pope Eugenius III. in the reign of Henry II.

CHARTER.

A Saxon charter referring to its lands is B. 1169, K. 1255, which records a grant made in A.D. 965 by King Eadgar to Abingdon of lands at *Mercham* or *Merchamm*. The grant is stated to amount to 50 hides. The hidage is obviously that of all the land which was blocked together under that name; and Tubney was included in it. Also the next charter B. 1170 mentions Frilford, Appleton, and *Leoie*, probably Oakley in Marcham, as 'members' of Marcham. In the case of the present charter it is probable that there were originally attached to it surveys of all the lands under Marcham, of which surveys only this one has survived.

SURVEY.

The survey certainly goes back to one of Saxon date; and there is nothing in the forms of words in it to forbid the possibility of its being of the reputed date of the grant.

It includes the lands of Tubney and Frilford.

In Birch's copy the survey is preceded by the words: '*This is thara fiftig hida land ge mara to Merchamme*': this is the boundary of the 50 hides at Marcham.' But Birch notes that in one MS. this title is omitted. There can be little doubt that this title was not in the full and original form of the charter put at the head of the survey here given, but was a title put at the head of a group of surveys of which this is the sole survivor.

1. *Aerest of Eoccan on Maene Mor*: 'First from the Ock to the Swampy Land in common occupation.'

The survey begins at the S.W. corner of the parish of Frilford. It runs N. from the Ock to an angle in the Frilford By. $\frac{1}{4}$ m. S. of Woodhouse Farm. Here the old name *Maene Mor* survives in that of Minmoor Common, which is in Fyfield adjoining this part of the Frilford By.

2. *Of etc. up on Hwite More*: 'From Common Moor or Swamp to the White Swamp.'

The name *Hwit Mor* has been corrupted in modern times to Wide Moor, which is the name of the land S.E. of Woodhouse Farm (OM1) in Fyfield. The point indicated in the By. is probably the re-entering angle of the Frilford By. $\frac{1}{2}$ m. E.S.E. of Woodhouse Farm (OM1).

3. *Of etc. on Heafoces Hamme* : 'From White Swamp to Hawk's Enclosure (Hawksham).'

This was from probably on the By. between Tubney House (OM1) and Fyfield Village.

4. *Of etc. on Tubba Forda* : 'From Hawksham to Tubba's Ford.'

This ford is mentioned in the Appleton charter, and is marked down as having been at the N.W. corner of Tubney parish where Appleton Brook (OM1) ceases to form the S. By. of Appleton Upper Common (OM1). The names Tubworth Barn and Tubworth Close occur in the immediate neighbourhood of the site of the old ford.

5. *Of etc. andlang Mores to Aeppeltune on thone Broc* : 'From Tubba's Ford along the Swamp to Appleton to the Brook.'

This takes the survey along Appleton Brook (OM1) to the extreme N. of Tubney parish which is close to Appleton village. After this the landmarks, chiefly owing to their nature, are not distinguishable.

6. *Of etc. on thone Paeth* : 'From the Brook to the Path.'

7. *Of etc. on thone Ealdan Hege* : 'From the Path to the Old Hedge.'

8. *Of etc. on Pyrtan More* : 'From the Old Hedge to Pyrta's Swampy Ground.'

9. *Of etc. th' eft on Eoccan* : 'From Pyrta's Swamp then again to the Ock.'

The Path of 6 was possibly on the line of the Wantage road just after it leaves the road to Faringdon.

The *Hege* of 7 is spelt *Haeg* in 8. I suspect very strongly that the 'g' is a miscopying of the Saxon 'th.' and that the word is really *Haethe*. If that is the case then the *Eald Haeth* of the charter is the Old Heath of the modern map (OM6), which is the rough ground between Tubney Wood (OM1) and the Wantage road. *Pyrtan Mor* of 8 was on the low ground by Appleton Brook near Frilford village. The name Far Moor occurs in the field-names there. The survey ended at the Ock at the S.E. angle of Frilford.

FIELD NAMES.

Cassiamere Copse : Now Church Copse (OM6) just N. of the church (OM1). A curious name. Probably that of a pond. Perhaps 'cassia' may be the name of a plant.

The Strings : N.W. angle of parish on the By. 3 fur. W. of the church. 'Ditches.'

Tubworth Close : See *Tubbanforda* of this and of the Appleton charter. 'Tubba's Farm.'

Piling Ground : Piling Mead : Two small fields just N. of the Tubney-Fyfield road on the W. By.

Sheep Baiting : 3 fur. S. by W. of Tubney Farm (OM1).

WASING.

Wasing is 10 m. W.S.W. of Reading.

REPUTED CHARTER.

A charter in the Abingdon Cartulary (p. 141) records the grant of 20 hides of land at *Wassingatune* by King Edred to his 'comes' Eadric, who left it to Abingdon. The editor of the Cartulary ascribes it to Wasing. If it was a Wasing charter one would expect to find some landmarks common to it and to the charter of the neighbouring Brimpton. But there are none. Also it is not possible to associate 20 hides with the small parish of Wasing. Furthermore the landmarks given do not accord with the features of the Wasing By. Also the name in the charter ought to give a modern Washington.

FIELD NAMES.

Pendles Piece : 3 fur. N.W. of Wasing Lower Farm (OM1).

Drift Way : The road running E. from same farm.

Picked Field : $\frac{1}{4}$ m. N.W. of same farm.

LITTLE WITTENHAM.

Little Wittenham is about 1 m. W.S.W. of Dorchester, Oxon.

CHARTER.

B. 504, K. 286, records the grant of 10 hides at the place called *Witennam* by Aethelred, King of the West Saxons, to Prince Aethelwulf in A.D. 862. Another form of the same charter is given B. 505 (not in Kemble), to which is attached a survey of the bounds.

Birch supposed the charter to belong to Wytham near Oxford. As a fact the survey shows conclusively that it refers to Little Wittenham. In a document in the Abingdon Cartulary (vol. i., p. 461) of the year 1052 occur the words: '*villa Witteham in civitatis Wallingford contermino sita.*'

In the title of B. 504, the name is spelt *Witthenham*: in that of B. 505, *Wittenham*: and in the body of the latter *Wittanham*.

SURVEY.

Whatever the date of the extant copy of the charter may be, there can be no doubt that the copyist had before him a genuine survey of the Saxon age.

1. *Aerest aet Gatecliffe*: 'First at the Steep Slope of the Gate (?) or Goats (?).'⁵
2. *Up be Scillinges Broce*: 'Up by the Brook of the Shed.'⁶
3. *Thaet on Caberes Bec easte weard*: 'Then to Caber's (?) Small Intermittent Stream eastward.'
4. *Thaet andlang Genaeres to Headdan Treowe weste wardan*: 'Then along the Balk to Headda's Tree westward.'
5. *Thonnon on tha Niwan Furh*: 'Then to the New Furrow.'
6. *Andland thaere Furh thaet thueres ofer Crawan Broc on tha Niwan Furh*: 'Along the Furrow (and) then obliquely across Crow Brook to the New Furrow.'
7. *Andlang thaere Furh on Hig Weg*: 'Along the Furrow to the Hay Way.'
8. *Andlang thaes Weges on Tamese on northe warde West Waer*: 'Along the Way to the Thames on the north side of the West Weir.'

Though this is undoubtedly a copy of a Saxon survey, yet it is almost certain that the copyist has made errors, due perhaps to the fact that he was copying a document the meaning of which he knew but imperfectly. It is with regard to the last four landmarks that such a suspicion arises.

⁵ The word has been either miscopied or modernised by the copyist.

⁶ It would take up too much room to cite the evidence on which I found this interpretation of the word *scilling*. I have given it in full in notes on the name of Nursling, Hants, published in the *Archæological Journal*.

There can be little doubt that the *Gateclif* of 1 was where the E. By. of the parish abuts on the Thames, at the N.E. corner of Little Wittenham Wood (OM1). Along this E. side of Little Wittenham (OM1) Wood there runs a stream in a channel which has obviously been straightened. Of this stream it was reported to me some years ago that 'the people here call it Shilling's Spring Brook, and say that it petrifies wood.'⁷ So that is the *Scillinges Broc* of 2.

Caberes Bec of 3 is doubtful in two senses. In the first place it is probably the same landmark as the inexplicable *Gafer Bice* of the neighbouring Brightwell charter; and in the second it seems fairly certain that there were two words *baec* in Saxon, quite unconnected with one another, the one meaning 'intermittent brook,' and the other 'ridge.' It is possible, perhaps probable, that this *Caberes Bec* is the ridge on which Brightwell Barrow (OM1) stands, and that the point defined is the bend in the parish By. a short $\frac{1}{4}$ m. S. of the camp at Wittenham Clumps.

The Balk of 4 went straight along the By. which runs due W. from that point.

I strongly suspect that the *Headdan* of 4 is a miswriting for *Haethdun*, the old name of the upland at the S.W. corner of the parish. It is now called Haddon or Hadden Hill. It is referred to as *Haethdun* in the Blewbury Charter B. 801, K. 1151. Moreover a field in Brightwell close to this corner of Little Wittenham is called Haddon Close. At any rate there can be little doubt that this *treow* of 4 was at the S.W. corner of Little Wittenham; and it will be seen that the *westewardan* of 4 agrees with that conclusion.

The remaining landmarks are made difficult of interpretation by the fact that the former natural watercourses of the N. part of the parish have been diverted into artificial beds for the purpose of draining this low land. The upper part of *Crawan Broc* of 6 still remains in a small stream flowing from a spring marked in OM6 at a bend in the road 1 fur. E.N.E. of the E. edge of Long Wittenham Wood (OM6). It flows N. for about

⁷ In a letter from the Rev. J. C. Key.

300 yds. and then E. in what is obviously an artificial channel. I suspect that it flowed originally nearly N.E. across the S.E. part of Long Wittenham parish, and that its lower course was along the dyke which forms the N. By. of Little Wittenham near the Thames.

My impression is that the copyist of the charter has left out a landmark between 7 and 8, or perhaps in the middle of 8 ; and that the original survey ran :—

7. *Andlang thaere Furh on Hig Weg.*
8. *Andlang thaes Weges on Crawing Broc.*
9. *Andlang thaes Broces on Tamese, etc.*

The recurrence of the same term—in this case *Crawing Broc*—after a short interval is very apt to lead to a mistake in copying.

The New Furrow of 5 ran N. from the S.W. corner of the parish, and then in 6 crossed that upper part of Crow Brook which has been already described. The New Furrow of 6 ran E.N.E. along the N. By. of the parish as far as the road from Little to Long Wittenham, which it meets a short furlong outside Little Wittenham village. This road is the Hay Way of 7. The hay land or mead of the unit would naturally be on the low lands N. of the village. The By. ran then, as in 8 revised, along this road to the lower part of *Crawing Boc*, and then turned E. along the *Broc* to the Thames. It will be noticed that the apparent dyke which is marked in OM6, along this part of the N. By. is also marked as having running water. In fact it is the old lower course of Crow Brook.

FIELD NAMES.

Upper and Under Stunnel : In the angle of the parish $\frac{1}{2}$ m. S. of Northfield Farm in Long Wittenham.

Malm Furlong : $\frac{1}{4}$ m. W. of the more northerly of the Wittenham Clumps.

WHITE WALTHAM AND SHOTTESBROOK.

White Waltham is about 10 m. E.N.E. of Reading. Shottesbrook adjoins it on the S.S.W.

The lands of Waltham and Shottesbrook are the subject of two charters. B. 762, K. 1134, is a charter recording the grant

of 30 hides *aet Wuealtham* (spelt *Wealtham* in the survey), by King Eadmund to the thegn Aelfsige in A.D. 940. AS. *Wealtham*, 'Tottering or Crumbling House.'

SURVEY.

The survey appears to be of the Saxon age. As it presents topographical difficulties, it may be well to give it in full before attempting to determine the landmarks cited in it.

1. *Aerest of Wassan Hamme on gerihte to Ceaggan Heale*: 'First from the Enclosure by the Wasa ⁸ straight on to Ceagga's Hollow.'

2. *Thonne of etc. to Dyrnan Garfan* (for *Grafen*): 'Then from Ceagga's Hollow to Hidden Grove.'

3. *Of etc. to Weg Cocce*: 'From Hidden Grove to Way Cock.'

4. *Thonne of etc. to Godan Pearruce*: 'Then from Way Cock to Good Park.'

5. *Of etc. to Hild Leage*: 'From Good Park to Battle Lea.'

6. *Of etc. to Swaefes Heale*: 'From Battle Lea to Hollow.'¹⁰

7. *Thon of etc. to Wulfa Leage*: 'Then from Hollow to Wolf Lea.'

8. *Of etc. to Cawel Dene*: 'From Wolf Lea to the Valley where Colewort grows.'

9. *Of etc. to thaere Syrfan*: 'From Colewort Dean to the Service Tree.'

10. *Thonne of etc. to Heal Wicum*: 'Then from the Service Tree to the Dairy Farms of the Hollow.'

⁸ Prof. Zachrisson of Upsala has recently published a paper which deals with the element *Wase* or *Wasse* in English place-names. He shows it to be connected with the same root as the river name Ouse. In Appleton and Buckland are two streams called respectively Appleton Brook or Osse Ditch, and Ouse Ditch, both of which are represented in charters of those places by the name *Wasa* or *Wase* (see notes on those parishes). For my own part I have little doubt that Prof. Zachrisson is right. The *Wase* in the case of this *Wassanham* would be the large brook which passes within a furlong of the S.W. corner of White Waltham parish and runs N. through the W. part of Billingbear Park. (OM1).

⁹ It is just possible that *Weg Cocc* means 'woodcock,' owing to the practice of stretching nets across ways or 'rides' in a wood in order to catch that bird.

¹⁰ *Swaefas* is the Saxon name for the German tribe of the Suevi. It may be that the person after whom the hollow was named was a member of that race.

II. *Of etc. eft to Wassan Hamme* : ' From the Dairy Farms of the Hollow once more to the Enclosure by the Wasa.'

Of these landmarks two are determinable with certainty.

Weg Cocc of 3 survives in the name of a hill, Weycock Hill, in the N. part of the parish of Waltham St. Lawrence just N. of the railway. This shows clearly that Shottesbrook was included in the grant. The actual landmark must have been about where the W. By. of Shottesbrook crosses the railway.

Wulf Lea of 7 has its name perpetuated in that of Woolley Green, the hamlet at the extreme N. end of White Waltham parish.

Nor can there be much doubt that *Cawel Denu* of 8 is the valley or depression through which the E. By. of White Waltham passes just S. of the railway.

From these three data the other landmarks have to be determined more or less by dead reckoning.

It is almost invariably the practice of Saxon surveyors to begin a survey at some cardinal point of a grant. That makes it probable, almost certain, that *Wassan Hamm* of 1 and 2 was at the S.W. corner of Shottesbrook parish, where that parish and Waltham St. Lawrence and Binfield meet, and the brook *Wase*, or Ouse, from which it was named was the large brook which flows within a furlong of the S.W. corner of White Waltham parish in a northerly direction through the W. part of Billingbear Park (OM1). The Grove of 2 would be somewhere near the site of the house at Shottesbrook Park (OM1). 4, 5, and 6 must have lain on the N.W. By.'s of Shottesbrook and White Waltham between the Railway and Woolley Green (OM1). It is probable that they were at the angles which the By. makes in this part of its course, the *pearruc* of 4 where the Shottesbrook, Hurley and White Waltham boundaries meet about $\frac{1}{4}$ m. N. of Cold Harbour : the *Hild Leah* at the angle by Littlewick Green (OM1) : and *Swaefes Healh* somewhere close to Holloway (OM1). The Service Tree of 9 is not a landmark which would be likely to be traceable at the present day ; but it must have stood about the middle of the E. By. of White Waltham. The Wicks of 10 would certainly be near a ' mead,' i.e. near a brook ; and that

makes it fairly certain that they were on the brook at the extreme S.E. angle of White Waltham parish.

There follows a note the meaning and intent of which are both obscure. 'Then has King Eadmund chartered to Aelfsig 14 hides within the bounds of the 30 hides including (?) woodland, moorland, and permanent (?) pasture as a permanent possession, and 12 strips of mead (which stand outside the bounds?).'

It is difficult, perhaps impossible, to say what this means, unless it is intended to signify that 14 out of the 30 hides are granted to Aelfsig as a permanent and heritable possession, while the remainder are only to be held by him at the King's pleasure. The reference to woodland, moorland and lea is in accord with references in other grants, and merely signifies that the holding of the 14 hides entitles the holder to rights of cutting timber and pasturage proportionate to the size of his holding. The 12 strips of mead were obviously outside the bounds of White Waltham; but, as in many other cases in the charters, were attached to the grant because the 14 hides did not contain an area of mead land proportionate to the size of such a holding.

A SECOND CHARTER.

K. 1303 is a charter recording the grant of 8 hides *aet Wealtham* by King Aethelred to Aelfgar in 1007.

It is clear that the grant is a grant of the lands of Shottesbrook, and does not include any part of White Waltham. As regards acreage, that of Shottesbrook is about half that of Waltham; and as the two together make up 30 hides, it might have been expected that Shottesbrook would make up 10 hides. The discrepancy in proportion is probably due to the fact that Shottesbrook was more heavily wooded, and therefore the amount of arable, and consequently the number of holdings, was less in proportion to its area.

SURVEY.

The survey is of the Saxon age.

1. *Aerest aet Godan Parruce*: 'First at Good Park.'
2. *Of etc. on Ecgeles Stiele on Hwitan Pearruc*: 'From Good Park to Egcel's Stile to White Park.'

3. *Of etc. on thane Greetan Stocc* : 'From White Park to the Great Stake.'

4. *Of etc. on Wassanham* : 'From the Great Stake to Wassa's Enclosure.'

5. *Of etc. on Bibban Thorn* : 'From Wassa's Enclosure to Bibba's Thorn Tree.'

6. *Of etc. on Ceaggan Heal* : 'From Bibba's Thorn Tree to Ceaga's Hollow.'

7. *Of etc. on Wifeles Wyll* : 'From Ceagga's Hollow to Beetle Spring.'

8. *Of etc. thaet est on Godan Pearruc* : 'From Beetle Spring then east to Good Park.'

For the Good Park of 1 see 4 of previous charter. It was probably at the northernmost point of Shottesbrook about $\frac{1}{4}$ m. N. of Cold Harbour (OM6).

Wassanham of 4, see 1 and 2 of previous charter was at the S.W. corner of Shottesbrook ; therefore Ecgel's Stile, the White Park, and the Great Stake of 3 and 4 were on the E. By. of Shottesbrook. There is not any field name which gives any clue to their exact positions ; but there is a certain probability that the Stile was on a track which followed the line of the road which crosses the E. By. 1 fur. N. of Great Wood (OM1), for that road shows by its wavy course that it is along the line of an ancient trackway. Such stiles were put up at such places to prevent cattle from straying along the track on to the lands of neighbouring land-units. The Great Stake was probably at the S.E. corner of the parish. Bibba's Thorn, Ceagga's Hollow, and Beetle Spring of 5, 6 and 7 must have been on the W. By. Local investigation might possibly indentify the site of the spring. The 'east,' really 'north-east' of the survey would suggest that it was at the angle in the W. By. of Shottesbrook, 3 fur. N. of the railway.

FIELD NAMES.

WHITE WALTHAM.

New Pasture Boggett : $2\frac{1}{2}$ fur. S.W. of Lane Farm. I suspect

Boggett to mean 'little bog.'

Bury North Croft : $\frac{1}{4}$ m. S.S.W. of same farm.

Ledingham : $\frac{1}{4}$ m. S. of same farm.

Berry Northcot : Field now cut by railway $\frac{1}{2}$ m. S. by W. of same farm. 'North Cottage.'

Grass Marlage : Field immed. S. of the railway at Waltham Siding (OM6).

Dodinglees and Turpler : 5 fur. due W. of Heywood Lodge (OM1).

Heywood Lodge : (OM1). 'Wood with a hedge round it.'

Foxholes : W. of last, on other side of road.

Worthiers Fiddlers Piddle : $3\frac{1}{2}$ fur. N.N.W. of the church (OM1). 'Small enclosure.'

Lind Lands : 1 fur. N.E. of church. 'Limetree.'

Earslow : Immed. W. of Waltham Place (OM1) on other side of road. Implies former existence of a *hlaew*, 'tumulus.'

Bedwell Grove : On W. By., 3 fur. W.S.W. of Waltham Place.

Trunkholds : $\frac{1}{4}$ m. S.S.E. of Waltham Place.

Mantes : $2\frac{3}{4}$ fur. S.S.E. of Waltham Place (OM1).

Blackmoor and Cusmoor Meadow : Immed. N. of Whitehouse Farm.

Norcutt : Immed. N. of Wake's Farm. 'North Drain.'

Joan Croft : 1 fur. E. of same farm.

Low Moor : $2\frac{1}{2}$ fur. E.N.E. of same farm.

Innings : $2\frac{1}{2}$ fur. S.S.E. of Whitehouse Farm.

Poors Plat : $\frac{1}{4}$ m. S.E. of Howlane Farm. 'Plot of Ground.'

Pigmoor : $3\frac{1}{2}$ fur. N.W. of same farm.

Great How Field : $1\frac{1}{2}$ fur. N.W. of same farm.

Honeycombe : 3 fur. S. by E. of same farm.

Stouts : 3 fur. N.E. of Buck Farm.

Linlands : $1\frac{1}{2}$ fur. E. of same farm. Probably 'Flax Lands.'

Lower Feenes Groves : Immed. S. of Holloway (OM1).

Bricketts : $2\frac{1}{2}$ fur. N.N.E. of Cold Harbour.

Ramsey : $\frac{1}{2}$ m. E. by N. of same.

Harpen Lay : $3\frac{1}{2}$ fur. E. of same.

Oatash : $\frac{1}{4}$ m. E.N.E. of Chamber's Farm.

SHOTTESBROOK.

Shear's Close : Immed. S.E. of Cold Harbour.

Alebutts or Whitfield : $\frac{1}{4}$ m. S.S.W. of same.

Pitlands : $1\frac{1}{2}$ fur. S. of same.

Slowfield Robmans and Nine Acres : $2\frac{1}{4}$ fur. S.W. of Pitlands Farm.

North Care Field, Little Care Field, Great Care Field : Three fields on W. By. just S. of the railway.

Pinks Field : Just S. of railway, 3 fur. W.S.W. of Chamber's Farm.

Walk Field : $\frac{1}{4}$ m. S.W. of same farm.

Bradley : Immed. E. of same farm.

Oatash : $\frac{1}{4}$ m. E. of same Farm. 'Oat Stubble.'

Part of Terriers : 3 fur. S.E. of same farm.

Kiln Plat : Runs into N.W. corner of Great Wood (OM1).

Mattingleys Plat : Runs into the S. part of same wood.

Great Temple Field, Temple Field : Immed. N. and N.E. of Pond Farm.

Part of Little Burringham : Field on which the house at Shottesbrook Park now stands.

WATCHFIELD.

Watchfield is 4 m. S.W. of Faringdon.

CHARTER.

B. 675, K. 1103, records a grant made in A.D. 931 by King Aethelstan to his thegn Aelfric of land at a place called in the body of the document *Waecclesfeld*, but in the title and the survey *Wachenesfeld*. It amounts to 20 hides.

SURVEY.

The survey is of the Saxon age.

1. *Aerest on thone Stan aet Haethnan Byrgelsan* : 'First to the Stone at the Heathen Burial Place.'

2. *Thanne ut on Prilleces Haessecas ufe wearde* : 'Then out to Prillec's (?) Coarse Grass Land¹¹ on its upper side.'

3. *Thonne on Cocbroc* : 'Then to Cock Brook.'

¹¹ *Prilleces Haessecas* is a difficulty. I guess the former to be a personal name. With regard to the latter, though it is not given in the dictionaries, I have little doubt that it is the origin of the word 'hassock,' which means coarse tufted grass. I take it that the landmark refers to a piece of land where such grass grew.

4. *An lang streames thaet on Mylenbroc* : 'Along stream then to Mill Brook.'

5. *Thonne andlang streames thaet on Lentan* : 'Then along stream then to Lenta.'

This is the first landmark which is identifiable with certainty. In the charter of Little Hinton, Wilts, B. 477, K. 1053, the stream which forms the E. By. of the N. end of that land-unit is called *Lentan* in the oblique case. This stream is one of the two branches of the headwaters of the River Cole. Ekwall (Pl. N. Lancs.) says that this is without doubt a Celtic name, to be compared with the Welsh *lliant*, 'stream.' So this landmark is the R. Cole which forms the W. By. of Watchfield.

With regard to the previous landmarks the following considerations have to be taken into account : (1) that surveys are almost invariably taken with the clock : (2) that they nearly always begin at a cardinal angle in the By.

In the present case there cannot be much doubt that the survey begins at the S.E. corner of the parish at Bower Plantation (OM6). It is there then that the Stone and Heathen Burial Place of 1 must have stood. It is not as yet known what these 'Heathen Burial Places' were, though such places are frequently mentioned in the charters.

Prilleces Haessecas of 2 must have been on the S. By. not very far from the Stone.

Cock Brook of 3 is the present Bower Brook (OM1) which forms a large part of the E. end of the S. By.

Mill Brook of 4 is Tuckmill Brook (OM1), 'Brook of the Cloth Mill,' which forms the W. half of the S. By.

5 brings the survey to the Cole.

6. *Thonne andlang streames thaet on Maerpol* : 'Then along stream than to Boundary Pool.'

This seems to carry the survey right along the Cole to the N.E. corner of the parish, 3 fur. N. by W. of Strattonborough Farm. The 'Pool' would be, as in the other Berks charters, a pool in the river, not a pond.

7. *Thonne of thaem Pole on Bean Boroc* : 'Then from the Pool to Bean Brook.'

This is the brook which forms part of the N. By. on the S. edge of Coleshill Park (OM1).

8. *Thonne and (for andlang) Streames on Headan Mere :* 'Then along stream to Headland¹² Pond.'

This pond must have been on the Bean Brook somewhere on the S. By. of Coleshill Park (OM1).

9. *Thonne of tham Mere on than Iace thaer tha Brocas twisliath :* 'Then from the Pond to the Sluggish Stream where the brooks divide.'

This is clearly marked as the place where at Vinthill Withy Bed (OM6) on the S.E. side of Coleshill Park (OM1) a brook coming from due E. enters the *Bean Broc*.

This tributary of Bean Brook is the *lacu* of the landmark.

10. *Thonne of etc. on Maer Beorh :* 'Then from the place where the brooks divide to the Boundary Barrow.'

11. *Thanne of etc. on thone Herepath :* 'Then from the Barrow to the Highway.'

This *herepath* was on the line of the Faringdon-Swindon road, which is part of an old ridgeway which came from Oxford.

The *Maer Beorh* of 10 was at one of the two bends which the E. By. makes near Tithe Farm (OM1).

12. *Thonne andlang Herpathes seofan & fiftig gyrda :* 'Then along the Highway for 57 rods.'

It will be noticed on reference to the map that the E. By. bends along the line of the modern road for a short distance. The actual distance at the present day is about 100 yds. The measurement in the charter should work out as just over 300 yds. The probability is the twisting track of former times followed the boundary for a longer distance than the artificially straightened road of the present day.

13. *Thonne andlang Fyrh on thone Stan Beorh :* 'Then along the Furrow to the Stone Barrow.'

14. *Thonne of etc. on thone Haethenan Byrgels eft to tham Stane :* 'Then from the Stone Barrow to the Heathen Burial Place once more to the Stone.'

¹² *Head* is not a recorded Saxon word. I suspect it to be a shortened form of *Heafod*, the headland of a ploughland.

This brings the survey to its starting point at the S.E. corner of the parish. The Stone Barrow of 13 must have been somewhere between the Faringdon road and this corner of the parish. The Furrow was, as elsewhere, a furrow drawn deeper and wider than usual to mark the bounds of a ploughland.

LOCAL NAMES.

What has become of the Tithe Awards of these W. Berkshire parishes it is impossible to say. They are not in the Oxford Diocesan Registry because the parishes were originally in the diocese of Salisbury. Neither are they in the Salisbury Registry. Strattonborough Castle Farm: An interesting name. There is nothing in the parish to suggest an origin for it. May have some connection with the neighbouring Wiltshire parish, Stratton St. Margarets.

WOOLSTONE.

Woolstone is 7 m. W. of Wantage.

The name of the place does not seem to occur in pre-Conquest documents. That is probably a mere accident due to the fact that its lands were reckoned in with the large areas comprised under the title of either Ashbury or Uffington. But in the Abingdon Cartulary (vol. ii., p. 213) occur the words 'super quadam pastura inter *Offentonam* et *Wlfrichestun*.'

CHARTER.

B. 491, K. 1056, records the grant of 20 hides at '*æt Aescesbyrig*,' by Aethelwulf, King of the West Saxons, to the thegn Aldred in A.D. 856.

Birch, not unnaturally, ascribes the charter to Ashbury. But the survey is one of the bounds of Woolstone. It is probable, seeing that the grant is one of 20 hides, that some other unit besides Woolstone was included in the grant, and that its survey has perished.

Besides the landmarks given in this charter a large number of landmarks on its By. are given in the charters of Hardwell, Compton Beauchamp, Ashbury and Uffington.

SURVEY.

The survey is of the Saxon age, or an accurate copy of a document of that age.

1. *Aerest on thonae Garan suthaeheardne*: 'First to the Gore (triangular piece of ploughland) southward.'

The survey begins at the southernmost point of the parish. The Gore is probably represented at the present day by the triangular slice cut out of the S. By. of Compton Beauchamp at the S.W. corner of Woolstone, at Knighton Bushes (OM1).

2. *Thonnae andlang Waegaes oth thonae Maegen Stan*: 'Then along the Way to the Mighty (?) Stone.'¹³

This stone is undoubtedly the *Taettuces*, *Taettucan*, or *Taeddudes Stan* of the Uffington and two Ashbury charters. It is probable that it stood at the N. angle of the gore, i.e., at the N. angle of what is now Knighton Bushes (OM1) Plantation (OM6). Sarsen Stones, some of large size, are scattered about this plantation.

3. *Thanon Uuon Hlinc*: 'Then to the Crooked Lynch.'

4. *Andlang Hlincaes oth Loddaer aes Saeccinge*: 'Along the Lynch as far as Beggar's Bed.'

5. *Andlang Hlincaes oth thonae Brystae Del*: 'Along the Lynch as far as the Broken Quarry.'¹⁴

6. *Thanon andlang Fyrh aennae Aecer to tham Hlincae*: 'Than along the Furrow (the length of) a strip of ploughland (circ. 220 yds.) to the Lynch.'

7. *Thanon on tha Heafda on Hrycwaeg*: 'Then to the Headland of a ploughland to the Ridgeway.'

This brings the W. By. of the grant up to the Ridgeway $\frac{1}{4}$ m. E.N.E. of Hardwell Barn (OM1). The headland of 7 was evidently on the ridgeway.

The lynch of 6 was at the bend in the By. 1 fur. S. of the Ridgeway. The one '*aecer*' length of By. is that short stretch of By. 154 yds. long, which runs almost W. and E. at this point, and the furrow went along it.

¹³ *Maegen Stan* seems to be the origin of the name Mainstone which I have come across more than once in the local names of other counties.

¹⁴ I have taken *Brystae* to come from *byrstaw*, 'to burst.' Is doubtless a quarry the sides of which had fallen in.

Nearly the whole of this part of the W. By. of Woolstone is on the side of a down valley, which accounts for the frequent mention of lynchies in these landmarks from 3 to 7.

The Crooked Lynch of 3 cannot have been very far N. of Knighton Bushes Plantation. What the *Lodderes Saeccing* was cannot be said; but it must have been somewhere on the By. near Pingoos Covert (OM6). Perhaps it was a flat stone.

The Quarry of 5 ought to have been at the bend on the By. 1 fur. S. of the Ridgeway.

8. *Of etc. on thone Thorn Styb*: 'From the Ridgeway to the Stump (or Stem) of the Thorntree.'

9. *Thanon on Hordwyllae on thonae Ealdan Hordwyllaes Waeg*: 'Then to Treasure Spring (Hardwell) to the Old Track of the Treasure Spring.'

This carries the By. N. of the Icknield Way. The *Thorn Styb* was probably somewhere about halfway between the Ridgeway and the Icknield Way. The *Hordwyl* of 9 would be the easternmost of the three springs to the S. of Hardwell Farm (OM1), and the *weg* is still represented by an occupation road which runs down the By. N. of the Icknield Street towards the spring.

10. *Andlang thaes Ealdan Waegaes on Hrysc Slaedes Bygae*: 'Along the Old Way to the Bend (or Corner) of the Slade where rushes grow.'

11. *Andlang Rithae on Swynbroc*: 'Along the Streamlet to Swine Brook.'

This is the brook which runs across the N. part of the neighbouring parish of Compton Beauchamp. The Woolstone By. meets it 1½ fur. S.S.W. of Cowleaze Farm (OM1). A very small streamlet is marked (OM6) on the By. just before it meets the brook. This is the *rith* of 11. I fancy the *Riscslaed* must be the lower valley, little more than a depression, of the stream which comes down from Hardwell Farm (OM1).

After this the landmarks come thickly, and are not easy to follow.

12. *Andlang Brocaes on Beahhildae Byrigels*: 'Along the Brook to Beahhild's Burial Place.'

13. *Thonon on thonae Ealdan Waeg* : 'Then to the Old Track.'

14. *Andlang Waeges on thonae Garan northae weardnae* : 'Along the Track to the Gore northward.'

15. *Thonon east andlang Waeges on Hnottan Maere northae weardnae* : 'Then east along the Track to the Balk (or, more probably, *Mere*, pond), of the Pollard Willow northwards.'

16. *Thanon on tha Dic* : 'Then to the Dyke.'

17. *Andlang Dic (on) thaet on Bulan Maedae northae waeardae* :¹⁵ 'Along the Dyke then to Bull Mead northward.'

This mead of 17 was almost certainly at the N.E. angle of Woolstone. The *Dic* was that artificial channel of the Ock which forms a large part of the N. By. of the parish.

Beahhild's Burial Place of 12 must have been close to Cowleaze Farm (OM1).

The *Eald Weg* must have run along the N. part of the W. By. ; and, if the orientation of 15 be correct, along part at least of the N. By. It was evidently a continuation of the *Eald Hordwylles Weg* previously mentioned, and was no doubt a track leading from the great highway of the Icknield Street to Longcot, and perhaps also to Fern-Ham. The Gore of 14 was evidently at the N.W. corner of the parish.

18. *Thonon on tha Brembael Hyrnan* : 'Then to the Bramble Corner.' But I should be inclined to read *Thyrnan*, and translate 'Thicket of Brambles.'

19. *Of thaere Hyrnan on Stan Maerae* (? *Mere*) : 'From the Corner (Thicket ?) to Stone Balk (Pond ?).'

20. *Thonon to thaem Aethaenan Byrigelsae on Aeoccaenen* : 'Then to the Heathen Burial Place to the Ock.'

21. *Upp andlang Stremaes on thonae Aewulm* : 'Up along stream to the (Great) Spring.'

¹⁵ I have translated the terms of orientation in these last few landmarks as they stand. Owing to what must be the errors of copyists it is impossible to lay down any hard and fast rule as to what the various endings (-an, -e, -ne) attached to such terms really imply. The copyists wrote them almost promiscuously. Every now and then it is possible in some particular case to see exactly what the orienting term means. In the present case there can I think be no doubt that the term implies that the By. passed on the N. side on *Bulan Maed*. But that comes from the map, not from the termination of the orienting term.

This brings the By. to an absolutely determinable point, the source of the S. branch of the Ock close under the Icknield Street in a pretty hollow a short half mile S. of the village. It also shows that the whole of the parish of Woolstone which lies E. of the Ock was not at this time included in Woolstone. I suspect that this part of Woolstone is that referred to in that document from the Abingdon Cartulary (vol. ii., p. 213) which has been already quoted, referring to a dispute about land which is described as 'quadam pastura inter *Offentonam* et *Wlfrich estun* quae vocatur *Sumerlese* (Summer pasture).'

It is probable that the Ock (see 20) formed the boundary of Woolstone from a point almost due W. of the village of Uffington to its source. That point is where at the present day the Ock first impinges on the E. By. of Woolstone. The Heathen Burial Place of 20 must have been there. The *Brembel Thyrne* of 18 and the *Stanmere* of 19 must have been on the N. part of the E. By. north of the Burial place.

22. *Thonon on Waeardaes Baeorh* : 'Then to Watchman's Barrow.'

This is probably Idlebush Barrow (OM1), which stands on a high ridge with a wide view to the S.

23. *Of etc. on Hrung Putt* : 'From the Barrow to Pole Pit.'

Probably marked with a pole to a warn wayfarers across the Downs. May be the old chalkpit close to the By. $1\frac{1}{2}$ fur. S. of Idlebush Barrow.

24. *Thonon on tha Aealdan Hola* : 'Then to the Old Holes.'

Called the Foxholes and the Red Holes in Ashbury charters. They were at the S.E. angle of Woolstone, nearly $\frac{3}{4}$ m. S. by E. of Idlebush Barrow (OM1).

25. *Of etc. aeft on thonae Garan sutheweardnae* : 'From the Holes once more to the Gore southward.'

See landmark 1.

For some reason which cannot be guessed the surveyors have added two landmarks on that S. part of the W. By. which has been already defined.

26. *Thonnae thaet on Taettucan Stan* : 'Then to (Rag ?) Stone.'¹⁶

See landmark 2.

27. *Of tham Stane on tha Aealdan Dic* : 'From the Stone to the Old Dyke.'

This must have run up the S. part of the W. By.

FIELD NAMES.

For reasons given in the notes on Ashbury I have been unable to find any Tithe Awards of this and the neighbouring parishes.

(*To be continued.*)

¹⁶ For the name of this stone, see notes on the Ashbury charters.