

dimidiating the King's marks of England and France (for the King bore the arms and title of King of France), might have been the mark used at Calais, for the same purpose as the Leopard's head in England, to distinguish the plate made there.

I have now brought to a close this account of the English Assay marks for plate used in London. As the paper has extended itself far beyond the reasonable limits of such a communication, I shall reserve the Provincial, Scotch, and Irish marks for consideration on a future occasion. My chief difficulty, however, has been in this case to condense, into the form of a paper, matter that might with greater fairness have been amplified into a volume.

AN ACCOUNT OF THE ALIEN PRIORY OF ANDWELL, OR
ENEDEWELL, IN HAMPSHIRE, A CELL OF THE ABBEY OF
TYRONE; WITH SOME REMARKS ON THE FAMILY OF DE
PORT OF BASING, ITS FOUNDERS.

NOT far from the town of Basingstoke, and old Basing, so famous for its sieges in the wars of Charles and the Parliament, is the ancient manor of Andwell, or Enedewell.¹ It still retains some traces of its antiquity,² and the inquiring eye of the archæologist may observe indications of its original destination. It was in truth an ancient Priory, a dependency of the great Cistercian Abbey of Tyrone in France. "This house and St. Cross (Isle of Wight)" says Tanner, "are reckoned among the houses of the Benedictine Order, "but should rather be Cistercian, if cells to Tyrone."³ This seeming difficulty will vanish, if it be remembered that the

¹ The name seems equivalent to Ducks' well, from A. Sax. *Ened.*, Lat. *Anas*. See Mr. Way's note, *Prompt. Parv.*, voce *Ende*.

² The buildings seem to have enclosed a small quadrangle: on the western side is a portion of an ancient wall, in which is a doorway which opened probably into the refectory, now the kitchen of the farmhouse. The chapel stood on the north side of the quadrangle. It was of small dimensions, and had an entrance both on its south and north sides. The

eastern end has been demolished. The original windows were mere loopholes splayed internally: but there is one of larger dimensions on the south side, an insertion of later date, of the period of Adam de Orlton, Bishop of Hereford and afterwards of Winchester, who, A.D. 1325, granted an indulgence of forty days to all who should visit the church of Andwell. This would seem to imply that some work was then in progress there.

³ *Mon. Angl.*, vol. vi. p. 1047.

rule of St. Benedict was also that of the Cistercians, only more strictly enforced, and that in public documents it was so described, as appears in an attested copy, now in the Archives of Winchester College, of a bull of Pope Alexander III., by which he confirmed the Abbot and Convent of Tyrone in their privileges, and in the patronage of several monasteries, which were to be governed according to the rule of St. Benedict, and the institution of the Abbey of Tyrone⁴. The bull is as follows :

Alexander Episcopus, servus servorum Dei, Dilectis filiis, S. Abbati et fratribus monasterii de Tyronio Salutem, et Apostolicam benedictionem. In his, que a nobis previa ratione requiritis, petitioni v're benignum effectum impertiri debemus ; ut circa nos et eccl'iam fervencior fiat v're dilectionis integritas. Cum in his, que juste postulaveritis, a nobis fueritis efficaciter exauditi ; capropter, dilecti in D'no filii, vestris justis postulationibus gratum impertientes assensum, Abbatias, que ad Monasterium v'rum, tanquam ad capud suum respiciunt, videlicet Monasterium de Calcho ; Monasterium de Chameis ; Monasterium de vado Alneti ; Monasterium de Trunceto ; Monasterium de Luchero ; Monasterium de Asneriis ; et Monasterium de Jugo ; sicut ea rationabiliter possidetis, vobis et Monasterio v'ro auctoritate Ap'lica confirmamus : statuentes ut in istis Monasteriis secundum dei timorem, et *regulam beati Benedicti, et institutionem ordinis v'ri*, Abbates sine ulla contradictione instituere valeatis ; sicut hactenus noscitur observatum. Preterea presenti scripto censemus, ut famuli v'ri qui vobis sub certa mercede deserviunt, et de mensa v'ra propria assidue vivunt, ab omni parochiali jure liberi sint et immunes. Hec apostolica auctoritate prohibemus, ne cui E'po vel Decano, vel Archidiacono liceat vobis, vel domibus v'ris novas et indebitas exactiones imponere, aut illicita gravamina irrogare : Nulli ergo omnino hominum fas sit hanc paginam n're confirmationis et concessionis infringere vel ei aliquatenus contraire : Siquis autem hoc attemptare presumpserit indignationem omnipotentis dei, et beatorum Petri et Pauli Apostolorum ejus, se noverit incursurum. Dat : Anagnie : x Kal : Maii.

⁴ Ex orig. in Archivis Coll. Winton. The reader is requested to observe that wherever the authority for any statement contained in the following remarks is not

given, it should be understood to be taken from original documents preserved in Winchester College.

Ego Galterus, divina miseratione E'pus Carnotensis eccl'ie, legi verbo ad verbum in autentico sicut continetur in presente rescripto.

SEAL.

Ego Guido Abbas Sc'i Petri Carnotensis legi, &c.

SEAL.

Ego Guarinus Abbas Sc'i Joh'is de Valleia legi, &c.

SEAL.

Ego Guarinus Abbas Sc'i Marie de Josaphat legi, &c.

SEAL.

Ego Petrus abbas Sc'i Karauni Carnotensis legi, &c.

SEAL.⁵

Seal of Guido, Abbot of Chartres, and Reverse, dated 1224.

In giving a short account of the Priory of Andwell, I shall be led on to offer some remarks on the family of de Port, by whom it was founded and endowed, and I shall hope to throw some light upon their pedigree.

I am not able to fix the date of the foundation, but from such indications as I can find, I am disposed to assign it to the reign of Henry I. The following charter of that king, confirming to the monks the grant made by Adam de Port of certain lands in Natley, is, with the exception of the grant itself, unquestionably the earliest of the charters still in existence relating to the endowment of this Priory.

H: Rex Angl: Archiepiscopis, Episcopis, Comitibus, Baronibus, Vicecomitibus, ministris, et omnibus suis Francigenis, et Anglicis, totius Anglie, Salutem: Sciatis me concessisse deo, et Abbati et Monachis de Tyrun, pro

⁵ Alexander the Third sat from 1159 to 1181. Of the seals appended to the above curious document, only one remains, viz. that of Guido, Abbot of St. Peter at Chartres. It is oval in shape, and represents the Abbot with crozier and book.

The circumscription is ✠ S. Guidonis: Abbatis: S. Petri. Carnotensis. The reverse is a half length figure of St. Peter, with the circumscription An'o D'ni MCCXXIII non. Octob. fe'm fui. Of these, cuts are given above.

salute animarum patris et matris meæ, necnon pro salute mea, et predecessorum meorum, vii. libratas et xiiii solidatas terre in Natelega, quas dederat Adam de Port, de d'nio meo in escambium illius terre, quam Adam de Port eis dederat, in valle que dicitur Arga; sicut ipse Adam de Port in presentia mea concessit et dedit: Ceteros etiam redditus et consuetudines, quos idem Adam predictis Monachis in elemosinam dedit, ego quoque regali liberalitate concedo; in villa videlicet, quæ dicitur Mapledrewella, mansuram t're, quam Rann' Carpentarius prius possederat, et dominicam ipsius Ade pasturam, que secus eandem mansuram est: Concedo etiam, sicut Adam concedit, ut dominicum bladum monachorum ad Molendinum Ade, quod in eadem villa est, sine omni molitura vel aliqua alia consuetudine molatur: In bosco preterea de Mappedr'ell concedo, ut predicti Monachi habeant porcos suos d'nicos omnino quietos, sicut dono Ade ibidem sunt quieti; hanc enim consuetudinem Adam, sicut cetera, dedit eis: Quas nimirum donationes ejus uxor ejus⁶ et filii concesserunt: Et volo, et precipio, ut in pace, et honore, et quiete semper possideant: T: Bernardo⁷ E'po de Sc'o David, et Joh'e Baioc: et Roberto Comite de Glouc', &c., apud Udestoc.

The next benefactor to the monks of Andwell was Roger de Port, son of the last mentioned Adam, who gave them his land in Winchester "super le broc;" his wife, Sybilla, and Adam, his son, and Hugh his brother, being consenting parties to the grant. He gave also to the monks the mill, and the miller of Andwell, and a virgate of land pertaining to the mill; and all the chattels, and the tithe of the mill, once held by the monks of Shirebourne, who received an annual payment of 2s. in lieu thereof, by the grant of Henry de Port. He also gave them a virgate of land at Mapeldurwell; and the church of Stratton, with a virgate of land belonging thereto, which grant was confirmed by Joceline⁸ Bishop of Sarum; the churches of Hinton and Bradford, confirmed to them by the same bishop, and given by Adam de Port; and the place where the chapel of St. Nicholas was founded. Henry de Port also had given them four acres of his wood of Fernell, and a meadow there.

⁶ In the original grant of Adam de Port his wife is called Sibilla, and his sons Roger, William, and Hugh. Ex MSS. Coll. Winton. See Table, p. 261.

⁷ A.D. 1115 to 1147.

⁸ A.D. 1142 to 1184. The witnesses to the confirmation were Henry the Dean, and the Chapter of Sarum. Ex MSS. Coll. Winton. This Henry was elected Bishop of Bayeux, A.D. 1165.

The monks obtained a charter of confirmation of all the above-mentioned property from Theobald,⁹ Archbishop of Canterbury, or from Thomas à Becket, his successor.¹

The next benefactor to the Priory was Sybilla de Albigneio, widow of Roger de Port, who with the consent of her sons, Adam and Henry, and others not named, on the first anniversary of the death of her husband, made the following grant to the monks.

Sciant omnes Sc'e eccl'ie presentes et futuri fideles, quod Sibilla uxor Rogerii de Port dedit deo, et Monachis de Tyrun apud Enedewell habitantibus virgatam terre apud Bradefort pro ai'a Rogerii sponsi sui, hominesque eandem terram tenentes, Eterni no'ie. Et ita liberam et quietam dedit ut ipsa habebat; et ut homo monachorum pasturam liberam et quietam suis bestiis habeat: Hec autem donatio facta est in die primi anniversarii ejusdem Rogerii de Port: Quod donum concesserunt filii ejus, Adam scilicet et Henricus et omnes alii: Adam apud Bradefort; Henricus vero et alii apud Enedewell: Hujus autem doni sunt testes, qui viderunt et audierunt, Joh'es de Port: fil: Hen: de Port. Hugo de Arundel, et alii: Sessitionis autem terre hujus apud Bradefort sunt testes, qui viderunt et audierunt, Alueredus Presbyter, et alii, et omnis Halimot de Bradefort: Hanc autem sessitionem recepit Hugo parvus de curva valle missus a Galterio Britello, qui tunc temporis erat prior de Enedewell, et a fratribus cum eo degentibus, &c.

This lady also gave them a virgate of land at Andwell, and the manse of Ernald Palmar at Bercheley, in exchange for the land at Winchester "super le broc," her two sons consenting thereto. Her son Adam with the consent of his mother and brother gave to the church of Tyrone a place called Mucclefort, and twenty-three acres under the hill (sub duno) and forty upon it, of his demesne of Bradford, and other lands there, and the church of Bradford, for the soul of their Father Roger, who was buried at Tyrone: The same Adam also confirmed to them the church of Ernlee, "quam quidem ecclesiam Adam de Port avus meus et pater meus Rogerus, pro anima regis Henrici, eisdem Monachis multo ante dederunt et concesserunt." Among the names of

⁹ A.D. 1139 to 1161.

¹ In Arch. Coll. Winton. It is not possible to determine to which of these prelates this charter should be assigned, for only the initial letter of the name is

given, thus, T. dei gratia Archep'us Cant. et Apostolice sedis legatus, which title belonged to both, and there are no witnesses.

the witnesses occur "Will'mus de pulchra Quercu," & "Joh'es fr' meus." This grant was ratified by Hugh² Bishop of Coventry, and appropriated to the use of the kitchen of the Abbey.

To such an extent were the monks of Tyrone indebted to the liberality of the de Ports for the endowment of their dependent Priory of Andwell. Of the other numerous benefactors of this house I need not speak, except of Maude the Empress, who gave them³ xx solidates of land at Estrop.

The church of the Priory was dedicated between A.D. 1215 and 1238, as appears by an indulgence of forty days granted by John,⁴ Bishop of Ardfert, who had officiated for Peter,⁵ Bishop of Winchester, to all, who, having confessed and repented, had come to the consecration of the church and offered alms; and ten days, on like terms, for attendance at the dedication of the altars, which had taken place on the feast of the Holy Innocents. The church was dedicated to St. John the Baptist; and the seal of the Priory, which is here figured, represented that saint, clad in his garment of camel's hair, and carrying in his right hand the "Agnus



² In Arch. Coll. Winton. Ilugh de Nonant A.D. 1186 to 1199.

³ Of this grant no mention is made in the charter of the Archbishop noticed above; but with reference to the land at Estrop there is an endorsement on the charter, "terra regis Stephani."

⁴ John, an English Benedictine Monk, was consecrated Bishop of this see, about the year 1215; but for some unknown cause he was deprived of his see, by the Pope's Legate in 1221 (or perhaps not effectually till 1224), and passed the remainder of his life in the Abbey of St. Alban's, to which he bequeathed many valuable jewels. He died there in Oct. 1245. Cotton's Fasti. Ecc. Hib. vol. i. Besides jewels he gave the abbey a number of "useful books." The following description of the jewels, printed in the Mon. Angl., is very curious. Johannes,

Episcopus Ardfertensis, præter libros, quos huic monasterio contulit, dedit unam petram nobilem, aerii coloris, distinctam albis maculis, quæ dicitur vulgariter serpentina, quæ fertur multum valere lunaticis, ejus forma est fere quadra, et circumligatur argento, in ejus margine plures reliquie continentur: Dedit etiam tres nobiles aureos annulos, in quorum uno habetur saphirus orientalis miræ magnitudinis; in alio lapis, qui dicitur peridotes, sive pederotes, in ejus medio saphirus excellentis pulchritudinis collocatur; et habet virtutem spasmodum potenter refrænandi; iste lapis ad modum clipei fere formatur; in tertio vero annulo alius saphirus includitur orientalis, sed minor quam prior, de quo locuti sumus.

⁵ Peter de Rupibus, was Bishop of Winchester from A.D. 1205 to 1238.

Dei," with an ecclesiastic kneeling before him. The circumscription is, SIGILLV : PRIORIS DE ANEDEWELLE.

The priory continued dependent on the abbey of Tyrone until the 15th of Richard II., when it was purchased by William of Wykeham, and given by him to his newly-founded college at Winchester, to which it still belongs. In the reign of Edward III., it had met with the fate of the other alien priories, having been seized by the king, in consequence of the war with France ; so that the apport, or money usually remitted to the abbey, was paid to the crown. At the time of the purchase by Wykeham, it was let to farm by the high Treasurer to one Thomas Thorp for 10% a-year. This Thomas Thorp was discharged by process of the Exchequer from payment of the 10% a-year, and received from Wykeham 20%, probably for his interest in the priory, by the hands of John de Campeden ; whereupon Thorp executed some writing, the exact tenor of which does not appear. He, however, afterwards sued one John Meferlyn for a sum of money ; but who he was, or what was the ground of the claim, is not stated, though from the interest that Wykeham took in the matter, it seems to have been in some way connected with the priory. Possibly John Meferlyn was one of the tenants, and the action was for money that became due before the purchase, and for which Thorp supposed he was not compensated. Be this as it may, Wykeham, then Bishop of Winchester, addressed the following letter on the occasion to a judge of the court, in which the action was brought, requesting him to stay the pleadings, till he could send the record of what took place in the Exchequer, in aid and discharge of the defendant and the college, promising that it should be all put in plea, and submitted to the judgment of the court ; and praying the protection and favourable consideration of the court for the defendant :—

" Treschere et tres fiable amy ; Vous plese savoir coment nadgairs p^r l^res patentes de licence n^re S^r. le Roy de date le x. jour d'Appril, l'an de son regne XIII^{me}. nous purchasmes as Gardein, et escolers de n^re College de Wyncestre, le Manoir de Andewell, autrement dit le Priorie de Andewell, et toutz les terres, tenements, possessions, rentes, et services au dit manoir, ou Priorie appurtenantz, avec l'avouseon de Chapelle de Andewell, lors esteantz en mayn n^re S^r. le Roy,

a cause de la guerre entre lui et son adversair de France, la quelle manoir, ou Priorie estoit mys a firme alors p^r le haut Tresorer n^re S^r. le Roy a Thomas Thorp, p^r nom de garde de dit Priorie de Andewell aliene, pour dys livres p^r an : Et plus, l'abbe a Convent de Seint Trinite de Tirone, p^r virtue de dite licence, granteront as Gardein, et escolers de n^re dit College, et a lour successours, le dit manoir, et priorie, a avoir a euz a toutz jours de date de premier jour de Septembr', l'an n^re dit S^r. le Roy xvme. Et sour ceo n^re S^r. le Roy susdit, en son Eschequer, fist descharger le dit Thomas de la firme des dit dys livres p^r brief de Chauncelerie, de date de premier jour d'Octobr', l'an n^re S^r. le Roy susdit xvme. ; et nous p^r habundant donasmes a dit Thomas, sour son dite descharge, xx.li desterlinges, p^r les mayns Johan de Campeden, n^re clerc, come plus pleinement piert p^r son escript ent faite. Et ore meincontreesteant le dit brief, et la descharge de dit Thomas de record, et choses et paiemens susditz, le dit Thomas poursuit une Johan Meferlyn devant vous, en la Mareschalcie n^re dit S^r. le Roy, demandant de lui certeine some d'argent, pour le temps, que le dit Thomas estoit descharges de record de la dite firme, p^r brief n^re S^r. le Roy ; quelle brief le dit Thomas ad devers lui : Si vous prions, treschere amy, si especialement de cuer come plus poovis, q' vous plese respiter, et mettre en delay, la plee, q' pent devant vous entre les avant ditz Thomas et Johan, tanq' nous vous purrons envoyer le record ceo, q'est fait en l'eschequer n^re dit S^r. le Roy, en eide, et descharge de dit Johan, et de n^re dit College. Toute la quelle matiere, treschere amy, sera allegge devant vous en plee, et mys en judgement de la court : Et vous prions, treschere amy, que vous plese tant faire en ceste matiere, que le dit Johan ne soit torcenousment subduz, ne surpris p^r subtilite, peair, maintenance, ne comme de son adversarie eviz, que pleine droit lui soit gracieusement faite. Et vous plese adjouster ferme foy et credence a ceo, que n^re bien ame, Richard Prewes, porteur de cestes, dirra et priera de p^r nous celle p^rtie. Pour le quelle chose, treschere amy, nous vous voilloins tres bon gre savoir, et especialment estre tenuz. Et le seint esprit, treschere amy, vous voille toutz jours garder, et vous encrese en honour : Escript a n^re manoir de Essher le xv. jour de Mai.

L'EVESQUE DE WYNCESTRE."⁶

⁶ I am indebted to a much esteemed legal friend for some valuable suggestions
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as to the intent of this letter, and the person to whom it was addressed.

This interesting letter has no direction or address upon it ; but there is great reason to believe it was written to Sir Walter Clopton, Chief Justice of the King's Bench. From the language of it, the action appears to have been brought in that court ; for, though the mention of the Marshalsea may at first suggest the Court of the Marshalsea, that was the Marshalsea of the king's household ; whereas " the marshalsea of our lord the king " was within the jurisdiction of the Court of King's Bench ;⁷ besides which, the Court of the Marshalsea could not hold pleas of the kind mentioned in the letter, except when both parties were of the king's household, and the claim originated within the verge of the court—a circuit of twelve miles about the court, where it might then be⁸—which there is no reason to suppose was the case in the present instance. The letter was evidently written between the 15th Richard II. (1391-2), and his deposition in 1399 ; and seeing the style of it, and the favour asked, it was, in all probability, addressed to the head of the court ; and, whoever he was, he must have been on terms of friendship with the writer. Now, the Chief Justice of the King's Bench at that period was Sir Walter Clopton, who was appointed on 31st January, 1388, and continued in the office till 1400. For upwards of two years of that time, and prior to the writing of the letter, viz.: from 4th May, 1389, to 27th September, 1391, Wykeham was Chancellor, and therefore, no doubt, they were well known to each other ; and, from the character of Clopton, he seems to have been a man whom Wykeham was likely to esteem.⁹

The letter, inclusive of the subscription, " L'Evesque de Wyncestre," is, apparently, all in the same handwriting—a firm, bold hand,—and, probably, that of Wykeham himself, bearing a great resemblance to some other writing at Winchester College supposed to be his. It is on paper, with a water-mark, in the form of a small circle cut by a straight line, which is prolonged both ways, and terminates at each end in a sort of star of five points ; and was sealed with his privy seal, and further secured by a narrow band of ribbon, passed through the folds ; and on this the seal was placed.

I proceed now to speak of the family of de Port, the

⁷ 2 Inst. 548.

⁸ These limits had been fixed by Parliament in the 13th Richard II., and must have been known to Wykeham.

⁹ Foss's Judges, iv. pp. 157, 158.

founders and principal benefactors of this priory, as they were also of the neighbouring House of Shirebourne, or Monks' Shirebourne, which they gave to the Benedictine Abbey of Cerasie, in Normandy. This is now the property of Queen's College, Oxford. The only information which we have of the earlier members of this once wealthy family, beside Domesday Book, and a grant by the Conqueror to the Abbey of Westminster, is contained in one short extract from the register of the Abbey of Gloucester, and the three charters,¹ by which they gave Shirebourne to the monks, all of which have been printed in the Monasticon. Yet their blood is still flowing untainted in the veins of the Premier Marquis of England, who is also Baron St. John of Basing, and of other noble and distinguished families; whilst Old Basing itself, the head of their barony, is in the possession of another nobleman, also descended from the de Ports.²

Hugh de Port, or Portu, the founder of the family, who, it may be assumed, was one of the followers of the Conqueror, was possessed, at the Domesday Survey, of not less than fifty-five lordships, of which Basing was the chief. Of him very little is known. That he was at times employed about the person of the Conqueror may be inferred from his name appearing in three documents relating to the grant by that king to the Abbey of Westminster of two churches of Roteland, Uppingham, and Warley, with the church of Belton.³ In the following document he appears as the only witness.—“*Willelmus rex Angl. Francis et Anglis salutem : Sciatis me dedisse S. Petro Westm., et Abbati Gilleberto, ecclesias de Roteland, et terras pertinentes ad eandem ecclesias, sicut Albertus Lotharingius de me tenebat ipsas ecclesias, cum omnimodis pertinentibus ad ipsas. T. Hugone de Portu.*”⁴ He was also directed to give seisin of the same to the abbey.—“*Willelmus, rex Angl. Hugoni de Portu, et omnibus fidelibus suis Francigenis et Anglicis, salutem : Sciatis me dedisse S. Petro de Westmonasterio decimam de Roteland, et tu, Hugo de Portu, inde eum saisias.*”⁵

All else that is known of him is contained in the following

¹ The originals are probably preserved in the archives of Queen's College.

² Lord Bolton.

³ Duas ecclesias de Roteland, Yppingham et Werleiam cum ecclesia de Belton,

cum terris omnibus et decimis et capellis eis pertinentibus. Mon. Angl., vol. ii. pp. 301, 302.

⁴ Ibidem.

⁵ Ibidem.

extract from the register of the Abbey of Gloucester :—
 “A.D. MXCVI. Hugo de Portu factus Monachus in Wynton,
 dedit ecclesiæ S. Petri, Glouc., Lytelton in Hanteschire,
 Willelmo Rege juniore confirmante : Henricus filius Hugonis
 de Portu carta sua confirmat donum patris sui : Adam de
 Portu similiter confirmat : tempore Serlonis Abbatis.”⁶

This Adam, as well as Henry, is supposed to have been the son of Hugh. Henry, who seems to have been the elder, gave Shireburne, and other possessions, to the Abbey of Cerasie ; his wife Hadwise, and his sons William and John, being among the witnesses of the grant. After him came John de Port, who confirmed the grant, which Henry his father (so the charter calls him) had made, with the assent of his (John's) wife Matilda, and his sons Adam and Hugh. He is stated by Sir Harris Nicolas to have been living as late as A.D. 1167.

His son Adam succeeded him, and appears to have exchanged the tithes of all his mills at Shireburne, which the monks had there by his fishpond (vivarium) that his grandfather gave them at the foundation of their house ; though how the fishpond came back to him is not stated : His wife Sybilla, who has the addition of “comitissa,” was a witness to the deed. Up to this point then, the descent of one branch of the family is clearly traced by their own acts. Here however there seems to be a difficulty : The account of this Adam in Dugdale's Baronage is somewhat confused, and it is probable that he has ascribed to one Adam de Port acts and events that should be referred to two of that name. He notices the exchange just mentioned, and that the Countess Sybilla witnessed it, and then, after a few more particulars of his life, proceeds to say, “After this Adam, I do not discern that his posterity did any longer bear the surname of Port, but assumed that of St. John ; the reason whereof I suppose to have been, because Mabell his wife, was grandchild and heir to Roger de St. John, viz., daughter of Reginald de Aurevalle, by Murielle, daughter of him the said Roger.” Now it is assumed in this that Adam the husband of Sybilla, and Adam the husband of Mabell de St. John were the same person. It is not indeed impossible that such might have been the case, but I think that there is good reason to believe that it was not so. In an interesting

⁶ Abbat Serlo died 1104. Mon. Angl., vol. i. p. 548.

topographical work called "Sketches of Hampshire," by the late John Duthy, Esq., in the notice of Abbotstone, one of the Lordships of the de Ports, in whose descendants it continued to be vested until the beginning of the present century, it is stated that "Adam de Port did, in the year 1172, become implicated in the treasonable machinations, which were carried on against Henry II. by his eldest son, and his Queen, Eleanor; and not choosing to surrender himself to answer the accusations which were preferred against him, withdrew from the kingdom." The authority on which this statement rests is not given, but a very curious document is printed by Mr. Duthy, relating to an agreement between Richard Toclive,⁷ Bishop Elect of Winchester, and Adam de Port, about the fief of Abbotstone, which was held of the See, by which it appears that Adam had applied to the Bishop elect for his consent to mortgage the fief to certain Jews, for the sum of forty marcs, for a term of eight years, desirous, as Mr. Duthy suggests, of raising money to defray the expenses of his exile. The Bishop refused to allow the lands of the Church to be put into the power of Jews, and undertook himself to advance the sum required, for seven years, on condition that he should receive all the rents and profits of the estate, and that the mortgagor should, notwithstanding, furnish two armed soldiers, being the service due to the lord for that fief. Dugdale says of him that "being accused for the death of King Henry II., he was thereupon adjudged to forfeit all his lands." Now this forfeiture continued in the reign of King John, for "that King did in the eighth of his reign, give of those lands so escheated (*sic*), the manor of Bezewick to Alan Basset, to hold in fee farm, for the rent of fifteen pounds per annum."⁸ In proof, moreover, that he was still in exile, we have the following memoranda extracted from the Rotuli de Oblatis, A.D. 1201. iii¹⁰ Joh'is. "Wiltsir: Ric. fil. Will'mi dat iii marcas pro eodem; tenet feod: i milit' de feodo Ade de Port fugati." "Rad. fil. Rog. dat iii m' pro eodem; tenet feod. i milit. xii^a parte minus." "Rad. de Arguges dat ii m' pro eodem; tenet feod: dimid: milit' de feodo ejusdem Ade, et non plus ut dicitur." If then Adam de Port, the husband of the Countess Sybilla, was the person banished and deprived of his lands for his plotting machinations against Henry II., and for his

⁷ Elected A.D. 1171. Consecrated 1176.

⁸ See Dugdale's Baronage, vol. i. p. 464.

complicity in the rebellion of the Princes, which is said to have caused the death of the King through vexation and sorrow, and received the reward of his disloyalty from the awakened conscience of Richard I., at his accession, he beyond question was the person whose lands were given away, and his rents received by King John. But it is certain, that, at the very time, when this Adam was in disgrace and exile, there was another member of the family of the same name, apparently high in the favour of John, frequently in attendance on his person, and employed by him in posts of great trust and importance : his name appears among the witnesses of several charters granted by that King ; of one, for instance, of confirmation to the Abbey of Malmesbury,⁹ 30th of Sep. A.R. 1^{mo}. He also witnessed a treaty of alliance offensive and defensive between the King of England, and Reginald, Count of Bologne,¹ in the same year. In the 4th of John, he was with the king in Normandy, as appears by the following entry in the *Rotuli Normanniæ*, p. 60, “Rex, &c., Ballivis, &c., de Barbeft, &c. Invenite bonam et securam navem sine precio Ade de Port, & Joh'i fil. Hug. ducentibus prisonas nostros in Angliam, et computabitur vobis ad scaccarium. Teste me ipso apud Faleis x^o die Augusti.” These prisoners were probably some of those unhappy persons, who were taken in John's successful attack in the night of the 31st of July, A.D. 1202, on the French army sent by Philip Augustus to the aid of Arthur of Brittany, then besieging the Queen Dowager Eleanor, in the castle of Mirebeau, near Poitiers. On that occasion not a single person of consequence in Arthur's army escaped : two-and-twenty prisoners of rank were sent to England, and were starved to death in Corfe Castle. In the 7th year of the same King, we find Adam de Port, witnessing a charter of confirmation granted to the monks of Dunkewell. In the same year, he was involved in a brawl in the streets of Winchester, between his own followers, and those of Philip de Lucy, in which Eudo the Clerk, son of Alexander the Cordwainer, was slain ; in consequence of which, his lands were seized into the King's hand ; but his influence was sufficiently great to obtain their immediate restoration, and, subsequently, a special pardon for John de Fiscamp, one of his retainers, probably the person, by whose hand the slain man had fallen. In the ninth year,

⁹ Rot. Chart. p. 23.

¹ Ibid. p. 20.

the King committed the custody of the Priory of Shireburne to Adam de Port ; which, it appears, had been taken into the King's hands together with the other alien Priories, "*occasione interdicti.*" (1 Rot. Lit. Claus. p. 108.) In the tenth year he was sent on an embassy to Otho, King of the Romans, nephew of John, in company with William, Earl of Salisbury, the Prior of St. John of Jerusalem, in England, and the Archdeacons of Worcester and Stafford. In the fourteenth of John, he was entrusted with the charge of the safe custody of Robert, son of Richard de Popeshall, and William, son of Thomas Maudiot, whom their fathers had been compelled to deliver as hostages to the King. In the fifteenth he was entrusted with the government of the Castle of Southampton during the King's pleasure, superseding William Briwerr in that charge. He died shortly after his appointment to this post, for his son William de St. John had livery of his father's lands in this year, as appears by the following entry in the Rotuli de Oblatis, p. 477.

SUHAMT'] Will's de Sc'o Johanne dat quingentas marcas
BERCSIR'] pro habenda tota terra que fuit Ade de Portu,
quondam patris sui : Et insuper d'no Regi inveniet x milites,
bene paratos equis et armis, in serv : d'ni Regis in Pictavia,
vel ubi ei placuerit, per unum annum integrum, ad custum
suum ; scil. a die Sc'i Jacobi Apostoli, an. r. d'ni Reg : xv^o.,
in unum annum integrum sequentem ; ita quod anno illo integro
elapso, reddet quingentas marcas, secundum quod a d'no Rege
terminos habere poterit. Et preceptum est vicecomitibus,
quod eidem Willelmo plenariam saisinam sine dilatione habere
faciant de predicta terra, cum pertinenciis suis, in Ballivis eorum.

On these grounds it seems probable that Adam de Port, the husband of the Countess Sybilla, whose lands, as we have seen, were forfeited, and himself still in exile in the reign of John, was a different person from the Adam de Port who married Mabell, the heiress of Roger de St. John above-mentioned. It appears certain that this last mentioned Adam is the person so often spoken of in the reign of John, whose son William laid aside the name of Port, and assumed that of St. John. He probably is also the person whose good deeds are recorded in those singular inscriptions on the walls of the church of Warnford in Hampshire, noticed in the 2nd Volume of the *Archaeological Journal* ; and the builder of that curious house, the remains of which are to be seen eastward of the church. It is popularly called King

John's, probably a corruption of St. John's, House, unless the name be a lingering tradition of its having been honoured by the presence of the monarch, on a visit to its lord.

And now a question arises as to the descent of this Adam de Port, the husband of Mabell de St. John : assuming him to be a different person from the husband of the "Countess Sybilla," was he his son ? This does not seem probable ; since it can hardly be supposed that the father would continue in exile, while the son had such influence and consideration at Court, as it is evident he possessed. The Andwell charters, though they will not entirely clear up this point, will probably supply a clue to its solution. They open to us a collateral branch of the family, who founded and endowed the Priory of Andwell, and bestowed it on the Abbey of Tyrone ; while the barons of the elder line endowed the house at Shirebourne as a dependency of the Abbey of Cerasie. This branch must have descended from Adam, younger son of Hugh the first baron, whose grant of land to the monks of Andwell was confirmed by the charter of Henry I., at some period, in the latter part of his reign ; an approximate date only can be assigned to it by the fact of its being witnessed by Bernard, Bishop of St. Davids.² His wife Sybilla, it will be remembered, assented to the grant, as did also his sons Roger, William, and Hugh. The coincidence of the name of his wife being the same as that of the wife of Adam the fourth baron, at first induced me to suppose that the latter was the person who granted the lands to Andwell, but the fact of the confirmation by Henry I. certainly puts that supposition out of the question. His eldest son Roger married Sybilla de Albigneio, and was himself, as well as his widow, a great benefactor to the monks of Andwell. She was contemporary with one John de Port, son of Henry de Port, who witnessed her grant above mentioned, and whom I imagine to have been the third baron, inasmuch as his confirmation was necessary to the grant of some land at Andwell, that she gave to the monks in exchange for the land in Winchester which her husband had bestowed on them : "*quia de feodo illius movet.*" The names of two of the sons of Roger and Sybilla, as appears by their charters, preserved at Winchester, were Adam and Henry ; and it seems highly probable that this Adam de Port was the husband of Mabell de St. John, and if so, the direct line of Henry, the second baron, terminated

² A.D. 1115—1143.

in Adam the husband of the "Countess Sybilla;" and possibly on his banishment, and forfeiture, his second cousin, Adam, son of Roger son of Adam, youngest son of Hugh, the first baron, retaining his own portion of the original estates of the family, increased, possibly, by the grant of much of those of his banished kinsman, succeeded to the honours, and influence of his house; and that he is the stock, from which the present representatives of the family are descended.

The following names of the Priors of Andwell are met with in the documents relating to the Priory.

HUGH.	RICHARD : TEMP : EDW : II.
WALTER BRITELL.	RALPH . . . REG : EJUSDEM.
WILL : DE PULCHRA QUERCU.	GODFREY DE INSULA : EDW. III.
NICHOLAS : TEMP : HEN : III.	RICHARD BEAUMONT.
GERVASE.	JAMES PASQUIER.
ROBERT : TEMP : EDW : I.	

Postscript.—It may be as well here to correct a mistake with regard to this family, which Hutchins the historian of Dorset has made. He had seen the grant of Sybilla de Albigneio and her sons of the lands in Bradford Peverell, in which no mention is made of her husband's father, Adam de Port. Being uninformed on this point, he says in a note to his account of Bradford, "Adam and Henry were contemporary with Giffard, Bishop of Winchester, in the reigns of Stephen, and Henry I., Dugdale's Baronage, vol. i, p. 463. The Roger here mentioned makes an intermediate descent between Hugh of Domesday Book, and Henry and Adam, hitherto supposed sons, but more probably grandsons of Hugh." He did not observe that the sons of Hugh were Henry the eldest, and Adam the youngest, and those of Roger, Adam the elder, and Henry the younger: nor was he aware of the fact of their mother having been in her widowhood, a contemporary of John, son of Henry de Port.

W. H. GUNNER.

GENEALOGICAL TABLE

TO ILLUSTRATE THE PRECEDING REMARKS.

