

CHURCHWARDENS' ACCOUNTS OF THE PARISH
OF COWFOLD,

IN THE TIME OF KING EDWARD IV.

BY THE REV. W. BRUERE OTTER.

A FEW years ago was discovered, in the parish chest of Cowfold, a small book, of about twenty paper leaves, in a leather cover, containing the manuscript churchwardens' accounts for several years of the reign of Edward the Fourth.

Interspersed among the accounts are several memoranda of a very miscellaneous character; and at the end is a copy of good verses of a religious nature, containing a dialogue between Right and Mercy, which may, perhaps, be thought worthy of publication on some future occasion. The writing is generally good, and much of it, I think, by the same hand; but the language exhibits a strange mixture of English and of bad Latin, and the meaning of some expressions is consequently obscure.

The earliest date attached to the yearly accounts is mccccx (38 Hen. VI). The *latest* date occurring in the book is xx of June, of the second year of Richard III (1485); this belongs to a memorandum of Walter Dunstall, one of the churchwardens.

The following extracts comprise almost the whole contents of the book. They are given without alteration or emendation of any kind, and the chief cause for their being offered to the notice of the Sussex Archæological Society, is a hope that they may be the means of drawing forth from their lurking places many documents of a similar but more interesting description. I am indebted to the kindness of various friends for the most valuable of the notes.

The book commences with a catalogue of the property of the church :

Hæc sunt bona ecclesie de Cowfold.

Compotus Radulfus Peknolle et Walterus Dunstall, costodes bonorum ecclesie Sante Petre de Cowfold.

Pro abere in memento de stoks de ecclesie.

In primis, &c. &c.

This catalogue is rendered so obscure by frequent alterations and erasures, that it is thought better to give an amended copy, which occurs a few pages later, at p. 9 of the MS., and is as follows :

(1473-4.) Item pro abere in memento de stokes de ecclesie de Cowfold, anno rengni reges Edwardi iij xij yer, in primis.—In manibus de Thomas Wheytyng duos stoks¹ pris vjs. a stok.—Item in manibus Johannes Okynden a stok pris vjs. viijd.—Item in manibus Willelmus Man de Henfield quatuor vaccas² (*of the quethe of Joh's Wallche*) pris xxvjs. viijd. et de eodem summa rec^d. xijs. vjd.—In manibus de Johannes Waterman de Wormyngeherst et Johannes Waterman de Asheyngton duos vaccas pris xiijs. iijjd. at sostinere iij tapres in onorem Beate Katerinae.³—It. in manibus Willelmus Creppse duos vaccas pris xiijs. iijjd. de legato de Willelmus Gratwyke, to fynd a tapre afor Sante Antonie et unam afor 3owr Lady.—In manibus Walter Dunstall a stok pris viijs. de legato Johannes Dunstall pro sostyne a taper apud sepulcrum perpetuum.—Item in manibus Johannes Gardener a stok pris de xvjs.—Item in manibus Willelmus Bregger a stok pris de vjs. viijd.—Item in manibus de Raff Pekenolle et Johannes Potter xiijs. iijjd. liberavit de manibus Thomas Botyng.—Item in manibus Johannes Potter ij stoks pris xiijs. iijjd.—Item in manibus Johannes Gardener a stok pris vjs. viijd. rec^d. de Malyn a Den.

The annual accounts are as follows. At p. 3 is the date of xith of Edward IV (1471-2), when Gardener and Lachemer

¹ Stoks appear to be used in the sense of stots, bullocks, perhaps working oxen hired out, or stirkes, heifers, though the term "stock" is now only applied to cattle in general; or the term may signify some other property bequeathed to the parish, perhaps sums of money, intended to be lent out at a rent ("*the cres*," which afterwards occurs) for the support of candles in the branches of the large candlesticks placed before certain altars. These were called by a corresponding name. "Arbores, candelabra majora in ecclesiis, multis instructa luminibus, quæ a terra surgunt." Ducange. Hence "*stok de lampe*," "*stok de branche*," afterwards occur in these accounts; and at p. 25 of the MS. is an entry of "*the lone of Waterman vjs.*"

² Vaccas, cows. Such property of the parish appears strange; but it was not unusual. In a Visitation of co. Essex of the time of Henry V, the cows of a parish are entered as let out to farm. At the end of the MS. book, is a memorandum of Walter Dunstall, to the effect that Wyl'ms Mathew, drayper, had received from him a "cow melke," and he to pay "*jd. a weke*." The words of the text in italics are added from p. 1 MS., and prove these cows to have been a bequest to the parish, as well as those of W. Gratwyke and J. Dunstall. Even as late as the time of King William III, there was a bequest of twelve cows to a parish in Gloucestershire.

³ The niche wherein the figure of Our Lady was placed still remains in the church, and is marked by the well-known emblem of the flower and jar.

St. Katherine's wheel appears in a quarry in the east window; but of St. Anthony no memorial remains.

were churchwardens, as they also appear at p. 4 and 5 in the year 1460, the earliest found in the MS.

(1460.) Compotus Johannes Gardener, Jam^s. Lachem^r. costodes bonorum ecclesie de Cowfold ibidem et festum Passe anno domini millesimo cccclx.—Rec^d. de Johannes Pykcombe a stok pris of xiijs. iiij*d*.—It. rec^d. of the cres⁴ ijs.—It. nos liberavit eadem stoka at Jam^s. Lachemer.—It. in manibus Wyllellmus Bregger a stok pris of vjs. viij*d*. solvere per annum xij*d*.—It. rec^d de Wyllellmus Bregger xij*d*.—It. eodem Wyllellmus iijs. iiij*d*.—It. rec^d. de Wyllellmus Crepsse ijs.—It. rec^d. de Walterus Okynden xij*d*.—It. in manibus Johannes Gardener a stok pris of xv*s*.—It. rec^d. ijs. Summa x*s*. iiij*d*.

Solvere pro cere pro sancte cruses lumine iiij*li*. pris ijs. viij*d*.⁵—It. pro ij*li*. de cere pro duos tapres xiiij*d*.—It. pro faciende j*d*.—It. pro tres belle ropes xvij*d*.—It. pro faciende de lumine & expenses ix*d*.—It. pro lavare de festment and awter clothes v*d*.—It. pro faciende de belle ropes & pro baudryk⁶ and wheyt leder iiij*d*.

At pp. 6, 7.—Compotus Johannes Gardener and Johannes Tranchem^r costodes bonorum ecclesie de Cowfold.—Rec^d. de Johannes Gratewyk a stoke de branche x*s*. v*d*.—It. rec^d. a stok de Malyn a Dene pris vjs. viij*d*.—It. rec^d. de Wyllellmus Crepsse ijs.—It. rec^d. de Aneys Botyng*e* ijs.—It. de Wyllellmus Bregger xij*d*.—It. de Walterus Okynden xij*d*.—It. de Johannes Gardener ijs.—It. de Thomas Whytyng xx*d*.—It. rec^d. de Johannes Okynden xij*d*.—It. rec^d. de Willellmus Crepsse ijs.—It. rec^d. de Tomas Wheytyng xx*d*.—It. rec^d. de Johannes Gardener ijs.—It. rec^d. de Willellmus Bregger xij*d*.

In primis it. solvere pro cere iiij lb. iij*s*. at lumine sancte cruses.—It. pro expens v*d*.—It. pro lavare de festments & sorpliss v*d*.—It. pro baudryk j*d*.—It. pro tres li. de cere at branche ijs.—It. pro tres li. de cere pro tres tapres ijs.—It. pro faciende v*d*.

A remembrans that we Jon Waterman, of the parishe of Asheyngton, brother of Wyllyam Waterman and Jon Waterman, of the parishe of Wormyngherst, haf rec^d. a stok of the parishe of Cowfold, pris of xiijs. iiij*d*. the weche was in the hondes of Wyllyam Waterman, & rec^d. at Candlemas, in the yer of Kyng Edward the iiij, in the xij yer. (1473-4.)

Solvere iiij *li*. de cere at lumine sante cruses iijs.—It. for expens v*d*.—It. pro faciende et glasyng*e* of a wendow iiij*d*.—It. for wesheyng of clothes ij*d*.—It. for makyng*e* of wexse v*d*.—It. a remembrans that Jon Gardener owyng*e* to the parishe iijs. v*d*.

The accounts follow irregularly as to date; at p. 8 is an account given "on Whetsunday, in the yer of Kyng Edward the IV, the xx yer (1481), and at p. 34 is a fragment of account signed "Gate—Gratewyk, A.D. mcccclxx."

In p. 11 and following, are the compotus of John Okynden

⁴ "Cresce or increse (cres or increc), incrementum"—Prompt. Parv.; the profit or rent for property or money lent.

⁵ The price of wax appears to have varied from 5*d*. to 8*d*. per pound, an enormous sum at a time when a bushel of wheat might be bought for 8*d*.

⁶ "Baudryk was the bell-truss, and from old churchwardens' accounts, it seems to have been a thick strap of untanned leather (wheyt leder), and employed for attaching the bell to a moveable beam, so that when the beam was stirred the bell was made to have a gentle swing." For this explanation I am indebted to the Rev. Dr. Rock. In Bailey's Dict., ed. 1726, is "Bawdrick, a cord or thong for the clapper of a bell."

and John Gratwyk, but they are too much mutilated for publication.

At pp. 12, 13.—Compotus Johannes Gate et Johannes Wode costodes bonorum ecclesie de Cowfold.—Rec^d. de Johannes Gratwyk ijs.—Rec^d. de Johannes Okynden et de Johannes Gratwyk ijs.—It. rec^d. de parochiâ de taper et trendel⁷ ijs. viij*d*.—It. rec^d. de Johannes Gratwyk xxj*d*.—It. ijs.—It. xij*d*.—It. rec^d. for payntyng of the Cherch of devociõne de parochâ ijs. viij*d*.—It. rec^d. de Pet. pans xij*d*.⁸

It. solvere pro cere x*l*i. and half pris vs. x*d*.—It. pro costagies et faciende de cere et costagies de vetel⁹ xij*d*.—It. pro lavare de auter cloths ij*d*.—It. pro weke j*d*.—It. solvere for iij bel ropys xvj*d*.—It. pro faciende de belle cleppes ijs. x*d*.—It. solvere pro bawdrykys for the bell iiij*d*. ob.—It. pro makyng iij*d*.—It. for a loke iiij*d*.—It. in expenss aput vesitacion iiij*d*.—It. solvere at Johannes Warde pro payntyng of the cherche and the sowthe porche ijs. ij*d*.

(1476-7) Anno regni Regis Edwardi 4ti xvj yer. Compotus Johannes Warde & Rechard Gratwyke costodes bonorum ecclesie de Cowfold.—Rec^d. de Johannes Gatte & Johannes at Wodde vs. iiij*d*. ob.—It. rec^d. de William Crepsse ijs.—It. rec^d. of taper and trendel vs. viij*d*.—It. rec^d. de John Okynden pro una stok ijs.—It. de William Bregger xij*d*.—It. rec^d. de Thomas Wetyng xxj*d*. Summa xvij*s*. ix*d*. ob.

Solvere at Johannes Gratwyk x*d*.—It. solvere pro cere xvj*l*i. pris vijs. iiij*d*.—It. solvere pro weke ij*d*.—It. pro faciende de cere v*d*.—It pro coste of fetel j*d*. ob.—It. pro lavare de sorpliss ij*d*.—It. solvere pro costagiis aput visitacion j*d*. ob.—It. pro duos ropis pro campanis xij*d*.—It. pro leder pro campanis j*d*.—It. for a loke at ostiam de ecclesie ijs.—It. pro costagiis j*d*. ob.—It. in expenss iij*d*.—Summa xijs. x*d*. ob.

(1477-8.) Anno Regni Regis Edwardi iiij, xvii yer.—Compotus Thomas Whytyng, Jon Kyng costodes bonorum ecclesie de Cowfold.—Rec^d. de Johannes Warde et de Recardus Gratwyk vjs. viij*d*. ob.—It. rec^d. de lumine S^{te} Cruses taper & trendel ijs. ix*d*.—It. rec^d. de Johannes Warde ijs. solvere de Johannes Gardener.—It. rec^d. de Johannes Warde xij*d*.—It. rec^d. de Peter pens ijs. ij*d*. ob.

It. aput passæ rec^d. de oxore¹⁰ de Wyllelmus Bregger xij*d*.—It. de Johannes Gardener ijs.—It. rec^d. de Wyllelmus Gratwyk argentum de Santi Margrete xvjs. vij*d*.—It. rec^d. de Tomas Wetyng ijs.—It. rec^d. de Tomas Chor'y xx*d*. de summa x*d*.—It. rec^d. de Johannes Warde of paying of Tomas Wetyng xxj*d*. :—xxxix*s*. ix*d*.—It. solvere pro sere at lumine S^{ti} Crusis ix*l*i. and half pris iiij*s*. ix*d*.—It. pro faciende de sere & coste de vetell xj*d*. ob.—It. solvere at Jon at herst of Horsham iiij*s*. iiij*d*.—It. pro faciende de lumine S^{ti} Katerinæ j*d*. ob.—It. solvere at omo venit pro Flecheyng pro videre the frame campanis viij*d*.—It. solvere at Rogerus Coline pro poly¹¹ ij*d*.—It. to Clark de Thakam carpynter x*d*.—It. at eodem Clerke carpynter xxiijs. iiij*d*.—It. at eodem carpynter x*d*.—It. at eodem carpynter viij*d*.—It. at eodem carpynter pro faciende de fframe et labore & expenss xxij*d*.—

⁷ This word occurs in many church accounts. A friend suggests that it is identical with Trental, the paid masses celebrated for 30 days in honour of a person deceased—a month's mind. So in Spenser, 453, Hubb. Tale, "Their diriges, their trentals, and their shrifts." In Anglo-Saxon, "Trendel, trendl, a sphere, an orb, circle," is found. Considering that the word here generally occurs connected with tapers, it may therefore mean a circular stand for candles, such as is often used before altars. Bailey's Dict. interprets "Trendel, trendle, a weight or post in a mill."

⁸ Peter's pence.

⁹ Vetel means the arranging or putting into order of anything; in some counties the word is still used in this sense, as to fettle a horse, or to fettle a room.

¹⁰ Probably uxore, the wife.

¹¹ Poly, pulley.

It. at Wyllelmus Smyth de Warmyngled pro faciende de clapper's pro campanis *iiijd.*—It. pro a rope pro campanis *vijjd.*—It. solvere pro cere *vijli. p' iijs.*—It. pro faciende de cere *iiijd.*—It. pro coste de vetall *iiijd.*—It. pro lavare tres festements *vjd. & tres sorplis iijd. & duos auter cloths jd. & octo de tuall¹² in the same.*—It. pro lavare of auter cloths to William Michell *ijd.*—It' pro tres corporool *jd.*—It. solvere pro faciende of a belle clep *ijs. ijd.*—It. solvere *ij bel ropys xiiijd.*—It. solvere coste aput visitacion *iiijd.*—It. for naylle & cleytyng of belle ropys *jd.*—It. solvere Peter pens *xvijjd.*—It. solvere pro selke for the best cope *jd.*—It. for the mendyng *ijd.*

At p. 18.—Compotus Tomas Botyng et Johannes Potter Wardynis ecclesie de Cowfold.—Rec^{d.} de Tomas Wytynge & de Johannes Kyng a stoke pris of *xijs.*—It. a stok pris of *vjs.* of Sent Margrit deliberavit de Willelmus Wheytyng the wheche was in the honds of Jon Hayn.—Item rec^{d.} *ijs. vjd.*—It. rec^{d.} de Recharde Monke *xijd.* of a stok pris *vjs.*—Rec^{d.} de Johannes Gardener *ijs.*—It. de Johannes Bregger *xijd.*—It. rec^{d.} de Wardens de S'ta Mergeritē *xiijs. vd.* et de rent *iijs.*—It. eodem *xiijs.* nos deliberavit at Robertus Soper de Grensted solvere *ijs.* aput Santi Johannes baptistæ, and the same afforsseyd Robert fayll at hes day we to feche *ijj.* the best kene that he hathe, by trewe kovinant made.

Solvere pro cere *xijli. vs. vd.*—It. pro faciende de cere et costagies de vetell *vijd.*—It. pro faciende de manyn clepers *ijs. ijd.*—It. pro wheyt leder *jd.*—It. pro clapss et hokys *iiijd.*—It. pro duos ropys pro campanis *xiiijd.*—It. pro a loke *vd.*—It. pro weke *ijd.*—It. solvere pro faciende de cleper de campanis *xijd.*—It. pro lavare duos sorplis et auter cloths *iiijd.*—It. solvere at Jon Pennie for dressyng of the bellys *ijd.*—It. solvere at Tomas Whytyng *ijs. vijd.*—It. solvere pro auter clothe *xxd.*—It. solvere pro half a li. de cere et pro faciende *ijd.*

At p. 19 and following.—Compotus Tomas Okynden Johannes Tranchemer wardinis de ecclesie de Cowfold.—Rec^{d.} de Johannes Potter et Tomas Botyng *xiiiijs. ijd. ob.*—It. rec^{d.} de Rob^{s.} Soper *xiiiijs. vd.*—It. rec^{d.} de oxore de Willelmus Creppse *xijs.* of rent.—It. rec^{d.} de eodem Melisant a stoke pris de *vjs. viijjd.*—It. the rent *xijd.* de Santi Margrete.—It. rec^{d.} de Sent Mergrete wardynis *xxjs.*—The receipt es *ijli. xs. iijd. ob.*; *ijli. iijs. ijd. ob.*—Rec^{d.} *ijli. xvijjs. vd. ob.*¹³

Solvere it. pro cere *xvli. vjs. iiijd.*—It. pro faciende de cere & coste de vetell *xiijd.*—It. pro duos ropis de campanis *xvd.*—It. pro faciende de cleper de campanis *xijd.*—It. pro solvere mendyng of baudrvk *jd.*—It. carieng of the cleper to Horsam *iiijd.*—It. pro faciende de belle whele *xiijd.*—It. pro tember *vijjd.*—It. pro nayle and vetell *vijd.*—It. pro duos stapell for the grete belle *jd.*—It. pro weke *ijd.*—It. pro lavare de sorplyss & vestments *iiijd.*—It. pro faciende de tressle¹⁴ *vjd.*—It. solvere pro wheyt leder *jd.*—It. pro duos ropis to the bells *xvjd.*—It. pro cere *ijli. xd.*—It. pro faciende *ijd.*—It. pro stokyng¹⁵ of the belles *xjd.*—It. pro claps to the gret belle *ijd.*; nayle *jd.*—It. pro lavare pro festments *ijd.*—It. pro cere *li. vd.*—It. pro lyne at trendel *ijd.*—It. pro duos gerdell ffestements *jd.*—It. pro faciende de ffestements & lavare *iiijd.*—It. pro lavare de ffestement *ijd.*—It. pro torge¹⁶ *xs.*—It. for naylle *jd.*—Aput passæ solvere, it. pro duos ropis pro campanis *xvjd.*—It. pro napsy pro best ffestements *vjd.*—It. pro faciende pro a whelle pro campanis *vjd.*—It. vetell met and drynk *vjd.*—It. pro claps nayle *ijd.*—It. pro cere at lumen santi crusis *iijs. ijd. ob.*—It. pro coste de vetell *iiijd.*—It. pro faciende de cere *vd.*—It. pro

¹² Eight towels.

¹³ The sum received appears to have been in fact *ijli. xixs. iijd. ob.*

¹⁴ A tressel or trestle, the moveable support of a table or coffin.

¹⁵ Putting up or fixing the bells. To stock an anchor is to fix the end of it firmly in the stock.

¹⁶ "Torge" may mean "torches;" but the large sum of *xs.* paid seems to forbid that interpretation.

lavare de festments et awter cloths iiij*d.*—Solvere xxx*s.* vijs. vj*d.* ob.—In the honds of Jon Tranchemer vjs. viij*d.* a stok of the branche.¹⁷

At p. 21, &c.—(1481-2.) Anno regni Regis Edwardi iiij, xxj yer, comptus Johannes Bulle & Henricus Werde wardinis ecclesie de Cowfold.—Rec^{d.} de Tomas Okynden et de Johannes Tranchemer xx*s.* iij*s.* iiij*d.*—It. rec^{d.} de Johannes Tranchemer vjs. viij*d.* y^t es a stok of the branche.—It. rec^{d.} de Waterus Dunstall et de Johannes Gate, wardinis de Sante Mergretæ, xvij*s.* vij*d.*—It. rec^{d.} de Tomas Okynden and Johannes Gardener ijs.—It. rec^{d.} de Robertus Soper vjs. viij*d.*—It. rec^{d.} a stok de lampa de Margery Bregger, pris viij*s.*—It. rec^{d.} de Johannes Okynden xij*d.*—It. rec^{d.} de Robertus Soper, of Grensted, vj. viij*d.*—It. rec^{d.} of Melsent Creppse of rente ijs. of the yer of the wardynes afor us.—Rec^{d.} de Jon Bregger iij*s.*—Aput passæ rec^{d.} de Ricardus monke de Grensted, ijs. de rent.—It. rec^{d.} de Johannes Okenden, xij*d.* de rent.—It. rec^{d.} de Mylsent Creppse vjs. viij*d.* of a stok of the branche.—It. rec^{d.} vj*d.* of rent.

It. solvere pro duos rapys xvj*d.*—It. solvere pro weyt leder ij*d.*—It. pro a taper a li. de cere vj*d.*—It. ob. pro faciende.—It. at Hary Tranchmer j*d.*—It. pro faciende de chalyca & coste iij*s.* iiij*d.*—It. pro rapa ix*d.*—It. pro yre¹⁸ pro flanta et a loke vj*d.*—It. pro cere aput passæ vli aput santæ crucis ijs. vj*d.*—It. a li. de cere at lumen Santi Mergretæ vj*d.* ob. pro faciende.—It. pro coste of fetell & makyng viij*d.*—It. pro lenen kloth ij*d.*—It. pro lavare de festments and sorpliss ij*d.*—Solve to the maseyn for makyng of the fonte vs.; for cariage of stone viij*d.*—It. for lym iiij*d.*, and for fecheng j*d.*—It. helpeng of mortar and other stof, ij*d.*—It. for setyng to a stapyl for the fys dor¹⁹ j*d.*—It. for stone and drawynge off ston to jon a gate viij*d.*—It. solvere pro void de erthe for the stepel xvij*d.*—It. pro duos rapys xvij*d.*—It. solvere aput passæ pro cere vj li. half pris of iij*s.* iiij*d.*, for makyng vj*d.*—It. pro lavare sorpliss and auter cloths iiij*d.*—It. pro rape (rope?) ix*d.*—It. pro rape et wyt leder xij*d.*

(1470 probably.) *At p. 24, &c.*—Comptus Johannes Gretwyke et Johannes Gate, wardinis ecclesie de Cowfold.—Recept. de Johanne Bulle et Henricus Werde xls. et de Johan Bulle, sen., xvjs. viij*d.*—It. de Johannes Dunstall & de Tomas Wheytyng vjs. viij*d.*—It. de Hary Berd iij*s.* vj*d.*—It. rec^{d.} de Jam^s Costedel de Bollene iij*s.* de rente.—It. de Johan Crypsse ij*d.* de rente.—It. de Melsent Crypsse ijs.—It. de Johannes Gardener xij*d.*—It. de Recardus Monke de parochia de Grensted ijs.—It. de Jon Dowssse xij*d.* de rente.—It. eodem Jon Dowssse hav deliferid the same stok unto the wardeynis agen.—It. de Johanne Bulle, sen. ijs.—It. de Recardus Monke ijs.—It. de eodem Jon Bulle xij*d.*—It. de John Bulle, jun. xij*d.*—It. de Harry Berde ijs.—It. de Johannes Okynden xij*d.*—It. rec^{d.} de exsetors de Johanne Cowper xij*d.*—It. rec^{d.} de oxsores de Jon Harowden the lone of Waterman vjs.—It. rec^{d.} pro ewer cloths of lyenge in the cherche ijs.—It. solum to Tomas Whytyng ijs. vj*d.*—It. pro leder for bawdryke ij*d.*—It. pro oyle and a

¹⁷ Branche means a large branched light, before the holy rood.

¹⁸ Yre, iron, for the font.

¹⁹ "Fys dor" is the door leading to the winding staircase of the tower at Cowfold. See Glossary of Archit. "Vise, vice, vjs, Fr. vis, escalier à vis." "Vyce, round grece or steyer, coecla." Prompt. Parv. "Unum ascensorium, vocatum vjs in campanili." Contr. for Durham Dorm. "And in the said stepill shall be a vice towrnyng." Contr. for Fotheringy ch. In Chaucer's Dream, v. 1310, is the following passage:

"I rise and wakt, sought pace and pace,
Till I a winding staire found,
And held the vice aye in my hond,
And upward softly so gan crepe."

potte *vd.*—It. pro nayle *jd.* ob.—It. pro viij *li.* wexse *iijs.*—It. pro a rope to the belle *vjd.*—It. pro cruce faciente in the lyten.²⁰—It. pro faciente de campanis *xxjd.*—It. pro rape de campanis *vjd.*—It. pro nayles *jd.* for wax *ijli.* *xxjd.*—It. pro faciente de cere *ijjd.*, to take to Johannes Costedel of bollene (*Bolney*) a stok pris of *xxs.*—Aput passe pro cere *vs.* *xd.*—It. pro faciente et coste *vijd.*—It. ad Johannes Wode pro faciente' de campanis *iiijd.* for nayle *jd.*—It. pro lavare de sorpliss & other cloths *ijjd.*—It. pro rape *vijd.*

It is remarkable that Gratwyk, Trenchmer, Bulls, Peknowle, Ockenden, and Potters are names of farms still in existence in the parish of Cowfold, and formerly, no doubt, were the residences of some of the worthy churchwardens, whose accounts are now printed.

The following miscellaneous memoranda are—At p. 4. A remembrans that the reve of Slawham hathe mad for my Lady a mede of vij acres, lyeng in the pariche of Erthyngly, e callyd Reveres Mede; and e paid for mowyng and tedyng *ijs.*, also for the making *ijs.*; also karyage of the heye *iijs.* *viii.*, also for coste of mete and drynke *xxd.*

At p. 36.—It. a remembrans that ij Water Dunstall yowthe to my master Scrasse, of Hangelton, ffor *iiij* bochell whete pris of *vijjd.* a bochell. Item, pris a bochell of barlyche *iiijd.* It. for a bochel of malte *vjd.*—It. eodem Scras yowthe me for a lode of talle wode pris of *ijs.*

At p. 26.—A remembrans of a bargayn and a porchys of lond of Jon Baldyng of Cenvold, lyeng in the pariche of Tynem, lyenge by the hey wey that gothe fro Ponnyns to Warnynled, pris of *xxs.*, and therof recd *xvs.*—It. a remembrans of a bargayn bytween Tomas a Stone of Henfield, and Jon Donstall of Cowfold, byeng hes hyds byn the Dekyr, prys of *xvs.*, and so that ther be *iii^{xs}* hyds in the Dekyr, or elys bot *xiijs.* *iiij.*

There are some notices of the payment of taxes in various years at p. 29, and a memorandum of letting out a milch cow, on condition of her being in milk at Michaelmas, or after.

(1471.) "Be het knowe be thes bill mad the vii day of Febrarii, anno regis E. IV the xth, wettensith that Emery Jenyns and Rechard Lotty, lottenhurst, collectores of owr sofferyn lord the kyng of the Rap of Brambir, and in the cowntie of Sowssex, hath recevid of Water Dunstall and of Jon Pekcombe, sobecollectores of the tythyng of Wyndham, for 3 parts of xvth, lxvijs. ob. in wetenesse herof wee haf put to owr sealis the day abov wreton."

(1474.) "Noverint universi per presentes me William Berber unum collectorem Domini Regis in comitatu sosssexie assignatum recepisse et habuisse die confessionis presentis de villata de Wyndhem *iiij li.* *ixs.* *ijd.* pro una metietate xv^{me} et x^{me} Domino Regi concessarum at ultimum parlamentum aput Wessemester, et quibus quidem denariis sicut per me receptis fatteor me inde fore solutos, dictam

²⁰ Lyten, lych gate, was a covered place at the gate of the churchyard, where the corpse might wait before being carried in.

que vellatam inde fore quietam per presentia sigilla mea signata, datum iij^o die Decembris anno xiii^o Regis Edwardi iij^o."

(1485.) "A remembrans that ij Walter Dunstall payd the xx day of Juin, to Master William Apsele, xd. for grene wax, in yer of Kyng Rechard the iij, the second yer. Item, Wyllelmus Mathew, drapper, received a cow melke the vj day of Junij, to the terme che be melke at Myhelmas or auter, and he to pay a jd. a weke."

The following rules for health, found at p. 27, are recommended to the notice of all members of "sanitary commissions," and the perilous days for bloodletting will meet with the respect they deserve. With these and two medical receipts for lockjaw and the plagues, these extracts must conclude.

In the monthe of Genever het es god to drynke on drawt of wheyt weyn ffastyng, and vij parlys dayes ther ben to be lete blod, that es ffor to say 1st day iij. v. x. xxv. xix. xxv.

In the monthe off Genever (*so written by mistake for Efebrier*) ette no worts²¹ made of malowes, ffor than they be parlys. Be let blode at the vayne off the thome, and ther be iij parlys dayes—ij. iij. xxiiij. xxvj. And in thes monthe use hot mets.

In the monthe off Marge ette feggs and resonos and other swet mets, and drynke swete drenks : bathe the nat thes monthe, but make las they blode on they ryt arme en the xvij day or the laste day ffor the axes²² : and they seyt that ther be iij parlus dayes the j. xxij. xxv. xxvj.

In the monthe off Averel be let blode on the leffte arme the x day or the xi and thou shalt nat lese they sight that yer by reson : also be let blode iij dayes and thou shalt not soffer moche hed ache that yer : ette ffreysh mete ffleysh, and use hot mets : and ij parlys dayes ther be xx. xxv.

In the monthe off May aryse up rathe²³ and dyny and drynke, and use hot mets : ete not no ffeet of no best : be lat blode on what arme thou wolle, on the iij day, or v, or in the last day : v parlys dayes ther be—the forst day iij. vj. xxv. the xxvj. day.

In the monthe of Juing drynke every day ffastyng a drawght off water ffastyng erly and afterwarde ale or mede ; ete a lytel, nat ofte : thou myght be lat blod and thou wolle, bot ther be iij parlous dayes—the x. xj. xxiiij. xxix.

²¹ Decoctions, broth. Ang.-Sax. Wyrte.

²² "Axes." For the ague fit. "Accesse, axesse, febricula, an ague, febris paroxysmus, a Fr. accez." Skinner's Etymologicon, ed. 1671. In this sense it is used by Chaucer, in his Complaint of the Black Knight, v. 134 :

" And overmore distreynd with sicknesse,
Beside all this, he was full grievously,
For upon him he hat hot *accesse*,
That day by day shook him full piteously."

²³ Rathe, early, from Saxon rath. Milton, in Lycidas, 142, "Bring the rathe primrose that forsaken dies." So also Chaucer, "What aileth you so rathe for to arise?"

In the monthe off Julis absteyn ye ffro, for then the brayn gaderryth wormys togeder : also let nat theyself to blode in this monthe ; viij parlus dayes ther be—j. vij. xv. xiiij. xij. xxv. xx.

In the monthe off Agoust wolle nat thou to ete worts off malowes nother off cawlys,²⁴ and make nat les they blode : vj be parlys dayes j. x. xv. xxiiij. xxix. & xxx.

In the monthe of September ete rype ffryt and do the to blede and thou wolle the xvij day ; het is gode for the dropsy and for the fallyng sore. v parlus ther be—the ij. vij. xiiij. xxj. xxix.

In the monthe off October het es gode to drynke must or new weyn and ffor nede thou mayste let the blode ; iij parlus dayes ther be iij. xvij. xxij—to be let blode.

In the monthe of November bathe the nat ne be nat stynted for than thy blode es gaderyd, for then het is gode to make lasse the blode of thy vaynis for than the humerys be fulle gretly multiplied : and ther be v parlus dayes—j. ij. v. xj. xxviiij.

In the monthe off December use hot mets, and wolle the nat than to ete worts bot gruel : and ther be v parlus dayes—the vj. viij. xiiij. xxij. xxiiij.

One is reminded, after reading these obsolete cautions, of Touchstone's warning to Corin (As You Like It, iii, 2), "Thou art in a *parlous* state, shepherd ;" but in old times we learn, from the Chronicle of Jocelin de Brakelond, that the seasons for bloodletting occasioned some pleasant gossiping assemblies, at one of which he reports having been tempted to speak out too candidly of his superior, who never forgave him. There are some very curious rules as to the discipline enjoined on the monks for three days following the bloodletting, in the Bury MS., published lately by the Bury and West Suffolk Archæological Institute.

At p. 14 of MS.—ffor prekyng of senues. Ther be sertyn off plasys of a man that (*if*) he be prekyd in to a senue, bot he be (*heled?*) within viij dayes after, he shal be dede. Theron wolle come cramp from the plase into the nec, and draw hys chavelys²⁵ togeder that he shal not opyn hes mowthe ; and that men call the spasme, and therfor and a man be prekyd into a senew, take gode oyle roset,²⁶ and late chaf hyt warme es he may soffer, and *put the powder* (*erased in MS.*) powre het into that plase that he is prekyd, and ly wolle above, and bynde hyt, and chawnge it, and use thes medson tyl hit be hole, and non other for thes is kynde ffor senewes and non other.

ffor the pestelencie to make a drynke. Take vedervoy, matfelon, and mogworte, solyge, scabyos, avense ;²⁷ make thes echelyke myche ; weche 'hem and stampe 'hem,

²⁴ Neither of cabbages.

²⁵ Chaws, the old form for jaws.

²⁶ Oil of rosemary.

²⁷ *Vedervoy*, or fetherfof, as it is still called in Sussex, is the feverfew, or fether-

and temper 'hem with stale ale, and gef the seke to drynke vj sponysful at ones; and he haf het by tymys hyt chal distroye the coropcion, and safe the man or the woma'.

few, in Gerard's Herbal, pyrethrum parthenium. The herb is reckoned as of great virtue by the shepherd in 'the Play of the Shepherds,' published among the Chester Plays by the Shakspeare Society, p. 210:

“ Here be more erbes I tell it you,
I shall reckon them on a rooe,
Fynter fanter, and *fetter foe*,
And also penye wyrthe.”

Matfelon, or “Materfilon, otherwise matrefillon,” as it appears in Lovell's Pambotanologia, p. 231, is the black knapweed, *Jacea nigra*, *Centaurea nigra*; a decoction of its heads still figures as a tonic in the modern Pharmacopœia. It was also called bollewed (ball-weed). *Mogwort*, or mugwort, is wormwood, *Artemisia vulgaris*, also still found in the Pharmacopœia, as a tonic. *Solage* is difficult to identify with certainty. It may stand for smallage or wild celery, *Apium graveolens*, an antiscorbutic. In Gerard's Herbal, “Sellige” is spikenard, *Nardus Celtica*—it may possibly be the sundew, *Ros solis*, *drosera*, which was used for the plague, according to Lovell's Pambotan., or the solidago, now *Symphytum officinale*, the comfrey, formerly in high repute, according to Culpeper's Physitian, p. 73, and Lovell's Pambotan., p. 116—or the savin, selago, used by the Druids. *Scabyos* is the well-known Devil's bit, *Scabiosa succisa*, a bitter astringent. *Avense* is the herb Bennet, or avens, *Geum urbanum*. “Avence, herbe avancia, sanamunda,” Prompt. Parvul. The root is still used in medicine.

END OF VOL. II.