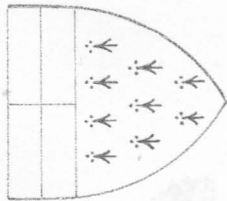
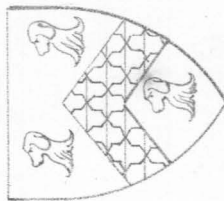


PECKHAM OF ARCHES.



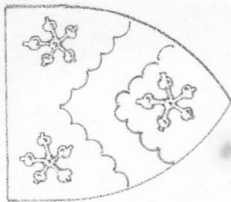
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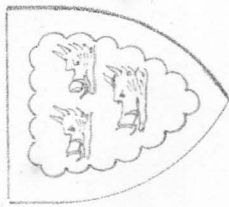
WARNETT OF HEMPSTEAD.



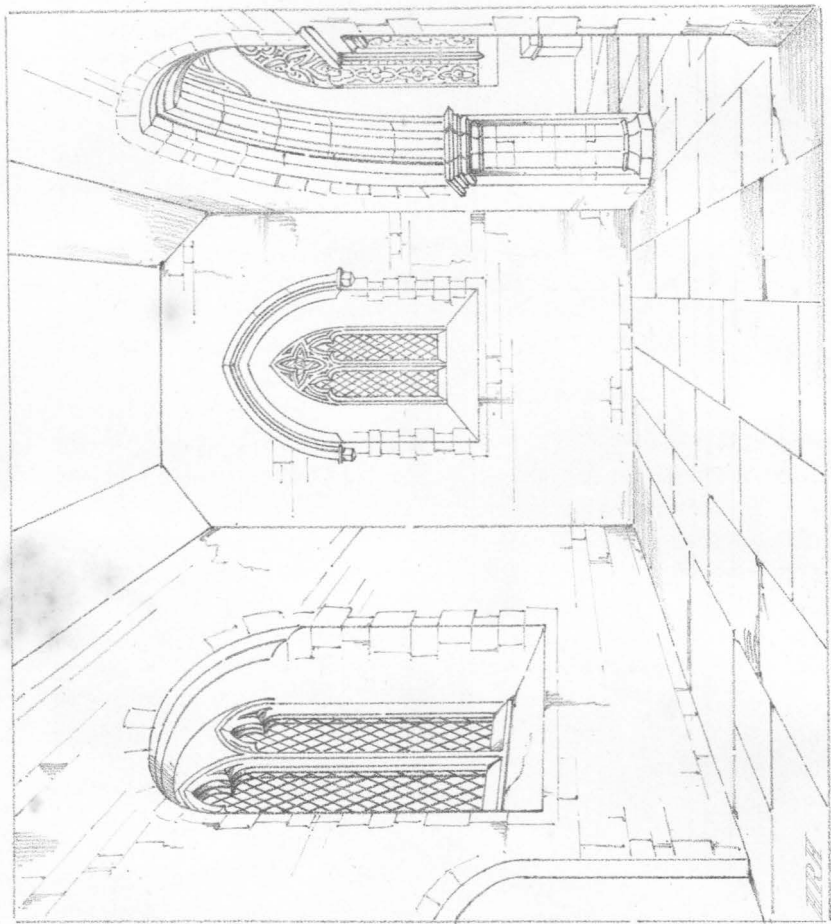
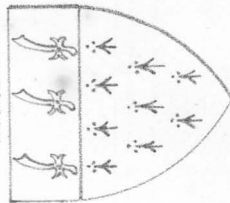
STONE.



STAPLEY.



HODGSON.



FRAMFIELD CHURCH NORTH CHANTRY.

NOTES ON THE

CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS À BECKET, FRAMFIELD,

AND ON THE ANCIENT PARISH GENTRY.

BY THE REV. HENRY ROSEHURST HOARE.

“Time cannot make such waste, but something will appeare,
To shew some litle tract of delicacie there ;
Or some religious worke in building manie a day,
That this penurious age hath suffred to decay,
Some limb or model drag'd out of the ruinous mass
The richness will declare, in glorie whilst it was.”

Drayton's Poly-Olbion.—1st Song.

PERHAPS the progress of ages and the changes “which time is charged to inflict,” are nowhere more intelligibly, and I may add painfully, exhibited, than in our ancient parish churches; though, from their sacred character and generally secluded situations, we might have augured for them a milder destiny. The ecclesiologist would have little difficulty in reading their history, even were there no records extant. He marks the progress and decline of art; the rude spoliations of fanaticism; the neglect and apathy of succeeding years; and the combined abominations produced by a vitiated taste and a covetous spirit. And yet, with all this, as it has been well remarked, there is hardly a single church of those erected previously to the times of the great Rebellion, which does not retain about it some features of interest or beauty. But it is no easy matter, in many instances, to retain these; anterior neglect now entails upon us the necessary evil of restoration, or rather renewal; for, though we may imitate, yet we cannot, strictly speaking, restore, ruined features. Even in the case of a church, which has been happily released from its accumulations of paint and whitewash, renewed as to its mutilated portions, and so far reinstated in its pristine beauty, we feel that much of the charm of antiquity is gone, for, where the

work is well executed, we can hardly discern the new from the old: we feel therefore distrustful of it all, and can scarcely persuade ourselves that the church was actually reared in the days of a Norman or a Plantagenet. However, there is no help for it now: all we can do is to record ancient features, both of those churches which remain in a state of neglect and decay, and of those which have been swept and garnished.

The foregoing remarks are painfully applicable to the ancient Church at Framfield, which has recently undergone considerable reparation. Still it is worthy of careful attention, and the work is in some respects better than that of many in the neighbourhood.

It is very probable that a church existed at Framfield at the time of or soon after the Norman Conquest, though no records of it have been discovered.

In the Domesday Survey, Framfield (*Framelle*) gives name to one of the hundreds in Pevensey Rape.¹

Domesday Book, 1068.	County Rate, 1624.	County Rate, 1833.
Framelle.	Loxfield Dorset.	Loxfield Dorset.
Framelle, Gorde, Horstede.	Framfield, Lindfield.	Framfield, Buxted.
Bechingtone.	Uckfield, Buxted.	Uckfield, Isfield.

Being at that time probably a parish of some consideration, it would doubtless have a church.

Like the names of most other parishes, the ancient spelling of Framfield is various; but as it was formerly often written (and still is pronounced by the common people) *Frantfield*, the Rev. E. Turner's conjecture seems probable, that *Frant* is a corruption of *Fernet*, and that the parish was anciently called Fernetfield, signifying an extent of land covered with fern. The village of Frant, near Tonbridge Wells, was anciently written *Fernet*, probably from the same reason.

The parish doubtless consisted principally of forest, like the rest of the Weald. An extensive common, called Barnet

¹ A farm-house in the parish still bears the name of the Hundred-House, and may be on the site of that where the Hundred Courts anciently were held. (Horsfield's *Sussex*, vol. i, p. 270.)

Wood, contained timber within the memory of some of the inhabitants.

Hayley says that a payment was ordered, by Archbp. *Stephen*, of four marks, out of the Church of Framfield (Fremesfeld), which was a peculiar of Canterbury, to the Sacrist of South Malling College. There can be little doubt that the prelate here named was Archbishop Step. Langton, who was primate in the early part of the reign of Hen. III; a period rather earlier than can be assigned to the present church, so that an older one would then be standing. At what time Framfield was made a prebend of South Malling does not appear, but probably by Archbishop Langton, who ordered the payment above mentioned, and who, according to Tanner, made Mayfield a fifth prebend in the same church.

In a valuation of the deanery of South Malling, made in the reign of Richard II, Framfield prebend was valued at 10*s.*² In 1534, 26 Hen. VIII, at £17. 0*s.* 7*d.*³

The ordination of a vicar in the Church of Framfield was made, A.D. 1266, by Archbishop Boniface, whose primacy extended from 1244 to 1270.⁴ He is the reputed founder of the present Church, the date of which agrees with that of the above-mentioned ordination; and being dedicated in honour of St. Thomas à Becket, and the parish (till lately) a peculiar of Canterbury, there seems some probability in the tradition.⁵

Till the reign of Henry VIII the archbishops were civil as well as ecclesiastical lords of Framfield.⁶ The extensive manor of South Malling, which belonged to them, was divided into three beadlewicks, of which Framfield was one; and in 1542, 34^o Hen. VIII, the archbishop granted that part of the manor which was comprehended within the beadlewick of Framfield, and afterwards called the manor of Framfield, to Sir Thos. Palmer.

The advowson of this living, though formerly vested in the college of South Malling,⁷ seems to have been held with the manor since the suppression of that establishment. Sir Philip

² Horsfield's History of Lewes.

³ Tanner Notit. Monast.

⁴ Chartulary of the archbishopric of Canterbury, Bodleian MSS., Oxon. p. 124; Burrell MSS., fol. 5697.

⁵ I have been told that this is on record, but am unable to discover such authority.

⁶ The fair granted by one of the primates to Framfield is no longer held. A.D. 1314,

8 Edw. II. Cantuar. Archiepus. Fremefeld *fer.* . . Tower Rec. Cart. No. 10. Bur. MSS.

⁷ Ecton's Thesaurus.

Sidney was lord of the manor, and most probably also patron of the living (he was lord and patron of Buxted). At his death, in 1585, the lordship passed to his daughter and heir Elizabeth, wife of Roger, earl of Rutland; ⁸ and afterwards, together with the patronage, to the Sackvilles, earls of Dorset, and Tuftons, earls of Thanet.

A.D. 1292, 21 Edward I. In the taxation of Pope Nicholas, the Church of Framfield paid 15 marks.⁹

Godardus was an early incumbent of Framfield, probably in the reign of Hen. III.

Gilbert de Clive, vicar, about 1266.

John Leff, rector, (qu. vicar?) 1545, 37 Hen. VIII.

The present Church dates about the year 1260, being perhaps built when the ordination of the vicarage was made. The plan is somewhat cruciform, including nave, chancel, north and south chantries, north and south aisles, north porch, and formerly a tower, which unfortunately fell, and has never been rebuilt. The style is that of the later period of Early English, but it is difficult to trace it externally, as so many of the ancient features have been destroyed. Both the aisles were for the most part rebuilt during the Tudor period; the original work, consisting of smaller stones, may be traced in the lower part of the walls; the original windows, both in the aisles and clerestory, are gone; those by which they are succeeded being square-headed, of two lights, of the Tudor date, injure the general effect of the Church by their modern shape and size.

One of them lights a bay on the south side, which was formerly occupied by a doorway opposite to that on the north. The aisles are very narrow, as are those of most of the early churches in this county; but the proportions of the Church are very good. The nave is divided into four bays; the arches are of a good shape, though rather wide in proportion to the height of the piers; they are plain chamfers, of two orders; the piers are octagonal; the abacus of the capital is formed of the scroll-moulding. The nave-roof is strengthened with tie-beams, and is coved, and panelled with oak-boards, fretted with ribs, which are adorned at their intersections with

⁸ Value £4, Bodleian MSS.

⁹ Burrell MSS. In the king's books, Framfield is valued at £13. 6s. 8d.; Tenth, £1. 6s. 8d.

bosses, of the square Tudor flower, carved and coloured. This roof has lately been entirely renewed; the rain had so long been suffered to penetrate it, that much of the panelling decayed. Many of the bosses were broken in the removal; some have however been preserved; they are beautifully carved, and as sound as ever.¹⁰

The chancel-arch is lofty, and of fine proportions. On the north side is the doorway with three steps, which led to the rood-loft. When Sir Wm. Burrell visited the Church there was a richly carved rood-screen, which, it is to be regretted, has long since entirely disappeared; he describes it as "an ancient screen of carpentry, panelled to the height of four feet, over which it is framed in open work, richly carved, and rising in the whole about twelve feet from the ground."

Like the rood-screen, the ancient chancel is numbered among the things which were; it long withstood the ill-usage of churchwardens, who partially ceiled it inside, and despoiled the east window of its tracery; but at length the walls cracked, and the chancel became so much dilapidated, that it was found necessary to take it down and rebuild it, in 1848. The dimensions and proportions of the old building were followed; it was formerly lighted by trefoiled lancets, till the chantries were built, which open into the chancel, each by an arch of the same proportions as those of the nave. A single lancet remains on each side, east of the arches.

The east window was of the Early Decorated date, probably rather later than the chancel. The new window, built with Caen stone, is filled with geometrical tracery, resembling a compartment of the west window of Tintern Abbey. A small trefoil-headed aumbrye existed in the north wall, and a piscina, of similar shape, on the south. A hagio-scope on each side opened a view of the altar to the chantries. The new roof, like the former one, is of three bays.

The dates of the foundation of the chantries are unknown; that on the north side belongs to the Hempstead estate, and

¹⁰ We would entreat those clergymen who are at any time engaged in church repairs, personally to superintend the taking down of any old carved work, of wood or stone, which is at all capable of being re-erected; the workmen will generally, either wilfully or carelessly, destroy it, and much fine sculpture is thus often sacrificed. Even if a clerk of the works is employed, he is not always to be trusted; he cannot be supposed to have the same interest in the church as the clergyman, and will often make more work for his employer than is necessary.

was, probably, built by a family named de Hempstead, in the time of Edward I. They lived and seem to have become extinct in the parish before the days of registers, as no notice of them is there to be found. The only known records of the family relate to Robert de Hempstead, in Framfield, temp. Edward I, to whom Archbishop Peckham granted a charter of manumission, elevating him from the condition of a villain to that of a freeman. It is dated at Tenham, Kent, March 22, 1284, and signed by Thomas de Marines, Sir Roger de Lewknor, Sir Roger la Warre, and Sir William Mauke; ¹¹ and one of the collectors of the ninths (of fleeces, lambs, and sheaves) in 14th Edward III, 1340, was Robert de Hempstead, probably a son of the forementioned Robert.

The style of the chantry is that of the date 1280, so that it probably was founded as a mortuary chapel, and attached to the estate by Robert de Hempstead, soon after his fortunate elevation. On the north side is a couplet of lancets, trefoiled, and a doorway; in the east wall is a window of two lights, with a pointed quatrefoil in the head. The original form of the window-head is given in the lithograph, but unfortunately it was not followed by the masons in the rebuilding. The only relic of stained glass in the church is in this window; it is a small circular piece in the head, containing a figure in a long robe, crowned, and holding a sceptre in his right hand; on each side is a clump of trees, and, in the distance, the outline of a church tower and spire. The lines are in black and brown, and the crown, sceptre, and trees, in yellow: there is no other colour. This piece is very probably of the same date as the chantry.

The south, or Bentley Chapel, is of considerably later date than that on the north side. It was attached to the estate of Bentley, in this parish, the residence of the Gages, and dates about the reign of Henry VII. The two windows, south and east, are similar, of three lights, under a depressed arch; there is a south entrance. The only monument is a mural brass, in an alabaster frame, to the memory of Edward Gage, esquire, who married Margaret, daughter of John Shelley, of Michelgrove, esquire, and died A.D. 1595. He and his lady are represented kneeling at the altar; behind him are three sons;

¹¹ A copy of this curious document may be seen in Horsfield's History of Lewes and its Environs.

behind her, five daughters ; above are their names, and below an inscription taken from the office for the dead—" Domine, secundum actum meum noli me judicari," &c. Some sepulchral family slabs, being much broken, and the inscriptions obliterated, were sunk in the ground, and the new pavement was laid upon them.

Tradition reports that the tower fell on a Sunday evening, soon after service, in the year 1667. In the following year the west wall was rebuilt, and the foundations of a new tower carried as high as the plinth ; after this the work was stopped, under pretence that the inhabitants were unable to bear the expense ; but the truth was¹² (according to Sir W. Burrell) the Durrants, Stones, and Peckhams, who were the principal inhabitants, were Dissenters, and refused to continue the work. Some time afterwards an unsightly wooden turret, resembling a pigeon-cote was erected ; but as this has lately been removed, we would fain hope that a new tower will ere long be seen raising its massive and comely form.

The following initials and date are carved on a stone at the north-west angle of the nave. The initials are probably those of the churchwardens (perhaps Durrant and Stone), and the date would mark the time of the repairs after the accident. There was a peal of six bells, which, by the fall of the tower, were broken or cracked. Sir William Burrell said that the parishioners proposed to apply for a faculty to sell four of the bells, and to expend the money in repairing and beautifying the church ; and it is probable that the bells thus found their way to neighbouring steeples ; some being hung, as is said, in the tower of East Grinstead Church ; and the tenor of the peal at Rotherfield, the largest bell in the county, is reported to have belonged to Framfield.

W DIS
CF
1668.

Few parishes seem to have had so many families of respectability amongst the ancient gentry, and living at the same period, as Framfield. As they have nearly all passed away, a few notices of them may not be uninteresting, whilst we are speaking of the Church, within and around which their ashes are garnered up ; though no costly monument remains, to distinguish their graves from those in which " the rude forefathers of the hamlet sleep."

¹² Burrell MSS.

GAGE, OF BENTLEY.—This family was a junior branch of the Gages of Firle; they appear to have possessed and resided on their estate from an early period. Edward Gage, Esq., whose monument has been noticed, is mentioned as amongst the recusants reported by the sheriffs of the county to Queen Elizabeth (see *Suss. Arch. Collections*, vol. II, p. 62). During the residence of the Gages, Bentley possessed a large mansion, and a very extensive park; the woody domain, called Plashet Park, is said to have belonged to it. Both estates are the property of Viscount Gage. A farm-house is all that remains of the Bentley mansion. The eventual heir of this branch of the family was Lucy, daughter of John Gage, Esq. of Bentley; she married William Herrick, Esq., grandfather of the present William Herrick, Esq., of Beaumanor Park, co. Leicester.

Arms: per saltire, arg. & az., a saltire gu.: quartering St. Clere; az. the sun in splendour, or.¹³

WARNETT, OF HEMPSTEAD.—This family were the successors, and probably heirs, to that named De Hempstead, the most ancient possessors already noticed. The Warnetts appear to have possessed the Hempstead estate from the reign of Henry VI, and perhaps earlier. The name occurs frequently in the register books. The Burrell MSS. mention a monument once existing in Buxted Church (the Hempstead estate extends into Buxted) to the memory of John Warnett, a member of Furnival's Inn, who died in 1486. The only monument in the Hempstead chantry is to the memory of Francis Warnett, Esq., who died in the lifetime of his father, 1622. He married Ann, daughter of Sir Edward Boys, of Fredfield, co. Kent. John Warnett married the sister of Thomas Langstone, bishop of Winchester, temp. Henry VII. He made his will July 28, 1525, 17th Henry VIII, sealed with his coat of arms. About the year 1693 the Warnetts appear to have become extinct in the male line, by the death, without issue, of John, Edward, and Thomas, sons of Edward Warnett, the last possessor, in the lifetime of their father.

Arms: arg. a stag salient, sa.; over all fretty, vert. (See

¹³ On a hatchment, formerly in the Gage chantry, was the coat of Gage and St. Clere, impaling, gu. a fess checky, arg. & sa. between six cross crosslets, arg.; the arms of Boteler, of Bramfield, co. Hertford, sprung from the Barons Boteler, of Wenme and Oversley. (Burke). But Mr. Lower informs me that he can find no match of a Bentley Gage with any member of this family.

lithograph). The Hempstead estate is now the property of the earl of Liverpool.

PECKHAM, OF ARCHES.—The first of this family of whom we have any record, is John, archbishop of Canterbury, consecrated in the year 1272. He was a native of Sussex, of a family in humble life. Lewes claims the distinction of being the place of his nativity, but without any apparent grounds, though its priory is called “the convent of his love.” (See *Suss. Arch. Collections*, vol. II, p. 33.) His connection with Framfield suggests the probability that he was born in the parish. He built a palace at Tarbledown, in Framfield, of which there were some remains, according to Lee, in the latter part of the last century. Some members of the family continued to reside in the parish, and they are first mentioned as of Arches, in 1616. This manor had previously been in the possession of a family named Thatcher, a junior branch of the Thatchers of Broyle Place, in Ringmer, and afterwards of Priesthaws in Westham. The last of this branch was James Thatcher, who sold the manor and estate to John Peckham, in whose descendants it remained, till, in default of heirs male of William Peckham, this lordship passed, in 1770, into the hands of his two daughters, the eldest of whom, Sarah, married, in 1776, the Rev. William Woodward, of Plumpton, and the younger, Mary, married the Rev. Henry Courthope, of Brenchley.¹⁴

The lordship of Arches is held of the paramount manor of Framfield; it is described as the manor of Arches and Gote; and like all other subordinate manors, is obliged to acknowledge its fealty to the superior lordship. Arms: ermine, a chief quarterly, or and gules. (See lithograph.)

STAPLEY.—Mr. Turner (see *Suss. Arch. Collections*, vol. II, p. 102) considers this family to have derived their name from the hundred of Staple near Battle: Edmund Knight, Norroy, derives them from the Stapleys of Cheshire; they were a family of considerable note in Framfield, especially at the time of the Rebellion: Anthony Stapley, the regicide, was son of Anthony Stapley, by Anne Morley, the second of his four wives: he took a prominent part amongst the parlia-

¹⁴ This estate has passed by purchase into the possession of Alexander Donovan, Esq. The Peckhams were a branch of the great Kentish family, which is now represented in one of its lines by Sir S. B. Peckham Micklethwaite, Bart., one of the Vice-Presidents of our Society.

mentarians, and was ultimately amongst those who signed King Charles's death-warrant: his name still appears legibly in the copies of that iniquitous instrument. He was born at Framfield in the year 1590, and is thus registered: "Aug. 30th, Anthonie Stapley, Gentleman." In 1624, he was member for the borough of New Shoreham; this was the last session of James I and the first of Charles I. In 1628 he was member for Lewes with Sir George Goring, having unseated Sir George Rivers by petition. In 1653, the year of the first parliament summoned under the Protectorate, Anthony Stapley was one of the burgesses of the shire. This parliament met July 8th, and sat till December 12th. Besides Stapley, the members for the shire were William Spencer and Nathaniel Stukley. Anthony Stapley married Ann, sister of George Lord Goring, afterwards earl of Norwich. The perfidious conduct of Anthony and his son will be seen in the letters given by Horsfield in his History of Lewes. Lord Clarendon, speaking of this family, says that "they were of good extraction and good fortune in the county of Sussex, one of whom" (meaning Anthony) "was in the number of the blackest offenders, and one of the king's judges."

John Stapley, the son and heir of Anthony, found it convenient to espouse the cause of the Royalists, and in consequence of his active part in the Restoration, he was created a knight by Charles II, and subsequently a baronet. He was of Patcham, and as his baptism is entered in the registers of that parish, Mr. Turner conjectures that the Stapleys removed from Framfield to Patcham between the year 1615 and 1620. Herbert Stapley, son of Sir John, predeceased his father, without issue; consequently the baronetcy became extinct on the death of Sir John Stapley in 1701, aged seventy-three. A decayed member of this family still lives in Framfield, in the person of old Robert Stapley, who, though living on his own land, obtains, with difficulty, the means of subsistence for his household. He has told me of the general belief of his family that an evil influence seems to hang over them in retribution for their guilty participation in the Rebellion; and it would seem to be a part of that retribution, that no monuments remain to the Stapleys in the church, nor is their residence in the parish accurately known. I have been informed

that an ancient mansion called Tickridge was their residence, but other documents assign it to the Hays. W. Stone, Esq., has also told me that New Place was purchased by his family of the Stapleys, but still there is no authentic record of their old home in Framfield.

Arms: gu. within a bordure engrailed, three boars' heads erased, arg. (See lithograph.) Another coat borne by this family was, arg. on a fesse engrailed ermine between three hurts, two dragons' heads erased, or. This was probably the coat of the Framfield branch.

STONE, OF NEW PLACE.—This is one of the oldest names in the Registers, and the only family who has a representative in the parish in the present day. A marriage of — Stone with Anne Warnett, of Hempstead, is recorded under the date of 1535. No circumstances of particular interest are to be noted of this family: their mansion of New Place, probably on the site of one more ancient, is of the late Tudor date, but now reduced in size, and occupied by farm servants; it has very massive chimneys; and the mullions of the kitchen window are of great substance, in oak. The farms of New Place, Stone Bridge, and Gate House, which last was till lately the property of Robert Stone, Esq., are now all in the possession of William T. Stone, Esq., the last of his race, and unmarried.

Arms: sa. a chevron engrailed, between three cinquefoils arg.; crest, a demi-cockatrice, rising arg. winged and crested, or. Granted in 1628, and certified by Sir William Segar, Garter, in the Visitation, 1633.¹⁵ (See lithograph.)

ISTED.—This family came from Eysted, a large maritime town of Denmark, and settled at Framfield, about the time of Edward III; they enjoyed a considerable estate, part of which continued in the family till 1718, when it was sold by Thos. Isted, Esq., of Ecton, co. Northampton. The present representative of this family is Ambrose Isted, Esq., of Ecton.¹⁶

Arms: gu. a chevron vair, between three talbots' heads, erased, or; crest, a buck's head, erased, proper, attired and ducally gorged, or. (See lithograph.)

¹⁵ Herald's Office.

¹⁶ Berry does not mention this family: they are noticed in Burke's History of the Commons.

HODGSON, OF POUNDSLEY AND TICKRIDGE.—The first of the family mentioned is Robert Hodgson, descended from a family in the north; he lived at Framfield in the reign of Hen. VIII. The Hodgsons were gun-founders, and possessors of the Poundsley foundry and estate, as we learn from the pedigree of the Morleys, of Glynde, in which Robert Morley is said to have married Susannah, daughter and heiress of Thomas Hodgson, of Poundsley, gentleman. Little is known of the mansion of the Hodgsons, called Tickridge; it appears to have given name to a more ancient family, recorded in the registers, *e. g.* the burial is recorded, in 1602, of “Mother Tickridge.” When, in 1639, Goldsmith Hodgson died, seized of Tickridge, it is described as a messuage and lands, containing sixty acres, holden of William Peckham, as of the manor of Arches, by fealty. The house has been called “an ancient and once stately mansion,” though little of it remains; possibly before the Hodgsons it may have been the residence of the Stapleys.

Arms of Hodgson: ermine, on a chief gules, three cutlasses, erect arg. hilts or (see lithograph); crest, a griffin’s head erased or, in the beak a dexter hand, erased at the wrist gu. Granted by W. Segar, Garter, 1628.

From the family of Hodgson the Tickridge estate appears to have passed into that of Haies, or Hay, who were resident in the parish in the reign of James I. They continued in possession of the property till the year 1680, when they removed to Little Horsted Place, which had been the seat of the elder branch of the family; William Hay being described in Sir William Burrell’s pedigree of the family as being born at Horstead, in 1594. They were a branch of Hay, of Glynde Bourne, who bore, ar. on a fesse gu. between six martlets sa. two martlets or.

It seems probable that Tickridge passed directly from the Hays to the Faggs, of Shepherd’s Hill, in Buxted, as they possessed the property soon afterwards; and as the Faggs did not require Tickridge as a place of residence, it might be from that time suffered to fall into decay. With the rest of the Fagg estates, Tickridge passed, by marriage, to the Gorings, of Wiston, the present possessors. Fagg, of Wiston, bore, gu. two bends vair.

SMITH, OF HIGHLANDS AND LITTLE STREELE, appears to

have been a very ancient family, but not enjoying any considerable estate in Framfield. In the time of Sir William Burrell, Mr. J. Smith, of Little Streele, had in his possession admittances of his ancestors to the copyholds enjoyed by him, from 2 Hen. VII, 1486.¹⁷ The estates passed, by purchase, to the family of

DURRANT, OF GREAT STREELE.—This was also an ancient family, according to Sir William Burrell, but little is left recorded of them. The last of the family, Robert Durrant, Esq., died towards the end of the last century; the Woodwardes were his nephews and heirs.

FRENCH, OF ESTONES.—On an inquisition, post mortem, taken 7th June, 7 Car. I, 1630, the jury found that John French, gentleman, son of Thomas French, died 13th Jan. 1630, seised of a messuage and lands in Framfield, called Estones, alias Threeces farm, holden of the earl of Dorset, of his manor of Framfield, in free socage, by fealty.¹⁸ A locality is still known by the name of "Estones," or "Eason's Green." The Frenches were ironmasters, as it appears by the mention of "John Frenche's hammer," in R. Leche's answers to articles of inquiry, temp. Elizabeth.¹⁹ The foundry was probably in the vicinity of Barnet Wood.

The pedigrees of Warnett, Stone, and Hodgson, are in Berry's Sussex Genealogies. The modern monuments in the Church are principally to the Woodward family, of Highlands and Streele. There is a monument to the Rev. Thomas Wharton, formerly vicar, who died 21st May, 1767. He was descended from the ancient Barons Wharton, of Wharton Castle, co. Westmorland, and the Whartons of Kirkby Thore, Ridge Grange, and other manors, in that county. They were allied to the ancient families of Conyers and Myddelton. A relation of Mr. Wharton, Isabella Paris (whose maiden name was Wharton), died, in humble life, 9th April, 1849, in her 94th year. The Whartons bore, sa. a maunch, ar. within a bordure or, charged with eight pairs of lions' paws saltire ways, erased gu.; the bordure being an augmentation granted by Edw. VI.

In a list of the monks of Lewes Priory, in 1526 (given in *Suss. Arch. Collections*, vol. III, p. 204), occurs the name of David Fremfyld, doubtless a native of this parish.

¹⁷ Burrell MSS.¹⁸ Burrell MSS.¹⁹ Horsfield's Sussex.

The northern names of Calverley and Osbaldeston occur in the Registers.

The well-known antiquary, Sir Joseph Ayloffe, resided in Framfield, at a house called Wharton's, built by the Rev. T. Wharton: Sir Joseph's family arms and alliances are depicted in stained glass in the hall window.
