

NOTICES OF WINCHELSEA IN AND AFTER THE FIFTEENTH CENTURY.

BY WILLIAM DURRANT COOPER, F.S.A.

THE meeting holden at Winchelsea in the summer of 1854, enabled me to call the attention of our members to some matters connected with this ancient town, which had been left unnoticed, or were but briefly referred to, in my History; and I am anxious to place several facts on record which have come to my knowledge since 1850.

Among the Carlton House Ride MSS. has been found a copy of the charters and many interesting extracts from the town records made on March 17, 1560-1, entitled "A Certificate of Wm. Egglestone,¹ Mayor of the towne and porte of New Wynchelsey, and his brethrene, made by the comaundement of William Lord Marquess of Wynchester (Lord Treasurer of Inglande), and Richard Sackvyle, Knt. (Vice Treasurer), Sir Walter Mildmaye, Knt. (Chancellor of the Exchequer), and Gilbert Gerard (Attorney General of the Quene's Majesty), of all the writings yet found in the towne of New Wynchelsey that do concern and touche the title of the Manor of Iham, as by o^r liberties do declare the bounds thereof, to the Quene's Highness out of the Exchequer the 6th March, 3 Elizabeth, 1560." The original Inspeximus Charters of 15th June, 5 Henry IV, and 14th February, 8 Henry IV, were then in existence, and also the charter dated at Westminster, 5th June, 3 Henry IV, to wall and ditch the town; and copies are transmitted. And in the Cotton MSS.² there exist many materials for a fuller history of the town, whilst it was yet flourishing in that part of the reign of Henry VI which preceded the last attack of the French. From this MS., as most worthy of extract, I give

¹ He was M.P. for the town, 7 Edw. VI.

² Julius, B. iv.

the following curious and very early list³ of the customs of the town, indicating a large amount of trade in wine, &c.:—

ORDINANCES OF THE TOWN AND HARBOUR,
temp. HEN. VI.

“Theis ben the ordynance made on Sunday,⁴
the xxv day of Aprill, and the yer of the
reigne of King H. VI^{to}, y^e V^{to} (1427),
in the hundred ther held.

“*Fyrst.* That al manner strangers as well dynsyns (*denizens*) as fraunchysed (*freemen*) pay the malitote⁵ of all manner merchaundyse after the ordynance of old tyme used and acustomed.

“*Of the old expenses.*—Also, that the costes of wryttes and retourns of writts of sute of partye ben rered (*raised*) of hem that thay ben take for, yf thay be of operation in the franchise.

“*That no man breke no bolke without leve of Mayr.*—Also, yt all manner merchaundyse as well deynseins franchysed as nott franchysyd and strangers comyng and bryngyng merchandyse into y^e havyn to sel ther merchaundice or yt will breke ther bulke; It is ordenyd and affermed by the Mayr, Bayliff, Jurats, and all the comonalte, that the maister of that schyp so comyng in com to the mayr and truly certefy be his othe he oweth to y^e Kyng and to y^e town how moche chafer or merchundyse is within his schip and whos they ben or perteyn to, and also y^e commonalties clerke entre the mayster's name and the schip with al said parcels of the merchaundise in yt conteynd after the quantite of the maister's knowlege, and that every maister of vessel thus comyng in by warned by his host, who so he be, to hold and kepe this ordynance up on payn of losyng to the eyde (aid) of the town xxx.; and to be rered of the schipp and merchaundise by the mayr.

“*That no man by no merchandise above cs.*—Also, that no manner man by no manner chafer or merchaundise within the franchise, or comyng in to the franchise or havyn, of soche chafer or merchaundise that the value of it exceedith the sum of an cs. that all manner chafer so browght into the franchise by lond or be water to be sold exceedyne the som above sayd be profered first

³ Julius, B. iv, fol. 24 b.

⁴ The hundred court seems to have been usually held on the Sunday during this reign, and prisoners to have been tried on that day. In his most valuable *Abstract and Illustrations of the Roll of Bishop Swinfield*, the Rev. John Webb shows, that at the close of the thirteenth century the observance of the Sabbath was by no means strict. It was on a Sunday that the bishop made his bow at court, and secular business was transacted. On a Sunday also the bishop's nephew and chancellor of Hertford, under the bishop's own roof, entered into a contract for borrowing money for the prelate's use. In the time of Henry VI however the clergy and prelates endeavoured to obtain a better observance of the Sabbath. Traffic,

if not absolutely prevented, was kept within as strict limits as the necessities of the flock permitted. There were petitions by the clergy, and proclamations by bishops, against barbers keeping their shops (then, the great places of resort for gossips) open on Sunday (Wilk. vol. iii, pp. 352-368); and Holinshed and Grafton chronicle the failure of the attempt in the city of London to shut up victuallers' houses, and to prevent shoemakers and tailors from taking home to their customers on the Sunday the shoes and garments they had made during the week.

⁵ Town dues. By stat. 25 Edw. I, c. 7, it was interpreted to be a toll of 40s. for every sack of wool.—*Cowel's Law Dict.* 1727.

to the mayr and commonalty to by, alway avyded that yf the mayr and the commonalty refuse that chafer or merchaundise, that then it shall be leful for every man to by at his owen lust. And every franchised man beyng at the bying part with the byer after his propertye yf he clayme parte, and with a straunge byer to have halfe yf he will chalange to. And that this ordynans be kept, the Mayr and Bayliff and Jurats, &c., have established to be observed upon payn of xvs. to be rered by the mayr at every tyme of hym as that in soche wyse agayns this ordynans offendith.

“*That no stranger sel no gods to another stranger.*—Also, that no stranger sel no gods to another stranger, yff any franchised man will clayme parte.

“*Yt no stranger ley no wyn a land withoute leve.*—Also, it is ordyned and affermed that all straungers that londen wyne within the fraunchyse, and schip it agayn without the mayor’s leve, that thay pay for every ton wyne schypped agayn or sold in the schip or on lond to straunger or franchised ijs., except it be sold to the hole commonalty in grete.

“*That no stranger sell no wyn without leve of the mayor.*—Also, that no stranger sel no wyn so layd on land in parcell without knowleche and leve of the mayr and comons have refused the hole upon payn of xvs. to be rered of the byer and the seller in mone at every tyme so offendyng agaynst this ordynance by the mayr.

“*That no strange merchand sell no wyn to another strange merchaunde.*—Also, that no strange merchant sell no wyn within the franchise to no stranger upon payn of xls. of the seller, to be rered by the mayr withoute leve of the mayr.

“Also, that all manner of goods, as vitaylis or merchandyse, taken over the see or broughte into the franchise and sold or howsed, and so as that gode is torned to merchaundise, the viteler therof schall pay malitote for that gode after the quantite as is of old tyme used.

“Also, it is ordyned by the mayr and commonalty, that the common weyghers, drowers, or porters of the town be charged by their othis duly and truly to certefye the mayor and the common clerke⁶ it to entre, in tyme of byndage and all other tymys of the yer, from whom, whether, and how moche wyne, oyl, hony, wax, or any other merchaundise tonned, pypyd, bareded, or bayled, that thay cary up, in payn of forfate their offyse, and eche of the porters to pay for that offense vjs. viijd., to be rered for defawte of certefying to the mayr.

“Also, that all manner chafer, merchaundise, and gods, what ever thay be, carried in the town and sold and retayled by honds, pay malitote as for soche gods of old tyme used.

“Also, that all men fraunchysed and deynsyns holdyng opyn schoppe pay for his schopp after the quantyte of the schopp; and yf thay hold more than on, pay for as many as every holde opend and severally parted.

“Also, that every man of the town that byeth any corn oute of the town or in the town, and selleth it agayn within Ing lond, schall pay of every some⁷ 1d.

⁶ Thomas Grevt was town clerk in 1427 and till 23 Hen. VI (1444); at Easter 1445, Thomas Westyn den of Hastings appears as his successor. Cotton, Julius, B. iv, p. 72.

⁷ The seame, sun, or horseload, required by the Statute of Assize, temp. Edw. I, to be a weight of 100 lb., by which so

many saleable articles were measured or weighed, says the Rev. John Webb (Roll of Richard de Swinfield, note, p. 116) “was a rude contrivance suited to miserable roads, over which no wheels could make way, and has been always adopted in mountainous districts.” I

"Also, that no man forstall no vitayle comyng into the townward, upon payn of iijs. iiij^d., and forfaytyng of the same vitaylis.

"Also, that no schapman straunger stond in the town in no place but in the markt place, upon pain of iiis. iiij^d., and that the ost of hym wharn hym of this ordynaunce, and that no schapman called hawkers be sofered no mor to go in the town to sell their schaffer.

"Also, that all manner schapmen and artificers that be no freeman pay double malitote, and that be countrolling of men of the same craft.

"Also, that no manner of straunger hold no schoppe or craft nor merchaundyse opyn in the town without leve of the mayr over a yer and a day, but he be made freman or make a fyne with the mayr, and also pay double malitote for his schaffer or art that he used.

"And that the mayr that is and for the tyme shall be governing se and ordayn that all gode and olde ordynaunces afor tyme made and now renewed be holden, kept, and susteyned, and that the payne afore singularly specyfyed be rered of the brekers of the ordynaunces, and that the mayr acompte of them so arered, and that he do duly and opynly this execucion; and for the faute of leve of the same payn at his acomptz to be charged with the same payn and of hym to be rered.

"Also, it is ordeyned that every fyscher bote of Pycardy comyng into the fraunchys pay at his first comyng in, to the eyde of the town vs. of sterlyng, and at every season that iche of them make and come into the fraunchys, pay and delyver to the mayr of the town iij makerells, yf so many be in the bote, as our men done (have done) with them.

"Also, that all manner straungers or fraunchysed sellyng belletts within the fraunchyse pay to the town of every M^l wode so sold within the fraunchyse or withoute, $\frac{1}{2}$ ^d.

"Also, of all manner schaffer, as wax, hony, frute, sope, oyle, or other schaffer that is sold, pay of the pownde iiij^d. of that part is notte stendid by the old malitote.

"Also, that no common woman dwelle in no strete of the town, but in the utmost parte of the town, upon payn of losyng and paying every quarter to the town her tyme abydyng ther in vis. viij^d., and xij^d. quarterly to the serjeante, to rere it or pay it hymself after he hathe knowledge; and that no common woman be found walkyng in the town after coverfeus⁸ upon payn of iijs. iiij^d., and that sche wher (wear) no hode within the town, upon payn of losyng it.

"Also, that no bocher ne other man throw no gore ne felth by syde the wallis, upon payn of iijs. iiij^d. to be rered of hym that so offendith therein.

"Also, that what man can prove or certefy the mayr of any man that casted any last or dong into the havyn, the prover therof shall have xij^d., and he that doth it to pay the sayd xij^d., and for that offence to pay to the town xxs.

"Hæc constit. (Sunday) iij die Appl, A^o R. R. Henrici VI^{ti} xvij^o (1440).

"Also, that no schyp ne vessell festen no rope on the common key, ne lay no(ne) above on lond to moor by, but he pay for every rope so layd on land

may add, that the roads must have been bad indeed, and the horses very indifferent, when 100 lb. was a load, whilst at the present day the winner of every Derby, at three years old, and running at full speed, carries 119 lb. The seam or horseload,

in Sussex, now means a measure or load of 8 bushels, which, of wheat, would weigh some 480 lb., or of oats 320 lb.

⁸ The curfew is still tolled at St. Clement's, Hastings.

1*d.*, what vessell so it be, at every tyme the vessell remevith thens and comithe agayn.

“Also that every man that occupyeth the key pay warfage, that is to say, for every tun wyn layd a land on the key, 1*d.*; for every tonn of other chafer, 1*d.*; for every bale of iiij*c.* and above, 1*d.*; for every iij*c.* and benethe, $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.*; for every berthens that ij men ber, $\frac{1}{4}$ *d.*; for every horslode, $\frac{1}{4}$ *d.*; for every whayne or cart lode that comythe on the key with wheles, $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.*; for stalage of iij^m beletts, $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.*; for every horse or grete best schypped or unschypped ther, 1*d.*; for viij shepe, 1*d.*; for every lode broght with an hors of what gode sumever it be, $\frac{1}{4}$ *d.*

“Also, that no vessell ley aboard the key on no side, but in tyme of lading or dyscharging the sayd vessell in lettyng of other vessels vetelers. And if it ly lenger to pay the wharfage at every tyme ii*d.* that the vessell is remeved. Alway avysed that no veteler be lett ne non other vessell to charge or dyscharge at the kay where most ese may ben by color or favor for the ij*d.*, bot that the vessels be remeved at all tyme necessarye and awayle to the warfage.”

In the same reign⁹ was issued this proclamation, to regulate the quiet and sanitary state of the town:—

“The Maire and Jurats of Wynchelse chargen and comaunden in our sovereigne lord the Kyng’s behalf, that no manner persones or persone, of what degre or condicion that they or he be, make any assembles, insurreccions, congregacions, or affynitees, contrary to the statute theruppon ordeyned and established, upon payne in the same conteigned.

“Also that no manner persone within this towne holdyng any hostrye or otherwise, logge any persone suspected, vacabound, ne estranger, lenger than one nyght and one day withoute a cause resonable accordyng to the statute, upon payne in the same statute conteigned, or ellis to geve the maire of this seid town enknowleche therof, upon payne of imprisonment.

“Item, that no manner persones play at tenyse, dyse, cards, quoit, nor at the bowlys, nor at any other unlawfull game in the strete, nor at the towne grene, upon payne of every persone so founde playing xij*d.*, as ofte as they soo play.

“Item, that no manner persones lete their hoggs to renne at large in the strets of this town contrarie to the auncient usages and custumes aforetyme usyd and acustumed, upon payne of sleing of the same hoggs.

“Item, that al manner persones havyng any shepe, suffre not them to rome at large in the strets, but only to kepe them close in pastures, upon payn of every poll $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* to be payde withouten any pardon.

“Item, that all bouchers slee ne selle any unholosom ne corrupt vitail, upon payne of every ridder¹⁰ best so slayn iij*s.* iiij*d.*, and every other best xij*d.*; nor that the said bouchers kepe their vitail upon ther stalle lenger then it be good and holosom for the King’s liege people, upon payne of imprisonment.

“Item, that no manner (man) were ne bere any sword, byllys, ne glevys, or any other unfeull wepyn, upon payne of imprisonment and forfeiture of the same unfeull wepyn.

“Item, that no manner persone dwellyng within this town, being no fran-

⁹ Cotton, Julius, B. iv, fol. 26.

¹⁰ Full-grown, finished, or fatted.

chised, broche any wyne without licence of the maier, upon payne of every pipe of wyne so broched iijs. iiij*d.*

“Item, that all bouchers from hensforth cast no blood ne other corrupcion of soche best as they slee in Mondayez market, ne upon the pendantz of this town, nor in the strets of the same, upon payne of imprisonment.

“Item, that no manner man cast any dung, thust, or caren over the town wall, upon payne of lesyng of iiij*d.* and hys body to prison; and that no man make any dunghylls in the strets nor afore their dooris, nor to cast any caren in the strets, upon payne of forfeitur of xij*d.*; and that every man avoyde all soche dunghylls as ben now in the strets and afore their dooris by Whitsontyde next comyng, upon payn of losyng of vis. viij*d.* to be paide withoute any pardon.

“Item, that all the bakers of this town bake from hensforth onys in the weke ferdyng¹¹ brede, yf they bake any what brede, upon payn of xij*d.* as ofte as thei doo the contrie.

“Item, that no man dyg nor undremyn any sand of the pendants, undre y^e town walls, upon payn of vjs. viij*d.*”

Compurgation.—It is from the Cotton MS. that Sir Francis Palsgrave¹² took the inquisition, tried on Sunday, 24th April, 13 Henry VI (1435), on the death of Alyce Colynborough, when Agnes Archer was allowed to be cleared by the oath of *Compurgation* of twelve out of thirty-six good and lawful men duly summoned; but Sir Francis was unable to find the mode in which the jury were summoned. The same case is mentioned in Egglestone's return as taken out of the parchment book of the hundred court holden on Sunday, 24th April, before Thomas Thunder, Mayor; and in the 6th clause of the Custumal,¹³ the mode of summoning the jury, and of proceeding, is thus given:—

Acquittance of a Felon.—It is ordained in the usages of Winchelsea, that when a man ought to be acquitted by thirty-six men, that first the names of the thirty-six men shall be delivered to the bailiff by the man who is appealed, in writing, and those thirty-six men ought to be called by their names; and if any of them, when called, be absent and answer not, then the man that is appealed shall be put to death. And if they all appear, and answer by name, the which being called then of the king's grace that shall be the best twelve of the said thirty-six men, and the grace of the mayor and of the sworn men, twelve, so that the mayor and bailiff of them all chuse twelve, the which left them, to swear what the man, who is appealed, shall swear on a book, that he is not guilty of that which he is appealed of, as God him help, and the Holy Church, and so kiss the book. After that the twelve men that have been chosen to swear shall confirm the same oath, that the man appealed made, and so the man appealed to quit. If any of the twelve men withdraw their

¹¹ Probably “fourth” class, or the most common brown bread.

¹² Julius, B. iv, 57 b.; App. to Eng. Commonwealth, cxvii.

¹³ Cooper's Winchelsea, p. 219.

hands, and will not swear, then shall he who is appealed be put to death; and if he be acquit, then shall the apellor be attached, by his body, and all his goods, to the will of the king."

Shipping.—The expeditions which sailed for the relief of Normandy during the last struggle to retain it in English hands, sailed from Southampton, Sandwich, and Winchelsea, and some of the ships of this port were employed in the service. At Southampton was employed, in 17 Henry VI, the *Mary*, 120 tons, William Morfote, owner, receiving 100*s.*; whilst there were in the service of the Earl of Shrewsbury and the Duke of York with their troops, the former of whom embarked in the same year at Winchelsea¹⁴—

| | | | |
|-------------------|------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| The <i>Mary</i> | . 100 tons | . Robert Johnson, master | . Pay, £4. |
| <i>Grace Dieu</i> | 50 „ | . John Pratt „ | . „ 53 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i> |
| <i>Peter</i> | 70 „ | . Robert Briggenden „ | . „ 53 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i> |

And in 20 Henry VI, the Earl of Shrewsbury again embarked here, and Goddard Pulham, the Mayor, was reimbursed the expenses incurred by the town in keeping the forces here previously to their embarkation.

Executions.—Of old the persons condemned to death were to be executed in the Salt Marsh, on the north part of the town; but EDWARD IV having, by the general charter of the Cinque Ports,¹⁵ granted a license to each port to set up a gallows, we find that on 10th February, 5 Edward IV (1466), John Copeland, on being convicted before Thomas Thunder, Mayor, of felony, was sentenced to “be taken to the prison of the king, by the middle of the King’s-street, and to be thence taken beyond the gate in the south marsh, and to be there suspended on the gallows by the neck till he was dead.”¹⁶ The sentence was carried out; and this is the first recorded use of what is still named the Gallows Field, overlooking the Pewes Marsh. The gate is curiously enough named, as in London, New-Gate.

Decay of the Town.—I have also to note additional evidence, that after the last attack by the French (1449), this unfortunate town very soon fell to decay. In the Supplementary

¹⁴ Issue Roll, Rolls House MSS., 17th Hen. VI, but not passed till Easter, 21 Hen. VI.

¹⁵ Egglestone’s Return.

¹⁶ *Ib.*

Tale to Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*,¹⁷ in the *Merchant's Second Tale*, or the *History of Beryng*, written towards the close of the fifteenth century, we find the following on the fall of once-important towns:—

“ But sith that terrene things ben nat perdurabil,
 No mervaille is, though Rome be somewhat variabil
 Fro honour and fro well, sith his frendes passid;
 As many another town is payrid and y-lassid,
 Within these few yeris, as we mow se at eye,
 Lo, Sirs, here fast by Wynchelse and Ry.”

In the expedition of Henry VIII against France, 1545, the ships of the English fleet, in case of difficulty, proposed to avail themselves of the roadstead at the Camber, under cover and protection afforded by the new castle.

In this expedition, on 10th Aug. 1545, there were employed no Winchelsea boats, but the following boats of Rye¹⁸ were engaged:—

FOR THE VANWARDE.

Thomas Robertes . . . *The Mary George* . . . 140 tons and 115 men.

FOR THE WYNG.

| Capitaynes. | Boats of Rye. | Men. |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|------|
| Andrewe Churche . . . | <i>The George</i> | 37 |
| William Blakye . . . | „ <i>Mawdalen</i> | 37 |
| Black Jonson | „ <i>Jhesus</i> | 30 |
| John Bredes | „ <i>James</i> | 30 |
| James Jonson | „ <i>Mary George</i> | 30 |
| David North | „ <i>Trinitie</i> | 30 |
| John Emery | „ <i>Mary James Fletcher</i> | 30 |
| | and | 224 |
| Olyver Burton | <i>The Mary of Hastings</i> | 32 |

Three boats of Rye had been also employed to watch the French coast; and on 9th August, Lisle gives to Paget the account of how one master was chased after he had seen six ships and one hundred other sail:—“This ys one of the beste botes of Rye, and he that ys owner and capitayne in her, ys name ys Andrew Kyrke. I do think verily, that the pour man saw no less than he sheweth, for he ys notyd to be a very honest true man.”¹⁹ The king's ships with victuals were

¹⁷ Percy Soc., ed. T. Wright, vol. iii, p. 216, v. 749.

¹⁸ State Papers, vol. i, 812.

¹⁹ Ibid. 809.

off Rye; and on 14th September there were discharged with the boats of Rye, for their fishing, one hundred and fifty-two men.

In the time of Elizabeth, although the town was gone wholly to decay, the inhabitants sought to extend their privileged exemptions. On 25th April, 1582, Harberd Pelham, Esq., was called before the council, and questioned why he refused to take on himself the office of sheriff of Sussex; and he justified his refusal because he had been persuaded that, as he was then inhabiting Wynchelsey within the liberty of the Cinque Ports, he was discharged by the charters of the ports from all offices out of those liberties; but he now confessed he was wrong, and was thereupon dismissed without punishment at that time, "for that he had been before committed by the Lord Treasurer to the Marshalsea, where he had remained a month and two days;" but Edmund Pelham, of Gray's Inn, was committed to the Fleet for "boldness and offence," in his defence of Harberd Pelham before the council.²⁰

When the Spanish fleet was expected the inhabitants could not muster a vessel for the royal service, and made this return:²¹—

"To the Right Honorable Sir William Brooke of the famous order of the Garter, knight, one of the most honorable Privy Council, Constable of her Majesty's Castle of Dover; Lord Cobham, Lord Warden, Chancellor and Admirall of the cinque ports and their members, or to his lieutenant, the maior and jurats of Wynchelsey, with all reverence, send greeting.

"*Wynchelsey ss.*: We have received a lettre directed from your honor, together with a mandat from your sayd lieutenant, for the due executinge of the contents of the sayd lettre, and thereuppon we do certefy and retorne unto your honor that there are not belonginge to the towne of Winchelsey any shippes, barkes, or vessels, nor yet any masters and able mariners therein, but onely one sayler, by name William Buxstone, which ys now in a voyage to Rochell." Endorsed: "The answer of the maior and jurats of Wynchelsey, under the seale of office of maioralty there the vth day of February, A^o. R. Elizabeth xxix^o, A^o Dni. 1586."

At this time the return from other places was—

| | | | | |
|----------|----------------|-------------|-------------|---------------------------|
| Hastings | . ships, 15 | tons, 474 | masters, 15 | able-bodied mariners, 106 |
| Rye | „ 45 | „ | 30 | „ 149 |
| Sandwich | „ 43 | „ 1216 | | |
| Hythe | „ 10 | | | 58 |

²⁰ Murdin's State Papers, p. 371.

²¹ MSS., State Paper Office, Domestic, 1587, No. 56.

In August 1587, the following ships of the ports were appointed to serve her Majesty:²²—

| Ports. | Ships. | Tons. | Men. | Wages and Victuals per month. |
|--|--------|-------|-------|-------------------------------|
| Dover | 5 . | 396 . | 249 . | £332 0 0 |
| Sandwich | 4 . | 190 . | 160 . | 213 6 8 |
| Rye (<i>The Blessing of God</i> , 80 tons, & <i>Diamond</i> , 40) } } 2 . | 2 . | 120 . | 95 . | 126 13 4 |
| Faversham | 1 . | 40 . | 30 . | 40 0 0 |
| Hythe | 1 . | 80 . | 50 . | 66 13 4 |
| Totals | 13 . | 826 . | 584 . | £778 13 4 |

By the certificate of the Lord Warden, dated October 1587, the following were all the barks of the ports:²³—

| Ports. | Ships. | Particulars of Tonnage. | Masters. | Mariners. |
|-------------------------|--------|---|----------|-----------|
| Sandwich | 40 | Two being of 60 tons, and going down to 3 tons. | 40 | 62 |
| Deal | 5 | Largest, 5 tons | 5 | 30 |
| Walmer | 4 | Of 3 tons each | 2 | 6 |
| Ramsgate | 12 | Ranging from 19 to 5 tons . | 14 | 66 |
| Dover | 26 | One of 120 tons, one of 100, and one of 70 tons. | 26 | 150 |
| Margate | } 12 | One of 40 tons, and one of 28. | 14 | 50 |
| St. Peter's | | | | |
| Birchington (none) | | | | |
| Hastings | 20 | One of 42 tons, one of 37, three of 36, and the remainder down to 12 tons. | 32 | 136 |
| Rye (barkes and boats) | 34 | <i>The Blessing of God</i> , of 80 tons, was one; and of the remainder, 22 boats with 221 men and 140 boys were at Yarmouth, fishing. | 34 | 291 |
| Brightlingsea | 12 | | 16 | 47 |
| Hythe | 10 | | 3 | 19 |
| Lydd | 8 | | 8 | 22 |
| Winchelsea | 1 | <i>The John</i> of 20 tons, of which Nicholas Penbough and John Lovell were masters, and Robert Pevenshe, John Brown, James Lever, and Nicholas Barnonfield, were able-bodied mariners. | 2 | 4 |
| Faversham | 26 | | 23 | 34 |
| Folkstone | 4 | | 9 | 35 |
| New Romney | 0 | | 0 | 0 |
| Seaford | 0 | | 0 | 0 |
| Pevensay | 0 | | 0 | 0 |
| Totals | 214 | | 228 | 952 |

²² MSS., State Paper Office, Domestic, 1587, No. 422.

²³ Ibid, No. 452.

And on 15th January 1595-6, a meeting was held at Rye to determine as to the division among the western ports of two ships out of the four of 160 tons each imposed on the ports for the Queen's service, when it was agreed that one ship of 160 tons should be prepared, of which Rye was to bear the charge of 50 tons, Romney and Hastings 40 tons each, Winchelsea 15 tons, and Seaford 8 tons; and £300 were ordered to be levied in Hastings for their expenses of the 40 tons.²⁴

In the Commonwealth we have the testimony of John Evelyn²⁵ as to the complete ruin and melancholy state of the town. On 4th June 1652, he says, "I went to Rie to meet her" (his wife), "where was an embargo on occasion of the late conflict wth the Holland fleete, the 2 nations being now in warr, and which made sailing very unsafe. On Whitsunday I went to the Church (w^{ch} is a very faire one) and heard one of their Canters, who dismiss'd the assembly rudely and without any blessing.²⁶ Here I stay'd till the 10th with no small impatience, when I walk'd over to survey the ruines of Winchelsea, that ancient Cinq Port, which by the remaines and ruines of ancient streetes and public structures discovers it to have been formerly a considerable and large City. There are to be seene vast caves and vaults, walls and towers, ruins and monasteries, and a sumptuous Church, in which are some handsome monuments, especially of the Templars buried just in the manner of those in the Temple at London. This place being now all in rubbish, and a few despicable hovells and cottages onely standing, hath yet a Major. The Sea w^{ch} formerley render'd it a rich and commodious port has now forsaken it,"²⁷

The Fair however, which was granted to John de Ghestlinges, one of the justices of the courts at Westminster,²⁷ in

²⁴ Hastings Corporation Records.

²⁵ Diary, ed. 1818, vol. i, p. 259.

²⁶ Most probably the Rev. Thos. Allen, who was one of the ejected ministers. (Calamy's *Life of Baxter*, vol. ii, p. 693.) After the vicar, Thos. Warren, as given in Mr. Holloway's list (Rye, page 527) under the date of 1618, Brian Twyne, son of Dr. Thos. Twyne, was vicar. He was vicar on 4th July, 1620, and had a musquet furnished (Harl. MSS. 703, p. 169b).

The vicarage was sequestered from him to John Beaton (Book of Plundered Ministers), whose two sons, John Beaton of Kirdford, and Nehemiah Beaton of Little Horsted, were ejected under the Act of Uniformity of 1660 (*Life of Baxter*, vol. ii, p. 685). In 1628-9, William Huet, and in 1631, Abreyer Hexber, were ministers at Rye, but whether vicars or curates I know not.

²⁷ Foss' Judges, vol. ii, p. 350.

1209, to be holden in his fee near Old Winchelsea on 3rd May, and the market, which was in 1215 transferred into the old town to be held before the church of the blessed Thomas, were taken to the new town. The fair was regularly held on 3rd May till the change of style, since which it has been holden on 14th May. It must have been well attended down to the close of the seventeenth century. Mr. Jeake, jun., in his *Diary* (p.180), says, "1694, May 3, I went to Winchelsea fair to speak to several debtors of my own and my mother's to pay in their debts, and to inquire whether I could borrow any sums. I met with Mr. Weekes, who promised to lend me £100 next week, and Thomas Hunt, who said he would bring me £50 in part of the debt he owed me."

ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY—*Alard Chantry*.—I am enabled, by the kindness of Mr. Joseph Hunter, V.P. Soc. Ant., to give the date and particulars of the foundation of this chantry. It was founded in 1312 by Stephen Alard, son of Nicholas Alard and Isabel his wife, and in 1324 Captain and Admiral of the Cinque Ports and of the king's western fleet.²⁸ The patronage was in the Abbey of Langedone, Kent, in which it remained till the voluntary surrender of that house to Henry VIII. The Cartulary of Langedone,²⁹ among the *Carlt. Ho. Ride MSS.*, shows that by indenture dated 23rd May 1312 (Tuesday after of the feast of the Holy Trinity, 5 Edward II), made between William Abbot of Langedone of the one part, and Stephen Alard of Winchelsea of the other part, it was agreed, in consideration of £200 paid by Alard to the abbot, that the necessary authority should be obtained, and that the abbot and brethren should maintain for ever two chaplains with £10 yearly payment, to celebrate in the chapel of the Blessed Mary, in the church of St. Thomas the Martyr at Winchelsea, and in the chantry by the said Stephen³⁰ there founded, daily service, that is, morning mass at the accustomed hours, vespers and *placebo* and *dirige*, for the souls of the said Stephen and Nicholas his father, and Alice his wife, and Isabel his mother, and all his ancestors: the said Stephen finding, for the first service, two chalices, two vest-

²⁸ Rot. Litt. Claus, p. 237.

²⁹ Fols. 171-173.

³⁰ This circumstance adds some weight

to my suggestion, that the second monument in the southern aisle or Alard chantry was erected to this Stephen Alard.

ments, and one portifore,³¹ and the abbot one missal, and bread, wine, and candles; afterwards the abbey was to find all bread, wine, vestments, ornaments, and necessaries of the chantry, and the abbot and his successors were to be visitors. The necessary authority was obtained in Trinity term, and on 15th June, 1312 (Thursday next after the feast of St. Barnabas), the abbot gave the bond of the abbey for payment of £10 a year to the chaplains, with powers of distress on the abbey manors of Lydney and Enebroke. Alard also enfeoffed the abbey, for the use of the chaplains, with a house lately belonging to his father, and formerly Jolinet's (18th quarter), the feoffment being witnessed by William Seman, William Pace, Vincent Herberd, Henry Pawlen, John Reynold, Robert Alard, Benedict Alard, John Colkyn, John de Garde, William de Bernefelde, William de Swancombe, William Loterih, and many others.

On 20th December 1430, William Skylle, who had been mayor and member of parliament, granted £2 a year to Sir John Hylle and Sir William Pyngate, then chaplains of the chantry or college of St. Nicholas, in the church of St. Thomas, for prayers for the souls of his father William and Isabel his wife, and for the souls of all the faithful departed.³²

In July 1432, the arrangements were completed for the conveyance of land given by John Salerne, who had also been member for the town, one-third of the rent to be applied towards the sustenance of the church of St. Thomas the Martyr, another third towards the support of the church of St. Giles, and the remaining third towards the repairs of the town-walls.³³

In Cardinal Pole's *Book of Pensions*, at Carl. House Ride, 26th February, 2 and 3 Philip and Mary (1556), there is noticed the pension of £6. 13s. 4d. to Oliver Stacey, late incumbent of the chantry at Winchelsea.

FAMILIES.—*Oxenbridge*, of Ford Place, Brede; and Winchelsea.—The facilities now offered by the Master of the Rolls for the examination of public records for literary purposes,

³¹ Moveable service-book, or breviary.

³² Cotton. MS., Julius, B. iv, fol. 40.

³³ *Ib.*, fols. 45 b, 47. His will is dated 29th May, 1433. His feoffees were William Echingham, Robert Oxenbridge, John Massyngham, John Helde, and John Belynge; he left two daughters his

coheirs,—Margaret, married to Stephen Chaumpayne, and Johanna, married to William Catton, M.P. for the town in 1414 and 1426, Bailiff from 1424 to 1430, and himself a benefactor to the town in 6th Hen. VI.

and the permission given to me by Sir Francis Palgrave, the Deputy Keeper, have enabled me to discover and give many particulars of this family which were heretofore beyond my reach (except at a cost too heavy for a literary student). Mr. Thomas Frewen has lent me his early charters and deeds; the Court Rolls of Brightling have given me some particulars; and York Herald and Somerset Herald have so kindly aided my inquiries at the College of Arms that I am enabled to print a fuller and more perfect pedigree than is given by Berry in his *Hants*. If the authorities at the Prerogative Office in Doctors' Commons would as freely open their stores, a very interesting family history might be written, for there are wills of the Oxenbridges proved there, to procure office copies of which would require a heavy expense, increased from the very cause that the wills are old, and therefore mainly of literary interest,³⁴ and no extracts (except the date and names of executors) are allowed to be taken.

The family of Oxenbridge derived their name from Acken, Oaken, or Oxene-bridge. In the latter form (Oxenebrug) it occurs in a Saxon charter for Dorsetshire, given in Mr. Kemble's *Codex Diplomaticus*, No. 397; and in the time of Edward III, in Sussex; John de Oxenebrigge having been a juror on an Inquisition relating to the Echinghams taken 6th July 1329.³⁵ The residence of this John, who is the first of the family of whom I have found a notice in Sussex, was Atte Gate in Beckley, on the river Tillingham, a place about half way between Udimore and Beckley churches; and the family name still exists in a farm of some hundred acres at Iden. In 1341, John was one of the jurors on the Nonæ Inquisition; and on 5th January 1363, Geoffry, by a deed dated at Beckley, to which John Oxenbridge was a witness, released his right in a pasture in Beckley called Elysebregge to John Maynard.³⁶

The family resided at Beckley till the time of Richard II, when one branch having, according to Leland, married the heiress of Alard (the admiral) and assumed his arms; and having also purchased Ford Place in Brede of Joan atte Forde,

³⁴ In addition to the wills now cited by me there exist in the office, wills of the following members of the family, viz., John and Godfrey Oxenbridge (Reg. 1593-6), Thomas (Reg. 1501-3), Robert

(Reg. 1503-5), William (Reg. 1549-40), Sir Robert (Reg. 1573-4), and John (Reg. 1574-5).

³⁵ Hall's Echingham, p. 11.

³⁶ Add. Charters, Brit. Mus. No. 971.

removed thither. From the latter end of the fourteenth century, when they began thus to flourish, and throughout the whole of the fifteenth and the first half of the sixteenth centuries, when they were of considerable importance in Sussex, the Oxenbridges were connected with Winchelsea. Here they had a town residence; and both the houses of Friars here received their pious benefactions, though the Gray Friars was evidently the favourite house, receiving the larger bequests, and having in 1497 the free return, under Adam Oxenbridge's will, of their chalice, which had been pledged to him for 30*s*. Members of the family filled most of the offices in the county, and acted as Commissioners of Embankment. Fuller (in his *Worthies*, p. 113) mentions William Oxenbridge (of Beckley) and John Oxenbridge (of Sedlescombe) as Commissioners of Oaths for the county in 1433.

Their brother, *Robert Oxenbridge*, in 1404, owned property in Northiam, a part of which (the Parke and Bromfeld) he conveyed to Henry Gotele in 1414;³⁷ in 1415 he was in the commission of Array for Sussex; in 1414, 1415, and 1421, he was a Commissioner for Embankments; on 2d August 1429, he was a feoffee for other property of the Goteles;³⁸ on Nov. 11, 1430, he was feoffee to uses of the will of John Salerne of Winchelsea;³⁹ from 1st Dec. 1430 to 9th Dec. 1431, he was escheator for the county;⁴⁰ in 7th Henry VI, he and William Oxenbridge were parties to a charter relating to land in Bekenham;⁴¹ and he held from the crown for his life, at a rent of 20*s*., the manor of Iham. We learn that he was dead on 6th September 1433, and that his son Robert was his executor, by an inquisition taken at Robertsbridge on that day, to inquire into the waste that had been committed at Iham by cutting down thirty oaks, which could not have been of great size, as the value was only 13*s*. 4*d*.⁴² He probably married the heiress of the family of *Ore*, whose arms with their quartering for *Hopton* have been since borne by the Oxenbridge family; and we know the name of the wife in every marriage later than this.

Of his son, *Robert Oxenbridge* of Brede, and his property,

³⁷ Frewen's Deeds.

³⁸ *Ibid*.

³⁹ Julius, B. iv, p. 426.

⁴⁰ Carl. Ho. Ride MSS.

⁴¹ Harl. Charters, 112, c. ii.

⁴² Inq., Carl. Ho. Ride.

we have particulars somewhat more ample. He was called Jun^r. and his father Sen^r. in 1419, in a charter relating to Whitfeld Marsh. He purchased Bixle in 1459; in 1458 and 1465 he was Commissioner for Embankments, and in 1474 for settling the ordinances of Romney Marsh. In 1459 he was jurat of Winchelsea;⁴³ and in 1483 he was a freeman residing at Brede. By his will dated 16th April 1483, he directed his body to be buried in the chapel of the Blessed Virgin Mary, in the church of St. George at Brede, to the high altar of which he gave 6s. 8d., and to the church a missal, chalice, and set of vestments. He also gave 20s. to the shrine of St. Richard at Chichester, and 6s. 8d. each to the Friars Minors and Dominican Friars of Winchelsea, and to the Brothers of Rye; and appointed Anne his wife, and Thomas his son, executors.

In the testament dated 18th October 1482, the testator mentions his wife's brother Robert Lyvelode;⁴⁴ and he gave his house at Forth, and his lands in Brede and Udimore, to his wife for life, or till her second marriage, she keeping the children: in case of her marriage she was to have an annuity of £20 a year; after her death or marriage, these lands were given to his son Thomas. To his son Adam, and Agnes his wife, he gave his tenement in Southwark, called the White Horse. To his son Godard his property in Winchelsea, and lands in Southwark worth £10 a year. To his son Robert he gave his lands in Icklesham and Guestling, purchased of Henry Hall, Robert Alard, and John Paulyn. Robert was to pay Godard £4 yearly till he had lands, &c., in Southwark worth the £10 a year. Thomas was devisee of the residue of the property, and was to pay 10 marks a year to the testator's son John (a clerk) till he should obtain a benefice worth £10 a year. The testator died on 9th March 1487, and was buried, according to his desire, in the Lady Chapel. His will was proved at Lambeth by his widow and eldest son on 11th December 1488. She died on 27th February 1493-4, and was buried by the side of her husband. Her figure, in graceful flowing robes, yet remains in a brass on the floor: the figure of her husband has however disappeared. The shield of her arms also remains: *on a saltier five fleur-de-lis, the centre in pale, the others bendways.*

⁴³ Batt. Abb. Rec. p. 115.

⁴⁴ Adam Livelode was M.P. for Rye in 1449.

Thomas Oxenbridge, the eldest son, was a lawyer of some note. He seems at first to have been fully in the confidence of Richard III, for he was in all the Sussex commissions of the peace and array issued by that king;⁴⁵ but he afterwards gave in his adhesion to Henry VII, and was elected one of the new serjeants-at-law on 10th September, 11th Henry VII,⁴⁶ and the king and queen and chief lords dined on 16th November at the serjeants' feast of that year, which was holden at the Bishop of Ely's palace in Holborn.⁴⁷

There are some charters relating to him as trustee of the Gunters, and as connected with the Fynes family, in the *Harl. Charters* (53 F, 5-6, &c.), *temp.* Hen. VII.

By his will dated 12th Nov. 1496, and proved at Lambeth 8th February following, he directed his body to be buried in holy sepulchre as it should please Almighty God, and gave 13*s.* 4*d.* to the parson of the church of Brede towards the "glassing" of his chancel. He also gave an annuity of 10 marks for seven years to Sir Robert Body, clerk, to sing masses and pray for him in the church of Brede, or in the chapel in his house of Forde. He gave to his wife Anne his saltcellars (silver-gilt), a gilt cup, and three large powis⁴⁸ cups, pierced. He also gave a standing cup to his godson, Francis Fynes, provided his lord would be good lord to and assist the executors, to ensure which the cup was to be kept seven years after his decease by his executors; to Master Thomas Fynes a cross, with a crucifix of gold; to his brother Goddard his standing silver cup, with three angels; to his brother Robert a standing silver cup, grained, with a bird at the top, covered; to his brother John his crimson gown, furred with martens; to his sister Margaret Cheyne a large cup; and to his brother Robert his doublet of silk of his own wearing, and his gown of cotton, furred. He gave 10 marks to the repair of the bridge at Robertsbridge; 40*s.* towards the repairs of the roads between Herste Cross and Robertsbridge; and 10 marks for repair of the roads between Rye and Brede-high. He

⁴⁵ On 8th November 1483 he was one of the commissioners to take the castle of Bodiam from the rebels; he had also granted to him the custody of the lands of Richard, late Lord Dacre, and the wardship and marriage of the grandson and heir, Thomas; and on 10th April 1484 he

was in a special commission for trials in the Cinque ports.—*9th Rep. of Deputy Keeper of Pub. Rec.*, pp. 18, 31, 35, 104, 107, 141, 146. ⁴⁶ *Dug. Chron.* p. 75.

⁴⁷ *Holinshed*, p. 779, quoting *Stow*.

⁴⁸ Powys, in Welsh, is the state of being at rest, or stationary.—*Pughe's Dict.*

also gave cattle or kine to his wife and to his servants, leaving likewise to one the saddle and horse on which that servant rode. He appointed the parson of Brede, and his brothers Robert and Goddard, executors. And by his testament he bequeathed to his wife Anne his house at Ford and most of his lands in Brede (except his newly inned marsh at Winchelsea Ferry) till her second marriage, or till his heir male should reach twenty-four years of age, after which she was to have an annuity of £50 (being £30 more than his mother's jointure). He disposed of other property to his brothers, and among other estates the land purchased by him of Goddard, Thomas, John, and William, sons of George Oxenbridge. He also gave to his servant Thomas Londeney⁴⁹ land at Fairlight; and a messuage at Westfield, with a request that the then tenant should be allowed still to occupy it at the old rent.

To the serjeant we are most probably indebted for the painted arms of the family which formerly existed in the windows of Brede church, and which are now in the window over the Frewen pew in Northiam church. His son (if any) could not have attained the age of twenty-four years, for the serjeant's brother Goddard succeeded to the property of Brede, but I have not been able to find any Inquisition on the serjeant.

The brother who died next was *Adam Oxenbridge* of Rye, who, with his wife Agnes, on 10th December 1484, became lessees under the Priory of Hastings of land in Icklesham.⁵⁰ By his will dated 26th September 1496, and proved at Lambeth 4th November following, he directed his body to be buried in our Lady's Chapel at Rye, giving a sum to the high altar there, and sums for the reparations of Rye and Icklesham churches. He also left legacies to the Austin Friars of Rye; to the Friars of Lostenham,⁵¹ and to the Grey Friars of Winchelsea, to whom he also left their chalice pledged to him for 30s. He mentions as legatees his daughter Anne, and his sons Robert and John: to the sons, on attaining twenty-one, he left property at Icklesham and Winchelsea,

⁴⁹ By his will dated 11th April 1511, this Thomas Londeney charged his lands in Fairlight, Westfield, and Battle, with 13s. 4d. for ten years for an obit; and he gave 33s. 4d. to a priest to sing divine service for his soul and all Christian souls

in Brede church by the quarter of a year. *Burr. MSS.* 5697.

⁵⁰ Add. Charters, Brit. Mus. No. 974.

⁵¹ Carmelites, or White Friars of Lostenham, in Newenden, Kent, founded by the Alchers. Nich. Alcher had married an Oxenbridge.

but he devised his tenement called the White Horse in Southwark, and his property in Newington, and several parishes in Sussex, to his wife for life, and then to his son Robert and his heirs, with remainder to his son John; and he appointed his wife Anne and his brother John executors.

Sir Goddard Oæxenbridge, Knt., succeeded to the estate at Ford, and added not only largely to his own estate but to the position of his family by marrying—first, Elizabeth, daughter and coheir of Sir Thomas Echingham, Knt.; and, secondly, Anna, daughter of Sir Thomas Fynes, brother of Lord Dacre. On his first marriage, the wife's share of the Echingham estates was conveyed to Sir William Pelham, Knt., Giles Fynes, Richard Devenish, and Christopher Hales, Esqrs., Thomas Foster, gentleman, and John Bradford, as feoffees to the use of Sir Goddard and Elizabeth, and the heirs of their bodies. These estates consisted of the manors of Munfeld, Etchingham, and Salehurst, and lands in Munfeld, Glottynham, Etchingham, Ockham, Salehurst, Brightling, Beckley, Crowhurst, Catsfield, Burwash, Enham, and Udimore, together with the patronage of the church of Etchingham.⁵² By the Inquisition p.m. it was found that the same feoffees held for him and his heirs the manors of Forde, Enham, and Gyles, and lands in Brede, Udimore, and Burwash, and also the manors of Danehurst, Coseley, and Ottingham, and lands in Northiam, Peasmarsh, Playden, Salehurst, Ticehurst, Westfield, Icklesham, and Monfield; and that Sir Thomas Fynys, Knt., Lord Saye, Giles Fynys, and Robert Hall,⁵³ Esquires, were feoffees to the use of Sir Goddard and his heirs of Snayleham, Gravehurst, Globys, and Corner in Guestling.

Sir Goddard was sheriff of Surrey and Sussex in 1506, 1512, and 1519; and on 24th May 1522 he was one of the knights, &c. summoned to attend the Lord Legate (Wolsey) at Canterbury, and formed part of the retinue of the Cardinal on the landing of the Emperor Charles V, at Dover, two days after.⁵⁴ By his will dated 17th June 1530, and proved at Lambeth on 27th October 1531, Sir Goddard directed his body

⁵² Inq. p.m., taken at Lewes, 7th Oct. 23 Hen. VIII (1531). Among the jurors were Edmund Alfrey, Thomas Bridges, John Garton, Richard Bowyer, James Collis, John Payne, and John Harmon.

⁵³ Robert Hall, of Hastings, the owner of Halland, in Easthoathly.

⁵⁴ Rym. Fœd. vi, pt. 1, p. 204; Rutland Papers, Camd. Soc. p. 72.

to be buried in our Lady's Chapel at Brede, provided he died there or near it, and that a tomb should be set up there with his coat armour, and the ensigns of knighthood. He gave 20 marks to be distributed at or immediately after his funeral; to the high altar he gave 6s. 8d., and towards the reparations of Brede church 5 marks; to the shrine of St. Richard at Chichester, 20d.; towards the reparations of Echingham church, 20s.; to the church and house of the Grey Friars, Winchelsea, 20s.; to the Black Friars there, 6s. 8d., and like sums to the Friars of Rye and of Losenham; to his wife he gave half his household stuff and furniture, a gilt goblet with cover, a gilt bowl, and a silver bowl uncovered, a salt of silver also covered, and a dozen silver spoons at her choice; to his daughter Elizabeth a gilt bowl of silver; to his daughters Mary and Margery each a white bowl of silver; to his son William a white bowl, and to his son Robert a gilt bowl; and to his sons William and Robert and his three daughters, in equal shares, the other half of his household stuff. He directed that a priest should say masses for his own soul and for all Christian souls in the church at Brede, or in the chapel of his house at Forde, for seven years, receiving £4 a year and his meat and drink at Forde Place. He gave to his cousin Robert Hall his black ambling nag, which he rode himself; to his wife Anne her gelding; to his son William his grey gelding, which he had purchased of the vicar of Burwash; to his son Robert his little gray nag unbroken; to his wife he also gave six kine, and a fat steer at Easter; to each of his servants four months' employment or wages, and a black coat of cloth; and to each of his maiden servants a black cloth gown. He also gave to his sister Jane Fynys, and to his cosen William Hall a flat piece of silver.⁵⁵ He appointed as executors his friends Christopher Hales, the king's attorney (to whom he gave £10 for his trouble), and Thomas Foster of Winchelsea (to whom he gave £6. 13s. 4d.); and he named Lord Dacre of Hurstmonceux, with a legacy of £4, supervisor of his will, which was witnessed by Robert Hall, Esq., Robert Beddingham, warden of the Grey Friars of Winchelsea, and others.

In the Inquisition p.m. the devises of the real estates are

⁵⁵ Probably the large flat shilling of Henry VIII.

set forth at length. He gave to his wife Dame Anne, his principal mansion and tenement of Forth in the parish of Brede, and other lands and tenements in Brede, and his other lands in Sussex (except such as he had by that his will otherwise disposed of), she paying yearly to Robert Oxenbridge his son during her life 20 marks; and if she should marry, then Robert was to have such lands to him and his heirs for ever, and was to pay his mother an annuity of 40 marks; to John Bradford and Margaret his wife, and the heirs of their bodies, he gave a messuage and lands called Harries in Brede, containing twenty acres, and in case of failure of heirs then to his son Robert; to Richard Red, his servant, lands lately occupied by John Cheseman; and an annuity of 20*s.* to Daniel Dilgett, his servant. His executors were to stand possessed of his lands in Southwark and elsewhere in Surrey until his daughters were married; to William his son he gave 20 marks a year to be paid out of the profits, the remainder being applied towards the marriage portions of daughters; after all their marriages, William and his heirs were to have the Surrey estates; the profits of Snaylham and all his lands in Guestling and Icklesham, which John Toky then occupied at a rent £15. 6*s.* 8*d.*, and lands in Guestling which John Bachelor occupied, he gave to his executors till his daughters were married for their settlement, and then to his son William and his heirs; to his son Robert and his heirs he gave his messuage and garden in the town of Winchelsea; he also devised to his executors the profits of all his lands and tenements in Rye, Pleyden, and Beckley, Northiam, Ewhurst, Salehurst, Ticehurst, Burwash, Wesfield, and Hastings, and in Icklesham and elsewhere in Sussex, towards the marriage of his daughters, and afterwards to his son Robert and his heirs (except his tenement called Gyles and other lands in Burwash, which he gave to William). Each of his daughters was to have 100 marks for her dower over and above the marriage money to them willed by Master John Oxenbridge, clerk,⁵⁶ his brother. The profits of the lands were to be applied only if his personal estate should be insufficient after payment of his debts.

⁵⁶ On 23rd Feb. 1504, Master John Oxenbridge, LL.D., was presented by the abbey and convent of Ramsey to the

church of All Souls', in Shillingdon, in the archdeaconry of Bedford.—Wood's Fasti, Oxon. ed. Bliss. vol. i, p. 189.

The jurors found that the lands in Brede were held of the Abbess of Syon by the rent of £11. 1s. 6*d.*, and that the lands in Odymer were holden of Sir Edward Grey and others, and that Sir Goddard died on 10th February (1531); that Anna the widow died 24th May (1531); and that Thomas the eldest son was thirty years of age and upwards.

By the style of the architecture of the house at Brede, and as he for the first time calls it Forde Place, it may be assumed that Sir Goddard rebuilt the family mansion. The directions contained in his will as to the erection of a tomb were faithfully executed; and there stands against the south wall of the chancel of Forde Place his raised altar tomb in stone, with his figure lying on his back, his head resting on a helmet, his hands clasped over his breast, and a lion at his feet. On the base of the tomb are shields of the Oxenbridge arms; the same impaling *Echingham*; and the same impaling *Gu. three escallop shells ar. for Dacre*, above; and below *Az. three lions rampant, two and one, or, for Fienes*; the sinister side being in fact the 2nd and 4th quarters of a shield of Fienes and Dacre, dimidiated. The date on the wall at the back is 1537, when the tomb was probably erected. An excellent drawing taken in 1777, by Francis Grose, is in the Burrell MSS., No. 5697, p. 40.

Thomas Oxenbridge (the eldest son by the first wife) survived his father only nine years; and by an Inquisition p.m. taken at Echingham 15th July 1540, the jurors⁵⁷ found that he held nothing of the king *in capite*, but that he was seized in fee tail, that is to himself and the heirs of his body, and of a certain Elizabeth, lately his wife, and daughter of a certain Sir George Puttenham, Knight, of the manors of Echyngham and Salehurst in the county of Sussex, belonging to the heirs of Thomas Echingham, Knt., deceased, by virtue of an indenture made between the said George Puttenham, Knt., of the one part, and the said Thomas Oxenbridge and Goddard Oxenbridge, Knt., his father; and of an act of Parliament of the 27th year of the king; and that the said Thomas had issue by the body of the said Elizabeth his wife, one daughter, Elizabeth, then alive (and who afterwards married Sir Robert, eldest son of Sir William Tirwhit of Kettleby, in Lincoln-

⁵⁷ The jurors were Henry Upton, Goddard Crotyn, John Bynde, Alex. Colyn, John Colyn, Thomas Fowle, Wm. Hunt,

John Benett, Wm. Benett, Anthony Nash, Thomas Oxenbridge, Stephen Amenyr, Mark Brabon, and Thomas Glasyer.

shire); and that the said Elizabeth, the wife, about twelve years then since, died; and that the said Thomas Oxenbridge afterwards married a certain Faith Devenysh, daughter of Richard Devenysh,⁵⁸ and that the said Thomas and Faith were seized of the manors of Monfield and Glottingham and divers messuages and lands in Monfield, Salehurst, Crowhurst, and Brightling, and of 28*s.* rents arising out of Great Okeham and Little Okeham, late Robert Pond's, and Friggetts and Hoddenham, in the tenure of Thomas Humphrey; and of 13*s.* 4*d.* rents of assize out of divers tenements called Solmes, in the tenure of Edmund Roberts in Salehurst; and the jurors said that the said Faith survived the said Thomas Oxenbridge, and still survived at Huhenden, Bucks; and they found that the said Thomas was also seized in demesne as of his fee of the manor of Gyles in Burwash; and that all the said manors, &c. (except the manor of Gyles) went to the heirs of the said Thomas Echyngam;⁵⁹ and that the said Thomas had by the said Faith a son and heir, Andrew Oxenbridge, who was still living; and that all the said manors, &c., in Echingam, Salehurst, Monfeld, Glottingham, Ockham, Crowhurst, and Brightling, were held of George Earl of Huntingdon, as of his rape and honour of Hastings, by knight's service; and that the said manor of Gyles was holden of William Wyborne as of his manor of Burwash by fealty, suit of court, &c.; and further, that the manors of Echingam and Salehurst were worth £50 a year clear, and the other lands (except Gyles) £40 a year, and the manor of Gyles 47*s.* 8*d.* a year.

The jurors also found that the said Thomas Oxenbridge died on the 28th March then last, and that the said Andrew his son, at the time of taking the inquest, was five years old and upwards, and Elizabeth, his daughter, was eleven years old and upwards. The son Andrew was of Trinity College, Cambridge, and public orator in 1561; he afterwards became an LL.D., and, adhering to the Catholic faith and denying the Queen's supremacy, was in 1583 committed with others to Wisbeach Castle, whence he was released on signing an acknowledgment of the Queen's supremacy.⁶⁰

⁵⁸ In the MS. pedigrees she is wrongly described as a third wife of Sir Goddard Oxenbridge.

⁵⁹ On 6th August 1526, Thomas Oxenbridge and Robert Elrington had pre-

sent Master John Cockys to the church of Middelley, Kent.—Wood's Fasti, Oxon. vol. i, p. 22, note.

⁶⁰ This acknowledgment is printed in Strype's Annals iii, pt. 1, p. 276.

Elizabeth Oxenbridge, the daughter of Sir Goddard Oxenbridge, married, before the year 1546, Sir Robert Tirwhitt of Leighton, county of Huntingdon, second son of Sir Robert Tirwhitt, and brother of Sir William Tirwhitt of Kettleby, county of Lincoln. In May 1546, Lady Tirwhitt was lady-in-waiting on Queen Katharine Parr, to whom her husband was master of the horse, and she was in attendance on the Queen at the time of her accouchement and fatal illness at Sudeley Castle, in September 1548. In 1546 the Duke of Norfolk appeals to Lady Tirwhitt as one of the suite of both his nieces, "whom it had pleased the King's Highness to marry," to testify what malice both those nieces bore to him;⁶¹ and on 17th Feb. 1549, the custody of the person of the Princess Elizabeth, and her good education and government, were committed by the council to Lady Tirwhitt, in consequence of the misconduct of Mrs. Katharine Ashley.⁶² Sir Robert describes his wife as "not sane (learned) in divinity, but half a scripture woman." John Field, in dedicating to her in 1577 his translation of the *Treatise on Christian Righteousness*, calls her his "vertuous and dear friend," and praises her for her "forwardness, fidelity, and sincerity in the religion of Jesus Christ;" and in 1574, there was printed in 16mo, by H. Middelton for Christopher Barker, "*Morning and Evening Prayer, with divers Psalmes, Hymnes, and Meditations, made by the Lady Elizabeth Tirwhitt:*" at the end is printed the *Litany*. The arms of Oxenbridge are at the back of the title-page. Queen Elizabeth had a copy bound in gold and enamelled, mentioned by Herbert (p. 1801-2), as then belonging to Mr. Ashby. It was lately in the Duke of Sussex's library, and is now in the possession of George Field, Esq., of Ashurst Park, near Tunbridge Wells. On one cover is enamelled the Raising of the Serpent by Moses, and on the other the Judgment of Solomon; the binding is supposed to be by George Heriot, and is engraved in the *Gentleman's Magazine* (vol. lxi, pt. 1, p. 321) and Dibdin's *Bibliomania*

⁶¹ Burnet, *Hist. of Reform*, iii, pt. 2, p. 259.

⁶² See also J. G. Nichols' *Literary Remains of King Edward VI*, page 11; *Burghley Papers*, Haynes, pp. 104-107; *Ellis Orig. Lett.* 1st Ser. vol. ii, pp. 153,

155. But it appears by the Princess Elizabeth's Household Book at Hatfield (*Camd. Soc. Misc.* vol. ii), in 1551 and 1552, that Mrs. Ashley was reinstated as attendant. Lady Tirwhitt's name is not mentioned in any item during the year.

(p. 330), and the front cover in the *Illustrated London News* of 6th April 1850. To Herbert Ingram, Esq., I owe the accompanying woodcut, which is of the exact size of the original binding, and shows the loop through which passed the chain suspending it to the girdle.⁶³



The prayers, &c., were reprinted in Thomas Bentley's *The Monument of Matrones*, published in 1582.

The following specimen of the writing shows that, if Lady Elizabeth were one of the earliest and one of the most pious, she was also one of the most prosaic of our Sussex poets:—

An Hymne of the state of all Adam's posteritie.

I am the fruite of Adams hands.
 Through sinne locked in Sathans bands :
 Destined to death, the childe of ire,
 A flaming brand of infernall fire.
 Borne I was naked and bare,
 And spend my time in sorowe and care,

⁶³ In A. More's portrait of Queen Mary she is represented as wearing in that way a book of the same size, most probably "*The Queene's Prayers or Meditations*,

wherein the mynde is stirred to suffer all afflictions here," which were composed by Queen Katharine Parr, and a copy is bound at the end of Mr. Field's volume.

And shall returne unto the dust,
 And be deprived of carnall lust.
 Yet thou Father didst Jesus send,
 To pardon them that did offend.
 We laud him in the worke of might,
 That we be blessed in his sight.

Sir Robert Oxenbridge (the son of Sir Goddard by the second wife) succeeded to the family estates at Brede; but having acquired from Sir John Gate extensive estates at Priors Hursborne and Dunley, in Hants, for which he was sheriff in 1568, he seems to have removed from Sussex, and to have let his property at Brede. The registers of Brede commence in 1559, and do not contain any entry of the baptism, marriage, or burial of an Oxenbridge.⁶⁴ In 1539, Robert Oxenbridge was one of the commissioners of Musters for the rape of Hastings;⁶⁵ and in 1551, sheriff of Sussex. He represented East Grinstead in parliament in 1547 and 1552, and the county of Sussex in 1554, 1555, and 1557. In 1556 he was made, by Mary, constable of the Tower of London, where, on 14th June 1556, he entertained Father Sydnam, a Grey Friar of Greenwich, after a sermon at Trinity Church; and thence in March 1556-7 he rode with Lord Stourton and his lordship's four servants to their execution at Salisbury for killing two Argylls (father and son).⁶⁶ On 18th August 1557, he was one of the mourners at the funeral in London of John III, King of Portugal.⁶⁷ He married Alice, one of the daughters of Thomas Fogge, Esq., of Ash, in Kent, on whom he made a handsome settlement; for by the Inquisition p.m. taken at Winchester 5th March 1575, it was found that he died seized in demesne as of his fee of the manor of Hursborne, otherwise called Priors Hursborne, and the park and lands in Hants, then lately belonging to Sir John Gate, Knt., and of other lands and tenements there, which (by indenture made between the said Robert Oxen-

⁶⁴ Ex. inf. Reverend Augustus Aylward. Some of the family remained in Sussex. In the Burwash Reg. are baptisms of eight children of John Oxenbridge, 1559 to 1578, and of seven children of his son Thomas, 1608 to 1620. I take them to be descendants of George (*ante*, p. 218). The Bexhill Reg. has entries in 1573-78.

⁶⁵ MSS. Rolls House, A, 6, 16.

⁶⁶ Machyn's Diary, pp. 108, 127-8.

⁶⁷ *Ibid.*, p. 148. Letters were addressed to Sir Robert Oxenbridge, as lieutenant, from the councils, held at Greenwich, 16th January 1556-7, and at Richmond 28th July 1557. Minute Book, ex. inf., H. Reeve, Esq., F.S.A., Registrar.

bridge of the one part, and John Gage of Firle, Esq., William Scott of Mote, gent., John Wyborne of Hawkewell, gent., Francis Kempe of Twyford, gent., Edward Kempe and John Stockman, of the other part, dated 4th June 1565), were demised for the term of forty-one years, if he should so long live, and then for the same term after his death, if his wife Alice should so long live and remain his widow, at a rent of £139. 1s. 1¼*d.*, half of which was to be for the use of his wife, and the residue for her as guardian of his son and heir until he should come of age. It further appears that on 21st June 1574, being then at Hursborne, he made his will, giving his wife the Hursborne property for life in lieu of dower and thirds. The jury also found that by an indenture made between Sir Robert Oxenbridge of the one part, and Sir Thomas White, Knight, of the other part, dated 10th April 1565, and made on the marriage of Robert the son and heir, Sir Robert covenanted that he would convey land, &c., in the villages of Brede and Udimore, then in the occupation of John Devenyshe, Beatrice Baye, Margaret Maunser, John Woodhouse, Robert Lunsford, John Freebody, John Sherbold, and William Sneppe, to the sole use of Robert Oxenbridge the son, and Barbara his wife, and the heirs of their bodies, and in default to the use of said Robert and the heirs male of his body, with remainder to Sir Robert and the heirs of his body, with remainder to Andrew Oxenbridge, cousin of Sir Robert, with remainder to Sir Robert and his heirs general; and other premises in Brede and Udimore then in possession of John Atwater, Thomas Asted, William Iden, John Iden, Thomas Devenyshe, Thomas Rigge, Alleyn Wekes, and Simon Prior Sen., to the use of Sir Robert for life, and then to his son Robert and Barbara his wife, with the same remainders over. The jurors further say that on 10th April 1565, Sir Robert was also seized to him and his heirs of the manors of Forde, Enham, and Goteley, and houses in Rye, in the occupation of Roger Squire, John Pope, and John Braybrooke. The lands at Brede and Udimore occupied of J. Devenyshe, &c., were held of Visc. Montague, and were worth £45. 8s. 6*d.* a year, and the tenements in the possession of Atwater, &c., were held of Visc. Montague, the Lord Windsor, and Sir Rob. Tyrwhitt, Knt., and were worth £27 and 21*d.* a year; and

that Forde, Enham, and Goteley were held of the same parties, and were worth £9. 19s. 8d. a year. And lastly, the jury found that Sir Robert died 17th November 1574, and that Robert Oxenbridge the son was thirty years of age and upwards.

Lady Oxenbridge (the widow) seems to have lived till 1583, for on 15th September, 1583, *Robert Oxenbridge* (the only son) by an indenture made between him of the one part, and Gabriel White and Stephen White of the other part, demised to them his lands in Husborne, then late in the occupation of Alice his mother, for the use, after his decease, of his wife Barbara for her life, if she should remain unmarried, and if not, then to raise her an annuity of £60 a year; subject to which, and to the following annuities to his six younger sons, the property went to his eldest son Robert: these annuities were, to Goddard £26. 13s. 4d. a year; William, £20; Henry, £20; Gabriel, £20; Richard, £20; and John, £20, when they should attain the respective ages of twenty years. And on the Inquisition p.m. taken at Andover, 16th April 1591, it was found that, in addition to the Hampshire property, he was in possession of the lands in Brede, Udimore, and Rye, lately belonging to his father, and that by his will dated 21st May, 1587, he left the whole of his Hants property, and lands called Bunges and Mabbands in Brede, to his wife for life, and then to his son Robert and his heirs male, with remainders successively to his other six sons and their heirs male, with the ultimate remainder to his own right heirs: and Forde and the remainder of his property to his son Robert and his heirs for ever; and also that he died at Husborne 22nd January 1591, leaving Barbara his widow; and that his son Robert was then twenty-two years old and upwards.

Sir Robert Oxenbridge, Knt., the eldest son, who married Elizabeth, daughter and coheir of Sir Henry Cock of Broxbourne, by indenture dated 2nd July, 1599, demised his estates in Hants to Sir Henry Cock, Edward Lewknor, Esq., and Edward Cason, for a term of years, to pay the rents to his wife for life, or whilst she remained unmarried, and in the event of her marriage to pay her an annuity of £74 a year. He was sheriff of Hants in 1596. During the long reign of Elizabeth no member of the Oxenbridge family sat in parliament; but on the accession of James in 1603, Sir Robert,

like his grandfather, sat for the county of Hants. He died at Husborne on 28th May, 1616, seized in Sussex of the manors of Forde, Enham, and Goteley, and of lands in Brede, Udimore, Beckley, Peasmarsh, Northiam, Ewhurst, Sedlescombe, Munfield, Westfield, Guestling, Pett, Fairlight, and Icklesham, held by John Sackville, Thomas Culpeper, Francis Kempe, Jordan, Butler, Sneppe, Fryman, Bishop, &c., the Inquisition being taken at Winchester, 5th Sept. 1616.⁶⁸

He left five sons; the eldest, *Robert*, was knighted at Newmarket 29th November 1619, and sat in parliament for Whitchurch in 1620, and for the county of Hants in 1623. He and his brothers sold the whole of the Brede property, and, as they all died without issue (in the lifetime of their mother, who survived till 1645), their sister Ursula became the heiress of the Herts property. She married in 1627, Sir John Monson, ancestor of Lord Monson, who has very kindly communicated to me several particulars of the Oxenbridge family. There is a very nice portrait of Lady Ursula, by Cornelius Janson, among the Monson family pictures.

I have not been able to identify with the Sussex family Daniel Oxenbridge of Daventry or his son John, the zealous Nonconformist, who was removed from the tutorship of Magdalen Hall and the fellowship of Eton.⁶⁹

⁶⁸ In the book of St. George's funeral proceedings (Harl. MS. No. 1368, p. 31) is "The proceedinge of the funerall of the Right Worshipfull Sir Robert Oxenbridge, Knight, on Thursday the 20th June 1616, at his house at Hursborne Pryors, in the countye of Southampton, who departed this mortall life on Tuesday the 28th of May 1616:—2 conductors; pore men in gownes, 48. *Servants to Strangers*—Mr. Wm. Oxenbridge's man and Geo. Hamon; Mr. Kempe's man and Mr. Woodwarde's man, Mr. Lambert's man and Mr. Fran. Harwell's man, Mr. Jo. Knight's man and Sir Walter Tichborne's man, Sir Rich. Tichborne's man. The *standert borne* by Mr. Fran. Kempe. *Servants to the defunct*: Geoffrey Mills and William Kidgell, Danyell Wyatt and Tho. Penton, Henry Puckridge and Willm. Brooker, Jasper Mannings and Nicholas Gray, Tho. Atkinson and Tho. Faldoe, Henry

Hall sen. *Gentn in cloakes*: Mr. Peter Noys and Mr. Lambert Jun., Mr. John Oxenbregg and Mr. Godard Oxenbregg, Mr. Edw. Woodward and Mr. Tho. Lambert, Mr. John Knight and Mr. Fran. Harewell, Sr Walter Tichborne and Sr Rich. Tichborne; Mr. Elmes, Vicker, and Doctor Johnson, preacher; Mr. Rich. Oxenbregg, the *penon*. *Healm and Crest, Sword and Targe, and coate of armes*, Wyndesore—The *Corpes*—Mr. Robt. Oxenbrigg, cheife mourner; Mr. Henry Oxenbregg and Mr. Willm Oxenbregg, Mr. John Oxenbregg and Mr. Willm (*sic*) Oxenbregg, assistants to the cheife mourner—Knights & Gent. without blacks."

⁶⁹ See Wood's Ath. Oxon. ed. Bliss. iii, p. 1026; Baker's Northamptonsh. i, p. 338; Lipscombe's Bucks. iv, p. 486; MS. Collect. Coll. of Arms, K. 1, p. 150.

Oxenbridge Pedigree.

JOHN DE OXENBRIDGE,*
of Atte Gate, Beckley;
Juror 1329 and 1341.

Thomas Oxenbridge, of Beckley. = Daughter and heiress of the Allards. (Leland.)
 Walter Oxenbridge; M.P. for Shoreham, 1358.
 Geoffry Oxenbridge; released Elysebregge, in Beckley, 1363.

William Oxenbridge; Commissioner for Oaths, 1433; paid fine for his suit of Court in Brightling, 1447. = Petronilla; remar. Seth Standish; called as tenant, 1456 to 1482. (Brightling Rolls.)
 Robert Oxenbridge, of the Forde, in Brede; Commis. of Emb. 1393-8.

Anne, d. and coheir of Wm. Blount; remar. Sir David Owen. (*Suss. Coll. III, p. 27.*) 2d wife.

= Sir Thomas Oxenbridge; Knt.; owned Gosle, in Beckley: ob. *circa* 1512. (Brightling Court Rolls.) = Frideswide; d. and coheir of Sir Oliver Manningham, Knight. † 1st wife.

Robert Oxenbridge; dead before 6th Sept. 1433. (Inq. 12 Hen. VI.)

John Oxenbridge, of Sedlescombe; a Com. of Oaths, 1433.

= Martin Oxenbridge; Commis. of Emb. 1455-8; owned land in Brede, 1465. (Fiscamp Ret. Carl. H. R. MS.)

Anna, d. and heir; mar. first, John Digby, Knt., who owned Gosle, 1513; and 2nd, Eustace Barham, of Teston, Kent., who ob. 1535. (Hasted.)
 √

= Robert Oxenbridge; Com. of Emb. 1458-65, & 77. In 1474 a feoffee of Farncombe's Chantry, in Winchelsea Church (Batt. Abb. Rec. p. 120), and on 5th Aug. 1480, party to a feoffment of land in Bexhill, of Ann wife of Edw. Bornick, da. and heir of Sir Thomas Cobham. (Ibid. p. 126.) Ob. 9th March, 1487. (Brass in Brede Church.)

= Anna, daughter of Lyvelode; ob. 27th February, 1493-4. (Brass with Figure in Brede.)

= Richard Oxenbridge.

= George Oxenbridge.

= Thomas. s. p. = Godfrey Oxenbridge. (Will in Reg. 1493-6.)

= William Oxenbridge, of Brede & Winchelsea.

= Goddard. Thomas. = John Oxenbridge. = William.

= William Oxenbridge. s. p. = Lancelot Oxenbridge. s. p.

William. ob. s. p. = Da. and heir; mar. Robert Londonneys, of Brede. †

= Thos. Oxenbridge, of Bradhigh.

= Anna; mar. . . . Binston.

⁶ John Oxenbridge, Clerk;
Canon of Windsor, 1509;
founded Oxenbridge
Chantry, in Saint George's
Chapel:
ob. 25 July, 1522.
(*Le Neve. Fasti, iii, p. 391.*)

⁷ William Oxenbridge, = Alice;
of Guestling. d. of
(Will proved 1504. Richard
Test. Vet. p. 457.) Knight.

Ann, only child.

⁸ Margaret;
m. . . . Cheney, and 2d
Sir Rich. Carew, who
ob. 23d May, 1520,
leaving her surviving.
(Collins, iv, p. 161.)

⁹ Mariana;
obiit.
unmarried.
(Inscrip.
Brede.)

¹⁰ Katherine;
obiit.
unmarried.
(Inscrip.
Brede.)

¹ Thomas = Anne,
Oxenbridge; who
Serjeant at survived
Law. him.
(Will proved
8th Feb. 1497.)

Elizabeth;
young. d. and
coheir of Sir
Thos. Eching-
ham, § Knt.
1st wife.

² Sir Goddard
Oxenbridge, Knt.;
Sheriff
three times:
ob. 10 Feb. 1531.
(Tomb at Brede.)

Anna;
d. of Sir Thomas
de Fines, Knt., of
Claverham; 2d son
of Rich. Ld. Dacre.
2nd wife.

³ Adam Oxenbridge. = 1 Agnes.
(Will proved 2 Anne.
4th Nov. 1497.)

⁴ Agnes.
ob. 4th
Aug. 1480:
bu. at
Echingham.
(Inscrip.)

⁵ Robert Oxenbridge; =
held land at South-
broke, Brede, and
Udimore, 1501.
(Will regist.
1503-5.)

Faith; da. of
Sir Rich. Devenish,
Knt., living at
Huhenden, Bucks,
July, 1540;
remar.
Bulstrode.

Thomas Oxenbridge;
æt. 30 at death of
his Father;
ob. 28 March, 1540.
(Escutcheon and Arms
in Brede Church.)

Elizabeth;
d. of Sir Geo.
Puttenham,
Knt.:
ob. *circa*
1529.

Margaret;
mar.
John
Thatcher,
of Priest-
hawes.
2d wife.

Mary;
married
James
Barnham,
of
Canbrook.

Elizabeth;
m. Sir Robert
Tyrwhit,
Master of the
Horse to
Q. Kath. Parr:
brother of
Sir William.
(Harl. MS. 890, p. 39.)

William
Oxen-
bridge.
s. p.

Anna; mar. 1st, Henry Stokes,
who joined with her in a sur-
render of Bixle, 20 Hen. VIII;
and 2d, Oliver St. John, who re-
leased all his right in Bixle.
30 Hen. VIII.
(Frewen's Deeds.)

Andrew;
æt. five at
death of his
Father; LL.D.;
impris. 1583.
(*Strype's An.*)
Ob. *s. p.* 1615.
(Will pr.
27 May.)

Ursula;
mar.
John
Pickering,
of Tich-
marsh,
Northamp.
2d wife.
(Bridges,
II, p. 383.)

Elizabeth;
da. and heir; mar.
Sir Robert, son and heir
of Sir Wm. Tyrwhit,
of Ketelby, co. Lincoln,
Knt., who ob. 22 Feb. 1587,
leaving her surviving.
(Lansd. MS. 207^a,
p. 347.)

Sir Robert Oxenbridge, Knt.,
M.P. for East Grinstead, 1547
& 1552; and Sussex, 1554-55-57;
Constable of Tower of London,
1556-7; Sheriff of Suss. 1551,
and Hants, 1568;
ob. 17th Nov. 1574, æt. 65:
bu. at Husburn Priors, co. South-
ton, || 15 Dec. 1574.

Alice; one of the da. and heirs
of Thomas Fogge, of Ash, Kent;
relict of Edward Scot,
second son of Sir Wm. Scot, Knt.;
ob. *circa* 1583.

(continued on next page.)

Robert Oxenbridge;
of Husborne; æt. 30 and upwards
at Father's death; held
Goodneston, Kent, 1547;
ob. at Husborne, 22 Jan. 1591.

Barbara;
da. of Sir Thomas White, Knt.;
of South Warnburgh,
co. Hants.:
Master of Court of Requests.

Mary; mar.
Francis Tuke, of Kent:
called "*Katherin*," in
the certificate of her
Father's funeral.

Margaret;
mar. John Power of
Husburne.

¹ Sir Robert Oxenbridge, Knt., of Husborne; Sh. of Hants, 1596; M.P. for Hants, 1603: ob. at Husborne, 28th May, 1616; æt. 47.

Elizabeth; 2d d. & coheir. of Sir Henry Cock, of Broxborne, Herts, Kt., relict of Robert West, son and heir of Lord De la Warr. She m. 3d, Sir Richard Lucy, Knt.; and ob. 1645.

² Goddard Oxenbridge, of Saint Dunstan West: ob. s. p. 1634. (Will pr. 7th May.)

³ William Oxenbridge; of Husborne; m. Mary, d. of Wm. Kympton, of London & Hadley, Midd.

1. Edmund Oxenbridge, of Durley; ob. 1639.
2. Robert Oxenbridge, of Piddle Trenthyde, co. Dorset; æt. 57, 1677: mar. 1st, Diana, da. of Sir John Tonstall, of Edgecumbe, co. Surrey, Knt.; and 2d, Frances, da. of James Deane, of Deaneland, Hants, Gent., and widow of Wm. Collier: she ob. a widow, 26th Oct. 1708.
3. Catherine.—4. Elizabeth.—5. Mary.

Elizabeth; m. Edward Woodward, Esq. of Privy Chamber to King James.

Susan; m. 1, Edw. Cason, of Pelham, Herts; Member of Middle Temple, and Treasurer, 16 James; and 2, Sir Thos. Cecil, of Keldon, 4th son of Thos. Earl of Salisbury, whom she survived.

Anne; living at Windsor, unmar. 1634.

⁴ Henry. ⁵ Gabriel. ⁶ Richard; will, 1618. ⁷ John; will, 1618. (Inq. p.m.)

¹ Sir Robt. Oxenbridge, Knt.; M.P. for Whitechurch, 1620, and Hants, 1623. J. P. for Hants, 1625: æt. 15, 1609: survived all his brothers; and ob. unmar. June, 1638: bu. at Husborne.

² Henry Oxenbridge; æt. 19, 1616: ob. s. p.

³ William Oxenbridge; æt. 18, 1616: ob. s. p.

⁴ John Oxenbridge; æt. 16, 1616: ob. s. p.

⁵ Charles Oxenbridge; æt. 7, 1616: ob. s. p.

Ursula; infant, 1609; heiress of her brothers; mar. in 1627, Sir John *Monson*, (2d Bart.); she ob. 10 Dec. 1692: bu. at So. Carlton, Lincolnshire.

* Jordan de Oxenbridge, of Sussex, Mancupator of Nicholas Waselyn, was distrained to receive Knighthood, 26th June, 1278. —*Palgrave, Parl. Writs*, vol. 1, p. 217.

† The mother of Lady Oxenbridge was Eleanor, daughter and heiress of William Lord Molins; the other coheir was Mary (the grand-daughter of this Eleanor, by her first husband, Sir Robert Hungerford), who married Edward Lord Hastings; in 1492 the coheirresses and their husbands joined in leaving a fine of Aston Molins and Dorton, Bucks.—*Lipscombe*, vol. ii, p. 165.

‡ Robert Londoneys and his wife had one son, Richard, who married Katherine daughter of Fines Lord Dacre, and left a

son, Richard, who died s. p., and a daughter, and ultimately heiress, Mary, who married Thomas Harlakaden, of Warehorn, Kent (MSS. *Coll. Arms*). The arms of Londoneys of Brede, are wrongly given in *Hist. of Winchelsea*: they are, *Or. three cross Crosslets fichée gu.*

§ In some of the MSS. she is called the widow of Roger Fynes. Her eldest sister, Margaret, married first, William Blount, and their daughter, Elizabeth, married Andrew Lord Windsor; and secondly, Sir John Erlington, Treasurer of Household to Edw. IV and Edw. V; Constable of Windsor Castle; Sheriff of Surr. and Suss. 1480; and Bailiff of Winchelsea.

¶ Sir Robert Oxenbridge, Knt., died at his Mansion-house at

Husborne, in the county of Southampton, on Wednesday, 17th Nov. 1574, and was buried at the Parish Church, near the said Mansion-house, 15th Dec. following. He married Alice, daughter and one of the heirs of Thomas Fogge, Gent., and of Eleanor his wife, daughter and heir of Robert Browne, Gent.—*Faul. Certif. I*, 10, 107, *Coll. Arms*.)

¶ She was a proper comely lady, endowed with a most pregnant wit, a florid and ready tongue, very sharp but witty in her repartees; her common discourse did much exceed the ordinary capacity of her sex, and she dying at a great age, Edward Cason, her son, succeeded her in the estate at Furneux Pelham.—*Chayncu*, 145a.

The pedigree is based on the Wills and Inquis. p.m., and the following MSS. at the College of Arms:—Vincent 121 (Sussex), fol. 136; D. 13 (Vis. Sussex, 1570), fol. 406; D. 28 (Vis. Dorset, 1677), fol. 33; I. 10-107, and I. 16-314.

The *Arms* of Oxenbridge were *Gu. a lion rampant ar. langued sa. a bordure vert charged, with eight escallop shells or.*: and the *Crest* a demi lion rampant ar. langued sa., holding in his dexter paw an escallop shell or.

The *quarterings* of the last knight were:—1, HOPTON; 2, ORE; 3, FOGGE; 4, BROWNE; 5, ARUNDEL; 6, MALTRAVERS; 7, COCK; 8, HAMMOND; 9, ADAM; 10, HOOPER.

The Notorious Westons.—The two Westons, Joseph and George, resided at the Friars, Winchelsea, for some months in the years 1781-2, under the assumed names of William Johnson and Samuel Watson. They made a great display here, but other parts of the country had the advantage of their presence. The *Annual Register* calls them “two most notorious villains, who, for some years, have defrauded the country by various artful contrivances.” They were at length captured in Wardour-street, London,⁷⁰ March 17, and finally committed, April 17, 1782, for robbing the Bath and Bristol mail, between Maidenhead and Hounslow, on the morning of January 29, 1781. On July 2 (the day before the sessions) they, with three other felons, made their escape from Newgate, having been aided by the wives of the Westons. George however was retaken in Smithfield; and Joseph in Cock-lane, by John Davis, a porter, who was passing, and who was wounded in the cheek by a pistol fired by Joseph. They were both arraigned on July 6 for the mail robbery, and acquitted; but were again tried and convicted on the same day: George for forging an endorsement on a bank post-bill of “John Ward, at the ‘Dun Horse’ in the Borough or German town of Norfolk,” the bill having been sent from Bristol on January 27, 1781, by the mail; and Joseph, under the Black Act (9 Geo. I, c. 22), for firing the pistol at Davis. They were identified as the Westons by a witness from Draycott, Staffordshire, who had known them from their birth as sons of a farmer named George Weston. They were executed at Tyburn on September 3, 1782; and

⁷⁰ Joseph was not, as has been stated, and John Peters were churchwardens churchwarden in any year. Tho. Martin 1780-81-82. Ex. inf. Rev. J. J. West.

the *Gentleman's Magazine* (p. 431) contains a full account of their penitential behaviour at the execution, and the proper way in which, being Catholics, they received the consolations of their faith. The magazine had before (p. 363) described them as "two of the most artful villains that have appeared at any time in this country, and have robbed the country of an immense sum."⁷¹ Engraved portraits exist at Winchelsea and elsewhere.

ADDITIONS TO LISTS OF MAYORS, &c.

MAYORS.

| | |
|--|---|
| 1364 Robert Londonais (Dering MSS.) | 1434-5 The same (ib. 50 b.) |
| 1365 John Pettevine (ib.) | 1435-6 Thomas Thundyr, also M.P. same year (Cotton MS. p. 53.) |
| 1378 William Skele (ib.) | 1441 Godard Pulham (ib. 66 b.) |
| 1422 John Tamworth, also M.P. same year (Cotton MS. Julius, B. iv, p. 41 b.) | 1442 Thomas Sylton (ib. 67 b.) |
| 1422-3 Thomas Thundyr (ib. 41 b.) | 1443 The same (ib. 71). |
| 1425 Thomas Fysh (Egglestone's Return.) | 1444 Thomas Thundyr (ib. 72). |
| 1430-31 Roger atte Gate (Cotton MS., Julius, B. iv, p. 40.) | 1445 The same (ib.) |
| 1431-2 John Godfrey (ib. 40 b.) | 1446 Godard Pulham (Egges. Ret.) |
| 1432-3 The same (ib. 41.) | 1449 The same (Cotton MS. p. 72.) |
| 1433 The same, elected Easter Mon- day (ib. 51 b.) | 1457 Thomas Sylton (Egglest. Ret.) |
| 1433 Wm. Fynch, elect. 11th June (ib.) | 1463 John Sylton (ib.) |
| | 1465 Thomas Thunder (ib.) |
| | 1516 Robert Sparrow (Jeake, p. 31). |
| | 1560-1 William Egglestone (Return, Carl. Ho. Ride MSS.) |

BAILIFFS.

| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| 1309 Gervois Alard (Dering MSS.) | 1483 William Tunstall, water-bailiff (Grants <i>temp.</i> Edward V, Camd. Soc.) |
| 1314 Henry Alard (do.) | |
| 1378 William Wille (do.) | |

BAILIFFS TO GREAT YARMOUTH.

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1431 Roger Gate (Cotton MS.) | 1441 John Greneforde (Cotton MS.) |
| 1433 William Werthe (do.) | 1443 Godard Pulham (do.) |
| 1435 William Fynch (do.) | 1444-5 Richard Rackthorne (do.) |

They were all jurats at the times of their respective elections.

MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT.

| | |
|--|---|
| 1431-2 William Morfot — Godard Pulham (Dering MSS.) | 1446-7 William Alard — Thomas Sylton (Dering MSS.) |
| 1445 Thomas Thunder, Jun. — Rich. Browne (do.) | 1453-4 Ciriacus Petytt — Joseph Beverley (and not <i>temp.</i> Edward VI) (do.) |

⁷¹ Notes and Queries, vol. x, pp. 286, 354, 392.