

OLD SEALS OF THE CINQUE PORTS,

AND

NOTICES OF THE BARONS: TEMP. EDW. III.

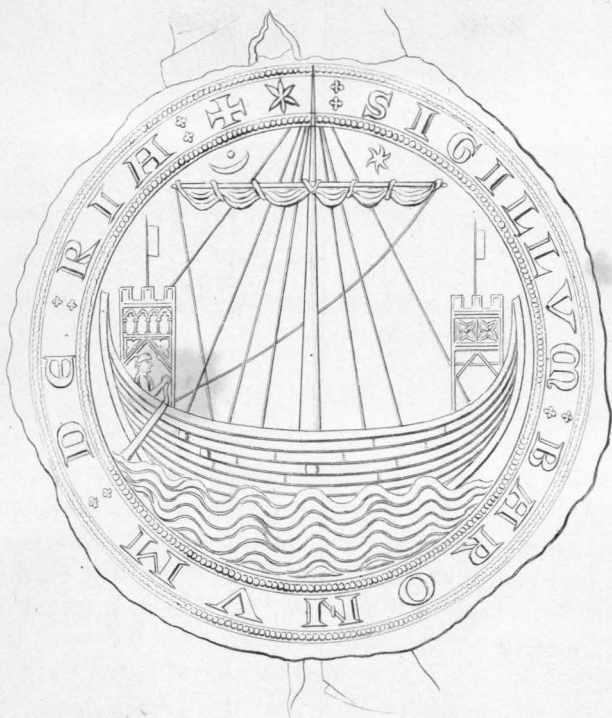
BY THOMAS ROSS, Esq.

SINCE the publication of the first volume of the Sussex Archæological proceedings, impressions of two seals of greater antiquity than those engraved have fallen into my possession, viz., a seal of the ancient town of RYE, and the Bailiff's seal of HASTINGS, before Elizabeth, in 1588, granted them a Mayor; and illustrations are now given.

The seal of RYE is appended to a deed dated at Rye, 16th February, 1354 (28th Edward III.), and made between Walter Bydendenn and Paul Portesmouth, wardens of the Church of Mary, of Rye, who, with the consent of the Mayor and commonalty, gave, granted, and confirmed to William Tayllour, son of William, a messuage with the appurtenances which Robert Vycent, junr., formerly had from William atte Wysche, Chaplain, next the property of Roger Cornman and James Simon on the east, to the tenement of John Grove on the south, to the King's Street on the west, and to the place formerly of Alice de Hethe and the King's Street on the north, paying 2^s yearly. The deed is witnessed by Henry Goldyene, then Mayor, Walter Salerne, John Corbolt, Benedict Sely, Walter Lucy, Robert Schepman, John Grabber, and others.

The obverse has the sail furled instead of spread, with the moon and sun above the yard; in the forecastle is a man rowing; and both castles differ from the seal now in use.

The reverse shows a Church with a central tower, and two end towers. The Virgin and child are above the doorway. The architecture is of an older date than that on the seal now used, and seems to represent a Church with transepts, of more noble proportions than the present, and possibly the Church as it stood before it was burnt by the French. The inscription is also different.



The legend on the obverse is

SIGILLVM : BARONVM : DE : RIA :

and on the reverse the following, in rhyme:

STRENTVA : GENS : RIE : PRECE : FIET : SALVA : MARIE

TERRA DET ESSE : REAM : NEC : MARE : PERDAT EAM.

The official seal of the BAILIFF OF HASTINGS, which is of the time of Edw. III. is appended to a deed dated at Hastings, the 14th May, 1456 (34th Henry VI.), being a deed quitting the claim of Roger Tayllor, one of the sons and heir of William Tayllor, and Alice his wife, formerly of Fil-sam, near Holynton, to John Tayllor, of Hastings, son of his brother, Richard Taylor, deceased, and all interest in a tenement in St. Clement the Pope's,¹ in Hastings, between the tenement of Robert Northym on the west, and a tenement of John Loye on the east, and the King's Street, which leads from the Market-place towards the house called the Court House on the south,



and the land of the heirs of Richard Philpot on the north, which tenement was formerly Alice's, the wife. The bailiff's official seal was affixed because the deed was enrolled in the Hundred Court; the witnesses being Alan Honywode, John Goldeyn, Thomas Bestynden, William Thomas, William Lacy, and others.

Taylor's seal was only a merchant's mark. The shield of the Bailiff's seal is oval, instead of the form given in No. 6 of Vol. I., as the Mayor's seal, and there is a wivern between the seal and the inscription. The arms of Hastings are correct in both seals; the lion in the centre being entire, and the other two having the ship's sterns.²

¹ This is an unusual designation of the parish. It doubtless alluded to Clement IV., who died 1268; the old church was destroyed in his time. St. Clement the Martyr was Consul, A.D. 95.

Another impression of the seal is affixed to a deed, dated 14th May, 1452, relating to a tenement in Hastings and

Hollynton, attested by John Grey, bailiff, Roger Tayllor, Robert Northym, and others. The Tayler family had been owners of the manor and advowson of Iden, which they sold without the royal license, circa., 1382, to the Dalyngrudges: pat. 6, Rich. II.

The BARONS of the Ports, whether resident or not, as well as their widows and daughters, who owned lands, were free from contribution to the different subsidies for their lands. In the article³ on Ninfield in the present volume, notice is taken of this. In the Nonæ Roll (1342) the names of all the resident Barons in Hastings, Rye, Winchelsea, and Pevensey are given.⁴ The Hastings List has been printed in Vol. XIV. of our Collections, p. 71; the Rye list is given in the present Vol., post; and Mr. W. D. Cooper has printed the Winchelsea in his History of that town. I now complete the list with the names of the then Barons of Pevensey.

PEVENSE.

Simon de Hidenye	Ricardus Aleman
Jacobus de Craule	Thomas Simon de Batlesford
Willielmus Flour	Johannes Schakelot ⁵
Lucas Skot	Johannes Atte Berneit
Johannes Tut	Johannes Melker
Ricardus Pelyng	Willielmus Trapel
Johannes atte Coumbe	Nicholaus Mersale
Johannes Manesyn	Johannes Frye
Johannes Molyn	Willielmus Trapel, junr.
Johannes Littlewatte	Johannes Carpenter
Stephanus Wittberd	Simon Agstman [Eastman]
Johannes Bertyn	Johannes de Falham
Alexander Bertyn	Willielmus Cropp
Lucas atte Broke	Robertus Cropp

The list of the non-resident Barons in Sussex, or whose land, without the ports, was exempted from contribution in 1342, has not been found; but from the subsidy roll of 1375,⁶ I give the names in the different parishes.

HUNDRED OF WYLYNDONE—*Jenyngton.*

Robert Ambrays	William Lovecote
John Lonford	William Bertelot

HUNDRED OF ESTBOURNE.

John Gardynere

HUNDRED OF THILLE—*Haillesham.*

William Holt	John Frie
John Musket	Nicholas Keppyng
William Bertelot	Wilham Alfych
John Austman	Reginald Longhe
John Carpenter	Robert Stonleghe
John atte Berghe	John Lytelwatte
Walter atte Wode	William Lewyne
Simon Bobie	Henry Bolne

³ See ante, p. 59.⁴ There is no list for Seaford.⁵ Scarlett. Lord Abinger's family

came from this district: see Foss' Judges. vol. ix., p. 255.

⁶ 49 Edw. III., T. G., 24078.

Nicholas Frye	Simon Buskheye
Simon Wychoch	Roger Willard
Robert Sayer	The Same
Alexander Bertyn	John atte Lynd
Walter Osebarn	Richard Willard

HUNDRED OF LANGEBREGGE—*Wylmyng-tone.*

Adam atte Crouche	William Gregory
Reginald Alfryth	

HUNDRED OF FOXERLE—*Wertlynge.*

William Flour	John Bernard
Robert Schavenore	Roger Willard
John Longe	

HUNDRED OF GOSETROUWE—*Brede.*

Robert Londoneys ⁷	Alice Broneman
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Udimere.

Robert Londoneys	Alan Monyn
Henry Barbur	John Bircher
John Belchere	Stephen Cartere
John Frybody	Adam Flechere
Thomas Sybbe	John Hony
Robert Harry	Robert Baddyng ⁸
John Jakeman	Julian atte Fryth
Thomas Coupere	Agnes Hogeman
William Dytelynge	Richard Herde
Ralph Bocher	John Elys
Simon atte Wode	Stephen Elyot
Peter Goberon	Felice Storme
Robert Herry	William Mentel
John Whyte	John Salerene
Joan Telynges	Stephen atte Wyne
Robert Carpenter	Robert Bernhand
John Lydekyn	William Braket
Alice Brenhand	Lawrence Gurboyl
Joan Crouchere	Walter Vysour
William Crouchere	

HUNDRED OF BALDESLOWE—*Ore.*

Agnes Thurbarn	John Haller
William Andrew	William Northynne
Henry Cely	

Wyltynge.

William Andrew	Robert Averay
Agnes Thurbarn	William Haylman
Thomas Sharp	Robert Rochel
John Hallere	Walter Bexlee
William Bourne	John Ichynton
Robert Prycard	William Peytevyne

⁷ First M.P. for Winchelsea.⁸ Of Rye. A ward bore his name.

HUNDRED OF GESTLYNG—*Gestlynge.*

Stephen Carde	William Judde
Alice Broneman	Henry Cely
John Frebody	John Belchere
Robert Snailhame	John atte Clyve
Walter Henleg	John Ichyngton
Richard Herde	

Ikkesham.

Roger Dovorr	Simon Salerne
John Hanekot	Ralph Bocher
Simon Coteler	John Prinuld
Thomas Thonder	William Barbour
Robert Harry	Robert Ichynton
John Ropere	Thomas Copegrei
William Dydelynge	Robert Baddyng
William Martyn	Alan Monyn
Thomas Sibbe	John Cobbe
Adam Parker	Thomas Lotekyn
William Ferier	Robert Salerne

Pette.

Thomas Sibbe	Robert Arnold
Robert Harry	Thomas Thonder
Agatha Robynhood	Agatha Clyvesevre
William atte Gate	Robert Clerk
John Jakeman	Robert Badding
Richard Herde	Vincent Bocher
Thomas Hoberd	Alan Monyn
John atte Ryde	John Crouhurst
Simon Salerne	

Farleghe.

Simon Salerne	Robert Frere
William atte Gate	Thomas Lotekyn
Agatha Robinhood	Agatha Clyveshande
William Coloppe	Alan Monyn
Walter Aylard	John Everinge
Roger de Dovorr	Thomas Tame
John Belchere	John Oleve
William Northynne	Agnes Thurbarn
John Knolle	John Clevesende
John Henry	Henry Webbe
Peter atte Fenne	Agnes Colleyes
Deonis atte Grange	John Beniet

HUNDRED OF BEXLE—*Bexle.*

Robert Averay	Simon Coupere
Richard Parker	John Thomas
John atte Havene ⁹	John Wether
Nicholas Parker	

⁹ A portion of the parish of Bexhill, still an outlying part of the town and known as the liberty of the sluice, is port of Hastings.

HUNDRED OF COLSPORE¹⁰—*Wynebregge*.

Robert Bocher	Laurence Curboyl
John Bertelot	John Wattegh
Peter Bocher	Simon atte Wode
William Passelewe	Sibilla Pak
John Salerne	Paul Carpounter
Alice Goldezene	Alice Bernhand

Hope.

John Marchaunt	Thomas Tayllour
John Bever	William Passelewe
Nicholas Panys	John Dalot
Paul Portesmuth ¹¹	Simon atte Wode

Heghton.

Robert Carpounter	Sibill Pak
Reginald Bocher	

Summa totalis hominum quinque portuum—xiiijⁱⁱ vj^s v^d ob q^r

Among the above will be found many familiar names; and the lists afford proof of a much larger number of holders of property in several parishes than now exist.

The name of "Wittberd," at Pevensey, is possibly that of the German family of "Weitbrecht," who have resided for many centuries at Schorndorf, and have been mistaken for the "Whitbread" family.¹²

The surname of "Robin-Hood" at Pett and Fairlight, is very curious, and would have made a valuable note to the late Rev. Joseph Hunter's 4th "Critical and Historical Tract," on "the ballad-hero, Robin Hood."

The "Willards" appear at Hailsham; and a volume has been published at Boston, U. S. America, on that branch of the family which left Sussex and Kent for New England.¹³

¹⁰ Now Goldspur.

¹¹ He was warden of Rye Church in 1354: see ante, p. 64.

¹² See Notes and Queries, 3 ser., vii, p. 35.

¹³ Life and Times of Major Simon Willard, 1858.