

# THE HUNDRED OF SWANBOROUGH.

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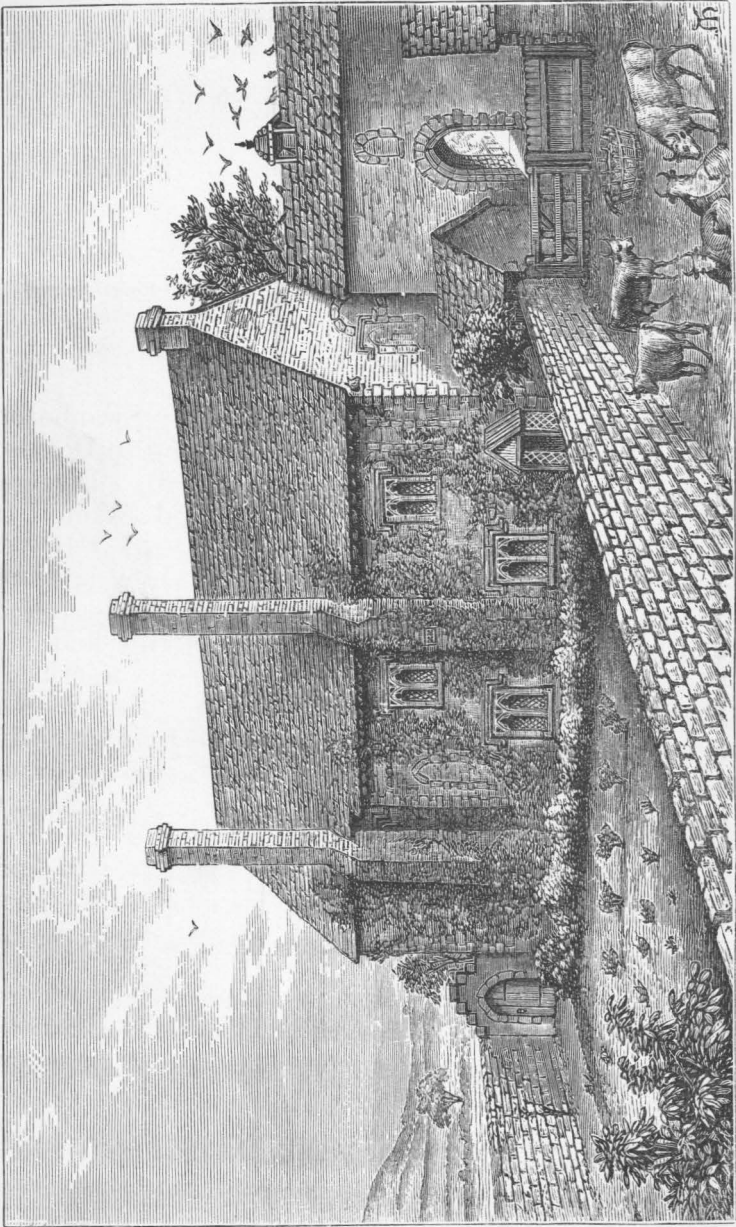
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As originally constituted, the Hundred of Swanborough would appear to have comprised, according to Domesday Book, the manors of Niworde (Iford), Dicelinges (Ditchling), Acescomb (Ashcombe), and Winterburne (Winterbourne). In a Subsidy Roll, 24 Edward I. A.D. 1296, Carlton Ride MSS. (E.B. 1781), it appears to have consisted of the parishes of Ifford, Kyngeston, and Westute (now S. Anne's, Lewes). In this and in all subsequent similar records Ditchling is described as forming part of the Hundred of Street. At the present time Swanborough includes only the two first-named parishes; and to these the following notes will mainly refer. "Some Hundreds," says Horsfield,<sup>1</sup> "have now merged into the neighbouring divisions" (*i.e.* Hundreds), "and, in many instances, a modern Hundred comprises parts of two or three, and sometimes more, of the ancient Hundreds"; and Sir H. Ellis gives instances<sup>2</sup> of "land assigned to a Hundred having been changed" to another hundred "by the verdict of the men of the Hundred." This is curious. One would have thought, that nothing short of an Act of Parliament (or, at least, the exercise of the Royal prerogative,) which could create and *grant*, could *change* the dimensions of Hundreds. The origin of their *names* puzzled Mr. Lower, and he invited<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> I Hist. of Lewes, 106.

<sup>2</sup> Introd. to Domesday, Vol. i., p. 188.

<sup>3</sup> XI., S.A.C., 228.



SWANBOROUGH MANOR HOUSE.

attention to that enquiry. How much more would he have rejoiced in solving this more difficult problem!

My notes are necessarily of a miscellaneous character, and it is proposed to classify them in the following order:—Prefatory, Geological, Topographical, Historical and General, Manorial, Ecclesiastical, Extracts from parish registers, parish accounts, &c.

#### PREFATORY.

Before proceeding to the details of the local history of our Hundred, it may be permitted (in accordance with a suggestion of our able Editor) to offer some brief observations on the position which a Hundred and a Hundred-Court held, with respect to the polity and jurisprudence of the Anglo-Saxons.

Beginning with King Ethelbert (A.D. 561), it appears that the Anglo-Saxon monarchs divided their territories into Shires, or Counties, and Townships.

Such divisions were probably in imitation of the Roman “*pagi et vici*,” as these forms are frequently used by historians before the end of the Heptarchy.<sup>4</sup>

At a later period the Shires or Counties were subdivided by King Alfred (A.D. 875) into Trithings, Lathes, or Rapes. These subdivisions still subsist in England. The first, “Trithings,” in the County of York; where, as Blackstone says, they are “by an easy corruption” denominated “Ridings;” the second, “Lathes,” in the County of Kent; and the third, “Rapes,” in our own County of Sussex.

By the same King these were still further subdivided into Hundreds. The Hundreds were again divided into “tithings,” or districts containing about ten families.<sup>5</sup>

A Hundred was only a “franchise,” consisting of a right to hold a Court, and belonged of common right to the King, though a subject may have it by grant from the Crown, or by prescription.<sup>6</sup> “By a grant of a Hundred

<sup>4</sup> Henry's Hist. Gr. Brit., Vol. iii., p. 311.

Select Charters (Ed. 1870), p. 67.

<sup>5</sup> Edinb. Review, Feb. 1822; Stubbs'

<sup>6</sup> 3 Cruise's Digest, title “Franchise,” p. 264.

such franchise passes, and *not* all the grantor's *lands* within that franchise,<sup>7</sup> but only a liberty."<sup>8</sup> If this be so, and they are the words of a Lord Chancellor and Lord Chief Baron, Spelman's definition, who says, "*Est Hundredus portio comitatús, quá olim degebant 100 pacis Regiæ fidei jussores,*"<sup>9</sup> seems hardly exact enough. Still less, that of Gervase of Tilbury, who says, "*Hundredum constitisse ex hidarum aliquot centenariis,*"<sup>10</sup> for that would be to make it to consist of the very land, *i.e.*, a corporeal hereditament. Though legally speaking an incorporeal hereditament only, a Hundred has this element of corporeal hereditaments; that it has territorial metes and bounds, or, like a circle in Euclid, it has circumference, including, though not being identical with, the area within it.

One of the chief members of the "tithing" was elected "tithing-man," or, as he was sometimes called, "borsholder" (A.S. borh=surety), or "alderman" (A.S. aldor=head). (Spelm. Gloss.) This subdivision (*i.e.* the Hundred) was admirably adapted for the preservation of peace and good order, for all the members were sureties for the probity of each other. So that if any member of a Hundred committed a crime, the rest were pledged to bring him to justice, or pay the mulct prescribed by law for the crime committed.

The subdivisions of the kingdom by our Anglo-Saxon ancestors bear a strong affinity to the integral communities of the Scandinavian nations. The "Hørred" (analogous to the A.S. hundred) appears to have been the primary division of their land, and this district was usually subdivided into quarters, and occasionally into ten tithings.<sup>11</sup>

With respect to the Hundred-Court, it may be necessary to remark that the supreme tribunal of the Anglo-Saxons was the "Wittena-gemot," where all affairs of State were debated and regulated. This was supplemented by the "Shire-gemot," held twice a-year in each

<sup>7</sup> By the Lord Chancellor, 2 Peere William's Reports, 399.

<sup>8</sup> By Lord C. B. Hale.

<sup>9</sup> Glossary title "Hundred."

<sup>10</sup> Ibid.

<sup>11</sup> Ed. Review, Feb. 1822; 1 Stubbs' Const. Hist., p. 96.

county, at which civil and criminal causes were tried, and transmissions of real property recorded.<sup>12</sup>

According to Dr. Sullivan,<sup>13</sup> this Court (*i.e.* the Shire-gemot), since the time of King Edgar, was divided into two. In one Court, called the Tourn, criminal matters, both ecclesiastical and other, were dispatched, and a View of Frank-pledge was taken, to see that every person was in some tything and had taken the oath of allegiance. In another Court, called the County Court or Shyremote, civil business was dispatched. It was held once in every month, and was presided over by the Shire-gerieve.

Next in order of superiority was the Trithing-Court; but it appears to have given place at an early period to the Hundred-Court, which had a jurisdiction over ten tithings, or that division of a county called a Hundred.

The presiding magistrate of the Hundred Court was called the Hundredary, and was generally a Thane<sup>14</sup> residing in the district. The members of the Court were called Hundredarii, and (in imitation of their German ancestors) appeared in their arms, which were examined by an officer appointed for that purpose. It was customary for each member to touch the Hundredary's spear with his own, in token of submission to his authority. Hence the term "Wapentake" (Germ. Waffentag=arms day), which, according to Cowel, "is all one with that we call a Hundred."

In the laws of Edward the Confessor are these words:—"Et quod Angli vocant Hundredum supradicti comitatus vocant Wapentachium."

By charter of King Canute, all officers of the King's forests were exempted from service in the Hundred Courts. The archdeacon and sometimes the bishop pre-

<sup>12</sup> Turner's Hist. of the Anglo Saxons, pp. 192, 261.

<sup>13</sup> Lectures on the Laws of England, p. 247.

<sup>14</sup> The Thanes were the only nobility among the Anglo-Saxons, and were of three kinds. The inferior sort were (Henry's Hist. Gt. Brit. Vol. iii., p. 325) those ceorls who, distinguished from the lowest order of people, or slaves, by being free-born, and having become

the attendants (*huscarles*) of some warlike earl, were rewarded by gifts of land, &c. The next in order were the ceorls or husbandmen who had acquired five or more hides of land, or had attained priest's orders, or had made three voyages beyond sea in their own ships. The highest class were those who held lands direct from the King, and were called "Eorls."

sided at this Court with the Hundredary, who alone could pronounce sentence; all questions being determined by the votes of the members.

The jurisdiction of the whole county remained to the Sheriff, until King Edward II. granted some Hundreds in Fee. By 14, Edw. III., c. 9, these were rejoined to the counties; all such (future) grants having been forbidden by Stat. 2, Edw. III., c. 12.<sup>15</sup> Anciently the Hundreds were farmed out by the Sheriff to others. Whatever may have been the purpose of their original institution, the Hundred Courts were resorted to in civil as well as in criminal cases.<sup>16</sup> By the grant of a Hundred a Leet passes. It is said to be the most ancient Court of the land.<sup>17</sup> It may fine but not imprison.<sup>18</sup> The articles to be enquired into by statute were—if all that owe suit are present; of Customs withdrawn; Houses set up or beat down contrary to law; Bounds taken away; Ways and waters turned or stopped; Hues and Cries not pursued; of Bloodshed, Escapes, Outlaws, Coiners, Treasure found, Assize of Bread and Ale, False Weights and Measures, Game Offences, Unlawful Games, Markets, Unlawful Fishing, Idle Persons, &c., &c. The method of punishment for these offences was by fine and amercement,<sup>19</sup> the former assessed by the Steward, the latter by the Jury. The Lord of the Leet ought to have a pillory and a tumbrel<sup>20</sup> to punish offenders, and for want thereof the Lord may be fined, or the Liberty seized.

All towns in the Leet are to have stocks in repair, or be subject to a fine of £5.<sup>21</sup>

In the reign of Edward the Third the Courts of Westminster began to draw to themselves the jurisdic-

<sup>15</sup> 2 Nels. Abr., 942.

<sup>16</sup> 1 Spence's Eq. Jur., p. 59.

<sup>17</sup> 2 D'Anv. Abr., 289.

<sup>18</sup> 6 Coke's Rep., 79.

<sup>19</sup> The difference between amercements and fines is that fines are said to be punishments certain, and grow expressly from some statute, but amercements are such as are arbitrarily imposed. Tomlin's Law Dict.

<sup>20</sup> Tumbrel—the ancient name for a cuckingstool. It was in use in Anglo-

Saxon times, and is thus described, "Cathedra, in qua rixosæ mulieres sedentes aquis demergebantur." For sketch and further particulars, see IX, S.A.C. p. 361. In Domesday it is called "Cathedra stercoris." It was used as a punishment for bakers and brewers transgressing the laws, by placing them in such a stool and immersing them in a stinking pond.

<sup>21</sup> 2 D'Anv., 289.

tion of the courts existing under the Anglo-Saxons, and the latter ceased to be courts of record. The offices of justices itinerant and justices of the peace having been established, the Hundred Courts fell gradually into disuse, although almost to the present time some have existed under the title of "Courts Leet" or "Courts Baron," possessing both civil and criminal jurisdiction.

The learning on Hundreds cannot be considered obsolete, since in addition to their High Constable who is liable to be appointed by the Magistrates in Sessions, the Legislature still makes the inhabitants of a Hundred liable for the felonious demolition of a church,<sup>22</sup> or of threshing machines<sup>23</sup> within it. As late as the reign of Geo. II., if a highway robbery was committed, the person robbed could (having given the necessary information) recover his losses from the inhabitants of the hundred in which the robbery occurred, unless the offender was brought to justice within forty days.

The particular customs of the Hundred Court of Swanborough will be here noticed.

EXTRACT FROM ROWE'S SURVEY OF THE MANORS AND LORDSHIPS  
OF EDWARD LORD BURGAVENNY, 1597 TO 1622.

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SWANBERG ALS. SWANBOROWE HUNDRED.

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This Hundred hath three Burrowes  
viz

|          |                                |   |                                 |
|----------|--------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| Kingston | } payeth for comon fine yearly | { | viiij <sup>s</sup>              |
| Iforde   |                                |   | viiij <sup>s</sup>              |
| Westout  |                                |   | vi <sup>s</sup> ij <sup>d</sup> |

The Constable of this Hundred was anciently chosen by tourne out of ech Burrowe, but when Westout had none inhabitants of sufficiency to undergoe that office, the election fell by course betwene the other two burrowes.

<sup>22</sup> 7 and 8 G. IV., c. 31, ss. 2 and 3.

<sup>23</sup> 2 and 3 W. IV., c. 72.

And in successe of time Steven A'Ridge onely being left in Iford able to discharge the constabeshipp (all other inhabitants of any reasonable hability beinge removed to Kingston where there dwell at the least a dosen fitt for that service) at a Lawday holden for this Hundred 30 Sept 12 Jas, the steward (not thinkinge it reasonable or fittinge that the said Steven should execute the saide office ewery second yeare and yet desirous to observe ye auncient custome) elected John Vynall the elder to serve the constabeshipp for Iford; who albeit he dwelt in Kingston, yet he occupied Swanborrowe Farme, Stuckles, and the Demesnes of the Manor of Iford all lyinge in Iford, and his servants lodged in Swanborrowe house: whereupon John Vynall complayned at the Quarter Sessions as of a Wronge and breache of Custome; but all the Justices (unâ voce) answered that the Eleccion should stand, and the custome was not broken.

The common fine for *Kingston* burrowe is every halfe yeare iiij<sup>s</sup> payable as followeth viz of

|  |                            |              |
|--|----------------------------|--------------|
| Thomas Michell gen. for 9 yardes of freehold lands . . . . . | . . . . . xij <sup>d</sup> | } per annum. |
| To Pickambe for 4 y. of copihold called Hudde . . . . .      | . . . . . ij <sup>s</sup>  |              |
| Gregory Ade for 2 y. of copihold called Bishoppes . . . . .  | . . . . . xij <sup>d</sup> |              |
| Richard Howell for one y. cop. sometimes Moores . . . . .    | . . . . . vj <sup>d</sup>  |              |
| Robt Howell for 2 y. cop. called Taberers . . . . .          | . . . . . xij <sup>d</sup> |              |
| John Howell for one yarde of copihold lands . . . . .        | . . . . . vj <sup>d</sup>  |              |

The residue of the common fine beinge ij<sup>s</sup> the Jury at a Lawday in Sept 44 Eliz. tooke order that the hedborowe in liewe thereof should have a bullocke leaze<sup>24</sup> in Kingston *gratis*. But afterwarde mislikinge that course all the Jury under their hands at a lawday holden xi Apr. 1 Jac. ordered that for the said ij<sup>s</sup> residue of the common fine and towards the hedborowes paynes, the hedborowes should receive yearely of

|  |                             |
|--|-----------------------------|
| The Demesnes of the Manor of Kingston . . . . .              | . . . . . vj <sup>d</sup>   |
| The landes late Newtons and Coppards <sup>25</sup> . . . . . | . . . . . vj <sup>d</sup>   |
| Mr Eversfields lands called Awfordes and Peakes . . . . .    | . . . . . iiij <sup>d</sup> |
| Gregory Ades 4 yardes of lande . . . . .                     | . . . . . ij <sup>d</sup>   |
| Henry Burrenden for 2 y. and di. . . . .                     | . . . . . ij <sup>d</sup>   |

<sup>24</sup> As to this, see *infra*.

<sup>25</sup> One of the fields in the parish is still known as Coppard's Croft.



John Towner for 2 yardes . . . . . j<sup>d</sup>  
 Robt Howell for 1 y. & di. of lande . . . . . j<sup>d</sup>  
 Burrenden's Widowe for 3 yardes . . . . . ij<sup>d</sup>  
 Also of every cottage in Kingston 1<sup>d</sup> p annum.

The common fine of *Iford*<sup>26</sup> is iiiij<sup>s</sup> every halfe yeare and is payable by the yarde landes in this Burrowe, beinge 64 in number, ewery yard land payinge ij<sup>d</sup> yearely (except the Court Farme cont. 16 yardes w<sup>ch</sup> payeth but ij<sup>d</sup> yearely, and except Stuckles cont. 8 yardes w<sup>ch</sup> payeth yearely but viij<sup>d</sup> besides j<sup>d</sup> p. poll for every cottager).

The overplus is towardes the hedborrowes paynes.

The common fine for *Westout* is ijij<sup>s</sup>. j<sup>d</sup> ewery half yeare the moiety whereof is payable by the Right Hon<sup>ble</sup> the Earle of Dorsett, out of divers landes by him purchased of Stonstreate and others Vide 44 Eliz. 2. 3. 4. 6. 8 Jac. And the other moyty is to be levied of the Inhabitants and the landes of Will<sup>m</sup> Lane<sup>27</sup> in that Burrowe

Alderman's dutyes in Kingston.

The Alderman of this Hundred (as a recompence of his paynes and in satisfaction of those moneys w<sup>ch</sup> he disburseth for the Hundred at the Shiriffes Torne twice ewy yeare) is to have in Kingston by auneynt custome in Sheafes of Wheate as followeth (44 Eliz. 1. Jac), viz of

|  |   |
|--|---|
| 16 yardes of landes late Cranes nowe the Earle of Dorsetts.                      | 2 |
| The same Earle for 4 yardes sometimes Harmans . . . . .                          | 1 |
| Mr Evershed for 12 yardes called Awfordes and Peakes . . . . .                   | 2 |
| John Pickcombe for 4 yardes called Hudds . . . . .                               | 1 |
| The E. of Dorsett for 5 y. late Coppard's . . . . .                              | 1 |
| Barrende for 3 y. called Peirces, late Pickcombes . . . . .                      | 1 |
| Barrenden's 2 y. & di. called Shoosmiths every seconde yeare . . . . .           | 1 |
| Thos Michel gen. for 9 yardes . . . . .  | 2 |
| The E. of Dorsett for 6 y. called Skinner's and Culpep's late Newton's . . . . . | 1 |
| John Towner for 2 yardes every seconde yeare . . . . .                           | 1 |
| Gregory Ade for six yardes called Bishopps and Taylers . . . . .                 | 2 |

The Alderman is also to have in Sheafes of Wheate in *Iford* as followeth

<sup>26</sup> Note the proportional difference in the fines of Iford and Kingston.  
<sup>27</sup> By indenture dated 2 Nov. 38 Eliz. Edward Lord Bergavenny demised to

William Lane, gent, for three lives a moiety of certain lands houses and gardens in St. Mary Westout of the annual value of lvijij<sup>s</sup> x<sup>d</sup>.—*Rowe MSS.*

|  |   |
|--|---|
| The tenant of Stuckles for 8 yardes of lande . . . . .                         | 1 |
| Thos Machin for two yardes of lande . . . . .                                  | 1 |
| Jo. Ade for two yardes sometime Smarts . . . . .                               | 1 |
| Stev. Howell and Andr. Sherry for 2 yardes, to be paid <i>alternis vicibus</i> | 1 |
| Richard Dumbrill for 2 yardes of lande . . . . .                               | 1 |

Winterborne Bridge is to be repayed by the Earle of Dorsett, Apr. 11 Jac, but in Oct. 15 Eliz. it was presented to be made by the Burrowe.

Drinkers bridge, the Middle bridge, and the Wish bridge, in *Kingston* are all of them to be repaired by that Burrowe. (Oct. 11 Eliz. 37 Eliz. 43 Eliz, 4. 8, 14, et 16 Jac.)

Bishopps Dyke in *Kingston* is to be scoured at the Burrows charge. (40 Eliz.)

The Highway against the Mill in *Westout* is to be mended at the charge of that Burrowe. (Oct. 36 Eliz. et 37 Eliz.)

Orders for ringinge of Hogges in *Kingston*, Oct 36 Eliz. and against puttinge of Horses into the commons laynes there before all the Corne be carried away in harvest time. (Mar. 39 Eliz: and Apr. 36 Eliz.) The penalty is v<sup>s</sup> for every Offence *toties quoties*.

A verge of land (*Virgata terræ*) is the same as a yardland. The quantity varied in different counties from fifteen to forty acres. In *Sussex* it appears to have been 26 acres (see *Iford customall*). *Decem acræ faciunt secundum antiquam consuetudinem unam ferdellam et quatuor ferdellæ faciunt virgatam. Virgata terræ ex 24 acris constat, quatuor virgatæ Hidam faciunt, quinque hidæ feodum militis* (MS. Chron. *Abbatia Malmsb.*) *Crompton* (in his *Jurisdiet.*) says a hide of land contains 100 acres, and eight hides a Knight's fee.<sup>28</sup> The distribution of *England* into Hides is very ancient, as there is mention of them in the laws of *Ina*, King of *Wessex*, A.D. 693.

#### IFORDE.

From *Rowe's customall* of the Manor of *Northese cum Iforde* 1597-1622 we find the following persons holding land in that part of the manor within the hundred of *Swanborough*.

<sup>28</sup> Sir Edward Coke gives the quantity as 680 acres, 2 Inst. 596.

|  |  |                                  |
|--|--|----------------------------------|
| Will <sup>m</sup> . Ade <sup>29</sup>                        | 1 tenement and 3 verges of land called Mascalls at an annual rent of . . . . .           | xxx <sup>s</sup>                 |
| Stephen A-Ridge  | 1 messuage and 3 verges of land called Alfreys   | xxx <sup>s</sup>                 |
| Idem   | 1 tenement and 1 " " Tuppes .  | xv <sup>s</sup>                  |
| Idem   | 1 " and 3 " "  | xxx <sup>s</sup>                 |
| Idem   | 1 Garden and 2 " "   | xx <sup>s</sup>                  |
| Idem   | 1 messuage and 1½ " "  | xv <sup>s</sup>                  |
| Richard A-Ridge  | 1 tenement and 5 " "   | l <sup>s</sup>                   |
| John Frinde  | 1 " and 1 " "  | x <sup>s</sup>                   |
| John Scrase, gen.  | 1 " and 1 " "  | x <sup>s</sup>                   |
| John Rowe  | 1 " and 2 " "  | xx <sup>s</sup>                  |
| John Ade   | 1 " and 2 " " called Nortons   | xx <sup>s</sup>                  |
| Idem   | 1 " and 1 Garden   | xij <sup>d</sup>                 |
| Nicholas Pankhurst   | 1 " and 1 verge of land  | x <sup>s</sup>                   |
| John Longley   | 1 " and 2 " "  | xx <sup>s</sup>                  |
| John Dapp  | 1 tenement and 26 acres of land, by estimate 1 verge of land, called The Combe . . . . . | iiij <sup>d</sup>                |
| <sup>30</sup> Sundry Cottages producing the sum of . . . . . |  | iiij <sup>s</sup> x <sup>d</sup> |

The whole rental of the Manor (with Northese) amounted to xvj<sup>l</sup>. xv<sup>d</sup> subject to an annual payment of xvij<sup>s</sup>. 1<sup>d</sup> to the Earl of Derby and of a like sum to the Earl of Surrey Et sic remanet clar. Dño Bergevenny xiv<sup>l</sup>. v<sup>s</sup>. 1<sup>d</sup>.

Particular Customs.—The tenants have belonging to their yard-landes 231 acres by estimacion of sheepdowne upon w<sup>ch</sup> they keape for every yard lande with helpe of the grettens<sup>31</sup> 26 sheepe. They have also 22½ acr. of meadowe ground lying neare to Strawberry wall. Also in brookeland 122 acr. lying on the Southwest side of the Rye Also the moyty of a comon brooke called Pullbarre contayninge 160 acr.

The bottoms called the comon hill ar. comonly employed for sheepe pasture yet the tenants by consent do feede their cattell there *when the brookes be drowned*.

The cottagers have no Comon.

The Court Leet or "View of Frank-pledge" for the Hundred of Swanborough is now discontinued, and has become a matter of history. The following notes are, therefore, given. For the last two centuries the Court

<sup>29</sup> This seems the same who, according to Sir H. Ellis, paid £10 for composition for Knighthood, 10 Chas. I. xvi. S.A.C., 49.

<sup>30</sup> These cottages were subject to a heriot of 6d. and 6d. fine certain.

<sup>31</sup> Stubbles.

has been held on Easter Monday, under the presidency of the Steward of the Lord Abergavenny. It was composed of the Constable and Alderman of the Hundred, the Headboroughs of the parishes of Kingston, Iford, and Westout, and a jury varying in number from twelve to twenty-four.

At this Court<sup>32</sup> all annoyances committed within the Hundred were amerced, and all actions for sums not exceeding xxxix<sup>s</sup> xi<sup>d</sup> were tried and determined. The Jury "to enquire for our Sovereign Lord the King" then proceeded to elect officers for the ensuing year, and presented two persons to serve the offices of Constable of the Hundred, and Headboroughs for each of the parishes. At the discretion of the Steward one of each of these, together with an Alderman, was sworn to perform the duties of his particular office.

This mode of procedure obtained until the year 1810, when only one headborough for each parish was presented.

Up to this time the office of Constable was held by one of the leading inhabitants of the Hundred, but afterwards a "substitute" was appointed, who appears to have served the purpose of the modern policeman.

In 1842 the last Headboroughs were appointed, but a Constable and an Alderman were chosen annually, until 1860, when the last precept was issued, a copy of which is appended:—

"To Richard Winter, Constable of the Hundred of Swanbergh in the County of Sussex.

"I do hereby require you forthwith to give public notice of a Court Leet to be holden on Monday the ninth day of April next by eleven o'clock in the forenoon of the same day at the Running Horse Inn in St. Annes (Westout) Lewes, and to summon twenty four of the Inhabitants of the said Hundred who are Housekeepers to be and appear at the time and place aforesaid to enquire of all such matters as to the said Leet appertain. And you yourself to be then and there present, and to bring with you the names of such persons as you shall

<sup>32</sup> [Derived, with the Hundred Court, from the Sheriff's Tourn.—ED.]

have so summoned, together with this precept. Dated this nineteenth day of March 1860

“ Fr. Harding Gell                      Steward ”

Thus (practically) after an existence of nearly a thousand years, ended the Hundred Court of Swanborough.<sup>33</sup>

#### GEOLOGICAL.

The following notes under this head will (although cognate to our subject) be, for obvious reasons, as brief as possible.

Of the three formations which are chiefly to be observed in the Hundred, the “Upper Chalk” constitutes the most prominent feature. It consists of irregular strata of chalk and flints, which were “without doubt deposited periodically.” The fossil productions of this part of the Hundred are very numerous and interesting, consisting, amongst many others, of species of Ammonites, Plagiostomæ, Terebratulæ, and Echinites, with remains of fishes, &c. Upon the surface may frequently be observed blocks of siliceous sandstone. These are of precisely the same kind as the sandstone of Stonehenge, and are called in Berks and Wilts “Grey Wethers.” The Ancient Britons used them as land-marks and sepulchral stones, and probably regarded them with superstitious veneration.

At the base of this formation lies the “Grey Chalk Marl.” This deposit composes a fertile tract of arable land, including some of the best corn-producing farms in the county. It is prolific in organic remains, consisting of Inocerami, Nautili, Turrilites, Scaphites, Hamites, and many others.

The lowest portion of the Hundred consists of alluvial deposits, and comprises part of the district known as the “Lewes Levels.” Numerous “sinkings” have been made through this deposit, and we have the most indisputable physical evidence, that in early times the shores

<sup>33</sup> See further, as to the nature of the profits of the Lordship of a Hundred generally, a former article by the pre-

sent Editor of these Collections, on “Burwash,” *xxi. S.A.C.*, p. 118.

of the Hundred (*i.e.*, the eastern fringe of the Grey Chalk Marl) were washed by the waves of the sea, and that vessels of many tons burden could have sailed up to, if not beyond, the site of the town of Lewes. The excavations alluded to show the alluvial deposits to vary in depth from fifteen to thirty feet, and (to use the words of one of our most celebrated Geologists) "clearly prove the following sequence of changes to have taken place" in this part of the Hundred.

*First.*—The existence of an inland sea or estuary inhabited by Mollusca and Cetacea of the same species as those now found in the British Channel.

*Second.*—As gradual shoaling made the inlet at Newhaven shallower, the water became brackish, and marine and river shells were mingled, until later on the fresh-water so much predominated that only river shells and aquatic insects could exist.

*Third.*—The formation of a swamp or morass by the drifting of plants and trees from the Weald, and its subsequent conversion by land-floods into a marsh, which within the last century has been utilized by artificial means, and is at the present time a most fertile tract of country. Within the memory of persons still living, the boom of the bittern, as it rose from the forest of sedge, has been exchanged for verdant pasturage, the lowing of cattle, and the shriek of the locomotive.

Even now the Levels (locally termed "the Brooks") are subject to occasional floodings, for as I write, the whole district from the ancient confines of the Hundred to the opposite shores of Beddingham and Glynde is covered with water, the "Rhies" standing out as islands in an immense lake; the whole scene presenting probably the same features which constituted its appearance thousands of years ago.

Some time since a paved Roman causeway and coins of Domitian and Antoninus Pius were found within a few inches of the surface of the Levels. From this it may be inferred that it has subsequently undergone no material alteration. If during the lapse of 1,500 years barely one foot of soil has accumulated, the length of

time necessary for the accretion of the remaining depth of deposit must be left to the conjecture of the reader.

## TOPOGRAPHICAL.

The Hundred of Swanborough is situated in the eastern division of the county, and in the Rape of Lewes. It is bounded on the north by Lewes, on the west by Falmer, on the south by Rottingdean and Rodmell, and on the east by the river Ouse.

The greater portion of it forms part of that well-known district called the "South Downs," and is locally termed "the Hill." This is of considerable elevation, the highest point (Kingston Hill) being about 600 feet above the level of the sea.

There are no streams passing through the Hundred, except a rivulet called the "Cockshoot," or "Cockshut," which, rising in<sup>34</sup> the parish of Kingston, washes the walls of the ruined monastery of Lewes, and debouches into the Ouse to the south of that town.

The village of Iford lies in the south-eastern part of the Hundred on the shore of the ancient estuary. According to Mr. Turner, the old road from London to Newhaven passed through it, in Ogilby's "Britannia," temp. Chas. II.<sup>35</sup> It is pleasantly situated, and plentifully interspersed with trees, amidst which the church is almost hidden. These were presented by the late Earl of Chichester, and planted by Mrs. Hurley, after the great storm of November, 1836, which destroyed all those existing at that time.

On slightly elevated ground, between the villages of Iford and Kingston, is the manor house and farm of Swanborough, which will be hereafter noticed.

By the recession of "the waters which covered the face of the earth," many indentations or hollows (locally called Coombes) were made in the more elevated portion of the district, and in one of these valleys lies the village of Kingston, nestling as it were amongst the surrounding hills. The quaint gables of the houses, the

<sup>34</sup> xv. S.A.C., 163.

<sup>35</sup> xix. S.A.C., 164.

thatched roofs of the cottages with their many fruitful orchards and gardens, and the grey spire of the church rising out of the midst, present an aspect of much quiet beauty—the grand and rugged outline of the Downs affording by contrast a most attractive background. From the summit of Kingston Hill there is a prospect of singular beauty and magnificent extent. From the west (as far as the Isle of Wight) to the cliffs on the east of Seaford bay appear the waters of the British Channel—the ocean horizon being broken only by the cliffs of Rottingdean and Newhaven, whilst to the east the eye rests upon the grand outlines of Firle Beacon and Mount Caburn—the early British earthworks of the latter being distinctly visible.

Between these points there is a vista of densely wooded country terminating with the bay of Pevensey; the scene, perhaps, of the most important event connected with the history of our country.

On the north-east is the town of Lewes, with the imposing ruins of its feudal castle; beyond which can be taken in at a glance almost the whole of the Weald, or north-eastern part of the county.

To use the words of Horsfield, the whole appears to the observer “as a vast and sombre plain; by its innumerable woods presenting in some places the appearance of an immense unbroken forest, and in others scenery of the richest class, constantly varying in character, as the sunbeams or the shadow-clouds fall upon distant objects.”

Lastly, apparently, at one's feet, lies the valley of the Ouse, once covered by the waters of the sea, but now “with verdure clad,” affording abundant pasturage for numberless herds and flocks.

Through this valley, the river, flowing gently onward to the ocean, completes the scene.

“Here Ouse, slow winding through a level plain  
Of spacious meads, with cattle sprinkled o'er,  
Conducts the eye along its sinuous course,  
Delighted.”

(*Cowper's Task.*)



## HISTORICAL AND GENERAL.

In ancient documents Swanborough is spelt in many different ways, *e.g.*, Swenbeorg, Swinbeorg, Soneberge, Soaneberge, Suaneberge, Swamberg, Swanburgh, &c. By some it is said to have taken its name from a Danish chieftain; by others, as having been a manor of Sweyn, son of Earl Godwin; but there is little reason to doubt, that the correct derivation is from the Anglo-Saxon "Suanes"=country people, and "Burg"=a fortress. The inhabitants of the Hundred being exposed to the ravages of those piratical hordes which constantly infested the coast of Sussex, "Suaneberg" was probably designed as a protection in case of surprise or sudden invasion. On the erection of the Castle and Town Walls of Lewes, many of these people, seeking shelter for their families and cattle, were induced to reside in that town. For this privilege twenty-six such residents from Iford and Kingston paid, as we shall see, to the Lord of Lewes (1078) 28s. and 8d., and 16,000 herrings annually.

On the condition of the earlier races which inhabited the Hundred, it would be idle to speculate. At the period when the Romans first visited Britain, they were of the Teutonic family of nations, having apparently passed over from Belgic Gaul. Authentic information respecting them is of the most limited character, but at any rate they have "left their mark" in the Hundred, in the shape of the tumuli which occur on the Downs. It is now generally admitted, that these were the burial places of the chiefs only of the various tribes, and the number of these remains points to the conclusion, that the district was by no means sparsely populated.

In addition to the tumuli, there are undoubted remains of Ancient British encampments, one of which even at the present time is well defined, and is still known by the purely Celtic name of Pen-dic or Pen-dyke—the hill fort. Neither are we without distinct evidence of Roman occupation. According to Stukely, Hayley, Elliott, and others, a road of this period passed from Newhaven, through the Hundred northwards; thence by Bormer

(where there is an undoubted Roman cemetery) and Street to Cuckfield, forming a "diverticulum" of the great road leading from London to Portslade. There are certainly several clearly marked outlines of Roman encampments in Iford and Kingston, which give an air of probability to the assertion that such a road existed.

Coming down to later times, it appears, that in the reign of King Ethelred a Wittena-gemot or parliament was held at Swanborough, at which an agreement was concluded between the King and his brother Alfred. This will be seen by the following short extract from the preface to King Alfred's Will:—

Ac hit gelamp thæt we ealle on hæthenum folce gebro-cude wæron. Tha wæron we on gemote æt Swinbeor-gum. Tha gewædon wit on witena gewitnesse thæt swather uncer leng wære thæt he ge-uthe othres bearnum thara landa the wýt sýlfe begeaton, &c.

Which, being interpreted, is—

But it came to pass that we all by heathen-folk despoiled were. Then were we in Council at Swanburg. Then we declared in the presence of the nobles, that whichever of us outlived the other, that he should give the other's children those lands which we ourselves had acquired, &c.

The will itself records the bequests of many possessions in the vicinity of the Hundred, viz., Beddingham, Ditchling, Lullington, and others; and as Bishop Esnes, one of the legatees mentioned therein, died A.D. 885, it must have been made previously to that date.

A.D. 1235. In illustration of the condition of the peasants at this period, it may be noted that Warin de Kyngeston was witness to a deed by which Gilbert de Saye SELLS his servant Reginald to God and the monks of St. Pancras for ten shillings sterling.

A.D. 1264. One of the most important events connected with English History (the Battle of Lewes) was decided (May 14th) within the ancient confines of the Hundred. The "Monk of Lewes" (Cotton MSS.), after describing at length the incidents of the battle, adds the words—

“Hec omnia facta fuerant apud Lewes ad molendinum suellingi.”

Suelinga (or *gus*) signifies a hide of land (Spelm. Gloss), and the writer of the account evidently omitted the mark of contraction over the word Suellingi. The omission supplied would make the passage read “ad molendinum suellingi,” and thus it would appear that the deciding event of the battle was fought at the “Mill of the Hide” in Westout, and *not*, as generally supposed, at the Watergate Mill between Lewes and Southover. The following extract refers of course to the capture of the King of the Romans, who gallantly held on to the last. A ballad of the time commences—

“The Kyng of Alemaigne wende do ful well  
He saisede ye mulne for a castel.” (*Blaauw's Barons' War*).

In any case the final rout of Henry's army took place for the most part in Westout, where, as Fabian says, “the field was covered with dead bodies, and gasping and groaning was heard on every side. For eyther was desyrous to bring the other out of lyfe, and the father spared not the sonne, nor the sonne the father, and Christian bloude was shed that day without pitie.”

The extreme north-east of Kingston parish was probably crossed during this fearful scene, and it is suggestive that the field is still known as the “Devil's Race.”

A.D. 1296. From a Subsidy Roll of this year it appears that the tax collected in the Hundred was—

|                   |   |   |   |
|-------------------|---|---|---|
| Villata de Ifford | - | - | 102 <sup>s</sup> . 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ <sup>d</sup> |
| „ „ Kingston      | - | - | 66 <sup>s</sup> . 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ <sup>d</sup>  |
| „ „ Westute       | - | - | 78 <sup>s</sup> . 10 $\frac{3}{4}$ <sup>d</sup> |

A.D. 1340. In this year a tax was levied (by Parliament) of the ninth lamb, the ninth fleece, and the ninth sheaf. The basis of the valuation was a tax of the tenth levied in 1292, the ninth of 1340 being accepted as equivalent to the tenth of 1292. Commissioners to regulate the mode of levying this tax on the Hundred sat at Lewes, when the parish of Ifford claimed a reduction (from the

previous valuation) of 110 acres at five pence per acre, or ij<sup>li</sup> v<sup>s</sup> x<sup>d</sup>, "from the poverty of the land, and the poverty and inability of the cultivators to find seed." The tithe was then reckoned at 5d. per acre, a lamb at 3d., and a fleece at 2d.

A.D. 1612. The following Inventory of the goods and chattels of a Sussex yeoman will be of special interest to our many agricultural readers:—

A true and perfect Inventorie of all and singuler the goodes and chattells of John Aridge (Ridge, anciently Atte-Ridge) of Iford in the Countie of Sussex deceased, prised by Thomas Geere and R<sup>d</sup> Dumbrell the seventh daie of September 1612.

|  |    |   |                     |                   |                   |
|--|----|---|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Inprimis ( <i>sic</i> ) his weareing apparell  | -  | - | v <sup>lb</sup>     | —                 | —                 |
| Item his girdle purse & money  | -  | - | xL <sup>lb</sup>    | —                 | —                 |
| Item one feather bedd two feathar bolstars   | ij | } | ij <sup>lb</sup>    | —                 | —                 |
| pillowes ij blanquette ij covlette   | -  | - | -                   | -                 | -                 |
| Item x paire of sheete ij paire of pillocoats  | ij | } | —                   | L <sup>s</sup>    | —                 |
| table clothes  | -  | - | -                   | -                 | -                 |
| Item three chestes   | -  | - | -                   | x <sup>s</sup>    | —                 |
| Item one brasse pott   | -  | - | -                   | v <sup>s</sup>    | —                 |
| Item one Pike & corslett furnished   | -  | - | -                   | x <sup>s</sup>    | —                 |
| Item one cabud and a sword   | -  | - | -                   | ij <sup>s</sup>   | iiij <sup>d</sup> |
| Item five small beaste   | -  | - | v <sup>lb</sup>     | —                 | —                 |
| Item eight score and vij sheepe  | -  | - | xLj <sup>lb</sup>   | x <sup>s</sup>    | —                 |
| Item three quarters of Wheate  | -  | - | ij <sup>lb</sup>    | xij <sup>s</sup>  | —                 |
| Item eight Oxen  | -  | - | xxx <sup>lb</sup>   | —                 | —                 |
| Item six keene and a bull  | -  | - | xiiij <sup>lb</sup> | —                 | —                 |
| Item two steeres of ij yeres growth  | -  | - | v <sup>lb</sup>     | —                 | —                 |
| Omitted next to the wheate six qur <sup>s</sup> Barley   | -  | - | iiij <sup>lb</sup>  | xij <sup>s</sup>  | —                 |
| Item two steeres of ij yeres growth  | -  | - | iiij <sup>lb</sup>  | —                 | —                 |
| Item two twelvemonthinges  | -  | - | —                   | xxx <sup>s</sup>  | —                 |
| Item three weyners   | -  | - | —                   | xx <sup>s</sup>   | —                 |
| Item cxxx Ewes Weathers and Rams   | -  | - | xxxj <sup>lb</sup>  | —                 | —                 |
| Item two Horssebeaste  | -  | - | v <sup>lb</sup>     | —                 | —                 |
| Item viij quarters Wheate  | -  | - | x <sup>lb</sup>     | xij <sup>s</sup>  | iiij <sup>d</sup> |
| Item xvij quarters of Barley   | -  | - | xij <sup>lb</sup>   | —                 | —                 |
| Item xx <sup>th</sup> bushells of Beans  | -  | - | —                   | xL <sup>s</sup>   | —                 |
| Item vj bushells of Pease  | -  | - | —                   | xij <sup>s</sup>  | —                 |
| Item three bushells of Tares   | -  | - | —                   | v <sup>s</sup>    | —                 |
| Item one bushell & ½ of hempseed   | -  | - | —                   | iiij <sup>s</sup> | —                 |
| Item one Weyne a Ploughe one paire of plow<br>wheeles one share ij coulthers v yokes iiij Tyces<br>and ij Chapes | -  | - | -                   | xL <sup>s</sup>   | —                 |

|   |                    |                  |   |
|---|--------------------|------------------|---|
| Item ij paire of Weyne wheles ij Caert ij pair of }<br>Dills xij Whippens - - - - }               | ij <sup>lb</sup>   | —                | — |
| Item xx Wattells - - - - -  | —                  | x <sup>s</sup>   | — |
| Item Wood & Coale - - - - -   | v <sup>lb</sup>    | —                | — |
| Item x Hogges of Bacon and live Hoggs -   | v <sup>lb</sup>    | —                | — |
| Item iiij bedstedds one feather bedd vij feather }<br>bolstars 6 covlettes & ix Blancketts - }    | vj <sup>lb</sup>   | —                | — |
| Item viij p <sup>r</sup> Sheetes vij Cord Clothes iiij table- }<br>napkins two Walletts - - - - } | —                  | xxx <sup>s</sup> | — |
| Item ij Chestes and vj Sackes - - - - -   | —                  | x <sup>s</sup>   | — |
| Item x pewter platters iiij pewter Sawcers -  | —                  | xv <sup>j</sup>  | — |
| Item vij pertes of brass, a furnace - - -   | —                  | xL <sup>s</sup>  | — |
| Item a Counter a table ij formes - - -  | —                  | v <sup>s</sup>   | — |
| Item ij yron Potts j pothoke ij potthangers -   | —                  | x <sup>s</sup>   | — |
| Item xxv tubbs & Wodden Vessells - - -  | —                  | xL <sup>s</sup>  | — |
| Item xiiij trugges & Vooles & five Wodden platters  | —                  | xx <sup>s</sup>  | — |
| Item ij Axes & iiij Wedges - - - - -  | —                  | ij <sup>s</sup>  | — |
| Item vj Candlesticks & iiij Saltcellers - -   | —                  | v <sup>s</sup>   | — |
| Item in Desperate Deste ( <i>sic</i> ) - - - - -  | iiij <sup>lb</sup> | —                | — |

Summa totlis (*sic*) [qu totalis] vj<sup>o</sup> Lv<sup>lb</sup> xiiij<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup>

A.D. 1621. On the levying of the first payment of a subsidy granted to King James the 1st, the Hundred is thus assessed—<sup>36</sup>

|                  |                  |                    |
|------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Kingston . . . . | xL <sup>s</sup>  | iiij <sup>d</sup>  |
| Iford . . . .    | xix <sup>s</sup> | xiiij <sup>d</sup> |

A.D. 1649 (June 15th). The annual value of all Lands, Quit Rents, Tithes, &c., is returned as follows:—

|                |       |     |    |
|----------------|-------|-----|----|
| Kingston . . . | £531. | 12. | 0. |
| Iford . . . .  | £506. | 11. | 0. |

A.D. 1820. During some excavations at Iford four massive gold “posy-rings” were found, bearing the following inscriptions:—

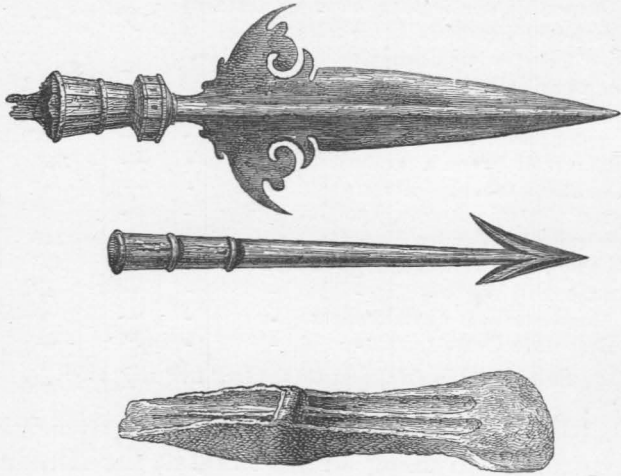
1. “God doth foresee what’s best for me.”
2. “Remember J. W.”
3. “Wilst life is myn, my heart is thyn.”
4. “What God hath sent, mak mee content.”<sup>37</sup>

At the same time a bronze gilt fragment of a crucifix was discovered. According to Lower, it is of excellent

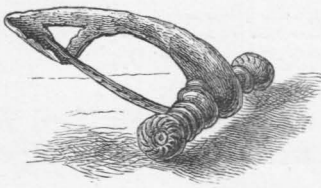
<sup>36</sup> cf. ix. S.A.C., p. 75.

<sup>37</sup> cf. xvii. S.A.C., p. 245.

art, and apparently of the 14th century, and has already been illustrated in these Collections.<sup>38</sup> An engraving of several other relics, including a Roman fibula, recently



ANCIENT SPEAR HEADS—KINGSTON HILL.  
 CELT—FROM SUTTON FARM, IFORD.



FIBULA—FROM SITE OF ROMAN  
 ENCAMPMENT, IFORD.



FRAGMENT OF CARVED STONE  
 WORK—FROM SUTTON FARM,  
 IFORD.

found on Sutton farm, Iford, and now in the possession of the Rev. P. de Putron, which have been found at different times in the Hundred, is here given.

<sup>38</sup> XVII. S.A.C., p. 245.

SUDSEXE.

IN SONBERGE HUND.

**W**illelmus de Warene tenet in dno NIWOSDE.  
 Eadid regina tenuit .I. R. E. se defet p hoc vii. hid  
 7 dim. Xdo Willel recep: nisi .L viii. hid. qa alig fuer  
 mra sap comat morte. He. L viii. hidge defet se in p. xxxvi.  
 hid. Tpa. e. Lii. car. In dno sunt. v. car. 7 c. uitti. iii.  
 min<sup>o</sup> 7 xxxii. bord hinc. xxxiiii. car. Ibi ecclia 7 vj. serui.  
 7 ii. molini de xxiii. sol. 7 ca. 7 viii. ac pa. Silua. xxx. porc  
 In burgo de Leves. xxvi. burgtel. de xiii. solis. De pastura  
 xv. sol. 7 viii. den. 7 xvi. millenar allecu.  
 De hac tpa tenet monachi s<sup>i</sup> pancrat. vi. hid 7 dim. 7 ibi hinc  
 in dno. ii. car. 7 x. uittos cu. iii. car. Non geldam he hidge.  
 De ead tpa he hugo. ii. hid. 7 Isard. i. hid 7 dim. In dno hinc  
 ii. car. cu. iiii. bord. Has tpa tenet uitti.  
 Totu on I. R. E. ualeb. L. lib. 7 post. x. lib. Modo dnum  
 Willel: xxxv. lib. Monachoy: iii. lib. hominu: lxxv. solis.

EXTRACT (FAC SIMILE) FROM DOOMSDAY BOOK RELATING TO  
 (MODERN) HUND. OF SWANBOROUGH.

## MANORIAL.

The earliest notice (which I have been able to find) of the Manor of Niworde is during the reign of King Edgar, when it is mentioned in a grant of that monarch, A.D. 966. (Cotton, Vitell. E. 12). It afterwards formed part of the dowry of Editha "the Fair," daughter of Earl Godwin, on her marriage with Edward the Confessor. In that invaluable record, Domesday Book, it is noticed as being in her possession at the time of the Conquest, when it was granted to William de Warene, son-in-law of the Conqueror. It has been asserted by Dunvan and others that the Niworde of Domesday answers to the Southover of modern days, but this hypothesis has been satisfactorily disproved by Mr. Horsfield. According to the best authority it comprehended at that time the parish of Kingston, and the greater part of the parish of Iford—the smaller portion of the latter parish being included in the Manor of Northese, in the adjoining parish of Rodmell. A facsimile of the actual text of Domesday Book, so far as it relates to the manor of Niworde, is here given, and a free translation appended.

"William de Warene held Niworde in demesne. (Editha, Queen Dowager of Edward the Confessor, held it.) In the time of King Edw. it was assessed at  $77\frac{1}{2}$  hides; when it was transferred to William it was only rated at 58, because the rest were within the Rape of the Earl of Moreton. These 58 hides are now rated at 36. The arable is 52 plough lands. There are 5 plough lands in the demesne, and 100 villains, deduct 3, and 32 bondsmen have 34 plough lands. There is a church there and six ministers and 2 mills of 23s.,<sup>39</sup> and 208 acres of meadow. Wood for 30 hogs. In the borough of Lewes 26 Burgesses paying 13s; for pasturage 15s. 8d; and they supply 16,000 herrings. Of this district the monks of S. Pancras hold  $6\frac{1}{2}$  hides, and these have in demesne 2 ploughs and 10 villains with 3 ploughs. These hides do not pay land tax. Of the same land Hugh holds 2 hides and Tosard  $1\frac{1}{2}$  hide. In demesne they have 2 ploughs with 4 bondsmen. These lands the vil-

<sup>39</sup> cf. v. S.A.C., p. 271.



lains formerly held. The whole manor in the time of King Edw. was valued at £50, and afterwards at £20. Now the demesne of William is (estimated at) £35, and (the moiety ?) of the monks at £3, that of the Homagers at 75s.

Soon after the Conquest, the separate manors of Iford, Kingston and Swanborough are mentioned in the deeds and charters of the period, and I propose to give briefly the names of the principal families into which each of these manors successively passed, and to supplement this account with notes and extracts connected with the hundred (chronologically arranged), which have been gathered from various sources—chiefly from the Burrell MSS. and other documents in the British Museum.

#### IFORD.

The manor passed from the Earls Warren (circa 1100) to De Plaiz. Thence, after many generations, upon failure of male issue in Richard de Plaiz, Margaret, his daughter and heiress, carried it, by marriage with Sir John Howard, ancestor of the Dukes of Norfolk, into the family of that name. His descendants enjoyed it for some time, but at length it passed to the Fitzalans, Earls of Arundel. Upon the attainder of Richard Fitzalan, his estates were seized, and the manor given to Thomas de Mowbray, then created Duke of Norfolk, in 21 Richard II.<sup>40</sup> In 1411 it formed part of the possessions of Joan Dalyn-gregge. (Parl. Roll, 13 Hen. IV.) Value £13 6s. 8d.

The following extract from Rowe's MSS. will throw some further light on the manorial history of Iford at an early period :—

<sup>40</sup> Particio fact. in Cancellar. Dni. R. inter Johan.<sup>41</sup> Ducem Norf. Ed. Lenthall militem et Edri. Nevill Dmi. Bergevenny cohered. Comitum Warren (*sic* in MSS.), de Manerys &c in Sussex tantum. (So far as relates to Hund. of Swanboro'.) (*Circa*, 1483 ?)

<sup>40</sup> Horsfield, Hist. Lewes, Vol. ii., p. 143; also Hist. Sussex, Vol. i. p. 199. Vol. ii., p. 3, 186, 187.

<sup>41</sup> This Duke John is mentioned in Horsfield's "Sussex," Vol. ii., p. 187. See also xvii. S. A. C., p. 83.

A — pars Edmundi Lenthall mil.

Quidam annuus redditus de novo picipiend. de manio. de Northese cum ptin. Ac de villa de Iforde cu ptin. sup. pticoe ista huic pti. allocat. Soluend. annuatim ad Festa. Annunciacois bte. Marie Virginis et Sci. Michis equis porcionibus } xij<sup>l</sup> xij<sup>d</sup> duas tercias ptes  
1<sup>d</sup>. et duas tercias ptes  
unius oboli.

Tercia pars hundred. de Swanbrugh.

Medietas 1 feod. mil. in Rougham (?) qua. Johes de Kingston nup. tenuit.

B — pars Ducis Norff.

Quidam annu. redditus de novo picipiend. de manio de Northese cu. ptin. Ac de villa de Iford cum ptin. sup. pticoe ista huic pti allocat. Soluend. ad Festa. Annunciacois bte Marie et Sci. Michis per equas porcoes. } xxxvj<sup>s</sup> ij<sup>d</sup>  
Unum feod. militis in Smythwyke (?) et Kyngston } C<sup>s</sup>  
quod her. Sayer de Resey nup. tenuit

C — pars Elizabeth. uxoris Edri Nevyll Dni. de Bergevenny.

Man. de Northese cu. ptin. et Villa de Iford cu. ptin. } 1<sup>s</sup> 8<sup>d</sup>  
ult<sup>a</sup> xxxvj<sup>s</sup> ij<sup>d</sup> sup. pticoe ista ptib<sup>s</sup> A. & B. } xij. 0. x.  
allocat. annuat. picipiend. } ob  
Septem feod. mil. in Warplesborne Chayley Iford et } xxxv. l.  
Worth que heres Rici Playz nup. tenuit

From this time it passed through a variety of hands, and eventually became part of the possessions of the Priory of Lewes. At the dissolution it was granted to Thomas Lord Cromwell, and in the reign of Elizabeth was held by the Lewknors. It afterwards became the property of the Ades, then (by marriage) of the Hurleys, and, by the same process, of the Rosseters, in which family it still continues.

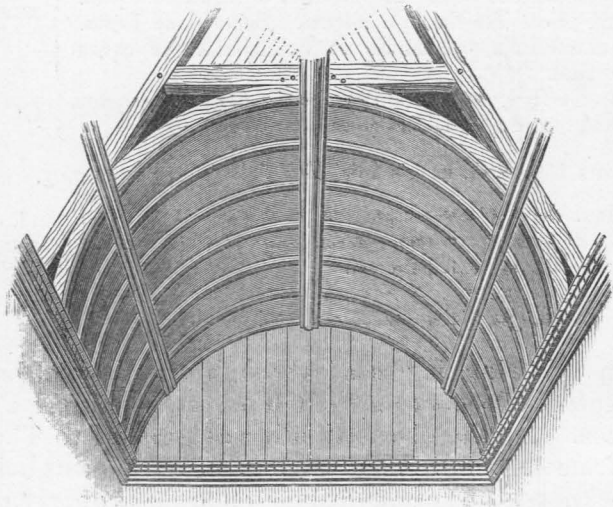
#### SWANBOROUGH.

This manor was probably granted by William de Warene to the Priory of Lewes, and was used by the monks as a Grange.

In 1296 it was held by John de Marmyon, and in 33 Henry VIII. it passed to William Earl of Arundel, in exchange for other lands. In the middle of Queen Eliza-

beth's reign John Caryll was proprietor. Ultimately it became part of the possessions of the Dorset family, and from the accounts of the steward (Edward Lindsey) in 1601, it appears that he paid an annuity of £74 to John Baker, Esq., of Colman street, out of the revenues of the manor. Since that time it has been owned by the same family, the present proprietor being the Earl Delawarr.

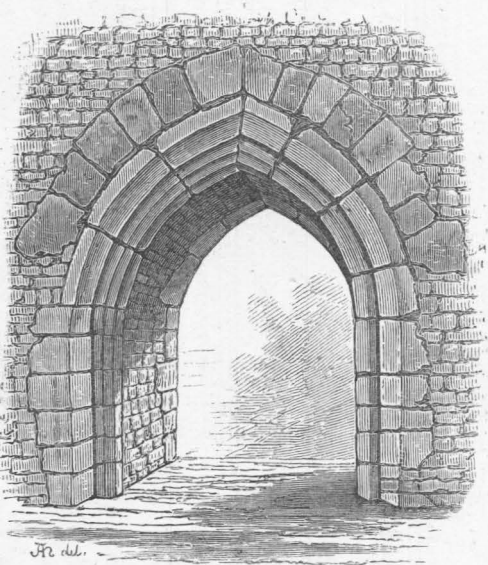
Much of the ancient Manor House still exists, and well deserves examination. It is greatly to be regretted that in consequence of the alterations which have taken place



ROOF—SWANBOROUGH MANOR HOUSE.

at various periods, the original plan cannot be ascertained satisfactorily. The early attachment of a chapel to the establishment is attested by a charter of Seffrid, Bishop of Chichester, circa A.D. 1190 (see Ecclesiastical Notes). The oldest portion of the building now standing may be assigned to that period, when the chapel was probably in connection with the Norman Church of Iford. The Early English part of the mansion is on the northern side, still constituting the principal portion of the house. To this part there are additions and alterations of both Early

and very Late Perpendicular—the latter *temp.* Henry VII. or Henry VIII. What is now called the chapel has been divided into modern rooms, the ceilings of which conceal the ancient roof. But, though the outer wall is Early English, the insertion of Perpendicular windows, together with a large stone fire-place, renders it probable that these rooms were, latterly at least, used as the hall or refectory, the original chapel being placed still further eastward. There are no traces of this remaining. At the west end of the hall is the frame of a circular window, and beneath



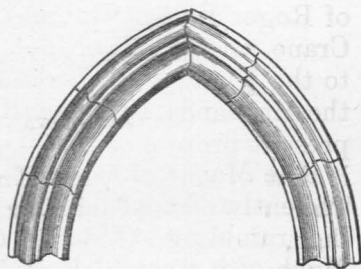
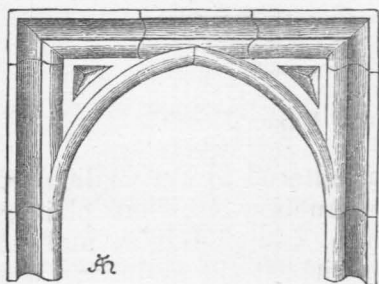
GATEWAY—SWANBOROUGH MANOR HOUSE.

it that of one of Early English altered to Perpendicular. The roof is of similar construction to, but plainer than, those of Godshill Church, Isle of Wight, and of Faringdon Church, Berkshire, without the tie-beams, the ribs having grooves for the insertion of thin boards, which would bend into the curve of the ribs. This work is Perpendicular, probably coeval with the first alterations in that style. Westward of the Early English building is a Perpendicular addition, comprising, below, a pointed-

arched Gate-way (given above) communicating with the quadrangle, or court-yard ; and above, a gallery, now a pigeon-house, approached from the ground by a newel



NEWEL STAIRCASE—SWANBOROUGH.



ARCHES (OF DOORWAYS)—SWANBOROUGH MANOR HOUSE.

stair, having had a door into the house, and another at the western end into buildings now demolished. In the remaining portion of the house there are two Late Per-

pendicular doorways, but most of the other old features of the interior have been concealed or destroyed by alterations during the last century. Illustrations of these doorways are given.

Swanborough Manor House has been for some time the residence of Mrs. Verrall, who, while carefully preserving what remained of interest to the archæologist, has, by a judicious cultivation of climbing plants and shrubs, added greatly to the picturesque aspect of the exterior.

#### KINGSTON.

This manor is not mentioned in Domesday. In 1239 Warinus de Kyngeston held it of the Honour of Warren, and in 1296 John, of the same family, held it by a like tenure. In 1397 it was granted by K. Richard II. to Thomas Duke of Norfolk, and (in common with many other manors in the district) it subsequently became the property of the Prior of Lewes. In 1412 it was in the possession of Thomas, Earl of Arundel and Surrey. (Subsidy Roll, 13 H. IV.; value £9).

At the dissolution it was granted by Henry VIII. to Thomas Lord Cromwell, on whose attainder it again fell into the Royal hands.

In 28 Eliz., Sir Philip Sydney was found by inquisition to have died seised of the manor, leaving Elizabeth, wife of Roger Earl of Rutland, his heiress. In 1590 Peter Crane was possessor, and in the 17th century it belonged to the Vinalls. Subsequently it became the property of the Maitlands, by whom it was sold to the ancestor of the present proprietors, the Gorings of Wiston.

The Manor House (the residence of the writer) was anciently of considerable dimensions. It is now but a big rambling cottage, a "shadow of its former self." Much of it was pulled down at the end of the last century, and a small portion only remains of the original house. In this part the walls are of great thickness. Fragments of carved stone-work, varying in date from the 12th to the 15th century, have been brought to light at different times, of which a specimen is given below.

In front of the house a large paved court formerly existed, with an avenue of elms. In common with many other old houses, it has its traditional subterranean passage, &c. ; but a few years ago, in excavating a part of the gardens, a large underground chamber was discovered. Whether this was designed for the purpose of concealment or confinement is, of course, purely conjectural.



Jr



W.T.H.C. Sc

MARBLE PLAQUES—INTERIOR OF KINGSTON MANOR HOUSE.

The house possesses an oak staircase and balustrade, probably of the time of Queen Anne.

In addition to the manors before-mentioned, that of "Hyde in Kyngston by Lewes" must be noticed. The only record of it, which I have been able to find, is in a survey contained in a Court Roll, *temp.* 9th Eliz. Thos. Michell, who married Jane, daughter of John de la Chambre, of Rodmell, was then Lord. It afterwards passed through several hands into the family of Rogers, and thence to the present proprietor.

From the description given in the Roll, it may be regarded as certain, that the site of the Manor House was identical with that now known as "Kingston Farm." Tenements of this manor were held by the yearly payment of "a silken lace," a "pound of cummin seed, a rent of ten shillings, or a pair of gilt spurs, at the choice of the Lord."

The following are some of the principal ownerships and old grants of land, &c., in the Hundred :—



JK

FRAGMENTS OF CARVED STONE-WORK, KINGSTON MANOR HOUSE.



1080.

William Earl Warren gave to God and the Abbot of Cluni, five hides and a half of land in Swambergh.<sup>42</sup> Confirmed in 1397; see p. 144.

1088.

The same Earl granted to the Monks of Lewes Priory, free fishing in the waters of Swanburgh.<sup>43</sup>

1090.

William, 2nd Earl Warren, gave to God and St. Pancrace three hides and a half of land in Kyngeston.<sup>44</sup>

1142.

William, 3rd Earl Warren, gave by deed to the Monks of Lewes, two hides and a half of land in Yford "in free charity"; also two hides of land, which William, son of Godwin, held; and in the following year half a hide of land in Kyngeston, "for his soul and those of his parents, in pure and perpetual charity."<sup>45</sup>

1144.

The same earl gave to Lewes Priory the land which Briceline had in Swambergh "in suburbio castelli sui."<sup>46</sup>

1155.

Hugo de Plaiz gave to the monks of Lewes the windmill in his manor of Iford, for the health of the soul of his father, "qui jacet in capellâ de Lewes."<sup>47</sup>

1190.

Hameline Plantagenet, 5th Earl Warren, confirmed by deed all gifts of land in the Hundred made by his predecessors to Lewes Priory.<sup>48</sup>

1199.

The Countess Isabel (widow of the above Hameline) who died July 15th, and was buried in Lewes Priory, bequeathed all her possessions in the Hundred to the said Priory. "Cum omni libertate et dignitate."<sup>49</sup>

1239.

Hugo de Playz held of William 6th Earl Warren 7 Knights' fees in Yford and Werpesburn, and Warinus de Kyngeston held of the same earl half a Knight's fee in Kyngeston.<sup>50</sup>

1317.

John, 8th Earl Warren, being divorced from his wife (by whom he had no children) gave by special grant to the King, all his lands in the

<sup>42</sup> Watson's "Memoirs of the Earls of Warren and Surrey."

<sup>43</sup> *Ib.*

<sup>44</sup> *Ib.*

<sup>45</sup> *Ib.*

<sup>46</sup> *Ib.*

<sup>47</sup> Testa de Nevill.

<sup>48</sup> Watson.

<sup>49</sup> *Ib.*

<sup>50</sup> Testa de Nevill.

Hundred, with intent to have a re-grant in tail to his illegitimate children by Maud de Nerford. According to Dugdale the re-grant was made in 1326.<sup>51</sup>

1397.

At the request of John Ok, Prior of Lewes, Thomas Duke of Norfolk confirmed to the Priory (*inter alia*) the following landed property in the Hundred which had been previously granted to it by the Earls Warren.

'In Swambgh quinque hidas & dimid. & duas hidas quas dedit Tusardus, & unam hidam quam dedit Bricelinus, & un. hidam quam dedit Ormarus, quando fci sunt monachi. & un. hid. & dimid. quam tenuit Ailwinus de Wincestra in Kyngiston.<sup>52</sup>

'In Swanborough five and a half hides which Tosard gave, and one hide which Briceline gave, and one hide which Ormarus gave, when they were made monks, and one hide and a half which Aylwin of Winchester held in Kingston.'

1412.

In the Roll of a Subsidy levied 13 Hen. IV., it is recorded that Thomas Earl of Arundel and Surrey has the manors of Kyngeston with Swanbergh hundred, value yearly £9. And that Joan Dalynngregge has the manor of Yford value yearly £13 6s. 8d.<sup>53</sup>

These possessions of the above-mentioned Earl were acquired by the marriage of his father with Alice, only sister and heiress of the last Earl Warren, who died in 1347, and was buried near the high altar in the Abbey Church of Lewes.

1476.

Edward, 26th Baron Bergavenny, died seised of that part of the Manor of Northese "in the town of Iford."<sup>54</sup>

1530.

George Lord Bergavenny by his will dated 24th Jan., 21 Henry VIII., directs that Sir John Monday shall stand seised of the Manor of Northese cum Iford.<sup>55</sup> This was confirmed 27 Hen. VIII.

1538.

At the surrender, by the Prior, of the Monastery of Lewes, the manors of Swanborough and Kingston, with their appurtenances, were granted to Thomas Lord Cromwell.<sup>56</sup>

1580.

Peter Crane, son of Richard Crane,<sup>57</sup> possessed the manor of Kingston. He married Joan, daughter of William Newton, of Southover, who also appears to have had property in the parish, as in 1590 he bequeathed all his lands in Kingston, next Lewes, to his second son William.

<sup>51</sup> Watson.

<sup>52</sup> Lewes Chartulary.

<sup>53</sup> x. S.A.C. pp. 132. 141.

<sup>54</sup> Rowland's Family of Nevill.

<sup>55</sup> *Ib.*

<sup>56</sup> Horsfield's Lewes, Vol. ii., p. 141.

<sup>57</sup> Inq. p.m., 2 and 3 Ph. and Mary.

1594.

In the survey of the estates of Edward 24th Baron Abergavenny, the manors of Iford and Northese are enumerated.<sup>58</sup>

1595.

In 38 Eliz. Sir Thos. Ersfield alias Eversfield held of the Manor of Houndene a House and land in Kingston juxta Lewes, val. xvij<sup>s</sup>.<sup>59</sup>

1610.

Among the lands authorized (by Act of Parliament 7 Jas. I.) to be sold by the then Baron Abergavenny for the payment of his debts (particularly of one to the King) appear the Manor of Winterbourne, and certain brook lands, together with the Shure in Iford.<sup>60</sup>

1611. 22nd April.

In a grant by King James the First to Edward Lord Bergavenny among other estates in Sussex appear "the moyety of the hundred of Swanberghe, allsoe all that manor of Northese als Northeise, and all that manor or reputed manor of the village or hamlett of Iford als Ifford, with their appurtenances, and all those rents of assize with their appurtenances amounting to five pounds or thereabouts issuing out of divers lands and tenements in Iford als Ifford aforesaid."<sup>61</sup>

This earl died in 1662, seised of the said manors, &c.

1651.

In the Parliamentary Survey, "of the possessions of Charles Stuart late Kinge," appears the following:—

In the Hundred of Swanborough

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| All that rent called or knowne by the name of common fine money, due, and payable by the burrough and tything of Iford, is per annum . . . . . | vij s     |
| The like rent due and payable by the burrough of Kingston, and is per annum . . . . .  | vij s     |
| The like rent due and payable by the burrough of Weston (Westout), and is per annum . . . . .  | ij s ii d |
| And also the rent due and payable from the inhabitants within the aforesaid hundred called the Aldermen's fines, is per annum . . . . .        | ij s vi d |

MEMORANDUM.—The Court leet for the aforesaid hundred is held twice in the yeare at the usuall tyme att Kingston And the three weeks court is kept in the towne of Lewis

In Iford and Northese the custom of "Borough English" extends to the youngest son and youngest daugh-

<sup>58</sup> Rowland.<sup>59</sup> Rowe MSS.<sup>60</sup> *Ib.*<sup>61</sup> *Ibid.*

ter of the youngest relative collaterally. In Swanborough and Kingston it extends to females *lineally* as well as collaterally.<sup>62</sup>

By the custom of the Manors of Kingston and Iford every freeholder is subject to a heriot of the best beast on death.

Of the connection of the noble families of Nevill, Sackville, and others with the Hundred, it is unnecessary to remark. It may, however, be allowed to put on record a few notes respecting one or two of the less famous landed proprietors, who for a long time held considerable possessions therein. The following particulars respecting the Vinalls, of Kingston, are gathered from the Harl. and Burrell MSS. :—

In a grant of arms, A.D. 1657, John Vinall, of Kingston, co. Sussex, gent., is described as of good birth and anciently<sup>63</sup> descended. He was the son of John, which was the son of William, who was formerly of Vynehall, in the said County. Their arms (an illustration of which is here given) were party per fesse, or & sable: in chief



ARMS OF VINALL.

3 lions rampant sable, armed and langued gules. Crest, a demy-lion rampant, erased, sable, holding in its mouth a bezant. There is a pedigree of this family in the

<sup>62</sup> Swanboro', however, alone of the four is named in Mr. Corner's list of places where the custom prevails, in

a former volume (vi.) of these Collections.

<sup>63</sup> IX., S. A. C., p. 73.

visitation for 1662. William Vinall, of Kingston, gent., then living, mar. Elizabeth, da. of Walter Dobell, of Street, Esq<sup>re</sup>, and secondly Mabilla Davis, by whom he had a son William, who, by Eliz., da. of Richard Gunn, had a son William, who was buried at Iford in 1773. The name was originally spelt Vynagh, or Vynaugh. Vinehall, from whence they took their name, is in the parish of Sedlescombe.<sup>64</sup> I am sorry, however, to have to add that the name is to be found, as well as that of several other of our villagers, including that of the Constable of our Hundred—who ought to have known better!—in the list of Cade's adherents in 1450. (XVIII. S.A.C., 39).

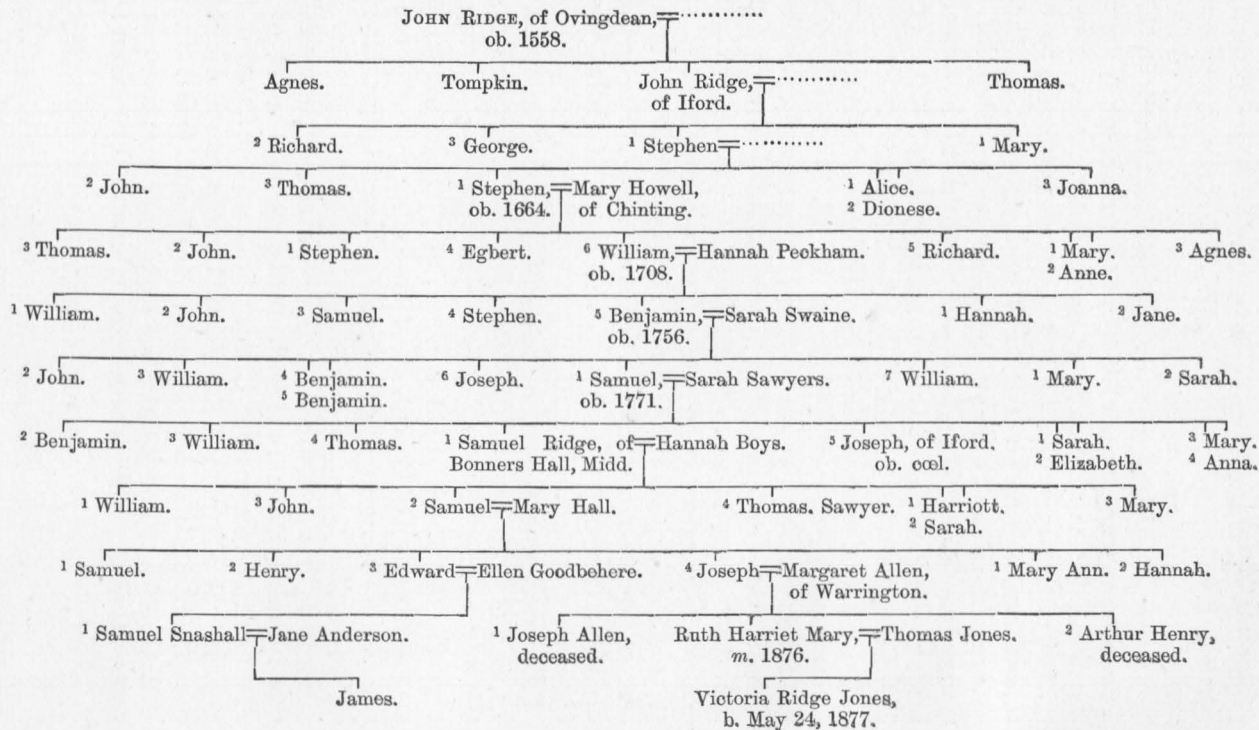
On a brass, now covered by the recently-laid floor of ornamental tiles, in the Chancel of Kingston Church, is the following inscription:—"Hic humatum corpus Annæ Vinall uxor. Gulielmi Vinall, arm, et fili. Johannis Farinton, Cicestrensis, arm. quæ decessit ex vita vicessimo octavo Decembris, vicessimo secundo ætatis suæ, anno salutis 1667." Also, on a marble slab, "Here lieth interred the body of Captain William Vinall, who died Feb. 2, 1680, ætatis 47. Also John and Mabella Vinall, children of Captain Vinall."

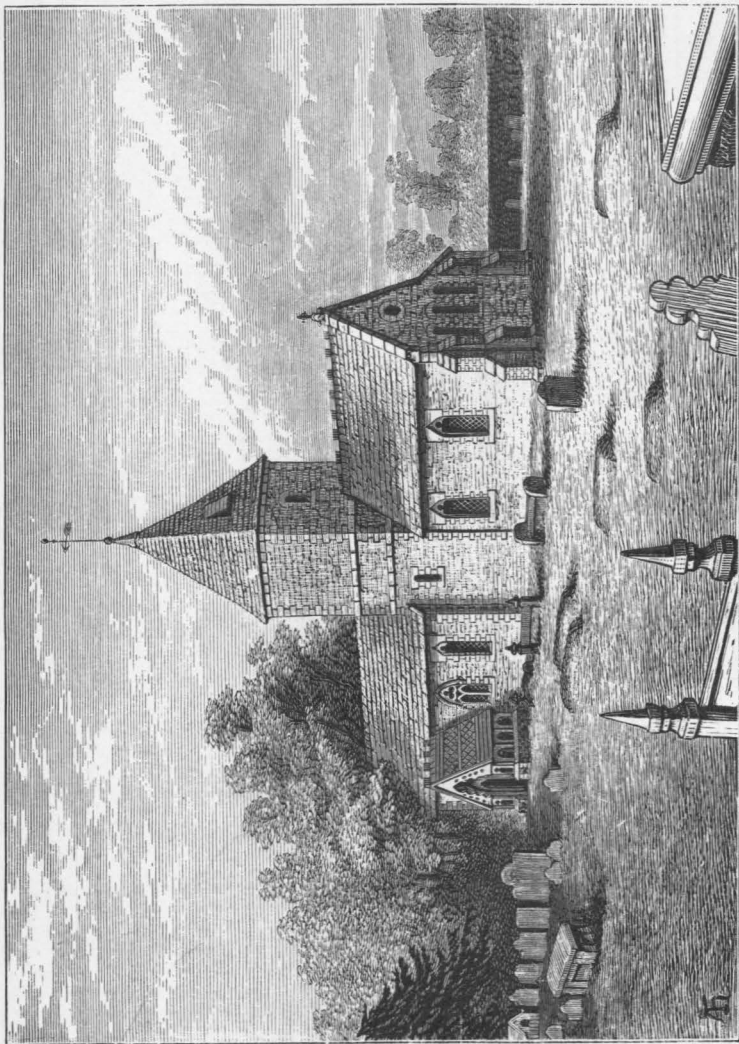
According to Rowe, a grant of lands was made, 27 Hen. VIII., to Stephen Ridge of Iford. To this grant the seal of the Priory of Lewes was attached, having on one side the arms of De Warene, and on the other those of the Borough of Lewes, with the legend (*sic*), "Sigillum commune Prioris et conventus Monasterii Sancti Pancratii de Lewes."

In 9th Eliz., Stephen A'Ridge became possessed of considerable lands in Iford, probably that part of the Manor of Northese cum Iford, which was situated in that parish. A Stephen A'Ridge, or Uridge, is mentioned as compounding for knighthood. (Temp. Chas. I., xvi. S.A.C., 49). The estate has ever since remained in the same family, a lineal descent of which is here given:—

<sup>64</sup> Harl. MSS., 1144.

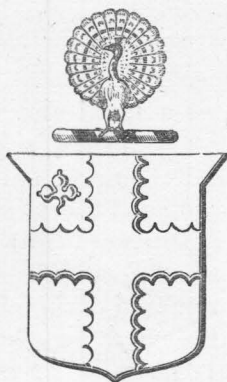
PEDIGREE OF THE RIDGES (OR A'RIDGES), OF IFORD.





IFORD CHURCH.

According to "Berry," they bare. Gu. a cross engr. arg. In the first quarter, a trefoil slipped, vert. Crest: A peacock in his pride, affrontée, arg.



ARMS OF RIDGE.

NOTE.—A member of this family, Margaret, married (circa 1530) Edmund Henslow, of Lindfield, "Master of the game in Ashdown Forest and Broill Park."

## ECCLESIASTICAL.

*Iford.*—The Church of Iford is mentioned in Domesday, and is returned in that survey as having six ministers. The oldest portion of the existing edifice was erected *circa* A.D. 1100, and in other parts of the building there are examples of Early English and Decorated styles. The following description of this Norman Church is taken from Petit's "Notes on Sussex Churches" ("Arch. Journal," vol. vi., p. 124):—

'It has a square central tower, very plain, and crowned with a shingled spire. There are no transepts, nor aisles to the nave, but the chancel has had a north chapel, or vestry, entered from within by a segmental pointed archway on Early English imposts with square abacus. There is no east window. The tower arches suggest the intention of transepts, those on the north and south sides being deep, and apparently constructed for support. Externally the plaster prevents any judgment being formed from the masonry. The arches are round, of one order, without chamfer.



The western face of the chancel arch has a torus at the edge ; that of the nave arch has a similar torus, and another broken by chevrons.

The capital of the impost is an abacus, and there are no shafts. Both the nave and chancel have some foliated windows of one light belonging to the Decorated and Perpendicular styles. The font is Early English, and consists of a bowl supported on a large central shaft, surrounded by four smaller detached ones. Its mouldings are bold and decided, but it has no other sculpture.

The chancel contains a small piscina in the south wall, and an ambry<sup>65</sup> on the opposite side. Two very small Norman windows under the north and south arches of the tower were probably replaced there from the transepts.

The church has recently (1868) been restored, the chancel at the expense of Mrs. Rosseter, the lay proprietress. Upon the removal of the whitewash and plaster, it was discovered that a north aisle had previously existed, the arches of which are now disclosed. Remains of mural paintings were also brought to light. There is little doubt that transepts formed part of the church, but of these there are now no traces remaining. Decorated windows of two lights were inserted at the restoration, both on the north and south sides, as well as three Early Norman windows,<sup>66</sup> with a small circular one above, at the east end. The western entrance was at this time closed, and a porch of the style of the 14<sup>th</sup> Cent. erected on the south side. The tower contains three ancient bells, dedicated to S. Botolph, S. Katherine, and S. Margaret, the inscriptions on which have appeared in a former vol.,<sup>67</sup> but, with those of Kingston, are given below more completely.

#### KINGSTON.

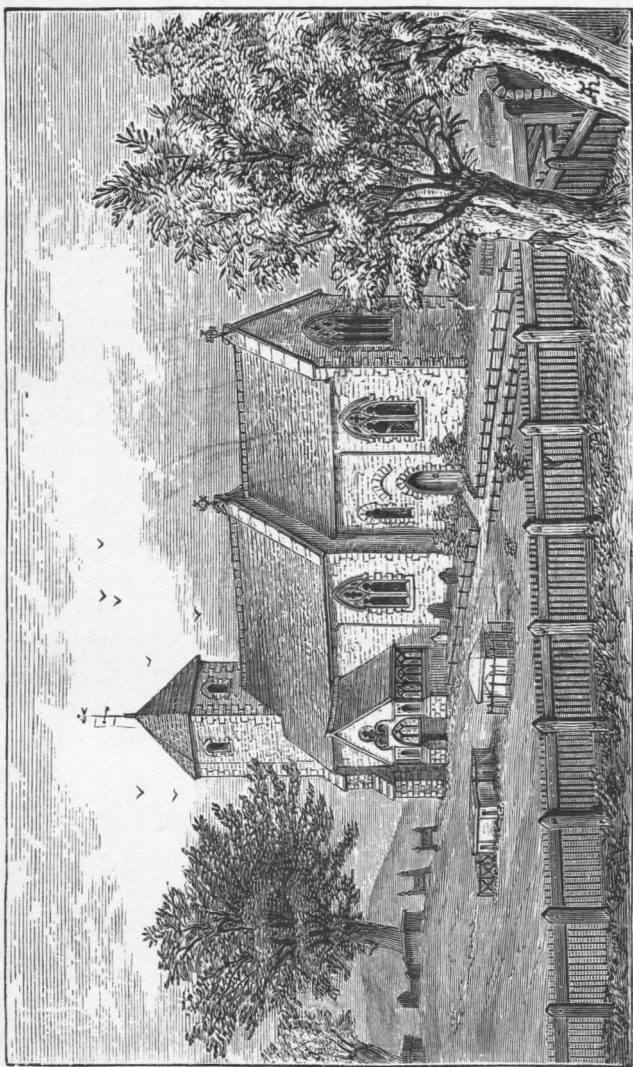
A church existed here certainly soon after the Conquest, as among the charters of William, 2<sup>nd</sup> Earl Warren, is a grant to Petrus Vicecomes, of an acre of land at Kyngeston, "ad ecclesiam faciendam—et tu Hugo vicecomes fac monasterium S<sup>i</sup> Pancratii saysiri ad opus

<sup>65</sup> A recess in which were kept the vessels for use at the altar.

<sup>66</sup> The stone frame-work of these existed when the Church was described by

Petit, but they were blocked up with brickwork, and hidden by a table of Commandments, &c.

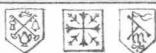
<sup>67</sup> xvi. S.A.C., 214.



KINGSTON CHURCH.

1

Sancte Botolfe Ora Pro Nobis



2

Sancta Katerina Ora Pro Nobis



3

Sancta Margareta Ora Pro Nobis



*Inscription.*

Jford Bells.

1

WALTERVS: WIMBIS: MÆ: PÆDIT



2

AVE: MARIA: GRADIA: PLANA



3

SANCTA ANNA ORA PRO NOBIS



*Inscription.*

Kingston Bells.

ecclesiæ." By another charter, the same Earl confirmed the possession of the church and land by the Monks of Lewes. Numerous stones (many of which are in the possession of the writer) of apparently Norman workmanship, and which had previously been used, have been found in the village. The older church was probably of smaller dimensions, as in excavating the foundation of the east wall of the chancel of the later fabric at the recent restoration, it was found to intersect several interments which had taken place anterior to its erection. The existing building dates from the early part of the 14<sup>th</sup> century, and is a very perfect specimen of the style of the period. The arch connecting the tower with the nave is of graceful proportions, and the tracery of the windows is decorated-flowing. The font, which is apparently of the same date as the church, is perfectly plain, but massive and of circular form. The tower is disproportionally small, and contains three bells, two of which are ancient, and inscribed respectively to S. Mary and S. Anne.<sup>68</sup> The other is one of the few old Sussex bells which records the name of its founder. In the chancel are two small brasses and other memorials (now covered with ornamental paving) of the Vinall family, and in the churchyard are others for members of various other families who were formerly landowners in the parish, viz., Zouch, Ade, Glover, Rogers, &c., &c. On a tomb, on the north side of the church, is the following inscription (now barely legible)—“Depositum Henrici Zouch olim de civitate Londinensi, nuper vero de Southover in hoc Comitatu Generosi. Obiit Vicesimo nono Decembris Anno Christi 1730. *Ætatis* vero 44<sup>to</sup>.”

The Church was much injured by lightning in 1865, and it had been for a long time previously in a dilapidated condition. In 1874 it underwent a thorough restoration in strict accordance with original designs, the only new feature being a handsome porch, which harmonises admirably with the general outline of the building. The entire cost of the restoration was defrayed by the Reverend John Goring, of Wiston Park.

<sup>68</sup> See xvi. S.A.C., 215.

At Swanborough there was a chapel attached to the Priory of Lewes, for notice of which see *ante*, p. 138.

In illustration of the ecclesiastical history of the Hundred, the following notes, chronologically arranged, are appended :—

1135 circa.

Reginald (son of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Earl Warren) and his brother Ralph<sup>69</sup> were witnesses to a confirmation deed of Ralph de Plaiz to the monks of St. Pancrace of the Church and lands in Yford.<sup>70</sup>

Sciant psentes et futi qd ego Radulph. de Pleiz concedo et confirmo in liba. Elemosina Do. et Scto Pancti. et monachis ibid. Do. servienti. ecclia. deIforda cu. Appendiciis suis et Marlera.<sup>71</sup> que ad exitu. Vill. &c., &c.

1185 circa.

Extract from an Instrument conteyning ye impropriation of divers churches to ye Priory of Lewis, and ye indowment of certeine Vicarages, namely, Iford, Kyngston besyde Lewis, and Rattngdeane, extracted out of ye records of Chichester :—

“We, Seffrid the second, by the grace of God, Bishop of Chichester, do, by our episcopal authority, grant and confirm to the monastery and monks of Lewes, in honour of S. Pancras the martyr, the Chapel of Swanberg, and the Churches of Kingston and Iford, with their appurtenances, and all their tythes of corn and pulse, saving to the vicars for the sustentation of those who shall minister in the same churches, to wit, in Kingston saving to the Vicar a messuage belonging to the same church, with two acres of land minus one rood, which adjoins to the cemetery and meadow of the same, and all obventions to the altar, except of the lands of Warren, and xii semes of corn yearly to be received out of the barn of the monks : To wit, four of wheat, and four of barley, and four of oats.

And in Iford, saving to the vicars all obventions to the altar as well of the Church as of the Chapel of Swanberg, and all small tythes, and the fourth sheaf of the whole tythe, the monks receiving three sheaves of the whole tythe. So, moreover, that the Vicars of these Churches be always cited to the Bishop by the Prior of S. Pancras, and that they do fealty to the convent.

This extract is taken from a copy in Latin which appears on the second page of the first Kingston Register. It bears no date, but Seffrid II. was consecrated in 1180, and died in 1204.

<sup>69</sup> Burrell MSS.

<sup>70</sup> This was again confirmed in 1150.  
(Watson.)

<sup>71</sup> ‘Marl pit,’ now converted into a piece of ornamental water.

1397.

Thomas, Duke of Norfolk, confirmed by deed to Lewes Priory the Church of Yford, which Hugh fitz Golde gave them, and all his tythes of Kyngeston, which Warin, the Sheriff, gave, and the tythe of Hugh fitz Golde in Yford and Kyngeston, and the Church of Kyngeston with an acre of land where the Church stands.<sup>72</sup>

1410.

John Algar, vicar of Kyngeston, exchanged livings with John Inglewode, vicar of Willingdon.

1538.

At the surrender by the Prior of the monastery of Lewes, the *rectories* of Kingston & Iford were granted to Thomas Lord Cromwell.

1541, 20<sup>th</sup> Jan<sup>r</sup>.

Extract from a grant of King Henry. We give and grant to the very noble Lady Anne of Cleves, &c., &c., all those our rectories of Kyngiston, neare Lewis, and Iford, with their appurtenances, lately belonging to the Monastery of Lewes. Also all tythes of the said rectories. Also the advowsons, nominations, free dispositions and rights of patronage of the vicarages of the said Churches, which came into our hands by reason of the attainder of Tho<sup>s</sup> late Earl of Essex, lately attained of high treason and heresie.<sup>73</sup>

1558.

Queen Mary granted, as a free gift, to John, Bishop of Chichester, and his successors in the see "*for ever*," the patronage of the Churches of Iford and Kingston; but one of the first Acts of the next reign (1 Eliz., cap. iv.) repealed the grant, and restored the patronage to the Crown.

1595.

In "A Rolle of severall Armors and furniture of ye Clergie within ye Arch-deaconry of Lewes, Rated by the Right Reverend Father in God, Thomas Lo. Bishoppe of Chichester,"

To Mr. Garaway, parson of Iford, a calliver furnished is appoynted;

To Mr. Thomas Holt, vicar of Kingston, a Dry Pyke furnished is appoynted.

In Bishop Harsnet's time, 1612, "A musquet furnished is appoynted conjointly to Mr. Anthony Garway, Vicar of Iford, and Mr. Will<sup>m</sup>. Dimbleday (*sic*), Vicar of Kingston, neare Lewis. Other 'parsons' found Horses, Launces, Holbards, Corsletts, &c. Thos. Eversfield, gent., of Kingston, found 1 Launce & 2 Light Horses."<sup>74</sup>

1650.

In a paper preserved at Danny, entitled "A Valuation of the Rectories and Vicarages within the Rape of Lewes," it appears that Iford (vicarage) was in value per an. £40, and Kingston vicarage per an. £29.

<sup>72</sup> Burrell MSS.<sup>73</sup> Ibid.<sup>74</sup> Ibid.

## VICARS OF KINGSTON.

|                  |           |     |           |
|------------------|-----------|-----|-----------|
| Henry Keeley     | ...       | ... | 1566—1576 |
| Thomas Holt      | ...       | ... | 1586—1603 |
| Edward Sampson   | (Nov. 12) |     | 1603—1610 |
| William Dimbleby | (sic)     | ... | 1611—1640 |
| Henry Shepheard  | ...       | ... | 1640      |

## VICARS OF IFORD.

|                |     |     |           |
|----------------|-----|-----|-----------|
| Anthony Garway | ... | ... | 1568—1614 |
| Ralph Kelway   | ... | ... | 1614—1624 |
| William Best   | ... | ... | 1624—1629 |
| Thomas Gray    | ... | ... | 1629—1632 |
| Thomas Rogers  | ... | ... | 1632      |

From this date to 1669 there are no records in the Lewes Registry. At the latter date, John Forward appears as Vicar of Kingston-cum-Iford, and the livings have ever since been held by one Incumbent.

|           |                                   |
|-----------|-----------------------------------|
| 1669—1692 | John Forward.                     |
| 1692—1733 | Richard Owen.                     |
| 1733—1765 | John Davis.                       |
| 1765—1813 | John Delap, D.D.                  |
| 1813—1821 | John Starkie Jackson.             |
| 1821—1864 | Matthew Hodgson Donald, resigned. |
| 1864—1868 | Thomas Bedford, resigned.         |
| 1868      | Charles John Plumer.              |

The Church of St. Mary Westout existed at the time of the Conquest, and soon afterwards formed part of the endowment of the Priory of Lewes, the amount paid to the Prior by the Church being xxj<sup>s</sup> viii<sup>d</sup>. In 6 Hen. VI. the annual value of the Church was found by inquisition to be lvj<sup>s</sup> viii<sup>d</sup>. In 1538 the parish was (for ecclesiastical purposes) united to that of S. Peter (within the boundaries of Lewes) by Richard, Bishop of Chichester, upon application of the parishioners of the latter, by reason that their church was so poorly maintained, that they were unable to induce any priest to become rector.

In 5<sup>th</sup> Anne the annual value of the united parishes was returned at £13. 12s. In 1559 the Lewes Town

Books record a payment "for men to watch when the grete fyer was in Westout." The greater part of the dwelling-houses were then consumed. Within the parish formerly existed the Hospital of S. Nicholas. It was built by the founder of Lewes Priory, circa 1085, and in an ancient MS. its endowment is thus recorded: "xiii pauperibus fratribus et sororibus, Hospitalis Sancti Nichi in Westoute, dat prædictum primum [qu. prædictus primus?—ED.] fundator dicti monasterii per ann cx<sup>s</sup>.<sup>75</sup>" It was, doubtless, intended as a house for the lodging and relief of the poorer pilgrims to the Priory. The present Church of St. Anne, Lewes, occupies the site of S. Mary Westout.

EXTRACTS FROM PARISH ACCOUNTS (KINGSTON).<sup>76</sup>

There is every reason to believe, that these accounts had been preserved from a much earlier date than is usually the case in country parishes, and it is to be regretted that, through ignorance and carelessness, the most interesting portion should have been destroyed. Some years ago the writer was horrified to find the clerk deliberately making a fire in the church stove by means of a plentiful supply of fuel from the parish chest. Remonstrated with, "he didn' know as there was henny arm," and had only used "dem peapers as lookt de woldest." Upon examination this was found to betoo true, and, with the exception of a few of the 17th century, those only remained, of a later date than 1720, from which any consecutive extracts could be made. It may be here observed that, during the period to which the existing accounts refer, the system of farming in the Hundred was very different to that which obtains at the present time. The arable land, in the occupation of the various tenants, was divided into a large number of strips of unequal sizes (some not exceeding a rood) in quantity, which were mixed up in the greatest apparent confusion, and annually marked out at the expense of the parish.

<sup>75</sup> See Horsfield's "Lewes," vol. 1, p. 269.

<sup>76</sup> The accounts for Iford do not appear to have been preserved.



The pasture was divided into Bullock leases, or leazes. The cattle and sheep of the various proprietors appear to have collectively formed the "tenantry herd" and the tenantry flock,<sup>77</sup> and to have been tended by a "Hearder" (herdsman) and shepherd, paid by the parish. Other services were paid for in the same way, such as crowtending, mole catching, &c., and an entry occurs of the sum of 5s. 9d. having been received "for the parish rams' wool." In illustration of this arrangement we find many entries of the following nature:—

Paid the Hearder £1 10s. For a Horse for the Hearder £3 10s. For crowtender, 25s. Paid ffor tending Piggons (pigeons) 24s. "For tending the owld sheep up on the Weel."<sup>78</sup> Paid "ffor a hors going to linnel (Lindfield) with de lams."<sup>79</sup> Paid for tracking out the barley 4s 6<sup>d</sup>. Paid for 25 dozen of mouells caught 25s. Rec<sup>d</sup> for a bulck leas (bullock lease) 1<sup>s</sup> 6<sup>d</sup> &c. Rec<sup>d</sup> of Mr Thos. Rogers One pound seventeen shillings and sixpence in full for 25 Sheep Leaseses on Kingston Downs due Lady Day (1771).

From the general accounts the following amusing extracts are selected:—

1656.

Rec<sup>d</sup> of Mr Vynaugh (Vinall) for his Church Mark iij<sup>s</sup> iij<sup>d</sup>.

It was customary at this period for each of the farmers to keep a portion of the churchyard fence in repair. In 1725 the churchyard was walled in, and we find no further notice of marks.<sup>80</sup>

1680.

Paid ffor tymber for ye stocks iij<sup>s</sup> ij<sup>d</sup>.

1692.

Paid for salve for Rich<sup>d</sup>. ffryer ii<sup>s</sup> iij<sup>d</sup>.

1721.

Rec<sup>d</sup>. for ye Church Acre 10<sup>s</sup>.

<sup>77</sup> For further description of this system, see vi., S.A.C., 231.

<sup>78</sup> It was formerly the custom (and, in some districts is now) for the flock owners to send lambs to be kept from

Michaelmas to Ladytide by the farmers in the Weald.

<sup>79</sup> The lambs from this part are now sent annually to Lindfield fair for sale.

<sup>80</sup> For further account of Church Marks see xiv. S.A.C., p. 238.

This was an annual receipt, and was probably for the land mentioned above in the Eccles. notes under A.D 1397.

There is no mention of the accounts of more than one Churchwarden, and in 1727 he appears to have neglected his duty.

Oct. 21<sup>st</sup>.

Then Rec<sup>d</sup>. of Mr Tho<sup>s</sup>. Rogers the Sume of nine shillings and four pence for fees, and Stamps of a Citation and Monition ag<sup>st</sup> him to put ye seates of ye Church into good and Sufficient repayre.

I say Rec<sup>d</sup>. 9<sup>s</sup>. 4<sup>d</sup>. Robt. Walters.

1729.

P<sup>d</sup>. for seting up of the tapsel gar . . . . . 1<sup>s</sup>. 6<sup>d</sup>.

A tapsel gate is of a very unusual and peculiar kind, the like of which is still in existence at the entrance to the Churchyard.<sup>81</sup>

At this period master carpenters charged for their labour 1s. 8d. per diem, and bricklayers, 1s. 10d.

Rec<sup>d</sup>. of the Charyatable Youse mony . . . . . 27<sup>s</sup>. 10<sup>d</sup>.

The offertory varied from 25s. to 45s. per annum.

1730.

|   |     |        |
|---|-----|--------|
|   | s.  | d.     |
| Paid for a pair of allom ( <i>sic</i> ) Ram Skin breeches for a Boy . | 00. | 02. 03 |

1731.

|  |     |        |
|--|-----|--------|
| P <sup>d</sup> . ffor ½ a pound of Tobacco and Pipes . . . . . | 00. | 01. 00 |
|--|-----|--------|

This is the only entry of the kind.

|   |     |         |
|---|-----|---------|
| P <sup>d</sup> . for a payre of staves for Ridley's Parish Gearle . . . . . | 00. | 05. 04½ |
|---|-----|---------|

I regret to say this is by no means the only entry of a like nature!

In this year some waif of humanity found his resting place in the Churchyard.

|  | £   | s.  | d. |
|--|-----|-----|----|
| P <sup>d</sup> . the Poor traviling man . . . . .                                    | 00. | 02. | 06 |
| „ for waching (watching) of him . . . . .  | 00. | 10. | 00 |
| P <sup>d</sup> . Dame ffryer for Carding ye Locks of ye poor traviling man . . . . . | 00. | 00. | 04 |
| P <sup>d</sup> . ye men yt laid fforth ye poor traviling man. . . . .                | 00. | 02. | 06 |
| P <sup>d</sup> . for diging ye grave and ye nell (knell) . . . . .                   | 00. | 02. | 10 |

<sup>81</sup> A Tapsel Gate is one which is placed and other persons, may pass on either on a pivot in the centre of the road, so side. that, when open, the bearers of a corpse,

|  | 1732. | £   | s.  | d.  |
|--|-------|-----|-----|-----|
| There was collected for loss sustained by fire at Blandford            |       |     |     |     |
| Tiverton and Rumsey . . . . .  |       | 01. | 12. | 04½ |
| P <sup>d</sup> . ye gaille (gaol) tax . . . . .                        |       | 00. | 11. | 01  |
| Rec <sup>d</sup> . of ye Churchwarden for ye Maimed Soldiers . . . . . |       | 00. | 16. | 00. |

|  | 1734. | £   | s.  | d. |
|--|-------|-----|-----|----|
| P <sup>d</sup> . for Bread and Wine once . . . . . |       | 00. | 03. | 01 |

Previously there are regular charges for four celebrations annually.

|   | 1737. | £  | s. | d. |
|---|-------|----|----|----|
| P <sup>d</sup> . the Docter mans bill . . . . . |       | 1. | 8. | 0  |

|   | 1740. | £  | s. | d. |
|---|-------|----|----|----|
| P <sup>d</sup> . for spinning halfe a duzen of 6 peny hempe . . . . . |       | 0. | 3. | 0  |

There are many entries of this kind, spinning being commonly practised by the villagers down to 1830.

|  | 1741. | £  | s. | d. |
|--|-------|----|----|----|
| Expenses when We Went the Bounds . . . . . |       | 0. | 5. | 0  |

|   | 1744. | £  | s. | d. |
|---|-------|----|----|----|
| P <sup>d</sup> . to Portabello. <sup>82</sup> . . . . . |       | 10 | 6  |    |

Some of the entries are very ludicrous.

|   | 1749. | £ | s. | d.               |
|---|-------|---|----|------------------|
| P <sup>d</sup> . for a Pennard of Nailles To naille the Litle Boys sheows |       |   |    | 1 <sup>d</sup> . |

And, later on,

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| P <sup>d</sup> . Lusey gadsbies moter for cleaning of Har and ½lb soap 3½ | 3 | 0 |
|---|---|---|

|   | 1752. | £   | s.   | d. |
|---|-------|-----|------|----|
| The carriage of materials for building a Poor House cost the parish |       | £13 | 10s. |    |

No trace of this building remains.

|  | 1753. | £   | s.  | d. |
|--|-------|-----|-----|----|
| P <sup>d</sup> for Shuting ye White Dogg . . . . . |       | 00. | 01. | 00 |

A Bill of Expences a Taking of Edw<sup>d</sup>. Newick and marreng of him and carring of him home to Tisshurst. (Ticehurst.)

For an Order 2/. Gave har the Gearle in money 6<sup>d</sup>

For a ring 6<sup>d</sup>. The Clarkes fee 2. 6. For an Ordar to cary them A-way 5. 0. For the hier of Hors 9/- Gaue the Woman £5 5.

For our selves and our Horses 3 Dayes 30<sup>s</sup>.

<sup>82</sup> Portabello is a coastguard station on the coast.

Other payments, principally for drinking, &c., on the road, which are minutely detailed, made up the cost to the parish £8 16s.

1757.

P<sup>d</sup> for having the prosecution of the fishing cried. . . . 6<sup>d</sup>.

1764.

For several years the accounts were neglected altogether, and the Churchwarden is thus reminded of his duty:—

As you for some years past have neglected to bring in your Michaelmas Presentments This is to give you notice that unless you bring in yours for this year on or before the Feast of St Andrew next ensuing, a Citation will be issued against you for this neglect of your duty

W<sup>m</sup>. Michell

1766.

P<sup>d</sup> for the bastarde child . . . . . 1. 17. 6  
 „ salt to the smallpox. . . . . ½<sup>d</sup>.

About this time there are many charges for prayers, and altering prayers for the Young Princes and ye “Roill Fam.”

1767.

P<sup>d</sup> for the tax concernin the Molitia, collected by the Constible 7. 11. 4

1778.

For a third pt of a man as a Substitute in the Militia . . . 3. 10. 2

The last extract made is the most illiterate:—

1779.

Disbuarste for King Stoane gave sare ginners moter 2/6 P<sup>d</sup>. Dam Back fur laing Dam Wilard furth 1/6 Ric<sup>d</sup> Relfe card the wood two the Poore Piepel [carried the wood to the poor people] and he is two (to) have 5/-

On the cover of the earliest Kingston Book (commencing in 1557) it is recorded that, after having been lost for a long time, it was purchased, among other MSS., at Lindfield, and, coming afterwards into the possession of the late J. T. Auckland, of Lewes, F.S.A., it was by him restored to the parish.

On the first page is the following inscription:—

## Kyngeston juxta Lewes :—

In dei noie amen. Hic incipit Liber Registri de novo castigat. et examinat. ac de auctoritate et mandat. supremo noviter inscript. redact. anno Domini ab incarnatione Jhesu xti, 1598 : annoq. Reg. Dominæ nostræ Elizabethæ Dei gratia Angliæ, Ffraunciæ, Hiberniæ, reginæ, quadragesimo mense Maii incept. tempore . . . Thomæ Holt vicarii ibidem ac notarii . . . [illegible] fidelis script. Johan. Hille et Richo Howell . . . Gardianis testib. ad hoc specialiter requisit.

On the second page is a copy of an instrument of Bishop Seffrid, already referred to in my Eccles. notes.

On the third page is a most curious entry concerning the ancient tenantry custom of the "Drinker Acre" in 1574, but as this has been already extracted in a former vol. of these Collections we will not repeat it here, but only refer to it.<sup>83</sup>

The pestilence which raged 1631 to 1639 was severely felt in Kingston. In 1637 there were fourteen burials recorded, the average number being rather more than three.

During the troublous years 1649 to 1654 the entries are few, and the register was kept in a most irregular manner.

In 1654 the Register of Iford commences, and the second Kingston Book begins at the same date.

On the first page of the Iford Book is the following entry, not *written*, we will hope, by the signer :—

"Whereas Mr Thomas Rogers of y<sup>e</sup> parrish of Iford, Clarke, hath bin chosen by y<sup>e</sup> Inhabitants of y<sup>t</sup> parrish to be Register of y<sup>e</sup> Parrs and soe keepe y<sup>e</sup> booke for Registering of y<sup>e</sup> publications Marrages, births and burials in y<sup>t</sup> parrish according to an Act of parliament in y<sup>t</sup> case mayde and provided. These are therefore to certify y<sup>t</sup> y<sup>e</sup> sayde m<sup>r</sup> Rogers hath bin 'sworn and allowed of by me Henry Shelley (one of y<sup>e</sup> Justices of y<sup>e</sup> peace for y<sup>e</sup> county of Sussex) to be Register of ye parrish of Iford affore sayde, in testimony where of I have heere unto ptt my hand this 4<sup>th</sup> of April 1654. Henry Shelley.

Almost the first entry is—

1654.

William y<sup>e</sup> son of Thomas and Jone Rogers was born y<sup>e</sup> twentieth of June ad horam nonam post merd, and was baptised July y<sup>e</sup> 11<sup>th</sup> Ano p<sup>o</sup> dix<sup>t</sup>.

<sup>83</sup> IV. S.A.C., 307, where also a further general account of this custom is given.

There are not many entries of a remarkable character in the books of either parish. A few of the more unusual kind may be here given.

Some are very precise as to date. One instance will suffice :—

1666.

Elizabeth the daughter of William Vinal Esq<sup>ro</sup> and Anne his wife was borne April 19<sup>th</sup> at a q<sup>ter</sup> past nine in the morninge being Saturday before Easter Sunday and baptized the 17<sup>th</sup> day followinge beinge tuesday—66.

Contrasting with this, there are one or two entries in which the date is altogether omitted.

In 1678 William Holland Clearke was buried the 23<sup>rd</sup> Oct<sup>r</sup>, being the first corps buried in wollen according to ye Act of Parliment.<sup>84</sup>

The Affidavit hereupon taken by M<sup>r</sup> Henery Shelley Justice upon the oath of Katherine Johnson of ye parish of Iford sworne ye 26<sup>th</sup> of October, I have received within the time limited by the Act, with the hands and seales of Mildred Holland and Elizabeth Holland being witnesses thereunto.

This form of affidavit was regularly entered, until 1684, when it was discontinued.

In 1679 occurs the first entry of marriage “with banes.”

Previously to this the form was, A B and C D “had their consent of matrimony fully published.”

1684.

John fforward Divar (vicar of Iford) and Mis Patience Luxford of Horsham were “married by licence.”

The same lady married the succeeding vicar of Iford in 1690.

From 1686 to 1689 the Kingston Register is missing.

1695.

John Morris was interred (as I hear and am told) Aug. 21<sup>st</sup>.

1700.

There is a curious entry at the end of the second Kingston Book, dated Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup>.

<sup>84</sup> For further details of this custom, see iv. S.A.C., 235, 285, 286; and xxiii. S.A.C., 190-2.

"Memorandum. That it was y<sup>n</sup> compounded and agreed betwixt Richard Owen Vicar of Kingston and the Inhabitants thereof for his tithe seven shillings ye yarde land p<sup>r</sup> annum upon condition y<sup>e</sup> shepherd sh<sup>d</sup> also pay ten shillings yearly for Kingston flocke and y<sup>e</sup> said vicar sh<sup>d</sup> be exempted from paying to y<sup>e</sup> poor-book which he used to pay before."

1701.

A child of John Ade was born. John Ade pays as a yeoman £50 per annum.

1704.

A child of Stephen Ade was borne Ju. 18<sup>th</sup>

1705.

Will<sup>m</sup>. Peever of Beddingham was buried I rec<sup>d</sup>. a mortuary on that account viz 6<sup>s</sup> 8<sup>d</sup> for breaking y<sup>e</sup> ground more being due was abated.

1721.

Stephen Ade (as I hear) was put in the ground Jan 9<sup>th</sup>.

1734.

Mr Vinall, *Governer*, was buried May 27<sup>th</sup>.

1741.

There was neither birth, marriage, or burial in Kingston. It is thus, O, recorded in the register.

For 57 years, 1755 to 1812, there appears to have been only one register in common for Iford and Kingston marriages.

In these notes a reference to the widely celebrated pack of the Brookside harriers must not be omitted, as it was kenneled in the Hundred for more than a century. According to tradition the hounds were obtained originally from Parham, with an admixture of Irish blood. Certainly they were first established (about the year 1750) by Mr. John Chatfield, grandfather of the present respected head of that family in Lewes. They were then kenneled close to a brook adjoining the timber yard in St. John's parish. Hence the name "Brookside." In those good old-fashioned times, my informant relates that, at a very early hour, when

"Bright Phœbus, in his chariot borne,  
Had scarce proclaimed the approaching morn,"

the Brookside sportsmen used to meet (sometimes so soon

as four a.m.) at Northese, where they found "bread and cheese and strong ale" awaiting them on the "joss block."<sup>85</sup> The neighbouring farmers and others, "riding in round frocks," then proceeded to "trail up to their hare," until about ten o'clock, after which hour the present method became the order of the day. At the close of Mr. Chatfield's mastership the harriers were dispersed amongst the residents in Northese, Rodmell, and Iford, and, on hunting days, "the huntsman proceeding to the top of the hill, and, blowing his horn," was soon "joined by the hounds." Subsequently they were taken in hand by a Mr. Grover, of Northese, and were kenneled at Kingston. Mr. Thos. Rogers succeeded in command, having for huntsman Bartlett, who migrated to the Queen's. About this period the hounds were removed to newly-built kennels at Iford, and were hunted by Mr. Harrison Carr, son of Sir Thos. Carr, of Beddingham. A few years after the retirement of Mr. Carr in 1832, they became the property of five gentlemen, with the arrangement that, in case of death, the survivors should succeed to the share of the deceased.

For many years Mr. John Saxby, of Northese, was most energetic in the management, acting as his own huntsman, with his cousin, Mr Richard Saxby, as whip. During this time they attained to that perfection which has since characterised them. Eventually, by the death of his coadjutors, they became the property of John Saxby, Esq. In the years 1865-6 they were hunted by the late John Verrall, Esq., of Swanborough, and were ultimately presented by Mr. Saxby to Steyning Beard, Esq., of Rottingdean, nephew of the late Charles Beard, Esq. (one of the original proprietors). In 1873 they were removed to their newly-erected kennels at Rottingdean.

From the well-known ability of the present master, as a sportsman, and his urbanity in the field, it is to be hoped that a long period of prosperity is in store for the "Brookside Harriers."

<sup>85</sup> A stone or brick erection, ascended by steps, to enable horsemen to mount: a very common appurtenance to old manor houses.



## STATISTICAL AND PHILOLOGICAL.

The total number of acres contained within the limits of the modern Hundred (*i.e.*, Kingston and Iford) is 3,855. This includes a detached portion of the latter parish, lying east of the river Ouse. About half consists of arable and pasture land, the remaining portion being down. The population varies considerably. In 1811 it was 266; in 1831, 347; in 1851, 316; in 1871, 319. At the present time it is barely 300. The average number of births per annum from 1800 to 1876 inclusive was 8.054. The burials 5.021. There is church accommodation for 236. The school is voluntarily supported, and provides for the education of 50 children. The productions of the Hundred are entirely agricultural.

The names of some of the fields in the Hundred have been already alluded to, viz., "The Camp," "The Castle," "The Devil's Race," &c. In addition to these there are several others of archæological or philological interest. Thus we have "The Butts," both "Long" and "Short." There is no doubt whatever that these were the "ranges" where the people, and probably the garrison of the adjacent Castle of Lewes, met for the purpose of practising with the long-bow and the cross-bow. The situation is admirably adapted for that purpose.

"*The Wish*" (A.S. Wesc, a washing, a damp meadow, liable to be flooded). In the parish accounts is a charge for repairing the bridge at the "neck" of the Wish. This is evidently from the A.S. "necst," near to, or adjoining.

*The Hale* (A.S. hál), meaning, in this instance, fertile.

*The Ham* (A.S. hám). In Outzen's Glossary of the Frisian language, he says, "In the country of the Angles, as well as in Friesland, every enclosed place is called a hamm."<sup>86</sup> In this district it is commonly applied to plots of ground or homesteads near the river, *e.g.*, Southerham, Beddingham, Stoneham, &c.

*Snedenore* is evidently an ancient name. The etymology of this word has puzzled me greatly, but it

<sup>86</sup> Parish's "Dict. of Sussex Dialect."

may reasonably be derived from A.S. "Snæd,"<sup>87</sup> part of a scythe, or "Snæd," pronounced "Sneed," a portion or piece, and A.S. "Or," beginning, or entrance. The field lies immediately at the entrance to the village.

*The Severalls.* Mr. Parish has the following note on this word. "Portions of common assigned for a term to a particular proprietor, the other commoners waiving for a time their right of common over them"—

"My lips are no common, though several they be."

*Love's Labour Lost.*

*The Slonks* (From A.S. sleán, pronounced sleon, to fight, to slay). This field is doubtless the site of one of the many battles between the inhabitants of the district and the piratical Norsemen who constantly infested the estuary, and for protection against whose ravages Suaneberg was erected. See *ante*.

*Jugs Road.* So called from its being the route frequented by the fishermen of the *village* of Brighthelmston, who, before the days of stage coaches or railways, supplied the town of Lewes with fish. Jug is still a nickname for Brighton men of this class.

There are two or three landmarks in the Hundred, well known to hunting men and others, who frequent the Downs, which must be briefly noticed, as, although the *names* will be used perhaps for centuries, the *raison d'être* will soon be forgotten.

"*Harvey's Stone*," so called from a gentleman of that name having fallen dead from his horse while hunting in the year 1821.

"*Baldy's Stone*," commemorates the murder of a shepherd of that name in 1868.

"*Nan Kemp's Grave*" marks the spot where a woman was buried, after execution, at the crossways in Kingston. She had committed a murder of an unusually atrocious character.

In his paper on "Old Speech and Manners in Sussex" (XIII. S.A.C., 226), Mr. Lower mentions "one goblin's labour, in the 'drove-way' between Kingston and Lewes,

<sup>87</sup> Pronounced "Snaid." This word is still in use.

as being to spin charcoal incessantly," in the shape of a black calf.

From "Philosophical Transactions," No. 289 (1703), we learn that in the year 1703, a violent storm did great damage in this district. Lewes ladies tasting grapes found them salt. The grass on the Downs was so salt that the sheep refused to eat till forced, and then drank like fishes." Horsfield adds<sup>88</sup>—"the leaves were destroyed as if they had been scorched or blighted, and the foam of the sea was carried inland to a distance of twenty miles!" In 1774 an extraordinary effect of lightning is recorded as having occurred at Swanborough, and as it was thought of sufficient importance for an account of it to be read before the Royal Society, it may here be briefly noticed. The lightning appears to have struck an ox, which was of a red and white colour, in such a manner as to take off all the white hair, whilst not a particle of the red was touched. (For further details see Horsfield's "Hist. of Lewes," vol. i., p. 211.)

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<sup>88</sup> "Lewes," vol. 1, 207.