

NOTES AND QUERIES.

The Editors will be glad to receive short Notes on Discoveries and Matters of Interest relating to the Antiquities and History of the County, for insertion in the "Collections," such communications to be addressed to them at The Castle, Lewes.

No. 1.

THE LOW SIDE WINDOWS OF SUSSEX CHURCHES.

A projected third paper on this subject has had to be deferred; it is hoped that space may be found for it in Vol. XLIV. of these "Collections." Examples of low side windows in Sussex churches continue to come under my notice, twelve or thirteen fresh instances having been recorded since the publication of the second paper. Also an important piece of documentary evidence has come to light. The year's delay may permit of the examination of the churches not yet visited in the county and a complete and final list of these openings being obtained. Any communication as to unrecorded examples in the county, or information on the subject generally, will be cordially welcomed.

This seems a fitting place to apologise for having conveyed the impression in my remarks upon Cocking Church ("S.A.C.," Vol. XLII., p. 142) that the recently effected restoration was of a "drastic" nature. I find that, partly by my wording and partly by a printer's error, this construction has been placed upon my remarks. As a matter of fact the restoration of the chancel, the last part done, has been most conservative, and has resulted in the recovery of many hidden features of great interest. It was the renovation and enlargement of the body of the church thirty years since to which the word "drastic" was intended to apply. If I may presume to say so, I think the present Rector, the Rev. H. L. Randall, has done Sussex archæology a real service by the manner in which he has personally brought to light and preserved the very interesting painting on the Norman window of the nave and the many beautiful features of the chancel.

PHILIP M. JOHNSTON.

No. 2.

SUSSEX MSS. AT LAMBETH PALACE.

In view of the *Chichester* Meeting of the Sussex Archæological Society, I would beg to call the attention of local antiquaries to the large series of Court Rolls, chiefly of the time of Henry VI.—Henry VIII., at Lambeth Palace.

Those relating to the "Pallant" are some 20 in number, while the Bailiwicks of *Pagham*, *Tangmere* and *Lavant*, of which last named there are some 40 Court Rolls, are also represented. They chiefly consist of ministers' and stewards' accounts and are very helpful in collateral work on the above places.

The Archbishop's Manors of *Tarring*, *Slindon*, *Malling* and *Mayfield* are also illustrated by these documents. A complete calendar of all at Lambeth was made in 1881 and an historical introduction written in Vol. VI. "Historical MSS. Commission Report."

The connection of the Archbishop in past times with Sussex is too well known to repeat here, but is a matter of great historical and diocesan interest. Many of the institutions and other official acts in the Lambeth Registers are dated from Mayfield, or other of the Sussex houses of the See. Their existence equally with the more numerous "manors" in Kent throws light on the daily business of the See which, then carried on in these manors as the Primate journeyed from one to another, is now transacted in the more prosaic quarters of Doctor's Commons.

I cannot conclude these few lines without recording the courtesy of the Sussex Archæological Society in having presented several of their valuable volumes to Lambeth Library, where they form a most serviceable adjunct to the Sussex documents already mentioned.

3rd Aug., 1899.

S. W. KERSHAW, M.A.

No. 3.

ON FREEHOLD DESCENTS.—A CORRECTION.

TO THE HON. EDITORS.

Dear Sirs,—The Revnd. Canon Cooper has been betrayed, doubtless by some carelessness of my own, into a misapprehension, which I must ask you to correct. While thanking him for his very kind expressions I must disclaim any special knowledge on this particular subject, and indeed was quoting to him the authority of Mr. Walter C. Renshaw, LL.M., Q.C., for the details to which he alluded in his note.

Mr. Renshaw favours me with the subjoined letter, which puts his valuable opinion on such a point as this in the clearest terms, and I am glad to be able to send you these observations on a point of some difficulty.

I am, dear Sirs,

Yours faithfully,

HAMILTON HALL.

"With regard to the subject of the note at p. 21 of S.A.C. vol. 42, for the substance of which your authority is vouched, relative to the will of William Bowyer, dated 29 April 1528 stating that "the omission of his sons' names shews that their rights were taken for granted" I remember you and I exchanging some observations a few years ago. My proposition was that occasionally yeomen left their lands to descend on the heir (whether at Common Law or Customary)

without mentioning him in the will. It was of the essence of my proposition that its application was limited to yeomen. The reason for the omission was that knowing the heir would take the land the testator desired to benefit the other children out of the always very limited personal property that he possessed. Ex hypothesi on the face of the will this omission cannot be detected, as to test the proposition one must know the state of the testator's family. A good deal bearing on the point is to be found in Pollock and Maitland's 'History of English Law' vol. ii pp. 312-361. To go into the reasons which probably led to the origin of the practice, so far as it can be called a practice, would involve a long dissertation. Before the wills act of Hen. VIII a man could not legally dispose by will of freehold land, nor before 1660 or thereabouts of his copyholds. These doctrines had continuing influences, and at page 360 of the work above referred to it is stated, "The heir is destined to inherit bare acres, while the capital which has made them fertile goes to others" "Again at least in later law, the heir could claim no bairn's part of the chattels." This is with reference to intestacy.

With regard to Wm. Bowyer's will, I think that possibly on his second marriage he made arrangements for conferring some of his property on his three sons, who appear to have been by his first wife, and so by his will gave all his property to the second wife. But he was not a yeoman and does not come within the purview of my proposition, and it would be interesting to know what evidence exists (outside the always unreliable Heralds' Visitations) for the fact that the three persons named were really his sons. I hope that as far as can be done in a condensed compass I have made clear what my views on this subject are.

Yours very truly,

WALTER C. RENSHAW."

No. 4.

WITHYHAM.

Since contributing to the last volume my paper on "Some Early Sussex Charters," I have found that my "Calendar of Documents preserved in France" contains further what appears to be the earliest mention of Withyham. Document No. 1,205, which I assign to *circa* 1095, mentions "Wideham" thrice, and states that Robert, Count of Mortain, had given it in fee-farm to Robert the monk of St. Mary of Mortain at £7 a year. As no manor of this name was entered to Count Robert of Mortain, I could not identify it at the time. But it was certainly the manor of Monkenhurst or Munckloe in Withyham. Mr. Reginald Sackville West, in his little monograph on Withyham, cites a return of 1324 (18 Ed. II.) on alien priories, as the first mention of the church and manor belonging to Mortain Priory (p. 11). In 1372 we read of "the Priory of Withiham which is a cell of the abbey of St. Martin de Meremest in Tourain" (p. 18); and, 22 Oct., 1412, we have "manerium de Wythiam vocatum Monkenecourt," valued at

£25. 5s. 5d., and belonging to the monks of Mortain¹ (pp. 20-21). There is no contradiction between these entries, as Mr. Sackville West seems to have thought, for the Norman Priory of Mortain was cell of Marmontier of Tours.

The manor of "Blacheham," mentioned in the same document, is perhaps that of "Blakhame" which occurs in 13 Hen. IV.²

J. H. ROUND.

No. 5.

CUCKFIELD FAMILIES.—ADDENDA AND CORRIGENDA.

Vol. XLI., p. 205, note 11, for "Resthawes" read "Priesthawes in Westham."

Vol. XLI., p. 212, line 4, add "and was High Sheriff in 1628."

Vol. XLI., p. 212, line 8, note: *Marriage Licences of the Bishop of London. Harl. Soc.* "1631. April 16. M^r Ephraim Paget, clerk, Rector of S^t Edmund, and the Lady Mary Borde, relict of Sir Stephen Borde, Knt., of S^t Dunstan's West."

Vol. XLI., p. 213, line 29: Ditto, "1631. John Boarde Esq. Bac. 23, and Margaret Wall of S. Leonard's Shoreditch, 22. At S^t Brides 7 Feb 163½."

Vol. XLI., p. 213, note 46. The Will of "John Boarde, of the Parish of Cuckfield, son and heire of Sir Stephen Boarde." "My body to be buried in Christian Buriall without any pomps, dole or blacks—My executrix to bestow 40s to 40 poor persons in Cuckfield—To my daughter Margaret £1000—To my brother Thomas £400 the remainder of the £500 I was to pay him—My manor of Sugworth, my third part of the manor of Uphill, and all my lands &c in Cuckfield, Hurstppoint, Fletching, Lindfield, Arthingly, Wivelsfield, Hellingly, Hodely, in trust to the use of Andrew Wall in the Co. of Southampton, and Thomas Grey, and Thomas Haynes, to William my son, then to my 2nd and 3rd sons, then to my d^r Margaret, and her children if she marry a Board, then to my brother Thomas, then to his sons up to the tenth, then to Harbert Board of Lindfield—My lands called Gores in Cuckfield, and my lands in Southwark." Proved 5 July, 1597, by Joan Board, relict. P.C.C. Pyne, f. 136.

Vol. XLII., p. 22, line 16. Mr. Kingdon suggests a probable explanation of the "inconveniencs styrrred" by Thomas Bowyer. It was the custom for the Grocers to go to church on the Election Feast Day, and from what we know of the Protestantism of the Bowyers we may well infer that it was not the dinner, but the Mass to which he objected.

Vol. XLII., opposite p. 26. The coats of arms are all from brasses at Mundham, *not* Cuckfield.

¹ Patent Roll 14 Hen. IV., No. 19.

² "S.A.C.," Vol. X., p. 143.

Vol. XLII., p. 27. Stow ("London," p. 867 of edit. of 1633) gives the following inscription on the monument of Baron Birch in St. Giles :

"Interr'd the corps of Baron Birch lies here,
Of Graye's Inn sometime by Degree Esquire.
In chequer eighteen years a Judge he was
Till soul from aged body his did passe.
Alive his wife Eliza doth remain
Of Stydfolks stocke ; one sonne, & daughters twaine
She bore to him, the eldest in his life
He gave to Thomas Boyer for his wife.
Johannes Birch obiit a.d. 1581. ætatis suæ 66."

Vol. XLII., page 28, note 29, for "Richard" read "Robert."

Vol. XLII., p. 31, Pedigree A. "Joan Birch, m. 1579 Sir Thomas, b. 1586, d. 1652."

Vol. XLII., opposite p. 36, Pedigree C. "Elizabeth, d. of Thomas Vaux, d. 1601."

J. H. COOPER.

No. 6.

A CHICHESTER PSALTER.

There is in the British Museum (Lansdowne MS. 431) a thirteenth century Psalter of 130 folios, which appears to have been used at some time at Chichester Cathedral. In the Calendar a later hand has added three obits: April 24, "Ob. Johnis pres. et precentor Cycestr." Sept. 15, "Ob. bone memorie Rannulf. Cycestr. epi." Sept. 26, "Ob. Avicie matris precentor. Cycestr." Bishop Rannulf, of Wareham, died April 15, 1222. Le Neve and Dallaway have on the list of Precentors—1305, John de S. Leofardo, probably brought to Chichester by the Bishop Gilbert from the same monastery of St. Leofard, in Touraine.

In the Patent Roll of 33 Edw. I. (1305), pt. 1, m. 17, is the entry—"March 1. John de S. Leofardo, precentor of the Church of Chichester, Henry de Gelande, chancellor, William de Dale, & Henry de Gulford, Canons, bringing news of Gilbert their Bishop's death, have letters of licence to elect—the Dean being in foreign parts."

To the beginning and end of the Psalter are added antiphons with music which may have been the work of the Precentor, as they are of a later date. On the first page is written "Sola Salus Servire Deo. anno dni MDXLIII. Orate pro aia Thomæ Broune de bury sci Edi mercer. Cujus aie propiciet. Deus."

The Kalendar of the Psalter is written in letters of blue, the greater Feasts in gold. Each month has two illuminated medallions the size of a florin, one the sign of the zodiac, the other referring to the agricultural operations of the month, *e.g.*, June, mowing; July, reaping; August, thrashing; October, feeding pigs; November, killing pigs. We may gather from these that the Psalter was written in a southern county. Against March 27 is written "Resurrectio Dni," the date on which Easter fell in 1239, the only time in which it so

happened in the thirteenth century ; again in 1323, 1334, 1345, in the fourteenth century. The names of the saints, &c., commemorated are chiefly English, *e.g.*, Guthlac, Erchonwold, Dunstan (archiep et conf.) Aldelm, Augustine (Anglorum apli) and Bede prbi. There is no mention of St. Patrick, or of All Souls. St. Thomas of Canterbury's name is erased on Dec. 29 and in the Litany the first and last letters are erased, and only "hom" is left. After the Kalendar are the Tabulæ, then the Psalms, then the Cantica of Isaiah, Hezekiah, Hannah, Moses, the "Hymnus Anglicus" (Te Deum), the song of the Three Children, of the B. Mary and Symeon, lastly the "Fides Catholica edita a seto Athanasio." A Litany follows and the Commendatio animarum.

J. H. COOPER.

No. 7.

RELICS OF OLD COWDRAY.

At a sale of old material at Cowdray in January, 1898, Mr. J. Newman, of North Gate, Chichester, obtained some interesting specimens of Sussex iron work, which he showed me. Some of the andirons, or fire-dogs, were apparently unique in several respects, with designs seemingly mythological. There were also two firebacks which both exhibited on them the killing of the goose with the golden eggs, and were ornamented with pineapples and what might have been representations of ash trees. The Royal Arms and St. George and the Dragon, too, appeared on them. One of the backs was evidently intended to be portable. In Vol. II., p. 209, of "S.A.C.," mention is made of iron works on the Cowdray estates and of chimney backs in the farm houses then bearing the Montague arms. That there is still plenty of iron around Cowdray is a well known fact, and I remember hearing it stated that in the days when Sussex farmers and labourers wore white round frocks and walked through the lanes there in a shower of rain their garments became full of ironmoulds.

F. H. ARNOLD, F.S.A.

No. 8.

THE GOUNTERS OF RACTON.

The Rev. Dr. Mee, who has been investigating many records as to Westbourne and its neighbourhood, thus informs me :

"I take the following to be the earliest mention of the Gounters in Sussex yet observed :—

Inq. post. mort 4 Edw. III. No. 38

Bourne et Stansted

Inquisitio capta apud Nomaneslound coram &c. 15 Jan. per sacramentum

Hen^{ri} de Westdene

Rog^{ri} Guntter &c &c.

Edmund Earl of Kent had the honour of the Earl of Arundel from 1327 to 1331 (the date of this inquisition) during a Fitzalan attainder. Nomaneslound appears to be a few acres close to Hambrook House.

This is evidence of the settlement of the Gounters at Racton at least as far back as the beginning of the fourteenth century."

I have recently had the pleasure of looking over the Gounter Monuments at Racton, with Richard Gounter, Esq., of Old House, near East Grinstead, who still represents this ancient family in Sussex.

F. H. ARNOLD, F.S.A.

No. 9.

RECTORS OF RACTON.

To the list of Rectors of Racton, given at p. 15 of Vol. XXIII. "S.A.C.," may be prefixed the name of Henry Portejoye, in 1384. The Rev. Dr. Mee, who has been examining the Close Rolls, kindly gives me the following extract: "1384 Feb. 11. Westminster Presentation of Henry Portejoye parson of Rakton in the diocese of Chichester to the vicarage of Holcombe Rogys in the diocese of Exeter in the King's gift by reason of the temporalities of the alien priory of Montacute being in his hands on account of the war with France, or an exchange with William Wychere."

F. H. ARNOLD, F.S.A.

No. 10.

TAPSEL GATE AT PIECOMBE.

With reference to Mr. André's note on Tapsel Gates in Vol. XL., p. 268, on the occasion of a recent visit to Piecombe Church, the Rector drew my attention to a modern gate of this character (presumably replacing an ancient one) in the north wall of the churchyard.

A. P. BOYSON.

No. 11.

QUEEN ELEANOR CROSSES.

In the "Archæologia," Vol. XXIX., pp. 167-191, is a paper by the Rev. J. Hunter "On the Death of Eleanor of Castile, Consort of King Edward the First, and the Honours paid to her Memory." In this is an account of the Crosses erected on the route of the Queen's funeral convoy, and from which it appears that those formerly at Northampton, "Stony Stratford, Woburn, Dunstable, and S. Alban's, were the work of the same architect; his name was John de Bello, or de la Bataille (Battle)." At Stony Stratford, Woburn, Dunstable and Charing, the contractor seems to have been Ralph de Chichester; so that two Sussex men appear to have played an important part in the erection of these touching memorials of the conjugal love of Edward I.

J. LEWIS ANDRÉ, F.S.A.

No. 12.

ROOKS HILL AND THE GOLDEN CALF.

Dr. Brewer, in his "Phrase and Fable," p. 351, thus writes respecting the Golden Calf: "According to a common local tradition, Aaron's Golden Calf is buried in Rook's Hill, Lavant, near Chichester," and this legend is again mentioned on p. 761 of the same work. What authority had Dr. Brewer for this statement? No reference to such a story is given either in Horsfield or Lower's histories of Sussex, and Rooks, or, more correctly, S. Roche's Hill, is in Singleton, and not in either of the Lavants.

Horsham, Oct. 30th, 1899.

J. LEWIS ANDRÉ.

No. 13.

NOTE ON A BURRELL MONUMENT.

In a MS. of Sir W. Burrell's, at Knepp Castle, he gives as his authority for the statement that Sir John Burrell was at Agincourt T. Goodwin's "History of Henry V.," ed. 1704, p. 54, where Goodwin quotes Speed's "Chronicle," sect. 26, p. 772: "The Earl of Suffolk, the Lords Lovel, Barkly, Powis, Camois, & Sir John Burrell set out everyone of 'em a ship, 20 men at arms, & 40 archers."

J. H. COOPER.