

NOTES AND QUERIES.

The Editor 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 him at The Castle, Lewes.

No. 1.

NOTES CONNECTED WITH THE HISTORY OF WEST BLATCHINGTON CHURCH.

The *inquisitio nonarum* shows that in 1339-40 there was in Blatchington *juxta* Shoreham, or West Blatchington, a church endowed with a messuage and demesne lands. The *Valor Ecclesiasticus* only tells us that there was an *Ecclesia ibidem*.¹ Horsfield² states, without giving any authority, that in 1724 the church, which was dedicated to St. Peter, was in existence and consisted of a north and south chancel (*sic*) with a steeple containing five bells. Mr. Lower commented on this passage, and gave two illustrations of the ruins of the church in his "Memoir of the Scrase family,"³ and added that he had been unable to discover the period at which divine service ceased to be celebrated there. It is proposed in this article to throw into a connected form such materials as exist for shedding light on the later history of this church, which, as will appear, is closely intermixed with that of the Scrase family.

The manor of Blatchington is coterminous with the parish, the whole of which, with the exceptions of a small freehold formerly called Lewknor's Croft and the ecclesiastical property, belonged after 1435 to the Lords Abergavenny. From a very early period the Scrase family were lessees of the manor and owners of Lewknor's Croft. Richard Scrase, who clearly held a lease of the manor, by his will dated 1st February, 14⁵⁰/₉₉, and proved 19th May, 1500 (P.C.C., 1, Moone), in which he is described as of Hangleton, directed that when his son Richard "is able to be at his Retenewe and hath discreaçon he shal have the manor of Blatchington with all the appurtenances with alle such store of corne and graynes shepe oxen horses and such beests he nedyth to mayntene his housholdrye there," &c. On 4th November,

¹ Vol. I., pp. 327 and 332.

² *Hist. of Suss.*, Vol. I., p. 158.

³ *Suss. Arch. Coll.*, Vol. VIII. pp. 4 and 13.

1529, George, Lord Abergavenny, demised the manor of Blatchington to this son, Richard Scrase, for 57 years, from 29th September, 1530.⁴

In the Act Books *ex officio mero* of the Archdeaconry Court of Lewes is an entry showing that at the Court holden 13th September, 1592, Mr. Richard Scrase, as churchwarden of West Blatchington, was to bring in his bill of presentments. This is followed by minutes under the dates 5th November, 1593, and 15th July, 1595, and other days, indicating that in both those years "Magister Richard Scrase" was resisting being appointed churchwarden of the parish. The same thing happened in 1596, when a cause, in which the office of the judge was promoted against him for not accepting and taking the oath to duly perform the duty of churchwarden, arrived on 23rd October, 1596, at the stage of hearing evidence. On that day three witnesses were examined on his behalf. The first of these was John Ampleford, of Portslade, yeoman, resident there and at Hangleton over 50 years, born in Old Shoreham, and aged 60, who deposed "That for these 48 years and upwards he hath knowne well that Chappell of Blatchington duryng which tyme he hath not knowne nor hard of any churchwarden to serve or execute the office of churchwardenshippe there, neyther of any parish church there otherwise than the said Chappell in question, nor Bells, Belfry, ffonte, pulpitte, christeninge nor burying, nor any dwelling nor mansion house besides that Mr. Richard Scrase partye articulate and his predecessors have dwelled and inhabited in, and those departyng and coming into the worlde and borne there were always christened and buried in parishes neare adjoyning and specially in the parishes of Preston and Hangleton, but for christening hee ys not altogether sure whether sometymes any have been christened out of [*i.e.*, outside] the parish of Blatchington. It is now 48 yeares since he went to schoole in Blatchington with Magister Sir Henry Hornely cler: then Vicar of Portslade and parson of Blatchington since which he hath dwelled all his tyme neere the same within a mile and a half, and at that tyme his said maister used to sound a little bell he carried in his hande when he was to call the householder or others to come to churche." Another witness was John Woolger, aged 50, of "Hoove," where he had resided 30 years, who confirmed the above, and added "that he hathe hearde the saide Chappell was built by the ancestors of Mr. Scrase." The third witness was John Jackson, of Blatchington, husbandman, servant of Mr. Scrase, resident there 30 years, born at Petworth and aged 56, who deposed that "there is no dwellinghouse in Blatchington but Mr. Scrase's with whom and with his father he hath dwelled these 30 yeares."⁵

Before this date the Scrases had certainly been buried, as a rule, either at Preston or, at a later period, at Hove. The practice, however, of burial at Preston had commenced before they settled at Blatchington. Richard Scrase, senior, of Hangleton, by his will dated 21st February, 1480, and proved at Lambeth 27th November, 1487 (P.C.C., 5, Milles), directed that he should be buried "in ecclesia parochiæ sancti Petri de

⁴ Abergavenny *v.* Shelley, Chanc. Proc., Eliz., Bundle A. 8, No. 46.

⁵ Deposition Books of the Archdeaconry Court, 1593-1604.

Preston juxta Aliciam et Malmam uxores meas defunctas." He left to the fabric of the church of Preston 20s., to the cathedral church of Chichester 3s. 4d., to the altar of the church of St. Helen of Hangleton 3s. 4d., and to the fabric of that church 5s., and numerous legacies to monasteries and friaries and also to each parish church from the bridge of Bramber, "usque ad pontem levvie (Lewes) in longitudine et a limite maris usque ad sagittatum sub collibus in latitudine," 3s. 4d., but does not specifically mention the church of Blatchington. It is not improbable that he had resided at Preston before he went to Hangleton. His son and executor, Richard Scrase, also of Hangleton, by his will, already particularised, directed that he should be buried in the church of St. Peter at Preston beside his father and mother. He bequeathed to the reparation of the church of Preston 13s. 4d., to the church of Hangleton 6s. 8d., to the high altar of that church for tithes forgotten 5s., to the church of Aldrington 10s., to the church of Hove 10s., to the church of Aldrington a cope, price 16s., and to the church of Henfield 3s. 4d., but does not mention the church of Blatchington. His son, Richard Scrase, the lessee of 1529, in his will dated 15th March, 1548, and proved 4th July, 1549 (P.C.C., 34, Populwell), is described as of Blatchington, but gave no directions as to his burial and no legacies to churches. He was buried at Preston 5th April, 1549, and his widow, Mary (de la Chambre) was buried there 15th September, 1552. His son, Edward Scrase, also of Blatchington, by his will dated 25th April, 1576, and proved 5th June, 1576 (P.C.C., 11, Carew), directed that his body should be buried in the church of Preston, and he was buried there 10th May, 1576. He made no bequests to churches, but gave 40s. to the poor men's boxes at each of Preston, Hove and Portslade, and 20s. to the poor men's box at Aldrington. He was the father of Richard Scrase, the party to the cause of 1596. The earliest recorded burial of a Scrase at Hove is that of Alice Scrase on 21st February, 1577.

On 26th June, 1609, Richard Scrase, the party to the above cause, was ordered presumably as churchwarden to bring in "the register of baptisms &c.," for West Blatchington.⁶ He was buried at Preston 21st June, 1625, and his eldest son, Tuppen Scrase, was buried there 9th December, 1633, after which apparently the latter's younger brother, Henry Scrase, was in possession of the manor or farm of Blatchington. The Act Books *ex-officio* shew that at the Court holden 31st July, 1635, when the pressure under Archbishop Laud's proceedings was sharp, this Henry Scrase was ordered to take the oath as churchwarden. In the same Books, under the date 5th April, 1636, and under the name of Henry Scrase, described as churchwarden, of Blatchington, is the entry of a presentment that "our churchyard is not well fenced nor hath bin Tyme out of minde because it hath not been used for a buryall place." At the Court holden 14th June, 1636, Henry Scrase, gent., as churchwarden, was admonished as to the churchyard fence and his "billa." On 28th March, 1637, Henry Scrase was only in default "pro billa," which rather suggests that the churchyard fence had in the meantime been amended.

⁶ Act Books *ex-officio*, 1606-1610.

It is believed that no registers for West Blatchington exist, and the only episcopal transcripts extant are for the years 25th March, 1635, to 24th March, 1640.⁷ These contain only the following :

1635. January 10th. Richard Scrase, son of Henry Scrase, baptized.
 1638. May 7th. John Roberts and Elizabeth Scrase married.
 1638. October 2nd. John, son of Henry Scrase, gent., baptized.
 1640. April 4th. Walter, son of Henry Scrase, gent., baptized.

The earliest of these is headed "A register of the names of all such as were baptized," &c., and the latest is headed "A register bill for y^e year 1640," headings which rather suggest that the documents were not copies of a register. Each of these "transcripts" is signed by George Butler as rector, and by Henry Scrase, presumably as churchwarden. Henry Scrase, the father of the above three infants, was a son of Richard Scrase, the party to the cause of 1596, and married in 1627 with Joan, daughter of Robert Androwes, of Hove, the license at Lewes for the marriage dated 24th November, 1627, providing for its solemnisation at West Blatchington. Their first child Susan was baptised at Hove 28th September, 1628, and buried there 2nd February, 1628. The place of baptism of his second child Henry is unknown. The marriage of John Roberts, who was of Cuckfield, with Elizabeth Scrase, who was of Portslade, was pursuant to a license dated 5th May, 1638, defining Blatchington as the place of marriage. It is noteworthy that in addition to this there were at least six and probably seven other licenses for marriage at West Blatchington granted at Lewes ranging in date from 26th March, 1608, to 17th October, 1628. The earliest, however, of these, which was between Richard Ockenden, of Rottingdean, gent., and Barbara Scrase, is entered in the Rottingdean registers as having been solemnised there 28th March, 1608.

George Butler, cler., B.A., of Trinity College, Oxford, was ordained priest 5th June, 1626, instituted to West Blatchington 10th August, 1628, on the presentation of his father, Christopher Butler, cler., vicar of Wisborough Green, and Thomas Care, of Oving, cler., inducted 15th August, 1628, in the presence of Edward Blaker, Richard Scrase and others, and was 4th July, 1635, licensed to preach by Archbishop Laud.⁸ On 6th November, 1628, George Butler had a son, John, baptised at Brighton, where he probably then resided, and he signed episcopal transcripts for New Shoreham, presumably as curate there, for each of the three years between 25th March, 1629, and 24th March, 1631½. On 22nd March, 1637, he was examined as a witness in a cause of defamation between Thomas Hunter, coachman at Hangleton to the Earl of Thanet, and Mary, wife of Henry Joyne, of Southwick, and he stated that he was and had for three years been resident in Portslade, and for three years previously at New Shoreham. Mathew, son of George Butler and Joan, his wife, was baptised at Portslade 25th July, 1635. It may therefore be safely assumed that

⁷ Except the latest of them, which is amongst those for Albourne, they are all in the bundles for East Blatchington.

⁸ Visitation Book, sub anno 1637.

during the rectorship of George Butler there was no habitable parsonage at West Blatchington. But from 1568 to 1593 the successive Rectors of West Blatchington, Edward Crakenell, Henry Shales and Thomas Wilshaw, were also rectors of and probably dwelt at Hangleton, where there was a parsonage house until its destruction by fire 31st May, 1666. On 9th June, 1585, the benefices of West Blatchington and Hangleton were united, but apparently this union only subsisted till 1590.⁹ John Sisson was instituted to West Blatchington 13th December, 1593, on the presentation of Mary Bellingham, widow, and inducted 2nd January, 1594, in the presence of Richard Scrase and others.¹⁰ He appears to have resided at New Shoreham, where his children were baptised. His successor, Thomas Heyney, was also Vicar of Arundel, and Alan Carr, who followed him as Rector of West Blatchington, and who was a brother of the above-named Thomas Carr, appears to have been incumbent or curate of Lingfield, co. Surrey, 1624-1628, and thenceforward Rector of West Chiltington, when he died 1668. He married Mary Butler at Lingfield, 22nd September, 1624, and his eldest child, Robert, was baptised there 27th June, 1626, and his second child, Alan, was baptised there 6th February, 1627.

Richard Scrase, the party to the above mentioned cause of 1596, had ten children, and the places of baptism of only four of them have been ascertained. These are the baptism at Hove on 13th September, 1584, of his second son John, and the baptisms at Plumpton on 1st April, 1594, of his son Edward, on 9th June, 1595, of his daughter Agnes, and on 20th September, 1597, of his son Richard. Not forgetting that the registers of Portslade and Hangleton were destroyed in 1666, and with the knowledge that the episcopal transcripts for both those parishes prior to that date contain no Scrase entry, it may be assumed that the remaining six children were baptised at West Blatchington, especially as one of them, the above named Henry Scrase, when describing himself as a witness on 24th July, 1640, stated that he had resided there "fere totam vitam" and was aged 41.¹¹ It would rather seem that Richard Scrase had, in aid of his objections of 1593, 1595 and 1596, deliberately had his children baptised at Plumpton. On 5th July, 1589, Richard Scrase describes himself as having resided for the previous 14 years at Blatchington,¹² and nothing exists to suggest that he ever dwelt at Plumpton. On 30th August, 1592, he was served "in ædes infra parochiam de Blatchington" with a citation in connection with his office of churchwarden there.¹³ True, however, it is that his father, Edward Scrase, held in 1547 a freehold messuage, garden and some 60 acres of land in Plumpton.¹⁴

⁹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.*, Vol. XXXIV., p. 183.

¹⁰ Visitation Book for 28th September, 1613.

¹¹ Deposition Books, 1639-1640.

¹² Deposition Books, 1587-1593.

¹³ Act Books, *ex-officio*, 1591-1593.

¹⁴ Common Roll, No. 145, Easter 1, E. 6, m. 101^d, *Suss.*

It should be mentioned that in very many years no name is entered in the Visitation Books as that of a Churchwarden of West Blatchington. But at the Visitations on 14th September, 1670, and 23rd May, 1671, John Scrase was returned as such churchwarden, though he did not take the oath, and on 2nd November, 1671, he was cited to appear on 7th November to answer for his default, which he did not do. Now on the death of Henry Scrase intestate letters of administration of his effects were, 26th February, 164 $\frac{1}{2}$, granted to his widow Joan (Andrewes), who seems to have continued to reside at West Blatchington with her four sons, one of whom was this John Scrase. They all became Quakers in the early days of that sect, and certainly by 1660. At the Visitation in September, 1678, Henry Holcroft, who had become the rector, undertook "to nominate Mr. Henry Scrase" (another son of Joan Scrase) "a parishioner" as churchwarden for that year.

Henry Holcroft, son of Sir Henry Holcroft, Knt., by Lettice, daughter of Frances Lord Aungier, was a brother of Douglas, the wife of Anthony Stapley, of Patcham, a son of the regicide. He was rector of Cliff at Hoo, co. Kent, 1652,¹⁵ and was ordained priest by Thomas Bishop, of Candida Casa (Whithern, co. Wigton), 17th January, 166 $\frac{0}{1}$, instituted to the Vicarage of Patcham, on the presentation of the Crown, 2nd July and inducted 12th July, 1662. He was instituted to the rectory of West Blatchington, on the presentation of Sir John Stapley, Bart., 7th May, and inducted 8th September, 1664.¹⁶ He died 3rd December, 1712, aged 92, and was buried at Patcham, where he evidently resided. On 5th October, 1686, the Episcopal Commissioners, as to repairs to churches, parsonage houses, &c., reported that the church and chancel of Blatchington were "utterly ruinate." In 1694 John Dunstall, described as patron of the rectory of West Blatchington, took proceedings against Henry Holcroft for not repairing the buildings belonging to the rectory. On 12th February, 169 $\frac{4}{5}$, Holcroft appeared and being sworn said, "that until about the tyme of the commencement of this suit he did not know that there was a parsonage barne standing or belonging to the rectory or parsonage."¹⁷ On 15th October, 1700, John Dunstall, cler., promoted the office of the judge against the parishioners of Blatchington, complaining that "there is no churchwarden duly sworne from year to year to repaire the churche as need requires; that there is no churchyarde fence, no doors nor windows to the church nor chancell, no pulpit, reading deske, books, bell, communion table, cloathes, nor ornaments," and prayed a monition to Henry Holcroft. On 12th November, 1700, Holcroft appeared by his proctor Asty, and the Judge decreed, apparently in the absence of John Scrase, that John Scrase should take the office of Churchwarden for the year 1700.¹⁸ Now John Scrase was and had on 10th February, 167 $\frac{9}{8}$, been presented at the Court for being a Quaker.¹⁹ On 26th November, 1700, John Scrase, gent., of Blatchington, not having appeared to take the office of churchwarden, was pronounced contumacious, and on 10th

¹⁵ *Arch. Cant.*, Vol. XV., p. 247.

¹⁸ Act Books *ad instanciam*, 1700-1705.

¹⁶ Visitation Book for 2nd June, 1678.

¹⁹ Act Book *ex officio*, 1679.

¹⁷ Act Books *ad instanciam partium*, 1691-1696.

December, 1700, was excommunicated therefor. On 4th February, 170^o₁, however, he appeared and sought to be absolved from the sentence of excommunication, and he, promising obedience to the mandates of the Church, was absolved, and being admonished to find a sufficient deputy,²⁰ he nominated Thomas Cooke, of Patcham, who was admitted, and admonished in detail to do the repairs, and to certify what had been done before next Pentecost. Cooke did not certify, and on 5th July, 1701, the matter was ordered to stand over, Dunstall in the meantime to certify the bounds of the churchyard, Asty, then his proctor, "alleging that they doe plainly appeare." The case seems after this to have dropped.

The inferences to be drawn from the foregoing materials seem to be:—That there was no resident rector of West Blatchington after the middle of the sixteenth century; that the parsonage house had before that time ceased to exist or to be habitable, the rectors not keeping either it or the chancel in repair; that the members of the Scrase family who inhabited the only place of residence in the parish were careful not to levy any tax for the reparation of the body of the church, or of its appurtenances, because such tax would exclusively fall upon them personally; that though in the time of Archbishop Laud, whilst George Butler was rector, some form was gone through of appointing a churchwarden, and transmitting transcripts to the Bishop's Registry, there was really nothing done to make the building fitting for the services of the church, which it certainly was not in 1596, if the witnesses of that date are credible; and that by 1686 it had become utterly ruinant, although there is no suggestion even as late as 1700 that the structure was roofless. Between the bare walls and under the roof of this church were solemnized such few baptisms and marriages as took place there in the seventeenth century, and it is observable that no charge in the Archdeaconry Court was ever made against the rector for the time being that he did not perform Divine service.

The present Dean of Chichester, who was vicar of Brighton (to which West Blatchington was annexed in 1789), when the reconstruction of the church of West Blatchington was effected, has kindly informed the writer that to the best of his knowledge no human remains were found in the course of the work.

WALTER C. RENSHAW.

No. 2.

OLD SUSSEX NEEDLEWORK.

I have in my possession a curious piece of needlework, which I think must be almost unique. It measures 16-in. by 14-in. and was worked entirely in silk by my grandmother, at the age of eighteen, in 1790, as appears from the words upon it: "Plan of the Battle of Thonhausen near Minden the 1 of Aug^t 1759 Harriot Bartelot worked this 1790." In this battle the English Hessians and Hanoverians,

²⁰ This could be done under 1 W. and M., c. 18, s. 5.

under Prince Ferdinand of Brunswick, defeated the French, under Marshal De Contades, and drove them to the ramparts of Minden, which next day surrendered at discretion. To elucidate the plan of this engagement, the account given by Smollett may be quoted: "Prince Ferdinand marched with the allied army in three columns from Petershagen to Hille, where it encamped, having a morass on the right, the village of Fredewalde on the left and in front those of Northemern and Holtzenhausen." On the plan or map itself the armies of the opponents are coloured, the allies blue and the French brown, with the following description: "The Fⁿ army stood the 31st July in camp. Mar^d thro the F. of Minden formed itself near haalen & attacked the body of Gen^l Wan^m at Thon. His serene Hig^s Prince Fer^d came out the space between him & hille & took the French in their flank. On which they ret^d part thro Minden & part thro the defiles of Barkhausen." The whole is surrounded by a border of various flowers, amongst which the roses and convolvuli still retain their bright colours. Why my grandmother took such pains in working this elaborate plan of the Battle of Minden I am at a loss to conjecture. It may have been much talked about in her early days. In the Petworth Register is the entry: "Benjamin Arnold & Harriet Barttelot married Sept 16. 1794." She died at the age of 94 and until two years before her death could read and do needlework without the aid of spectacles.

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

NOTE.—This and the three following notes were sent by the late Dr. Arnold not long before his decease. An accompanying photograph of the needlework was unfortunately too indistinct for reproduction. The work was evidently copied from a printed engraving of the battle.

No. 3.

DRAKE'S ADVICE IN 1587.

The following letter of Drake to Walsingham is of considerable interest: "I assure your honour the like preparation was never heard of nor known as the King of Spain hath & daily maketh to invade England." In a postscript he adds: "I dare not a' most write unto your honour of the great forces we hear the King of Spain hath out in the Straits. Prepare England strongly & most by sea. Stop him now & stop him for ever. Look well to the coast of Sussex."

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

No. 4.

HORSHAM TOKEN (SEVENTEENTH CENTURY).

October 11th, 1905, I had brought to me a scarce token found in Chichester, in fair preservation. *Obv.*: "Thomas Lucas"—a fleur-de-lys. *Rev.*: "In Horsam 1667—His Half Penny."

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

No. 5.

*COIN OF AGRIPPA FOUND AT NUTBOURNE,
PULBOROUGH.*

In August last a coin "Second Brass," irregularly struck, but well preserved, was sent to me from Nutbourne, Pulborough. It may be thus described:—*Obv.*: "M. AGRIPPA. L. F. COS. III."—head of Agrippa. *Rev.*: Neptune standing holding in his right hand a dolphin. S.C. in large letters. It may be noted that this Agrippa was not the Agrippa, King of Judea, before whom Paul pleaded his cause, as is related in the Acts of the Apostles, but M. Agrippa Vipsanius, son-in-law of Augustus. Its date is *cir.* B.C. 14. F. H. ARNOLD, F.S.A.

No. 6.

BRITELLUS AVENAL, RECTOR OF BUXTED.

The date of incumbency of this rector has hitherto been an unknown and somewhat debated point. The late Rev. H. R. Hoare (in Vol. IX., *S.A.C.*) says that Hussey, in his *Churches of Kent and Sussex*—a much over-rated book, by-the-by—"assigns it to the close of the reign of Edward III., but I should judge it to be earlier." A Court Roll of the Manor of South Malling, recording proceedings at a "three-weeks court" for the villis of Maghfeld, Ukkfeld, Fremfeld and Ryngmer, held in 1382 (6th Ric. II.), mentions "Bretellus Rector ecclesie de Bokstede" (evidently the cleric in question) more than once, but with no indication of his surname. The first mention is a proceeding "inter Walt⁹um atte Broke quef et Bretellum rectorem eccie de Bokstede def de placit⁹ trans⁹."—a plaint of trespass of cattle. An "Inquisition" was summoned, *quorum nomina* John atte Wode, John Morys, Will^m Hempstede, Rich. Cronprest and others. On the appointed day no less than seven were absent—a common occurrence in those days. We may name W^m Stapelegh Jhn Aynoth & Galfrid Mascall. The Bedel was ordered to distraign; but no result appears.

W. HENEAGE LEGGE.

No. 7.

DERICK CARVER.

Derick Carver, to whom there is a reference at p. 185 of Vol. X. of our *Collections*, was burned to death in Lewes as a victim of the Marian persecution in July, 1555.¹ Neither any will of his nor letters of administration to his effects exist, but the statements contained in a bill in Chancery afford some information as to him and his family which has not heretofore been available. The bill in question is undated, but as it is addressed "To the Rt: Hon: Nicholas Bacon knt Lord Keeper of the Great Seale of England," it must have been filed

¹ See also Erredge's *Hist. of Brighton*, p. 118, and Lower's *Worthies of Sussex*, p. 200.

after the 22nd December, 1558, and, indeed, from its contents, some time after March, 1560. It runs thus:—

“Sheweth Derick Carver of Brighthelmston in co: of Sussex yeoman;—WHEREAS one Derick Carver father of the sayd orator was in his lyfetime lawfully possessed among other his goodes and chattels of and in the some of xxiiij^{li} current money of England and so being thereof possessed *and being in great peril of death* meaning to provide for the sayd orator and all of his children as naturall love and fatherly affection persuaded and inforced dyd a lyttle before his death deliver out to James Norton in whom he reposed great trust and confidence the s^d some of xxiiij^{li} safe to keepe and employ the same to the use profitt and maintenance of y^r s^d orator and of one Alice his sister willing the s^d James Norton to see your s^d orator and the s^d Alice maintained and found both in mete drynke apparel and other things necessarie until such tyme as they accomplished and came unto their lawfull age and then to delyver over to any of them the some of xij^{li} if they were then living and if any of them died then he willed and desired the s^d James Norton that the part of the one so dying should be equally devided amongst other his children surviving besydes your sayd orator and Alice AND after, the sayd Derick father of y^r orator dyed At the tyme of the delyvery of the which s^d some of money and also at divers and sundry tymes after the death of the s^d Derick Carver the father, the s^d James Norton dyd faythfully promise and undertake in the presence of divers honest persons that he would not only kepe fynde and maintaine your orator and y^e s^d Alice but also would pay and deliver unto them the sayd severall somes of money according to the s^d trust so in him reposed and according to the will & true intent and meaning of the s^d Derick Carver the father AND after, the sayd James Norton made his last will and testament and thereof constituted and made Johan his wiffe sole executrix and dyed² AFTER whose death the sayd Alice also dyed by and after whose death her sayd part and portion remayned and came as of ryght it ought to remayne and come unto your s^d orator and other the children of the s^d Derick the father then lyving equally to be devided between them so that your s^d orator was thereby ryghtefully entitled to have the iiijth part thereof that is to say the some of iiij^{li} for his part and portion SITHENCE which tyme the s^d Johan hath maryed and taken to husband one Patrick Haggat of Brighthelmston aforesayd.” So it is that the money came to the hands of Patrick, who neglected his duties and “your said orator being now come to his lawfull age” has required Patrick and Johan to pay, but they refused, wherefore he craves writ of subpœnâ. This is no answer extant.

The above pleading is to be found as Carver v. Haggat, Chanc. Proc., Series ii., Bundle 32, No. 79. It shows that the martyr had five children, three of whom, presumably the eldest, are unnamed, the remaining two being the plaintiff Derick and his sister Alice, who died a minor.

WALTER C. RENSHAW.

² James Norton, of Brighton, fisherman, left a will dated 24th March, 1558, and proved at Lewes 6th March, 1560. (Book A, 4, fol. 323.)

No. 8.

*BRONZE BRACELETS FOUND AT HAND CROSS,
CRAWLEY.*

Visiting the Museum of the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle-on-Tyne in the Black Gate a short time ago I was attracted by an elegant bronze ornament, to which was attached a label, stating that it had been found at Hand Cross, Sussex. On making enquiries of the Hon. Sec. of the Society, R. Blair, Esq., F.S.A., he informed me they had no authority for the place of discovery other than that of the depositor, the late Dr. Collingwood Bruce, but he believed that another, from the same spot and very like it in character, was in the British Museum. Having referred to the authorities at that institution, I find they have a specimen of similar form described as a bronze loop found in a moss with two others and a bronze ring at Ham Cross, Crawley, presented by Sir John Trevelyan, to whom it had been given by a Mr. Crawhall. It is shown in the Museum "Guide to the Bronze Age Antiquities," fig. 57. It is also figured and described in Sir John Evans' *Bronze Implements of Great Britain and Ireland*, p. 386, fig. 482, as "a long bar of bronze, either circular or sub-quadrangular in section, doubled over so as to leave a broad loop in the middle, and then curved round so as to form the bracelet, the two ends of the bar being bent over to form a hook, which engages in the central loop—the edges are in some parts minutely serrated." Both in the Museum Guide and Sir John Evans' work the locality is misprinted as Ham Cross. It would be of interest if any of our members could give more exact details as to the locality and date of the find.

AMBROSE P. BOYSON.

No. 9.

*COPY OF AN ABSTRACT OF A CONVEYANCE OF THE
MANOR AND MANSION HOUSE OF OFFINGTON,
SUSSEX.*

"40th Elizth } By Indenture between The Right Hon^{ble} Sir Thomas
(1579) Febr̄y 11th } West Knight Lord la Warr of the one part and
Edward Barker of the Parish of St Gregorys London of the
other part, The said Lord la Warr in consideration of £5300
Did Grant & Convey to said Edward Barker and his heirs

All that the Manor and Demesne Lands of Offington and Park of Offington with the rights members & appurts of said Manor and the Scite Mansion-house and place of Offington with the appurts in the County of Sussex & all and singular the Messuages Cottages Tofts Mills Lands Tenements Meadows Feedings Pastures Downs Sheep walks Commons Wastes Woods Underwoods and the Soil thereof Heaths Furzes Mines Quarries Rents Services Farms Fee Farms Knights fees Court

Perquisites and profits of Courts Waifs and Strays Liberties Franchizes Commodities Emoluments and Hereditaments whatsoever to the same Manor belonging or in anywise appertaining

To hold the same unto and to the use of the said Edward Barker his heirs and assigns for ever.

With General Warranty and all usual Covenants.

And also a Covenant from the said Lord la Warr to indemnify as well the said Edward Barker his heirs and assigns as the said Manor Park Lands and premises from all Incumbrances whatsoever (Except the ancient and accustomed Rent and Service thence forth to grow due and payable for the said premises or for any part thereof to the Lord or Lords paramount)."

EDWD. SAYERS.

No. 10.

THE MANOR OF HAM AND THE GRATWICK FAMILY.

I shall be glad if any member can assist me in tracing the descent of this manor, whilst in possession of the Gratwick family.

In the account given in *Elwes' Castles and Mansions of West Sussex* it is stated that "Roger Gratwicke, who died seized of it in 1570, was son of John and grandson of Henry (both of whom had held the same property), and that his descendants in the male line continued to enjoy it until 1822." This is, I think, incorrect, though it agrees with the pedigree in *Berry's Sussex Genealogies*, p. 169.

Henry Gratwick, of Ham, yeoman, made his will 9th May, and it was proved at Chichester (Vol. XVI., p. 141) 22nd June, 1602. He had a large family and was succeeded by his eldest son, Thomas, who was buried at Angmering 27th March, 1635. Thomas made his will 16th and 26th February, 1634, and it was proved, in the P.C.C. (108 Sadler) 7th November, 1635. He had two sons, Thomas and Humphrey, both minors, of whom Humphrey, the younger, succeeded. His will, dated 19th December, 1685, was proved, in the P.C.C. (75 Lloyd) 18th June, 1686, and the account of his descendants, as given in *Berry*, is substantially correct. His wife, by the way, was a sister of the wife of Capt. John Gratwicke, of Eatons (*Berry*, p. 170), whom he mentions as "my brother [*i.e.*, brother-in-law] John Gratwicke senr, of Eatons." As to the parentage of Henry Gratwick, I can only conjecture that he was the youngest son of Thomas Gratwicke, of West Grinstead, whose will, dated 28th June, 1541, is at Chichester (Vol. II., 204b), and who leaves his copyhold lands to his said youngest son. Some confirmation of this conjecture is to be found in the fact that Henry leaves his wife "a fether bed at West Grinstead;" and I find also that Thomas, son of Henry, was baptized at West Grinstead 31st May, 1570, and William, son of Henry, baptized there 15th December, 1572; whilst Thomas and William were the names of the two eldest sons and executors of Henry, of Ham.

As to the parentage of the Roger Gratwyke, of Sullington, who undoubtedly held the manor at the time of his death in 1570, there is some uncertainty; but I take him to have been the youngest of the four sons of James Grateweke, of Cowfold and Seaford, whose will, dated 21st February, 1532, was proved in the P.C.C. (24 Thower) 27th February following. His brother Thomas, of Seaford, whose will, dated 4th January, 1558, was proved at Lewes (A4, 267) 20th April, 1559, was apparently father of Sir William Gratwicke, of Tortington, Knt. (with whom the pedigree in Berry, p. 168, begins), who was the principal heir to his cousin Roger, of Tortington, eldest son of Roger, of Sullington. The latter, by his will, dated 10th August, and proved at Chichester 11th September, 1570 (Vol. X., 383), left to his said eldest son the Manor of Itford, whilst he left the Manor of Ham to his sons, John and Philip. What I am anxious to discover is, how the manor passed from them to the Henry named above.

John's share seems to have passed to another brother, Thomas, of Ham, will (Chichester, Vol. XIV., 380) dated 29th December, 1594, proved 22nd May, 1595, who died s.r., and left all his lands in West Angmering and the residue of his estate "with the letter of Adm^{en} due to me by the death of my brother John," to his brother Philip, who would thus become possessed of the whole manor. Philip was dead by 1613, as also probably was his only son, Roger; for Sir William, of Tortington, in his will of that date, leaves the wardship and marriage of Elizabeth, daughter of Philip Gratwicke, deceased, to his own son Roger, of Seaford, whose first wife she afterwards became. There is, however, no mention of Ham either in the will of Sir William, his widow, or any of his sons.

I shall be glad to correspond with anyone interested in the Gratwick family, with a view to clearing up this and other doubtful points in their history.

JOHN COMBER.
