

SUSSEX DOMESDAY TENANTS

III. WILLIAM DE CAHAGNES AND THE FAMILY OF KEYNES

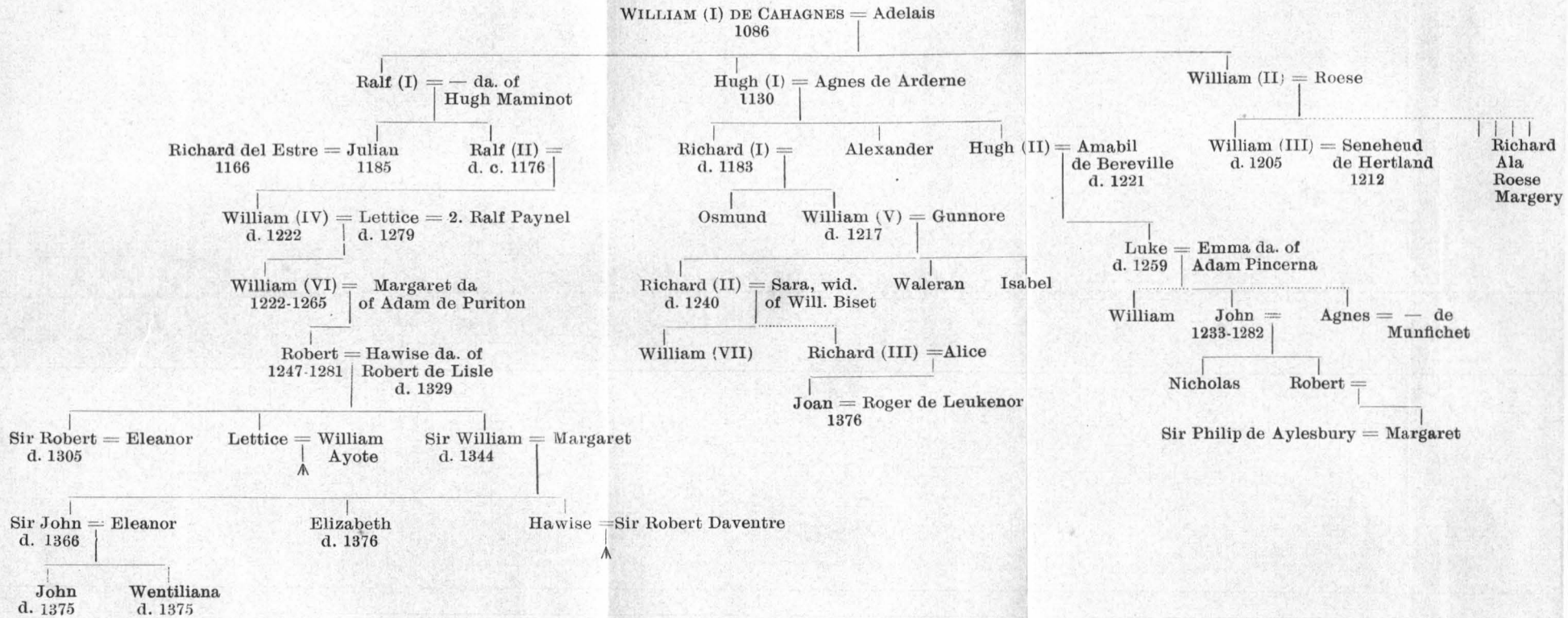
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SINCE the days of Dugdale the two families of Keynes and Cheyney,—both derived from Domesday ancestors and both connected with Sussex,—have been constantly confused. An article in the first volume of the *Sussex Archaeological Collections* scientifically confounded the confusion and produced a blended pedigree which is a monumental warning for all rash genealogists. Other similarly blended pedigrees appear in the twenty-fifth volume of the *Collections*, and it is in the hope of disentangling these two lines that I propose to deal this year with the family of Keynes, and next year with the very puzzling and involved pedigree of the Cheyneys. Although Mr. Round has said that “there really need be no confusion,”¹ it is not altogether surprising that there has been, as both names appear under a wonderful variety of spellings, some of each approximating to some of the other group,—Cheyney as de Caisned, Caisneto, Kaineto, Chaisneto, Keisnei, Chedney, Quesnai, Querceto, Chene, and so forth, and Keynes as de Cahaignes, Cahannes, Kahanniis, Cathenis, Chaines, Caignes, Chaennis, Caan’, Kaines, Chaignis, &c.;—both are found holding property in the same county, even in the same vill, benefactors to the same religious houses and connected by marriage with the same families.

William de Cahaignes, who occurs in the Domesday Survey, derived his name from the fief of Cahagnes, near Bayeux, which was held of the Count of Mortain,

¹ *S.A.C.*, XL., 73.

PEDIGREE OF KEYNES.



and most of his large estates in Northamptonshire and Sussex were held of the same Count. In Sussex he is definitely named as holding two "burgesses" or burgage tenements, in Pevensey, the Eastbourne manors of Bevrington and Yevrington (2 hides), Sherrington in Selmeston ($4\frac{1}{2}$ hides), and 2 hides in Tilton, in the same parish; later records also enable us to identify him as the "William" who held "Remecinges" (in Westham), Langney, near Eastbourne, Folkington, Itford ("Litelford," 4 hides), Horsted² (4 hides), which derived its name of Horsted Keynes from this family, Bunchgrove, or Birchgrove, in Horsted Keynes, and Selmeston with "Sidenore" ($4\frac{1}{2}$ hides). All these estates were held of the Count of Mortain, but William de Cahaignes also held one virgate of the Archbishop of Canterbury's manor of Malling "at Alsihorne," presumably Alchorne on the borders of Buxted and Rotherfield. In Northants William de Cahaignes held of the king in chief Floore (1 hide), and of the Count of Mortain estates in Hannington, Harleston, Brington, Brockhall, and Muscote, Kislingbury, Floore, Clasthorp, Yelvertoft, Cold Ashby, Silverstone, Creaton Parva, Tyfield, Furtho, Farthingstone, Dodford (3 hides), Easton Neston, Snoscumb, Purston, Walton, King's Sutton, Croughton, Evenley, and Charwelton; while the subsequent history of the manor shows that "William" who held Greatworth of the Bishop of Bayeux was not William Peverel, as would appear from the context, but William de Cahaignes. He also held Barton, close to Cambridge; of part of which estate the Survey records that "the Bishop of Bayeux delivered this land to William, but the men of the hundred know not for what reason." Finally, in Buckinghamshire in "Lammue" Hundred, afterwards one of the "Three Hundreds of Buckingham," he held of Geoffrey de "Manneville," $3\frac{1}{2}$ hides as a manor,—possibly in Addington.

² Horsted had been attached to the Manor of Hamsey, which belonged to Ralf de Caisned, founder of the Cheyney family. Another coincidence!

This WILLIAM (I) was sheriff of Northants in the reign of William Rufus, by which king he was ordered to call together "the county of Hamptona" to enquire as to the rights of Ramsey Abbey in Isham.³ He granted a hide in Langney to Lewes Priory, which was confirmed to the priory by William, Count of Mortain, sometime before 1104⁴; also 2 hides at "Dudintona" (on the borders of Hailsham and Westham), with the consent of his son Hugh. This last estate may have come to him through his wife, as in the Chartulary is mention of 2 hides at "Dudintona" which Adelaide gave for the soul of her husband William de Chaennis, which Hugh her son confirmed.⁵ He occurs, as "Guillelmus de Chamhannis," as witness, with Alvred Pincerna and others, to the deed by which Count Robert of Mortain restored land in Blackham and Withyham to the Abbey of Marmoutier,⁶ and is probably the William de Cahannes who gave "all my estate in Eltendon (Elkington, Northants.);" to Pipewell Abbey.⁷

On his death we should expect to find that all his estates passed to his eldest son; but there is plenty of evidence to show that at this period the theory of primogeniture had not yet become such an obsession as it became with later lawyers, and it would seem that his lands, were to some extent divided between three sons, Hugh, Ralf and William, all of whom appear in the "Northamptonshire Survey."⁸ In this Survey Hugh is named as holding Floore, Cold Ashby and Charwelton; Ralf as holding Dodford, Greatworth and Brockhall and Muscote; and William at Silverstone and Tiffield. Mr. Round considers⁹ that "this survey was originally made under Henry I., and was subsequently corrected here and there, to bring the entries up to date. down to the days of Henry II. The late transcriber, to whom we owe the survey in its present form, has incorporated these additions and corrections in a single text with the most bewildering result." We have

³ *Cartul. de Ramsey*, I., 238.

⁴ *S.A.C.*, XL., 70.

⁵ Dugdale, *Mon.*

⁶ Round, *Cal. Docts. France*, 435.

⁷ Cott. MS. Calig. A. XIII., 27.

⁸ *V.C.H. Northants.*, I.

⁹ *Feudal England*, 221.

therefore to allow for the possibility that Hugh, Ralf and William might represent successive owners of the Keynes fees. We can however show that three persons bearing those names were contemporaries.

WILLIAM (II.) de Cahaignes is historically the most interesting figure of his race, from the striking and picturesque part which he took in the Battle of Lincoln in 1141. At that battle King Stephen fought magnificently with his battle-axe until it broke, and then wielded a sword "worthy of his royal right hand," until it also was broken. "Seeing which, William de Kahannes, a very valiant knight, rushed upon the king, and seizing him by the helm cried with a loud voice, 'Hither, all of you, hither, I am holding the king'."¹⁰ Unfortunately, beyond this one outstanding incident he seems to have left no trace behind him, and it seems probable that he died before the accession of Henry II. It is just possible that REGINALD de Cahaignis, to whom Henry II. gave for life lands in Winterbourne in Gloucestershire worth £19 5s. 0d. in 1156¹¹ might have been his son, and that the king might have made the grant as a reward for his father's good service in the capture of Stephen; but Reginald himself evidently died little more than a year later,¹² and is otherwise unknown to history.

RALF (I.) de Cahaines appears on the *Pipe Roll* of 1130 as being excused the payment of danegeld in Dorset (35s.) and Wiltshire (48s.), in which counties he had received the manors of Tarent, Combe and Somerford from Henry I. in marriage with the daughter of Hugh Maminot.¹³

HUGH (I.), as we have already seen, held Floore, Dodford—the chief seat of the family,—Cold Ashby and Charwelton at the time of the Northamptonshire Survey. He also seems to have succeeded to the Sussex estates of his father. His confirmation of the

¹⁰ *Rog. Horden*, I., 204.

¹¹ *Pipe Roll*, 2 Hen. II.

¹² He occurs in the *Pipe Roll* for 3 Hen. II., but the next year Winterbourne was given to Robert de Wateville.

¹³ *Testa de Nevill*, 163.

gift of "Dudintona" has already been mentioned, and he also himself gave to Lewes Priory land at Broadhurst¹⁴ in Horsted Keynes, and 60 acres of land and marsh belonging thereto at "Ramechinges" (now Ranging Hill in Westham)¹⁵ in or before the time of Stephen. On the *Pipe Roll* of 1130 he figures in Northants. as accounting for £10 *de censu Foreste*, and in Sussex as being pardoned murder fines due from the hundreds of Alrenhale and Totenersh. Shortly before his death he seems to have taken the cowl at Lewes as the cartulary of the Priory mentions that "at Sidenore Hugh de Cahaines gave us 2½ hides *pro monacatu* and Richard his son confirmed the gift."¹⁶

Before dealings with the descendants of Hugh we must refer to PHILIP de Cahaines, who is found in about 1152 giving the church of Willen (Bucks.), of which manor he was lord, to the priory of Newport Pagnell, a cell of Marmoutier.¹⁷ About the same period he granted the chapel of St. Martin of Feugeray to the Priory of Plessis-Grimould.¹⁸ He held half a knight's fee on the demesne of Earl William of Gloucester in 1166,¹⁹ and appears on the *Pipe Roll* of 1175 in Devon as fined half a mark for concealing the flight of a criminal, and the following year as paying 10 marks for a forest offence; but how he connects on to the pedigree I do not know. His daughter Wibure married Roger de Saleford, who received Willen in marriage with her, and afterwards, as they had no children, obtained a grant of the estate for himself from his father-in-law. It therefore descended to Roger's nephew, Hugh de Saleford, against whom it was claimed in 1206 by Roheis de Verdun, whose right in it does not appear.²⁰ William, son of Philip de Kahanies, is mentioned in 1201 as having at some previous date given to the king the wardship of the heir

¹⁴ S.A.C., XL., 67. ¹⁵ *Ibid.*, 71. ¹⁶ Cott. MS. Vesp. F. XV., f. 137.

¹⁷ Round, *Cal. Docts. France*, 444.

¹⁸ *Mems. de la Soc. d'Ant. de Normandie*, VIII., 106.

¹⁹ *Red Book of Exch.*, 292.

²⁰ *Curia Regis* 38, m. 8d.

of Farnham (Dorset), who had subsequently been abducted.²¹

WILLIAM (III.) de Cahaignes, who is found in 1166 holding a knight's fee of the Bishop of Lincoln,²² was probably son of the William (II.) who captured Stephen. Unfortunately he was contemporary with two other Williams, sons respectively of Richard and Ralph. He died in or before 1205, in which year Alan de Hertiland and Seneheud his sister gave the king 15 marks to have custody of the land and heir of William de Kahainges, husband of Seneheud, and for the marriage of the said heir and of Seneheud; the custodian of the Honour of Gloucester being ordered to cause William Briwerre to give them seisin.²³ This enables us to identify him as the William who paid on a fee under Gloucester in 1199,²⁴ and Seneheud as "the wife of William de Kahaignes," who held half a fee in Devon of the Honour of Gloucester in 1212.²⁵ He appears to have had at least one brother and three sisters, as on a plea roll of the time of Richard I.²⁶ we find that William de Caines granted to Ala, Roese and Margery, his sisters, all the land of Little "Dikehill," in Warwickshire (identified by Dugdale as Bickenhill),²⁷ which Richard his brother had given them, so that the three sisters should divide the said land between them according to their age. William at the same time undertook that Margery his sister should accept without question the tenancy of Richard son of William, who held freely in that land or should acquire the said Richard's rights in that land (*recipiet in pace sua Ricm. fil' Willi. qui libere tenet in illa terra vel deliberabit predictam terram de predicto Ricardo*). Henry, son of Richard, of Little Dikehill, came and quitclaimed all the right that he had in Little Dikehill to William de Caines and his sisters. The grant made by Richard to his sisters may have been a bequest, in which case we

²¹ *Select Civil Pleas* (Selden Soc.), 108.

²² *Red Book of Exch.*, 376.

²³ *Rot. de Oblatis*, 293.

²⁴ *Red Book of Exch.*, 130.

²⁵ *Ibid.*, 559.

²⁶ *Rot. Curiae Regis* (Pipe Roll Soc.), 227. 232.

²⁷ Dugdale, *Ant. of Warws*, 609.

may possibly identify him as the Richard "de Caā" who essoined on a plea of sickness at "Silam" (Syleham in Suffolk) in 1194.²⁸ As he had a sister Roesse it is probable that the William de Chaanes who gave a house in Northampton which had belonged to William, son of Ulf, to the hospital of St. James at Northampton, "for the good of my soul and of the soul of my wife Royes," was his father.²⁹ The witnesses to this charter were Alexander, prior, of Essebi (Ashby), Hugh de Chaen "my brother" and William de Chaan'.

Returning to HUGH (I.); we find that about 1140 Bishop Alexander of Lincoln confirmed the gift of Dodford church to Luffield Priory, made by Hugh de Chaines and Richard his heir.³⁰ Moreover, Richard³¹ confirmed to the monks of Lewes the gifts of his father Hugh and his other ancestors—namely, "Sidenore," "Dudintona," Langney, "Rimechinges," Broadhurst and "the land of Hoch", which lies at (or belongs to) Broadhurst," and the church of Horsted Keynes—by two charters,³² one of which is witnessed by Gervase de Channes and the other by "Hugh my brother." This HUGH (II.) is returned in 1166 as holding two-thirds of a knight's fee in Middleton (Keynes), which the king gave to him with the heir of that estate in Buckinghamshire.³³ He is mentioned in that county on the *Pipe Rolls* of 1158, 1165 and in 1168, when he paid on two-thirds of a fee. He also occurs under Northants. in 1189 and 1190³⁴ and as paying towards "the scutage of Wales" on two-thirds of a fee in Bucks. in 1191.³⁵ During the war at the end of John's reign he seems to have been taken prisoner, as in 1217 he was granted safe conduct "ad perquirendum redemptionem suam."³⁶ He is probably the Hugh de Cahaignes, knight, who

²⁸ *Rot. Cur. Reg.* (Rec. Com.), I., 118.

²⁹ Cott. MS. Tib. E. 5, f. 178.

³⁰ Dugdale, *Mon.*

³¹ He occurs as witness to a charter of Count Eustace about 1150: Cott. MS. Vesp. F. XV., f. 89.

³² Cott. MS. Vesp. F. XV., f. 64.

³³ *Red Book of Exch.*, 316.

³⁴ *Pipe Rolls*, 1 and 2 Ric. I.

³⁵ *Ibid.*, 3 Ric. I. He still held these two-thirds in 1208: *Book of Fees*, I.

³⁶ Pat. 1 Hen. III., m. 7.

gave to the Norman Priory of Ste. Barbe all his rights in a tenement at Gouviz.³⁷ Another brother was Alexander, whose gift of land in Cold Ashby to Pipewell Abbey was confirmed by his brother Richard³⁸; the large seal of brown wax appended to the charter of confirmation is fragmentary, but bore the figure of an animal, apparently a lion.

At this point some notes concerning a lawsuit about Dodford church, entered in a book of legal precedents, etc., formerly belonging to Luffield Priory, and now in the University Library at Cambridge,³⁹ throw some light on the pedigree. Unfortunately no clue is given as to the date of the suit, so I have not been able to trace the original. The entry begins by stating that Hugh de Caynes was lord of Sulveston and Dodefod and warden of the Forest of Wytlewode (Wychwood, Oxon.) in the time of King Henry, son of William the Bastard; which Hugh had a wife, namely, Lady Agnes de Arderne, and built the castle of the Wood (*castellum de Bosco*).⁴⁰ The same Hugh gave the church of Dodford to the church of Luffield. Afterwards Richard de Caynes, son and heir of Hugh, confirmed it. Afterwards Ralph de Caynes, son of the brother of Hugh de Caynes and grandfather of Sir William de Caynes, "who now claims," by a double charter granted and confirmed the said gift and confirmation. Moreover, Robert, who was Bishop of Lincoln in the time of King Henry, son of William (Robert Bloet, bishop 1094–1123), confirmed the said gifts and confirmations. Also Alexander, Bishop of Lincoln (1123–1148), who built the castles of Baneburi, Newark and Lafford (Sleaford), confirmed them. Also Pope Alexander III. and St. Hugh, Bishop of Lincoln.⁴¹ Then comes a charter: "I, Richard de Caynes, give and grant to the church of Luffelde . . . the gifts which my father and

³⁷ *Mems. de la Soc. d'Ant. de Normandie*, VII., 104.

³⁸ Add. Ch. 7540.

³⁹ MS. Ee. 1. 1, f. 274.

⁴⁰ Possibly the moat round High Lodge in the middle of the Forest marks the site of this castle.

⁴¹ See Dugdale, *Mon.*

mother gave them, namely, the church of Dodefordia with all things belonging to the church, and the land of Eltendon, namely, a hide, and of my own gift I add to them the mill of Hayfordia for the good of the souls of my father, my mother and myself. . . . Witnesses, William Archdeacon of North(ampton), William de Hayford, Alexander de Arden, Gervase de Caynes, Richard de Hayford, Samson his son, Ingeram de Fardingeston, Richard his son, Walter de Norfolc, Ernald de Sulueston, William his son, William the clerk of North(ampton), Robert Bachet, Adam de Sutsexia, Thurstin Revel, and very many others whom, lest they cause weariness in the hearers, we do not mention."

The gift of Heyford mill seems to have led to litigation, as the next entry is a copy of a fine of 1187:—"This is a final concord levied in the King's Court at Northampton, 33 Henry II., on Thursday next after the Nativity of the B.V.M., before Ralph, archdeacon of Colchester, Roger fitz Reimfr', Robert de Wytelfold, and Michael Belet . . . between the prior of Luffeld, by William his monk in his place, and William, son of Richard de Caynes, concerning the mill of Hayford . . . Namely, that to the said prior and monks of Luffeld shall remain in perpetuity one moiety of the said mill, quit from William and his heirs, and William after five years shall cause them to have the other moiety of the said mill, or land elsewhere or rents within the county to the value of the said moiety. And for this concession the prior gave William 25s." Accordingly another fine was executed in 6 Richard I., by which William, son of Richard, gave to the priory in lieu of the moiety of the mill 8s. rent which Hugh the clerk held of him in Heyford.

From this we see that Hugh (I.) had married Agnes de Arderne and that Ralf (II.) was son of his brother,—presumably Ralf (I.). It also suggests that the division of the lands of William (I.) had resulted in complications and confusion as to the respective rights of the descendants of his sons, which is borne out by other evidence.

For instance, the clash of rights of the descendants of Ralf (I.) and Hugh (I.) is seen in a law suit in 1203.⁴² William de Kaan⁷ claimed against the Prior of Merton the advowson of the church of Barton (Cambrs.). The Prior said that one Ebrard was rector, and had been so for the past thirty years, having been presented by Ralf de Kaanes. To which William replied that his grandfather Hugh had presented the last rector, namely, Savaric, who was now dead. A later suit concerning the same church shows that Ebrard succeeded Savaric. A summary of this suit is given by Bracton⁴³ from a plea-roll of 1219, now missing, and the names appear to have been slightly confused. The Prior of Merton sued Alan de Berton and Roese his wife and Maud, sister of Roese for the advowson of Barton. The jury said that one Savaric held the church as rector all his life, and when old put it and himself in the hands of Eborard, his son, who remained there after his death; but as to the right of presentation they knew nothing. The Prior produced a charter of Ralf de Cahann⁷ granting the advowson of the church to Merton, to take effect after the death of Hugh, his son, rector thereof; also charters of William, son of the said Ralf, and of Geoffrey, Bishop of Ely (1173–1189). William, son of Ralf de Cahannes, came and warranted the said charters. The defendants claimed that a certain Fulky Warwel⁴⁴ came at the Conquest and had half Barton and built a church there, and had a son Hugh, who gave the church to a clerk, Hugh by name, who held it 40 years; and from William (*sic*) it descended to William his son and heir, who gave it to Savaric, who held it forty years; and from William it descended to Elias his son, and from him to Roese and Maud, his daughters.

The Luffield book⁴⁵ also gives us some information about RALF (II.). The manor of Sulueston (Silverston), it tells us, was formerly in the land of four barons; the name of one was Ralph de Caynnes, of the second

⁴² *Abbrev. Plac.*, 35.

⁴³ *Note Book*, No. 34.

⁴⁴ Not known to Domesday.

⁴⁵ Cambridge MS. Ee. 1. 1, f. 220.

Asketil de Sancto Hillario, and Giles de Pinkeni and the Earl de Maundeville; each of them had his own part. Afterwards came King Henry II., and deprived Ralph de Caynes of all his land for a trespass done to the king by the said Ralph in a certain tenement because he spurned the king and seized him (*pro transgressione regi illata a predicto Radulpho in quodam tenemento scilicet quia regem calcavit et cepit*). Afterwards the king gave back to Ralph or his heirs all his land except the said Ralph's share in Sulveston, which he kept in his own hand. The king also took to himself the land and tenements which the said Giles and Asketil used to have and held, and still holds, the whole. Long before that time the Earl de Mandevill gave the part which he had in the said vill to the house of Luffeld, and therefore the king did not take that part into his hand, but the Prior of Luffeld held and still holds it.

Possibly there is some reference to this in the fact that in 1165 Ralf de Cahaines is entered on the *Pipe Roll*, under Wiltshire, as being fined £200, of which he paid half at once and £50 the following year. At the same time he occurs under Warwickshire as accounting for £15 5s. 0d. "for the army of Wales." Next year, 1166, he made a return of his knight's fees in Northants,⁴⁶ as holding of old feoffment 3 knights and of new feoffment a quarter of a fee, of his demesne; of which William de Cumbe held the said quarter, Simon de Leseburne one fee, Walter Giffard one, and Torstin de Rodmartone one. On the *Pipe Roll* of 1168 it is under Dorset and Somerset that he is charged "for 3 knights of old feoffment and for 3¼ of new." The following year he is found paying 5 marks in Somerset "that his stock may be sold at a reasonable price" (*ut pecunia sua justo precio vendantur*),—the exact significance of which is not apparent. In 1172 Ralf seems to have been put in command of the castle of Northampton, as various payments were made to him "to make grants to the knights who were with him at Northampton

⁴⁶ *Red Book of Exch.*, 218.

on the king's service";⁴⁷ but it is probable that he died soon after.

In addition to his English estates, Ralf (II.) retained land in Normandy in the bailiwick of Tenchebrai⁴⁸ at Cahagnes, in connection with which the following curious story is told in the cartulary of Merton Priory.⁴⁹ A certain vavassor, whose name is forgotten (*excidit*), who held a vavassory of land in the vill of Kahan',⁵⁰ from Ralf de Cahan', was deprived of that estate for a certain man. This man had a female relation whom William Postell,⁵¹ then rector of the church of Kahan', took as his mistress (*adamavit*), and had by her four daughters, of whom three were married, and the fourth remained unmarried. William Postell had received the said land at farm from Ralf de Cahan'. Afterwards came a certain chaplain, a relation of the aforesaid knight, and impleaded William Postell before Ralf de Cahan', and the plea went so far that a duel was waged between them in the court of Ralf de Kahan'. But William Postell gave (?) a basketful of money of Le Mans (*unum Bosketum plenum denar' mansel'*) to Ralf de Kahan', and for that money Ralf supported William Postell, declaring that he had given him that land in perpetual alms with the advowson of the church of Kahan', and so the plea was terminated. Afterwards Robert de Curwandun,⁵² a relation of the said chaplain and of the aforesaid knight, brought an action concerning the said land and the advowson of the church of Kahan', and this action was settled by agreement (*concordatum*) in the King's court by a fine (*cyrographum*) concerning the advowson of the said church between Robert and the canons of Merton by Roger de Waut', who was their attorney. Afterwards

⁴⁷ *Pipe Boll*, 18 Hen. II.

⁴⁸ *Red Book of Exch.*, 640.

⁴⁹ Heale, *Records of Merton Priory*, app. 111.

⁵⁰ Identified by Mr. Heale as Cheam in Surrey.

⁵¹ William Postell was son of Hervey the priest, who was son of Ambobert the priest: Merton Chartul. (Cott. MSS. Cleop. C. VII., f. 82).

⁵² Cahagnes and Courvandun are (now) both in the Department of Calvados, the latter lying E. of Aunay and the former about W.N.W. of it. For this information and for the translation of *denar' mansel'*, I am indebted to Mr. J. H. Round.

a certain knight, Ralf de Grenvill by name, whose wife was ill, deserted his wife on account of her illness, and betook himself to the said fifth (*sic*) daughter of William Postell, who remained unmarried, and during the lifetime of his wife begat on her two sons in adultery, of whom one was called Robert and the other Ralf. For which both he and she were summoned before the chapter and the woman was excommunicated for adultery and died in adultery and excommunicate, being buried in the unconsecrated cemetery of a lepers' chapel. However, the said brothers, Robert and Ralf, in the time of Henry II. brought an action concerning both their inheritance in right of their father, Ralf de Grenvill, as they said, and their inheritance in right of their grandfather William Postell, and by order of the king they recovered their father's inheritance, each his own portion,⁵³ by one inquest (*juratam*), and by another inquest which was made on their behalf concerning the advowson of the church of Kahan' they did not (recover), because it was objected against them by their adversaries before and after the inquest that they were bastards begotten in adultery, and that their mother had died in adultery and excommunicate. The King said that if bastardy were proved they should lose both patrimony and advowson, so they dropped the claim to the advowson. But when King John lost Normandy they complained to the French king that the canons of Merton had deprived them of their rights; the case, however, went against them by default in the court of the Count of Boulogne.

Ralf had granted the church of Cahagnes to Merton Priory, but in 1200 the canons of Merton exchanged it with the monks of the Norman abbey of St. Fromund for churches and tithes in Stamford and elsewhere in England.⁵⁴ Moreover he, or his immediate successors, had also given to the same priory the churches of Combe Keynes, Somerford, Middleton Keynes (Bucks.), and Barton (Cambs.).⁵⁵ Barton was held by Ralf in

⁵³ Another instance of division as opposed to primogenital entail.

⁵⁴ *Cal. Rot. Cart.*, 26.

⁵⁵ Heale, *op. cit.*, XLVI.

1168,⁵⁶ and in 1185 we find it stated that "Juliana de Cathenis, who was daughter to Ralf de Cathenis and wife to Richard del Estre, is of the king's disposal. Her land in Barton is worth £4, and if well stocked would be worth 100s. and more. Nothing is known of her age or the number of her children."⁵⁷ Richard del Estre, who figures in the return of knight's fees for Somerset in 1166, is given in the Northants. Survey as holding Easton Neston (held by William de Cahaignes in 1086); presumably Ralf (?l.) had given it to him in marriage with his daughter Julian. As Richard "de Atrio" he granted 2 acres in Easton Neston to the nuns of Swardsley (Northants.).⁵⁸ Julian does not appear to have left any descendants.

RICHARD (I.), son of Hugh, died in 1183 or 1184, as in the latter year his son William became responsible for his debt to the king,⁵⁹ which had been incurred in 1177. On the *Pipe Roll* of that year,⁶⁰ under Sussex, "Richard de Cahaignes accounts for 1000 marks for a fine (i.e. agreement) made between him and William de Cahaignes about a division of estates concerning which there was a suit between them before the king." Towards this large sum Richard only paid on account £5 19s. 2d., but we learn from another source⁶¹ that his lands were seized into the king's hands for six years, that is to say for the remainder of his life.

WILLIAM (IV.) de Cahaignes, just mentioned, was the son of Ralf (II.). In 1176, when Henry II. was using the Forest Laws to fill his depleted exchequer, William de Cahaignes was fined 500 marks for forest offences in Northants. and the New Forest,⁶² and, unlike many of the offenders, he paid half of the fine at once, and the remaining half next year. He then attempted to curry favour with the king by asserting that he ought to hold his barony (of Dodford) of the king in chief, and not of the Earl of Leicester,—then

⁵⁶ *Pipe Roll*, 14 Hen. II.

⁵⁷ *Rot. de Dominabus* (ed. Round), 85.

⁵⁸ Add. Ch. 7540.

⁵⁹ *Pipe Roll*, 30 Hen. II.

⁶⁰ *Ibid.*, 23 Hen. II.

⁶¹ See below.

⁶² *Pipe Roll*, 23 Hen. II.

in disgrace for the part he had taken in the rebellion of 1173,—who, he asserted, had usurped it. The Earl replied that his great-grandfather and all his ancestors had always held the overlordship, but that he was quite prepared to submit to the king's judgement. Henry's reply was to restore his estates to the Earl and dismiss William in disgrace,⁶³ and accordingly on the *Pipe Roll* of 1177 William de Cahaignes is entered as owing 1000 marks "that the king may remit his anger against him and for confirmation of his charters." As a result of these heavy fines William was driven to borrow large sums, and in the list of debts due to Aaron the Jew⁶⁴ we find: "William de Cahangies £243 13s. 4d. (secured) on Flore, Tuteford (? Dodford), Yreford (? Itford) and Horstede. The same owes £250, on Flore and Tuteford by another charter." He seems to have attached himself to John, at that time Count of Mortain, as he was one of the sureties for that shifty prince's good behaviour in 1191,⁶⁵ and is found attesting John's charters immediately after Stephen Ridel, the Count's chancellor, in 1194.⁶⁶ In return King John in July, 1204, became surety for William de Caheignes' payment of £30 to Maurice Bonami, "his host" (*hospiti suo*) of Chinon.⁶⁷ Towards the end of his reign, however, William seems to have taken the side of the barons against John, as in 1215 his lands in Northants. were committed to Berner de Bestesia, and his estates in Sumerford to Richard de Samford,⁶⁸ but after that monarch's death he returned to his fealty in 1217.⁶⁹

On the death of Richard (I.) de Cahaignes his son, WILLIAM (V.), succeeded to his father's debt, then amounting to £532, which he agreed to pay off at the rate of £38 yearly,⁷⁰ and also to the greater part of the family estates. Accordingly he is found in 1187 paying 112s. 6d. for scutage of his knights at the rate

⁶³ Benedict, *Gesta Henrici*, I., 133.

⁶⁴ *Pipe Roll*, 3 Ric. I. In 1204 Abraham the Jew of London had a writ against William de Kaignes for £20 with interest: *Rot. de Oblatis*, 207.

⁶⁵ *Reg. Hoveden*, III., 137.

⁶⁶ Farrer, *Lancs. Pipe Rolls and Early Charters*, 433: cf. *Cal. Chart. R.*, I., 120.

⁶⁷ *Cal. Rot. Claus.*, 43. ⁶⁸ *Ibid.*, 242, 243. ⁶⁹ *Ibid.*, 300.

⁷⁰ *Pipe Roll*, 30 Hen. II.

of 12s. 6d,⁷¹ equivalent to nine "small fees of Mortain." His namesake, however, evidently disputed his claim; a quarrel seems to have broken out between the two, which was temporarily terminated by an agreement, which, upon consideration, both parties repudiated. For on a plea roll of the time of Richard (I.)⁷² we read that William de Kaines, son of Richard, and William de Kaines, son of Ralf, have withdrawn themselves from the mutual agreement made concerning the king's peace through malice (*per athiam*), and put themselves in mercy, so however that the agreement between them concerning the land of Dodford in Northants., which was divided between them by a fine made in the said court (may be annulled and) that all the land which was of William, son of Richard in Dodford, with all appurtenances, may remain wholly to the said William, son of Ralf, and in the same way the agreement between them about the land of Horkestud and Hicheford (? Itford), which by the same fine was divided between them, so that all the land that was of William, son of Ralf, in the said villis shall remain for ever to the said William, son of Richard, saving both their disputes and claims . . . concerning the said lands and others which are rightly their's. By the agreement eventually arrived at William, son of Richard, apparently gave up about one and a half fees, as in 1201 he paid on seven and a half fees "for his service abroad" (*pro transfretacione sua*)⁷³: these seem to have been three and a half in Northants., three in Sussex and one in Cambridge.⁷⁴ William, son of Ralf, had an equal number in Northants. and Sussex, and also three in Combe and Somerford.⁷⁵

William (v.), son of Richard, evidently settled in Sussex, of which county he was sheriff between 1206 and 1209, witnessing a deed of Ela de Dene in that capacity.⁷⁶ In 1203 he granted, or confirmed, the

⁷¹ *Ibid.*, 33 Hen. II.

⁷² *Rot. Cur. Regis* (Pipe Roll Soc.), 33. The record is defective in places.

⁷³ *Rot. de Oblatis*, 152.

⁷⁴ *Red Book of Exch.*, 553, 554, 530.

⁷⁵ *Ibid.*, 483.

⁷⁶ *Anct. Deeds*, A. 4221.

advowson of the church of Horsted Keynes to Lewes, the prior, Hubert, agreeing to receive him into the prayers of the convent and to feed 300 poor persons on his behalf that year.⁷⁷ He was also a benefactor to the Priory of Merton, the canons of which house "moved by the affection which we have for our dear friend William de Kaaines, son of Richard," granted to him and his heirs the advowson of the church of Greatworth (Northants.).⁷⁸ His name occurs on the plea rolls from time to time as engaged in lawsuits about land in Selveston and elsewhere, and in 1199 there is an entry of a case between Emma de Kaines and William de Kaines, son of Richard, concerning land in Norfolk,⁷⁹ but who Emma was does not appear.

In this same year we have three very curious entries which seem to suggest that the confusion between the families of Keynes and Cheyney dates back to the twelfth century,—which is almost incredible. First: "Surrey—Eva de Kaingnes against Reginald de Clifton, put in place of Adam and of Avice his mother; they have leave to come to an agreement."⁸⁰ Second: "Surrey—Lettice, who was wife of Robert de Broc, against Eva de Chahan'."⁸¹ Third: "Assize (to decide) if Eva de Chesenie disseised the widow Lettice of her free tenement in Bisele: the jury say that Eva did not disseize her."⁸² Now, it can hardly be doubted that the last two entries refer to the same case; yet Chesenie is as clearly a form of Cheyney as Chahan' is of Keynes; and moreover Eva de Broc was certainly wife of Walter de Keisneto, or Cheyney! I cannot explain it.

A further complication is introduced by the fact that there was in 1200 a suit⁸³ by William de Kahannes against William de Chein' (also spelt de Keisn') and Emma, his wife, William de Cretewrd, William Marescall de Estrop, the Abbot of Pipewell, and William de Huntendon, concerning the partition of the lands of

⁷⁷ *Feet of Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc.), No. 60; Cott. MS. Vesp. F. XV., f. 64.

⁷⁸ Cott. MS. Cleop. C. VI., f. 82.

⁷⁹ *Rot. Cur. Reg.* (Rec. Com.), I., 235.

⁸⁰ *Ibid.*, 375.

⁸¹ *Ibid.*, II., 82.

⁸² *Ibid.*, 192.

⁸³ *Curia Regis*, 23, m. 9; 24, m. 16.

Clasthorpe,⁷ Greatworth, Elkington, Cold Ashby, "Estrop" and "Haldenebi," and Northampton. Unfortunately the case was twice postponed, and I have not yet found its result. At the same time "the suit between William de Cheisn' and William de Cahanies concerning land in Clasthorpe, in which William de Cheisn' called as warranty Wido de Diva, who is beyond seas on the king's service," was also postponed. A note is added that William de Cheisn' admits that he did not call Wido by this writ, though he had done by another, and William de Cahannes says that on another occasion he had called to warrant for the same land William de Kahannes, son of Ralf.⁸⁴

Like his namesake and rival, William, son of Richard, took the side of the barons against John, but returned to his fealty in 1217,⁸⁵ in which year he also died, his son Richard (II.) paying £37 10s. for his relief,⁸⁶ at the usual rate of £5 for each fee. William's wife, Gunnora, having survived him, was given the manor of Greatworth as part of her dower.⁸⁷ William, son of Ralf, promptly renewed his claims, and in 1219 sued Richard for the manors of Horsted, Itford and Selmeston, but was non-suited on the ground that Gunnora was holding half Selmeston in dower.⁸⁸ His claim to 45 acres in Barton (Cambs.) was similarly foiled, as Richard showed that his sister Isabel was holding the land in question by the gift of her father.⁸⁹ By a third suit William claimed in Northants. one fee in Brington and Charwelton, two fees in Farthingstone and Kislingbury, one in Evenly and Purston, and one in Conesgrave, Tiffield and Pokel, 60s. rent in Hayford, and 40s. in Harleston, and one fee in Mistley (Bucks.); the result is not stated.⁹⁰

Early in 1222 William (IV.), son of Ralf, died. He left no issue, but his widow, Lettice, declared that she was pregnant, and the jury of matrons appointed to examine her confirmed her report.⁹¹ She was assigned

⁸⁴ *Ibid.*, 23, m. 9. ⁸⁵ *Cal. Rot. Claus.*, 358. ⁸⁶ *Pipe Roll*, 2 Hen. III.

⁸⁷ *Exc e Rot. Fin.*, I., 12. ⁸⁸ *Curia Regis* 71, m. 8, 18d.

⁸⁹ *Ibid.*, m. 8. ⁹⁰ *Ibid.* ⁹¹ *Bracton's Note Book*, 198.

dower in Somerford, Combe and elsewhere,⁹² and in due course a son was born and christened William (VI.). For the next twenty-one years he was bandied about between bishops and earls, as was the usual fate of a wealthy royal ward. His mother Lettice married Ralph Paynel, of Yorkshire, before 1227,⁹³ and survived till 1279.⁹⁴

At this point we may deal with a few members of the family who do not come in the direct line of the main descents. In 1203 William, son of Alan, claimed a virgate of land in "Petlinges," in Sussex, against Agnes de Cahanes.⁹⁵ She was no doubt the Agnes, mother of William de Munfichet, about whose seisin of a tenement in Wulewic (Woolwich) enquiry was made in 1256, when the jury found that she had been ejected therefrom by her brother, William de Keynes, about a year before her death,⁹⁶ but to which of the Williams she was sister does not appear. On the other hand, Waleran de Caines, who attested a charter of Hugh de Fokinton⁹⁷ (died 1217), was evidently son of William (v.), son of Richard. He appears as Waleran, son of William de Kain', attesting an agreement by which the Priory of Lewes granted to William de Kaines and his heirs 14½ acre in la Cumbe, lying on the north of William's park, which land Alwin de Buntgrave held, to be enclosed within his park. William, by way of exchange, and for the relief of the soul of his father, if perchance he had ever enclosed any land belonging to the monks in his park, gave to the Priory all the assart which Brictnod de la Bernet had held of Richard de Kain', and afterwards of his son, the said William.⁹⁸

LUKE de Cahaignes in 1221 paid relief on two-thirds of a fee in Middleton in Bucks., late of Amabil de Berevill, his mother.⁹⁹ As we have seen that Hugh (II.) married the heir of Middleton, and was holding this estate in 1208, Luke was evidently his son. He

⁹² *Cal. Rot. Claus.*, 489, 495. ⁹³ *Testa de Nevill*, 158. ⁹⁴ *Inq. p. m.*, II., 320.

⁹⁵ *Curia Regis*, 32, m. 8.

⁹⁶ *Assize R.*, 361, m. 10d.

⁹⁷ *Cott. MS. Vesp. F. XV.*, f. 70d. ⁹⁸ *Ibid.*, f. 76. ⁹⁹ *Exc. e Rot. Fin.*, 68.

married Emma, daughter of Adam Pincerna, who gave with her in marriage half the vill of Winelecot (Wincot, Oxon.), which Joan Arsik, widow of the said Adam, unsuccessfully claimed in 1225.¹⁰⁰ Luke apparently owned estates in Kent, as in 1223 the sheriff of that county was ordered to release his lands, which had been seized for his failure to serve in the army of Wales¹⁰¹; possibly, therefore, the Agnes and William referred to above were his children. If William, son of Luke de Caignes, who gave 5s. rent in Caignes (i.e. Cahagnes) to Bradenstoke before 1232,¹⁰² was his eldest son, he must have died during his father's lifetime, as on Luke's death in 1259 he was succeeded by his son John, then aged 26.¹⁰³ John died in 1282, and his eldest son, Nicholas, dying without issue, was succeeded by his brother Robert, whose daughter and heir, Margaret, carried the Buckinghamshire estates to her husband, Sir Philip de Aylesbury, and his descendants.

Returning now to the Sussex branch of the family, we have in 1220 an interesting suit¹⁰⁴ between RICHARD (II.) de Cahann' and the Bishop of Chichester concerning the church of Sihameston (Selmeston—locally pronounced Simson), of which he claimed that his grandfather, Richard (I.) was seised in the time of Henry II., presenting thereto a clerk, Warin by name; from which Richard the advowson descended to Richard (*sic, recte* William), his son, father of this Richard. The Bishop produced a charter by which Richard, the grandfather, granted to the church of Holy Trinity, of Chichester, as a prebend, the church of Syelmeston, with the chapels, lands and tithes thereto belonging and resigned it into the hands of John, Bishop of Chichester (1173–1180), to be granted as a free prebend to whatever ecclesiastical person he pleased. This he did with the assent of Osmund,¹⁰⁵ his

¹⁰⁰ Curia Regis, 94, m. 10d.

¹⁰¹ Cal. Rot. Claus., 629.

¹⁰² Cal. Chart. R., I., 161.

¹⁰³ Cal. Inq. p. m., I., 425.

¹⁰⁴ Curia Regis, 72, m. 25.

¹⁰⁵ This is the only known reference to Osmund; he must have died during his father's lifetime.

son and heir. The Bishop also produced letters from the Bishop of Salisbury (Richard Poore), testifying that when he was Bishop of Chichester he conferred the prebend in the church of Chichester, which is founded in the churches of Hadfeld (Heathfield) and Sihelmeston, to John the chaplain. Richard replied that in the time of Henry II. his grandfather Richard was disseised of all his lands by the king's orders, because of a quarrel that there was between him and William de Cahann'; so that he was disseised for six years, and it was while he was so disseised that that charter was made, if it ever was made. In reply, the Bishop asserted that Richard was then lawfully seised, and that he never afterwards presented any clerk, but, on the contrary, Bishop John presented the said Warin.

Richard (II.) married Sara, widow of William Biset, of Kidderminster.¹⁰⁶ He is found in 1223 paying on 7½ fees in Sussex, at which time "the heir of William, son of Ralf de Kaines'" is entered in the same county as paying on two fees.¹⁰⁷ In 1225 we have an entry which at first sight suggests that Richard must have been dead: the king grants to Ralph de Wiliton for his support while he stays on the king's service in the castle of Bristol the scutage of 4 knights' fees, which he holds of the son and heir of Richard de Keynes in Sussex, which scutage is being demanded of Ralph, namely, for each fee (*de scuto*) 2 marks for the army of Montgomery, and 2 marks for the army of Bedford.¹⁰⁸ As, however, Ralph de Wilinton was connected with the Folkington family¹⁰⁹ and their fees in Folkington, Beverington and Yeverington, which were held of the other branch of the Keynes family, it is probable that Richard is a slip for William (son of Ralf), whose son was, as we have seen, at this time an infant. Richard probably died about 1240, as in 1241 the king notified the sheriff of Sussex that he had granted custody of the lands and heirs of Richard de Keynes to John de

¹⁰⁶ *Testa de Nevill*, 40; *Bracton's Note Book*, No. 1580.

¹⁰⁷ *Pipe Roll*, 8 Hen. III.

¹⁰⁸ *Cal. Rot. Claus.*, 62.

¹⁰⁹ *S.A.C.*, LXII., 120-1.

Gatesden.¹¹⁰ Six years later Peter de Geneve received a grant of the custody of the lands of Richard de Keynes, paying £40 yearly to the king, and 10 marks to William, son of the said Richard, for his support.¹¹¹ Of this WILLIAM (VII.) I can find no further trace, but he was probably elder brother of RICHARD (III.), who was a supporter of de Montfort in 1264,¹¹² and was already married in 1267, when Robert Walerand granted to the Dean of Chichester rents in Manxey, Westham and Pevensey, with the services of Richard de Keynes and Alice his wife.¹¹³ Alice de Keynes occurs as lodging a claim in connection with a fine levied between Margery de Northeye and Matthew de Hastings concerning the manors of Northeye and Buckholt in 1275.¹¹⁴ In 1276 Richard's daughter JOAN married Roger de Leukenore, her father settling the manor of Selmeston upon them.¹¹⁵ By this marriage the branch of the Keynes family identified with Sussex became merged in the Leukenores, who seem to have had an appetite for Sussex heiresses, as at one time or another they absorbed the representatives of the families of Camoys, Dalingregge (themselves representing de Bodiham, Wardedieu, Radynden, and de la Linde), de Mankese, Echingham, Braose, Bardolph, and Tregoze.

The descendants of William (IV.), son of Ralf de Cahagnes, were not very closely associated with Sussex, though they held certain fees in the county; their pedigree is well established, so that we need not treat it at any length. William (VI.), as we have seen, was born after his father's death: he married Margaret, daughter of Adam de Puriton, and thereby obtained lands in Wilts. and Dorset. He died in 1265, and his son Robert, born in 1247, married Hawise, daughter of Robert de Lisle, and died in 1281. His widow Hawise survived him, and lived till 1329, when she went, or

¹¹⁰ *Close R.*, 25 Hen. III., m. 11.

¹¹¹ *Exc. e Rot. Fin.*, 437.

¹¹² *Assize R.*, 1207. He held 2½ fees in Horsted Kaynes, Itford and Salmeston of Earl Simon: *Cal. Misc. Inq.*, I., 2030.

¹¹³ *Feet of Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc.), 737.

¹¹⁴ *Ibid.*, 849.

¹¹⁵ *Ibid.*, 854.

at least planned to go, on pilgrimage to Santiago¹¹⁶; to her was assigned in dower a knight's fee in Folkington, Yeverington and Beverington, held by Roger la Warre.¹¹⁷ The other two Sussex fees, in West Dean and Bechinton (Friston), passed to her son Robert. Sir Robert de Keynes fell into the hands of Hugh de Despenser, who kept him in prison¹¹⁸ until he made over to him the reversions of Dodford and other manors.¹¹⁹ He died without issue in 1305, and was succeeded by his brother, Sir William, who died in 1344, leaving a son, Sir John. On the death of the latter's son John without issue in 1375, the main line of Keynes came to an end, the estates passing, through Sir John's sister Hawise, to Sir Robert Daventre and his descendants.

¹¹⁶ *Pat. R.*, 3 Edw. III., p. 2, m. 14.

¹¹⁷ *Close R.*, 11 Edw. I., m. 4d.

¹¹⁸ *Exch. K.R. Misc.*, 4, 26.

¹¹⁹ *Cal. Anct. D.*, A. 5848.