



THE MANOR OF BEARL.

THE following document is perhaps the only existing evidence of the holding of courts at Bearl, in Bywell St. Andrew's parish. It is one of the estreats or steward's extracts from his rolls, for the use of the lord's bailiff in collecting the amerciaments, and has been submitted by John Hodgson Hinde, Esq. At Mr. Hinde's request, the late Duke of Portland caused a search to be made among his papers for court-rolls, but none were found.

In a subsidy-roll for the two parishes of Bywell, dated 1627, and in Mr. Hinde's possession, the tenants in Bearl are stated to be, "William Hunter and his brother, George Coustone, Thomas Jennings, and Peter Dridone."

MANERIUM DE BEARLE.—*The Extractes as well of the Courte Lete as of the Courte Barrone houlding ther in the right of the Right Honorable Katherine Lady Cavendish, the xxiiijth day of September, Anno Domini 1624, before Sir William Carnabey, Knight, by Dionis Wilson, Steward for the tyme beinge.*

Robert Hunter, for his geise¹ goinge in the Cowe pasture contrery ther auntient order, collect xij^d.—William Hunter, the like, xij^d.—John Moure, the like, xij^d.—John Jennynge, the like, xij^d.—George Cowstone,² the like, xij^d.—William Hunter, pledge for Roger Hynmers, for cuttinge of wood in the East Nucke, collect ijs. vj^d.—John Simp-
sone, of Ovington, for cuttinge and ceryinge wood in the same place, collect ijs. vj^d.—Robert Hunter, for fall of courte upon one action brought by him against George Cowstone, collect, vj^d.

The whole some is xs. vj^d. Besides what is due for Greme³ Heugh or Commone Fyne,⁴ if any such have bene usually payed.

¹ In *Wormleighton v. Burton* (Cro. Eliz. 448), plaintiff had been amerced for putting his geese on the common. Held, that this was not an article inquirable or punishable in a Court Leet.

² Colestone and Coulson in other papers.

³ Possibly Greine.

⁴ A certain sum *pro certa Letā* payable to the lord, who is presumed in law to have had a grant of it when he purchased the Leet for the ease of his tenants, that they might have no occasion to go to the *Sheriff's tourn* or *King's Leet*, but do their services at home. It was also called *Head-money*, *Head-pence*, and *Cert-money*. (6 Rep. 77. *Bullen's Case*.)