

II.—TEMPLE THORNTON FARM ACCOUNTS, 1308.
(EXTRACTED FROM MR. WOODMAN'S COLLECTION.)

BY J. CRAWFORD HODGSON.

[Read on the 25th July, 1894.]

INTRODUCTION.

SEVEN miles west of Morpeth, in the parish of Hartburn, are the townships of West and East Thornton. The former stands on a high ridge, commanding a wide and extensive view to the east, south, and west. 'It formerly had a chapel in it, and extensive grass-grown lines of houses, remains of strong masonry in the stackyard walls, and great quantities of hewn stone in the fences about it, prove that it was once a considerable village. A field to the east of it has had a strong wall around it. The older of the two cottages has no hewn stones in it, and has plainly been built before the chapel and old manorial house, with its accompaniment of barmkin and park walls, began to be pulled down.' So wrote the rev. John Hodgson in 1827.¹ One of the farms yet bears the name of Temple Thornton, and so keeps alive the memory of the local association of these fair lands with the great order of the Templars, whose once they were.

The zeal, which in our day compels the devout Mohammedan of every nation to make the Hadj, may illustrate the feeling or fashion of the eleventh and twelfth century Christendom to make the pilgrimage to Jerusalem. To protect these defenceless pilgrims, especially between the seaports and the holy city, from the attack and plunder of the Bedouin, was the object of the Knights Templars or 'Poor Fellow Soldiers of Jesus Christ.'

The order was founded immediately after the capture of Jerusalem by the Crusaders in 1099. It united a brotherhood-in-arms with the religious profession of chastity, obedience, and poverty. The latter condition, however, only forbade the possession of property by the individual, and permitted the holding of wealth by the order. In 1118, for its good service, Baldwin II., king of Jerusalem, granted

¹ Hodgson, *Northumberland*, part ii. vol. i. p. 311.

it that habitation within the temple enclosure on mount Moriah which thenceforward gave it the distinctive name of 'The Knighthood of the Temple of Solomon,' and to the superior of the order his title of 'The Master of the Temple.'

The knights now assumed the duty of defending the holy places and the kingdom of Jerusalem. Their rule, revised by St. Bernard of Clairvaux, was confirmed by papal bull; their distinctive garb was a white garment or mantle, with a red cross on the left breast. Subsequently the members were graded as knights, priests, and serving brethren.

The story of romantic enthusiasm which led the kings of England and France to serve with the Templars in the Holy Land, is too well known to need to be recapitulated; men of high rank and family sought admission to, and prince and subject, by gift or bequest, identified themselves with, the order. For the management of the lands so granted, members of the order were detached from the parent house, and as 'residents' were appointed to represent it in the different countries of the west. These procurators were styled 'Priors of the Temple,' and the duties of each in his province was to remit its revenues to Jerusalem, to admit members, arrange for their transport, and to generally represent the Master.

The companion order of the Hospital of St. John founded for the succour of pilgrims, also had its home in Jerusalem and its legations throughout Christendom.

Gibbon says, 'the flower of the nobility of Europe aspired to wear the cross and profess the vows of these respectable orders, their spirit and discipline were immortal, and the speedy donation of 28,000 farms or manors enabled them to support a regular force of cavalry and infantry for the defence of Palestine.'

The immunities, ecclesiastical and civil, bestowed upon the Templars alienated the secular clergy, and the wealth so rapidly acquired had the usual twofold consequence, luxury and unguardedness on the one hand, and jealous, watchful scrutiny on the other. The knights were accused of having traded on their privileges in extending them to lay brothers or associates, in return for gifts of money or other consideration, especially during the extended or restricted interdicts, which by the ecclesiastical policy of the age were

laid upon nations or districts for the stiff-neckedness of rulers or individuals.

After the fall of the Latin kingdom of Jerusalem the headquarters of the order were removed to Europe. There was doubtless felt amongst all western Christians a feeling of soreness and disappointment at the loss of Jerusalem, a loss of which the order was made the scapegoat. Philip, king of France, 'not from motives of avarice but inflamed with zeal for the orthodox faith,' in 1307 preferred scandalous charges against the Templars. The reigning pope, Clement V., who owed his elevation to the papacy to French influence, lent an ear to the accusations. All members of the order were arrested and imprisoned and articles of accusation, numerous and ridiculous, exhibited against them. Torture, excessive, frightful, was used to wring confessions of guilt from, to be subsequently retracted and withdrawn by, the sufferers.

One sufferer said, 'they held me so long before a fierce fire that the flesh was burnt off my heels, two pieces of the bone came away which I present to you;' another victim in retracting his confession declared that four of his teeth had been drawn out and that he had confessed himself guilty, to save the remainder. King Edward II. avowed his disbelief in the truth of the charges, but after the pope had issued his condemnation, by order in council on the 20th December, 1307, ordered the arrest of the Templars in his dominion, and the seizure of their property² simultaneously on 8th January, 1308. The sheriffs were directed to take inventories of the goods and chattels, and to make provision for the sowing and tilling of the lands during the sequestration. They accounted annually to the Court of Exchequer.

Professor Thorold Rogers tells us that 'in the fourteenth century the stock on a well tilled farm, and every landowner tilled his land, and on the whole tilled it according to the best knowledge of the time, was worth at least three times that of the fee simple.'³ The following account rendered by the sheriff gives us the fullest particulars of the stock of a Northumbrian farm of that period, the admirable way

² The English province was founded by the first Master of the Temple, Hugh de Payens, who came hither for that purpose in 1128; it was divided into bailiwicks and subdivided into preceptories.

³ *Economic Interpretation of History*, p. 63

in which the income and expenditure of the estate is set forth, is equalled by the detailed and exact statement of the stocktaking. It gives us the nature of the produce of the estate, and the relative proportion of the kinds of stock kept. The roll was found some year ago by Mr. Woodman at the Public Record Office, where he obtained a translation.

SHERIFFS' ACCOUNTS.

The account of Guychard Charon late sheriff of the county of Northumberland, of the issues, lands, and tenements, of the Master and Brethren of the Knights Templars in England, in the same county, from Sunday next after the feast of St. Martin, to wit, the 16th day of November, in the 2nd year⁴ of the reign of King Edward, son of King Edward, to the feast of St. Michael next following. And from the same feast of St. Michael, to the Sunday next before the feast of St. Cuthbert next following, in the 3rd year: on which day he delivered the lands and tenements aforesaid, to Richard de Horsleye, then sheriff of Northumberland, to keep so long as the King shall please, to answer to the King for the issues thereof arising. By the King's writ and indenture between them made.

THORNTON WITH
ITS MEMBERS. The same renders account of 63s. 4d. of the rent of assize⁵ of divers tenants, holding divers tenements, of the aforesaid Master and Brethren, of the manor of Thornton, and in divers vills, adjacent to the same manor, to wit, Wotton, Mitford, Morpeth, Newbiggin, Warkesworth, at the terms of Easter and Michaelmas, as contained in the roll of particulars, which he delivered into the Treasury, and on the extent of the aforesaid manor, made by Adam de Eglésfield, and returned into the Exchequer.

And of £11 14s. 10½d. of rent of assize, of freeholders and customary tenants, in the vills of Heylee, Corbrigge, Trepwoode, Newcastle upon Tyne, Fenham, Ryn-ton, Jesemuth and Redewoode at the same terms.

And of 60s. 1½d. of the like rent of assize, of divers tenants in the vills of Mildrom,⁶ Shottone, Heddon,⁷ Pakkeston,⁸ Kyllun, Langeton,⁹ Littleburn,¹⁰ Welloure, Alnewyk and Baumburgh, at the same terms.

And of £10 18s. 3d. of rent of assize, of divers tenants, holding divers tenements, in Foxden,¹¹ Besshopedon, Coton,¹² the town of Barnard Castle, Somers-hous¹³ and Pelton, in the bishopric of Durham, at the same terms, as contained in the roll and extent aforesaid.

And of 10s. and five quarters of oats of rent of assize, in the vill of Foxden at the same terms.¹⁴

And of 40s. of certain demesne lands, of the said manor, let to farm this year, in Fenham with certain works at the same terms.

⁴ 1308-9.⁵ Fixed or certain rents.⁶ Mindrum.⁷ Heddon among the hills near the Beaumont water no longer exists. *Dr. Hardy.*⁸ Paston.⁹ Lanton.¹⁰ Lilburn.¹¹ Foxton near Sedgefield.¹² Coatham.¹³ Summerhouse near Brafferton.¹⁴ Here the rent is paid partly in kind.

And of 100s. of the farm of the mill of Thornton, at the same terms, so demised to farm by the year.

And of 18s. of the farm of the mill of Heylee, for the same time.

And of 10s. of the rent of the brewery, in the villis of Thornewton and Heylee, at the feast of St. Michael.

And of 2s. 5d. of 580 eggs of rent of assize, on Thornton, Heylee, and Fenham, at the feast of Easter, sold.

And of 5s. 11d. of 68 summer and autumn works, sold.

And of 3s. of the farm of the dovecot at Thornton, from the feast of Easter to the feast of St. Michael, for half a year.

And of 3s. from the turbarry sold there, for the same time.

And of 5s. 11d. of 71 hens of rent of assize, in the villis of Thornton, Fenham, and Heylee, at the feast of the Nativity of the Lord.

And of £24 15s. 0d. for 24 quarters of corn,¹⁵ 6 quarters of rye and maslin, 14 quarters of barley, 8 quarters of barley and oats mixed, 86 quarters of oats, received from Robert de Faudon,¹⁶ by indenture, and so immediately sold on account of the fear of the coming of the Scots.¹⁷

And of 12s. for two stock¹⁸ oxen sold.

And of 76s. 8d. for three cows, and three calves their issue, and of six barren cows, sold about the 'gules' of August, by command of the lord the King.

And of 27s. for three steers of the same stock, and by the same mandate so sold.

And of 15s. for three heifers of the same stock, by the same mandate sold.¹⁹

And of 6s. for two bull calves of the same stock, by the same mandate sold.

And of 13s. 6d. for 3 stirks, more than one year old, and three calves, of the same stock, by the same mandate sold.

And of 10s. for one bull²⁰ of the same stock, by the same mandate sold.

And of £11 13s. 0d. for 107 sheep-ewes, 108 muttons, 17 hogs, remanents of the preceding account received by indenture.

¹⁵ Corn = wheat.

¹⁶ The sheriff of preceding year.

¹⁷ A truce was agreed between Edward II., king of England, and Robert Brus, king of Scotland, in the spring of 1309, the latter had immediately before 'made great havoc in Northumberland.' Ridpath, *Border History*, p. 235 n.

¹⁸ Working or draught oxen.

¹⁹ In 1314 the prices of provisions as fixed by royal mandate and Act of Parliament were as follows:—

A stalled or corn fed ox	...	...	...	...	...	£1	4	0
A grass fed ox	...	...	...	...	...	0	16	0
A fat stalled cow	...	...	...	...	...	0	12	0
An ordinary cow	...	...	...	...	...	0	10	0
A fat mutton, unshorn	...	...	...	...	...	0	1	8
A fat mutton, shorn	...	...	...	...	...	0	1	2
A fat goose	...	...	...	...	...	0	0	2½
A fat capon	...	...	...	...	...	0	0	2
A fat hen	...	...	...	...	...	0	0	1
24 eggs for	...	...	...	...	...	0	0	1

The prices were so low that people would not bring their things to market until the regulation was rescinded. Bishop Fleetwood, *Chronicon Preciosum*, p. 71.

²⁰ There was no attempt to improve the breeds of cattle: the proof is the low price of bulls: a collateral proof is the low price of cows. Thorold Rogers, *Six Centuries of Work and Wages*, p. 78.

And of 36s. 8d. for 88 lambs²¹ of issue sold.

And of 6s. 8d. from 8 kids²² sold before the Nativity of the Lord.

And of 28s. from 21 hogs sold.

And of 18d. for 6 geese sold.

And of 8s. from four bad skins of oxen which died by the murrain.

And of 14d. from the skins of two oxen which died of the murrain.

And of 49s. 8d. from 69 fleeces of sheep-ewes, muttons and shear-hogs, which died in the murrain, sold.

And of £4 5s. 5d. from 184 fleeces, weighing 17 stone 1 lb., sold.

And of 2s. 6d. received for three bushels of corn, sold upon account.

Sum total of the receipts £94 2s. 7d.

EXPENSES. The same accounts in 9 quarters 2 bushels of corn, 50 quarters 6 bushels of oats bought to sow, £9 8s. 6d. to wit for each quarter of corn 6s. 8d. and for each quarter of oats 2s. 6d.

And in 22½ quarters of rye, 13 quarters 2½ bushels of maslin, bought for the use of the servants, £11 12s. 1d. The price of the quarter 6s. 8d.

And in 4 quarters of oats, bought for meal for porridge for the servants 10s.

And in 6½ quarters of oats, bought by estimation, in sheaves for the sustenance of the oxen and cows 16s. 3d.

And in 5 quarters of oats, bought for the provender of the oxen, and expended in their provender at seed time 12s. 6d.

And he renders in mending ploughs and harrows²³ at different times, 12s.

And in turf, dug to burn in the winter 3s.

And in ointment bought to anoint sheep with, at different times 3s.²⁴

And in wages of a man, keeping four score and eight lambs of this issue from the feast of the Purification of the Blessed Mary, to the feast of the Invention of the Holy Cross next following, for 90 days taking daily a half penny, 3s. 9d.

And in milk, for the sustenance of the said lambs, and for washing and shearing nine score and 12 muttons 3s. 11¼d.

And in weeding 37 acres of corn, and 101 and a half acres of oats, price of each acre a half penny 5s. 9d.

And in cutting, spreading, and carrying 21 acres of hay, as well in the close of the court as in the fields 13s. 1d.

And in mowing, collecting, and binding 37 acres of corn, and 101 and a

²¹ Average 5d.

²² Not generally kept in the south of England: in 1291 kids were sold at 1s. 1d.

²³ The peasant farmer even in the sixteenth century could not afford an iron harrow: the teeth of this implement were oaken pins carefully dried and hardened at the fire. *Economic Interpretation of History*, p. 61.

In 1407 a new plough cost	...	...	0	0	10
A dung cart and all that belonged to it	...	...	0	1	2
A pair of cart wheels	...	...	0	3	2

Computus relating to priory of Burcester. *Chronicon Preciosum*, p. 79.

²⁴ The sheep, from the latter part of the thirteenth century, was liable to a new disease, the scab. We can almost define the year (1280) in which this disease first appeared by the simultaneous record of the medicines employed for its cure. *Six Centuries of Work and Wages*, p. 81.

half acres of oats, 6ls. 10½d.; to wit for each acre of corn 7d.²⁵ and for each acre of oats 6d.

And in wages of one man, beside the reapers, in autumn, to wit, for 30 days, taking 2d. a day 5s.

And in wages of six carters, one cowherd, one shepherd, and one man keeping the manor, and making the porridge of the servants for the entire year, 40s.

And in wages of one swineherd for 16 weeks 12d.

And in wages of two men, going to harrow at seed time, for 31 days as well in winter seed time, as in Lent seed time 5s. 2d.

And in two bushels of salt bought for the porridge of the servants 10d.

And in mending the walls of the Grange 3s.

And in threshing and winnowing 21 quarters of corn, rye, and maslin, 8 quarters of barley and 44 quarters of oats 8s. 6d.²⁶

And in the wages of one servant keeping the manor for the time, computed as above, 39s. 4½d., taking a penny half penny a day.

EXPENCES OF
TEMPLARS.

And in the expences of brother Michael de Soureby, brother Walter de Gaddesby, brother Geoffrey de Wilton and brother Robert de Caumvill, of the order of the Knights Templars being in the custody of the said Gwychard in the castle of Newcastle upon Tyne from the Sunday next after the feast of St. Martin in the 2nd year of the reign of King Edward, to the feast of St. Michael next following in the third year of the reign of King Edward, to wit, for 315 days, each taking 4d. a day, £21.²⁷

²⁵ In the thirteenth century, wheat was reaped at a fraction over 5d. per acre, barley at 5½d., oats and rye at 4½d. Estimated on the price of wheat, the reaper of the thirteenth century received about one-twelfth of a quarter for his labour. *Six Centuries of Work and Wages*, p. 174.

²⁶ 'Our ancestors always cut their corn high on the stalk. By cutting high they avoided cutting weeds with their wheat, and they could reap and carry their produce in nearly all weathers and could dry it with comparative ease. They cut the stubble at their leisure, and the straw, unbruised by threshing, was used for thatching and fodder.' A moderate amount of stormy weather after the reaping and before the carrying of the corn aided the process of threshing, and in Northumberland, perhaps elsewhere, was spoken of as the 'barnman's benison.' 'The labour of threshing the three principal kinds of corn-growing grasses differs with the difficulty of separating the seed from the husk, and the graduated rate of payment expresses the difficulty with exactness. It is 3d. for wheat, 2d. for barley, 1d. for oats. Winnowing was performed by the women at about a farthing the quarter. When estimating the position of the medieval labourer by the side of his descendants in the eighteenth century [I reckon] that the former received for the labour of threshing rather more than one-eighteenth of the wheat he threshed, rather more than one twenty-second part of barley, and rather less than one-fourteenth part of oats, taking the rate of wages and the price of grain as the factors in the calculation. In the eighteenth century the peasant got one twenty-fourth part of barley and wheat, and one-twentieth part of the oats he threshed.' See *Economic Interpretation of History*, p. 56, and *Six Centuries of Work and Wages*, pp. 171, 172, 173.

²⁷ The King allowed to those of the Knights Templars committed to monasteries 4^d per day, which would seem to have been their usual allowance. To W^m de la More the Grand Master was allowed 2^s. To the chaplains the King allowed (as the knights did formerly) 3^d per day for their diet and xx^s for their stipend. *Chronicon Preciosum*, p. 122.

And in expences of the said 4 brethren, 8 horsemen and 10 footmen, sent with the said brethren between Newcastle upon Tyne and York, for safety, and securely conducting them thither, for three days, by the King's writ and by his special mandate, and in staying there before they were delivered to the sheriff of York and constable of the castle there 40s.

Sum of expences £56 : 10 : 7 $\frac{3}{4}$.

And he owes 37 : 11 : 11 $\frac{1}{4}$.

And he renders as follows :—

CORN.²⁸ The same renders account of 9 quarters 2 bushels of corn bought as above. And the whole account in seed upon 37 acres, to wit, 2 bushels on an acre.

OATS. The same renders account of 54 quarters 6 bushels of oats bought as above, for seed and for the porridge of the servants. And of 5 quarters of oats received by purchase for the provender of the horses in seed time. Sum 59 quarters 6 bushels, of which in seed, upon 101 and an half acres, 50 quarters 6 bushels; and in provender for horses at seed time, as above 5 quarters; and in porridge of the servants, 4 quarters. And the account balances.

MASLIN FOR DELIVERY TO THE SERVANTS. The same renders account of 22 quarters and a half of rye, 13 quarters 2 bushels and a half of maslin, bought to be delivered to the servants. Sum 35 quarters 6 bushels and a half, of which in delivery to 5 carters for 45 weeks, to wit, for the whole time of the account, 22 quarters and a half. And in delivery to one shepherd and one cowherd from the Sunday next after the feast of St. Martin, to Saturday the morrow of St. Peter ad Vincula²⁹ next, for 36 weeks and 5 days, taking a quarter for twelve weeks, 5 quarters 3 bushels and a half.

And in delivery to one swineherd, keeping swine³⁰ for 16 weeks, within the time aforesaid, one quarter; and in delivery to one man keeping the court, and making the porridge of the servants, for 45 weeks 2 quarters 6 bushels.

And in delivery to one carter, going to cart with the horses of the manor, and with the horses of the said Guychard, after the death of the horses of the manor, from the aforesaid Sunday next after the feast of St. Martin, to Monday next after the feast of St. Michael next following, for 45 weeks taking a quarter for 12 weeks, 3 quarters and 6 bushels. Sum 35 quarters 3 bushels and a half, and on sale, upon the account, as appears above 3 bushels. And the account balances.

OXEN. The same renders account, of 3 oxen received of Robert de Fawden, by indenture, of which 2 died in the murrain and one remains.

²⁸ = Wheat.

²⁹ 1st August, Lammas-day.

³⁰ The pigs were turned into the cornfields after the crop was carried and into the woods to gather mast and acorns . . . The whole of the parish stock was put under the charge of a single swineherd, who receiving a payment from the owner of every pig under his charge, had a smaller wage from the lord of the manor to whom he was also a servant. *Six Centuries of Work and Wages*, p. 82.

BULLOCKS.	The same renders account of 25 bullocks received of the same, by the same indenture, of which 4 died in the murrain, 2 were sold and 19 remain.
COWS.	The same renders account of 9 cows received of the same, by the same indenture, and sold as above. And the account balances.
STEERS.	The same renders account of 5 steers 3 stirks received of the same, by the same indenture, and sold all as above. And the account balances.
HEIFERS.	The same renders account of 3 heifers received of the same, by the same indenture, and sold all as above. And the account balances.
CALVES.	The same renders account of 3 calves, issue of this year, and sold as above. And the account balances.
BULL.	The same renders account of one bull received of the same, by the same indenture, and sold as above. And the account balances.
SHEEP.	The same renders account of 9 score ewes received of the same, by the same indenture; of which 73 died in the murrain, ³¹ 107 were sold. And the account balances.
MUTTONS.	The above renders account of 7 score and 8 muttons received of the same, by the same indenture; of which 24 died in the murrain, 108 were sold. And the account balances.
SHEAR HOGS.	The same renders account of 69 shear hogs received of the same, by the same indenture; of which 52 died in the murrain, and 17 were sold. And the account balances.
LAMBS.	The same renders account of four score and 8 lambs, issue of this year, and sold as above. And the account balances.
KIDS.	The same renders account of 8 kids received by the same indenture, and sold as above. And the account balances.
SWINE.	The same renders account of 24 hogs received of the same, by indenture; of which 3 died in the murrain, and 21 were sold. And the account balances.
GEESE.	The same renders account of 6 geese received of the same, by indenture, and sold as above. And the account balances.
SKINS.	The same renders account of 149 skins of sheep that died of the murrain before shearing, and sold as above. And the account balances.

³¹ From calculations made by Professor Thorold Rogers from the records of eight sheep-breeding estates of this period, the losses on sheep stock averaged close upon 20 per cent. Our forefathers, who comprehended all cattle diseases under the generic name of murrain, were well aware of the risks they ran from rot, and give the symptoms with the precision of a modern farmer. *Six Centuries of Work and Wages*, p. 80.

WOOL. The same renders account of 17 stone and one pound of wool, coming from 180 fleeces, and sold as above.³² And the account balances.

HIDES. The same renders account of two hides of the oxen that died in the murrain, and four hides of bullocks, that died in the murrain, and sold as above.³³ And the account balances.

COCKS, HENS, AND EGGS. The same renders account of 71 cocks and hens, and 580 eggs of rent, and sold as above. And the account balances.

DEAD STOCK. The same answers for 3 ploughs with all their gear received of the same, by indenture, price of each 18d.; 2 waggons, price 3s.; 2 leaden cisterns, price one mark; 1 large tub with 2 barrels, price 5s.; 1 washing tub; with a small brass pot; hay for the sustenance of the cattle of the said manor; 1 iron shod cart,³⁴ price 14s.; 4 chests; 2 smaller barrels; with all charters, deeds, and muniments; under the seal of brother Michael, late keeper of the said manor.

ORNAMENTS OF THE CHAPEL. Memorandum concerning one chalice, one black vestment, one missal, one gradual, one legend, found in the manor aforesaid. And these remain in the hands of Robert de Fawdon, who stills retains them and refuses to give them up to the said Guichard.

The account of the same Guichard, of the same lands, from the feast of St. Michael in the 3rd year, to Sunday next before the feast of St. Cuthbert next following, on which day he delivered the aforesaid lands, and tenements, to Richard de Horsley, now keeper of the same, by the King's writ, and indenture between them made.

The same renders account of 5s. 11d., of 71 hens of rent, at the term of Christmas.

And of 4s. 7d. of hides of two oxen, and one bullock, that died in the murrain, sold.

And of £1 : 10 : 5, of four quarters and a half and one bushel of corn sold, price of the quarter 6s. 8d.

And of 15s. 3½d., of 6 quarters and one bushel of oats, sold on account.

And of 14s., of one iron shod cart, sold on account.

Sum of receipts, £3 : 10 : 2½.

³² The fourteenth-century wool was coarse and full of hairs. . . . The fleece, too, was light, an average from many entries which I have made giving 1 lb. 7½ ozs. to the fleece. . . . Hence the animal must have been small, and I think I may certainly say that a wether in good condition weighed a good deal less than 40 lbs.—*Ibid.* p. 80.

³³ The ox, quit of skin, head, and offal, did not weigh on an average more than 400 pounds, and was worth about 11s. to sell. The hide of an ox was worth at least 2s., and the head and offal amply repaid the services of the butcher.—*Ibid.* pages 77, 78.

³⁴ The cart was generally supplied with solid wheels, cut out of a tree trunk, for iron was too dear for tires. I have found such wheels well into the sixteenth century when iron was half the price at which it was purchased in the fourteenth. *Economic Interpretation of History*, p. 61.

EXPENCES. The same, accounts in wages of one servant keeping the manor aforesaid, from Sunday the feast of St. Michael in the year abovesaid to Sunday next before the feast of St. Cuthbert next following, 165 days taking 1½d. a day £1. 0. 7½; and in wages of two men going to harrow, in winter seed time, and in Lent seed time, for 31 days, 2s. 7d. taking a 1d. a day. And in threshing, and winnowing, 10 quarters of corn, 30 quarters of oats, 3s. 2d., to wit, for a quarter of corn 2d., and for a quarter of oats, 1d. And in wages of a smith mending the iron-work of the carts during the time of the account, according to an agreement made with him, for half a year, 5s.

Sum of expences £1 : 12 : 4½.

And he owes £1 : 17 : 10.

And he owes of the remainder of the preceding account, £37 : 11 : 11¼.

Sum which is owed £39 : 9 : 9¼.

Conjoint sum which is owed £39 : 9 : 9¼.

But he answers in the sixth roll of Northumberland.

GRANGE. The same, renders account of 17 quarters one bushel of corn; of which, in seed upon 22 acres of land, 5 quarters and a half. And two quarters sold as above, and 7 quarters delivered to Richard de Horsleye. And 4 quarters 5 bushels, sold as above.

Sum 17 quarters 1 bushel.

OATS. The same renders account of 85 quarters of oats, the produce of the Grange, of which in seed upon 22 acres, 11 quarters and a half, to wit, half a quarter on an acre. And in delivery of 4 carters, from the feast of St. Michael to Sunday next after the feast of St. Cuthbert next following, for 24 weeks, taking a quarter for 16 weeks, 16 quarters. And to one maid servant, keeping the court, and making the porridge of the servants, for the said time, 3 quarters, taking a quarter for 8 weeks. And in the sustenance of 9 oxen by estimation in the sheaf 6 quarters.

And in meal made or the porridge of the servants, for the time of the account, one quarter.

And in delivery made to Richard de Horsleye, by indenture, 41 quarters 3 bushels. Sum 78 quarters 7 bushels.

And sold on account, as appears above 6 quarters 1 bushel.

STOCK OX. The same renders account of 1 ox, remaining from the last account. And it died in the murrain this year. And nothing remains.

BULLOCKS. The same renders account of 19 bullocks which remained; of which two died in the murrain. And in the delivery made to Richard de Horsleye having custody of the lands and tenements by the King's writ, and by indenture made between him and the said Guychard, 17 bullocks. And the account balances.

DEAD STOCK. The same answers for three ploughs, with all their gear, remaining from the last account, price of each 18d., two waggons, price 2s., two leaden cisterns, price 1 mark; one large tub with two barrels price 5s.; 1 washing tub, with a small brass pot;

hay for the sustenance of the cattle of the said manor; 3 chests; two smaller barrels; with all the charters deeds and muniments under the seal of brother Michael, late keeper of the said manor, and delivered to the aforesaid Richard de Horsleye by indenture, between him and the aforesaid Guychard, thereof made.

And memorandum that the said Guychard, delivered to the aforesaid Richard de Horsleye, 10 waggon loads of hay, by indenture, for which he has to answer in his account.

In 1313 a papal decree was issued to vest the property of the dissolved order of the Templars in the brethren of the Hospital of St. John. Naturally it was disclaimed both by prince and subject, the former, however, in part yielded, and in November of the same year ordered that the lands which had not been already disposed of by the Crown should forthwith be yielded up to the Hospitallers.

Some fifty or sixty years ago there was discovered in a plastered-over closet in Malta an 'extent' or survey of the English possessions of the order in 1338. This document, edited by the rev. L. B. Larking with an introduction by Mr. Kemble, was printed by the Camden Society in 1857 (vol. 65). That portion which relates to Thornton³⁵ (p. 133) may be translated as follows:—

THORNTON

Thornton. There is there one messuage rebuilt by brother Leonard lately prior; because, after the abolition of the Templars, all the houses were uprooted and taken away by the lords of the fees; the herbage of which is worth yearly x^s

And ccc acres, which are worth in time of peace vij^{li} x^s the price of the acre vj^d; and now on account of the war the acre is scarcely worth iij^d. Total lxxv^s

³⁵ EXTENTA BONORUM QUONDAM TEMPLI.

THORNTON, super Marchiam Scocie, in Comitatu Northumbrie.

Thornton. Est ibidem unum mesuagium reedificatum per fratrem Leonardum nuper Priorem; quia post adnullationem Templariorum omnes domus abradicate fuerunt et abducte per dominos feodorum; cujus herbagium valet per annum x^s

Et ccc. acre que valent tempore pacis vij^{li} x^s, pretium acre vj^d; et nunc, propter guerram, vix valet acra iij^d Summa lxxv^s

Item de redditu assiso, tempore Templariorum, valebat xxx^{li}, et nunc, hiis diebus, non possunt levari nisi xij^{li}

§ Summa totalis recepti et proficui xxiiij marce v^s

Reprise.

Inde in stipendio j. capellani non ad mensam, per annum ... lxiij^s

In vadiis ballivi iij. quarteria ij. busselli bladi, que valent x^s vj^d

In vadiis j. wodewardi x^s vj^d

Et in stipendiis eorum per annum xiiij^s iij^d

In oleo, vino, et cera, pro capella ij^s

In emendatione domorum xx^s

In adventu preceptoris ibidem per annum ij marce

§ Summa omnium expensarum et solutionum vij^{li} v^s

Summa Valoris. Et sic remanent ad solvendum ad

Thesaurarium pro oneribus supportandis xiiij marce vj^s. viij^d

Tamen nil in presenti propter guerram Scocie.

Item, rents of assize, in the time of the Templars were worth xxx^{li}, and now, in these days, there can only be raised xij^{li}
 Sum total of receipt and profit xxiiij marks v^s

Reprises.

Thence in stipend of 1 chaplain, whose board is not included,
 yearly²⁶ lxij^s
 In wages of a bailiff, iiij quarters, ij bushels of wheat, which
 are worth x^s vj^d
 In wages of a forester x^s vj^d
 And in their stipends, yearly xiiij^s iiij^d
 In oil, wine, and wax to the chapel ij^s
 In repairing houses xx^s
 At the coming of the preceptor there, yearly... .. ii marks
 Sum total of all expenses and payments vij^{li} v^s
 Sum total of the valuation. And so there remains for payment to the
 treasurer to meet liabilities xiiij marks vj^s viij^d
 However nothing at present on account of the Scottish war.

This view of the farming of the past may be closed with a glimpse of the farmer:—

The Plowman plucked vp his plowe
 Whan Midsomer Moone was comen in,
 And saied his bestes shuld eate inowe,
 And lige in the Grasse vp to the chin.
 Thei been feble bothe Oxe and Cowe,
 Of hem nis left but bone and skinne,
 He shoke of her shere and coulter ofdrowe,
 And honged his harnis on a pinne.
 He toke his tabarde and his staffe eke,
 And on his hedde he set his hat,
 And saied he would saint Thomas seke,
 On pilgremage he goth forth plat.
 In scrippe he bare bothe bread and lekes,
 He was forswonke and all forswat;
 Men might haue sen through both his chekes,
 And every wang-toth and where it sat.
 * * * * *
 Our hoste him axed 'what man art thou?'
 'Sir' (quod he) 'I am an hine,
 For I am wont to go to the plow,
 And earne my meate er that I dine.'²⁷

²⁶ In 1348 the great Pestilence had swept away so many priests, among other people, that a chaplain could hardly be gotten to serve a church, under x marks, or x pounds per annum, whereas before they might be had at v or iv marks, nay at ii, together with their diet. As the priests were not content with reasonable stipends the parliament of 39 Edw. III. enacted 'If any secular man in the realm pay more than v marks, to any priest yearly, in money, or in other things, to the value; or if he pay to such priest retained to abide at his table, above two marks for his gown, and his other necessaries, (his table accounted to 40 shillings) and thereby be attainted, he shall pay to the king fully as much as he paid to the said priest. *Chronicon Preciosum*, pp. 109, 111.

²⁷ Prologue to 'The Ploughman's Tale.' *Early English Text Society*.