

## NORFOLK LAWYERS

By BASIL COZENS-HARDY, D.L., M.A., F.S.A.

John Morden about 1610 wrote as follows:—

What shall I write more of it [the county of Norfolk]; the goodness, the fruitfulness & pleasantness of it may be esteemed by the complexion and subtiltie of the Inhabitants of the same, also are so skilled in the matter of the Law as many times even the baser sort at the plough-tail will argue *pro et contra* cases in Law, whose cunning and subtiltie hath replenished the shire with more lawyers than any shire whatsoever though far greater and made themselves suspected of most shires of the realm and given the beginning unto the common word “ Norfolk wyles many a man beguiles.”

This stricture induced me to inquire about the extent to which the county and city produced lawyers and I have been surprised at their number and the eminence of many of them. I have relied mostly on inscriptions on monuments and brasses. The list is very far from exhaustive and many errors have no doubt crept in. I have not confined my inquiry to the upper branches of the profession, but generally speaking I have only included notaries and attornies who have some memorial behind them. My list consists of those lawyers who were born or educated or resident in Norfolk or Norwich or died there with a date limit of about 1830.

A little legal history is necessary to explain various judicial offices and terms. In the early days the King or his Chief Justiciar presided over the Court, which was called the King's Bench or the Queen's Bench, as the case may be, a term which still exists after 900 years. Later another Court was set up called the Common Bench or Common Pleas, which had its Chief Justice and puisne judges. In addition there was a Court of Exchequer originally dealing with the revenue. Its head was the Lord Chief Baron and his colleagues were called Barons. There was too the Court of Chancery over which presided the Lord Chancellor, assisted later by the Master of the Rolls and Masters in Chancery, who were probably ecclesiastics. This powerful Court of Equity sought to soften the rigours of the Common Law. In 1875 these old courts with differing and often conflicting jurisdictions were replaced by a Supreme Court of Judicature, which found its home a few years later in the new Law Courts in the Strand, and Westminster Hall after seven centuries ceased to be the seat of Justice. But assizes presided over by judges or commissioners were during all this period held in assize towns all over the country. Assizes were held in Norwich for the county and the city and at Thetford. In this short account of the Courts of law I have purposely omitted reference to the smaller courts dealing with admiralty, probate, ecclesiastical and matrimonial matters.

In the course of this paper there occurs frequent reference to *serviens ad legem* or serjeant at law. In early times the serjeants monopolised the advocacy in the Common Law courts, though as time went on a lower grade, known as counsellors at law, came into being. No one who was not a serjeant could be made a judge of the Common Law Courts. They had their own Inn, Serjeants Inn, and were said to be of the degree of the coif and brothers of the coif. Judges when referring to a colleague in court still refer to him as "my brother." The coif, which the serjeants and common law judges wore was a close fitting cap with silk lining covering the head from the forehead to the back of the neck.<sup>1</sup> After the Restoration the periwig became generally fashionable for the gentry and the Bench and Bar fell to the fashion. The serjeants to indicate their status then proceeded to wear a patch on the top of their wigs. F. A. Inderwick, Q.C. in *The Kings Peace*, writing in 1895, says "The lawyers, who followed the public taste in assuming periwigs, failed to follow it in leaving them off. The bishops, who continued to wear their wigs long after the public had ceased to do so, gave up the practice some fifty years ago; but judges and counsel have continued the bands of the Commonwealth along with the head-dress of the Restoration, which is no more any portion of ancient or traditionary legal costume than were the ruffs of Queen Elizabeth or the lace collars of Charles I." No more serjeants were appointed after 1846.

From the sixteenth century barristers have held recorderships. The Recorder was the principal judicial officer of a corporation. There were recorders at Norwich, Great Yarmouth, King's Lynn and Thetford. They sat with and assisted the mayor in his court. There was a Steward at Norwich, also learned in the law, who assisted the sheriffs in their court and together, the recorder and the steward were counsel for the city.

An attorney at law was one who conducted legal proceedings on behalf of clients in the courts of Common Law at Westminster, whilst a solicitor was an officer of the court of Chancery retained to sue or defend for clients. A notary public was one who publicly attested deeds and writings to make them authoritative in another country, principally in mercantile matters. By an Act of 1873 solicitors, attorneys and proctors became solicitors of the Supreme Court, but before this the term "solicitor" was gradually superseding that of "attorney."

There are two very fine recumbent figures of judges—Sir Edward Coke at Titheshall and Sir Edmund Reve at Long Stratton. From the professional angle the inscriptions to William Turner at North Elmham and to James Mott at Mattishall are worthy of note. It is very probable that some of the memorials hereafter recorded may have vanished or been hidden in restorations. I have been unable to discover that any Master of the Rolls had connections with Norfolk during the period under review, but since 1830 there have been three:—Lord Lindley of East Carleton, Lord Cozens-Hardy of Letheringsett and Lord Evershed of Setch.

The Inns of Court to which the barristers here recorded belonged are distributed as follows:—

<sup>1</sup>The coif must not be confused with the black cap of sentence which the judges still take with them on assize.

Lincoln's Inn	43
Gray's Inn	25
Inner Temple	22
Middle Temple	10

So as not to overload the text I have avoided as far as possible footnotes and I have generally not quoted authorities. There are phrases which should properly be in inverted commas. My chief authorities have been:—Blomefield's *History of Norfolk*, Foss's *Judges, Norfolk Official Lists*, Farrer's *Church Heraldry*, Rye's *Norfolk Families* and the various printed *Heralds' Visitations*. I readily acknowledge the help that I have received from the following, among others:—Mr. T. F. Barton, His Honour J. N. Daynes, Q.C., Mr. R. W. Ketton-Cremer, Sir L. E. Jones, Bt., Mr. Percy Millican, Mr. R. A. Riches (of the Bar Library), Rev. J. F. Williams and Mr. W. W. Williamson.

#### ARMINGHALL

JOHN HERNE. A mural tablet with arms. He was of St. John's College, Oxford and Lincoln's Inn. *Ingenio subtilis et placidus, concilio cautus et nervosus, eloquio promptus*. He died at the early age of 45 in 1664. His wife was Mary the daughter of George Pitt of Harrow on the Hill.

#### AYLSHAM

The following are noticed in some detail by John Sapwell in his history of this parish (1960):—

THOMAS LEAMAN, attorney of Aylsham about 1643.

EDMUND JEWELL, attorney, was churchwarden at various times between 1737 and 1760. He died in 1770.

WILLIAM JEWELL, brother of the last named. In the Caius College register he is described as Attorney of Aylsham.

GEORGE HUNT HOLLEY, attorney, educated at Holt Free School. After marriage to Edmund Jewell's daughter he settled at Hill House in this parish and later built Blickling Lodge. A churchwarden for many years, he died in 1798 and was buried at the west end of the church.

JOHN HOGG, a partner of the last named. He lived at West Lodge. He died in 1815.

HENRY RIPPINGALL lived and practiced as an attorney at No. 1 Market Place. He was churchwarden from 1692 onwards. He was a keen supporter of the Tory party and held an office under the Admiralty. His wife was Hannah Lawes of this parish. He died in 1714 and lies buried in the church here, but there is no inscription in the space left on his wife's gravestone.

CHRISTOPHER LAYER was articled to the last named, married a daughter of Peter Elwyn of Aylsham, to whom he sold Booton. In 1715 he went to London and was called to the Bar. He was an ardent Jacobite, was arrested, tried for high treason and hanged at Tyburn in 1723. A tablet recording his "faithful adherence to the House of Stuart" was placed on Bank House by the late Prince Frederick Duleep Singh.

#### BANNINGHAM

HUMPHREY CARTER, attorney at his Majesty's Court of Common Pleas. He died in 1673.

## BAYFIELD

ROBERT JERMY was the son of John Jermy and was a barrister at law of the Middle Temple. He died in 1677.

HENRY JODRELL was the youngest son of Paul Jodrell of Sion Hall in Middlesex. He resided at Bayfield Hall. He was a barrister at law of the Honble society of Lincoln's Inn, Recorder of Great Yarmouth and for several years represented that Borough and afterwards the borough of Bramber in Parliament. He died in 1814 aged 62 and is buried in the family vault at Lewkner, Oxfordshire. There is a tablet with arms in Letheringsett church.

## BEACHAMWELL, ALL SAINTS

THOMAS ATHOW, esquire, was of Gray's Inn, a sergeant at law and Recorder of King's Lynn in 1624. He was buried here in 1630. He had previously restored the church. Blomefield, who visited the church in 1721 (VII, p. 291) found it derelict and the very fine Athow monument with many coats of arms in ruins. There is now very little of the church left. The Atte Howe family was an ancient one. Thomas's marriage to Ann, daughter and heiress of John Wingfield of East Winch brought the many quartered coats into the Athow family.

## BIRCHAM, GREAT

MASTER JOHN WATTYS. There still exists an *Orate* brass to Edith Coote wife of John Wattis, notary, and at the Society of Antiquaries there is a rubbing of a mutilated figure of a man in civil dress, *c.* 1470, which is supposed to be of John Wattys.

## BLICKLING

SIR HENRY HOBART studied law at Lincoln's Inn and soon attained eminence in his profession and finally in 1613 became Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas. Hitherto he had been Steward for the city of Norwich and burgess in Parliament for Yarmouth. He married Dorothy, daughter of Sir Robert Bell of Beaupré Hall, Outwell, Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer, by whom he had sixteen children, the elder of whom were born in his city house in Norwich. He purchased Blickling from Sir Edward Clere and his eldest son, Sir John, erected the present Hall there. Sir Henry died in 1625 and it seems was buried at Blickling. There is an inscription in Hevingham church that he renewed St. Mary's chapel there, which was the burial place of the lords of Cattes manor or Rippon Hall. He was "a most learned, prudent, grave and religious judge" (Croke).

## BRAMERTON

FRANCIS CORIE of Lincoln's Inn. Recorder of Norwich. He married Anne, daughter of Sir John Corbett of Sprowston. He died in 1678, aged 82. There are arms on the memorial.

JOHN HOUGHTON of Ranworth was Clerk of the peace. Coming from Ranworth, he inherited the Bramerton estate and came to reside there. He was major of a company of foot in the Militia. He died in 1723.

It is believed that these two memorials are now hidden from view.

## BRAMPTON

GUYBON GODDARD, a lawyer antiquary. He was of Lincoln's Inn and became a serjeant at law in 1669 and was Recorder of Lynn. The Goddards were a west Norfolk family. There is no memorial in the church here except a coffin plate recording that he died in 1671, aged 58.

## BRESSINGHAM

SIR RICHARD DE BOYLAND was a successful lawyer, who in 1279 was appointed one of the itinerant justices in this and other counties. He was disgraced for corruption in 1289 and fined 4,000 marks. He retired to this parish, where he owned property and built the hall here, still called Boyland Hall, now a farmhouse, with a conduit still existing to convey water to the Hall. He owned many manors in the county. He died in 1296.

## BUCKENHAM, NEW

MAURICE KENDALL of North Walsham, esquire. *Juris peritus<sup>2</sup> et eloquentissimus.* He was Recorder of Yarmouth in 1702. He married first Mary, daughter of Henry Scarborough of North Walsham and secondly Dorcas Ashfield. He died in 1712 aged 52. The slab has the arms of the family which was connected with New Buckenham.

## BUCKENHAM, OLD

MEUX RANT was a barrister at law. He was son of John Rant of Drayton, gent. The son lived at Old Buckenham but was buried at North Elmham probably because his second wife was Ann Rachel, daughter of William Vesey of that parish. He was also a Justice of the Peace. He died in 1780 aged 89.

## BURNHAM OVERY

THOMAS WALKER, esquire of the Inner Temple was Treasurer there in 1706. He died suddenly in 1707. The tablet on the south wall of the nave has arms.

## CRESSINGHAM, GREAT

WILLIAM EYRE, esquire. The brass states that he was "learned in the law, once one of the justices of the Lord King *of the quorum<sup>3</sup>* for the counties of Suffolk and Norfolk." He married Elizabeth, one of the daughters of Sir Thomas Barnardiston. He died in 1507. He was of Lincoln's Inn.

SIR CHRISTOPHER JENNY was born in 1486 and settled in this parish. In 1521 he was Reader at Lincoln's Inn. He had a retainer from Sir Thomas Le Strange of Hunstanton for which he was paid £2 13s. 4d. yearly. He assisted Cardinal Wolsey in hearing causes in Chancery. In 1536 he was constable of Castle Rising. He was appointed King's Serjeant and in 1538 a judge of Common Pleas. His first wife was Elizabeth Eyre of Bury St. Edmunds. He died in 1542.

WILLIAM JENNY was great-great grandson of the last named and was a barrister of Lincoln's Inn. He married Dinah Goldsmith of Stradsett and was buried here in 1687. The old Hall here judging by the arms which were on the walls and in the windows was built by the Jennys.

## CROMER

THOMAS WYNDHAM was second son of Francis Wyndham of Cromer Hall, being born in 1686. He studied law in Lincoln's Inn and in 1716 he was paid a fee by the Lieutenantancy for advice on the meaning of a statute, but he did not persevere in the profession. He entered politics and between 1722 and 1734 was M.P. successively for Truro and Dunwich. Having acquired large estates in the west *jure uxoris* (his cousin Jane Wyndham) he left the Cromer estate to his younger son John. He died in 1752.

## CROXTON

THOMAS FLETCHER esquire was one of the Readers in Lincoln's Inn. He married Frances, daughter of Robert Wood of Tharston and had nine sons and seven

<sup>2</sup>It seems that the phrase *juris peritus* or *learned in the law* signifies a counsellor or barrister-at-law.

<sup>3</sup>Justices of the Peace, who had some legal learning were named *of the quorum* and in certain ordinances it was provided that the justices who administered the law should be of the quorum.

daughters. He died in 1656. The inscription is in a compartment of marble and stone.

#### DEREHAM, EAST

WILLIAM COWPER came of legal stock. His grandfather, Spencer Cowper, in spite of having been tried and acquitted for murder at one stage of his career, became a judge of Common Pleas, whilst his great uncle became Lord Chancellor and was created Earl Cowper. William Cowper was articled to a Mr. Chapman, a solicitor practicing in Ely Place, Holborn and had as a fellow pupil Edward Thurlow, the great Lord Thurlow. In 1754 they were both called to the Bar. Whether or not he ever practised, he obtained a sinecure office of a Commissioner of Bankrupts at a salary of £60 a year and was later offered but declined the clerkship of the Journals of the House of Lords. Whilst Thurlow was going from strength to strength in the courts and in Parliament, Cowper turned to poetry and in 1782 there was published *Poems of William Cowper of the Inner Temple Esquire*. He was author of such divers themes as "John Gilpin was a citizen of credit and renown" and the hymn "Jesus shall reign where'er the sun." He also produced a translation of Homer. He suffered repeated attacks of melancholia and died in 1800 at East Dereham, where in the church there is a monument with arms and the representation of a hare, his pet animal.

#### EARLHAM

THOMAS WALLER. On a slab at the east end with arms it is recorded that he was a serjeant at law and died in 1682, aged 83. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Gresham Hogan of Hackney. He gave a chalice to the church. He was lord of the manor. He was of Lincoln's Inn.

EDWARD BACON came of legal stock, having as forebears Lord Keeper Sir Nicholas Bacon and Serjeant Waller. He was residing in this parish in 1735, when he inherited the estate from Waller Bacon who had died *s.p.* and was probably his cousin. The families concerned suffered greatly from infantile mortality. Mackerell remarks *Nulla remanente proli inexorable fatum*. He served King's Lynn in Parliament in 1742 and Norwich from 1756 to 1784. In 1760 he was appointed one of the Commissioners for Trade and Plantations, an office of profit under the Crown necessitating a bye-election. In 1752 he had been appointed Recorder of the city. He died in 1786, aged 73 without issue and the estate passed through his sister Elizabeth to the Bacon-Frank family.

#### ELMHAM, NORTH

WILLIAM TURNER. The inscription translated is as follows:—"Here lies William Turner, a lawyer, a man of unwearying toil and industry, for he strove with his tongue and pen and from both won a very ample fortune. Heaven favouring him he enriched himself remarkably and died 11th January 1678 aged 45. Go reader and mark that God gives every reward to those that labour."

#### ELLINGHAM, GREAT

WILLIAM DAVY, who resided here, was a son of Henry Davy, who was sheriff of Norwich in 1586. He was baptized at St. Peter Mancroft Norwich in 1595. He studied law at Lincoln's Inn and became a barrister at law. He was appointed Feodary of Norfolk in 1639.

ROBERT DOVER (1582-1652) was son of a Catholic father. After matriculating at Cambridge he was sent to an educational establishment at Wisbech castle run by Catholics. He then entered Gray's Inn and was called to the Bar. Some years

later he left Norfolk and went to live at Saintbury, Glos., where he revived the Cotswold Games and became an organizer of public entertainment (*Robert Dover* by Christopher Whitefield).

#### ELLINGHAM, near Bungay

JAMES JOHNSON was "one of his Majesties Coroners for the County of Norfolk." He died in 1770 aged 60 years. There is a slab with arms in the church.

#### FAKENHAM

RICE GWYN, a Welshman from Anglesey, who settled here in 1613. He was of the Inner Temple and a serjeant at law, Recorder of Norwich, Yarmouth and Thetford and M.P. for Norwich in 1612. He married Mary Thorsby of Bocking in Essex in 1629. It is not certain that he was buried here. He lived at Little Snoring until 1613, when he moved to Barons or Barns Hall in this parish, which he had purchased from Christopher Barrett in 1593. In 1899 a faded portrait of him dated 1600 was existing (see *Norf. Arch.* XIV, p. 341).

#### FELBRIGG

THOMAS WINDHAM was the son of Sir John Windham. Entering Lincoln's Inn he was called to the Bar in 1610 and soon acquired a promising practice, which however he abandoned in order to take charge of the Felbrigg estate, which had been settled on him by his father. It was he who built the south front of the Hall. He was a strong supporter of the Parliamentary cause. He died *annorum ac opum satur* in 1653 aged 82. In the chancel there is a tablet with three coloured shields. He married twice:—Elizabeth Lytton and Elizabeth Mede and had issue by each.

#### FRANSHAM, GREAT

THOMAS CASE. The tablet with arms in the chancel runs as follows:—"Thomas Case late of Testerton House in this county, who having been an eminent Attorney and one of the Common Council men in the borough of King's Lynn died there on 2nd Sept. 1793 in his 64th year." He married Martha, daughter and heiress of Benoni Mallet of Dunham.

#### GRESSENHALL

JOHN ESTMOND, gentleman, born at Chardstock in Dorsetshire, once a fellow of New College, Oxon., doctor of civil law and one of the advocates of the Court of Arches in London, lately rector of Saham Toney. He died here in 1604, aged 56. The memorial is a brass plate on the chancel wall. It is curious that he is described as "generosus," if he was a cleric.

#### GUNTHORPE

SIR ROBERT HOUGHTON was born in this parish in 1548 and was called to the Bar at Lincoln's Inn. He was summoned to the degree of the coif in 1603. He was M.P. and also Recorder for the city of Norwich. In 1613 he was made a judge of the King's Bench. He sided with Coke in a controversy, which Coke had with Bacon, about the latter taking the opinion of the judges regarding a charge for treason before the trial took place. They regarded such a course as new and dangerous. He died in his chambers in Serjeants Inn in Chancery Lane in 1623. and was buried in the church of St. Dunstons in the West. There is a monument to him at Shelton. He is called "a most reverend, prudent, learned and temperate judge and inferior to none in his time."

## HARDWICK

SIR THOMAS RICHARDSON was born in this parish, the son of Dr. Thomas Richardson, rector of Mulbarton and was educated at Norwich Grammar School. He was under-steward to the Dean and Chapter and afterwards Recorder of the city of Norwich. He was Reader of Lincoln's Inn and a serjeant at law. Later, in 1620, he was elected Speaker of the House of Commons and was successively Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas and the King's Bench. He died in 1634 and is buried in Westminster Abbey. He was esteemed a good lawyer, but not respected on the bench. Evelyn called him "that jeering judge." It is recorded that at the Salisbury assizes in 1631 a convicted prisoner threw a brickbat at the judge, which knocked off his hat. The prisoner's right hand was immediately amputated and fixed to a gibbet. His second wife was created Baroness of Cramond in Scotland for life with remainder to the male issue of the judge, whose grandson, Thomas Lord Richardson first enjoyed it and was buried at Honingham in this county.

## HARLING, WEST

BASSINGBOURNE GAWDY was the second son of Serjeant Thomas Gawdy. He entered Trinity Hall, Cambridge, in 1545 and was admitted to the Inner Temple in 1545. By his marriage with Anne, daughter of John Wootton of Tuddenham, Norfolk, whose wife was a Berdewell of West Harling the estate here came to him *jure uxoris*. His early life seems to have been spent in legal circles in London. In 1554 he appears to have been acting in a secretarial capacity for the Lord Chancellor (Gardynere) who was staying at the Blackfriars in Norwich. Besides concerning himself in the management of his landed estate, he took an interest in local affairs. He was High Sheriff of the county in 1578. He died in 1590 and was buried in the church here.

## HARPLEY

JOHN WALPOLE was son of Henry Walpole of this parish. He was a barrister at law of Lincoln's Inn and became a serjeant at law. He was Recorder of King's Lynn in 1566. He married Katherine Kneve of Ashwellthorpe.

## HEACHAM

ROBERT REDMAYNE was of a Lancashire family. He was educated at Cambridge and was a LL.B. As Chancellor of the diocese he served under five bishops from 1588 to 1625. The mural tablet here states that he died in 1625 aged 74. He married Dorothy, the relict of John Rolfe of this parish.

## HETHEL

The Branthwaytes came to the county in the sixteenth century. Richard Branthwayte, one of the family, was of Lincoln's Inn and was appointed serjeant at law in 1592. He was buried in St. Martins, Ludgate. Miles Branthwayte purchased Hethel and was buried there in 1612. His great grandson (one of eighteen children of William Branthwayte and Julian (Berney) his wife was:—

WILLIAM BRANTHWAYTE (born 1657) was of Gray's Inn. He married Jemima, daughter of Augustine Brograve. He became a serjeant at law. He died in 1729. This gentleman "will be remembered for his eminence in the Law, sweetness in temper and readiness in forgiving injuries." He was succeeded by his brother:—

ARTHUR BRANTHWAYTE of Gray's Inn, barrister at law. He married Ann, grand-daughter of Sir Francis Bacon, the judge. He was appointed chief justice of the Isle of Ely and was at one time Steward of Norwich. He died in his house



in Norwich in 1717 aged 58. "He will be remembered as a faithfull and able councillor, a just and mercifull judge." He was succeeded by his second son:—

MILES BRANTHWAYTE, barrister at law of Gray's Inn, High Steward to the Bishop of Norwich and supervisor and receiver of all the properties belonging to the see. He married Rebecca, daughter of Thomas Newton, mayor of the city in 1722, and died in 1751. In politics he was a Tory and unsuccessfully contested the city in that interest on three occasions. The memorials in the chancel have coats of arms showing the marriages over several generations.

#### HETHERSETT

EDWARD FLOWERDEW was of the Inner Temple, of which he became Treasurer in 1579. He bore a high character as a lawyer. In 1580 he was raised to the degree of the coif (i.e. a serjeant) and elected recorder of Norwich and four years later was appointed third Baron of the Exchequer. He contracted a mortal disease at the Exeter assizes in 1585 where he died. He was buried in the chancel in this church and "for the want of a gravestone of his friends cost is covered with one from another man's grave." He bought and resided at Stanfield Hall near Wymondham, where in 1848 Isaac Jermy, Recorder of Norwich, was murdered.

#### HEVINGHAM

ADAM SCAMLER was second son of Bishop Scamler and was of the Inner Temple. He was one of the justices of the Lord King for the peace for Norfolk. He died in 1645 and is buried under a black marble stone (see also under Blickling).

#### HEYDON

ERASMUS EARLE—mural tablet with arms. He was educated at Norwich School and was a member of Furnival's Inn and of Lincoln's Inn, of which he became treasurer. He was appointed Serjeant at law and was Commissioner of Assize at Norwich. Oliver Cromwell made him his serjeant. After the Restoration he was again appointed Serjeant. He had a great reputation at the Bar and is said to have almost monopolised legal work on this circuit. It is probable that owing to his friendship with the Protector the latter's death mask is preserved as an heirloom at Heydon. He married Frances, daughter of James Fountaine of Salle. He died in 1667 aged 78.

JOHN EARLE, his eldest son, was educated at Pembroke Hall, Cambridge and Lincoln's Inn—barrister at law. He died in 1697.

EDWARD COLFER—a black marble stone with arms. He was a counsellor at law late of Lincoln's Inn. He died at Aylsham in 1657, aged 64.

#### HILLINGTON

MARTIN FOLKES came to and settled in Norfolk at Hillington on marrying Dorothy, daughter of Sir William Hovell of this parish. He was born in 1640 and became a bencher of Gray's Inn and attorney-general to Queen Caroline, wife of Charles II. He died in 1705. His son distinguished himself by becoming President of both the Royal Society and the Society of Antiquaries.

#### HINDOLVESTON

There is an effigy here of Edmon Hunt and Margaret his wife. Their offspring included four lawyers. The inscription contains the following lines:—

Children these had fourteene in all, Daughters four and sonnes tene.  
 Two infants dyed, three merchants ware, Lawyers four and one devine  
 These Hunttes huntinge abroad the chase, one Hunt oute hunted the rest,  
 Who made this stone in memory how God his huntinge blest.

Edmon Hunt died in 1558 (see N.A. XI, p. 79).

This monument was erected by the surviving son, Sir Thomas Hunt, Fishmonger and Soap-boiler once High Sheriff of Surrey. His monument is at Foulsham.

## HINGHAM

FRANCIS AMYAS an attorney, a learned and upright lawyer, for a long time resident in this parish. Born at Deopham, a most pious son of the Church of England. He married Mary Copping and died in 1710, aged 72. The flat stone has arms.

In 1739 JOHN AMYAS, attorney, was living "in a neat house a little south of the parsonage."

## HOCKHAM, GREAT

SIR ROBERT BALDOCK. His monument is in the church. He was Recorder of Yarmouth in 1671, a Serjeant and Reader at Gray's Inn in 1677. He was one of the counsel for the King in the trial of the seven Bishops, as a reward for which he was made a judge of the King's Bench in 1688. On the accession of William & Mary he was not reappointed for political reasons. He married first Mary, daughter of Basqueville Bacon of this parish, in which he settled. He died in 1691.

## HOE

THOMAS UTBER was educated at Caius College, where he was in 1626 aged 17. He became a barrister at law of Lincoln's Inn. He died in 1679 and is buried in the church here.

## HOLME HALE

HENRY EYRE esquire, sprung from a distinguished Derbyshire family, "once very learned in the law." He died in 1719, aged 52.

## HONINGHAM

RICHARD CATELYN, son of Richard Catelyn, sheriff of Norwich in 1531. He was of Lincoln's Inn and became a serjeant at law in 1552. He was a deputy lieutenant and one of the Commissioners to try the rebels in Queen Mary's reign. He died in 1556 and was buried in this church. His widow Barbara (daughter of John Spencer of Rendlesham in Suffolk) erected a monument here which became defaced. His effigy is in scarlet robes and above there are eleven lines from which the following are taken:—

Sixty yeares since heere stood but now decayed  
 The tombe were Serjeant Catelyn then was lay'd,  
 Though that demolished be his highest fame  
 Still lasts: sage Plowden<sup>4</sup> doth supporte the same  
 Barbara his wife Spencer by byrth did place  
 That pile; she to him living was a grace.

.....  
 Thomas their sonn by her at Lakenham plact<sup>5</sup>  
 Doth thus renew the Tombe that time defaced

Anno Dom 1618

<sup>4</sup>Edmund Plowden (1518-85) was a jurist and author of Law Reports.

<sup>5</sup>She gave him a property at Lakenham.

## INTWOOD

THOMAS JENNEY of this parish was M.P. for Norwich in 1487 when he was about 42 years of age. He was a barrister and a Governor of Lincoln's Inn.

## KERDISTON

WILLIAM DE KERDESTON who, or whose forebears, resided in this parish was, according to Foss, appointed in 1395 one of the justices of trailbaston for Norfolk and Suffolk. The trailbastons originated in the reign of Edward I and were a company of persons bound together by oath to assist any of their number who were attacked. He was sheriff of Norfolk and Suffolk in 1296. He died about 1307. He married Margaret, the daughter of Gilbert de Gant, Lord Fotheringham. According to Blomefield he was a large property owner in the county.

## KILVERSTONE

SIR ROBERT WRIGHT was a grandson of Robert Wright, who built the hall here and the son of Jermyn Wright of Wangford in Suffolk. He is described under Kilverstone as he seems to have had some interest in the estate here as a Robert Wright was qualified by a large estate in Norfolk to be a knight of the intended order of the Royal Oak. He was educated at the Free School in Thetford and Peterhouse, Cambridge. He was of the Inner Temple when he was raised to the coif and knighted. Having got badly into debt he appealed to his friend Judge Jefferys to get him made a judge, but Lord Keeper North told the King that he knew him, but too well, and he was satisfied he was the most unfit man to be made a judge, that he was a dunce and no lawyer, of no truth or honesty, guilty of perjury and not worth a groat, having spent all his estate in debauched living. But Jefferys persuaded the King and Wright was made a baron of the Exchequer and soon after again by the influence of Jefferys a King's Bench judge, Chief Justice of the Common Pleas and later of the King's Bench. He accompanied Jefferys on the Bloody Assize, presided at the trial of the Seven Bishops and was one of the commissioners on the notorious Visitation to Magdalen College, Oxford. On the flight of James II he went into hiding, was caught and committed to Newgate, where he died in 1698. At one time he was M.P. for King's Lynn and recorder of Cambridge (see Roger North's *Life of Lord Guildford*).

## KING'S LYNN

THOMAS OXBURGH was M.P. for the borough in Parliaments between 1586 and 1614. He was recorder there in 1597. By his second wife Thomazin, daughter of Thomas Hewer he had a large family. He died in 1623. He was of Lincoln's Inn.

FRANCIS PARLETT was a counsellor at law of Lincoln's Inn and was appointed Recorder of the borough in 1630. He married Margaret Waters.

WALTER KYRBY was twice mayor here, a justice of the peace and a Master in Chancery. His slab in the north aisle in St. Nicholas states that he died in 1669 aged 73. It has arms.

THOMAS BERNEY was of Lincoln's Inn and was Recorder of the borough in 1730. He died in 1745 aged 55. His wife was Julian, a daughter of Sir Richard Berney of Kirby Bedon Bart.

GEORGE CREMER was the 6th son of Edmund Cremer of King's Lynn. He was admitted to Gray's Inn in 1666. He was made a freeman by gratuity in 1679, and appointed Recorder in 1686. He did not hold office long as it was reported that when James II instituted his inquiry into the political opinions of the magistrates, etc. he was "very sick and could not stirr out of his bed" and it may be assumed that his death soon followed as a successor in the recordership was chosen in 1688.

## LEATHERINGSETT

RICHARD FITZ—a brass—"one of the cursitors of the High Court of Chancery of James I. He married Barbara, daughter of Francis Kemp, esquire." He died in 1630 aged 74.

RAVEN HARDY, who died "whilst studying for the legal profession." He was articled to Charles Buck of North Walsham. He died in 1787, aged 19. He was the son of William Hardy and Mary his wife (born Raven).

## LITCHAM

JOHN HALCOT, esquire, of the Middle Temple, son of Matthew Halcot. He gave a flagon and a silver chalice to the altar of this church. He died in 1681, aged 33. There is an altar monument in the churchyard.

EDWARD GIRLING, son of Edward and Ann Girling of the city of Norwich. He died in 1736 aged 50. He was *legis municipalis peritus*. The slab has on it the Girling arms.

## LODDON

GREGORY RANDALL "of ye Inward Temple London." He was born in 1586 and married Elizabeth, daughter of William Harborne of Mundham. He died in 1638. There is a slab here with arms.

## MARLINGFORD

THOMAS CLARKE *conciliarius*, one of the masters of the bench of Gray's Inn and Treasurer. He died in 1731, aged 68.

HUMPHREY RANT was a barrister of law of Dickleburgh but was buried here probably because his wife was Mary, one of the daughters of Nathaniel Life of this parish. He died in 1779 aged 71. There is a mural tablet with arms on the north wall of the nave.

## MASSINGHAM, LITTLE

JOHN LE STRANGE was born in 1479, the brother of Sir Roger le Strange. Both in the Visitation published by the Harleian Society and in Blomefield he is stated to have been a judge, but his name does not appear in Foss. His will, however, dated in 1516, discloses his connection with the law. After directing that a tomb should be made for him in this church after the manner of Sir Henry Heydon's tomb<sup>6</sup> in Norwich with the arms of him and his wife and ancestors and a sculpture of him and his wife with an *orate*, he gave to his daughter Barbara all his books of law (except his boarded books) to be given to her son if she had the fortune to have one and his boarded books to the library of Lincoln's Inn, every one of them to have a scripture of his gift, being a fellow, twice reader and twice treasurer of that society. The tomb bereft of all ornamentation except the coats of arms on the sides is now under the tower, having been removed there in the course of restoration work last century from a chapel on the south side of the chancel. It is recorded in the Inn's records that in 1496 he was fined 20 pence for taking 20 eels from the oven in the kitchen—a youthful escapade, whilst twenty-eight years later there is a note "to call for Master Strange's books and his bequests." His wife was Margaret (? Ann), daughter of Thomas Le Strange of Walton in Warwickshire. He died in 1517.

<sup>6</sup>This tomb which was destroyed was in the Heydon chapel which adjoined the present Consistory Court in the Cathedral.

## MATTISHALL

JAMES MOTT died in 1613. His brass on a stone slab, on which stands the lectern, records:—" He professed the lawe. Yet he embraced Peace and abhorred bribes and faveors."

## MELTON, GREAT

EDMUND ANGUISH was son of Thomas Anguish. He was Clerk of the Peace for the county and after residing in St. Georges Tombland he moved to Great Melton where he died in 1657 aged 84.

## MERTON

SIR WILLIAM DE GREY, first Lord Walsingham, was born at Merton in 1719, the son of Thomas de Grey and Elizabeth, daughter of William Wyndham of Felbrigg. He was educated at Christ's, Cambridge, and entered the Middle Temple and was called to the Bar in 1742. He sat in Parliament for Newport in Cornwall and later for the University of Cambridge. After holding the office of Attorney-General for five years he was made Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas in 1771. He was an accomplished lawyer with a remarkable power of memory. Lord Eldon recounts " I have seen him come into court with both hands wrapped in flannel from gout. He could not take a note and had no one to do so for him. I have seen him try a cause which lasted nine or ten hours and then from memory sum up all the evidence with the greatest correctness." He died in 1781 shortly after having been raised to the peerage, and is buried at Merton.

## MULBARTON

SIR EDWARD RICH. On his mural monument are some lines from which the following is an extract:—

Thetford gave me breath & Norwich breeding  
Trinity College in Cambridge Learning  
Lincolne's Inne did teach me Law and Equity  
Reports I have made in the Courts of Chancery.

He died in 1675, aged 81. In his memory stands erected beside the main road between Wymondham and Attleborough a monument recording his gift for road repairs.

## NARBOROUGH

HENRY SPELMAN. An *ovate* brass to him and Ela his wife. On it he is described as *peritus legis*. He was M.P. for Norwich in 1467 and its Recorder in 1481. He was the first of the family to settle here. He died in 1496. He was of Lincoln's Inn.

SIR JOHN SPELMAN. His brass here describes him as a secondary justice of the King's Bench. He was of Gray's Inn and called to the degree of the coif in 1521, being then one of the most eminent barristers of his time. He officiated as a commissioner at the trials of Sir Thomas Moore, Bishop Fisher and later of Queen Anne Boleyn. He was son of the before described Henry Spelman. By his wife Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Henry Frowyk he had twenty children. He died in 1545. His effigy on his brass shows him in judicial robes and coif.

CLEMENT SPELMAN was great-grandson of the last named and son of Sir Henry Spelman, the learned antiquary. He was admitted to Queens' College, Cambridge in 1616 and studied law at Gray's Inn. His alabaster monument says that he was Recorder of Nottingham, Commissioner of assize on the midland circuit and on the commission of the peace for Nottinghamshire and Norfolk. For his loyalty he was

appointed a cursitor baron of the Exchequer in 1663. He died in 1679 and was immured upright in the cavity of the pedestal monument.<sup>7</sup> He has a small moustache, a periwig, long gown, lace ruffles, short knickers and boots with straps. It is a fine and unusual statue.

JOHN EYRE. The brass runs as follows:—"Here do I lye John Eyer late Receyvvor Generale to Elizabeth the Quenes Majestie in the counties of Norfolk Suffolk Cantabridge and Huntynnton and one of the Maisters of her hyghe Court of Chancerye." His wife was Margaret, daughter of Sir Thomas Bleverhasset of Frenze and relict of John Spelman esquire. He died in 1561. Bryant says that he was a great purchaser of religious houses after the Dissolution, including the Greyfriars and Blackfriars at Lynn and Bury Abbey. His brass is illustrated by Cotman. He was of Lincoln's Inn.

#### NECTON

WILLIAM CURTEYS. His effigy and that of his wife on the brass were sketched by Cotman. These both died in 1499. He was a notary and is so described in the inscription. His effigy is interesting as being one of the few representations of a notary remaining. His hair is long and curled and his gown is that usually worn by men of his class at the time. A pencase and an inkhorn are attached to his girdle. His will was proved at Norwich in 1500. In it he expressed a desire to be buried on the south side of the "rode auter." This brass had many wanderings. (see N.A. XII, p. 299).

#### NORTHREPPS

RICHARD ELLIS was an attorney living in this parish, but practicing in Cromer. He seems to have been a factotum in the district. He interested himself in maritime matters; one of his chief activities was the organisation of the rebuilding of the pier in 1731. He was buried in the church here. The year date is not clear.

#### NORWICH

THOMAS CORY or CORIE was of a Bramerton family, his father Thomas Corie being mayor of the city in 1628. The son went to C.C.C. Cambridge. He did not graduate, but entered Gray's Inn. He had very strong royalist sympathies, which led him to be captured by Cromwell himself at Lowestoft and be marched a prisoner to Norwich. He eventually was appointed town clerk of Norwich in 1664 and held the office with distinction until his death in 1687. His correspondence with Sir Joseph Williamson, a high Government official, has been published by the Norfolk Record Society (Vol. XXVII).

#### NORWICH CATHEDRAL

WILLIAM PASTON, the founder of the Paston family, was born at Paston in 1378. He is said to have been taught law by his uncle Geoffrey de Somerton, an attorney. He was counsel for the city of Norwich and monastic bodies in the county and was engaged in many suits and inquiries. He was promoted to the rank of Serjeant in 1421 and two years later went the western circuit as commissioner of assize. In 1429 he was appointed a justice of the Common Bench at a salary of 110 marks with some allowances in kind. He was known as "the good judge" and finds a place in *Fuller's Worthies*. He was married in 1429 to Agnes Berry of Harlington Hall, Herts. and settled on her the manor of Oxnead, which became the principal residence of later generations. He died in 1444 and was buried in accordance with his testamentary wishes in the Lady Chapel in the Cathedral.

<sup>7</sup>The late Lord Justice MacKinnon in 1941 wrote to me as follows:—"I suppose you know the story of how the pedestal used to be much taller and his coffin was erect within the pedestal. Only in 1865 was he buried under the floor and the pedestal cut down." B.C.H.

This Chapel was demolished in the sixteenth century and was replaced by another consecrated in 1932. (*William Paston*, by Edgar C. Robbins).

JOHN SALMON, Bishop of Norwich, was appointed Lord Chancellor in 1320 but seems to have been more of an ecclesiastical diplomat than a judge in chancery. It was he, who built a chapel in the chancel of the cathedral and the great hall at the Palace, the porch of which is the only surviving remnant.

JOHN DE MUTFORD came from the parish of that name in Suffolk. He seems to have performed duties which in later times would have been performed by the attorney-general. He frequently acted as justice itinerant. He was raised to the bench as a judge of Common Pleas in 1316. He died in 1329 and according to Blomefield was buried in the cathedral.

JOHN HEYDON of Baconsthorpe became Recorder of Norwich in 1431. He was a favourite of Henry VI. He amassed great wealth and was trustee of many of the great Norfolk estates. He built a chapel now demolished on the west side of the present consistory court, where he was buried in 1480. He was really the founder of the Heydon fortunes which lasted for the next seven generations and then collapsed. He was of the Middle Temple.

SIR JAMES HOBART. In the north aisle between two pillars in what was once a chapel he lies buried. There is no inscription, but there are some arms showing his marriage to Margaret Naunton. He was Reader in Lincoln's Inn and in 1486 was appointed Attorney-General to Henry VII. He was Recorder of Norwich and M.P. for the city. He lived at Hales Hall in Loddon and rebuilt the church there and constructed St. Olave's bridge. He died in 1507 and by his will desired to be buried "withoute worldly pomp or pride." Camden says of him that he "deserved well of the church the country and the commonwealth."

WILLIAM BURLEIGH, born at Litcham, M.A. Cantab. He studied municipal law at Gray's Inn and practiced successfully in the Courts at Westminster. He was appointed counsel to the Dean and Chapter and steward of their manors. He died in 1683. There is a monument with arms.

JOHN CHAMBER esquire, "a learned and upright lawyer, who practiced at Norwich, Southwold and Yarmouth." He was steward of the courts of the Dean and Chapter. He died in 1788. There is a monument with arms.

SIR WILLIAM DENNY, counsellor at law to King Charles I and Recorder of Norwich in 1629 and for several years its M.P. He married Frances, daughter of James Taverner esquire. He died in 1642. There was a portrait of him (unidentified) in the Guildhall. He was of Lincoln's Inn.

THOMAS BATCHELLER, educated at Peterhouse, Cambridge, bachelor of civil law. He practiced as one of the proctors for forty-three years in the Consistory court. The long inscription composed by Dr. Tanner states:—To an intimate knowledge of Canon and Maritime law he added polite letters and the classics. He had an outstanding integrity of life, a wonderful calmness in business, a rare humility and almost excessive modesty, a trust and diligence shown to his clients, great benevolence to his family and humanity towards all. He died in 1729, aged 65.

RALPH SADLINGTON, a notary public. He died in 1601 aged 30. His brass with a long inscription is now lost.

WILLIAM ROLFE. Translation:—"Beneath this marble rests the remains of William Rolfe advocate of the mayors court in Norwich who acquired great wealth by a clear mind, almost incredible industry and an untarnished reputation. He bequeathed to parentless children and widows of the clergy £100, to the poor boys in the Hospital in the city £200 and the residue of about £1000 to the kindred of Edmund Rolfe of Heacham esquire." He died in 1754, aged 84. He left no issue.

WILLIAM SPRING gentleman, proctor, died in 1694.

ROBERT PEPPER was son of Sir Cuthbert Pepper of Farington Hall, Durham. He was educated at Christ's College, Cambridge and later incorporated into Oxford University. For nearly thirty years he was vicar-general and chancellor of Norwich. He died in 1700. His monument with arms and a long inscription is on the south side of the choir, a place of honour.

JOHN MARCON of Holveston was a barrister at law of Gray's Inn. He married Rebecca, daughter of Sir Benjamin Wrench. He died in 1723 aged 38. He owned property at Edgefield with which his family was connected for another 200 years.

#### NORWICH, ST. ANDREWS

JOHN SOTHERTON was of a well-known Norwich family, which rendered much public service. He was born about 1525 and was educated at Christ Church, Oxford and the Inner Temple. He was appointed a puisne Baron of the Exchequer in 1579. His first wife was Frances, daughter of John Smith of Cromer. He died in 1605 and was buried in the church of St. Botolph in London. It seems that at one time he owned the Bridewell in Norwich.

NOWELL SOTHERTON was of the same family as the last named. He was of Gray's Inn and in 1606 he was made a Baron of the Exchequer, but it is probable that he was only a Cursitor Baron, whose duties were more fiscal than judicial. He gave a rentcharge to St. Andrew's church, part for a sermon and part for the poor. He died in 1610.

JOHN LENS was born in this parish and called to the Bar in 1781. He was of Lincoln's Inn and was made a serjeant and on more than one occasion he declined promotion to the Bench. He died in 1825 in his 69th year.

#### NORWICH, ST. AUGUSTINES

ELISHA DE HAGUE was Town Clerk of the city from 1774 to 1792, the year in which he died, aged 74. He lived in Elm Hill, but the family church seems to have been St. Augustines, where he was buried. His wife was Mary, daughter of Nicholas Ganning. He was one of the founder members of the "United Friars" fraternity in the city.

ELISHA DE HAGUE, his son, was Town Clerk of the city from 1792 to 1826. He was born in 1754 and died at Brundall in 1826 aged 72. Presumably he is buried in the family tomb. He, too, lived in Elm Hill.

#### NORWICH, ST. GEORGES TOMBLAND

EDMUND NOAKE was buried in the nave of this church in 1680 aged 39. He was *nuper Curiae Consistorialis Norwici Procuratorum unus*.

STEPHEN GARDINER was son of Francis Gardiner (mayor of Norwich 1685). He was educated at Caius College and became a barrister. He was M.P. for the city in 1695 and its Recorder in 1703. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Augustine Briggs jun. He died in 1727. It is not known where he was buried, but his family had associations with this parish.

#### NORWICH, ST. GREGORYS

SIR FRANCIS BACON. There is a large altar tomb with a long inscription. He was of Gray's Inn and was appointed a serjeant at law in 1640 and two years later a judge of the King's Bench—the last judge that was commissioned to the King's Bench by Charles I, after whose execution he retired from office. The judge was grandson of Thomas Bacon of Hessel in Suffolk. His wife was Elizabeth, the daughter of William Robinson.



ROBERT DAVY was a barrister at law of the Middle Temple and was Recorder of Norwich in 1688. He lived at Ditchingham and married Ann, daughter of Francis Bacon esquire of this parish. He died in 1703.

DANIEL FROMANTEEL was an attorney at law and served both the shrievalty and mayoralty (1725) in the city. The Recorder, Gardiner, in a speech of thanks on his quitting the office of mayor is reported to have said that his diligence in maintaining the public buildings of the city and in perpetual quieting the disputes between the county and the city in relation to the bridges made his year ever memorable. His name suggests that he was a descendant of a Walloon refugee. He died in 1731 aged 53 and was buried in this church. On a mural tablet with arms he is described as being "very much esteemed both in his publick and private character."

#### NORWICH, ST. JOHN MADDERMARKET

ROBERT PAYNELL, counsellor at law of Gray's Inn was of Belaugh, but was buried here in 1658. He married Judith, the daughter of John Duke, M.D., of Colchester.

#### NORWICH, ST. MARTIN-AT-PALACE

JOHN BLOMEFIELD is buried here. He was a public notary and register<sup>8</sup> of the Bishop. He died in 1506.

#### NORWICH, ST. MICHAEL-AT-PLEA

NICHOLAS BROWNE. His mural monument is by the vestry entrance. He was sometime register for the archdeaconry of Norwich. He discharged "that office with universal esteem for his honesty and ability." He died in 1681.

NICHOLAS BROWNE, his son and successor in that office, died in 1706.

(Note: It is assumed that both these were lawyers.)

JOHN PEPYS, public notary and deputy register of the archdeaconry of Norwich. He died in 1716 aged 31.

#### NORWICH, ST. PETER MANCROFT

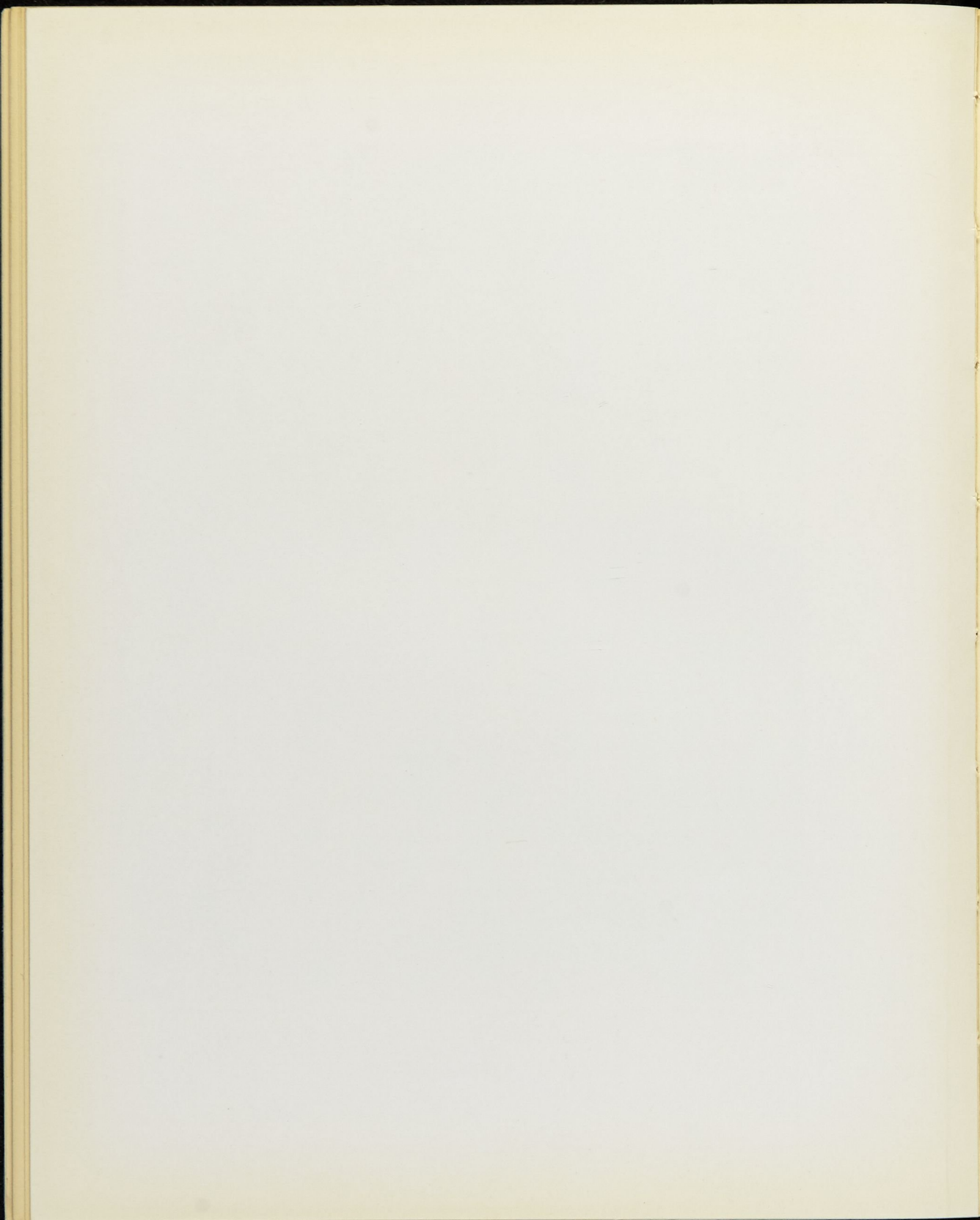
WILLIAM ELYS was the son of Thomas, who was mayor and M.P. for Norwich. He entered Lincoln's, where he was Reader in 1502. He was Recorder of Norwich in 1521 and two years later was made a Baron of the Exchequer and continued on the Bench till 1536. He seems to have been commemorated in the windows in this church. He was lord of the manor of Attlebridge, where his son lies buried.

FRANCIS WINDHAM. There is an effigy of a judge on an altar tomb on the north wall of the Jesus chapel here. There is no name, but the Windham arms and many others occurring on the monument make it clear beyond doubt that it is the tomb and effigy of Francis Windham. His parents were Sir Edmund Windham and Susan, the daughter of Sir Roger Townshend of Rainham. He was educated at Cambridge and became a bencher of Lincoln's Inn. He was M.P. for Norfolk in 1572, recorder of the city in 1576 and a serjeant in 1577. He was raised to the bench as a judge of Common Pleas in 1579 and on occasion sat in the court of Chancery. He died at his house in this parish in 1592. The effigy, which is down to the waist, depicts him beardless in judge's robes with a coif on his head. A photograph is here reproduced. A portrait of him as recorder in the Guildhall and another at Felbrigg Hall show him with a beard. It was at about this time that the Bar devoted their attention to regulations about their personal appearance. For instance, the Inner Temple laid down that no fellow of that house should wear his beard above three weeks growth on pain of a fine.

<sup>8</sup>Anciently what we now call a "registrar" was called a "register."



FRANCIS WINDHAM  
died 1592  
Judge of Common Pleas



RICHARD DAVYE was a counsellor at law, the son of Richard Davye, twice mayor of Norwich. The son was appointed Steward of the city and was buried in this church in 1585. He was of Lincoln's Inn.

HENRY DAVYE, son of the last named was a counsellor at law of the Middle Temple, and followed his father as steward. He died in 1619 and is thought to have been buried here.

WILLIAM PAYNE, gentleman, clerk of the peace for Norfolk for twenty-eight years. He died in 1709, aged 76.

RICHARD STARLING, attorney at law, died in 1690 aged 36.

WILLIAM HELWYS, esquire, of the honourable Society of the Middle Temple. He was probably the son of Nicholas Helwys, who was mayor in 1684 and was one of the stormiest characters that have worn the mayoral robes. William died in 1723, aged 58. There is a hatchment with arms.

ISAAC FRANSHAM, attorney of the court of the King's Bench, was born in this parish. He died in 1743, aged 82.

PETER FINCH was clerk of the peace for the county. He was the son of the Rev. Peter Finch, who for many years was minister of the Presbyterian congregation in Norwich (later the Octagon). Born in 1725 and died in 1807.

HENRY COOPER was born in this parish. After an early seafaring life, he was called to the Bar at Lincoln's Inn and rapidly became one of the leaders in the Norfolk circuit. He was made attorney-general of the Bermudas. He died in 1825 after only twelve years at the Bar.

#### NORWICH, SS. SIMON & JUDE

JOHN WALTERS was educated at Cambridge. M.A. and in Lincoln's Inn. He was the son of Daniel and Jane Walters. He died young in 1619. There is a long inscription in Latin on a brass.

#### NORWICH, ST STEPHENS

CHARLES GEORGE COCK of the Inner Temple. He was steward of Norwich in 1650, recorder of Yarmouth in 1655 and M.P. for that borough from 1656 to 1660. Blomefield calls him "the famous Mr. Cock. He was a very active magistrate and a keen Parliamentarian in the city during the Commonwealth. He married Ann, daughter of Richard Bond and the monument in the church gives the date of her death as 1654, but the date of his death, which was in 1682, is left blank and he may not have been buried here. The monument has on it the Cock and Bond arms. This is an early instance of a man with two Christian names.

HUMPHREY RANT was a notary public and principal register of the diocese. He was born in 1574 and married Catherine Gilbert of Norwich and had issue. From them are descended the Rants of Thorpe Market. He died in 1609.

ANTHONY STILE, proctor of the Arches and sometime judge of the Admiralty. He was an alderman of the city. By his wife, Margaret he had a son of the same name, who was also a notary. They were living about 1560.

THOMAS KINGESLEY, a notary. There was a brass to him and his wife Alice. They died in 1473 and 1471 respectively.

JOHN ATKINS was a notary public and was an alderman and in 1548 one of the sheriffs of the city at the time of Kett's Rebellion. He married Margaret, daughter of Thomas Deane.

CUTHBERT BRERETON, an attorney, alderman and sheriff of the city. He was the son of William Brereton of Hoxne in Suffolk. He married Joan Howes of Norwich and died in 1612.

WILLIAM MINGAY was a notary public and principal register of the diocese. He was son of Robert Mingay of Norwich. He served both the shrievalty and the mayoralty of the city and died in 1564.

WILLIAM MINGAY was son of the last named and was a member of Gray's Inn. He died in 1607 and was buried in this church.

JOHN MINGAY was son of the William Mingay who died in 1564 and was appointed register of the diocese in 1578. He was mayor in 1617. He married Isabell, daughter of Sir Thomas Gawdy. He died in 1622.

HENRY MINGAY was a bencher of the Inner Temple. He married Mary Jernagan of Stebbings in Essex. He died in 1632.

JOHN MINGAY, counsellor at law, was living in this parish in 1690. He was of Lincoln's Inn.

*Note:* There are several Mingay pedigrees which are difficult to reconcile.

#### NORWICH, CHAPEL-IN-THE-FIELDS

WILLIAM MARTYN, notary public, was buried here in 1458. He was a benefactor, giving among other things to the collegiate church an altar frontal on which was embroidered "*Orate pro anima Will' Martini Notarii qui contulit hunc pannum. . .*"

#### ORMESBY, ST. MARGARET

JOHN RAMEY was the son of John Ramey, a master-mariner, who when still young was lost at sea in 1718. The son became a barrister of the Inner Temple and practiced at Yarmouth. He was a powerful personality with a lucrative business. He was twice mayor of the borough and held the office of Receiver-General for Norfolk. He was called "King of the Fleggs." He owned and died at Scratby Hall near Ormesby in the hundred of East Flegg. He was 75 years old at his death in 1794. There is a mural tablet to him in the church here. One daughter married the ninth Earl of Home, from whom is descended the present (1964) Prime Minister. Another daughter married Peter Upcher, ancestor of the Upchers of Sheringham.

#### OUTWELL

GILBERT HAULTOFT was secondary Baron of the Exchequer appointed in 1447. In his will dated in 1458 he desired to be buried *infra sacrum locum ubi Deo placuerit*. Blomefield says that he is buried here. There is a brass to Margaret his wife dated 1460 and on this the judicial office which he held is mentioned. In his will he directs his executors to re-roof "Christopher Chapel" there and to repair its walls. He left large estates in Marshland which were inherited by his three daughters, who married respectively into the families of Kervile of Wiggenhall, Bachcroft of Bexwell and Derham of Crimplesham.

SIR ROBERT BELL was of the Norfolk family of Bell of Oulton. He was educated at the Middle Temple. He was M.P. for Lyme Regis. In 1572 he was elected Speaker. A disagreeable duty that he had to perform was to urge Queen Elizabeth to find a husband! His conduct in the Speaker's chair had been so acceptable to the Queen that, when a vacancy occurred in the office of Chief Baron in 1577, she appointed him to the post. Camden says of him that he was "a sage and grave man and famous for his knowledge in the law." By marriage to Dorothy, daughter and co-heiress of Edward Beaupré of Outwell he became possessed of Beaupré Hall in this parish. He caught with many others a fatal disease at the Oxford summer assizes. He was buried at Leominster in 1577.

## PICKENHAM, SOUTH

SIR EDWARD ATKYNS came of a legal family. Born in 1630, the son of Sir Edward Atkyns, who was himself a judge. He, like his father, was of Lincoln's Inn. He was appointed a serjeant and soon a Baron of the Exchequer and in 1686 on the nomination of James II he became the Lord Chief Baron, but two years later he was a non-juror refusing allegiance to William III. He was succeeded by his brother, Sir Robert. He retired to his estate at South Pickenham, where Blomefield states in a note that he improved the Hall. In 1684 according to the Lieutenancy Book "Baron Atkyns" was assessed to provide arms for his estate in this parish. He spent his retirement "in reconciling differences between neighbours, who placed great reliance on his integrity and judgment." He died in London in 1698. There is a monument to him in the parish church at Ketteringham where the family later became seated.

## RACKHEATH

JOHN YELVERTON of this parish was of Gray's Inn and was appointed Recorder of Norwich in 1403—the earliest in the *Norfolk Lists*. As such he assisted as chief judge of the Mayors Court and was one of the counsel for the city. He married Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of John Rede of Rougham, which brought that estate into the Yelverton family. His son was a judge (see under Rougham).

## RAYNHAM

SIR ROGER TOWNSHEND was the only son of John Townshend and Joan the daughter of Sir Robert Lunsford. He studied law at Lincoln's Inn, of which he was reader in 1468. He represented Calne in Parliament and was called to the degree of the coif in 1477 and later made King's serjeant. Appointed a judge of Common Pleas he held office during turbulent times and was knighted by Henry VII at his coronation. He apparently died in 1493. There is a monument with shields, but no inscription. He married Ann, daughter of Sir William Brews of Salle. From them is lineally descended the present Marquis Townshend of Raynham.

SIR ROGER TOWNSHEND, son of the above appears to have been a lawyer, as in 1509 an Inquiry (according to the Norwich City Records) was made by him into some disturbances in the city and he is referred to as *legis peritus*. He became a prominent man, as he was High Sheriff of Norfolk and Suffolk several years later. He died in 1551. By his will he desired to be buried in the church of East Raynham.

## REDENHALL

SIR THOMAS GAWDY of the Inner Temple of which he was a bencher—Recorder of Norwich in 1563—M.P. successively for Morpeth and Norwich—Judge of the Queen's Bench in 1574—knighted by Queen Elizabeth at Wood Rising. He resided at Claxton Manor and at Gawdy Hall, where he died in 1588. He was buried in the family chapel in Redenhall church. There is an altar tomb, but no inscription. Coke says of him that he was "a most reverend judge and sage of law, of ready and profound judgment and venerable gravity prudence and integrity."

## REEPHAM

EDMUND HEYWARD was of Kerdiston.<sup>9</sup> He was a member of the Inner Temple, an antiquary and a friend of Selden. Arms were granted to him by Camden in 1611. These were disclaimed in 1664. He was a grandfather of the next described.

EDWARD HEYWARD. He was the son of Richard Heyward of Kerdiston and Faustine his wife. A slab with arms in the north aisle records that he was "in

<sup>9</sup>The churches of Reepham and Kerdiston share the same churchyard.

byrth not obscure, of parts eminent, in the Accademy a precious ornament, accomplished in the theory of all sciences, dignified in the Worshipful Society of the Inner Temple, a patron of justice in the countrey." He died in 1658, aged 64.

#### REYMERSTON

ROBERT LONGE, esquire, was a Justice of the Peace in *Quorum*. The mural monument with arms tells that *Quater maritus, ter quarter pater*. By Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. Justice Bacon (see Norwich, St. Gregory's) he had a son Francis (see under Spixworth). This son caused this monument to be erected and was probably the author of the rather unusual inscription. It says that (translated) he sought more only that he might give more, a man shrewd in business and of blameless life and if you viewed his life or his death you would wonder if it were possible to live more blamelessly or to die more peacefully. He died in 1688.

#### ROUGHAM

SIR WILLIAM YELVERTON was the son of John Yelverton of Rackheath (see under Rackheath). He entered Gray's Inn, of which at one time he was Reader. In 1429 he acted for the City of Norwich in a dispute with Yarmouth about a public crane erected in the port. He was appointed Recorder of the city in 1433. Two years later he was elected M.P. for Yarmouth. He was made a serjeant in 1439 and a King's Bench judge in 1443. He mediated between the city and St. George's Guild in a dispute about the election of the mayor. He is mentioned in the Paston Letters, but not always to his credit. By an opponent in the controversy about Fastolf's will he is called "the accursed Norfolk justice." He died about 1470. The brass here, which was formerly on an altar tomb, has the effigy of the judge (with that of his wife Agnes, daughter of Sir Oliver le Gros) and shows him in armour under his judge's robes with a coif on his head. As an active Yorkist he wears a collar of suns and roses.

WILLIAM YELVERTON was a descendant of the last named. He entered Gray's Inn in which later he held the office of Reader. He was appointed Recorder of Lynn in 1558 and the same year served in Parliament for that borough. He died in 1585 leaving by his wife Ann, daughter of Sir Henry Fermour of East Barsham a large family including the next named.

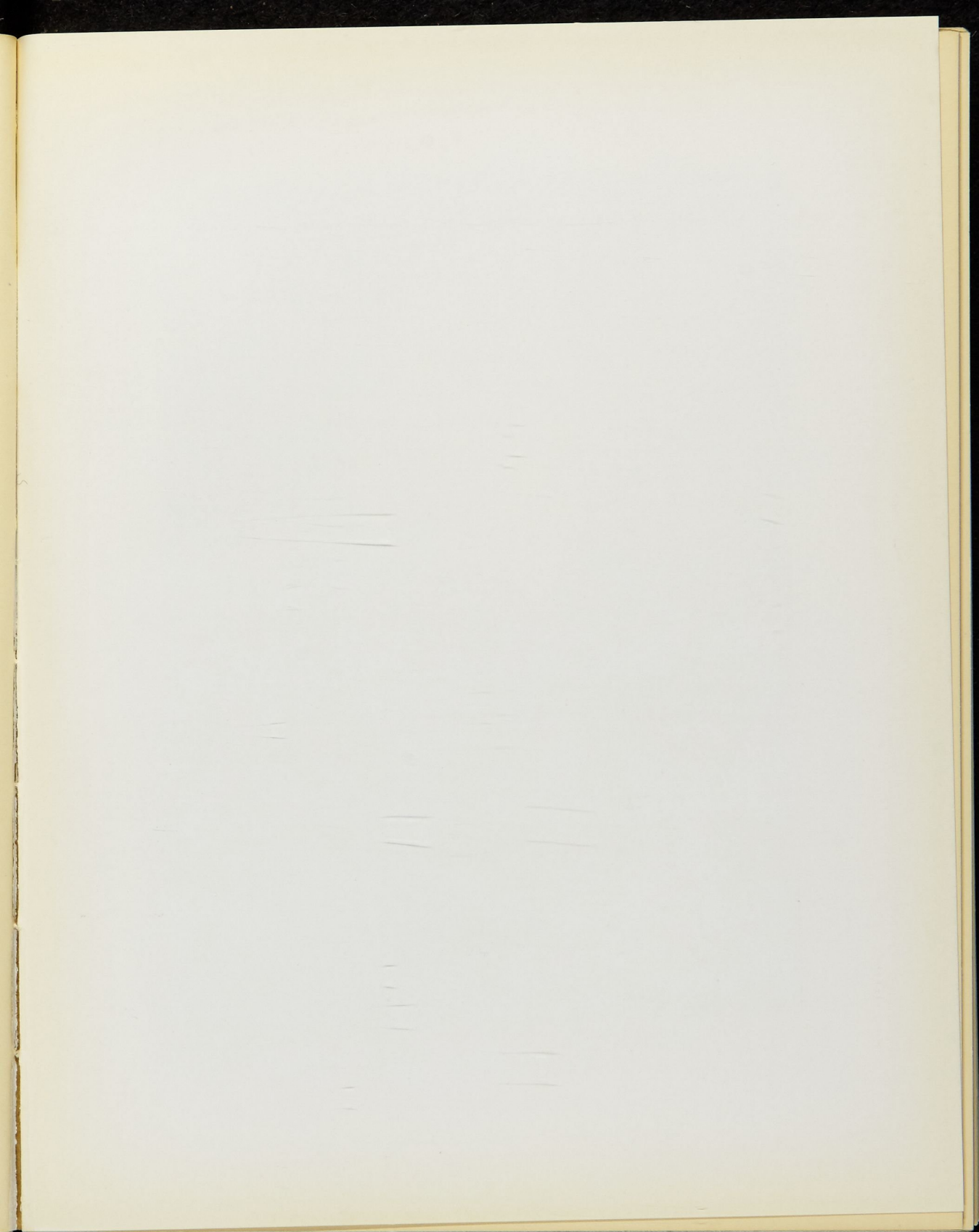
SIR CHRISTOPHER YELVERTON entered Gray's Inn in 1552 and it is said relieved his legal studies there by an occasional offering to the Muses. He, like his father, was Recorder of Lynn. In 1589 he was appointed Queen's serjeant and in 1597 Speaker of the House of Commons. In 1602 he was nominated a judge of the King's Bench. He died in 1612 at Easton Manduit, an estate in Northants which he had purchased. Robert Cecil Earl of Salisbury said of him: "He is a gentleman, a learned man and a lawyer; one that will deliver his mind with perspicuous reason and great comeliness." His son Henry, who became a judge of Common Pleas, was not connected with the county.

#### RUDHAM, EAST

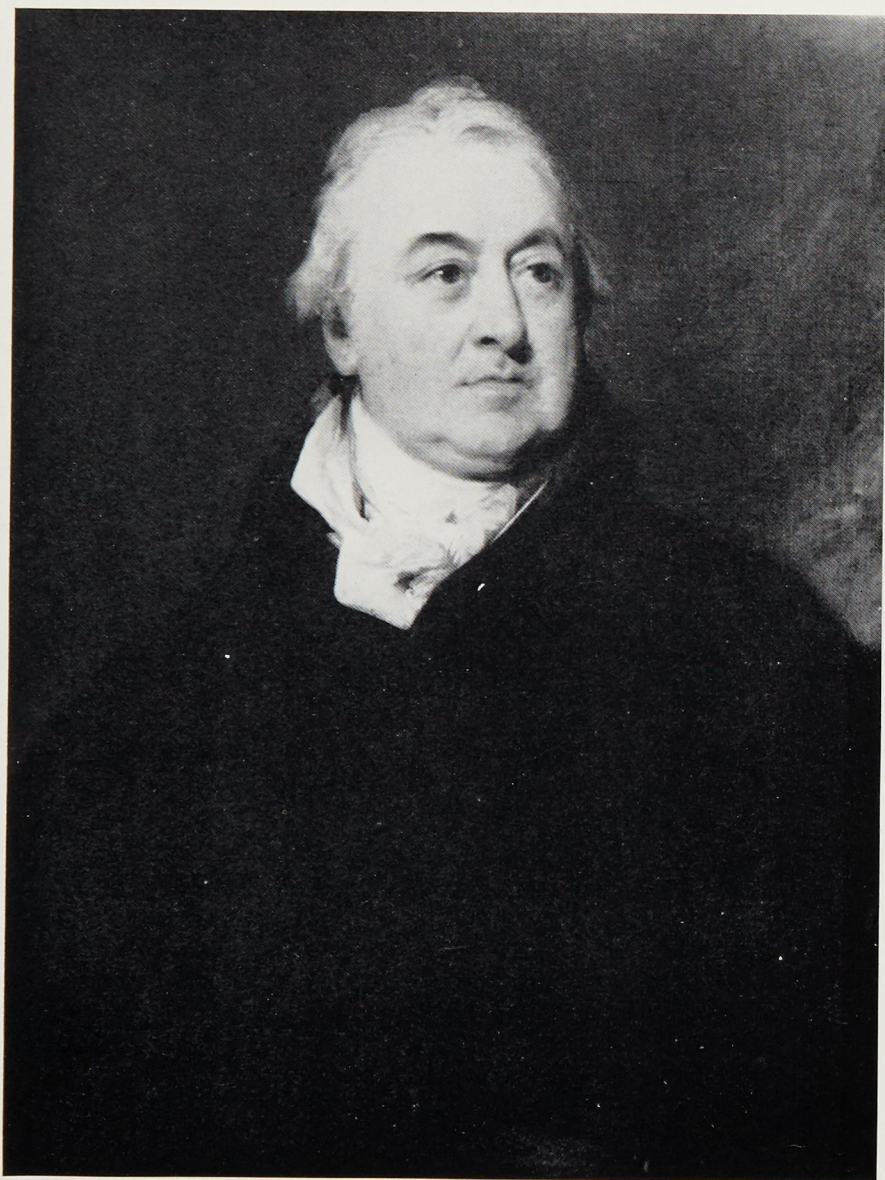
RICHARD DEY. There is a brass to him and his wife Isabella. On it he is described as a notary. He died in 1507.

#### RUNCTON, SOUTH

SIR FRANCIS GAWDY, son of Thomas Gawdy and half brother of Sir Thomas Gawdy, was educated at Norwich Grammar School and the Inner Temple. He was made a serjeant at law in 1582. He held the recordership of Lynn. He was appointed







DANIEL JONES  
of Fakenham and Sculthorpe  
attorney

a judge of the Queen's Bench in 1588 and became Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas in 1605. He had hardly assumed this high office before he died of a stroke in Serjeant's Inn in 1605. His corpse was brought down to Wallington Hall, his residence, but according to Blomefield, having made his own parish church into a hayhouse, no place of burial was available until after a while he was buried at the neighbouring church of Runcton without ceremony or memorial.

#### SALLE

JOHN FOUNTAYNE was, according to Foss, alternatively a royalist and parliamentarian and was commonly called "Turncoat Fountayne." He was the son of Arthur Fountayne of Wood Dalling and was of Lincoln's Inn, being called to the Bar in 1629. At first he sided with the King in the struggle with Parliament, but as the royal cause declined he went over to the Parliament. He was made a serjeant at law by Protector Richard and was appointed one of the Commissioners of the Great Seal by the Long Parliament. After the Restoration he returned to his old political creed and was confirmed in his degree of the coif. He died in 1671, aged 69. He is buried in the church here. There is a tablet with coloured shields.

ROBERT ALDRYCH. On a brass here he is described as a public notary. He died in 1474.

#### SAXTHORPE

ANTHONY PAGE was the son of John Page of this parish. He was a counsellor at law of Lincoln's Inn and at the time of the Heralds Visitation in 1664 he was of the Isle of Ely. He married at Thorpe Market Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Richard Gresham of that parish. He died in 1618.

JOHN PAGE was son of the last named and was educated at Gray's Inn and was a barrister at law in 1664. He died in 1707 aged 82. By his wife Mary, his cousin, he had Gresham Page, who was High Sheriff in 1723.

#### SCARNING

LORD THURLOW was born about 1732 at Ashfield in Suffolk. He was educated at the Free School at Scarning and at King's School, Canterbury and later at Caius College, Cambridge, from which he was rusticated. He became a member of the Inner Temple. He entered Parliament in 1760 as member for Tamworth and helped by his great natural ability and his rhetorical powers he was soon made successively Solicitor-General and Attorney-General. In Parliament he was bold and audacious and a most efficient supporter of Lord North's Government. He was appointed Lord Chancellor in 1778 and for many years dominated the House of Lords from the Woolsack. He was forced to resign in 1792 by George III on the recommendation of Mr. Pitt and afterwards showed more allegiance to the Whigs than to the Tories, though trusted by neither. He died in 1806 and was buried in the Temple Church. He left no legitimate issue. By special remainder the peerage passed to his nephew. Fox said of him that no one could be as wise as Thurlow looked. The Thurlows were a Burnham family.

#### SCULTHORPE

HENRY UNTON, gentleman, formerly a chirographer on the King's Bench. He died in 1470. The effigy on the brass, which is depicted by Cotman, shows him in armour. The four shields are lost. A chirographer engrossed Fines and Recoveries and other proceedings of the court.

DANIEL JONES was in his day a very prominent Fakenham attorney. He was agent for some large nearby estate, such as Melton Constable and Holkham and was steward of many manors—a lucrative business in those days. He was also concerned

in local inclosures, which were very frequent at the close of the century. He was born about 1746, the son of Daniel Jones of Cranmer Hall, which the son inherited on his father's death in 1783. He amassed a considerable fortune from his profession.<sup>10</sup> It is said that the Sir Jacob Astley of that time had Jones's portrait painted by Sir Thomas Lawrence in the hope that the flattery might fetch him a legacy, but it did not, and following Jones's death in 1820 the disappointed Sir Jacob sent the portrait, which had been at Melton to Major-General Sir John Jones, the cousin, to whom Jones had devised the Cranmer Hall estate. He was buried at Sculthorpe, in which parish the Hall lies. There is a memorial to him. The portrait is now in the possession of Mrs. Nancy Morse (née Jones) of Mindrum, Northumberland and is here reproduced.

#### SHOTESHAM

SIR JOHN PRISOT was serjeant at law in 1443 and chief justice of the Common Pleas in 1449. He assisted Sir Thomas Littleton in compiling his famous book on Tenures. He died in 1460 and is thought to have been buried under the raised tomb in the chancel of St. Mary's church. In Blomefield's time his effigy in glass was in the east window with those of others and beneath was an inscription that they had built the chancel. In one of the Paston Letters he is represented as a partial judge, but this is merely the view of a disappointed suitor in a particular case.

EDWARD WHYTE, counsellor at law of Gray's Inn, once of Filby and later of this parish. He and his wife Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Foxmere of Bromesthorp died of the sweating sickness in 1528 and were buried in St. Mary's chancel under a stone with a brass.

ROBERT BRANSBY was born in 1659 the son of Robert Bransby of this parish yeoman. The Bransbys were descended from a very ancient gentleman's family of Bransby in Yorkshire. This Robert is described on a mural tablet in All Saints church as "an Attorney of His Majesties Court of Common Pleas, many years Master of the High Court of Chancery." He married Margaret, daughter of Richard Reve surgeon. He died in 1723.

THOMAS GAWDY was the son of Thomas Gawdy of Harleston and one of three half brothers, the others being Sir Thomas and Sir Francis, both of whom eventually reached the bench (see under Redenhall and S. Runcton). He entered the Inner Temple, of which he became a Reader. He was Recorder for Lynn and later its M.P. In 1550 he was Recorder of Norwich and received the freedom of the city. Soon after he was raised to the coif he was elected M.P. for the city. After becoming serjeant he sat on several commissions. He lived at Shotesham Hall, but had a town house in St. Julian's, Norwich. He died in 1556, but it is not known where he was buried. He had several things in common with Serjeant Catelyn (see under Honingham) as was pointed out by Plowden. They were both Norfolk men, both of the Inner Temple, both made serjeant the same day, both burgesses for Norwich in the same parliament and both died the same month. Plowden cites the following epitaph:—

Munere *Gaudeo* junctus, virtute, labore  
 Temporibus, patria, fortuna, moribus, annis  
 Funere conjunctus, terras *Catilina* reliquit,  
 Felices ambo, . . .  
 (Gawdy MSS., H.M.C., 1885).

#### SPIXWORTH

FRANCIS LONGE was son of Robert Longe (see Reymerstone). Soon after the death of his father in 1688 he acquired the Spixworth estate from the Pecks. He

<sup>10</sup>My great great-grandmother, Mary Hardy, in her diary under date 30th Oct. 1784 writes:—"Mr. Hardy went to Fakenham, morn. 10. to speak to Mr. Danl. Jones abt. Gurneys, brought home the brief for Mr. Jodrell" (see Bayfield). This was about an arbitration with the bank. B.C.H.

was appointed recorder of Yarmouth, an office which he held till 1734 the year in which he died. He was buried here. There is a gravestone with arms. He was of the Middle Temple.

#### SPROWSTON

MILES CORBETT was the son of Thomas Corbett of Sprowston, who was High Sheriff in 1612. He was a barrister of Lincoln's Inn and was M.P. for Yarmouth. Among offices which he held were recorder for King's Lynn and registrar for the Court of Chancery. He was appointed in 1655 Chief Baron of the Exchequer in Ireland. He was very active against archbishop Laud and in 1649 signed Charles I's death warrant. At the Restoration he escaped abroad, but was arrested in Holland, brought to London and as a regicide executed in 1662.

#### STOW BARDOLF

NICHOLAS HARE was son of John Hare and nephew of Sir Nicholas Hare of Homersfield, Suffolk, who died in 1557 when Master of the Rolls. This Nicholas, like many others of the Hare family, studied law at the Inner Temple, of which he became a Bencher. It was he who built the hall here at a cost, it is said, of £40,000. He was recorder of Lynn in 1593 and died four years later.

HUGH HARE was brother of the last named and was of the Inner Temple. He held the office of Master of the Court of Wards. He died a bachelor in 1620 and left a fortune estimated at £90,000 which as stated on his monument in the church here passed under his will to his great nephew, Sir John Hare and his nephew Hugh Hare.

#### STRATTON, LONG

SIR EDMUND REVE—a fine monument in the chancel to this dignitary recumbent in the scarlet robes of a judge and to his wife (Mary Cory of Bramerton). Born about 1589, he was educated at Norwich Grammar School and Caius College and Gray's Inn, of which he was Reader. He held the recordership of Yarmouth and was appointed in 1639 a judge of Common Pleas. He is said to have supported the parliamentary cause at the beginning of the Civil War. He died in 1647. A very long inscription gives an account of his life. He lived just before the advent of periwigs. The monument shows him with the coif beneath a square black cap.

#### TACOLNESTON

WILLIAM KNIPE was a counsellor at law of Gray's Inn. He died in 1769 aged 53. There is a tablet here with arms.

#### THETFORD

JAMES MINGAY, belonging to a family long seated in Norfolk, was a distinguished Thetfordian. Born in this town the son of James Mingay a surgeon, he was educated at the Grammar School here, at Trinity College, Cambridge and at the Inner Temple, of which later he became Treasurer. Called to the Bar in 1775, he was created a King's counsel nine years later. He joined the Norfolk circuit and enjoyed a lucrative practice. He made two unsuccessful attempts to serve in Parliament—defeated at Norwich by William Windham in 1794 and unseated on petition for Thetford in 1807. He was Recorder of Aldeburgh and magistrate for Norfolk and Suffolk, for which counties he was also chairman of Quarter Sessions. He sat as Special Commissioner for the Summer Assizes then held at Thetford. He was three times mayor of the town. He was a fellow of the Society of Antiquaries. He gave to St. Peter's, Thetford a brass chandelier and iron fencing for the churchyard

and silver communion plate to St. Mary's, Thetford, where he was buried in the family vault in July 1812. There is a tablet recording his achievements. The *Gentlemens Magazine* said of him: "He practiced as a Kings Counsel 22 years and during that period was distinguished as a powerful rival of his friend Erskine [later Lord Chancellor]. As an advocate Mr Mingay possessed a persuasive oratory, infinite wit and most excellent fancy." He and his wife (Eliza Corrall of Maidstone) both sat to Romney. There are in addition several other portraits (see *Inner Temple Papers*. Mackinnon, 1948).

#### THORPE MARKET

SIR THOMAS RANT was son of Dr. William Rant of Yelverton. His memorial inscription records:—"bred up in ye study of ye Common Law, the publique profession whereof (after he had gained a full estimation and practise) he forsooke, when his sovereign King Charles ye first was driven from London by tumults, when retiring into his native countrey he lived hospitably and honourably, spending his time in composing differences and preventing suits between his neighbours. He was chosen a member of the Healing Parliament." He was of Lincoln's Inn. He erected ten almshouses in this parish. He died in 1671 aged 64.

ROBERT BRITIFFE, counsellor at law, was educated at Gresham's School, Holt, Caius College and the Middle Temple. He practised law in the city of Norwich, of which in due course he was appointed recorder and which he represented in the Whig interest in several parliaments. He had the reputation of being a very careful and trustworthy practitioner and was very successful in his profession. He was steward for a large number of manors and seems to have transacted business which nowadays would be in the hands of a solicitor or a land agent. The family sprang from Hunworth, but he resided at Baconsthorpe, where Edmund his father had lived. He owned a considerable amount of landed property, some of which passed through his daughter Judith (by his first wife Judith Edgar) to the Blickling estate as a result of her marriage to John Hobart, 1st Earl of Buckinghamshire. Robert Britliffe married secondly Elizabeth, daughter of Sir William Rant of this parish and their daughter Elizabeth married Sir William Morden Harbord. His third wife was the widow of Bishop Tanner. This match between two elderly persons of prominence caused a contemporary letter writer to remark, "Mr. Britiffe and his rich widow are the fondest couple that have been married at Norwich for some time. They are kissing all day long."<sup>11</sup> He died in 1749 without male issue, having survived his first wife forty-four years. He was 87 years of age.

HUMPHREY CARTER, attorney at law, died in 1666, aged 52 years.

#### TIBENHAM

THOMAS TALBOT—*armiger, Juris consultus Justiciarius Vir Deo Devotus*. . . . This is probably Thomas Talbot, LL.D., official of the Archdeacon of Norfolk who died in 1627 and whose wife was Anne, daughter of William Herne of Tibenham. Blomefield gives no information beyond the wording of the memorial. In the Bysshe Visitation of 1664 he is stated to have been of Gunvill's Hall, Wymondham. He was of Lincoln's Inn.

#### TITTLESHALL

SIR EDWARD COKE was the most distinguished lawyer the county has produced. Born at Mileham in 1552, the son of Robert Coke, he was educated at King Edward VI School at Norwich, Trinity College, Cambridge, Cliffords Inn and the Inner Temple. Except for the Chancellorship he held all the great offices of the Law from Solicitor-General to the Lord Chief Justice of the Queen's Bench. He was M.P. for

<sup>11</sup>*Country Neighbourhood*, by R. W. Ketton-Cremer.

Norfolk in 1592 and next year was elected Speaker of the House of Commons. His portrait when Recorder of Norwich is in the Guildhall there. He found time to write the famous law treatises *Coke upon Littleton* and *Coke's Reports*. He had a long and bitter quarrel with Sir Francis Bacon, his rival. In his early days he displayed a sharp temper. Lord Chancellor Campbell says with some truth that "as attorney-general he perverted the Common Law to the oppression of many individuals and the arrogance of his demeanour is unparalleled. But he made noble amends" by his defence of liberty. Another Lord Chancellor, Birkenhead, says, "for the excellence and impartiality of the administration of justice the chief place has been unhesitatingly awarded to Coke." He died in 1634 and was buried at Tittleshall where there is a sumpruous monument. His recumbent figure (by Hargrave) depicts him in judge's robes with chain of office, Elizabethan ruff and the coif on his head. The monument with embellishments is by Nicholas Stone. The long inscription in Latin and English tells of his virtues and achievements. Nearby is the fine monument of his first wife, the beautiful Bridget Paston and their seven children. His second marriage was not happy. He invested his great wealth in real estate, so much so that James I became alarmed and protested, whereupon Coke asked to leave to purchase "one more acre." The king consenting, he acquired the large *Castleacre* estate. For three things he would give God solemn thanks—that he never gave his Body to Physic, his Heart to Cruelty, nor his Hand to Corruption.

#### TROWSE

JAMES ADAIR graduated at Peterhouse, Cambridge and became a serjeant at law. In politics he was a whig and sat in Parliament successively for Cockermonth and Higham Ferrers. He assisted Wilks in his controversy with Horne Tooke and was counsel in the trial of the printers of the Junius Letters. He was appointed recorder of London in 1779. He died in 1798 and was living in Trowse Newton probably at the hall there. He was of Lincoln's Inn. Portrait by Romney.

#### TUDDENHAM, NORTH

WILLIAM WOTTON. In a window on the north side of the church were the arms of Wotton impaling Southwell. They were for William Wotton, who was admitted to Lincoln's Inn in 1493. He was on the commission of the peace for the county and on that for gaol delivery for Norwich in 1510. He was appointed a Baron of the Exchequer in 1521. He married Ann, the daughter of Richard Southwell of Wood Rising. He was lord of the manor.

#### TWYFORD

AUGUSTINE HOLL was (to use the then correct description on a slab in the chancel) "one of the attorneys of His Majestys Court of Common Pleas and a Solicitor in His Majesty's court of Chancery." He was lord of this manor and patron of the church. He died in 1765.

#### WALSHAM, NORTH

FRANCIS JERMY, attorney at law, living in 1747 when he was of a great age. He was son of Francis Jermy of Gunton and Alice, daughter of Sir Anthony Irby of Boston.

JOHN HOWSE. His memorial at Ludham states that he was an attorney at law late of North Walsham. "He possessed a clear head and a sound judgement. To those he joined an unremitting attention to business and through the whole of a very extensive practice he maintained an unblemished character. These abilities thus applied placed him in the first line of his profession." He died in 1785, aged 52.

HENRY SCARBURGH was of an armigerous family. He was educated at Caius College, Cambridge and practiced as an attorney in this town. He was born here in 1561 and married Mary Humberston of Loddon. He died in 1617 and was buried in the church here. Blomefield mentions a stone with arms, but it is not referred to in Farrer.

#### WARHAM ALL SAINTS

EDMUND FRAMYNNGHAM. There is a brass on the wall of the south transept of this church. He is described as gentleman LL.B. fellow of Trinity Hall, Cambridge. He died in 1626. His law degree does not necessarily imply that he practiced the law.

#### WESTWICK

RICHARD BERNEY was son of John Berney and Mary, a daughter of Augustine Briggs of Norwich. He was a counsellor at law of Lincoln's Inn and was appointed by the city of Norwich its steward in 1703 and its recorder twenty-four years later. He was M.P. for the city in 1710 and 1713. He came to financial grief in 1736 just before he died. "Mr. Recorder Berney's breaking" following hard on the insolvency of Edward Paston of Barningham created a sensation. A contemporary wrote: "Surprizing vanity of one, who past for a wise man and a great lawyer, to affect the reputation of a great estate when he knew he was poor" (*County neighbourhood*, by R. W. Ketton-Cremer).

#### WIGGENHALL, ST. MARY

HATTON BERNERS was clerk of the peace for Norfolk from 1644 to 1657. He was son of Arthur Berners of Finchingfield, Essex and came to reside in this parish. He was appointed High Sheriff for the county in 1666. He died in April next year and lies buried in this church. It is suggested that owing to distance he only attended the quarter sessions held at Lynn, whilst his deputy clerk, Richard Oakes of Norwich, attorney, looked after the other quarter sessions held for the county (*Norfolk Record Society*, XXVI, p. 5).

#### WIGHTON

The Wighton branch of the Bedingfelds was a legal family. They came to this parish through Edmund Bedingfeld (d. 1565) marrying Grace, the daughter and heiress of John Russell, who owned the estate here. Their grandsons went into the law:—

EDMUND BEDINGFELD was of Gray's Inn and died in 1653 at the age of 65. He is buried at Wighton beneath an altar tomb.

DANIEL BEDINGFELD was also of Gray's Inn and became in 1635 Clerk of the Parliaments. Dying in 1637 he was buried in Hampstead churchyard where there is a monument to him. They had a nephew:—

DANIEL BEDINGFELD, who was a Bencher of Gray's Inn and became Recorder of Lynn and M.P. for that borough in 1690. He died in 1704. In the next generation there was:—

CHRISTOPHER BEDINGFELD of Wighton (only son of another Christopher who as a large property owner was on the list of the intended order of the knights of the Royal Oak). He was a member of Gray's Inn, of which he was a bencher in 1724. He died in 1746 aged 73. Following the deaths of his three sons and four daughters, this branch of the family seems to have died out.

WINCH, EAST

SIR WILLIAM HOWARD was an eminent lawyer before he became a judge. He had a retainer from the Lynn Corporation, which as recorded in their Chamberlains accounts frequently made presents to him and his wife, Alice, daughter of Lord Scales. He was judge of assize for the northern counties in 1293 and was summoned to Parliament as a justice in 1295. He was made a judge of the Common Pleas in 1297. He died in 1309. In this church where is now the organ was a chapel called the Howard Chapel, which Sir William built and where he and many other members of his family lie buried. Weaver writing in 1630 records some of the monuments which had vanished by Blomefield's time. There are several carved stone coffin lids preserved in the church. They were found face downwards and probably came from the Howard Chapel. This building 150 years ago was bricked up and inhabited by paupers. It was once the resting place of the forebears of the Dukes of Norfolk.

WITCHINGHAM, GREAT

WILLIAM DE WYCHINGHAM was of this parish and probably was the son of William Wichingham, M.P. for Norwich. Before he was promoted to the Bench he was employed as justice to fix labourers wages in the county. He became King's serjeant and was appointed a judge of the Common Pleas in 1365. By his will proved in 1381 he was to be buried in the south aisle of this church, which he had built.

YARMOUTH, GREAT

GEORGE ENGLAND. The marble monument in the parish church stated that he was the eldest son of Sir George England and Dame Sarah his wife. He died in 1702 aged 59. "He was recorder of this town and several times its member of Parliament and a true friend to that and the liberty of his country." He was of Lincoln's Inn.

ROBERT FERRIER was an attorney at law and was appointed Town Clerk in 1739 and mayor in 1750, being allowed to carry out the duties of a town clerk by deputy. In 1753 for political reasons he was dismissed from office. He died in 1768 and was buried in Starston in Suffolk, where there is a mural monument to his memory.

JOHN RAMEY (see Ormesby St. Margaret).

YELVERTON

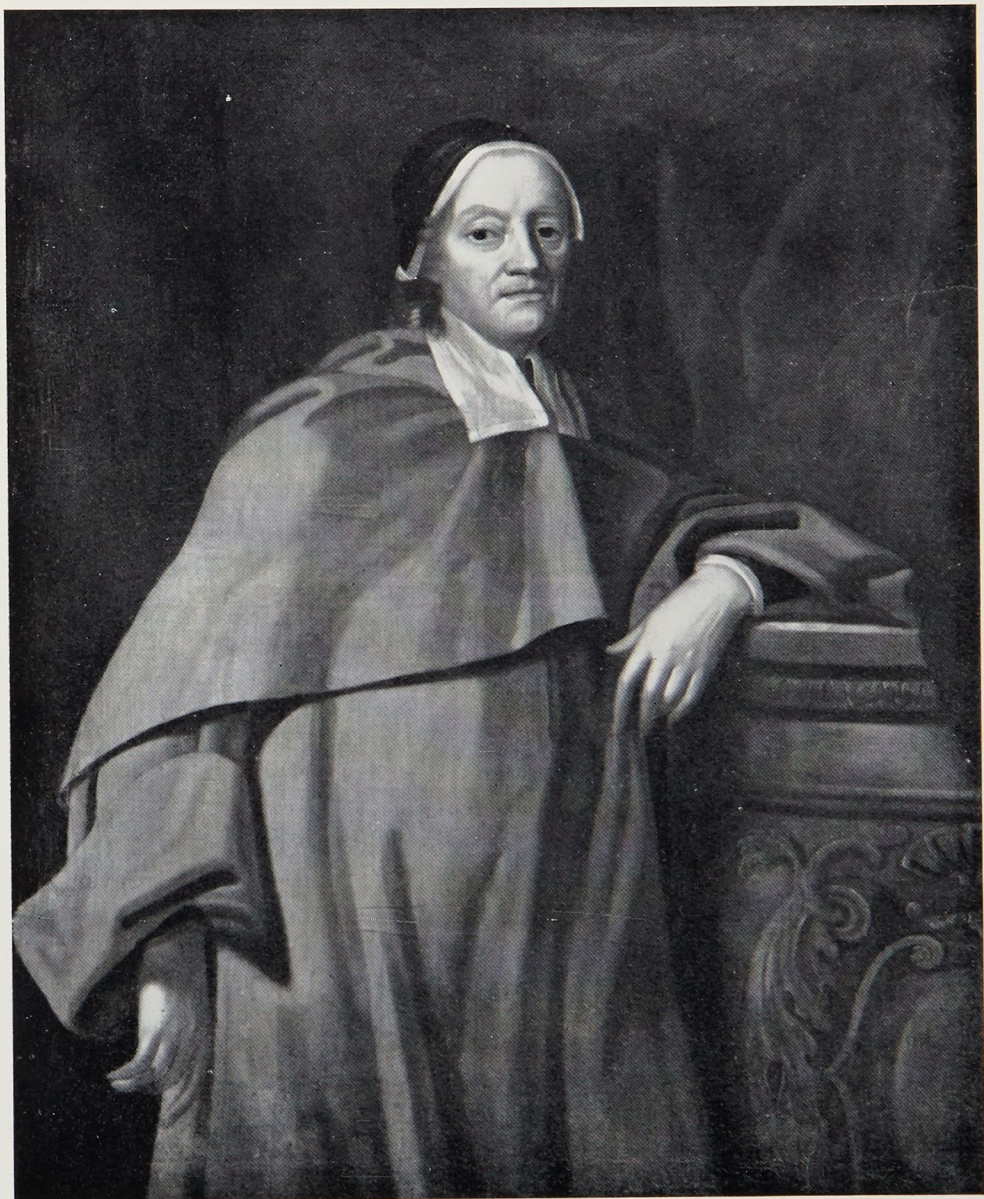
HUMPHREY RANT was the son of Dr. William Rant of Norwich and Yelverton. He was a barrister at law. He married Anne, daughter of Sir Anthony Drury of Besthorpe. He died in 1661 aged 71 and was buried in the church here, where there is a mural tablet with arms.

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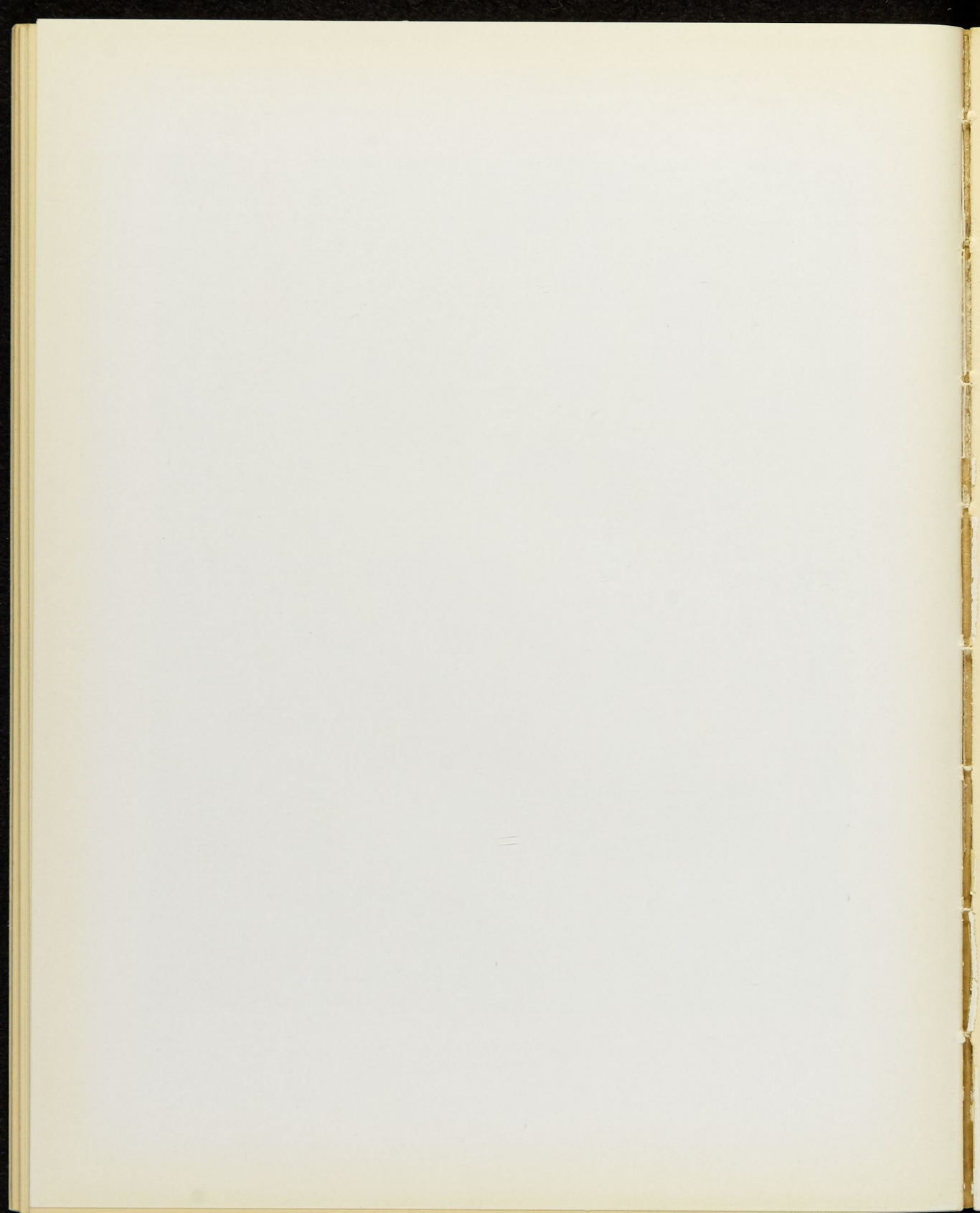
<i>Lawyer</i>				<i>Where described</i>
Adair, James .. .. .	..	..	..	Trowse
Aldrych, Robert .. .. .	..	..	..	Salle
Amyas, Francis .. .. .	..	..	..	Hingham
Anguish, Edmund .. .. .	..	..	..	Great Melton
Athowe, Thomas .. .. .	..	..	..	Beachamwell
Atkyns, Sir Edward .. .. .	..	..	..	South Pickenham
Bacon, Edward .. .. .	..	..	..	Earlham
Bacon, Sir Francis .. .. .	..	..	..	Norwich, St. Gregorys



<i>Lawyer</i>	<i>Where described</i>
Baldock, Sir Robert .. .. .	Great Hockham
Batcheller, Thomas .. .. .	Norwich Cathedral
Bedingfeld, Christopher .. .. .	Wighton
Bedingfeld, Daniel .. .. .	Wighton
Bedingfeld, Edmund .. .. .	Wighton
Bell, Sir Robert .. .. .	Outwell
Berners, Hatton .. .. .	Wiggenhall, St. Marys
Berney, Richard .. .. .	Westwick
Berney, Thomas .. .. .	King's Lynn
Blomefield, John .. .. .	Norwich, St. Michael-at-Plea
Branthwayte, Arthur .. .. .	Hethel
Branthwayte, Miles .. .. .	Hethel
Branthwayte, William .. .. .	Hethel
Bransby, Robert .. .. .	Shotesham
Breton, Cuthbert .. .. .	Norwich, St. Stephens
Britiffe, Robert .. .. .	Thorpe Market
Browne, Nicholas (2) .. .. .	Norwich, St. Michael-at-Plea
Burleigh, William .. .. .	Norwich Cathedral
Carter, Humphry .. .. .	Banningham
Case, Thomas .. .. .	Great Fransham
Catelyn, Richard .. .. .	Honingham
Chamber, John .. .. .	Norwich Cathedral
Clarke, Thomas .. .. .	Marlingford
Cock, Charles George .. .. .	Norwich, St. Stephens
Coke, Sir Edward .. .. .	Tittleshall
Colfer, Edward .. .. .	Heydon
Cooper, Henry .. .. .	Norwich, St. Peter Mancroft
Corbett, Miles .. .. .	Sprowston
Corie, Francis .. .. .	Bramerton
Corie, Thomas .. .. .	Norwich
Cowper, William .. .. .	East Dereham
Cremer, George .. .. .	King's Lynn
Curteys, William .. .. .	Necton
Davy, Robert .. .. .	Norwich, St. Gregorys
Davy, William .. .. .	Great Ellingham
Davye, Richard .. .. .	Norwich, St. Peter Mancroft
de Boyland, Sir Richard .. .. .	Bressingham
de Grey, Sir William .. .. .	Merton
de Hague, Elisha (2) .. .. .	Norwich, St. Augustines
Denny, Sir William .. .. .	Norwich Cathedral
Dey, Richard .. .. .	East Rudham
Dover, Robert .. .. .	Great Ellingham
Earle, Erasmus .. .. .	Heydon
Earle, John .. .. .	Heydon
Ellis, Richard .. .. .	Northrepps
Elys, William .. .. .	Norwich, St. Peter Mancroft
England, George .. .. .	Great Yarmouth
Eyre, Henry .. .. .	Holme Hale
Eyre, John .. .. .	Narborough
Estmond, John .. .. .	Gressenhall
Ferrier, Robert .. .. .	Great Yarmouth
Finch, Peter .. .. .	Norwich, St. Peter Mancroft
Fitz, Richard .. .. .	Letheringsett



SIR JOHN MAYNARD  
1602 - 1690  
Serjeant and Commissioner of the Great Seal



<i>Lawyer</i>	<i>Where described</i>
Flowerdew, Edward .. .. .	Hethersett
Folkes, Martin .. .. .	Hillington
Fountayne, John .. .. .	Salle
Framyngham, Edmund .. .. .	Warham All Saints
Fransham, Isaac .. .. .	Norwich, St. Peter Mancroft
Gawdy, Bassingbourne .. .. .	West Harling
Gawdy, Sir Francis .. .. .	South Runcton
Gawdy, Sir Thomas .. .. .	Redenhall
Gawdy, Thomas .. .. .	Shotesham
Goddard, Guybon .. .. .	Brampton
Gwyn, Rice .. .. .	Fakenham
Halcot, John .. .. .	Litcham
Hardy, Raven .. .. .	Letheringsett
Hare, Hugh .. .. .	Stow Bardolf
Hare, Nicholas .. .. .	Stow Bardolf
Haultoft, Gilbert .. .. .	Outwell
Helwys, William .. .. .	Norwich, St. Peter Mancroft
Herne, John .. .. .	Arminghall
Heydon, John .. .. .	Norwich Cathedral
Heyward, Edmund .. .. .	Reepham
Heyward, Edward .. .. .	Reepham
Hobart, Sir Henry .. .. .	Blickling
Hobart, Sir James .. .. .	Norwich Cathedral
Hogg, John .. .. .	Aylsham
Holl, Augustine .. .. .	Twyford
Holley, George Hunt .. .. .	Aylsham
Houghton, John .. .. .	Bramerton
Houghton, Sir Robert .. .. .	Gunthorpe
Howard, Sir William .. .. .	East Winch
Howse, John .. .. .	North Walsham
Hunt family .. .. .	Hindolveston
Jenney, Thomas .. .. .	Intwood
Jenny, Sir Christopher .. .. .	Great Cressingham
Jenny, William .. .. .	Great Cressingham
Jermy, Francis .. .. .	North Walsham
Jermy, Robert .. .. .	Bayfield
Jewell, William .. .. .	Aylsham
Johnson, James .. .. .	Ellingham
Jones, Daniel .. .. .	Sculthorpe
Jodrell, Henry .. .. .	Bayfield
Kendall, Maurice .. .. .	New Buckenham
Kerdeston, William de .. .. .	Kerdiston
Kingsley, Thomas .. .. .	Norwich, St. Stephens
Kirby, Walter .. .. .	King's Lynn
Knipe, William .. .. .	Tacolneston
Layer, Christopher .. .. .	Aylsham
Leaman, Thomas .. .. .	Aylsham
Lens, John .. .. .	Norwich, St. Andrews
Le Strange, John .. .. .	Little Massingham
Longe, Francis .. .. .	Spixworth
Longe, Robert .. .. .	Reymerston

<i>Lawyer</i>	<i>Where described</i>
Marcon, John .. .. .	Norwich Cathedral
Martyn, William .. .. .	Norwich, Chapel-in-the-Field
Mingay, Henry .. .. .	Norwich, St. Stephens
Mingay, James .. .. .	Thetford
Mingay, John (2) .. .. .	Norwich, St. Stephens
Mingay, William (2) .. .. .	Norwich, St. Stephens
Mott, James .. .. .	Mattishall
Mutford, John de .. .. .	Norwich Cathedral
Oxburgh, Thomas .. .. .	King's Lynn
Page, Anthony .. .. .	Saxthorpe
Page, John .. .. .	Saxthorpe
Parlett, Francis .. .. .	King's Lynn
Paston, William .. .. .	Norwich Cathedral
Payne, William .. .. .	Norwich, St. Peter Mancroft
Paynell, Robert .. .. .	Norwich, St. John Maddermarket
Pepper, Robert .. .. .	Norwich Cathedral
Pepys, John .. .. .	Norwich, St. Michael-at-Plea
Priscot, Sir John .. .. .	Shotesham
Ramey, John .. .. .	Ormesby
Randall, Gregory .. .. .	Loddon
Rant, Humphrey .. .. .	Norwich, St. Stephens
Rant, Humphrey .. .. .	Marlingford
Rant, Humphrey .. .. .	Yelverton
Rant, Meux .. .. .	North Elmham
Rant, Sir Thomas .. .. .	Thorpe Market
Redmayne, Robert .. .. .	Heacham
Reve, Sir Edmund .. .. .	Long Stratton
Rich, Sir Edwyn .. .. .	Mulbarton
Rippingall, Henry .. .. .	Aylsham
Rolfe, William .. .. .	Norwich Cathedral
Richardson, Sir Thomas .. .. .	Hardwick
Sadlington, John .. .. .	Norwich Cathedral
Sadlington, Ralph .. .. .	Norwich Cathedral
Salmon, John .. .. .	Norwich Cathedral
Scamler, Adam .. .. .	Hevingham
Scarburgh, Henry .. .. .	North Walsham
Sotherton, John .. .. .	Norwich, St. Andrews
Sotherton, Nowell .. .. .	Norwich, St. Andrews
Spelman, Clement .. .. .	Narborough
Spelman, Sir John .. .. .	Narborough
Spelman, Henry .. .. .	Narborough
Spring, William .. .. .	Norwich Cathedral
Starling, Richard .. .. .	Norwich, St. Peter Mancroft
Still, Anthony .. .. .	Norwich, St. Stephens
Talbot, Thomas .. .. .	Tibenham
Thurlow, Lord .. .. .	Scarning
Townshend, Sir Roger (2) .. .. .	Raynham
Turner, William .. .. .	North Elmham
Unton, Henry .. .. .	Sculthorpe
Utber, Thomas .. .. .	Hoe

<i>Lawyer</i>	<i>Where described</i>
Walker, Thomas .. .. .	Burnham Overy
Waller, Thomas .. .. .	Earlham
Walpole, John .. .. .	Harpley
Walters, John .. .. .	Norwich, SS. Simon & Jude
Wattys, John .. .. .	Great Bircham
Whyte, Edward .. .. .	Shotesham
Windham, Francis .. .. .	Norwich, St. Peter Mancroft
Windham, Thomas .. .. .	Felbrigg
Wotton, William .. .. .	North Tuddenham
Wright, Sir Robert .. .. .	Kilverstone
Wychingham, William de .. .. .	Great Witchingham
Wyndham, Thomas .. .. .	Cromer
Yelverton, Sir Christopher .. .. .	Rougham
Yelverton, John .. .. .	Rackheath
Yelverton, Sir William .. .. .	Rougham
Yelverton, William .. .. .	Rougham

## ADDENDUM

Sir John Maynard, whose portrait is reproduced by permission of the Benchers of Lincoln's Inn was not a Norfolk man, but his family was connected by marriage with the Derhams of West Dereham and the Hobarts of Blickling and he acted as counsel to advise in Hobart family matters. The portrait illustrates well the coif worn by a serjeant at law and his red gown. (see page 267).