



WALTER G. CORBIN, *Photo.*

BURNINGFOLD. View of Exterior.

BURNINGFOLD IN DUNSFOLD.

BY

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THE name Burningfold is usually connected with charcoal-burning, as if it meant an enclosure in the Wealden forest where charcoal-burning was carried on. There were in the 16th and 17th centuries iron-works on and near the property, and charcoal was certainly used, and presumably made there. But I am indebted to the Rev. T. S. Cooper for the suggestion that the place may as well, or more likely, be named from an early English clan of Burningas, as Burningham in Norfolk probably was. Besides a doubtful derivation, there is another ambiguity possible about Burningfold, because as well as the place in Dunsfold parish, the subject of this article, there was a small property called Burningfold, in Haslemere. At a Court of the Borough of Haslemere, held 10th December, 1517, the death of Henry Farnden was presented. He held one tenement, 12 acres of arable, wood and meadow, with an *orto* (? garden), and one burgage holding called Burnyngfold, in the parish of Haslemere. But this small holding does not answer to the considerable Manor of Burningfold in Dunsfold. In 1572 this Burningfold in Haslemere is said to be mentioned in a deed; and in 1653, by a deed enrolled in the Court of Common Pleas.¹ John Balden, son and heir of Robert Balden of Haslemere, deceased, granted to John Child of Guildford two cottages erected in a parcel of meadow called

¹ Recovery Roll, 1653, Easter Term, m. 5.

Burningfold, and two closes of meadow called Burningfold, 5 acres, lying altogether in Haslemere.¹ There was a family named from Burningfold, and besides the holders of the Dunsfold Burningfold, or of some of it, whom we shall notice later, people of the name appear in Haslemere in the 14th and early-16th centuries. It is probable that the small Burningfold in Haslemere belonged to some of them once, and was really Burningfold's originally.

As in the 16th century a manor of Burningfold in Dunsfold was recognised, and as early in the 13th century Burningfold was a known place name, there can be little doubt that a family who were named de Brunningfold, or de Burningfold, or sometimes de Brunningwold, had been at some early time tenants of the land. But the earliest records know of no manor, only of a wood of Burningfold, and of an enclosure in this; and the family of Burningfold is not mentioned in connexion with this until the 14th century. The earliest mention of the name of the place is as follows: Manning and Bray, Vol. II, pp. 60, 61, state that in Hen. III, *i. e.*, 1228-29, John de Fay, who was lord of Bramley, granted to Roger de Bidun *unam purpresturam in silva de Bruniggefald et aliam in Witherfald*, consisting together of about 200 acres of wood or coppice, which the said Roger gave to Richard the Warden and to the Brethren of the Hospital of Sandon in Esher to hold of him, the said Roger, his heirs and assigns, by the yearly payment of one sparrowhawk or 12*d.* in money. They refer to a deed in the possession of Mr. Barrett of Winters-hull, and to a fine of 13 Hen. III. In the same volume, on p. 750, under Sandon in Esher, they give a different account of the conditions of the tenure, referring to the fine of 13 Hen. III. The deed is not now known, and the fine cannot be found. But in 19 Hen. III, *i. e.*, 1234-5, there is a fine² which differs from both their accounts. Three weeks after Michaelmas (1235), Richard,

¹ Ex Inf. Mr. P. Woods.

² Feet of Fines, Surrey, 19 Hen. III, No. 9.

Prior of Sandon, *per* Gilbert de Mandon (? Sandon), chaplain, (*Quer.*) Roger de Bydon (*Def.*), 200 acres of wood in Bruningefaud and in Wytheresfaud, and 40*s.* rent in Ottewurth and in Chelewurth, and 1 mark of rent in Cugate. Roger acknowledges the right of the said Prior and of his church of Mandon (Sandon) in this land, to hold it of the said Roger and his heirs for ever, at a rent of 10 silver marks so long as Roger should live. After his death the Prior and his successors to be free from the payment of the 10 silver marks, but to have and to hold the wood and rents of Roger's heirs for ever, paying 18*d.* yearly at St. Peter ad Vincula for all services and dues. The Prior paid half a silver mark, as God's penny to clinch the bargain.

As Mr. Barrett's deed is not likely to have been invented, it is probable that there was a grant in 1229, and that the terms of it were modified in 1234-5, when additional rents were added to the 200 acres of wood. But the rents in Ottewurth (in Cranleigh) and in Chelewurth seem to have been secured by a further fine in 25 Hen. III.¹

The Hospital at Sandon was continually in difficulties at a later period. In 1331 Bishop Stratford appointed a commission to inquire into the management, which we may translate as the mismanagement, of their estates, and the Prior had to resign. In 1338 all the Brethren were dead except the Prior. Some others joined the House, but they all died in 1349, in the Black Death, and after awhile the House was dissolved. It seems that they had parted with some at least of this property before the Commission was issued. On 20th Feb., 1320-21, Edward II confirmed to Ralph de Camoys that entire tenement called Wytherefold, in the parish of Duntefold, Surrey, which the king held of the gift of Oliver of Bordeaux, King's Yeoman.²

Manning and Bray, Vol. II, p. 85, say that Henry de Wintershull and his wife Felicia, about the time of

¹ Feet of Fines, Surrey, 25 Hen. III, No. 259.

² Pat. Rolls, 14 Edw. II, Part 2, m. 20.

Henry III, granted land called Monkeslond to Simon Brunnyngwold, reserving a yearly rent of 4s. and suit of court to the Manor of Wintershull. They refer to an "Original deed," but do not specify where it was. This Monkeslond may be the land formerly held by William the Monk and William de Holbyke in Frithwood, which Henry de Camois granted to a John Wintershull in the earlier part of the reign of Henry III. (From the same authority.) If so, it may have nothing to do with the Sandon land. But though the Brethren of Sandon Hospital were not, strictly speaking, monks, it is possible that the land once belonging to the religious house may have been called Monksland. But Manning and Bray seem certainly to be mistaken in saying that the grant of Henry and Felicia de Wintershull was "about the time of Henry III." There was, indeed, a Henry de Wintershull, who was contemporaneous with a Roger de Clare, who died after 1241 and well before 1250. This Henry, it is true, was contemporaneous with Henry III. He was "Sheriff of" Surrey in 1230-31. But according to their own pedigree of the Wintershull family¹ also based on "original deeds," the Henry de Wintershull who had a wife Felicia was grandson of a John de Wintershull who was aged 32 in 1287.² This would make them contemporaneous with Edward II or Edward III, and make Monkslond their property after Sandon Hospital had fallen into straits. It is at least improbable that two Henrys de Wintershull had each a wife Felicia, and a Simon de Brunyngefold, living in 1318, had been contemporary with this second Henry. Moreover, Felicia de Wintershull was holding land, presumably as a widow, in 1312-13.³

¹ Manning and Bray, II, 84.

² Was he not really son of John de Wintershull? Henry's wife was holding land in 1312-13, which suggests widowhood, and her son was in possession in 1319. Henry was dead before one or both of those dates, and his son could hardly have been of age to hold a court in 1319 if his great-grandfather had only been 32 in 1287.

³ I. P. M., 6 Edw. II, 57: Manning and Bray, p. 86, give a wrong reference to 6 Edw. II, 43, and misread Felic., *i. e.*, Felicia, into Felix de Wintershull, an otherwise unheard-of person.

It is certainly worth notice that Richard March, who held Burningfold Manor and died in 1583-4, also held land called "Parsons," of the Manor of Wintershull in Bramley, at a rent of 10s. 2*d.* and fealty. His Manor of Burningfold was not held of Wintershull but of Shalford Bradstane. This "Parsons" looks very like the grant of Henry de Wintershull, and if the Monks turned to Parsons in its name, so the Brethren may have previously turned to Monks, and "William the Monk" may have been Prior of Sandon.

The family of Burningfold are known before Simon received this land. In 1262-3 Richard de Burningfaud, as heir of Alan de Burningfaud his grandfather, claimed a toft and two acres of land in Bramley from Richard of Hyfaud (Ifold).¹ In 1271-2 Richard de Brenningefeld had land in Dunsfold settled on him and his wife Isabella.² In 1318 Simon de Brunyngefeld was fined for non-attendance as a juror at Kingston.³ He may be the same as the Simon who received Monkesland from Henry de Wintershull.

The earlier of these men may have held what was afterwards considered the Manor of Burningfold. But there is to some extent negative evidence that some of the name did not hold it in 1278. John de Brunyngefeld, who had been a Baron of the Exchequer and Chancellor in Ireland, had died seised of land in Ireland. His heir was Ernald, son of his elder brother Richard of Tangeley, connecting him with this neighbourhood; but John had no land in Surrey, and Richard presumably was not of Burningfold as he is called of Tangeley.⁴ This is also to a certain extent presumptive evidence against the grant of Monkesland to Simon de Brunningwold having been as early as Henry the Third's time. But that is certainly an error, whether Simon was connected with Ernald and John or not. Thomas of Brennyngfolde,

¹ Agarde's *Index to Pleas of the Crown and Assize Rolls*, Vol. 21, 154d, 47 Hen. III.

² Feet of Fines, 56 Hen. III, Surrey, No. 27.

³ Assize Roll, 11 Edw. II, Surrey, No. 888, m. 57.

⁴ I. P. M., 7 Edw. I, No. 77.

inhabitant of Haslemere, was fined for non-attendance at the Godalming Court Leet in 1357. Thomas Brenyngfolde had a suit in the Godalming Hundred Court in 1378. But he belongs to Haslemere; for Thomas and his wife Isabella, and his daughter Alice, were assessed to the Poll Tax in 1381, in Haslemere. John Brenyngfolde had had tenants in Chiddingfold before 1384-5, when the tenants of his former lands were to be distrained to attend the court. With this John, then recently dead, we seem to come into connexion, perhaps, with the Burningfold Manor in Dunsfold.

The connected history of the manor itself only begins in the 16th century, when it was held by the family of March, of the lord of Shalford Bradstane. But it is by no means impossible that the March family had been in possession for some time before that. A family of the name certainly had been living in the neighbourhood, and held land in Dunsfold.

In 1386-7 Robert March and Agnes his wife bought land in Kirdford (Sussex), Chiddingfold, and Dunsfold, from Robert Adam and Elizabeth his wife, with the reversion of the third part of a quarter of a house, which Joan, widow of John of Burningfold, was holding in dower. The lands were Elizabeth Adam's, who was probably a coheiress of John and Joan.¹ A fine of 2 Hen. IV, 4, may refer to part of the same lands in possession of another coheiress. But the March family and their lands pass out of sight for a time. In 1434 Robert Marche was one of three gentlemen in Dunsfold, the only three resident probably, sworn under a recent Act of Parliament, not to maintain peace-breakers.² Between 1487 and 1517 one Thomas Marche, a tenant of the Wintershull Manor, was frequently fined for non-attendance at the Courts Baron. This connects the March family already with land, perhaps Parsons, perhaps Monkesland, held of the Wintershull Manor. The Will of a Joan Marche, of Dunsfold, dated 10 March,

¹ Feet of Fines, Surrey, 10 Rich. II, 9, No. 84, in *Surrey Arch. Coll.*, "Feet of Fines."

² Pat. Roll, 12 Hen. VI, Pt. 2, m. 26.

1525, was proved in the Surrey Archdeacon's Court.¹ She ordained *Dirige* and mass for seven years, "with a drynkyng as I have kept y^t her^ebefore myself," for the souls of herself, her husband, and her son. Her living sons were Henry, William, and John. She was evidently a lady of some property, and distributed cattle among her sons, her daughters, her granddaughter, executors, and others. A John Marche, not her son, but possibly the son of her son William, held in 1548 a messuage called Burningfold in Dunsfold, late of William Marche, his father.² It is under the Survey of Bramley, as if held of Bramley Manor. The rent was 19s. 10d. The same John Marche held a parcel of land in Dunsfold called Danyells, rent 12d. There is land in Burningfold, extent not specified, and land with a blank left for the extent in Danyells. The supposed original of this fair copy of the survey has an erased entry to the same effect about Burningfold, and also about Danyells, with the curious variation of *unam parcellam terre in Dunsfold quondam edificatam vocatam Danyells*.³ It appears that something has dropped out about a *house* formerly built. The house called Burningfold is perhaps really in Danyells. The earlier part of it is older than this date.

That this John Marche was not the son of Joan, whose Will was proved in 1531-2, appears from his Will in 1552, for his mother was then living, married again to Robert Writt, and his sisters have not the same names as the daughters of Joan. But he was likely enough her grandson. Joan was an old woman in 1531-2, with a grand-daughter born of a living daughter, and apparently a widowed son-in-law besides. John Marche married Alice, daughter of Richard Bydon, or Bedon, of Hall Place, Shackleford. She was dead before 1552, when her husband made a Will, which is dated 24 July, 1552, but with no note of probate upon it. It is filed with the Wills of the Archdeacon's Court of Surrey. In

¹ Probate, Arch. Ct. Surrey, 20 March, 1531-2; *Mychell*, 202.

² Land Rev. Misc. Surveys, Vol. 190.

³ Exchr. T. R. Misc. Books, Vol. 168, f. 67, *dorso*.

the Will there is no mention of Burningfold, but he leaves his Shackleford, Peperharow, Puttenham, and Compton lands to his son Thomas and his heirs, or in default, to his son Richard and his heirs, or in default, to his brother Henry and his heirs. Richard was presumably the elder son, on whom Burningfold was settled otherwise. Thomas seems not to have grown up. They were both children in 1552, for they were left in the guardianship of their grandfather Richard Bydon, and Richard seems to have married sixteen years later. The date of the death of John is unknown, but it was before 1559, when Richard Marche, Infant, was assessed to lands in Shackleford.¹ In February 1573-4, Richard Marche was owner of an iron forge in Dunsfold.² Richard then, however, was residing in Farnham. Early in 1570, Richard suffered a Recovery of the Manor of Burningfold, with appurtenances, 10 messuages, 10 cottages, 1 iron mill, 10 orchards, 10 gardens, 600 acres of land, 600 acres of meadow, 600 acres of pasture, 500 acres of wood, 500 acres of furze and heath, 500 acres of moor, 500 acres of marsh, 24s. 7d. rent, in Dunsfold, Godalming, Shackleford, Puttenham, Peperharow, East Compton (*i.e.*, Compton), Hurtmere, Dorking, Pleystowe, and Chiddingfold.³ The amounts are clearly round numbers, and the inheritance seems to include what John had left to Thomas, presumably dead. It was probably connected with barring an entail, after the birth of his eldest son, William, who had been born on 11th July, 1569, to judge from his age at his father's death.

The iron mill is that mentioned in 1573-4, then farmed by Thomas Gratwicke. Dunsfold Forge is said to be owned by Richard Marche in 1588; this Richard was then dead, his second son Richard was under age, but this name as owner occurs in a list appended to a letter from the Council, which may

¹ Exch. Lay Subsidies, 1 Eliz., 185, 285.

² *Victoria History of Surrey*, II, 273.

³ Recovery, Hilary, 12 Eliz., 1569-70.

not be quite up to date.¹ The iron mill turned out 164½ tons in three years, a little later than this.

This Richard pretty certainly improved the house, and added the fine timbered front which now forms such a striking feature of it. The style closely resembles that of Tangley Manor House, which is dated 1582. Richard died in 1584, but his son was a minor, and the fashion of building is possibly older than the time of the son's majority. The house in that case is due to the wealth of a landowner, who was also a flourishing iron-master. It is possible that this house is really on the holding called Danyells. In the erased passage in the Survey of Edward VI, with its apparent reference to a house at Danyells, the rent of Burningfold is 19s. 10d. and of Danyells 12d., both under Bramley (*vide supra*). In the Inquisition of Richard Marche (*vide infra*), Danyells is held of Bramley at a rent of 20s. 10d. The two are clearly lumped together. As the manor was called Burningfold, the principal house may have been called the Manor house of Burningfold, though in fact on an adjacent holding.

At all events, Richard died 14th February, 1583-4. He was seised of the Manor of Brenyngfolde, *alias* Burnyngfolde, with appurtenances in the parish of Dunsfold, and in certain lands, &c., in Brenyngfolde called Danyelles, and in certain lands called Parsons in Burnyngfolde, one croft called Little Benham in Burnyngfold, and one messuage or tenement and certain lands pertaining to the said messuage in Shackleford, in the parishes of Godalmyng and Peperharow, called Woodbattes, &c., &c. The Manor of Brenyngfold is held of Viscount Montague, as of his Manor of Shalford Bradstane, by fealty and rent of 9s. 4d.; Danielle is held of John Carrell, as of his Manor of Bramley, by fealty and rent of 20s. 10d.; Parsons is held of William Wintershull, as of his Manor of Wintershull, by fealty and rent of 10s. 2d.; Benham of Giles Hull, as of his Manor of Hambledon, by fealty and rent of 12d.

¹ Loseley MSS., Letter of 31 October, 1588.

William March is son and heir, aged 14 years 7 months 3 days at his father's death.¹

Richard left two sons, William and Richard. Richard purchased land in Shackleford about 1601 from John Paine,² and mortgaged it to John Machell of Poyle in 1602 (Deed 30 April, 1602). Richard was then of the Middle Temple, Gentleman.³ He was perhaps acting for his brother William, who was owner soon afterwards. William also acquired Hall Place, Shackleford, the house of his great grandfather Richard Bydon, from the Vine family (descended from Katherine, daughter of Bydon, who married Richard Vine), and other property from the Parkers (descended from Margaret, eldest daughter of Richard Bydon, who married Gregory Parker).⁴

It is clear that William March got into difficulties. He was perhaps over-speculative, or perhaps his father had been extravagant and had spent too much on rebuilding his house. At any rate, William began to part with his newly-acquired property first and then with his inheritance besides. He first seems to have mortgaged his land to Richard Wyatt, citizen and carpenter, who afterwards founded Wyatt's Alms-houses at Godalming, and to George Duncombe of the family well known in Bramley, Albury, Shalford and Ockley.⁵ This was not a sale apparently, for some of or all the same lands are the subject of later transactions. In 1602-3,⁶ he seems to have sold to Richard Wyatt a messuage, garden, orchard, 60 acres of land, 2 acres of meadow, 20 acres of pasture, 2 acres of wood,

¹ Inq. P. M., Chancery II, 204/97, 23 Sept., 26 Eliz. 1584.

² Feet of Fines, Hilary, 44 Eliz.

³ Close Roll, 44 Eliz., Pt. 26.

⁴ Feet of Fines, Mich., 39-40 Eliz. 1597, Will. March and Antony Vine; and Mich., 40-41 Eliz. 1591, Will. March and John and Edward Parker.

⁵ Feet of Fines, Mich., 44 & 45 Eliz., 1602, of lands in Burningfold, Dunsfold, Alfold, Hascombe, Chiddingfold, Hambledon, Shackleford, Eashing, Liddle (near Shackleford), Puttenham, Compton, Hurtmore, and Godalming.

⁶ Feet of Fines, Hilary, 45 Eliz.

4s. rent, and common rights in Shackleford, Lidlinge, Puttenham, and Godalming; land which answers to the description of what Richard Marche had bought from John Paine, and which he had mortgaged to John Machell only a year before. He also sold Hall Place and its lands in Shackleford, in the occupation of William Vine, and Mondes Wood and Glovers Wood in Hambledon and Chiddingfold, to Wyatt.¹ The deed includes the transfer of the land of John Paine above. By another deed a fortnight later,² he conveyed to George Duncombe of Bramley, for £886, his manor, capital messuage, &c., of Burningfold; ironworks, forges and furnaces, land, &c., in Burningfold, Dunsfold, Alfold, Chiddingfold, and Hascombe; also Parson's land in Burningfold and Dunsfold, Jackes croftes in Alfold and Hascombe, and land in Kirdford, Sussex. So the March family passes out of the story, having apparently held land for about 200 years, with ups and downs of fortune, and increase, and then diminution, of property; a very similar career to that of many other families, and one prolonged to quite the usual limit. Few middle-class families in Surrey held the same land for over 200 years.

The ironworks of Burningfold seem to have passed into the hands of a syndicate, George Duncombe, John Middleton of Horsham, Richard Wyatt and Thomas Burdett of Abinger. By deed of 1 Dec. 1607, George Duncombe conveyed his fourth part to his three partners for £345 and $7\frac{1}{2}$ tons of iron, both due to George Duncombe as a debt from William Marche. Twenty-two tons and a-half of iron in addition, also due to him, were guaranteed to George Duncombe by the three partners.³ Middleton and Burdett were partners in other ventures. By his Will, 12 March, 1618-19, proved 11 Dec., 1619, Richard Wyatt left his third part of Burningfold to his third son Francis, who died in 1634, leaving children. But another son, Henry, claimed and

¹ Deed 4 May, 1604; Close Roll, 2 Jas. 1, Part 20.

² 17 May, 1604; Close Roll, 2 Jas. 1, Part 20.

³ Close Roll, 6 Jas. I, Part 2, No. 29.

got it, for in 1625 he gave it as a security to George Duncombe for a loan of £50, describing it as manor, lands, &c., called Burningfold *alias* Danyells, which descended, &c., “and by right ought to descend” to the said Henry Wyatt by right of inheritance from his father.¹ The deed is of 1 June, 1625, and is to be void if Henry repaid Duncombe £54:10s. by 3 June, 1626. The interest, nine *per cent.*, and the small sum lent on such valuable consideration, show that Duncombe considered Henry’s title poor or his character indifferent. But Henry kept the land then; it was freed to him in 1629,² and in 1638 he sold his third of the manor to Arthur Middleton, son of his father’s partner.³ Arthur Middleton died in November of the same year, seised of two-thirds of the manor of Burningfold.⁴ This seems to take no account of the third just acquired from Henry Wyatt, for Arthur Middleton had two-thirds without that. In 1622 his father had conveyed two-thirds to him;⁵ from which we gather that the Burdett third must have been previously acquired by John Middleton. The Wyatt third had perhaps so precarious a title that it was kept out of sight. But the heirs of Francis Wyatt never recovered it. In 1656–7 a deed was enrolled in Common Pleas,⁶ by which Francis, Thomas and Edward Middleton, sons of Arthur, deceased, conveyed Burningfold, Parson’s land, &c., to George Edmonds of Arundel—another son, Arthur Middleton, not being a party to the deed. It was, perhaps, only connected with a barring of the entail preparatory to a real sale. In 1657 the whole manor was sold by the Middletons to Henry, afterwards Sir Henry Goring, Bart.⁷ All the

¹ Close Roll, 1 Chas. I, Part 19, No. 14. The Will of Margaret Wyatt, Henry’s mother, in 1632, speaks of Henry “having had from “his brothers and sisters a great estate, more than his father’s will and “mind was that he should have.”

² Feet of Fines 15 June, 5 Ch. I, *Palmer’s Index*, Vol. 76, p. 475.

³ Feet of Fines, Trinity, 14 Chas. I.

⁴ I. P. M., 14 Chas. I, Part 2, No. 124.

⁵ Feet of Fines, Michaelmas, 20 Jas. I.

⁶ Recovery Roll, Hilary, 1656, Roll 18.

Feet of Fines, Trinity, 1657.

sons of Arthur Middleton were parties to this fine. The ironworks were still going on; they are mentioned in the deed of 1656-7, and two mills were conveyed to Goring, iron mills most likely. Aubrey refers to them, 1673 *et ann. seqq.*, and the 1730 edition of Camden's *Britannia* mentions them as existing then; but, perhaps, only copies Aubrey, for they were not then in fact still there, I believe. Sir Henry Goring died 1702, and was succeeded by his grandson, Sir Charles Goring. He died 1713, and was succeeded by his half-brother, Sir Harry Goring. In his time a curious transaction was set on foot about Burningfold, but never completed. During the height of the South Sea mania in 1720, James Colebrook, who seems to have been a speculator with nothing, arranged with Goring to buy the manor for Mr. Houlditch, a director of the South Sea Company, who was to transfer to Colebrook £2,000 South Sea Stock for the purpose. £2,000 South Sea Stock was then supposed to be worth £12,000, and Colebrook was to do the best he could for Houlditch and himself with the money. But the large quantity of timber on the estate was the most valuable part of it. It otherwise consisted now of two farms worth together £80 a year, so we may assume that Camden's *Britannia* of 1730 is wrong, and that the ironworks were in abeyance. Perhaps a South Sea director thought that he could start them again. However, the timber was valued for Houlditch at £6,666, and for Goring at £12,100. A price of £7,029:10s. was ultimately agreed upon for the estate and timber; the sum was to be paid to Goring by Houlditch, and Colebrook was to receive from or pay to Houlditch the difference between that sum and the value of £2,000 South Sea Stock when the business began. That, however, had now risen to £16,000. Houlditch transferred the Stock to Colebrook, and received back the stipulated difference of £4,970:10s., and Sir Harry Goring gave a receipt for £7,029:10s. and an undertaking to convey. But the bubble burst, and Sir Harry declined to convey.

Presumably he had not really got the money.¹ If we look into the reasons, it appears that Houlditch, like other South Sea directors, and like Aislabie, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, in his dealings with Waverley Abbey,² was desirous to effect a purchase of land in exchange for stock, the value of which he doubted, in another name, so that he might throw the purchase upon Colebrook, if difficulties arose, and yet have the land to fall back upon in the future. For £2,000 Stock Houlditch was to get the land and £4,970:10s., Goring was to get £7,029:10s., and Colebrook, for his services as middleman, was to keep £4,000, if South Sea Stock kept up to 800 *per cent.* premium. We must not commiserate Colebrook, who deserved nothing, and, if he really paid Houlditch, must have have sold his stock at a large profit to do so. Goring kept his land, and Houlditch did not secure his retreat as a landed proprietor so cleverly as Aislabie did at Waverley.

In 1722 Goring sold Burningfold to John Tanner.³ The manor then included 2 messuages, 100 acres of land, 30 acres of meadow, 200 acres of pasture, 500 acres of wood, 40 acres of heath and furze, 10s. rents. This is identical with what had been conveyed to Sir Henry Goring in 1657, except that the heath and furze was then represented by 40 acres covered with water, and there had been two mills, now gone. Clearly the head of water to work them had been drained. Tanner died in 1751.⁴ His representatives, Manning and Bray, erroneously say he, sold to Viscount Montague in 1756. His son Antony is said by Manning and Bray to have sold it to Mr. Edmund Woods in 1768. He was a wealthy distiller of London, and friend of Gilbert White of Selborne. This again is a mistake. For in 1781, Antony Viscount Montague was borrowing money from Drummond's Bank on the security of the Manor of Burningfold. A deed was enrolled in the

¹ Manning and Bray, II, 61.

² *Vict. Hist. Surrey*, II, p. 624.

³ Feet of Fines, Hilary, 8, G. I.

⁴ Haslemere Registers.

Common Pleas¹ between Sir Richard Bedingfield, executor to the late Lord Montague, George Samuel Viscount Montague, and Edmund Woods, *Junior*, conveying the manor to the last named for £14,021. There is a Recovery of Easter Term, 20 Geo. III, Manor of Burningfold, John Forster² (*dem.*), Isaac Bargrave (*ten.*), Viscount Montague (*vouchee*), which I cannot explain. But it is certain, from the Deed and from the Land Tax Assessments, that Lord Montague only ceased to be owner after 1789, and that Mr. Woods was owner in 1790. He was son of the Mr. Woods whom Manning and Bray call the purchaser. He was of Shopwick, Sussex. He died in 1833, and his daughter Miss Charlotte Woods, was lady of the manor in 1850. She built and endowed the School on Dunsfold Green. The manor now belongs to Mr. Samuel Barrow, and the house is tenanted by Mr. C. T. A. Robertson. It is one of the finest examples in the county of a 16th-century timbered manor-house. In conclusion I must acknowledge invaluable help from Mr. P. Woods, of our Society, towards elucidating the history, especially of the March Family.

¹ Recovery Roll, Trinity Term, 30 George III, No. 257.

² Mr. Forster was a lawyer of Lincoln's Inn who apparently drew the Deed of 1790.