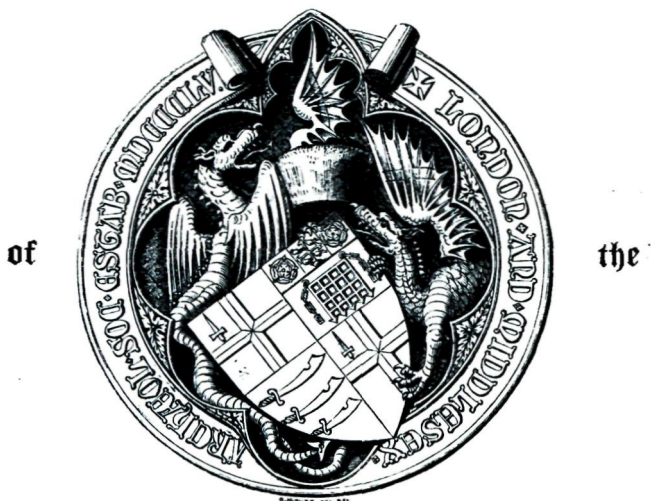


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Part VII. /

MOOR HALL, IN HAREFIELD ;

A CAMERA OF THE KNIGHTS HOSPITALERS OF S. JOHN OF JERUSALEM.

BY THE REV. THOMAS HUGO, M.A., F.R.S.L., F.S.A., &c.

[Read at Heston, on Tuesday, August 9th, 1864.]

As the traveller journeys from Uxbridge through Denham to Harefield and Rickmansworth, about two miles from Denham and one from Harefield, the road takes him past Moor Hall, a place than which few in the neighbourhood of London have greater claims on our interest, how little soever it be known even

to professed and practised archæologists. The country itself is full of beauties, especially that part of it which introduces him to the subject of my present investigation. Through a long and level plain, rich with greenery even in the driest of summers, runs the Grand Junction Canal, which here has much of the beauty of a fine natural river, with its waters as clear as crystal, and its banks edged with cornfields and meadows in all the luxuriance of rural beauty. After passing the canal, a turn or two of the lane brings him to the spot of which I wish to present the reader with a pen and ink portrait. It obtained its name, I presume, from the aspect of its neighbourhood. It was, I believe, a moated house at the end of a long and open moor. Through a gate on the left hand, he may notice in the immediate foreground a piece of almost moorland, which, as he will perceive in a moment, once formed a continuation of the extensive plain across which he passed before reaching the canal, though at present lacking somewhat of its neighbour's verdure. In the centre is a pond, and over it a large and lofty elm sends out its branches far and wide. A winding path skirts the pond, and leads to what appears a substantial farm-house, built of brick, of two stories and a garret, topped by two large stacks of admirably constructed Elizabethan chimneys, whereof one, which has received some indifferent renovations, rises through the roof and divides the building into two almost equal portions. The roof itself, which includes the garret, is covered with tile, and is noticeable at the very first inspection for its high pitch and great solidity. Round the house, which is now divided into three tenements, and occupied by as many families, is a cottage-garden, rejoicing, when I last saw it, in pinks, larkspurs, july-flowers, and columbines, with abundance of kitchen produce in the rear. To the left of the dwelling, closely adjoining but not contiguous to it, is a structure, presenting at first sight the appearance of a barn, although, as the visitor notices three Early English lancets in its eastern gable-end, *that nearest to the farm-house*, he is led a moment afterwards to attribute to it a higher and sacred use. The lancets occupy, however, only the upper half of the wall, and were evidently intended to light

but the higher of two floors. Several other windows, of smaller dimensions but of the same period of construction, are visible in the side of the building. The height is nearly equal to that of the dwelling-house, and, like it, it has a high pitched roof covered with tile. Several barns of wood lie still further to the left, capable of holding a goodly amount of farm produce. In those parts of the rear which are visible between them and the ancient structure, the eye catches what appear to be the remains of a moat, of which the pond in front was a part, filled with marsh-marigold, flags, purple loose-strife, hemp-agrimony, and forget-me-not, and fringed with trees of various kinds. All, within a few hours of the time that I am writing, was lying silent and motionless under the cloudless beams of a mid-day sun, in apparent enjoyment of the glorious weather; and, indeed, at most times the place has—from a distance at least—an air of English peace and comfort, which, coupled with the picturesque evidences which it exhibits of ancient occupation, constitutes a scene that can hardly fail to please.

Such is the outside aspect of Moor Hall, in Harefield. But the point of special interest has yet to be stated. Within the Elizabethan and later walls of the dwelling-house lies, encased in all kinds of subsequent additions, the wooden skeleton—the timbers, in the walls and roof—of a house of the twelfth century. Moor Hall was a camera of the Knights Hospitallers of S. John of Jerusalem. The dwelling-house was the abode of the officer who had the supervision of the estate, and his servants. And the adjacent building, which still exhibits on the plaster of its interior the red lines which were intended to represent ashlar, each of the squares at its east end bearing the additional adornment of a rose, and is, of course, mis-called by the neighbours, and even by Lysons himself, “the chapel,” was the dry and commodious storehouse and granary in which the fruits of the estate were collected and carefully garnered, until the great Priory in London, with the manifold and continual demands of a vast establishment, required their transfer to its cellars and stables.

The place, then, although now presenting to most eyes little

else, save perhaps in the graceful lancets, than the aspect of the abode of some well-to-do farmer of our own time, was once the scene of the operations of a Community whose influence during several centuries was almost illimitable. It was here that the Order of S. John of Jerusalem exercised a kind of management where religion and worldly thrift went hand in hand, and exhibited a contrast to the ordinary character of religious brotherhoods, which, shared in even then by the Order of the Temple alone, has no existing counterpart in the times in which we live. So little resemblance, too, does the spot present to what we are in the habit of imagining was the invariable aspect of a monastic house, and yet so much does it disclose which is indubitably and unquestionably ancient, that a person to whom the system of its olden possessors was unknown would be sure to question the fact of its having been the abode of a Religious Society at all, and would imagine it to have been the house of some ancient knight, or at most the grange of some neighbouring abbey. And he would have been very near the truth in his conjecture, though with an absence at the same time of the key to the real difficulty, and the explanation of the architectural puzzle before him. A few words will not, therefore, be thrown away, if, before presenting him with its annals, I furnish the reader with a few details explanatory of the system of the Order to which the place belonged. The difficulty will vanish, and the puzzle be explained in a few short moments.

The Order of the Hospital was founded at Jerusalem about the year 1092, under the patronage of S. John the Baptist, and in the year 1100 the brethren's first house in England was built for them at Clerkenwell. Of course, the history of the Order itself is beyond my province on the present occasion, but what I have specially to bring before the reader is its peculiar constitution, as exemplified in this most interesting structure.

The house of the Prior or Superior of the Order in England was at Clerkenwell, from which, as a centre, the governing influence proceeded, and to which a continual reference was made from all its possessions, however remote. The estates were in many counties of large extent and considerable value; but,

how distant soever or small they were, the central authority was as much felt and deferred to as in those which lay nearest to the parent house. The edifices which were erected upon most of them were not, as in other Orders, the abodes of separate and independent communities, each with its individual interest to look after and labour for, but were simply so many representatives of the great priory in London. The heads of these establishments were not abbots or priors, but merely officials, "*obedientiarii*," of the Prior at Clerkenwell, and had to account to him year by year of their income and expenditure, as the Prior himself had in his turn to account to the Grand Master at Rhodes, or Malta, or wherever the head quarters of the Order might happen to be. At each of their houses there were generally resident but a very few members—which, as the reader will perceive, accounts for their very moderate dimensions—two or three laymen, and a chaplain or two for the performance of Divine Service. The chief officer in these little establishments was called a Preceptor or Commander, who was sometimes a chaplain, and sometimes not, and the establishments themselves were called from this circumstance Commandries or Preceptories. The members derived their maintenance from the produce of the estates which they superintended, and regularly paid into the common treasury the overplus which their care and good management had availed to accumulate. Their estates were never given to any particular Preceptory, as it was held in law unable to accept them, but to the Prior of the Order as its head and visible representative.

Besides these Preceptories or Commandries the Order possessed a number of yet inferior houses, called *Camerae* or chambers. These were, indeed, little else but farmhouses, and the annexed estates were a species of demesne lands, attended to by bailiffs without a preceptor, and without the consequent cost of that worthy functionary. Oftentimes they were not retained by the Order at all, so far as personal superintendence went, but were let out to farm, and the returns were included in the general receipts, and appropriated to the maintenance of the central establishment. It has been doubted whether a "preceptor" or "confrater" is ever

found in a camera, but before I conclude I shall show that an arrangement of this kind was not entirely unknown.

The place on whose history we are now employed was such a camera, and the remarks which I have made will explain the difficulty previously adverted to. Here was a Religious House, a small abode fit for the accommodation of a very few persons only, and a grange or farmhouse, under one and the same roof, and indeed one and the same thing.

The reader shall now be introduced to the history of the place. A few lines in Lysons's *Middlesex* contain almost all the information which the press has yet furnished. Dugdale, Tanner, and the mediæval chronicler of the Order, John Stillingflete, do not so much as mention its name. Our ground, therefore, has at least the charm, such as it is, of novelty.

It was about the year 1182 that Beatrix de Bollers gave to Richard Turcy, or Turc, Prior of the Hospital in England, the advowson of the Church of Harefield, with all its appurtenances, in pure and perpetual alms. I will state the particulars presently, and am now only concerned about the date of the first grant. Alice de Clare, said by Lysons to be the donor of Moor Hall, and whose charter he supposes to be of an age not later than the middle of the twelfth century, is mentioned as subsequently confirming a grant by the said Beatrix of a virgate of land given by her at the same time as she gave the advowson of the church. If this be correct, to Beatrix de Bollers the credit is due, rather than to Alice de Clare, of commencing the series of gifts by which the Knights Hospitallers eventually obtained a large portion of Harefield and its neighbourhood. That Alice de Clare is to be placed a little subsequently to Beatrix is still further certified by our possession of a final concord between the Prior of the Hospital and Hugh de Clahull, husband of Alice, in respect of a gift by them of 120 acres of land at Harefield, to which a date is annexed. It was made at Westminster on the octave of S. Martin, 6 Henry III., or, in modern phrase, the 18th of November, 1221. And the words of the *Middlesex* historian, although at seeming variance with his previous statement, that "it is probable that the foundation of the House took place

after the grant of the advowson of the Church," are, doubtless, as I have attempted to show, in accordance with the fact.

In a very magnificent volume of the Cottonian library, marked Nero, E. vi., containing a large collection of instruments of all descriptions connected with the lands of the Knights Hospitallers, is a series of forty-three charters referring to the property at Harefield. I have made an abstract of each of them, by which it will appear that, although they are not placed in strictly chronological order, most are of the same age, and many attested by the same witnesses.

"1. Grant by Beatrix de Bollers, sometime wife of Baldwin son of Geoffrey, with assent and consent of Geoffrey her son, to God and the brethren of the Hospital of Jerusalem, of the advowson of the Church of Herefeld, with all its appurtenances, in pure and perpetual alms, for the soul of Baldwin son of Geoffrey her husband, her own soul, of her son Geoffrey, and her other children, and her ancestors, into the hands of Richard Turcy, Prior, at Clerkenwell. Also in augmentation of the said gift, one virgate of land in Herefeld, half in the tenure of William de Conele, and half in that of Gladewin Fitzrobert. The witnesses were Richard chaplain, Brother William de Fer, Robert de Scortes, Brother War, Brother William Pincerna, Brother Walter de Maltun, Robert chaplain of Herefeld, Geoffrey son of Baldwin, Gilbert clerk, John clerk, Roger son of Walkel, Stephen, Alan chamberlain, Geoffrey cook, Robert sacrist, the hunter, William the miller, Adam clerk, and many others." No date.

This, although without date, contains evidence in itself of its age by the mention of the Prior to whom the grant was made. Richard de Turk was prior of the Hospital between 1180 and 1195. It has been printed in part in the old and modern editions of Dugdale,* and will be found entire in the Appendix, No. I.

* ii. 507; vi. 806. This and another of the following Charters have been quoted by Lysons from a modern cartulary, compiled by a member of the Newdegate family in the reign of Queen Elizabeth. My abstracts have been invariably made, however, from the earlier and superior authority,

" 2. Confirmation by Geoffrey, son of Baldewin and Beatrix, of the aforesaid grant. No date. Witnesses the same.

" 3. Grant of Beatrix de Bollers, of a virgate of land in Herefeld, apparently the same as the aforesaid. Tenants the same. No date. Witnesses the same.

" 4. Confirmation of Geoffrey, son of Baldewin, of the aforesaid. No date. Same witnesses.

" 5. Writ of Henry III., to Hugh de Clahall and Alyn a his wife, touching a virgate of land in behalf of the Prior of the Hospital. Witness Hubert de Burgh, justiciary. Dated at the Tower of London, 28th May. Alina was daughter of Geoffrey, son of Baldwin.

" 6. Final concord between the Prior of the Hospital and the aforesaid Hugh de Clahall, in respect of the virgate of land aforesaid, in the King's Court at Westminster, in Michaelmas term, anno 7 Henry III., before Martin de Patishill and other judges. Hugh and Alina gave a quit-claim of the land to the Prior Robert de Dyna and his successors. The Prior gave to Hugh and Alina two marcs and a half of silver.

7. Confirmation by William, Bishop of London, of the confirmation by his predecessor Gilbert, sometime Bishop of London, of the church of Herefeld, at the instance of Geoffrey son of Baldewin, and of his mother Beatrix de Bollers, then vacant by the resignation of Robert, priest, rector of the same ; that the Prior and his successors should possess the said church, but providing a chaplain in the same, with adequate maintenance. Witnesses, William de Purle, John de Scorteford, Martin de Bockyng, Geoffrey de Vaux, Ralph de Herlane, Roger de London, Richard clerk, Stephen de Esseleia the writer of the instrument, and others. Dated at London, in the year of our Lord 1219, 15 kalends of March, and of the Bishop's pontificate the 21st. William, of S. Mary Church, was consecrated Bishop of London on the 23rd of May, 1199, and resigned his bishoprick on the 25th January, 1221.

" 8. Confirmation by Gilbert, Bishop of London, of the from which, doubtless, those in the transcript referred to were originally derived. See Lysons's Middlesex, pp. 105, 109, 110.

advowson of the Church of Herefeld. Witnesses, Nicholas archdeacon of London, Richard archdeacon of Colchester, Master Nicholas, Master Richard, Master Gilbert, William de Beamis, canons of S. Paul's, Master Henry de Northampton falconer, Roger, Robert de Clifford, Richard de Sarum, John clerk, Germanus. The name of Nicholas, Archdeacon of London, as an attesting witness, brings the date of this instrument between the years 1181 and 1185. Gilbert Foliot, the Bishop whose confirmation is recited, occupied the episcopal throne of London from the 24th of March, 1162-3, to the 18th of February, 1187-8.

“ 9. Declaration of Gilbert, Bishop of London. That Richard, priest, parson of *Herefeld*, had resigned the church, and that at his petition and that of the Lords of the fee he had appointed the aforesaid Richard perpetual vicar of that church, with all its appurtenances, for his life ; the said Richard to pay annually to the Hospital the sum of ten shillings, and the customary payments to the Bishop. Sealed, &c., in the presence of the same witnesses.

“ 10. Confirmation by Hugh de Clahull and Alina his wife of the advowson of the church of *Herefelde*, and of one virgate of land in *Herefeld*, which the brethren of the Hospital held already by the grant and alms of Beatrix de Bollers and Geoffrey her son, sealed with their common seal. Witnesses, Walter Durdent, Roger de la Dune, John de Maray, Master Alexander de Bassingbourn, Master Adam de Fountains, Master Thomas de Wyndessor, William Crispin, Richard Gyffard clerk, and others. No date.

“ 11. Grant by Hugh Clahull and Alina his wife to God, and Blessed Mary, and S. John Baptist, and the sacred House of the Hospital of Jerusalem, and the brethren of the same, of 120 acres of land in *Herefeld*; that is to say, from Berdelesegrave to *Pirifeld*, 30 acres of land, and all *Bemerherste*, as far as *Burnam*, for ninety acres. Witnesses, William rector of the Church of *Quowilton* and Robert vicar of *Cuting* chaplains, Master Adam of *Fountains*, Valentine deacon, Richard Giffurd clerk, Thomas Abraham, Gregory de Clahull, Richard de *Hussebourn*,

John Hakett, Robert de Cingnach, Hugh de Sanford, Thomas de Watton, Mauger Marescall, Sweny cook, and many others. No date.

“ 12. Grant by Alina de Clare of 120 acres of land at Herefeld. She was the lady of the previous charter, and made the grant after the decease of her husband. The land was the same.

“ 13. Final concord between the Prior of the Hospital and Hugh de Clayhull, in respect of the 120 acres aforesaid, made at Westminster, on the octave of S. Martin, 6 Henry III., 1221, before Stephen de Segrave and other justices. The Prior gave in return for this recognition and warranty of Hugh and Alina the sum of three marcs of silver.

“ 14. Grant of Alina de Clare of divers lands in Herefeld, to wit, one plain called Pirifeld, one croft called Fugelefeld, half a virgate of land in the tenure of Ailmer le Corbillior, extending from the king's highway from Woxebrugg to Watford, and between the bounds of Rislep, and abutting, on the one hand, on the land of Baldewin de Bollers, and on the other on that of Walter de Bordefeld; one acre and manse in the tenure of the said Ailmer, and one manse next the cemetery at Herefeld, north of the church, which is called Ancrehaglie; in free and perpetual alms, and quit of all services, aids, and demands, &c. Witnesses, Sir William Gilbert, Baldric my chaplain, Augustin vicar of Rislep, Richard Giffard clerk, Ralf de Shipton, Gregory de Clahull, Hugh de Rohun, Hugh de Sanford, William de Brademere, Jordan de Rippol, Baldewin de Bollers, John de Hareston, and very many others.

“ 15. Grant of Alina, daughter of Geoffrey, of divers homages and services for the maintenance of a chaplain in Herefeld. The homages and services in the manor of Herefeld were of Hugh de Sanford, Reginald Despenser, Jordan de Aberun, John Hakett, Jordan le Taillour, Avice de la Burne, and Richard Pap; and in the manor of Sanford, of Thomas Fitzwilliam, of the mill; Margery Chamberlain, Gilbert Sweyn, Ralph Fitzwilliam of Pebenersse, Reginald le Haywarde, William son of Gilbert, and Alfred de Hannebrigge. After the death of a chaplain, another was to be appointed within fifteen days. Witnesses, William

son of Gilbert, Gregory de Clahull, Hugh de Sanford, and others. No date.

16. *Grant of Alina de Clare of land in Herefelde.* The land was between the land of John de Coupere, and that of Roger de Childwike. Witnesses, William son of Gilbert, Simon de Clahull, Gregory de Clahull, Simon de Tydewell, Hugh de Sanford, Thomas d'Aunay, William de Bradmere, John Haket, William son of Derkin, who wrote this charter, and many others. No date.

“ 17. *Grant of Geoffrey de Bacheworth of free way from Suth-bury to Baynhurste, of the breadth of twenty-six feet.* Witnesses, Henry and Baldwin chaplains, Richard Giffard clerk, Gregory de Clahull, Baldwin de Bollers, and very many others. No date.

“ 18. *Quit-claim of Amice, sometime wife of Baldwin de Bollers, of a third part of land in Herefield, which she had by right of dowry.* Witnesses, William de Brademere, Richard Pape, Simon de Tyddwell, and many others. No date.

“ 19. *Grant of Gregory de Clahull of four acres and a half of land, held by him of William Maresch in Herefield, lying between the land of John Hackett, and the mill-head belonging to the Hospital, and held of the brethren by the aforesaid John, and abutting on the south on the land of the aforesaid John, and on the north on that of Hamo the younger.* Witnesses, Augustin vicar of Rislep, Henry and Baldwin chaplains of Herefield, Roger de la Dune, Richard Giffard, Hugh Chamberlain, Gilbert Francis, Roger de Mucheldour, and others. No date.

“ 20. *Grant of Alina de Clare, daughter of Geoffrey son of Baldwin, to Roger my Dispensor, for his service and homage, one ferling of land in Herefield, formerly held by John le Cuf, for twelve pence of silver payable at the four terms of the year, in lieu of all services and demands.* Witnesses, William son of Gilbert, Walter Duredent, William de Brademere, Gregory de Clahull, Simone de Tydewell, Ralph de Shipton, Hugh de Sanford, Robert Coingnac, and many others. No date.

“ 21. *Grant of Reginald, son of Warin le Corpch, of the aforesaid ferling of land.* Witnesses, John de Oxford, Robert

de Upton, Walter de Colchester, chaplains; and others. No date.

“22. Quit-claim of Gregory de Clahull of all the hedge called Botushull. Witnesses, Peter de Radenour, Robert d’Aunay, and many others. No date.

“23. Grant by John Albermin, or De Abernoun, of land at Herefeld, with reservation of an annual payment to Maurice, son of Juliana de Herefeld, and her heirs, of fifteen pence of silver at the four terms of the year. Witnesses, Roger de Baggeworth, Geoffrey his brother, Roger de la Dune, Walter Grundbald, Hugh Chamberlenge, Hugh his son, Alexander de Asshwell, and others. No date.

“24. Quit-claim of John de Albermin, of the land aforesaid. Witnesses the same.

“25. Grant of Nicholas, son of Philip de Stoke, of land in Herefeld, held by him of the Prior and Convent of Hurley. Witnesses, Richard prior of Hurley, Geoffrey de Bacheworth, Nicholas de Oxenhaye, Walter Duredent, Baldewin de Bullers, Hugh de Saunford, and others. No date.

“26. Quit-claim of Roger de Bacheworth, knt., of five shillings and six pence of annual rent. Witnesses, Philip Durdent, knt., Walter de Saunford, Roger de Suthcote, Richard de Wedowyk, Richard chaplain, Hugh chamberlain, Robert Haket, and others. No date.

“27. Agreement between the Prior of the Hospital and Richard Bacheworthe, lord of Herefeld, concerning the demand of two pounds and a half of peper, the rent demanded of the Prior and brethren of the Hospital for certain tenements in Herefeld. This Richard remits, at the instance of brother William de Sauston, Preceptor of Herefeld, for one clove pink—pro uno clave Gariophili—to be paid to him and his heirs by the said Prior and his brethren yearly at Christmas. Witnesses, Thomas Suthcote, William Raucenyngis, John Haket, John Gidenhewed, Hamo son of John, Richard ate Bourne, and others. No date.*

* Appendix No. II.

The reader will notice that we have here the chief officer of a camera styled Preceptor—"Fratris Willelmi de Sauston, Preceptoris de Herefeld."

"28. Quit-claim of Thomas de Saunforde, of four acres of meadow in Herefeld, at the instance of William de Hanule, Prior of the Hospital in England. The meadow was called Colmesmede, contiguous to the meadow of the brethren, in exchange of four acres of arable land near the watermill of John Haket in Herefeld. Witnesses, Roger de Bacheworth, knt., Hugh Chamberlein, John Pape, Alexander Moris, Walter Gydeheued, Richard Hene, Walter de Ireland clerk, and others.

William de Henley was Prior from 1280 to 1288.

"29. Charter of Hugh de Greneforde of lands and tenements, &c. Witnesses, Thomas de On, Roger de la Dunne, Richard Giffard clerk, and many others. No date.

"30. Convention between Hugh D'Aunay, the Prior of the Hospital, and Richard, Prior, and Convent of Stokes, about tithes of Herefeld. The Prior and Convent of Stokes granted all the tithes, great and small, to Prior Hugh D'Aunay and his successors, who were to pay to the former at their House at Clerkenwell the sum of thirty shillings sterling a year, half on the fourth Sunday after Michaelmas, and half on the fourth Sunday after Easter Day. Witnesses, Robert de Takstede, Geoffrey de Berdefeld, Roger de Stokes, Walter de Chaurea, chaplains; Walter de Berdefeld seneschal of the Earl of Clare, master Adam de Fountains, Richard Giffard clerk, John de Sanford, Thomas Abraham, Thomas de Wotton, Benedict servant of Chaurea, Mauger Maresch, and many others. The year in which it was made was that of 1221, but the month and day are not recorded.

"31. Convention between Robert de Dyna, the Prior of the Hospital, and Richard the Prior, and Convent of Hurley, on tithes of the manor of Herefeld. They were to pay to the Prior and Convent of Hurley four shillings a year on the feast of S. John Baptist, and to do all services due to the chief lords.

Robert de Dyna succeeded Hugh D'Aunay as Prior of the Hospital.

"32. Charter of Alditha and Alice her sister, of all their land

in Herefeld, to Robert de Kent. The ladies were daughters and heiresses of Thomas Dogeskyn, of Woxebrige. Witnesses, Geoffrey de Heddesore, Hugh de North, Roger Suthcote, Laurence Draper, Peter his brother, William Bomebyn, John son of Maurice, William de Hactone, Roger clerk, and others. No date.

“ 33. Charter of Robert Kent, of four acres of land in Herefelde. These four acres were the property aforesaid of the sisters Alditha and Alice Dogeskyn, of Woxebrigge. Witness, Roger de Bacheworth knt., Philip Durdant, Robert Gomme clerk, then bailiff, and others. No date.

“ 34. Chart of Hugh the Chamberlen of 12d. annual rent in Herefeld, at the instance of brother Simon de Askeby, sometime custos of the house of the Hospital of Herefeld, derived from four acres of the lands given by the aforesaid sisters. Witness, Roger de Bacheworth knt., Walter de Saunford, Roger de Suthcote, Robert Haket, John le Pope, Richard chaplain, and others. No date.*

“ 35. Chart of Richard, son of Ralph Osbert, of Chaushunt, of one half pound of peper and one penny of annual rent. Witnesses, Geoffrey, Roger de Bacheworth, knt., Walter de Sanford, and others. No date.

“ 36. Charter of Richard, son of Richard Bene, of three shillings and one penny of annual rent. Given at the instance of Brother Peter de Staneley. Witnesses, Roger de Bacheworth, Thomas de Sanford, and others. No date.

“ 37. Charter of Walter de Sanford, of one acre of land in Herefelde. Witnesses, Roger de Bacheworth, knt., Philip Durdant, and others. No date.

“ 38. Charter of Gilbert de Burna, of a certain angle of land in Herefelde. The land lay between the land of Nicholas de Bleis and Burnam, and was in form a triangle, containing two perches. Witnesses, Maurice son of Hamound, William son of Hamound, Walter de Gudecheued, John le Heywerd, and others. No date.

“ 39. Charter of Brian Burn, of a certain messuage, between the land of Walrand, son of Gilbert de la Burne, and Burnam,

* Appendix No. III.

a triangle containing two perches. It was the same land as that of the preceding charter. Witnesses, Roger de Bacheworth knt., Walter de Sanford, John Hackett, and many others. No date.

"40. Charter of Nicholas Bleis, to Prior Roger de Ver, and his brethren, of one messuage and two acres of land. In length from the way of Gilbert de la Bourn to the way of the said Gilbert, and in width from the king's highway towards Rislep, to the land of the said Gilbert de la Burne. Witnesses, Roger de Bacheworth knt., Walter de Sanford, Richard chaplain of Watford, Roger de Suthcote, Hugh Chamberlain, and many others. No date.

Roger de Vere was Prior from 1260 to 1270.

"41. Charter of Nicholas de Bleis, son of Avice de Burna, of rent of two shillings, with others. The rent was of the teneement of Gilbert de Burne. Witnesses, Roger de Bacheworth knt., Hugh Chamberlain, Hugh his son, Robert Haket, and others. No date.

"42. Charter of John de la Burne, of one half-penny of annual rent in the vill of Harefelde, received of Brian de la Burne and his heirs, once in a year at Easter. The messuage from which it was derived lay between the house of the said Brian and the house of Walrand de la Burne. Witnesses, Roger de Bacheworth, Walter de Sanford, then Sheriff, and many others. No date."

The last is one of the most interesting of the series:—

"43. Charter of Roger de Bacheworth, knt., at the instance of Brother Nicholas de Dacombe, then Preceptor of the hospital of Herefeld, for the health of his soul and of that of Sibila his wife, and of his ancestors and successors, of ten acres of land, with appurtenances, of the moor of Herefeld, whereof seven acres lie in length between the meadow which is called Colmes Mede, and the way which leads towards the common moor of the said vill, and in breadth from the demesne meadow of the brethren which is called Costowe mede as far to the common moor as the bounds are placed. And three acres lie between the garden of the said brethren and the common moor towards the west, whereof one head abuts on the meadow of the said brethren towards the

north, and the other head on the common way towards the south. Witnesses, Philip Burdant knight, Adam de la Donne, Thomas de Saintford, and others." No date.*

Here again we have the chief officer of a camera expressly styled Preceptor—"Fratris Nicholai de Dacombe, Preceptoris domus Hospitalis de Herefeld."

With this, our list ends of the series of benefactions, the result of which was what we may call the Harefield estate, the seat of whose deputy-master was Moor Hall.

Some legal proceedings took place in connection with the property in the fourth year of Edward III., 1331, between the Prior of the Hospital and Sir Simon de Swanland, Lord of Harefeld, which resulted in clearing the title of the Hospital to a part of the domain, but did not add to the previous possessions of the house. †

Eight years afterwards, in the year 1338, we get an excellent glimpse of the place from a most interesting return of the Prior of England for that year to the Grand Master of the Order, which is still preserved at Malta in the public library of Valetta. It was transcribed some years since, and published by the Camden Society in 1857, under the title of the "Knights Hospitallers in England." It consists of "a balance sheet for every manor" belonging to the Hospitallers, "containing a strict account of profit and loss, and so arranged as to show at a glance what sum was available, after all charges were deducted, for the general purposes of the Priory and the Order." Some of the accounts are complete pictures of the various estates, entering minutely into all the varied sources of income, and dwelling, sometimes with an amusing degree of pathos, on the grievous charges which hindered the accumulation of a larger surplus than that which was handed in to the general stock. I may refer those who care to pursue the subject to my history of Mynchin Buckland, in Somersetshire, which was the only House of Sisters that the Order possessed in England, and where the chief officer of the adjoining Commandery most ungallantly adds that the ladies

* MS. Cott. Nero, E. vi. ff. iiiixxi—iiiixvib. Appendix No. IV.

† Plac. ap. Bedford. Quo War. r. 3.

were of no advantage to his house, but rather burden, charge, and grievance, as they had by their charter of incorporation a pension from the Preceptor which availed to reduce the amount of that overplus by which his thrift and good management were to be most conspicuously displayed.* The glimpse, however, which we get of the camera of Moor Hall is presented by the following return which I have literally translated.

“CAMERA OF HEREFELD, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX. HEREFELD. There is there one messuage, three carucates of arable land, twenty acres of meadow, four pounds of annual rent, a church appropriated, pasture for twenty cows, twenty heifers, and three hundred sheep, and the value is forty marcs.” It is added that it nevertheless yields nothing, because in the time of Brother Thomas Larcher it was granted to Brother William Brex for the term of his life, with no payment of rent. The officer then in charge was Brother Simon de Myneworth, chaplain.†

Prior Thomas L'Archer, I may say in passing, was a notorious offender in this way, and was, it would appear, deposed from his priorate for mal-administration. He was in the habit of raising funds in the manner just alluded to, by leases for life, receiving no subsequent annual rent, but a sum of ready money as a so-called equivalent. All was, however, set right under the excellent administration of his able successor, Prior Leonard de Tybertis, who by great self-sacrifice contrived, in a short time, to pay off the most pressing debts, and finally restored the Hospital in England once more to circumstances of ease and honour.

For a long time nothing is recorded of the place, and we may therefore conclude that it quietly yielded its fruits, and gave no trouble to its masters.

As we have no names of the Heads of the Camera later than the period at which we have now arrived, it will be well to give a list of those Officers, so far as I have been able to recover them :—

* Mediæval Nunneries of Somersetshire : No. 1. Mynchin Buckland.

† Hospitallers in England, p. 125.

William de Sauston, Preceptor, 13th century.

Simon de Askeby, Custos, cir. 1265.

Peter de Stanclay (?).

Nicholas de Dacombe, Preceptor, cir. 1275.

Simon de Myneworth, Capellanus, 1338.

It is not improbable that some among the following chaplains, mentioned in the foregoing charters, were officers in charge of the estate :—

Richard, 1190—1195.

John de Oxford.

Robert de Upton.

Walter de Colchester.

Robert de Takstede, 1221.

Geoffrey de Berdefeld, 1221.

Roger de Stokes, 1221.

Walter de Chaurea, 1221.

Richard, cir. 1265.

I said, some pages back, that the estates annexed to a camera were frequently let to farm. Indeed, this appears to have been the custom of the Order with most, if not all, of their less important estates during the latter years of their tenure. The cost of the Preceptor, or Custos, and his servants, was hereby saved, while the property was looked after with equal care, and furnished probably a larger return. I have found in a volume formerly belonging to the Hospitallers at Clerkenwell, and containing many particulars of their leases in the beginning of the sixteenth century, some not uninteresting details in connection with Moor Hall.

At a Chapter held in the House of S. John of Clerkenwell, on the 24th of April, 1516, by Brother Thomas Docwra, the Prior;—present, Brother William Weston, Preceptor of Baddislay and Mayne; Brother Thomas Golyn, Preceptor of Baddisford and Dynglay; Brother Robert Newport, Preceptor of Ansty and Trebigh; Brother John Babington, Preceptor of Ycuelay and Barowe; Brother Edward Roche, Preceptor of Carbrok; and

Brother Alban Pool, represented by his Proctor, Brother John Babington, on account of his ill health—the Prior and his coadjutors leased the manor of Moor Hall to Rose Assheby, of Herefeld, widow. The document sets forth as follows:—

“To all the faithful, &c. Thomas Docwra, Prior of the Hospital of S. John of Jerusalem in England, and the brethren of the same Priory, health eternal in the Lord. Know ye, &c., that we have granted, delivered, and leased to farm to Rose Assheby, of Herfeld, in the county of Middlesex, widow, and to her assigns, our manor and rectory, called Morehalle, in Herfeld aforesaid, with all and singular lands, meadows, grazings, pastures, rents, tenths, and oblations, and other profits and commodities whatsoever to the aforesaid manor and rectory in any wise belonging or pertaining. All woods, and underwoods, and trees, and eschaets beyond the value of forty shillings, goods of felons, &c., excepted and reserved. From the Feast of the Nativity of S. John the Baptist next ensuing to the end and term of the following forty years. A yearly rent of nineteen pounds of lawful English money to be paid to us at our treasury of Clarkenwell, at two terms of the year, to wit, at the feasts of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary and of S. Barnabas the Apostle, in equal portions. The aforesaid Rose and her assigns shall find a fit and proper chaplain continually performing Divine service in the parish church there, and fitly ministering the sacraments and sacramentals to the parishioners there during the term aforesaid. They shall also support and undergo all other ordinary and extraordinary burdens incumbent on the manor and rectory aforesaid, the aids and other subsidies for the treasurer at Rhodes only excepted. The aforesaid Rose and her assigns shall repair, sustain, and maintain, as often as shall be necessary during the term, all the buildings and houses, as in roofing, thatching, and plaster-work, and also all the walls, hedges, and ditches at their own proper cost and expense, the repairs of the building and houses in stone, timber, lead, glass, and covering of tiles only excepted, which are to be done at the expense of us, the aforesaid Prior, and our successors. The aforesaid Rose and her assigns shall have in and of our wood and

underwood there housebote, haybote, cartebote, ploughbote, and fyrebote within the said manor, reasonably without waste, to be expended by the assignment and delivery of one of our servants to be deputed or assigned by us to this office. If it shall happen that the said farm of xix *li.* a-year be in arrear in part or in all after the term of payment specified above for two months, then it shall be lawful for us and our successors to re-enter into the said manor and rectory, and into any parcel thereof, and to retain, hold, and repossess all and singular as in our former state, and totally to expel and remove the said farmers from the same, the present lease in aught notwithstanding. To all and singular payments, &c., aforesaid, the said Rose and others oblige themselves to the aforesaid Prior and his successors in the sum of forty pounds sterling, by their bond bearing the same date as these presents. In testimony whereof our common seal and the seal of the aforesaid farmer, Rose Assheby, widow, are to the present indentures alternately appended. Dated in our House of S. John of Clarkenwell, near London, in our Chapter holden there the 24th day of April, in the year of our Lord 1516, and of King Henry VIII. the eighth."*

Six years afterwards, Moor Hall, I presume, changed hands. I have found in the same collection another lease, but in favour of Rose Bown, of Herefeld, Middlesex, widow, the manor and rectory called Morhall, in Herefeld, together with a wood there called Bayhurst, with all and singular lands, &c., as before. The term was from the feast of S. Barnabas the Apostle next ensuing for a period of forty-five years. The rent was twenty pounds sterling, to be paid in equal portions, as in the lease already recited. In the matter of the chaplain, ordinary and extraordinary burdens, repairs of the buildings, &c., the present was identical with the former instrument. The farmer and assigns were allowed to cut and root out at their own expense, and for their own use to sell and give all and every kind of wood, underwood, thorns, and brambles, growing within the wood called Bayhurst, and elsewhere within the said manor, with-

* MS. Cott. Claud. E. vi. ff. clxiii b., clxiiii.

out impeachment of waste, during the term aforesaid. If the rent were in arrear and not paid at the place aforesaid for three months, and if the manor and rectory, with its appurtenances, were not sufficiently repaired within the space of one year, the Prior might re-enter, &c., the present lease in aught notwithstanding. The lease concluded with similar obligations to the former, and was sealed and dated at Clerkenwell, the 18th day of September, 1522, the 14th of Henry VIII.*

We are now close upon times of trouble. In 1534, twelve years after the date of the last document, the "Valor" was taken of all the ecclesiastical property in the country, in order to enable the King, as it was said, to support his new-fledged dignity of Supreme Head of the Church. In the record of the possessions of the Hospitallers, among the rents of assize and other rents in various vills and hamlets in parishes of London and Middlesex, the entry which relates to Moor Hall simply states that the yearly value of the property was xx *li*. Some idea of its relative importance may be gained from the fact that in the same return the value of the estate at Hendon is set down at *iii* *li*. *xij* *d*., and of that at Hackeney at *xij* *li*. *xij* *s*. *ob*.†

The period of the last document brings us close to the day when there were no more Assemblies held in the Chapter House of the Priory at Clerkenwell, and no more leases granted of their farms by the knights who there assembled. In 1538, four years subsequently to the date of the Valor, the Order was suppressed, and the Priory and its possessions were granted to a multitude of strangers by the most heartless and abandoned tyrant that ever disgraced the throne of England, or prostituted the powers which his position gave him.

The manor was requested for purchase by a Robert Tyrwhitt; and the return made by the Crown Officers, whose business it was to negotiate for the sale of the estates, sets forth the particulars already given in the leases which I have quoted, the property leased, and the various stipulations and agreements, payments, &c., including the maintenance of the chaplain officiating

* MS. Cott. Claud. E. vi. ff. cexvii b., cexviii.

† Val. Eccl. i. 403.

in the parish church of Herefeld. The value is given at xx *li.*, and the return is attested by the signature of William Rygges, auditor. This was in the 34th year of Henry VIII. In the margin, the Crown Officer has noted that "the said manner is iiij mylys from the Kynges house callid [Wind]sore.' The woods are returned as of value for repairs only.*

The same year it was finally disposed of to the petitioner, Robert Tyrwhitt. The grant sets forth that, besides other property, the King granted to his beloved Robert Tyrwhitt all his manor of Morehall, in Herefeld, and all the rectory and church of Herefeld, with all its rights, members, and appurtenances. Also, all the wood called Bayhurst, in Herefeld. Also, all and singular messuages, granges, mills, lands, meadows, pastures, &c., in the manor called Morehall. Also, the advowson and right of patronage of Herefeld church, and all tithes, oblations, &c., belonging to the same. Not a syllable is said about the chaplain, or that the grantee was bound to continue to the people such spiritual privileges as they enjoyed before his intrusion. The estate was to be held in chief, by the service of a twentieth part of one knight's fee and the payment of an annual fee-farm rent of forty shillings. The grant is dated, witness the King, at Berechurch, the 18th day of August, 34 Henry VIII., 1542.†

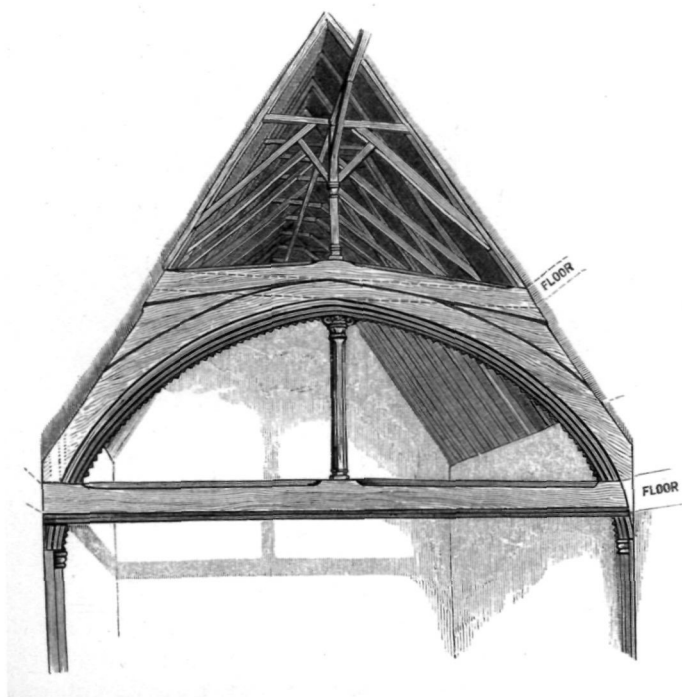
I have now, in conclusion, to describe more minutely the scene, of whose varied changes of fortune I have been endeavouring to put my reader in possession.

The general features of the place have already been noticed at an earlier page, and the most interesting of its architectural details are so accurately and clearly represented in the engravings, as to need a very small amount of further remark. The dwelling-house was originally one of a class most frequent in England at the period of its erection. It was built of wood, with the interstices of the frame timbers filled with a composition of lime and mud mixed with straw and laid upon laths. This mode of construction will account for the entire absence of

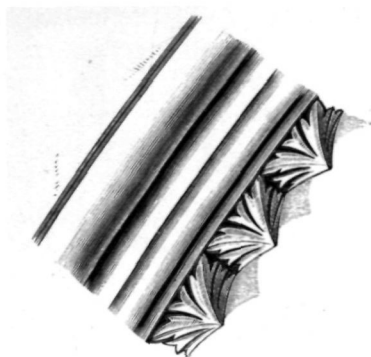
* Part. for Grants, 34 Hen. VIII. Robert Tyrwhitt. Appendix No. V.

† Pat. 34 Hen. VIII., p. 6, mm. 5(30), 4(31), 3(32), 2(33). Appendix No. VI.

MOOR HALL.

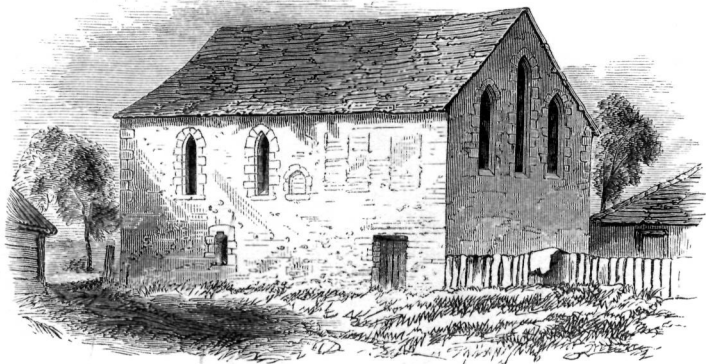


THE HALL. INTERIOR OF THE ROOF.



THE HALL. MOULDING, WITH TOOTH ORNAMENT, IN THE ROOF.

MOOR HALL.

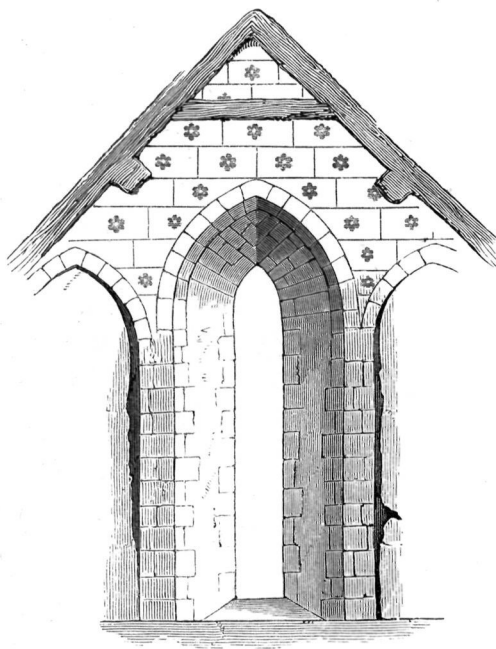


THE GRANARY, FROM THE S.E.

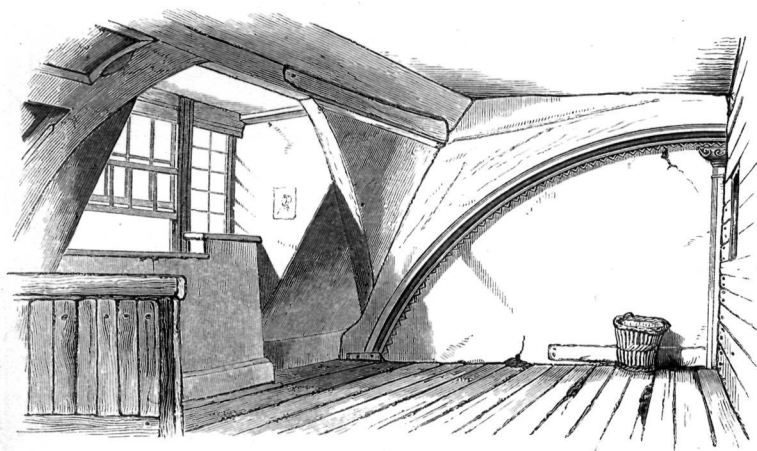


THE GRANARY, FROM THE N.W.

MOOR HALL.



THE GRANARY INTERIOR OF THE EAST GABLE.



THE HALL. A CHAMBER NOW OCCUPYING PART OF THE ROOF.

ancient stonework which the building now exhibits, and explain the comparatively modern appearance which the walls of the house present. The hall measured 45 feet in length by 29 in breadth, and had a roof of very elaborate construction, which will be best understood by the accompanying figures. It was of three bays, with the timbers, some of which were ornamented with a dog-tooth moulding, open to the ridge; and was simply covered with shingles of wood or stone, or probably with thatch composed of reeds from the adjoining moor. The granary, which is 35 feet in length by 18 feet 3 inches in breadth, still retains very much of its original character. It was divided into two floors, the upper of which was reached by an external flight of stairs, indications of which are still visible, although the stairs themselves have been removed. The lower apartment was entered by a round-arched doorway, and was lighted by several small and deeply splayed windows of the "shouldered" form. The upper was furnished with a beautiful triplet of lancet-shaped windows at its eastern end, as well as with others at the north, south, and west sides. The roof is comparatively modern, but of the original pitch. The internal walls of both floors were, and, as I have already stated, are still, for the most part, covered with plaster, on which are drawn lines of a dark-red colour to represent the courses of ashlar masonry. The compartments at the eastern end, above the lancets, contain in their centres a red rose of five or six leaves, which, together with the lines in the splay of each lancet, are most artistically given, and inspire us with no little respect for the hand that could so agreeably remove the coldness of an otherwise plain and unsightly surface. *The hint should not be lost upon those of us whose churches, schools, or houses, look bare and cheerless, through needless lack of that which has been here so easily, cheaply, and effectively introduced.* (See the figures.)

In taking leave of Moor Hall, for I have nothing to do with it after it was wrested from its ancient and rightful owners, and turned into the estate of a private adventurer, I can only express a hope that, aided by the foregoing historical and pictorial details, my reader may be able to recal somewhat of the

earlier aspect of the place, and the labours of which it was the agreeable scene. We may, indeed, almost imagine that we see William de Sauston, Simon de Askeby, Nicholas de Dacombe, or Simon de Myneworth, busily superintending the concerns of his goodly house, bidding us welcome from London with the open-handed hospitality for which his noble Order was famous, and entering with no little zest into all the news that we had to give him of the Prior, the House at Clerkenwell, the court, or the town at large. The scene, however, and the times were widely different from our own, when those old worthies bore rule under the superb roof, which, though mouldering, still covers with its black and massive timbers, tooth ornamented and richly worked, the dilapidated chambers below, the misshapen product of a far later age. Nor is it much to ask to be allowed to look back with regret to the days when the Hospitaller was here, when his welcome was as free and his doors were as open as his princely heart, and when rest and benediction were to be had for the asking. Those days are gone, and with them much that, view it in whatever way we will, was an incalculable blessing. It can do us no good to ignore the fact that Moor Hall is a simple instance and too true illustration of almost universal change, a change from better to worse, affecting much higher interests, and involving much deeper considerations, than the picturesque details of olden times, or the frank hospitality which was their never-failing virtue. Its ruined chambers, the abode of poverty, neglect, and a struggle for bare existence, present a sorry contrast to the care and kindly oversight of earlier days, and tell of a degeneracy more than accidental, and of a declension in modes of life and thought more than individual and local. Nature is still as lovely, the trees about Moor Hall are as green, the garden flowers as sweet as ever. But evil influences have usurped the place which was previously occupied by good, and the change which has resulted is one that is pleasing, neither to the man who loves his common country, nor to him who wishes well to his common kind.

THOMAS HUGO.

APPENDIX

OF CHARTERS AND OTHER RECORDS.

No. I.

[MS. Cott. Nero E. vi. fol. iiij^{xxj}.]

Notum sit om̃ibus tam p̃sentibꝫ q̃m futuris sancte Matris ecclie filijs. q̃d Ego Beatrix de Bollers quōdā vxor Baldewini filij Galfrī assensu ⁊ concensu Galfridi filij mei, dono ⁊ Carta mea confirmo deo ⁊ fr̃ibꝫ hosp̃it̃lis Jer̃m aduocaçōem Ecclie de herefeld cū om̃ibꝫ p̃tinencijs suis, in bosco scilicꝫ, in agro, in p̃tis, in pascuis, in libam ⁊ ppetuā elemosinā sicut eam vñq̃m aliquis libius h̃uit ⁊ tenuit, ⁊ sicut vñq̃m in ñro vt̃ in antecessor̃ ñroz tempore alicuius ecclie Aduocaçō libius ⁊ melius data est. huius itaqꝫ tam libe ⁊ ppetue elemosine donaçōem facio Ego p̃ aīa Baldewī filij Galfridi dñi mei ⁊ p̃ salute aīe mee ⁊ p̃ salute Galfridi filij mei ⁊ ceçor̃ infanciū meor̃ ⁊ p̃ salute om̃iū antecessor̃ meor̃ in man^o Ricī Turcy in Anglia Prioris apud fontem Clicoꝝ. p̃ mei autē ⁊ p̃ salute ⁊ refrigerio p̃dicoꝝ Augmentū dono p̃dcīs fr̃ibꝫ vnam virgatā p̃re in herefeld scilicꝫ illam dimidiā virgatā q̃m tenuit Wiff de Conele. ⁊ illam dimidiā virgā q̃m tenuit Gladewinus filius Robti. Hijs testibꝫ Rico Cap̃flano, ff're Wiffmo de fer, Robto de Scortes, ff're War, ff're Wiffmo Pinçna, ff're Walfo de Maltuñ, Robto Cap̃flano de herefeld, Galfrido fit Baldewiñ, Gilbto Clico, Johne Clico, Rogo filio Walkel, Stepho, Alan Camario, Galfrido Coco, Robto Sacrista, Venatore, Wiffmo Molend̃, Adam Clico, ⁊ multis alijs.

No. II.

[MS. Cott. Nero E. vi. fol. iij^{xx}iiij.]

Concordia in^l P^oorē hospiti^l tē ⁊ Riēm Bacheworth de exaccōe
ij. lb pipis.

Vniūsis xpi fidelibus ad quos p̄sens scriptū puen^oit Riēs de
Bacheworthē dñs de herefeld saltm̄ in dño sempitnā Cum sup
exaccionē duarū librarū pipis ⁊ dimidie Redditus quē de ven^oabilib;
viris Priore ⁊ ffrib; hospitat S̄ci Johis Jerlm in Anglia exegi p
quibusd^m tenementis que de me tenent in villa de herefeld
in^l me ⁊ dcos Priorem ⁊ ffratres diūse contenccōes fūunt exorte
Nolitis me p bono pacis ⁊ p salute aīe mee antecessorū ⁊ successorū
meorū ⁊ maxime ad instanciam ffr̄is Witlmi de Sauston Precep-
toris de herefeld remisisse ⁊ ex toto quietū clamasse p me ⁊ here-
dib; meis d̄cis Priori ⁊ ffratrib; ⁊ successorib; suis oñiodam
accionem si q^m fui v^t aliquo jure habere potui in p̄dcō redditu
duarū librarū ppis ⁊ dimidie cū oñimodo seruicio forinceco ⁊ puato
q; michi ⁊ heredib; meis racōne p̄dcī Redditus em̄gere poſit. Ita
qđ nec ego d̄cus Riēs nec heredes nec aliquis noīe n̄ro aliqđ
juris v^t seruicij cuiuscūq; de p̄dcō Redditu clamare v^t exigere
poſmus in futurū sed p vno claue Gariophili, quā michi ⁊ heredib;
meis ad Nata^l dñi d̄ci Prior ⁊ ffr̄es annuatī soluent totum p̄dc̄m
Redditū cū oñimod seruicio p p̄dcō Redditu exeunte Ego d̄cus
Riēs ⁊ heredes mei p̄dc̄is Priori ⁊ ffr̄ibus contra oñes hoīes ⁊
fēminas warantizabimus ⁊ oñino defendemus imp̄petuū. In cuius
rei testiōm p̄sentib; sigillū meū apposui. Hijs testib; Thoma
Suthe, Witlmo Rauenyngis, Johne Haket, Johne Gidenhewed,
Hamone filio Johis, Riēo atc Bourne ⁊ alijs.

No. III.

[MS. Cott. Nero E. vi. fol. iij^{xx}v.]

Carta hugōis le Chamberlen de .xij.d. reddit^o annui in herefelde.

Nolūt vniūsi p̄sentes visuri v^t audituri qđ Ego hugo le Cham-
bleng de herefeld dedi, concessi ⁊ hac p̄senti Carta mea confirmaui
deo b̄te Marie ⁊ S̄co Johi Bap̄te ⁊ ffr̄ib; s̄cē domus hospitat Jerlm
in Anglia ad instanciam fr̄is Simonis de Askeby quond^m Cus-

totidis domus hospitat de herefeld duodecim denariatus annui Redditus michi spectantis de quatuor acris ½re in villa de herefeld quas hui de dono ⁊ concessione Aldithe ⁊ Alicie filiaꝝ ⁊ heredū Thome Dogeskynde de Woxebrigge, hñd ⁊ tenēd memoratū Redditū sibi ⁊ successoribꝫ suis in libam purā ⁊ ppetuam elemosinā. Itā qđ nec ego nec heredes mei in dco Redditū seu ½ra vnde Redditus ille puenit aliquid iuris clamij vť seruicij de celo exigere vť clamare poterimus. In cuius rei testiōm p̄sentibꝫ sigillū meū est appesum. Hijs testibꝫ dño Rogero de Bacheworth milite, Waltero de Saunford, Rogero de Suthcote, Robto Haket, Johne le Pope, Ričo Capellano ⁊ multis alijs.

No. IV.

[MS. Cott. Nero E. vi. fol. iij^{xxvj} b.]

Sciant p̄sentes ⁊ futuri Quod ego Rogus de Bacheworth miles dedi, concessi ⁊ hac p̄senti carta mea confirmaui p salute aīe mee ⁊ aīe Sibile vxoris mee ⁊ p aīabꝫ p̄ris mei ⁊ matris mee oīmq, aīcessoꝝ ⁊ sucē meoꝝ deo ⁊ beate Marie ⁊ s̄co Johi Bap̄e ⁊ frībꝫ domus hospit̄ Jer̄m in Anglia deo famulātibꝫ ad instanciā fr̄is Nichi de Dacombe tūc p̄ceptoris domus hospit̄ de herefeld decem acras ½re cū p̄tiñ de mora de herefeld quarū septem acre iacent in longitudine in ½ratū quod vocat̄ Colmes Mede ⁊ viā que ducit versus morā cōmunē d̄ce ville Et in latitudine a prato dñico dcoꝝ fr̄m qđ vocat̄ Costowe mede vsq, ad morā cōmunē sicut mete sunt posite ⁊ deducte. Et tres acre iacent in ½ gardinū dcoꝝ fr̄m ⁊ morā cōmunē versus Occidentē quoz vnū capud abuttat sup pratū dcoꝝ fr̄m versus Aquilonē ⁊ aliud capud sup cōmunē viā versus Austrū: hñd ⁊ tenend p̄d̄cis frībꝫ in purā ⁊ ppetuā elemosinā libe quiet' ⁊ pacifice in p̄p̄m. Ita scilicet n° Ego n° hered mei n° aliquis p nos seu p nob̄ aliquid iuris vel clamij in p̄d̄cis decem acris ½re cū p̄tiñ de mora memorata pođimus de celo exigere vel vendicare. In cuius rei testimoniū huic p̄senti scripto sigillū meū apposui. Hijs testibꝫ dño Phō Burdant milite, Ada de la Donne, Thoma de Saintford ⁊ alijs.

No. V.

[Particulars for Grants, 34 Hen. VIII. Robert Tyrwhitt.]

MANIU' ET R'C'ORIA voč Morehall in Herfeld in Coñ Midd.

vat in

FIRMA man^oij ⁊ Rčorie voč Morehall in Herefeld pđ in Coñ pđ simul cū bosco iſm voč bayhurst cum oñib; ⁊ singtis ěř, prať, pascuis, pastuř Redđ deciñ oblač ac alijs pfič ⁊ cōmoditatibus quibuscumq; pđicť Man^oio ⁊ Rčorie quatrecumq; spectañ siue ptineñ. OMĪOD' maremijs siue magnis arboribus p edific domoꝝ ⁊ Eschaef vlta valorem quadraginta solid ⁊ Catatt ffeloñ ⁊ ffugiť tantūmodo except ⁊ resuat sic modo dimisſ Rose Bowne viđ p indentuř sub sigillo cōi nup Priorať pđci p ěmio annoꝝ Reddend inde p annū ad ffeſta purificačōis bte Marie Virginis ⁊ ſci Barnabe appti equatr xxli. Et pđ firmař ⁊ assigni sui invenient vnū Capellanū idoneū diuina ſuicia in Eccia pochiali de Herefeld pđ continue celebratuř ac sacra ⁊ sacramentalia pochianis iſm ministratuř put in eadem indentuř plenius apparet.

xxli.

Ex' p me Witm Rygge auditr.

The said mann^o is iiij mylys from the Kynge house callid [Wind]sore.

Com Midd.

The manor of more halle, in the pishe of herefeld, pcell of the possessions of the late pory of Seynt Johns Jrhm in England.

The seyd manor ys lettyn to gether by the late p̄or of the seid late p̄ory, w^t all and singuler the woodē and vnderwoodē, to Roose bows, for terme of xl yeres, all tymber and great wood except and ressu^did, as apperith by an Indenture bering date the xvij day of September, the xiiij yere of the reigne of o^r sou^aigne lord kyng henry the viijth, wherfore the vnderwood nor soyle therof not valuid,

nt.

And in the same be growing lx saplyng okes, of xl and lx yeres grow^t, not valuid, but ressu^did for tymber to repayre the seyd manor and the howses pteyning to the same, w^{ch} the seyd ffermor hayth by coven^{ant} according to the seyd Indenture,

nt.

p me, Witm Cowp.

No. VI.

[Abstract of Pat. 34 Hen. VIII. p. 6. mm. 5 (30), 4 (31), 3 (32), 2 (33).]

Rex Om̃ib; ad quos ꝛc salm.

Dam⁹ eciam, [etc.] pfato Roſto Tyrwhitt totum illud Man⁹ium nrm vocat Morehall in herefeld. Et totam Rcoriam nram ꝛ eccliam nram de herefeld cum eor^z iurib;, membris ꝛ ptiñ vniu⁹sis in Com nro Midd dco nup Prioratui seu hospitali Sci Johis Jerlm in Angt dudum Spectaⁿ ꝛ ptineñ ac pcell possessionu eiusdem nup Prioratus seu hospitalis Sci Johis Jerlm in Angt existeñ Necnon totum boscum nrm ꝛ ram nram vocat Bayhurst in here-

feld in dco Com nro Midd. Ac omnia et singula mesuagia, grangias, molendina, pratas, teſas, prata, pascuas, pastures, coſas, vasta, iampna, brueras, mariscos, boscos, subboscos, [etc. etc.] cuiuscumque sint generis nature vel speciei, [etc.] dco Man^oio vocat Morehall in herefeld et dce Rcorie et ecclie de herefeld quoquomodo spectant vel pertineant [etc.] Ac etiam aduocacionem, donacionem, libram disposicionem et ius patronatus vicarie ecclie parochialis de herefeld in dco Com nro Midd. Tenend de nobis, hereditate et successoribus nostris in capite per seruiciu vice-sime partis unius feodi militis ac reddend annuatim nobis, [etc.] de p^{re}dicto Man^oio vocat Morehall et dca Rcoria de herefeld et ceteris premissis in herefeld p^{re}dictis quadraginta solidis. Concedimus quod idem Robertus, hereditate et assigni sui de cetero imp^{er}p^{er}m habebunt, tenebunt et gaudebunt et in usus suos proprios conu^{er}tere ac habere, [etc.] valeant et possint dcas Rcorias et ecclias de herefeld, [etc.] ac omnes decimas, oblationes, t^{er}ras, glebas et cetera proficua et emolumenta quecumque eidem Rcorijs seu earum alio quoquo modo spectant vel pertineant adeo plene et integre, [etc.] put ultimus prior, [etc.] In cuius rei test. T. R. apud Berechurch xviii die Augusti.

T. H.



[MOOR HALL, IN HAREFIELD].