

HAREFIELD DEEDS

Tarleton Family Documents

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ABOUT eighteen months ago, the solicitors acting for the Trustees of the Tarleton family of Breakspears in Harefield, at the suggestion of the British Records Association, deposited with the Middlesex County Record Office an interesting collection of deeds numbering 235 items in all. This collection contained records relating to Cowley, Edmonton, Enfield, Ickenham, Ruislip and Teddington in Middlesex and to Buckinghamshire, Essex, Hertfordshire, Surrey, Kent and Sussex, ranging in date from 1130 to 1784. The great majority, however, relates to Harefield, the earliest of those dated is 1296, though there are many undated which may well be of slightly earlier period.

It is presumed that most of these documents relate to the property now known as Breakspears which is still in the hands of the Tarleton family, though the earliest mention of the Breakspear family occurs in a deed dated 1395—a confirmation of an earlier grant by William Swanland to Ralph Boukere in favour of William Brekespere the elder. The Breakspear family continue to be parties to deeds relating to land in Harefield until 1458 when Margaret Sulten, a daughter of "the late William Brekespere," settled them on George Assheby. The Ashby family held the estate until the early part of the last century. An Ashby daughter married a Partridge. Joseph Partridge, who died in 1857, bequeathed the property to a relative of his wife, William Wickham Drake, whose mother was a daughter of Thomas Tarleton of Bolesworth Castle, Lancashire. William Wickham Drake died in 1877 and his widow left the property to Alfred Henry Tarleton, M.V.O., D.L., an honorary equerry to H.R.H. the Duchess of Albany. The widow of Alfred Henry Tarleton now occupies the property*.

* Mrs. Tarleton died in January, 1951.

The land is not called Breakspears until a deed dated 1641. It was apparently on this slender evidence that the late Mr. Tarleton in his book "Nicholas Breakspear—Englishman and Pope" used his argument that the William Breakspear, a mercer of the City of London, who flourished at the end of the 14th century, descended from the same family as that in which the only English Pope had his origin. Nicholas Breakspere was elected Pope Adrian IV in 1154, nearly 240 years before any member of the Brekespere family are known to have become connected with Harefield. It is believed that the Pope was born at Abbots Langley in Hertfordshire. If any connection with the Harefield family existed, it must indeed have been a remote one.

Other well known local names are to be found mentioned in these deeds, e.g. de Park, de Oxonia (Oxenford), de Bachworth, de Luda (Louth), de Swanland, de Sampford, de Shordich and Newdegate.

While all these early documents contain a wealth of interest, there are two of such an unusual nature as to deserve special mention.

The first is an early reference to a manorial enclosure which resulted in a dispute among the tenants. It appears that Thomas de Luda in 1316 had obtained permission from the Lord of the Manor of Harefield to enclose a part of the common heath to the detriment of the 44 other free tenants within the manor. An agreement was reached on condition that Thomas did not attempt to make further enclosures. If he did, the other tenants were to be allowed to throw down the dyke which he had built up. Only 34 seals of the free tenants, or fragments of them, remain in position, but the spaces once occupied by the other ten are clearly visible. Some of the seals are armorial. The original document is illustrated here together with a full transcript in extended Latin with a translation.

The other document is an early example of the modern habit of making an inventory on taking over a furnished house. It is in the form of an agreement entered into by Nicholas de Schordich when he rented the manor house from Thomas de Luda (Louth) and Margaret his wife in 1341. A transcript in Anglo-Norman French with a translation is fully set out below. Some of the words are obscure, both in reading and translation.

AGREEMENT AS TO ENCLOSURE OF LAND
IN HAREFIELD

TRANSCRIPT IN EXTENDED LATIN

(*Middlesex County Record Office. Tarleton Collection, Acc.*
312/31—31st May, 1316)

1. Noverint universi quod die lune proxima post festum Ascencionis Domini anno regni Regis Edwardi filii Regis
2. Edwardi noro ita convenitur inter | Thomam de Luda ex parte una et Thomam de Sampford Robertum Ravening Sarram de Bachesworth Johannem Haket Thomam Haket
3. Johannem Uden|heved Johannem Alexi, Hugonem Le Chamberleyrn Rogerum de Saleford Hamonem filium Johannis Ricardum ate Bourne Alexandrum Baldewyne
4. Galfridum Baldewyne | Galfridum Scot Alexandrum Le Chamberleyrn Willielmum Wodekot Johannem Le Bouker, Rogerum Fabrum Johannem Morice Symonem Sutore
5. Ricardum Fabrum Ricardum | Pope Johannem Le Taylur Gilbertum Popelyn Gilbertum Le Daye Ricardum Clericum Julianam ate Halle Thomam Le Tuylere Robertum
6. Berenger Symonem Le | Messor Johannem ate Welle Ricardum de Oxeneford Symonem Pruet Willielmum de Mortone Henricum Wytel Rogerum Laurence Johannem
7. Cocum Hamonem | Turkes Walterum Benett Robertum de Burdens Willielmum ate Thorne Stephanum Morice Johannem de Crauden' Johannem ate Watere* libere
8. tenentes | de Herefeld ex altera Scilicet quod cum Dominus de Herefeld dedisset et concessisset praedicto Thome de
9. Luda quandam placeam de communi bruera de He|refeld qua jacet sub bosco ipsius Thome ibidem quam placeam idem Thomas de Luda fossato inclusit quod fossatum
10. praedictus Thomas de Samp|ford et alii tenentes supradicti clamando communam pasture in placea praedicta prostraverunt unde postea in curia domini regis inter praedictum
11. Thomam de | Luda et praedictos Thomam de Sampford et alios tenentes supradictos placitum motum fuit Praedicti
12. Thomas de Sampford Robertus Ravening et | alii tenentes supradicti concesserunt pro se et heredibus suis quod praedictus Thomas de Luda praedictum fossatum relevare
13. ac reparare et fossatum illud | usque exteriorem portam messuagii ipsius Thome versus brueram in eadem villa

14. directe construere et perficere possit et quod ipse et here|des
sui praedictam placeam sic inclusam ac omnes alias placeas
quas idem Thomas de communi bruera praedicta prius
15. incluserat ex concessio|ne domini de Herefeld praedicti
habeant et teneant inclusas et inseperali [sic] absque
calumpnia praedictorum Thome Roberti et aliorum
16. tenentium praedictorum aut |aliquorum heredum suorum
imperpetuum. Et praedictus Thomas de Luda concedit
quod ipse de cetero aliquas alias vastas placeas de communi
17. bru|era praedicta aut de communi mora ejusdem ville de
novo sibi non assumet includendas aut appropriandas sine
18. assensu libere* tenen|tium ville de Herefeld supradicte.
Sed si fecerit, vult et concedit idem Thomas quod libere*
19. tenentes praedicti omnimodas claustruras suas | de placeis
praedictis a quocumque tempore per ipsum inclusis
prostravere et in eisdem cum averiis suis communicare
20. possint absque calumpnia ipsius | Thome aut heredum
suorum quorumcumque. In cujus rei testimonium tam
praedictus Thomas de Luda parti hujus indenture penes
21. praedictos libere* | tenentes remanenti quam praedictus
Thomas de Sampford et alii tenentes supradicti alteri parti
22. ejusdem indenture penes praedictum Tho|mam de Luda
remanenti. Sigilla sua apposuerunt HIIS TESTIBUS
23. Dominis Willielmo de Broc et Ricardo de Wyndesore |
militibus Petro Le Boteler Symone de Ruslepe Willielmo
24. de Yeddingge Gilberto Barentyn Nicholao ate Wode|halle
Ricardo de Tuyle Ricardo de Cornhelle Radulpho Laurence
25. et aliis. DATUM apud Herefeld die lune in sep|timana
pentecoste anno supradicto.

TRANSLATION

1. Know all men that on Monday next after the feast of the
Ascension of the Lord in the ninth year of the reign of King
Edward son of King Edward it was thus agreed between |
2. Thomas de Luda on the one part and Thomas de Sampford
Robert Ravening Sarra de Bachesworth John Haket
3. Thomas Haket John Uden|heved John Alexi Hugh le
Chamberleyn Roger de Saleford Hamo Fitzjohn Richard
4. ate Bourne Alexander Baldewyne Geoffrey Baldewyne |
Geoffrey Scot Alexander le Chamberleyn William Wodekot
John le Bouker Roger the Smith John Morice Symon

* sic.

5. Sutore Richard the Smith Richard | Pope John le Taylur Gilbert Popelyn Gilbert le Daye Richard the clerk Juliana
6. ate Halle Thomas le Tuylere Robert Berenger Symon le | Messor John ate Welle Richard de Oxeneford Symon Pruet William de Mortone Henry Wytel Roger Laurence
7. John the Cook Hamo | Turkes Walter Benett Robert de Burdens William ate Thorne Stephen Morice John de
8. Crauden John ate Watere free tenants | of Herefeld on the other [part], To wit that whereas the lord of Herefeld gave and granted to the said Thomas de Luda a certain plot of
9. ground of the common heath of Herefeld | which lies below the wood of the same Thomas there which plot the same Thomas de Luda enclosed by a dyke which dyke the
10. said Thomas de Sampford | and other tenants aforesaid threw down, claiming common and pasture in the aforesaid plot. Whereupon a plea was afterwards moved in the
11. Court of the Lord King between the aforesaid Thomas de | Luda and the aforesaid Thomas de Sampford and other tenants abovesaid. The aforesaid Thomas de Sampford
12. Robert Ravening and | other tenants abovesaid granted for themselves and their heirs that the aforesaid Thomas de Luda should build anew and repair the said dyke and that
13. he might directly construct and complete the said dyke | up to the outer gate of the messuage of the same Thomas towards the heath in the same vill and that he and his
14. heirs | should have and hold enclosed and inseparable the aforesaid plot thus enclosed and all other plots, which the said Thomas had formerly enclosed from the aforesaid
15. common heath by the grant | of the lord of Herefeld aforesaid, without challenge of the aforesaid Thomas Robert and
16. other tenants aforesaid or | the heirs of any of them for ever. And the aforesaid Thomas de Luda grants that from henceforth he will not cause to be enclosed or appropriated for himself anew any other waste plots of
17. ground from the aforesaid common heath | or from the common moor of the same vill without the assent of the
18. free tenants | of the vill of Herefeld abovesaid. But the said Thomas wills and grants that if he should do so the free tenants aforesaid could throw down all and every his
19. enclosures | of the aforesaid plots, from whatsoever time by him enclosed, and intercommon with their animals in
20. the same without challenge | from the same Thomas or any

- of his heirs whatsoever. In witness whereof as well the said Thomas de Luda has placed his seal to this part of the indenture remaining in the possession of the aforesaid free |
21. tenants, as the said Thomas de Sampford and other tenants to the other part of this same indenture remaining in the
 22. possession of the said Thomas | de Luda. These being witnesses Lords William de Broc and Richard de Wynde-
 23. sore |, knights, Peter le Boteler Symon de Ruslepe William
 24. de Yeddingge Gilbert Barentyn Nicholas ate Wode|halle Richard de Tuyle Richard de Cornhelle Ralph Laurence
 25. and others. Dated at Herefeld on Monday in the week | of Pentecost in the year aforesaid.

INVENTORY OF FURNITURE, ETC., IN HAREFIELD MANOR

TRANSCRIPT IN EXTENDED ANGLO-NORMAN

(Middlesex County Record Office. Tarleton Collection, Acc. 312/37—8th November, 1341)

1. Ceste endenture faite enter Thomas de Louthe et Margarete sa femme de une part et Nichole de Schordich dautre part
2. temoigneth | que les avaundites Thomas et Margarete sa femme ount bailes lur necessaries choses de lur maner en
3. Herfeld a le avaundit Nicho|le en ciel fourme qe ils les eiount auxi bones et suffisautes cum ils les lessount.
4. A primere. En la sale deux tables pur le haute | deis od deux peire de trestels et une table ferme pur les servauns od deux fourmes pur la sale et un chaier feble. Item en
5. le chaumbre | un huche graunde Item en lespense une toune pur pain et un aultre pur aveines. Item une table
6. ferme Item treis petis tables pen|dauns Item en le pestrine sinqe cuves treis grauns et deux menurs et quatre cuvers
7. petis et grauns Item tres tonels graun|des et bones Item deux tynes suffisautes Item une toune de bolenger Item
8. une auge pur pester Item une table od deux trestels | pur pesture Item une peire de trestels travailles pur le braserie
9. Item une auge pur le tonels et un peire de trestels | travailles pur tonels Item un plum a valure de sesse souz Item en le
10. qusine un grand mortar et un dressour Item en le | larder un auge pur larder Item un tonal pur sel Item doux peire de trestels Item une table od deux trestels pur larder Item
11. un | tonail enterclos pur venisonn Item en le maner avaundit un eschele feble et une aultre bone et novele Item un

12. Wayn | bone et novele tot encor Item un charette suffisaunte pur fens Item un aultre charette feble od tot le
13. appareile et od | deux bones lines Item un charet bone et novele od tot le appareile et od deux bones lines et un
14. hurtour de fer Item | quatre carues bones et suffisauntes od tot le appareile deux pur yver et deux pur este od le tret
15. de dosse befs et quatre | chivaux et deux soks et deux sokers du pois de trente deux liveres Item deux fers pur la
16. silvie [?]* de carue pris de vj.d. Item | deux clutes de fer pur la carue un pris de treis deners et aultre pris de un dener
17. Item treis peire de treis bones et suffisauntes pur le charette et sinqe colers febles pur le charette et deux celes febles pur
18. le charette Item treis cordes pur le charette une feble de quatre teises et deux bones noveles chesque de tresse
19. teises pur le charette Item pur le graunge | un bossel lie de fer od une bende travers de fer et une ventere bone et
20. novele pur la graunge et une van bone pur la graunge | et un bon corbiloun Item lesse en le avaundit maner tresse cerures et tresse clefs bones et suffisauntes et bien cloiaunts |
21. et qe ils eiout tous les choses avaunt nomes cum est avaundit tot enterement a terme enter les avaundites
22. parties | mis complie cum ils les lesserunt a jour de fesure de cestes En testimoniance de quele chose les parties
23. avaundites enterchaun[g]ablement ount mis lour seals | Dones a Herfeld le judi prochein apres la feste seint leonard |
24. lan du Regne noster Seignour le Rei Edward Dengleterre qinzime et de Fraunce secunde.

TRANSLATION

1. This indenture made between Thomas de Louthe and Margaret his wife of the one part and Nicholas de Schordich
2. of the other part witnesseth | that the aforesaid Thomas and Margaret his wife have delivered their necessary effects of
3. their manor in Herfeld to the aforesaid Nicholas | in this form that they should have them [back] as good and sufficient as they left them. First, in the hall two tables
4. for the high | dais with two pairs of trestles and one rigid table for the servants with two forms for the hall and one
5. broken chair. Item, in the chamber | one large hutch. Item in the pantry one bin for bread and another for oats. Item one rigid table. Item three small folding tables. |

* The reading of the last three minims in the last syllable is uncertain.

6. Item in the bakehouse five vats, three large and two smaller, and four covers small and large. Item three large and
7. sound barrels. | Item two sufficient tubs. Item one baker's tun. Item one trough for kneading. Item one table with
8. two | trestles for baking. Item one pair of wrought trestles for the brew-house. Item one trough for the
9. barrels and one pair of wrought trestles | for barrels. Item one leaden vat worth 16s. Item in the kitchen one large
10. mortar and one dresser. Item in the | larder one trough for larding. Item one barrel for salt. Item two pair of
11. trestles. Item one table with two trestles for larding. Item one | closed barrel for venison. Item in the manor aforesaid one broken ladder and another good and new.
12. Item one | wain still good as new. Item one sufficient cart for hay. Item another broken cart with all the equipment
13. and with | two good traces. Item one good and new cart with all the gear and with two good traces and an iron
14. skid [?]. Item | four good and sufficient ploughs with all the equipment, two for winter and two for summer with
15. the gear for twelve oxen and four | horses and two plough shares and two coulter weighing thirty-two pounds. Item two irons for the plough beam [?] worth 6d. Item |
16. two iron clouts for the plough one worth threepence and the other worth a penny. Item three pairs of good and
17. sufficient traces | for the cart and five collars in poor condition for the cart and two saddles in poor condition
18. for the cart. Item three cords for the cart | one in poor condition of four fathoms and two good new each of
19. thirteen fathoms for the cart. Item for the granary | one bushel [measure] bound with iron with one cross band of iron and one good and new winnowing basket for the
20. granary and one good winnowing fan for the granary | and one good small basket. Item left in the aforesaid manor thirteen locks and thirteen good and sufficient keys and
21. locking well | and that they shall have all the abovenamed things as is aforesaid at the term set between the aforesaid
22. parties | complete as they shall leave them at the day of the making of these. In witness whereof the parties
23. afore|said interchangeably have put their seals. Given at
24. Herfeld the Thursday next after the feast of St. Leonard | in the year of the reign of our lord the king Edward of England the fifteenth and of France the second.