

## A LINK IN THE EARLY HISTORY OF LONDON.

BY

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OF THE MIDDLE TEMPLE, BARRISTER AT LAW.

*Continued from Page 316, Vol. VI, Part 1.*

DUKE, or as the Roll calls him "Count," Robert was taken prisoner by his brother Henry at the battle of Tenchebrai in 1106 A.D., and had been sent over to England to live on, as a state prisoner, for some eight and twenty years, being moved about from one castle to another, but always with so much indulgence as was compatible with his safe custody. At this time he appears to have been at the Tower of London; before that he had been at Devizes Castle, in the custody of Bishop Roger of Salisbury, and first of all at Corfe Castle. He died at Cardiff in February, 1134 A.D.

Then follows an allowance for the expenses of conveying, from London to the Palace at Woodstock, of Herrings, Onions, Oil, and Nuts, at a cost of £8 18s. 5d., by tale, and in the purchase of Wine and, its carriage, (probably to the same destination) £45 6s. 2d., by tale, and in the purchase of Pepper, Cummin, (a fennel-like plant the seed of which was used as a condiment), ginger, and towels and basins, and then follows a word, which up to the present evades all attempts at successful translation, it is correctly printed from the original Roll as—"Cainsili"—avoiding the more flagrant forms of guessing, it is always possible that the scribe may not have heard the word accurately, or may have misspelt it, correct, spelling not being a strong point at that time.

There is a Provençal word "Camsil" which is akin to the low Latin "Camicia" a shirt, or alb, to which, if we assume the word spoken to have been "Camsil" it would have some resemblance, and taken in connection with towels, and basins, may have been either the royal night-shirt, or bath robe, as the entry continues<sup>1</sup> "for the King's use," (ad opus Regis), at a cost of £23 19s. 9d., by tale, which shows how costly imported spices must have been at that time.

Then follows a brief, but, to Londoners, an extremely interesting entry "For the building of two arches of London Bridge : £25 os. od. by tale. This must refer to the old *wooden* bridge, for though *a* London Bridge is mentioned as early as the year 1097 A.D. in the Saxon Chronicle<sup>2</sup> as being under construction by William Rufus, and as then "almost dispersed by a flood," yet the usually accepted date for the commencement of the first stone bridge by Peter the priest, and chaplain of St. Mary Colechurch, is 1176 A.D.,<sup>3</sup> and it took no less than thirty-three years to complete it.

<sup>1</sup> I am indebted to Mr. Charles Johnson, F.S.A., of the Public Record Office, both for assurance that there was no mistake in the word as printed from the clearly hand-written word in the original Roll, and also for the suggestion as to its having been "Camsil."

<sup>2</sup> Sax: Chron: Ed. Thorpe. Vol. II, p. 202, and p. 128, sub. 1016 A.D.

<sup>3</sup> There is another and yet earlier reference to London Bridge in the Saxon Chronicle in A.D. 1016, where it is recorded that the Danish invaders "dug a great ditch round Southwark, and dragged their ships to the west side of the bridge," and in the 'Heimskringla,' or Chronicle of the Kings of Norway, it is mentioned in the Saga of Olaf Haraldsson the Saint in A.D. 1014, that "there was a bridge between [the Roman walled] City of London, and Southwark; so broad that two waggons could pass each other upon it, and on the bridge were barricades, and *wooden* towers, and parapets, and under the bridge were piles driven into the bed of the river," which shows that there could have been no stone bridge with regular arches, but a substantial wooden structure with a horizontal platform of stout beams resting on the tops of the piles, the rows of which formed the piers, the whole probably having a close resemblance to Caesar's timber bridge over the Rhine. The Saga goes on to tell us, that King Olaf had the ships covered in with pent house roofs to protect the rowers from the stones, and arrows that rained down upon them. "The ships were then rowed up *quite under the bridge*, and their cables were fastened round the piles that supported it, and then the ships were rowed off as hard as they could down stream. The piles were thus shaken at the bottom, and were loosened under the bridge." There being a great extra weight of stones, weapons and men upon it "when the piles were shaken, loosened, and some broken, the bridge gave way, and broke down, and many of its defenders fell

Then we come to a very early mention of Works at The<sup>1</sup> Tower, as being in progress at a cost of £17 os. 6d. by tale. Possibly these were being carried out under the direction of Geoffrey the Engineer already mentioned. It is greatly to be wished that the Scribe had given us a little more *detailed* information as to the nature of these Works, presumably of additions to those carried out by Rufus, who built the [stone] wall about the Tower, or rather his architect, Gundulf, Bishop of Rochester, did so for him<sup>2</sup> in 1097 A.D. Suffice it to say that there is nothing<sup>3</sup> save the White Tower, or great Keep, now remaining above ground in the Tower that can be assigned to so early a date.

The next entry is not without its pathetic associations: it runs, "and in repairs to the houses which were Otueri's, and in re-making (reficiendum) the chapel, and sundry

into the river, and others fled, and Southwark was taken, and London surrendered, and took back Ethelred to be their King."

The poet or Scald Ottar Swarte wrote the following verses about it at the time:—

"London Bridge is broken down  
Gold is won, and bright renown.  
Shields resounding,  
War horns sounding,  
Hildur shouting in the din!  
Arrows singing,  
Mail coats ringing,  
Odin makes our Olaf win."

"Heimskringla" Trs. S. Laing. Vol. II, Ch. VII, pp. 9-10, 1844.

It is singular that at a slightly earlier date, A.D. 993, the Saxon Chronicle relates that "Olaf came with 93 ships to Staines, and harried without it, but makes no mention of how they passed any bridge at London, so either the passage was forced in some way, or (which seems unlikely) the bridge was not then built, yet there would seem to have been one from the days of the Roman occupation of Britain.

<sup>1</sup> Peter did not live to see the termination of his work which, after his death in 1203 A.D., was transferred to Isambert, Master of the School of Saintes, a famous Continental bridge builder, to complete Peter's work, who, after four years, was replaced by Friar West under whose directions the bridge was at last finished. But there is some doubt as to this, for in 1214 A.D., the "Annals of Bermondsey" mention the construction of an arch of the bridge, "Fundatio archæ pontis London" being the expression used, which does not look as if the bridge had been quite complete by the earlier date usually assigned to it.

<sup>2</sup> Sax: Chron: Ed. Thorpe. Vol. II, p. 202.

<sup>3</sup> Necessarily the base of the Roman Wall bastion on which the much later Wardrobe Tower was built, is an exception to this, but it has only been made visible since 1896, and is not Norman work.

other small works 22s. 9d. by tale." The Chapel is most probably that of St. Peter ad Vincula, in the outer bailey, as that of St. John in the White Tower would hardly have needed substantial repairs in the thirty-three years that had elapsed since its completion, unless we construe "reficienda" as mere internal work, such as white-washing the walls, mending windows, and internal woodwork etc., which as the amount, (even allowing for a multiplication of some 25 to 30 fold to bring it to present day value), is comparatively small, and also includes other small items of works, may quite well have been the case.

Nowadays £34. 2s. 6d. would not suffice to do much by way of extensive repairs to any structure. Had the Scribe but told us which chapel, it would have been the earliest known mention of either by name. As it is, not until the reign of Henry the Third do the Rolls make any further mention of the Chapel, or chapels.

It has been argued that the entry *must* refer to St. John's Chapel, because no other then existed, but I do not share this opinion for two reasons. The chapel in the Keep was for the accommodation of the Sovereign, and his Court, and is too small to have been used by the comparatively large garrison of the Castle. Moreover, it is quite the usual practice in the Norman period to place the garrison chapel in the outer bailey, as at Bramber, where the chapel has become the parish church; Arundel where it stood at the South East angle of the lower ward; Windsor, and Ludlow, etc.

Lastly, to reverse the order of nomenclature, there are those houses which were occupied by Otueri. He has long been a mystery to historians, though if they had but "searched the Scriptures," that is to say the Public Records, it would have been found to be one easy of solution. He was one of the illegitimate sons of Hugh of Avranches, Earl of Chester, who died in 1101 A.D.; he is mentioned as formerly holding lands in Essex,<sup>1</sup> where the Roll calls him "Otuer son

<sup>1</sup> P. R. H. I. p. 53.

of the Count," (or Earl) of Chester, Hertford,<sup>1</sup> and Gloucestershire.<sup>2</sup> He was, apparently a *persona grata* at court, as we find him in 1116 and 1120 A.D. among the witnesses to a Confirmation Charter to the Abbey of St. Mary of Kemeys, at St. Dogmaels in South Wales,<sup>3</sup> which was a cell, or branch of the Abbey of Holy Trinity at Tiron, in Normandy, and he must have been a favourite with the King, as we find Henry selecting him to act as a kind of companion-tutor to the King's son William, and others of his left-handed sons. When the Court was at the Tower, (then, and for centuries afterwards, a royal palace), a house, or houses, would be provided for him and his charges, and he was drowned in the White Ship with the King's son, and his own legitimate brother Richard, Earl of Chester, on the 25th of November 1120 A.D., there is an element of pathos in the way the Roll (speaking of these lands, and houses, which *were* Otuer's, some eight or nine years before), shows that they had reverted to the Crown, and had not been re-granted out to anyone else. It is an early instance of the way in which names become attached to particular sites, or buildings at the Tower, and it is probable that this house would continue to be known by his name and, had it not been long since swept away, might have perpetuated it in the same way as the Wakefield Tower immortalises the name of William de Wakefield, sometime Clerk of the Exchanges in the Tower, under Edward III,<sup>4</sup> and the Beauchamp Tower, that of Thomas de Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick, imprisoned there in 1397 A.D.<sup>5</sup>

This mention of Otuer is of value in another way, as it affords a means of narrowing down the period in which falls the actual date of this Roll, seeing that a person drowned some 14 years previously would hardly be mentioned in a

<sup>1</sup> and <sup>2</sup> pp. 53, 56, 60, 134, and 144.

<sup>3</sup> Round. Calendar of Documents preserved in France. Vol. I, pp. xxxv, and 352-3.

<sup>4</sup> *Cal. Patent Rolls*. 1 Henry IV, p. 156, m. 6. 1399 A.D. and C.P.R. 18 Edward III, p. 346, m. 23, 1344 A.D.

<sup>5</sup> Thomas of Walsingham, II, 222 and Stubbs, *Cons Hist*: II, Ch. XVI, p. 518.

Pipe Roll of 5 Stephen, (supposing any such to have existed), this being a date long, but quite erroneously assigned to this Roll, and it also proves that the Roll cannot be earlier than A.D. 1121. Otuer having been alive in the previous year<sup>1</sup> and the Countess Lucy of Chester (already mentioned), was the wife (by her *third* marriage) of Ranulf Le Meschin, Earl of Chester, he having succeeded to that Earldom on the death of his cousin Richard, Otuer's half-brother who was also drowned in the wreck of the White Ship. Ranulf was certainly dead before Michaelmas 1130, A.D., and it was in order that she might not be sold in marriage a fourth time that we find his widow paying such an immense fine to be permitted to remain single, as previously mentioned, for five years certain.

The next item is the toll on markets, rendered by the Sheriff Theobald of Puinz (or Poyntz), who obtains a discharge on paying in 35s. 3d. (Quietationibus). A cloth is purchased at a cost of 3s. od., by tale, to be placed upon the Tomb of Queen Matilda at Westminster, and the account of the four Sheriffs closes, leaving them in debt to the extent of £310 9s. 2d. in blanch money.

We next find Fulcheredus or Fulcred, fitz-Walter, rendering an account of £209 15s. 7d. in blanch money for the old "Ferm" of London. This he has paid into the Treasury, and received his quittance, (Et quietus est). This "old ferm" is what had remained in arrears from Michaelmas 1128 to Michaelmas 1129—the "new ferm" being that from 1129, to 1130 A.D., and the said Fulcred owes 120 marks of silver (£80 os. od.) for the "gersoma" payable for the Sherifffdom of London, this being the fee paid for leasing the County for a year, or a term of years.

In that portion of this Roll which deals with Essex, and Hertfordshire, we find William de Eynesford, a Kentish landowner leasing the County of Essex for five years at a "gersoma," or rent of 100 marks, £66. 13s. 4d., but on page

<sup>1</sup> P. R. H. I. Introduction, VIII, xv.

53, the Roll tells us that he was superseded in his leases by the royal "Custodes," the King taking the County into his own hands, but very equitably compensating him for his disturbance by remitting eight marks, or four-fifths of his "gersoma" because he had only held the County for one year out of the five.

Next we have Robert the son of Leuestan (possibly that "Liber homo" entered under Suffolk, in Domesday Book,<sup>1</sup> a free man, holding under the Bishop of Baieux, at the time of the Survey, and also holding land at Helmingham, in the time of Edward the Confessor), who renders an account of £16 for the Guild of Weavers (Telariorum) of London, pays it into the Exchequer, and is quit. The word, which is derived from the Latin 'telum,' a dart, is peculiarly appropriate to weaving, where the shuttle carrying the weft thread, is impelled through, and between the upright warp threads, just like a dart would be.<sup>2</sup>

Next John, the son of Ralph the son of Ebrardi, or Everard, owes £7. 6s. 11d. blanch money, for the old Ferm of London, from the time of his father, and in the very next entry we find a Ralph fitz Ebrardi who must needs be the same man, set down as owing 200 marks of silver<sup>3</sup> for pleas of the moneys of Roger the nephew of Hubert,<sup>4</sup> and a further five marks of silver that he may have his debt from a certain Knight (miles) Walter of Ghent.

Next William Fitz Otho renders account of £36. os. 10d.

<sup>1</sup> D.B. Introduction, Vol. II, p. 160, and Text, Vol. II, p. 376.

<sup>2</sup> There is a story illustrating this very well, in the Arabian Nights. In the Supplemental Nights, Vol I, Edn., R. F. Burton, "The Tale of Al Hajjaj, and the Three Young Men," when one of them when arrested and brought before the Judge, and asked who he might be, escaped instant execution by replying "I am the son of him who plungeth through the ranks with his might, and levelleth them with the sword, so that they stand straight, his feet are not loosed from the stirrups, when as horsemen on the day of battle are wearied," and being taken for some one of importance from his reply, was remanded with his companions for further inquiry, which being made, he proved to be the son of a weaver! and by this clever rhetorical reply saved his life.

<sup>3</sup> The value of the silver mark is 13s. 4d., but the mark of gold was £6 os. od.

<sup>4</sup> See the pedigree in Round's "Geoffrey de Mandeville," p. 308.

that the magistrates shall not bring any further action against him, he pays into the Exchequer 10 marks of silver (or £8. 13s. 4d.), and still owes £29. 7s. 7d. Then Henry Arborarius, who was possibly akin to Ralph Arborarius, already mentioned, (who may have been an early wood-monger), owes £20. 17s. 2d. on account of the plea of Ralph Basset, and a further 100 marks of silver for the plea of Bisse.<sup>1</sup>

Next William, who had been Chamberlain (Camerarius) of London, owes £142 1s. 9d. of the old debt of London, and 100 silver marks for a plea concerning a Lorraine falcon. Taisson of London renders an account of 2 silver marks, one war horse (dextrarius), and one palfrey (palefridus), for hares, (riding after greyhounds at a hare hunt) of Waldric his son,<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> A very Jewish-sounding name.

<sup>2</sup> P. 145. 'Waldric son of Taisson.' This is a most uncommon name, and only occurs this once in the entire Roll, so that one is tempted to indulge in the speculation as to whether he might not have been that very Waldric who, down to 1106 A.D., had been the King's Chancellor, and in that same year was the captor of Duke Robert at Tenchebrai, and whom one authority states was as a reward created Bishop of Laon in 1107 A.D., and was murdered by his flock on April 25th, 1112 A.D.! The chronicler Orderic however, says he was appointed Bishop of Llandaff in South Wales, and that the Welsh massacred him with seven of his Canons on Good Friday, April 12th, 1107 A.D. Obviously both versions cannot be correct, unless we assume that there were twin brothers both called Waldric, as like the celebrated bird of Sir Boyle Roche, he could hardly have been killed 'in two places at once' and still more unlike it, with an interval of five years between the killings, or been Bishop of both Sees. While it was very probable that the Welsh would be only too pleased to murder any Norman prelate intruded on the See, one does not quite see how the Duke of Normandy, (even though he was also King of England) was able to appoint his Chancellor to a See so remote from the boundaries of the Duchy (unless by favour of the King of France, or the Pope). However the story as related by Mr. Archer in the *D.N.B.* Vol. VII, p. 812, sub 'Galdric' is so circumstantial, and so supported by a list of documentary and contemporary authorities as to leave small room to doubt of its being the correct version. Whether he was the son of Tesson, or no, the character of this particular Waldric was that of a typical *secular* Bishop, who having been Chancellor, and soldier, had become, as it were by accident a Bishop, being one 'who yet loved to talk of war, hounds and horses' which he had learned to value when in England. (Guibert of Nogent. ap. Migne. Vol. clvi. Cols. 911, 912), and it was just this mention in the Roll of the palfrey for riding after greyhounds (for hare hunting) that led me to surmise that it might (despite the interval of 18 years that had elapsed) have been the same man, and also partly on account of the singularity of the name, and this solitary mention of it. We have seen in the case of Otho (p. 22) that the Roll mentions one dead eleven years before, so as to that there is nothing incongruous



and pays 1 mark of silver into the Treasury leaving the rest still owing that is to say 1 mark of silver, and the two horses.

Adelulfus the Fleming (*Flandrensis*) next renders account of 1 mark of gold, literally "lest the exchange should last longer, which he made with Geoffrey Bucherel," he pays only 60s. od. for half a mark of gold, and is left owing half a mark of gold. Geoffrey seems to have come off cheaper, for we find him paying 100 shillings to be released from the exchange that he made with Adelulf, he has paid 60s. od. into the Treasury, and is left owing 40s. od.

Geoffrey Bucherel (like his Flemish friend), was apparently a moneyer, that is a maker of coins, and the business referred to was probably a mint which they may not have found lucrative enough to continue. At a later period, when the coining of money had been concentrated at the Tower of London, we find Officials appointed, not as to the royal Mint, but as Keepers, etc., of the Kings' "Exchange" at the Tower.

We have here the first mention of a member of that eminent foreign family, the Bucherels, who were [as Mr. Round has pointed out] probably of Italian origin [*Bucherelli*], as were several other eminent City families, and probably gave their name to "Bucklersbury," which it is needless to say had nothing to do with shields, or bucklers, but may have been a group of great town houses, linked together for mutual defence, of the members of a foreign family, in a city always notoriously hostile to foreigners, such as were the habitations of the "Emperors men" which, also grouped together for purposes of trade, and protection, ultimately developed into the Steel Yard in Upper Thames Street.

Witso, or Wizo, the son of Leuestan, owes half a mark of gold for the land and office held by his father, who was a

in the speculation, but there is a lack of evidence to connect the Waldric fitz Taisson (or Tesson) of this Roll, with the Chancellor Bishop, nor does it follow that they were identical.

goldsmith, as was his son who succeeded him. He had apparently, two brothers, Robert<sup>1</sup> whom we have seen accounting for the payment from the Guild of Weavers, for leave to have their guild, and Ailwine who is found witnessing a deed under William, Dean of St. Paul's, and two under Dean Ralf, and also witnesses a charter of the Earl of Essex, Geoffrey de Mandeville, in 1142-1143 A.D.

John, the son of Ralph, the son of Ebrard, was one of the magnates of London, and was more or less closely connected with Gervase de Cornhill during his life, who makes his first appearance in this Roll as Gervase Fitz Roger, the son of that Roger, the nephew of Hubert, already mentioned, of whom, and Ingenolda, his wife, other entries follow later.

An interesting discovery was made in the Royal Charters of the Duchy of Lancaster, one of which grants to Roger the Manor of Chalk in Kent, circa 1116-1120<sup>2</sup> A.D., and the other was after Roger's death, and is specially interesting because it tells us, that Roger had gone upon a pilgrimage to Jerusalem, (ad Jerosolima), from which we may infer his death while so engaged.

Mr. Round,<sup>3</sup> on satisfactory evidence, which he cites, is of opinion that Roger was in his day, a man of considerable

<sup>1</sup> Robert was probably the Alderman of the Weavers Guild, and his father Lefstan, son of Orgar, seems to have held a similar position in that somewhat mysterious body, of which so little definite is known, called the "Cnihtengild." But for the gift of its Soke to Holy Trinity priory, and the preservation among that priory's muniments, of charters confirming that Soke, dating from the time of Edward the Confessor onwards, scanty indeed would be our knowledge of them. There is a paper in Vol. V, of the Society's *Transactions*, pp. 477-493, on the English Guild of Knights and their Soen. by H. C. Coote; useful, but not devoid of errors.

In the Charter of Henry I, confirming to the Priory of the Holy Trinity, the rights of the former Cnihtengild, these are to be held as they had been "tempore fratris mei, [William Rufus], and tempore *Leostani*." Foedera, I, ii.

The Cnihtengild held lands both within, and without the City Wall; these, and their Soke outside Aldgate, were what was given by them to the Priory of Holy Trinity [See Cal: of Letter Books C. Ed. Sharpe, p. 225, for the boundaries].

<sup>2</sup> In the Volume of Ancient Charters, edited by Mr. Round, for the Pipe Roll Society, Vol X, p. 66. There is a yet later charter of Henry II, dated 1164-5 A.D., granting to Gervase de Cornhill the lands at Chalk in Kent which had been held by Roger Nepos Huberti.

<sup>3</sup> Round, Geoffrey de Mandeville, Appendix K, 309.

importance, and that he was Sheriff of London in 1125 A.D., while his name and that of Leofstan the goldsmith occur in a charter of Ramsey Abbey, circa 1114-1125 A.D.,<sup>1</sup> and, if the evidence is admissible of a document no longer in existence, but *seen* by John Stow, who quoted from it a passage showing that in 1125 A.D.,<sup>1</sup> on the grant of their Soke<sup>2</sup> by the Cnihtengild—"The King sent also his Sheriffs, to wit Aubrey de Vere and Roger, nephew to Hubert, which (*sic*) upon his behalf, should invest this church with the possessions thereof—Andrew Buccuinte, and other witness to the accomplishment being present—" and if it is, (as I esteem it), worthy of belief, it appears that Roger was of sufficient importance to have been Sheriff (or *one* of them) of London as early as 1125 A.D., and also as an early, if not the first mention of a member of another important foreign family, Andrew Buccuinte who is the next person to be mentioned in the Roll (p. 145) as rendering an account of £64. 7s. 8d. for the 20 *libratas terrae*<sup>3</sup> of the land of Roger, the nephew of Hubert, he pays in £36. 13s. 4d., and is left owing £26. 14s. 4d. We have seen that he was present at the transfer of the Cnihtengild's Soke, and that in 1137 A.D. he had come to be Justiciar of London, at which time he must have been the leading man in the City, coming as he did of an influential, though probably foreign family, as did the Bucherels, already mentioned.

<sup>1</sup> Ramsey Chartulary I, 130.

<sup>2</sup> A Soke has been defined as the right to administer justice, civil, and criminal too, and in respect of the men, or as we should now call them the tenants, of the Knights, that is all the inferior members of the Gild, irrespective of their residence within the district, or outside of it. It, (that is the Socn or Soke), passed, and was duly conveyed with the land, and how important such a privilege was, is seen in the renewed charter of St. John's Abbey at Colchester, which contained the grant of rights of Sac, Soc, Tol, and Team, etc. Henry, after considering the charter a while, turned to Eudo the Dapifer and Founder of the Abbey, and said "But for thy sake never would I grant such rights," which were so sweeping as to practically amount to the cession of all the privileges and powers of the Crown, but Eudo was like his father before him, a faithful servant of his King, and to this he owed the renewal of the original charter, which had been somehow lost.

<sup>3</sup> A *librata* of land is worth twenty shillings a year, and extends to 4 oxgangs, or 52 acres, and if within the City might well be of considerable value.

The name is peculiar, and has given rise to many theories in connection with it; one that "uncta" may stand for "unctarius" a tallow melter, or chandler, or that it may have been a mediaeval equivalent for our nickname of "tallow chops," meaning a pale, and tallow-coloured complexion; yet another is that he was a man with so smooth, and persuasive a tongue as to have been dubbed "oily, or slippery *mouth*," and so perhaps in some sense an antecessor of that eminent Lord Chief Justice who was known as "Silver-tongued Coleridge" on account of his mellifluous, and persuasive voice; passing over with a brief mention of "greasy or shiny face," though how mouth can be distorted into face is hardly clear? A last hypothesis is that, (like the first Duke of Lauderdale), he had a large slobbering tongue, at all times too large for his mouth, out of which it was for ever lolling, save when speaking.

Next follows Renewardus, the son of Cherson, who renders account of 5 marks of silver for the pleas of the ships of the port of London; that is to say, for the farm of the profits to be extracted from legal shipping business, that would now be transacted in the Court of Admiralty. This sum he has paid into the Treasury, and received his quittance.

Geoffrey, the Engineer, next renders account of 73s. 4d., for a plea of "Cerui"; he has paid in 40s. and still owes 33s. 4d., this may (being printed with a capital C), be either the proper name of some individual, or a stag? [Cervi] in which case it may have been for some poaching exploit in the adjacent forest land, and only his important position as adviser and technical expert, and his ability to pay the fine, (which is for quite a considerable amount), prevented his having to undergo the extreme rigour of the law, as mentioned.

Laurence of Rouen owes thirty ounces of gold, which he agreed for (conventionavit) with the King, when he was in Normandy. Hubert the Clerk (clericus) was indebted to William, son of Otho, in a sum of two marks of silver, but

because he is dead he is acquitted (*Quietus est*). The plea about the stag is probably one of those offences against the forest law, which, severe as it was under William I, now appears to have attained to the maximum of cruel oppression, and to have yielded from the fines for offences against it, exacted by the Justices, considerable sums to the royal revenues, for like his father, Henry I, loved the big game as if he had been their father, and the penalty for unlawfully killing a stag was blinding by plucking out the eyeballs, nor (as the Chronicler, Henry of Huntingdon, tells us), did any dare be so bold as to complain!

On p. 146 of the Roll, Gilbert son of William, renders account of half a mark of gold (£3 equal to about £75 in present day value) and in order that he may have the debt due to him from Anschetil de Bulmer, he paid into the Treasury thirty shillings, for two ounces of gold, and still owes two ounces of gold.

Walter the son of the Bishop of London (!) owes ten marks of silver in order that he may have, by lawful judgement the Church of "Illing,"—Ealing?—possibly, although as a place it is not mentioned in the Domesday Book for Middlesex<sup>1</sup> by name, so that unless included in one, or other, of the manors thereabouts, it may not have then come into existence as much of that part of the County was at that time uncleared forest-land, affording extensive pannage for a large number of hogs.

We now come to the first mention of a Jew, when Jacob the Jew, and his wife, renders account of sixty marks of silver for a plea (that is to say legal proceedings) which then was between them and the men of the Abbot of Westminster. The King having discharged them of the liability of the sixty marks of silver by his writ (*breve*) they are quit.

Next follows a man with a singular surname Godwin Quachehand, which may mean either that his hand was

<sup>1</sup> In 1088 A.D. it evidently did not exist, but may have sprung up in a clearing by 1130 A.D.

shaky as if palsied, or that it had something to do with breadbaking,<sup>1</sup> but he must have been a well-to-do man as he owed four marks of *gold* for a fine made that he might have peace from the plea of the Mint officials against him (*de place monete*). "The Men" of the Abbot of Westminster were apparently his twenty-five Knights, who had houses in the Manor, Bainard. Ralph Peverel, and William the Chamberlain,<sup>2</sup> all of whom held land under the Abbot, and are mentioned by name, and were probably among these, the last-named held two, and a half hides in Kingsbury, the others holding in Westminster, then described as "—the *Village* where the Church of St. Peter is situated!"

Hugh Cordele next renders account of £86, and 1 mark of silver, that he may be released from custody, and have his land; he has paid twenty marks of silver into the Treasury and still owes 110 marks of silver, but has given security for these. The amount being so great it might not have been advisable to enlarge so considerable a debtor (for fear of his giving leg bail) without some further security for payment of the balance.

Alberic de Vere owes 20 marks of silver, and John the son of Ulri owes 12 marks of silver, Osbert Eightdeniers, owes 5 marks. This is a very early reference to a personage of exceptional interest, he being that very Osbert (or Osbern) Huitdeniers (*alias* Octo nummi) who was a prosperous, and well-to-do kinsman of Thomas Becket, and at a later period about 1139-1142 A.D., we find him employing the future Archbishop, and Martyr, (then about 18 years of age), as a clerk in his mercantile house; he also appears in a somewhat corrupted spelling as "Ottdevers" (or Ottdeniers, for Ottdeniers), as witnessing a treaty arranged between the Earls of Hereford, and Gloucester, in the capacity of feudal

<sup>1</sup> *Qnachus*, a kind of coarse bread, used in Scotland.

<sup>2</sup> As early as 1086 A.D., William held (D.B.S.) a *Soke* outside Newgate, which at one time was called Chamberlains gate, (Stow. Survey of London, Ed. Kingsford, II, 361) and also paid to the King's Sheriff 6s. od. a year, for the land in Holborn where his vineyard is situated.

tenant to the latter, for in a carta of 1166 A.D., of the Earl's tenants in Kent, we read "Feudum Osberti Oitdeniers, 1 mil (item)" by which we observe that his holding was one Knight's fee; he also appears as one of the witnesses to the second charter of the Empress Matilda to Geoffrey de Mandeville in 1142 A.D.<sup>1</sup>

At a later date in 1139, Osbert became Justiciar of London, and may have had Gilbert Becket, father of the Archbishop, as his Sheriff or portreeve during his tenure of the office; as we know from the "Materials for the Life of Becket" (No. 67 Rolls Series. II, 359) that Gilbert held that office. Osbert had succeeded Andrew Buccointe as Justiciar, and he had been preceded by Ralph Fitz Everard, [who is more than once mentioned in this Roll,] about 1120 A.D. William de Eynesford, or Einesford, already mentioned, had been Sheriff, and before 1125 A.D., Aubrey de Vere, probably as Justiciar, but possibly as Sheriff, and with him Roger, nephew (nepos) of Hubert.

Otho, son of Alwin, accounts for nine marks, Regin[ald]? or perhaps that very Regenbald, priest, and chancellor who occurs more than once in Domesday Book, as holding land in Berkshire, Dorsetshire, and Hereford in Wales, and is described as Canceled, Presbyter, and de Cirencestre, was Norman Chancellor of Edward the Confessor, and as such not likely to have lacked Court favour under William the Conqueror, or his successors, for ten marks.

Ralph of Oxford, pays 12 marks, Hugh son of Ulger pays nine marks of silver, and Walter his brother, pays 4 marks; Wido (or Guy) son of Ulger, pays 3 marks; William Bucherel pays 2 marks; Anchetil the nephew of Roger, pays 5 marks, of silver; Robert, son of Robert, pays 1 mark of silver; Roger, nephew of Deirel pays 2 marks of silver; Ralph of Winchester pays 3 marks of silver; William Barefoot (pesnudus) pays 3 marks of silver; Thomas, son of Odo Bucherel, pays 3 marks of silver; Ranulph, son of Robert,

<sup>1</sup> Geoffrey de Mandeville, Round p. 170, and appx. Q. 374.

pays 2 marks of silver; Symon Lutro pays 3 marks of silver, and Regin[ald] son of Morin, pays 2 marks of silver.

Fulk son of Ralph, renders account for £49, that he may go forth from custody, and completes or discharges the agreement which was made between him, and the King, and has paid 100.s. into the Treasury, and owes £44. 0s. 0d., and the same Fulk, the Sheriff, renders account of £99. 1s. 0d. for the "assaltum," (or amount of tax) upon the ships, and houses of London, and has paid £8. 0s. 0d. into the Treasury, and in a payment by the King's writ to William Toiri 17 marks of silver for I. *Estructum*<sup>1</sup> and I. *palefridum*.<sup>4</sup> The second item refers to one palfrey, and in a remission by the King's Writ (breve) to Baldwin the Fleming, (of London) of 10 marks of silver, for love of William the Castellan of St. Audemer, and the like—Ralph Villano 10 marks for the love of Andrew de Baldement, and owes (that is Fulk owes) £66. 6s. 8d. and, of these debts to the Crown, William Toiri and Robert the son of Theobald, thirteen marks of silver, Ranulf, son of Fulco, eight marks of silver; Richard Ailmar, 40s. 0s.; Hugh de Cassel £6. 3s. 8d., Taisson 100.s. 0d. Then Anschetil Soparius, who either was himself a soap boiler, or gave his name to Sopers Lane, 6 marks of silver; Siward, a name suggestive of Norse, or Danish origin, [but unfortunately the roll has at this point become illegible, and his surname is missing,] three marks of silver; Robert Espeldri eight marks of silver; Walter the Norwegian (Norriscus), 1 mark of silver; John the son of Ralph fitz Ebrardi (or Everard), and Robert his brother render account of 1402 marks of silver, less 4d., of the debt of Gervase,<sup>2</sup> son of Roger, for the whole of his father's land, and have paid into the Treasury £55 13s. 4d., except twenty librates of land which the King has retained (retinuit) for the work of Andrew<sup>3</sup> oily mouth (Bucca

<sup>1</sup> "*Estructum*," This is a word I have failed to find in the Glossaries, and unless it is a misspelling for *austurcum* a goshawk, or relates to some article of horse gear, I am unable to explain it further.

<sup>2</sup> Afterwards Gervase de Cornhill.

<sup>3</sup> Andrew Bocointe, as it is sometimes spelt, was the most famous member of this



Uncta), and in sundry payments to divers persons made by the authority of the King's writ, and the said John £10 (pro Estructum) which I think must refer to some kind of hawk<sup>1</sup> that the King had from him, and he still owes 1402 marks of silver less 4d., and the said John owes three marks of gold for the grant of the lands, which Gervase gave to him, and his brother.

*(To be Continued).*

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great foreign family, who were of Italian origin, and appear to have settled in London (like the Buckerels), at the end of the previous century. In 1173 A.D., Andrew held the important and responsible post of Justiciar of London. The land referred to in the Roll may have been that on which his smelting furnace (fornax) was situated for he seems to have been like other members of his family, a financier, banker and moneylender, and also a money-maker or coiner. This land was probably in the parish of St. Stephen Walbrook, where he seems to have lived and, according to the Cartulary of St. John's of Colchester (Roxburgh Soc: II, 293-4), died temp. Stephen, and so adjoining Bucklers or Buckerels bury, for their name seems to have been corrupted from the Italian sounding "Bucherell" into plain Buckler.

<sup>1</sup> See previous note, page 33.