

## NOTES ON THE HISTORY OF THE MANOR AND CHURCH OF HEDSOR.

[The following notes (condensed from the original) embody the result of a research made under my directions during the year 1900, into the history of the Manor and Church of Hedsor. As I can lay no claim to be an expert in archæological matters, I shall gratefully receive any corrections or additional information. I should add that these notes are intended only to be supplemental to the history of the parish as given by Langley and others, so that the information thus provided is consequently not repeated, except incidentally.]

### THE MANOR.

Hedsor, according to one learned authority, is derived from the A.S. proper name "Hæddi" and "ōra," a bank or margin of a stream, and would thus be rendered "Hæddi's bank," the spot beside the river where a settler of this name took up his abode. Another derivation is from the A.S. "Hæd" (heath), and the verb "sceran" (participle "scoren"), to "cut," indicating what we term a "sheer descent." The first syllable would refer to the rough heath-covered land formerly embraced in Taplow and Hedsor commons, the second to the steep cliffs bordering the river, the name being thus rendered as "Heathy Cliff or Hill."

In former times the name of the parish was spelt in various ways, some of which are here given—

Heddesore, Hadesore, Hadeshowere, Hedesouere,  
Heddeshour, Heddeshore, Hedysore, Heddysworth,  
Hedsworth alias Hedsore, Hedyssouer, Edyssore,  
Edisor, Headsore, and finally Hedsor.

The following is a list of the families which owned the Manor, the dates given being the years in which

the earliest and latest records respecting their possession exist:—

De Hedsors	1166—1305.	Hawtreys	1556—1573.
Lovedays	1305—1362.	Hyndes	1573—1658.
Restwolds	1379—1554.	Cholcots	1658—1720.
Peckhams	1554—1556.	Parkers	1720—1764.

In 1764 the Manor was purchased by William Lord Boston. The above list, so far as can be ascertained, appears to be complete.

The Court Rolls at present in existence date from 1573, and extend to 1852, though the rolls are missing from 1623 to 1654. According to Langley, they date from 37 Henry VI., but what has become of these early rolls is unknown.

Hedsor is not mentioned by name in Domesday Book, and Langley's suggestion that it was identical with "Lede" (which he afterwards saw reason to doubt)<sup>(1)</sup> cannot be proved. Lysons states<sup>(2)</sup> that the "Manor of Lude or Lyde in Wooburn (called in the Norman survey Lede) has passed with Bishop's Wooburn, and is now the property of Mr. Dupre." If this is correct, Lede was not identical with Hedsor, but the authority for Lysons' statement is unknown to me. Under these circumstances it seems useless to put forward any conjectures, but only to add that nothing in the researches made of late shows any connection between Hedsor and Wooburn in early times. To the proposition that Hedsor was "carved" out of Little Marlow, the objection is made that the "hidation" of the latter Manor was not large enough for this to have been the case.

The earliest record discovered respecting the Manor of Hedsor states that in 1166 "Geoffrey, son of Sofrid (or Safrid)" answered for "one knight" at the Court of the Honor of Wallingford<sup>(3)</sup>, showing that Hedsor was held of the Honor at that time. In confirmation of this fact, a record of 1254 states that when an Inquisition was made before the Justices for Bucks touching "The rights and liberties and other things belonging to the King," the inhabitants of Hedsor reported that

(1) Hun. Desb., page 273, note.

(2) *Magna Britannia*, Bucks, p. 671.

(3) *Black Book of Exchequer*. *Red Book ditto*, fol. 101d.

"they know nothing at all, as they are of the Honor of Walingford," (4) and finally in 1548, when this Honor had been annexed to the Honor of Ewelme, the Jurors, under an Inquisition taken in that year, reported that Hedsor was held "of the Lord the King, as of his Honor of Ewelme, but by what services the Jurors are ignorant, being worth by the year in all issues £20." (5)

Beyond the extract quoted above, nothing further has been discovered respecting "Geoffrey son of Sofrid," but in 1201-2, "William son of Geoffrey" was in possession of the Manor, and paid a fine of one mark through the Sheriff, Geoffrey Fitz Peter, in order to avoid foreign service. (6) In the following year he entered into an agreement with one Miles Neirenuit respecting "40 acres of pasturage" in Hedsor (7), and in 1204 into a further agreement with Robert Burrell of London, to whom he "let to farm" all his land in Hedsor for 24½ years, from Easter Day of that year, at the annual rent of "one mark of silver." (8)

William seems to have been the first member of his family to assume the name of De Hedsor, as though he is occasionally described as "William son of Geoffrey," he is more frequently termed "William De Hedsor." His wife's name was Matilda, but her family is unknown. He died circa 1211-12, for in that year (9) Matilda, "who was the wife of William de Heddeshour," brought an action against various persons in respect of lands in Hedsor (10) and elsewhere, "part of her dower," a fine being subsequently levied between her and Thomas de Nevill as to "Westcroft in Hedesores," which she claimed as "her reasonable dower," that she had "of the gift of William de Hedesore, formerly her husband." (11) Matilda died in 1246-7, as appears from an Inquisition taken in that year. (12)

(4) Hundred Rolls, Bucks, Chapter House, No. 6, P.R.O.

(5) Chanc. Inq., P.M., Series II., Vol. 86, No. 5.

(6) Chancellor's Rolls, 3 John.

(7) Fines, Bucks, File 7, No. 47.

(8) Fine Roll, 6 John, m 10. Charter Roll, 6 John, m 9.

(9) Exch. Q. Rememb., Misc Books, Vol. II.

(10) Curia Regis Rolls, No. 54, m 14, 16, 16d.

(11) Fines, Bucks, 13 John, File 9, No. 2.

(12) Assize Rolls, Bucks, No. 56, m 22d.

According to the Charters of Missenden Abbey, "William De Hedsor and Matilda his wife" <sup>(13)</sup> gave to the Canons of that Abbey "the rent of nine marks in the vill of Hedsore, which German son of Robert was wont to render for the land which is called 'Wulneneham' <sup>(14)</sup> and the rent of twelve pence in the same vill, which Geoffrey son of Richard was wont to render for the heath which he held, and the whole land which is called Landcroft, and the whole wood which is called Ludeput <sup>(15)</sup>, near the dike of land of the Church of Hedesore." The date of the gift is uncertain, and Langley attributed it to a later member of the family (1276-84) bearing the same name, and also "son of Geoffrey." The mention of Matilda as the wife of William would seem to prove that the gift was of earlier date (prior to 1211-12), but as the date of the foundation of Missenden Abbey is uncertain, this surmise cannot be verified.

William De Hedsor was succeeded by another member of the family bearing the same name, and most probably his son. This William, who was in possession of the Manor in 1220 <sup>(16)</sup>, in 1222 passed a fine with Hugh Bishop of Lincoln, respecting 30 acres of land and 3 acres of meadow in Hedsor <sup>(17)</sup>, in 1224 was declared with one Walter Le Maunsel to be heir to the property of his uncle, Hugh Fitz Robert <sup>(18)</sup>, and in 1228 paid a fine at the Court of the Honor, in order to avoid foreign service. <sup>(19)</sup> His wife's name was Hodierna, as appears from an action she brought against Hugh de London and John Tempremoise after her husband's decease. <sup>(20)</sup> The date of her death is uncertain, but in 1234-5 Geoffrey de Hedsor was Lord of the Manor, and paid "one mark" for "one fee in Hedesore," at the Court of the Honor. <sup>(21)</sup> Geoffrey was probably son of a brother of the William De Hedsor who died in 1211-12, as Matilda, widow of the William in question, is described

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(13) Harleian MS., 3688, Fol. 93.

(14) Now "Woolman's."

(15) Now Ludpits.

(16) Curia Regis Rolls, 73 m 11, 74 m 4.

(17) Curia Regis Rolls, 81, m 4. Fines, Bucks, File 14, No. 5.

(18) Curia Regis Rolls, 87 m 5.

(19) Harleian MSS.

(20) Assize Rolls, Bucks, No. 62.

(21) Testa De Nevill, Fol. 213, 223.

in the Inquisition taken at her death (1247) as "aunt of Geoffrey," who was declared her heir.<sup>(22)</sup> In the same year he was defendant in a suit brought against him by William, son of Thomas de Wuburn, respecting the latter's "free tenement in Hedesoueres,"<sup>(23)</sup> and in 1261-2 he was fined "one mark" in an action brought against him by William de St. Edmund for the unlawful detention of the latter's cattle.<sup>(24)</sup> Geoffrey was still in possession of the Manor in 1269-70, in which year he was a Juror of the Hundred of Burnham.<sup>(25)</sup>

A record of the assizes held at Newport Pagnell on 26 October, 1247, states that "malefactors unknown broke into the house of Christiana de Edesouere, and killed her and her daughter and fled," and further that "John, son of Robert de Edesouere was found burnt in the house of Isabella de Agna."<sup>(26)</sup> A verdict of murder was returned in each case.

Geoffrey de Hedsor died between 1270 and 1276, and, according to Langley, was succeeded by his son William, who was engaged in litigation touching property in Wooburn and Beaconsfield in 1276-7<sup>(27)</sup> and 1278.<sup>(28)</sup> In 1284 a record occurs to the effect that "Matilda, wife of Emeric de Roche Canard, who is about to set out for foreign parts," had "attorned William de Heddesore in her place before the King."<sup>(29)</sup>

William was succeeded by John de Hedsor, who was probably his brother, as he is described in certain proceedings taken before the assizes of 20 January, 1285-6<sup>(30)</sup> as "son of Geoffrey." In a "Roll of the Fees which are held of the King in chief,"<sup>(31)</sup> dated 1284-6, it is stated that "John de Heddesore holds the vill of Heddesore, for two parts of a Knight's Fee of the Earl of Cornwall (owner of the Honor of Wallingford), and the same Earl holds of the King in chief." In 1287 we find that John de Hedsor had

(22) Assize Rolls, Bucks, m 22d.

(23) Assize Rolls, Bucks, m 15d.

(24) Assize Rolls, Bucks, m 73d.

(25) Assize Rolls, Bucks, No. 61, m 1.

(26) Assize Rolls, Bucks, No. 56, m 46.

(27) Patent Roll, 5 Ed. I.

(28) Ditto 7 Ed. I.

(29) Patent Roll, 12 Ed. I.

(30) Assize Rolls, Bucks, No. 63, m 20.

(31) Exch. Q Rememb. Misc Books.

letters of protection granted him, as he was about to "set out for foreign parts by the King's command, as the King's messenger." (32) In 1301 he answered for the Manor, at the Court of the Honor. (33) His wife's name was Joan, and their daughter was named Margery. (34) This Margery was a nun of the Abbey of Burnham, and was sentenced in 1315 (35) to "greater ex-communication" for two years, for breaking her vows. This sentence was, however, relaxed in 1317 (36), as it was stated on her behalf that she had been "compelled to enter the house of Burnham." She afterwards married Roger Blaket, of Rickmansworth.

John de Hedsor appears to have died about 1309-10, as in the following year "Walter Stevene and Geoffrey de Hedsore, executors of the will of John de Hedsore," applied for a writ, "touching certain trespasses done to the same executors." (37) He was the last member of his family who possessed the Manor, which he seems to have sold to Ralph Loveday in or prior to 1305. (37b) Litigation on the subject took place in that year, and also in 1315, when Ralph Loveday took certain proceedings (the details of which are not forthcoming) against "John de la Penne, Joan the wife, and Margery the daughter of John de Hedsore." (38)

The name "De Hedsor" appears in a few later records. Thus "Geoffrey de Hedsore" was one of John's executors. In 1340 a "John de Heddesore" is mentioned in connection with a report respecting the "Ninthe of Sheaves" granted to the King, (39) and in 1382 an Inventory of "the goods which formerly belonged to John de Heddesore" was made and administration committed to "Ellen, relict of the said John, who had died intestate." (40) This inventory further states that "the said John was indebted to Richard de Heddesore in 30s."

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(32) Patent Roll, 15 Ed. I., m 4.

(33) Chanc. Inq. P.M., 28 Ed. I., File 2.

(34) Assize Rolls, Bucks, No. 1,365, m 12d.

(35) Bishop D'Alderby's Register, Lincoln, Fol. 288d.

(36) *Id.*, Fol. 361.

(37) Fine Roll, 4 Ed. II., m 3.

(37b) De Banco Rolls, No. 156, m 241.

(38) Assize Rolls, Bucks, No. 1,365, m 12d.

(39) Exch. Lay Subsidies, Bucks, 77-9.

(40) Bishop's Buckingham Register, Lincoln, Fol. 250.

There is no information in my possession as to the history of the Loveday family, except that they were owners of the Manor of Moungewell in Oxfordshire, with the advowson.

Ralph Loveday was the first member of the family who owned the Manor of Hedsor, as appears from a writ dated 5 March, 9 Edward II.,<sup>(41)</sup> in which are recited the "Hundreds, Burghs, and Vills of the Counties of Bedford and Buckingham, and the Lords of the same." It is, however, curious that in the litigation about to be referred to, he is usually a partner with one or both of his sons, which may imply that he was only Lord of the Manor as their guardian.

In 1314 "John, son of Ralph Loveday," brought an action against the Abbess of Burnham, respecting "a tenement in Bekenesfeld,"<sup>(42)</sup> and in 1315 Ralph Loveday was engaged in the litigation with the De Hedsor family already referred to.<sup>(43)</sup> In the same year an action was brought against Ralph Loveday and others by one Edmund de Mareschal, "touching a tenement in Hedesore,"<sup>(44)</sup> another by John de la Lude against "Ralph and John his son" touching lands in "Tappelowe, Heddesore, and Wouburne,"<sup>(45)</sup> and a third against "Ralph Loveday, Hugh and John his sons" by Symon de Clyveden, as to lands in Wooburn.<sup>(46)</sup> In 1325 there is a record of an action by "John, son of William de la Penne" against "Ralph Loveday and John his son" respecting a tenement in Burnham.<sup>(47)</sup>

It is not until the year 1329 that any mention is made of John Loveday alone, in connection with the Manor, which would seem to point to the death of his father Ralph between 1325 and the year in question, when a fine was passed between "John, son of Ralph Loveday, and Margaret his wife, and Edmund de Beresford and Walter Loveday, parson of the church of Moungewelle, deforciant of the Manor of Mounge-

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(41) Exch. Misc. Rolls, Bundle 2 No. 1.

(42) Assize Rolls, Bucks, m 33, No. 1,365, m 14d.

(43) Id., No. 1,365, m 14d.

(44) Id., No. 1,365, m 15d.

(45) Id., No. 1,365, m 5.

(46) Id., No. 1,365, m 5d.

(47) Id., No. 1,393a.

welle," respecting the Manor and advowson of that place, and the Manor of Hedsor. This fine is a settlement on John and Margaret and their issue, and failing such, on the rightful heirs of John. (48)

No further record is forthcoming respecting this John Loveday, and the date of his death is unknown, but he was succeeded by another member of the family of the same name, probably his son, who in 1346 was a minor, in the custody of the "Black Prince," as owner of the Honor of Wallingford and "Chief Lord" of Hedsor. In this year John paid 40s. towards the "aid" granted to King Edward III., to make his eldest son a knight. (49) It is interesting to note that the record states that this payment was made for "one knight's fee in Hedesore, held of the Honor of Walingford in chief, and which John de Heddesore formerly held." John Loveday appears to have died about the year 1362, when his widow, Cecilia, took proceedings against one Hugh de Berewyk respecting a portion of the Manor (49b) she claimed as her dower. The Manor probably now passed into the hands of the Restwolds (also written Ristwold, Rastwold, and Restwood), who, according to Langley, were "very early situated in the county of Oxford."

The first member of this family who, so far as can be ascertained, owned the Manor of Hedsor was "Ralph or Randulph the younger." In 1379 we find that he held "one knight's fee in Hedesore, which is worth 100s. by the year when it shall happen," (50) and it is further stated that "Lord Edward, late Prince of Wales," held this "in his demesne on the day that he died," i.e., as owner of the Honor of Wallingford. In 1383 Ralph Restwold made his will, in which he is described as "Lord of Heddesore," and by it he bequeathed his property to Elizabeth, his wife, and to his sons and daughters, and directed his body to be buried near his father and mother at "the Friars' Minors" of Reading. (51) He appointed as his executors "William Baillemot and John Southowe of Crowemarrsh, supervisors of this will, and of the will of my

(48) Fines, Divers Counties, File 35, No. 37.

(49) Exch. Q. Rem. Misc Books, Vol. 3.

(49b) De Banco Rolls, No. 408, m 90.

(50) Chanc. Inq., P.M., 2 Richard II., No. 57, m 23.

(51) Buckingham Register, Lincoln, Fol. 261.



father." The will is dated 10 October, 1383, and was proved at Wooburn on the 22nd of the same month, so that he presumably died between these dates. From the mention of "Crowemarrsh" in his will, I am inclined to think that he was son of another "Ralph Restwold," who died on 11 June, 1383, and who, according to an Inquisition<sup>(52)</sup> taken at New Sarum upon his death, was owner of the Manor of Crowmarsh Gifford in Oxfordshire, lands in Hurst, Berks, and the Manor of Hyle in Wilts, which last he held of the Bishop of Salisbury. This Ralph had another son named William, who, according to a record dated 7 March, 1378,<sup>(53)</sup> predeceased his father, the estates mentioned above passing direct to his son Richard, who was born about 1364,<sup>(54)</sup> but of whom nothing further is known.

We now arrive at a period (1383 to 1457) during which no record has been discovered containing any reference to the Manor, or its owners. There is no doubt that it remained in the hands of the Restwolds, and it will be remembered that Ralph the younger bequeathed his property to his wife, sons, and daughters, but I have no further information respecting them. A few records exist respecting certain members of the family, but it is impossible to feel any absolute confidence (prior to 1492) as to their relationship to each other. Thus "Richard Restwold" (mentioned by Langle) is returned among the "Gentry of Berks" in 1435<sup>(55)</sup> was Sheriff of Berks and Oxon 1434,<sup>(56)</sup> M.P. for Berks 1441-2,<sup>(57)</sup> Sheriff of Wilts 1442 and 1446,<sup>(58)</sup> and Sheriff of Berks 1463.<sup>(59)</sup> In 1451 he is mentioned as one of the arbitrators in a suit between one Emanuel Rede, of Borstall, and John Warefeld, of Wallingford, concerning certain tenements there.<sup>(60)</sup> The date of his birth is unknown, but possibly he was a son of the Richard Restwold mentioned above, who

(52) *hanc. Inq.*, P.M., 7 Richard II., No. 70.

(53) *Patent Roll*, 1 Richard II., Part 4, m 29.

(54) See reference (52).

(55) Fuller's "Worthies," p. 98.

(56) *Id.*, p. 105.

(57) *Langley, Hun. Desb.*, p. 274, note.

(58) Fuller's "Worthies," p. 161.

(59) *Id.*, p. 105.

(60) *Kennet's "Parochial Antiquities,"* Vol. II., p. 386.

was born about 1364. No record exists to connect him with Hedsor. Two Inquisitions taken at Crowmarsh Gifford and Hurst in 1476<sup>(61)</sup> state that "Richard Restwold" died on 4 September, 1475, but whether these refer to him or to a contemporary cannot be said with any certainty, especially as it is stated that the Richard in question "did not hold any lands of the King on the day that he died," but only the Manor of Lee, Lee in Wilts, of the Bishop of Salisbury, a statement which would appear somewhat curious in the case of a person who had filled so many public offices. It is added that this Richard had a son named Thomas, "aged 30 years and more," i.e., in 1476.

By the Lincoln Institutions it is stated that "Thomas Restwold" presented to the living of Hedsor in 1477, 1461, 1486, and 1490, but according to an Inquisition taken in 1508<sup>(62)</sup> a "Thomas Restwold" died "at the Manor of Heddysworth" (Hedsor) on 20 February, 1479-80. Presumably, therefore, there were two members of the family bearing the same name who were owners of Hedsor.

The Thomas Restwold who died in 1479-80 is described as son of "Richard Restwold," and is possibly identical with the Thomas mentioned in the Inquisition of 1476 (above). His son was also named Richard, and he afterwards inherited the Manor of Hedsor, as will appear later. Thomas owned the Manors of "La Vache, La Bury, and Lowdans," with lands in "Chalshunt S. Giles, Chalshunt S. Peter, Ismansted Chayney, and Aymondesham," all of which are recited in the Inquisition of 1508. The Manor of Hedsor is not mentioned, but this may have been from the fact that it was not held direct of the Crown.

Respecting the "Thomas Restwold" who presented to the living of Hedsor in 1486 and 1490 have again little or no information. The date of his birth and his parentage are uncertain, but he may have succeeded to the Manor in 1479-80, upon the death of the other Thomas. It seems possible that he was identical with the "Thomas Restwold" who is returned as Sheriff of

(61) Chanc. Inq., P.M., 15 Edward I., No. 8.

(62) Escheator's Inq., P.M., File 5 No. 20.

Berks and Oxon in 1478, <sup>(63)</sup> but this may have been his namesake above referred to. He entered into an arrangement in 1492, under which he sold the Manor of Hedsor to Robert Restwold and his wife Sibyl, the consideration for the sale being the sum of 20 marks to be paid to him and "his wife Agnes" for their lives. <sup>(64)</sup> The date of Thomas's death is uncertain. As will be seen from the above, his wife's name was Agnes, but to what family she belonged I have failed to discover. Langley, however, states that "Thomas Restwold married Margaret, one of the daughters and co-heiresses of John Boyville of Stokefaston in Leicestershire," as appears from a deed of partition of lands made between his three daughters, dated 17 May 8 Edward IV. <sup>(65)</sup> Whether she was the first wife of this Thomas, or wife of the Thomas who died in 1479-80, is uncertain.

Robert Restwold, who now acquired the Manor, held it until his death in 1497. His will is dated 8 January in that year, and was proved on 4 January in the following year. <sup>(66)</sup> From it we gather that his wife's Christian name was Sibell, and that he owned land at "Harpenden." He bequeathed the Manor of Hedsor to his nephew Richard, son of the Thomas Restwold who died in 1479 (see above), from which it may be presumed that he was the latter's brother.

Richard Restwold was born in 1458, <sup>(67)</sup> was Sheriff of Bucks and Beds in 1492 and again in 1500, <sup>(68)</sup> and also owned the Manor of La Vache and land in "Ismansted Cheyne." In 1512 he settled the Manor of Hedsor and lands in Chalfont upon his son Edward, and died in 1522. <sup>(69)</sup>

Edward Restwold was born in 1491, and held the Manor until his death in 1547. He does not seem to have filled any public office. During his tenure of the Manor he leased it to "Christopher Grantham and Margarett his wife, and Edward Grantham and

(63) Fuller's "Worthies," p. 105.

(64) Fines, Bucks, 7 Henry VIII.

(65) Dugdale's "Antiquities of Warwickshire," p. 716.

(66) "Horne," Probate Court of Canterbury, Folio xvi.

(67) Escheator's Inq., P.M., File 5, No. 20.

(68) Fuller's "Worthies," p. 139.

(69) Chanc. Inq., P.M., Ser. II., Vol. 39.

Margarett his wife" (70) (who was a daughter of Robert Woodford, of Brightwell, in Burnham), under which lease Christopher Grantham presented to the living of Hedsor on two occasions. Edward Restwold married Agnes or Augusta Chaney, daughter of John Chaney, of Drayton Beauchamp, and had issue three sons and six daughters. (71) His two eldest sons predeceased him, and the Manor was inherited by his third son, Anthony, who was born in 1518, (72) and was M.P. for Aylesbury in 1555. From Edward Restwold's will (73) it appears that he owned, in addition to the Manor of Hedsor, those of La Vache in Chalfont, Lee and Warres in Wilts and Berks, Monks Risborough in Bucks, and lands in Hurst, Sonning, and Twyford. He is described as of "Saynt Gyles Chalfonts." His son Anthony only possessed the Manor of Hedsor for a year, as in 1553 or 1554 he sold it to Sir Edmund Peckham, of Denham. (73b)

It may here be noted that during the period that the Restwolds were in possession of Hedsor, Philip Bishop of Lincoln had in 1417 granted "an acre and a virgate of meadow" in Hedsor to John Polgrave, vicar of Wooburn, (74) and that in 1439 King Henry VI. conferred upon Robert Manfeld a right of free warren in all his "demesnes, lands, and woods within the parishes of Taplowe, Hecham, and Heddesore." (75) This only refers to a very small portioa of Hedsor, bordering upon Cliveden, of which Manfeld was owner at the time of the grant.

Sir Edmund Peckham, who purchased the Manor in 1553 or 1554, sold it within two years to Rauff (Ralph) Hawtrey, of Rislepe. (76) In a pedigree of this family given in Lipscombe's History of Bucks (Vol. III., p. 212), Edward Hawtrey, who married Elizabeth Dormer, of Lee Grange, is called "of Hedsor," but on what authority I am unaware, his son Ralph having

(70) Close Rolls, No. 51, No. 1.

(71) Restwold pedigree, Misc. Genealogica et Heraldica, p. 134.

(72) Chanc. Inq., P.M., Series II., Vol. 86, No. 5.

(73) 48 "Alen." Probate Court of Canterbury.

(73b) Close Rolls, No. 531, No. 1.

(74) Bishop Ripington's Reg., Lincoln.

(75) Charter Roll, 18 Henry VI., No. 37.

(76) Close Roll, No. 531, No. 1. Exch. Q Rem., No. 1-19, No. 5.

been the purchaser of the Manor. Langley (Hun. Desb., p. 275) states that the Manor "came into the possession of William Hawtrey, who was Sheriff of Bucks in 1551," but this statement, so far as Hedsor is concerned, is erroneous. This William Hawtrey was a son of Thomas and Sybil Hawtrey,<sup>(77)</sup> and owned the Manor of Richelesthorne in Bucks, which he held "of the Queen, as of the Earldom of Cornwall."<sup>(78)</sup> Ralph Hawtrey was the only son of Edward Hawtrey, and married Mary, daughter of Sir Edward Altham, Kt., of Marks Hall, Essex. One of their sons was named Edward, and, according to an entry in the Hedsor Register, his son Ralph was baptised there on 14 August, 1570.

In 1573 Ralph Hawtrey sold the Manor to Rowland Hynde or Hinde,<sup>(79)</sup> respecting whom particulars are given by Langley. The transactions recorded during his ownership of Hedsor are not of general interest, but it may be noted that in 1583 he provided "one light horse to carry carsletts and pistolls" to the County Muster,<sup>(80)</sup> and in 1588 subscribed £25 in defence of the County, at the time of the Spanish Armada.<sup>(81)</sup> He was succeeded in 1608 by his second son, Rowland, his eldest son, William, having predeceased him in 1606 or 1607. Langley states that after the death of the second Rowland in 1658, "his heirs sold the Manor and Advowson to William Chilcot, of Isleworth," but it is my opinion that it came to him by inheritance, as his wife was Katherine Billingsley, granddaughter of the Rowland Hynde who died in 1608. From the Chilcots the Hedsor property passed into the hands of the Parker family, as is recorded in Langley, and was purchased in 1764 by William Lord Boston.

#### THE CHURCH.

The earliest record hitherto discovered respecting the Church, but which throws no light upon the date of its foundation, or the name of its founder, is con-

(77) Chanc. Inq., P.M., Ser. II., Vol. 73, No. 4.

(78) Id., Series II., Vol. 102, No. 5.

(79) Fines, Bucks, Easter, 15 Eliz. Close Roll, 15 Eliz., Part 13.

(80) State papers, Vol. 164, No. 7, Bucks.

(81) Names printed by A. R. Smith, of Soho Square, 1886.

tained in the "Liber Antiquus," or ancient book of Ordinaries of Vicarages now preserved in the Alnwick Tower at Lincoln. This book was compiled between the years 1209 and 1235, though the greater portion of it appears to have been written about 1218. The entry respecting Hedsor is as follows:—

"The Vicarage in the Church of Hadeshowere, which is of the Prioress and Nuns of Merlawe."<sup>(82)</sup>

A second record, of undoubtedly ancient date, is contained in a Charter of Missenden Abbey, and is an acknowledgment of an obligation from the Prioress of Merlawe of 4s., to be rendered to the Abbey of Missenden, "for the grove (grava) which is called 'Ludeput' near the dike of the land of the Church of Heddesore, and an acre and a half of land which lie near the land of the Church of the same vill, towards Wouburn."<sup>(83)</sup> The date of this charter cannot be fixed with absolute certainty, but we are able to conclude that it is of approximately the same date as the charter referred to on page 490 (by which William De Hedsor gave certain monies to the Canons of Missenden), owing to the identity of two of the witnesses to each charter, viz., Robert De Burnham and Matthew Brand. The remarks made on the page referred to as to the date of this latter charter, will therefore apply equally to the one now under consideration. Among the witnesses to this charter is "Nicholas the Chaplain." The Assize Rolls for Bucks of 1240-1 contain a presentment with respect to a theft and outrage committed at the house of "Josceus the Chaplain" in Hedsor.<sup>(84)</sup>

Langley states that the living was valued in the Taxation Roll of Pope Nicholas IV. in 1291 at 2 marks, and that the Bishop of Norwich had "before reckoned it worth 40s."<sup>(85)</sup> It seems, however, certain that he is in error, and that Hedsor does not occur in the Roll in question. Browne Willis<sup>(86)</sup> expressly

(82) Liber Antiquus, Vol. V.

(83) Harleian MSS., 3,688, Fol. 93.

(84) Assize Rolls, Bucks, No. 55, m 20d.

(85) Hun. Desborough, p. 233.

(86) MSS., Fol. 54.

states that this is the case, and the present researches have confirmed his statement.

The next record discovered respecting the Church is in 1340-1, when a Commission was issued to enquire respecting the "ninth of sheaves fleeces and lambs granted to the Lord the King in the County of Buckingham." (87) Hedsor occurs among the "small benefices not taxed and untitheable churches," the church being termed a "chapel." It is added that the "ninth of the same Chapel was worth 20s. and not more this year."

In the year 1377 "Robertus, Capellanus et Procurator ecclesie de Hedesore," was one of the Jurors to "enquire concerning the vacancy" of the church of Little Marlow. (88)

In 1383 we find that Randulph (Ralph) Restwold the younger, Lord of the Manor, bequeathed by his will, "one torch" to serve "in levacione Corporis Christi" to the "high altar of Heddesore." (89)

We now come to the year 1403, when the first Presentation and Institution to the Living, hitherto discovered, took place. They run as follows:—

(1) "Of a Presentation." (90)

"John Steven, Chaplain, has the King's letters of Presentation to the Church of Heddesore, diocese of Lincoln, and belonging to the King's donation, as it is said. And these letters are directed to Henry Bishop of Lincoln.

Witness the King at Westminster, the 14th day of May, 1403."

(2) "Heddesore Church." (91)

"John Steven, Chaplain, presented by the most excellent Prince and Lord in Christ, our Lord Henry, by the grace of God the illustrious King of England and France and Lord of Ireland, to the Parish Church of Heddesore,

(87) Exch. Lay Subsidias, Bucks, 77-9, m 4.

(88) Bishop's Buckingham Register, Lincoln.

(89) Id., Fol. 261.

(90) Pat Roll, 4 Henry IV., Part 2 (No. 371), m 26.

(91) Bishop Beaufort's Register, Lincoln.

diocese of Lincoln, being vacant, to which on the 29th day of the month of May A.D. 1403, he was admitted at London, and canonically instituted as Rector in the same."

It will be seen from the records about to be quoted that shortly after the institution of John Steven, the Priory of Little Marlow put forward a claim to the presentation, and that action was taken (1) against the Rector with respect to an assault he was alleged to have committed upon the Prioress, when attempting to recover certain vestments, etc., claimed by her, and which had been removed to Little Marlow, and (2) against the Crown, with respect to the right to the presentation. The first action was commenced in a Civil Court, the second in the Court of Arches.

The record referring to the action in the Civil Court is dated in Trinity Term 1403, and runs as follows:—

Pleas at Westminster for Trinity Term 4 Henry IV. <sup>(92)</sup>

"John Stephene, Chaplain, was summoned to answer to the Prioress of Little Merlawe, of a plea wherefore with force and arms, he broke into the close and houses of the said Prioress at Little Merlawe, and there made an assault on the said Prioress, and struck wounded and illtreated her, and took and carried away her goods and chattels to the value of 40s. found there and at Heddesore, and did other enormous things to her, to the grave damage of the said Prioress, and against the King's peace. And wherefore the said Prioress by John Corbrigg her attorney, complains that the aforesaid John, on the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross <sup>(93)</sup> in the 3rd year of the Lord the King who now is, with force and arms, to wit, with swords staves bows and arrows, broke the close, etc., and took and carried away her goods and chattels, namely, books vestments keys and divers household utensils, found there and at Heddesore. Wherefore she says she has

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(92) De Banco Rolls, No. 570.

(93) 14 September, 1402.



damage to the value of ten pounds. And therefore she produces suit, etc. And the aforesaid John, by Roger Wymark his attorney, comes and defends the force and the injury when etc., and says he is in no wise guilty thereof. And he puts himself on his country. And the aforesaid Prioress likewise. The Sheriff is commanded to cause twelve jurors to come on the octaves of St. Hilary."\*

It will be noticed that the assault complained of took place during the year previous to John Steven's

\* De Banco Rolls, n 570, m 213d., P.R.O.

Placita apud Westmonasterium coram W. Thirnyng et sociis suis Justiciariis Domini [Regis] de Banco de termino sancte Trinitatis anno regni Regis Henrici quarti post conquestum quarto.

Buk' Johannes Stephene, Capellanus, attachiatus fuit ad respondendum Priorisse de Parva Merlowe de placito quare vi et armis clausum et domos ipsius Priorisse apud Parvam Merlowe fregit et in ipsam Priorissam ibidem insultum fecit et ipsam verberavit, vulneravit et male tractavit et bona et catalla sua ad valenciam quadraginta solidarum ibidem et apud Heddesore inventa cepit et asportavit, et alia enormia ei intulit ad grave dampnum ipsius Priorisse et contra pacem Regis. Et unde eadem Priorissa per Johannem Corbrigg attornatum suam queritur quod predictus Johannes in festo Exaltacionis sancte Crucis anno regni Domini Regis nunc tercio vi et armis scilicet gladiis, baculis, arcubus et sagittis clausum et domos ipsius Priorisse apud Parvam Merlowe fregit et in ipsam Priorissam insultum fecit et ipsam verberavit, vulneravit et male tractavit et bona et catalla sua videlicet libros, vestimenta, claves et diversa utensilia domorum ad valenciam etc., ibidem et apud Heddesore inventa cepit et asportavit et alia enormia etc., ad grave dampnum etc., et contra pacem Regis etc. Unde dicit quod deteriorata est et dampnum habet ad valenciam decem librarum. Et inde producit sectam etc.

Et predictus Johannes per Rogerum Wymark attornatum suum venit, et defendit vim et injuriam quando etc. Et dicit quod ipse de transgressione predicta in nullo est inde culpabilis prout predicta Priorissa superius per breve et narrationem sua versus eum queritur. Et de hoc ponit se super patriam. Et predicta Priorissa similiter. Ideo preceptum est vicecomiti quod venire faciat hic in octabis sancti Michaelis xij. etc., per quos etc., et qui nec etc., ad recognoscendum etc. Quia tam etc. Ad quem diem venerunt partes. Et vicecomes non misit breve. Ideo sicut prius preceptum est vicecomiti quod venire faciat hic in octabis sancti Hillarii xij etc., ad recognoscendum in forma predicta. Ad quem diem venerunt partes. Et vicecomes non misit breve. Ideo sicut pluries preceptum est vicecomiti quod venire faciat hic a die Pasche in xv. dies etc., xij etc., ad recognoscendum in forma predicta etc. Ad quem

Institution, so that the dispute between him and the Priory commenced before he became Rector.

The second record, which refers to the suit in the Court of Arches, is a Writ of Prohibition issued by the King, directing the Archbishop of Canterbury to stay the proceedings brought by the Priory of Little Marlow with respect to the Presentation. As it is of some importance, I quote it in full. (93b)

“Henry by the grace of God, King of England etc., to the venerable father in Christ Thomas etc., and to his official and their Commissioners, greeting—Whereas the church of Heddesore of the diocese of Lincoln being lately vacant and belonging to our donation, (we presented) our beloved John Steven, Chaplain, to the Church aforesaid, (who) by pretext of the presentation aforesaid, was canonically admitted and instituted and inducted in the same, those things which of right are required in this behalf concurring,

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diem venerunt partes. Et vicecomes non misit breve. Ideo sicut pluries preceptum est vicecomiti quod venire faciat in octabis sancti Michaelis xij etc., ad recognoscendum in forma predicta etc. Ad quem diem venerunt partes. Et vicecomes non misit breve. Ideo sicut pluries preceptum [est] vicecomiti quod venire faciat hic in octabis sancti Hillarii xij etc., ad recognoscendum in forma predicta etc. Ad quem diem venerunt partes. Et vicecomes non misit breve. Ideo sicut pluries preceptum est vicecomiti quod venire faciat hic a die Pasche in xv dies xij etc., ad recognoscendum in forma predicta etc. Ad quem diem venerunt partes. Et vicecomes non misit breve. Ideo sicut pluries preceptum est vicecomiti quod venire faciat hic in octabis sancte Trinitatis xij etc., ad recognoscendum in forma predicta etc. Ad quem diem venerunt partes. Et vicecomes non misit breve. Ideo sicut pluries preceptum est vicecomiti quod venire faciat hic in octabis sancti Michaelis xij etc., ad recognoscendum in forma predicta etc. Ad quem diem venerunt partes. Et vicecomes non misit breve. Ideo sicut pluries preceptum est vicecomiti quod venire faciat hic in octabis sancti Hillarii xij etc., ad recognoscendum in forma predicta etc. Ad quem diem venerunt partes. Et vicecomes non misit breve. Ideo sicut pluries preceptum est vicecomiti quod venire faciat a die Pasche in xv dies xij etc., ad recognoscendum in forma predicta etc.

(93b) Register Arundell, Vol. I., Fol. 558, Lambeth Palace.

as by the letters of institution and induction made to the said John in this behalf, and shown in our Chancery, more fully can appear. And now we have understood that the Prioress and Convent of the Church of the Blessed (Mary) of Merlawe, designing to annul our royal right in this behalf, and to expel the said John from his possession of the church aforesaid, have sued forth, and from day to day do sue forth, very many processes before you in a Court Christian for annulling our royal right, and the possession of the said John of the said church, in contempt of us, and to our prejudice, and to the danger of the disinheritance of our royal Crown, and the manifest annulling of the possession of the said John of the Church aforesaid. We, wishing that the rights of our royal Crown be observed unimpaired, as we are bound by the bond of our oath, prohibit you from attempting, or in any manner causing to be attempted, anything that in this behalf, may result in contempt or prejudice of us, or the disinheritance of our royal Crown, or annulling the possession of the said John of the Church aforesaid.\*

Witness Ourselves at Westminster, the fourth day of November, in the seventh year of Our reign" (1406).

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\* Register Arundell, Vol. I., Fol. 558.

Prohibitio. Henricus Dei gracia Rex Anglie etc. venerabili in Christo patri Thome etc. et ejus Officiali ac eorum Commissario, salutem. Cum nuper vacante ecclesia de Heddesore Lincolnensi diocesi et ad nostram donationem spectante dilectum nobis Johannem Steven Capellanum ad ecclesiam predictam pretextu presentationis predicte, concurrentibus hiis que de jure in hac parte requirebantur, cononice admissus fuit ac institutus et inductus in eadem, sicut per literas institutionis et inductionis eidem Johanni in hac parte factas et in Cancellaria nostra ostensas plenius poterit apparere, jamque intelleximus quod Priorissa et Conventus ecclesie beatae [Mariæ] de Merlawe machinantes jus nostrum regium in hac parte adnullare et ipsum Johannem a possessione sua ecclesie predicte expellere, quamplures processus coram vobis in Curia Christianitatis pro adnullacione juris nostri regii ac possessionis ipsius Johannis ejusdem ecclesie prosecuti fuerunt et

It would appear that as a result of the issue of this Writ of Prohibition both the actions taken by the Priory were put a stop to, as an exhaustive research, covering all reasonable chances of finding further mention of them, has proved fruitless. It will be seen, however, that the claim to the presentation was not finally abandoned, since it was revived at the time of the suppression of the Priory.

It may now be well to consider the conclusions which may be arrived at from the records already quoted, which appear to me to be as follows:—

- (1.) That the entry in the "Liber Antiquus" shows that the Church was in existence early in the 13th century.
- (2.) That from early times down to 1403 it was served by chaplains appointed by the Priory of Little Marlow, who do not seem to have required institution by the Bishop, but whose position was recognized by him (see the appointment of Robertus alluded to above).
- (3.) That in spite of this, the Writ of Prohibition shows (a) that the Crown, through the Honor of Wallingford, was the true Patron of Hedsor, and, as such, presented in 1403; (b) that in spite of the entry in the "Liber Antiquus," no Vicarage could ever have been "ordained" in favour of the Priory.
- (4.) That therefore the claim of the Priory to the presentation must have rested only upon the fact that it had appointed the chaplains for a long period (which must have been under an arrangement made at some early date with the Patron), and not upon a legal basis, and that

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indies prosequuntur in nostri contemptum vel prejudicium nostrique et corone nostre regie exheredacionis periculum et possessionis ipsius Johannis ecclesie predictae adnullacionem manifestam, nos jura corone nostre regie prout vinculo juramenti astringimur illesa observari volentes, vobis prohibemus ne quicquam in hac parte quod in nostri contemptum vel prejudicium aut corone nostre regie exheredacionem seu possessionis ipsius Johannis ecclesie predictae adnullacionem cedere valeat attemptetis seu faciatis aliquo modo attemptari. Teste me ipso apud Westmonasterum quarto die Novembris anno regni nostri septimo.

the claim was effectually quashed by the Writ of Prohibition.

- (5.) That the interference of the Crown in 1403 was probably due to the dispute which had arisen between the Prioress and John Steven.

The next presentation to the living was in 1457, in which year John Foxe was presented by Thomas Restwold, Lord of the Manor,<sup>(94)</sup> and not by the King. This seems to show that the right of presentation had now been granted to him, or that he had purchased it from the Lord of the Honor, but there is no record to show at what date this actually took place.

John Foxe held the living until 1459, when he was succeeded by Philip Lepeyate, who was, however, presented by the Bishop,<sup>(95)</sup> and not by the Lord of the Manor. This brings us to another point which is extremely obscure, viz., the claim of the Bishop of the Diocese to present one turn out of every three. It is impossible to discover the origin of this claim. The ownership of land in the parish by the Bishop, as is apparent from the fine of 1222 and the Inquisition of Ninths in 1340-1 (in which the "ninth of sheaves, fleeces, and lambs" are alluded to as being of the "temporalities of the Lord Henry (Burghursh), formerly Bishop of Lincoln in the same parish"), would not of itself confer any right to present upon him, and the only surmise which can be put forward is that his turn arose from some concession made by a Patron at a time in respect of which no date can be fixed. It may possibly have been made when the advowson was granted to or purchased by the Lord of the Manor, but there is no proof of this. Langley's conjecture,<sup>(96)</sup> however, that the Bishop, in 1222, "gave up his title to the Manor, reserving to himself a share in the presentation to the Rectory," seems to be clearly erroneous, as the Bishop never owned the Manor.

Another peculiarity with respect to this claim is the irregularity with which it was exercised until recent times, there being no presentation, so far as can be

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(94) Bishop Chadworth's Reg. of Inst., Lincoln.

(95) Idem.

(96) Hund. of Desborough, p. 274.

discovered, on the Bishop's part from 1459 till 1693. He again presented in 1742, though the Lord of the Manor had only presented once between these dates, but since 1742 he has regularly presented once out of every three turns.

In 1492, when Thomas Restwold sold the Manor to Robert Restwold, the advowson passed with it, as appears from the Fine, and in 1496 Robert Restwold made his will<sup>(97)</sup> under which he directed his "bodie to be buried in the Chancell afore Saynte Nicholas in Hedsore," and bequeathed "to the Mother Church of Lincoln xx<sup>d</sup>," and to the "makyng of the Steple and mending of the setes in the Church of Hedsore x marks."

The next presentations of which it is necessary to take note are those of 1528<sup>(98)</sup> and 1533<sup>(99)</sup>, when Thomas Kyrkham and George Grantham were respectively presented by Christopher Grantham, and not by the Lord of the Manor. There seems, however, no doubt that these took place under the Lease referred to in the notes on the Manor. The general provisions and the length of time for which it was granted are not known, but it is stated that it was still in force in the deed of 1556, which conveyed the Manor from Sir E. Peckham to Ralph Hawtrey, but which did not expressly convey the advowson. Nevertheless Edward Restwold, and not Christopher Grantham, presented John Athwick to the living in 1544. Much, however, had happened since Grantham's presentation in 1533.

In 1535 a Commission had been issued by King Henry VIII. to enquire "concerning the true values of all the possessions of any manner of Monastery, Church, etc.,"<sup>(100)</sup> and Hedsor is returned under "the Monastery of Little Marlow, where Margery Vernon is Abbess and Incumbent," as "worth in common year £4," and "for the King's tenth part 8s." In the following year the Priory of Little Marlow was dissolved,<sup>(101)</sup> and a lease of the site and demesne lands granted to Elizabeth Restwold, the eldest daughter of Edward Restwold. The names of the different lands

(97) Folio xvi., "Horne," Probate Court of Canterbury.

(98) Bishop Longland's Reg. of Inst., Lincoln.

(99) *Id.*

(100) *Valor Ecclesiasticus*, Vol. IV.

(101) Dugdale's *Monasticon Anglic.*, Vol. IV. *Id.*, Vol. VI., p. 530.

belonging to the Priory, and their quantity in acres, are particularly described in this lease, but there is no mention of Hedsor. In 1537 Bisham Abbey was "re-founded," and endowed with the sites of the Priors of Little Marlow and Medmenham,<sup>(102)</sup> with "all manors, messuages, rectories, advowsons in Medmenham, Little Marlowe, and Hedesore, to the late Priors or Monasteries belonging or pertaining." This foundation was dissolved in 1540, in which year a grant<sup>(103)</sup> of the lands and site of the Priory of Little Marlow and the advowson of Hedsor was made by the King to John Tytley and the above-named Elizabeth Restwold his wife, "in consideration of the good true and faithful service which our beloved John Tytley, Gentleman of our household, hath heretofore done to us for the sum of £585:13:4."

Nevertheless, in spite of this grant, as has been stated above, Edward Restwold presented to the living in 1544. The reason why Grantham failed to present is not clear, but so far as Tytley is concerned it must be remembered that he was Edward Restwold's son-in-law, and that possibly some arrangement of a private nature may have been arrived at between them, as Langley seems to think probable.<sup>(104)</sup> Edward Restwold died in 1547, and in his will,<sup>(105)</sup> under which he bequeathed "xxs" towards the "reparations of the Parish Church and ornaments of Hedsor," reference is made to certain indentures made between himself, John Tytley, and Elizabeth Restwold, dated 31 October, 1546, but their purport is not stated. He expressly bequeathed the advowson to his son Anthony.

We now come to a document of some interest, viz., the Inventory of the "Church Goods,"<sup>(106)</sup> (dated 18 Feby., 1552), which were then seized by the Crown.

#### CHURCH GOODS, BUCKS.

##### "HEDDYSORE.

"This Indenture indented made the xviii day of July in the vi yere of the Reyng of our Law Lord Edward vi, by the grace of God of England FFrance and Ireland Kynge, Defender of the Fathe, and in everie

(102) Patent Roll, 29 Henry VIII., Part 4, m (25).

(103) Patent Roll, 32 Henry VIII., Pt. 2, m 19 (23).

(104) Hun. Desborough, p. 275.

(105) 48 "Alen," Probate Court of Canterbury.

(106) Exch. Q. Rem., No. 1 to 19, No. 5.

of the Church of England and also of Ireland Suþme Hede, of all the goods and plate juells and all other ornaments petyying to the Church of Hedysore in the County of Buk.

Between the Rt Hon Syr FFrancis Russell knight, Lord Russell, Syr Morres Berkeley, Sir Edmund Peckham, Syr Robert Drury knight, William Tyldesley esquire, Comysyares emonge others for the said good and others the premises, by virtue of the Kynge's Maty that now is, and William Southal gēt, and Thomas Godfrey on the other pty.

All which the Goods, Plate, Juell and other ornaments be comytted to the sayffe custodie of the same, until the Kynge's Maty pleasure be further known.

Item.

i chalys p. cell gylt.

iii vestments

ist The best of red velvette, green tynsell of the bake.

ijnd the next of sylke dyed.

iiid thyrd of old sylk with stoles.

i Albe.

ij Altar clothes.

ij hangy for the frount of the Alter of red velvette.

i Cope of old sylke.

ij old green cloths of sylke for an Altr.

i Surples.

iii Lytylle Latin candellstyecke, and ij old leden candell styckes.

ij belles, whereof the one stolen (*sic*) by one Willm Tybbis, Nycholas Pranchedd, Willm Whyte, John Long.

ij hand belles.

i payer of old latin sensers.

ij Crosses of latin, i Cross clothe.

i Strener.

ij banner clothes of buckaram, stayned.

ij leden crewetts.

X William Sowthall.

This William Sowthall married Margaret, widow of Christopher Grantham, the former lessee of Hedsor.

We must now return to the history of the grant made to John Tytley and Elizabeth Restwold in 1540. It appears that in 1555 licence was given them to



alienate the house and site of the Priory of Little Marlow with the advowson (inter alia) of Hedsor,<sup>(107)</sup> to Lord Williams of Thame and Henry Norreys. This alienation was duly made, but in 1557 Lord Williams and Norreys sold their rights to Edward Wilmott, of Wytney<sup>(108)</sup>, his eldest son, Thomas Wilmott, and his four younger sons. Thomas Wilmott, in 1559, sold his share in the lands of the Priory and the advowson of Hedsor to one "William Berye, of London, merchant of the Staple," who in turn alienated it in 1561 to John Borlase.<sup>(109)</sup> In 1575 John Athwick, who had been Rector of Hedsor since 1544, resigned, but his successors, Thomas Baley and Nicholas Sheffilde, were presented in 1575 and 1578<sup>(110)</sup>, not by John Borlase, but by Rowland Hynde, Lord of the Manor of Hedsor. Whether Borlase formally claimed either of these presentations is unknown, but according to Langley he endeavoured in 19 Eliz. Mich. Term (1581)<sup>(111)</sup> to "prove his right to the presentation of Hedsor, from the grant of Henry VIII., but was nonsuited on the plea that the King only granted 'quantum in nobis,' and it was proved that the Crown (i.e., The Priory) only held a small partion of this parish<sup>(112)</sup>, and not the Manor." From this statement it seems that it was then sought to prove that the grant of 1540 embraced the whole of the Manor, and thus gave a right to the advowson, but it appears probable that this claim was an echo of that which the Priory put forward in 1403-6, a record of which was doubtless found when the enquiry which preceded its dissolution was made. Unfortunately the date of these proceedings as given by Langley is wrong, and they have not been traced, but they appear to have put an end to the dispute as to the right of presentation. It should, however, be noted that under the grant of 1540 John Tytley had acquired the Manor of Little Marlow, which in due course John Borlase had acquired by purchase, and that in his capacity as Lord of the Manor he presented one William Tilbury or Tilby to the

(107) Patent Roll, 2 and 3 Philip and Mary, Part 9, m 5.

(108) Close Roll, 1 Eliz., Part 10, No. 14.

(109) Close Roll, 3 Eliz., Part 9, No. 591.

(110) Bishop Cooper's Reg. of Inst., Lincoln.

(111) Hun. Desborough, p. 236.

(112) That is, the closes known as "Woolman's" and "Ludpits."

Vicarage. According to Langley<sup>(113)</sup> this Tilbury was also Rector of Hedsor, which is certainly an error. He may, however, have had charge of Hedsor during the incumbency of John Athwick (1544-75), as he was appointed Vicar of Little Marlow in 1555, and held the Vicarage till 1576, whilst Athwick was also Vicar of Wooburn from 1554 to 1580.

According to an inscription on the tombstone of Rowland Hynde (d. 1608), it appears that he "re-edified" the church, presumably in 1575, as this date, with his initials, appears on a fragment of an old beam now preserved in the choir vestry. The work, however, does not seem to have been of a durable nature, as appears from a report of the Commission issued in 1637 to enquire into the condition of the Churches in Bucks and elsewhere. The report<sup>(113b)</sup> as to Hedsor (which I quote verbatim) shows the lamentable condition into which the building had fallen since the Reformation. The report would appear to be of the nature of an inventory, with certain recommendations as to repairs and renovations.

Hedsore, August 10, 1637.

"One bell. The top of the wall both of the inside and the outside to be closed up to the Rafters. The reading desk to be set to the pulpit, and the going out of it into the pulpit to be made with stairs, and not as a ladder as it is now. A canopy for the pulpit, some of the seats want boarding and repairing. A new north dore, a cover for the font and to be lined with lead. A little window in ye chanc<sup>l</sup> ptly damb'd up. The two high seats to be taken down to the Mark (sic), the East benches etc. The Church porch wants a dore, and wants some repairs. A new Bible, new service books, surplace, new cushiones and pulpit cloth of green cloth suitable to the cofn carpet. No table. There are instructions the rest of the things not seen. A dore for the pulpit. Mr. Horwood the pson there doth not reside in the

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(113) Hun. Desborough, p. 286.

(113b) State Papers, Domestic Series, Charter I., Vol. 366, No. 79.

psh, let him show his lres of orders. Quaere whether he hath a parsonage house."

It had been previously reported<sup>(114)</sup> (1612) that the then incumbent, Nicholas Sheffilde, was "no preacher," and that "they had no sermons." There is also a quaint entry in the Churchwardens' accounts of a payment to one "John Wiekes, for grinding uppon Saboth daies and Holedaies."

In 1650, during the Commonwealth, a survey of Church livings was made, and the following was reported respecting Hedsor.<sup>(115)</sup>

"Hedsore is a Parsonage presentative, with cure of soules, of the value of Sixteen Pounds per annum. Mr. Roger Crawshaw is the present Incumbent, and receives the profitts. Churches and Chappells fitt to be united.

Hedsore, of the value of Sixteene Pounds per annum to Woburne, of the yearly value of One and Fortie Pounds, the Churches being distant about a mile the one from the other."

In 1693 the Bishop exercised his right of patronage, which appears to have been in abeyance since 1459. Some correspondence passed between him and the Lord of the Manor, William Chilcot, whose consent he seems to have thought it necessary to obtain before instituting his nominee. It is stated in the Institution that he presented for this turn "in right of his Bishopprice," but the grounds of his right are, unfortunately, not set forth.

A description of the parish and church in 1715, given by the then incumbent, Mr. Smalley, to Brown Willis<sup>(116)</sup> may conclude these notes, as it is not proposed to deal either with the fabric or the later history of the building.

"Hedsor, Edsor, or Eddisor, is a little Parish by the Thames. On the south of it, it has Woburn, on the West and North Hitcham, and Taplow on the East. There are 17 houses in it, one antient Gentleman's seat by the Church.

(114) Archdeacon's Visitations, Bucks.

(115) Chancery, Survey of Church Livings, Commonwealth, Vol. I.

(116) MSS., Fol. 53, Bodleian Library, Oxford.

It was long in the possession of the Hinds family, but has several years been in the possession of the Chilcotts, the widow of Will Chilcott Esq now enjoys it. There is a little low Church on the side of a hill by the Gentleman's House. It is built with Chalk stone and Flints. The Roof is tiled, there is one little bell in it. The Communion Table has lately been raild in. There is for the furniture of it, beside Carpet and Cloth, one large Silver cup and cover to it, the gift of Will Chilcott Esq the elder, and one Silver Salver the gift of the present Widdow Chilcott."

The "silver" cup mentioned above is of pewter, and is now preserved at Hedsor.

The Registers date from 1678, but from about 1559 in the case of burials and marriages, and 1562 in the case of baptisms, down to 1590, there are certain entries in the early Registers of Little Marlow referring to Hedsor, amongst them the baptism of "Raphe the sonne of Edward Hawtrey gent" on 14th August 1570, and the burial of "Edithe Hynde of Hedsor" the 25th November 1575. The reason for these entries is uncertain, unless Hedsor was served at this time by the Vicars of Little Marlow, or was due to the fact that the two parishes were united for certain civil purposes.

#### THE INCUMBENTS OF HEDSOR.

Note, that any information given by Langley and other historians is not repeated here.

*Chaplains appointed by the Priory of Little Marlow.*

Date.	Name.	Patron.	Remarks.
p. cir. 1201-11	Nicholas	The Crown, through the Honor of Wallingford after it became a Royal appanage, was the Patron, but does not seem to have exercised its rights till 1403.	Is mentioned as a witness to a charter of Missenden Abbey.
1240	Josceus		A presentment was made before the Assizes of 1240-1, as to an outrage committed at his house in Hedsor.
1377	Robertus		A Juror to enquire concerning the vacancy of the Church of Little Marlow in 1377.

*Rectors.*

Date of Institution.	Name.	Patron.	Remarks.
May 29, 1403	John Steven	King Henry IV.	
Dec. 16, 1457	John Foxe, L.L.B.	Thomas Restwold	
Aug. 16, 1459	Philip Lepeyate	The Bishop	
May 28, 1461	Thomas Mason	Thomas Restwold	Described in Institution as: "Sir Thomas Mason, Monk." Died as Rector 1486.
Feb. 28, 1486	Peter Caversham	Thomas Restwold	
Aug. 14, 1490	Thomas Fowler	Thomas Restwold	Described in Institution as: "Monk of the Monastery of Abendon."
Unknown	John Socy	Unknown	Called by Langley "Thomas Sotis." No Institution. Resigned.
July 16, 1528	Thomas Kyrkham	Christopher Grantham	
July 1, 1533	George Grantham	Christopher Grantham	
Mar. 27, 1544	John Athwike	Edward Restwold	Vicar of Wooburn 1554-80, but resigned living of Hedsor 1575.
Mar. 19, 1575	Thomas Baley	Rowland Hynde	Resigned.
July 18, 1578	Nicholas Sheffielde	Rowland Hynde	
Dec. 10, 1612	Matthew Littleton, A.M.	Rowland Hynde	Died as Rector 1630.
July 14, 1630	Edward Horwood	Rowland Hynde	
May 20, 1641	John Peck, A.M.	Rowland Hynde	
Unknown	Roger Crawshaw	Unknown	Described as the "present Incumbent" in survey of Church livings, 1650.
Unknown	William Hudson	Unknown	In the next Institution the benefice was declared vacant by the "cession or removal of William Hudson."
May 13, 1664	Edward Rawson	William Chilcot	Vicar of Wooburn from 5 Feb., 1662. Buried there 1667. Died as Rector of Hedsor.
June 5, 1668	Francis Crawley, A.M.	William Chilcot	Died as Rector 1693. Also Vicar of Cookham.
Jan. 23, 1693-4	Nathaniel Smalley	The Bishop	Vicar of Wooburn from 29 Sept., 1684. Was never inducted to Hedsor. Resigned both livings 1715, and afterwards resided at Waddesdon, Bucks.

Date of Institution.	Name.	Patron.	Remarks.
May 3, 1715	Joseph Loveday, B.A.	Mary Chilcot	
Dec. 20, 1742	George Bracegirdle, B.A.	The Bishop	Resigned 1754 for livings of Thegbean and Donaghadee, Ireland.
Mar. 11, 1754	George Stinton, M.A., D.D.	Elizabeth Parker	
May 21, 1765	John Tickell, M.A.	William, Lord Boston	Also "curate" of Cookham. Resigned living of Hedsor 1772 for East Mersey, Essex.
Oct. 6, 1772	William Langford, M.A., D.D.	William, Lord Boston	Resigned. Afterwards Rector of Middlemarsh, Hauts.
Mar. 29, 1793	Ralph Leycester, M.A.	The Bishop	Died as Rector 1803.
Oct. 3, 1803	George Gretton, D.D.	Frederick, Lord Boston	Resigned.
April 27, 1814	William Musage Bradford, M.A.	Frederick, Lord Boston	Died as Rector 1841.
Jan. 8, 1841	Abraham Youlden	The Bishop	Died as Rector 1860.
Dec. 16, 1860	T. R. Williams, M.A.	George, Lord Boston	Resigned. Afterwards Rector of Pulford, Cheshire. Died 1899.
Oct. 5, 1870	F. Wynyard Wright, M.A.	Florance, Lord Boston	Resigned.
Feb. 12, 1876	George Augustus Robins, M.A.	The Bishop	Resigned. Rector of Eccleston, Cheshire. Hon. Canon of Chester.
Dec. 16, 1880	Morgan Edward Kirkland, M.A.	George, Lord Boston	

BOSTON.