

Fyshe Palmer, married Lady Madelina, second daughter of Alexander fourth Duke of Gordon, and widow of Sir Robert Sinclair, Bart., and dying without issue left all his property to his step-son, Sir John Gordon Sinclair, Bart., who eventually sold the Luckley and East Court estates to Mr. John Walter of Bearwood in 1849.

(*To be continued.*)

A Survey of Wallingford in 1550.

By the Rev. J. E. Field.

(*Continued from Vol. 23, page 29*).

Fish Street, east side (*continued*),

- (5) Lady Anne Reede holds there one tenement in the tenure of Thomas Maskall with a parcel of land adjacent, containing in length 46ft. and in breadth 32ft., and pays per annum iijs.
- (6) Ralph Pollyngton holds there one tenement called Jeys with curtilage adjacent, containing in length 52ft. and in breadth 98ft., late Elizabeth Polhampton's, and pays iijs.
- (7) The same Ralph holds there one tenement called Dousys with a parcel of land adjacent, in length 47ft. and in breadth 19ft., and pays per annum xx*d.* [He refuses ij*d.*, 1561].
- (8) John Bell holds there one tenement with land adjacent, in length 45ft. and in breadth 40ft., late Elizabeth Polhampton's, and pays ijs.
- (9) xvjs. iiij*d.* Rose Cheyney holds there one tenement with curtilage, in length 143ft. and in breadth 127ft., formerly Elizabeth Polhamptone's, now in occupation of William Dell, and pays vjs.

The sums named at the close of each entry appear to be due to the Lord of the Honour, but there is no note to indicate to whom

the amount stated in the left-hand margin of the last entry is to be paid. In the same left-hand margin additional figures are inserted in 1561, namely, at No. 5, xvjs. viij*d*.; Nos. 6 and 7 conjointly, lvijs. viij*d*.; and No. 9, xxxvjs. viij*d*.; but nothing at No. 8.

Proceeding southward along Fish Street (now St. Mary's Street), Lady Rede's tenement (5) is adjacent to the White Hart entry (p. 28). The Survey gives no indication of any other entry or side street leading out of this east side of Fish Street, with the exception of one lane (*venella*) near the southern end, which, as will appear, must be identified with the present New Road. St. Leonard's Lane, immediately within the southern boundary of the town, is obviously ancient; and it can hardly be doubted that the lane by the Corn Exchange, Hart Street, and New Road represent lanes which connected Fish Street with Wood Street in 1550 as they do now. At the outset we are met with a considerable difficulty, for the aggregate of the frontage in St. Mary's Street between the White Hart entry and the corner of St. Leonard's Lane is only 1072ft., whereas the aggregate in the Survey is 1156ft., besides some plots of which the measurements are not stated. In other words, the Survey gives us considerably more than 100ft. too much.

The first problem is to fix the position of the Corn Exchange Lane between two of the tenements described in the Survey. The distance from the White Hart entry to the lane is now 285ft.; but the Survey shows four tenements measuring respectively 46ft., 52ft., 47ft., and 45ft., making altogether 190ft., and the next is 143ft. which gives a total of 333ft. It is most improbable that the lane crossed this fifth holding, and equally improbable that it has been cut through at this point in more recent times. The fact that we have to account for so much excessive frontage, as described in the Survey, may suggest another solution.

It has been remarked already that the Survey gives no description of the west side of Wood Street. Yet it can hardly be doubted that there were tenements there. And we have already seen that the fourth holding in Fish Street, on the north side of the White Hart entry, was at the back of the third (p. 27), and therefore must have opened upon Wood Street, though it is reckoned as belonging to Fish Street. Putting these facts together, we may conjecture that perhaps some portions of the excessive frontage in the Market Place and the other part of Fish Street were in a similar position, though they are not so described. Then we find a great difference between the breadths of the five holdings now before us, as they stretch back

towards Wood Street. They are respectively 32ft., 98ft., 19ft., 40ft., and 127ft. The distance between Fish Street and Wood Street by the White Hart Lane is 149ft., and by the Corn Exchange Lane it is 198ft. Thus there is ample room for Pollyngton's second tenement called "Dousys" (No. 7), being only 19ft. wide, to lie at the rear of his other tenement called "Jeys," which is 98ft. wide. Their united widths are 117ft., while Rose Cheyney's tenement (No. 9) is 127ft. The difference of frontage to be explained (333ft. against 285ft.) is 48ft. If we thus deduct the frontage of Dousys, 47ft., as belonging to Wood Street, and if the site now occupied by the Corn Exchange has encroached 1ft. upon the lane, the two accounts agree precisely.

(To be continued.)

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