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The Victoria History of the
Counties of England

EDITED BY THE LATE WILLIAM PAGE, Hon. D.Litt., F.S.A.

A HISTORY OF
R U T L A N D

VOLUME II

THE
VICTORIA HISTORY
OF THE COUNTIES
OF ENGLAND
RUTLAND



DAWSON
FOR
THE UNIVERSITY OF LONDON
INSTITUTE OF HISTORICAL RESEARCH

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INSCRIBED
TO THE MEMORY OF
HER LATE MAJESTY
QUEEN VICTORIA
WHO GRACIOUSLY GAVE
THE TITLE TO AND
ACCEPTED THE
DEDICATION OF
THIS HISTORY

DEDICATED BY OWEN HUGH SMITH
TO THE MEMORY OF
MAUD
WIFE OF JOHN GRETTON
She loved and was loved by Rutland



WILLIAM PAGE

JOINT GENERAL EDITOR OF THE VICTORIA COUNTY HISTORY
1902-1904

SOLE GENERAL EDITOR 1904-1934

WILLIAM PAGE, D.LITT., F.S.A.

BY SIR CHARLES PEERS

THIS volume of the Victoria History, the ninety-third to be issued, marks a stage in the already long story of the great undertaking. For it is the first to be published after the death of Dr. William Page. In his last years, desirous above all things to secure the future of the work which he had so long directed, he transferred the whole of his interests in the History, with all the materials in his possession, to the University of London, in order that the Institute of Historical Research might from that time onwards carry on to its appointed end the task which had claimed the greater part of his time and energy for more than thirty years.

The History is his memorial. Whatever developments may be in store for it, his name will ever come first in its story, and it is fitting that this volume shall begin with a record of his life and work.

William Page was born on September 4, 1861, in the house of his father, Henry Page, in Norfolk Square, London, W. His first school was one kept by Dr. Westmacott in the same district, and thence in due course he went to Westminster School. Family reasons made it necessary that his schooldays should be cut short, and after his father's death in 1875 he served his articles as a civil engineer, being appointed to a post under the Queensland Government in 1881. Though he was not destined to remain long in this position, the experience he then gained, as is so generally the case, was of definite value to him in the very different profession to which he was to devote the rest of his days. History and archæology were his natural studies, and the occasion which was to allow him to follow his bent was not long in coming. His sister had married Mr. W. J. Hardy, antiquary and record agent, and in 1885 Page deserted engineering to become his brother-in-law's partner in the firm of Hardy and Page, record agents and legal antiquaries. The partners were employed in a number of important cases where expert knowledge of records was essential and the range of enquiry practically unlimited. No better general training for an 'all-round' antiquary could be desired.

In 1887 Page was elected a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries, and what seems to be his first contribution to the proceedings of a learned society dates from 1888, when there was printed in *Archæologia* his paper entitled *Some remarks on the Northumbrian palatinates and regalities*. From this time, in spite of, or perhaps as a result of, his professional labours, papers from his pen appeared with regularity, as may be seen from the list appended to this notice, and it must suffice here to record his special interest in Hertfordshire, where, at St. Albans, his brother-in-law lived for many years, and Page himself from 1896 to 1902. The St. Albans Archæological Society, of which he became assistant secretary in 1897, owed much to him: he took an active part in the excavation of Verulamium, and became one of the founders of the Hertfordshire County

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Museum. But a wider sphere of usefulness awaited him. In the last years of the reign of Queen Victoria a project for a complete series of County Histories of England was brought forward, and developed with an enthusiasm and thoroughness which cannot be too highly commended. The Queen herself accepted the dedication of the History and allowed her name to be attached to it.

Under an Advisory Council full of distinguished names, and with Mr. H. A. Doubleday as editor, work was begun in the last years of the century, and the first volume of the History—Vol. I of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight—was published in 1900. Then the difficulties of the task became apparent. General articles by competent writers were to some extent procurable, but the mass of records in which all the details of the history of the counties were contained needed expert investigation and tabulation, and there was no one to do it. The management of the History in this impasse were well inspired when they turned to Page and offered him the joint editorship. This was in 1902, and Page's immediate task was to build up an expert staff. How he succeeded in this the record of the History itself witnesses. In the year of his appointment one volume, the first of Hertfordshire, appeared ; in 1903 one volume, Hampshire II ; in 1904 two volumes (Bedford I and Warwick I) ; in 1905 six volumes, in 1906 ten, in 1907 eleven, and in 1908 twelve. From 1904 Page had been sole general editor, and it is not too much to say that the whole credit for this brilliant piece of work was due to him. Then came a disaster for which he himself was in no degree responsible. The funds of the History failed, and many of the staff which he had with such labour got together and trained had to be dismissed. One volume appeared in 1909 and one in 1910, and though a new source of support appeared the work continued on a much reduced basis, the annual output being from four to five volumes. Then came the war, and no further volume was published till 1923.

Such misfortune might discourage any man, but Page, if one may say so, was singularly fitted to cope with adverse circumstances. Of an equable temper, kindly and generous to a fault, he was accustomed to make the best of things, and those who worked with him have cause to remember his unflinching serenity and considerateness. The duties of the History had brought him to London from St. Albans ; he lived in Battersea from 1904 to 1906, and at Froggnal Cottage, Hampstead, from 1906 to 1922. Then, when the whole burden of the History devolved on him in its post-War phase, he took all its materials with him to Middleton in Sussex in 1922, arranging and storing them in a wooden hut in his garden. Finally, in 1928, he came into possession of the whole interest and assets of the History, and continued to send to press such further instalments of copy as it was possible to do. Last of all, in 1931, he did what he could to ensure the continuance of his work by making over the History to the University of London, who appointed a committee to carry it on. Of this committee Page became the chairman, and so continued to the day of his death, February 3, 1934.

In spite of his preoccupations he was able to play a part in other undertakings, where his knowledge and capabilities were much in request. He was a member of the Editorial Committee of the Society of Antiquaries from 1910 for many years, and served his term as Vice-President of the Society from 1916 to 1920. He was a valuable member of the Royal Commission on Historical Monuments for England, being an Assistant Commissioner from 1909

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and a Commissioner from 1921. He was Lecturer in Archæology to London University 1923-4; chairman of the Local History Section of the Anglo-American Historical Conference, 1926; and a member of the Committee on House of Commons Personnel and Politics, 1929.

In 1932 his services to history were recognised, somewhat tardily, by the conferment of a Doctorate of Letters by Oxford University. The Public Orator, in presenting him for the degree, rightly dwelt on his long and untiring labours and the weight of responsibility which he, a second Hercules, had sustained. It is not for a Public Orator to belittle the honours which his University bestows, but he might have added with truth that, like his great prototype, the rewards which he had received for his labours were for the most part conspicuous by their absence. It is to posterity that men like Page must look for their meed of praise. But as long as his contemporaries survive, his personality will not be forgotten. He was dowered with good looks beyond the common, enhanced by a natural dignity. Whether in youth or in age, he was a striking figure, and acquaintance with him only confirmed the impression that he was no ordinary man. The details of private life have no place in a memoir such as this, but for those who were privileged to meet him in his home there will remain the memory of an unaffected kindness and courtesy which were the natural counterpart of his bearing in the outer world.

A LIST OF THE WORKS OF DR. WILLIAM PAGE

COMPILED BY AGNES E. ROBERTS

THE VICTORIA COUNTY HISTORY

From 1902 to 1904 Dr. Page acted as joint general editor of the *Victoria History of the Counties of England*. From 1904 onwards he was sole general editor and, in addition, editor or joint editor of particular volumes.

A Guide to the Victoria History of the Counties of England. By H. A. Doubleday and W. Page. Pp. 140. [1902.]

VOLUME PUBLISHED UNDER THE GENERAL EDITORSHIP OF H. A. DOUBLEDAY

Hertford. Vol. i. Ed. W. Page. 1902.

VOLUMES PUBLISHED UNDER THE JOINT GENERAL EDITORSHIP OF H. A. DOUBLEDAY AND DR. PAGE

Essex. Vol. i. 1903.

Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. Vol. ii. 1903.

Bedford. Vol. i. 1904.

Warwick. Vol. i. 1904.

VOLUMES PUBLISHED UNDER THE SOLE GENERAL EDITORSHIP OF DR. PAGE

Cumberland. Vol. ii. Ed. James Wilson. 1905.

Surrey. Vols. ii, iii, iv. Ed. H. E. Malden. 1905-12. Include :

Vols. iii-iv. Topography: Manorial descents compiled under the superintendence of W. Page and H. E. Malden.

Vol. iv. Romano-British Surrey, by W. Page and Edith M. Keate.

Northampton. Vol. ii. Ed. the Rev. R. M. Serjeantson and W. Ryland D. Adkins. 1906. Includes: Topography: General descriptions and manorial descents by W. Page and others.

Lancaster. Ed. William Farrer and J. Brownbill. Vols. i, ii, iii, iv, v, vi, vii, viii. 1906-14.

Worcester. Vols. iii, iv. Local editor: J. W. Willis-Bund. 1913-16. Include :

Topography: General descriptions and manorial descents compiled under the superintendence of W. Page.

VOLUMES EDITED SOLELY BY DR. PAGE

Buckingham. Vols. i, ii, iii, iv, and Index. 1905-28. Include :

Vols. ii, iii, iv. Topography: General descriptions and manorial descents compiled under the superintendence of W. Page.

Derby. Vols. i, ii. 1905-7.

Durham. Vols. i, ii, iii. 1905-28. Include :

Vol. iii. Topography: General descriptions and manorial descents compiled under the superintendence of W. Page.

Sussex. Vols. i, ii. 1905-7.

Cornwall. Vol. i, and pts. 5 and 8. 1906-24.

Devon. Vol. i. 1906.

Lincoln. Vol. ii. 1906.

Norfolk. Vol. ii. 1906.

Nottingham. Vols. i, ii. 1906-10.

Somerset. Vols. i, ii. 1906-11.

Gloucester. Vol. ii. 1907.

Leicester. Vol. i. 1907. Includes

Romano-British Leicestershire, by W. Page and Miss Keate.

Oxford. Vol. ii. 1907.

Suffolk. Vols. i, ii. 1911, 1907.

York. Vols. i, ii, iii, and Index. 1907-25.

Bedford. Vols. ii, iii, and Index. 1908-14. Include :

Vol. ii. Romano-British Bedfordshire, by W. Page and Miss Keate.

Vols. ii-iii. Topography: General descriptions and manorial descents compiled under the superintendence of W. Page.

Dorset. Vol. ii. 1908.

Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. Vols. iii, iv, v, and Index. 1908-14. Include :

Vols. iii, iv, v. Topography: General descriptions and manorial descents compiled under the superintendence of W. Page.

Hereford. Vol. i. 1908.

Hertford. Vols. ii, iii, iv, and Index. 1908-23. Include :

Vol. ii. Topography: General descriptions and manorial descents by W. Page and others.

Architectural descriptions of Shenley, Wheat-hampstead with Harpenden, and Redbourn by W. Page, and of St. Albans Cathedral, by C. R. Peers and W. Page.

[The account of St. Andrew's chapel is taken from a paper on the chapel by W. Page in the *Trans. of the St. Albans and Herts Archit. and Arch. Soc.* N.S. i, 84.]

Vols. iii-iv. Topography: General descriptions and manorial descents compiled under the superintendence of W. Page.

Vol. iv. Celtic and Romano-British Hertfordshire. Ecclesiastical history before the Conquest. Abbey of St. Albans before the Conquest.

Kent. Vols. i, ii, iii. 1908-32.

Rutland. Vol. i. 1908.

Shropshire. Vol. i. 1908.

Stafford. Vol. i. 1908. Includes :

Romano-British Staffordshire, by W. Page and Miss Keate.

Warwick. Vol. ii. 1908.

London, including London within the Bars, Westminster and Southwark. Vol. i. 1909.

Middlesex. Vol. ii. 1911. Includes :

Topography: General descriptions and manorial descents compiled under the superintendence of W. Page.

Surrey. Index. 1914.

THE WORKS OF DR. WILLIAM PAGE

York North Riding. Vols. i, ii, and Index. 1914-25.
Include:
Vols. i-ii. Topography: General descriptions and manorial descents compiled under the superintendence of W. Page.

Worcester. Index. 1926.

Berkshire. Index. 1927.

Northampton. Vol. iii. 1930. Includes:

Topography: General descriptions and manorial descents compiled under the superintendence of W. Page.

Kettering, by F. W. Bull, W. Page, and others.

VOLUMES EDITED BY DR. PAGE WITH COLLABORATORS

Berkshire. Vols. i, ii. Ed. the Rev. P. H. Ditchfield and W. Page; iii, iv. Ed. W. Page and the Rev. P. H. Ditchfield, assisted by J. Hautenville Cope. 1906-24. Include:

Vol. i. Romano-British Berkshire, by W. Page and Miss C. M. Calthrop.

Vols. iii-iv. Topography: General descriptions and manorial descents compiled under the superintendence of W. Page.

Worcester. Vol. ii. Ed. J. W. Willis-Bund and W. Page. 1906. Includes:

Topography: Blackenhurst Hundred. General descriptions and manorial descents prepared under the superintendence of W. Page.

Essex. Vol. ii. Ed. W. Page and J. Horace Round. 1907.

Huntingdon. Vol. i. Ed. W. Page and Granville Proby, assisted by H. E. Norris; ii. Ed. W. Page, Granville Proby and S. Inskip Ladds. 1926-32. Include:

Vol. i. Appendix: Little Gidding, by W. Page.

Vol. ii. Political history to 1660, by the Rev. R. H. Murray and W. Page.

Parliamentary history, by W. Page and Granville Proby.

Topography: General descriptions and manorial descents compiled under the editorship of W. Page.

Huntingdon borough, by W. Page, S. Inskip Ladds, and others.

Hurstingstone and Toseland hundreds: Introductions, by W. Page.

Broughton, by W. Page and Maud E. Simkins.

Bury cum Hepmangrove, by Canon W. M. Noble and W. Page.

Ramsey, by W. Page.

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Architectural descriptions of Abbots Ripton, Somersham and Wistow, by W. Page.

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Some remarks on the Northumbrian palatinates and regalities.

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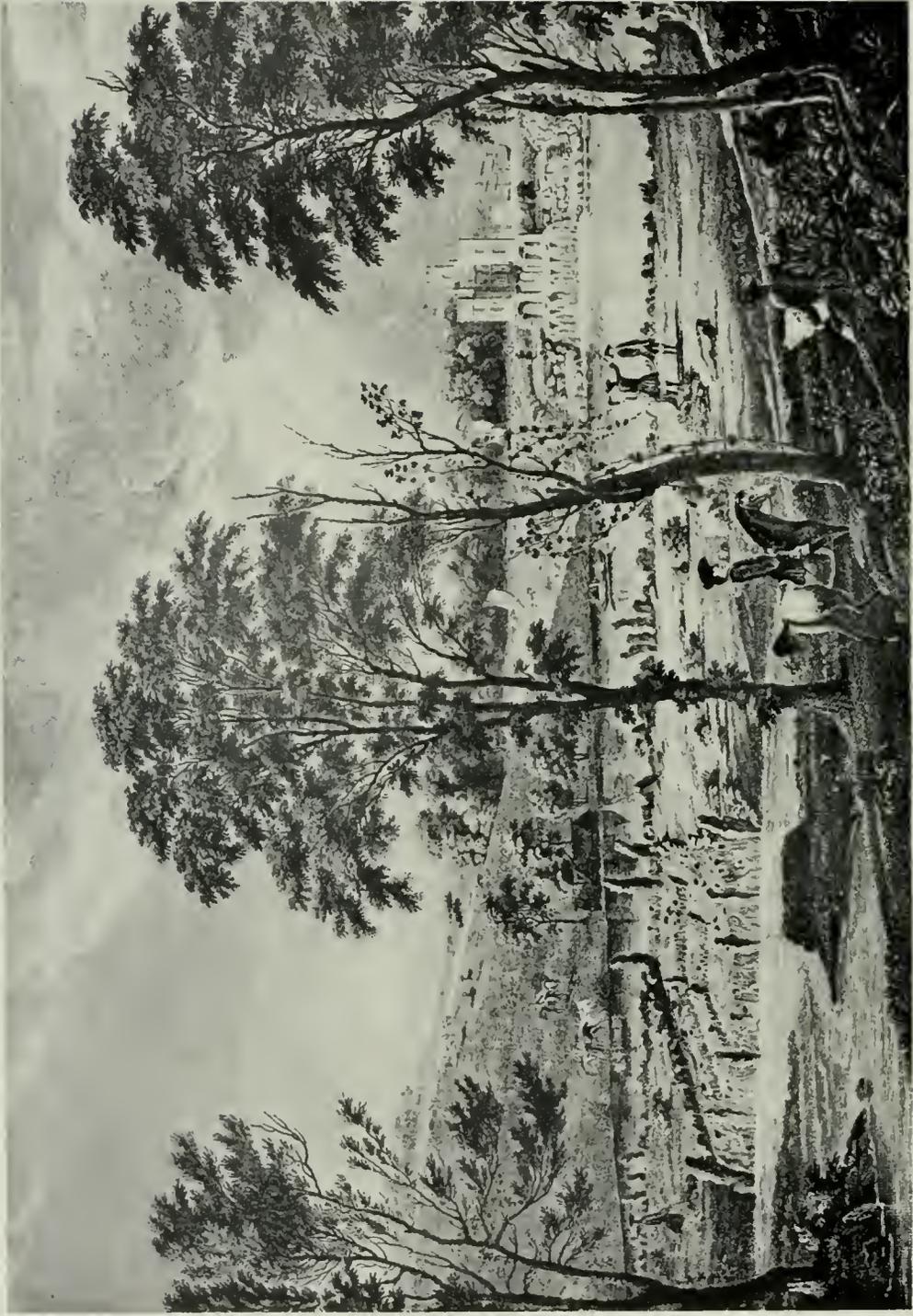
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Vol. i. 21 Hen. VII (1505) - 45 Eliz. (1603). Pp. xviii [c], 536, plates. 1896.
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Vol. ii. Notes and extracts from the county records, being a calendar of volume i of the Sessions Minute Books 1651 to 1660. Pp. [x], 54, xxi. [Bedford, 1909.]
Vol. iii. Notes and extracts from the county records, being a calendar of old deeds found in the County Muniment Room, and an index to the documents contained in the Muniment Room. The calendar compiled by Messrs. Hardy and Page. Pp. 63, fac. [Bedford, 1921.]
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F. Smith, Pin.:

A VIEW IN EXTON PARK BELONGING TO THE RT. HONBLE. THE EARL OF GAINSBOROUGH
(From a Print of 1749 in the British Museum)

J. Mason, Sculp.

THE
VICTORIA HISTORY
OF THE COUNTY OF
RUTLAND

EDITED BY
THE LATE WILLIAM PAGE, HON.D.LITT., F.S.A.

VOLUME TWO

DAWSON
FOR
THE UNIVERSITY OF LONDON
INSTITUTE OF HISTORICAL RESEARCH

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INTRODUCTION

RUTLAND, the smallest county in England, presents unusual features different from those of other counties. Its origin and development are stamped upon the county and its people, and the individuality still endures.

The district long lay wild and uncultivated : a great part of it remained in its primeval state until the early part of the 12th century, and this has strongly influenced its subsequent history. Its origin as a county is unique. It represented neither one of the sub-kingdoms of early Saxon times nor one of the newer areas formed for defence against the Danish invaders. It was a wild country with patches of cultivation surrounding the estate given to a succession of Saxon queens. County organisation did not emerge until the 12th century. To its remote position and wild character the chief features of its history can be traced : the sparseness of settlement in early days and the few remains of Roman and Saxon times ; its fame since the days of Henry I as a hunting country ; its lack of big towns and monastic houses ; its connection with the wool trade and, from the close of the middle ages, its popularity as a place of residence for wealthy country gentlemen.

Although sporadic finds of the Neolithic, Bronze and Early Iron Ages have been made, there is no evidence of any settlements of these periods, and the evidence regarding the tumuli found at Barrow, Essendine, Glaston, Uppingham and Wing is insufficient to assign a date to them.¹ The Roman road called Ermine Street, which runs from Great Casterton to Lincoln, had perhaps the strongest influence in the development of the district in early times. It brought Romano-British settlements to Great Casterton and Market Overton, where the remains of Roman camps may be seen.² Earthworks at Ridlington, Whissendine and Ranksborough Hill in Langham may be of the Roman period, but nothing has been found to give them a definite date.³

The early pagan Saxon cemeteries at North Luffenham, Cottesmore, and Market Overton indicate important settlements adjoining those sites, dating back perhaps to the 5th or 6th century. With the exception of these cemeteries, there is little to show habitation until the 10th century, when it would seem that the land, although still very sparsely populated, was being employed for profitable purposes. The types of settlements throw some light on the development of the district. The nucleated or clustered villages off the high road, found near Ermine Street on the east, are Teutonic in origin ; while the ring-fence type of village, in which three or four roads inclose a piece of land, still probably a village green, indicates forest settlements of a later date. Examples of this type of settlement will be found at Belton, Langham, Manton, Wing, Exton and elsewhere.

The district known as Rutland in the 10th century, which comprised

¹ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 82, 119.

² *Ibid.* 86-93.

³ *Ibid.* 111, 118.

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apparently Martinsley Hundred with Oakham, was held by Aelfthryth (945-1000?), mother of Ethelred the Unready. After his mother's death, Ethelred gave it in 1002 to his Norman queen Emma, on their marriage. Emma probably retained her dower lands when, after the death of Ethelred, she married King Cnut, and her son Edward the Confessor gave them to his queen Edith, from whom Edith Weston took its name. It would appear that by the time of the Conquest the district was gradually becoming cleared and had been granted to great lords to bring into cultivation and to colonise. The Domesday Survey of 1086, however, with its record of woods, spinneys and undergrowth, of sparse inhabitants and few ploughs, suggests that this process had not gone far. In the next century we have the picture of Henry I, as he rode north by the western borders of Rutland, marking down with the keen eyes of a hunting enthusiast five hinds in 'Riseborough wood.' On his return a year later he made permanent arrangements for the afforestation of a strip of Leicestershire and the greater part of Rutland. No great hardship seems to have been caused by his action, possibly because he was also responsible for the formation of the barony of Oakham with its hunting privileges, but the lawlessness of the hereditary foresters was the cause of bitter complaint. The most notorious was Peter de Neville, who became forester about 1248, and his misdeeds and exactions fill the roll of the Forest Eyre of 1269. He was justly outlawed; one of his most unpopular actions was to imprison men in his house at Allexton, where the prison floor was flooded, instead of in Oakham gaol, but it was for a theft in Shropshire that he was finally hanged.⁴ In succeeding centuries, the bounds of the forest were lessened, until it was finally disafforested in 1630, but it exercised a very definite influence on the development of the county. Its attractions as a hunting country still remain, although the deer have long since disappeared, excepting in the park of Exton. The history of the Cottesmore Hunt goes back to the early part of the 18th century, when the county was hunted by Mr. Thomas Noel of Exton Park, the author of one of the first books on hound-breeding. It was not till 1788 that Sir William Lowther, later the 1st Earl of Lonsdale, bought the hounds and established the Cottesmore Hunt.⁵

The formation of the barony of Oakham was the second important event of Norman times. To Walchelin de Ferrers, who certainly held the barony from 1166-1199, the county owes its most remarkable architectural feature in the Hall of Oakham Castle. Whether the story that he went on the Second Crusade and was present at the siege of Acre is true or not, it seems evident that he must have had at some time a close personal connection with Oakham. As a member of a younger branch of the Ferrers family, he may have hoped to found a powerful baronial house in Rutland, but when Normandy was lost his sons severed their connection with England, and after the death of his daughter, Isabel de Mortimer, Oakham became for three centuries a royal appanage.⁶ None of the other great landholders in the county lived there, but a roll of debts owed to the Jews in the later 12th century shows that Alberic, Count of Dammartin and William Mauduit, the King's Chamberlain, had used their Rutland property as security for loans. The charter of Mauduit shows the speculative nature of some of these transactions, for the payment of

⁴ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 173, 252-3; *Select Pleas of the Forest* (Selden Soc.), 43-53.

⁵ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 301.

⁶ *Ibid.* 171; see below, pp. 11, 12.

INTRODUCTION

the debt only became due on the death of the Archbishop of Canterbury. Of the lesser men, the sub-tenants—for subinfeudation had gone on apace—we know but little. Few laymen appear on the debtors' roll, but the parsons of Bisbrooke, Whissendine and Morcott, as well as the Priory of Brooke, were in debt to the Jews.⁷ The names of a good many Rutland tenants appear on the baronial side in the struggle with King John, but not as taking a leading part;⁸ and the royal authority in Rutland was strengthened by the grant of the county in 1227 by Henry III to his brother, Richard, Earl of Cornwall, followed by the gift of Oakham some years later.⁹ The consolidation of the county administration probably took place at this time. Richard himself had no personal connection with Rutland, but his officials seized the opportunity of the county, the soke and barony of Oakham, and the hundreds of Martinsley, Alstoe, and East all being in their master's hands to introduce a more effective administration. Perhaps this led to opposition in the county, resulting in strong support of Simon de Montfort's movement against Henry III. In spite of the inclosure of the town of Oakham with a fence, for which the king granted material from Ridlington Park, the town was taken by the insurgents and the hall damaged by fire.¹⁰ The war in Rutland seems to have been a very local affair, with no important leaders, and some fifty years later, in 1311, we find that there were no knights resident in the county to represent it in Parliament, their place being taken by 'the more discreet and able men of the shire.'¹¹ A good deal of lawlessness is revealed at this time, when bands of men supported themselves by indiscriminate robbery, and the keepers of the peace had difficulty in preserving order—the case of the vendetta between the Harington brothers and John of Wittlebury, lord of Wittlebury manor and chief keeper of the peace in the county in 1336, is an excellent illustration.¹² In spite of repairs to the Castle, escapes from Oakham gaol were frequent, and the prisoners probably found safety in the forest lands. Henry Despenser, Bishop of Norwich, was at Burley when he set out to suppress the Peasants' Revolt, but there is little evidence of the men of Rutland taking an active part in the rising. This lawlessness was perhaps of less importance than appears from the judicial records of the time, for there is evidence of a steady growth of prosperity. The towns of Rutland were never important, although there had been markets at Oakham, Market Overton, and probably at Uppingham 'time out of mind'; but in the 13th century the lords of the towns obtained new royal charters for their markets and fairs with a view to safeguarding their rights to the increasing tolls and dues. In the next century, fairs were also granted at Belton, Burley, Barrowden, and Empingham.¹³

Apart from the hall of Oakham Castle and the Bishop of Lincoln's house at Liddington, little medieval domestic architecture of importance has survived in the county. What still exists is found chiefly in the older parts of rebuilt houses or in particular features, such as windows, re-used in later buildings, but the county can still show many good examples of the smaller stone manor houses, yeomen's dwellings, and cottages of the late 16th and 17th centuries. The abundance of good building stone influenced the style of architecture, which is seen even in many of the cottages, whose picturesqueness adds much

⁷ P.R.O. Various Accts. 249, no. 1.

⁹ *Ibid.* 172; see below, p. 11.

¹² *Ibid.* 175-6; see below, p. 160.

⁸ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 171.

¹⁰ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 173.

¹³ See below, pp. 30, 112, 170, 242.

¹¹ *Ibid.* 174.

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to the beauty of the villages. Thatch, either of reed or straw, is still common, being found even in Oakham, and roofs of Colleyweston and other 'stone slates' are found almost everywhere. Except in Oakham and Uppingham, brick is little used, though bricks were being made in the county at the close of the 17th century.¹⁴

Possibly the Saxon queens had a hall at Oakham from which the affairs of the Soke of Oakham were administered, but the existing hall was built by Walchelin de Ferrers about 1190. It belonged to an early fortified house, not properly a castle, as it is sometimes called; Essendine Castle and Woodhead Castle were perhaps of the same nature, but nothing remains of either except the earthworks. The first Norman lords, being absentees, would require houses, probably of an unsubstantial character, only for their bailiffs and other officers, but the disposal of sub-manors had begun before the Conquest and subinfeudation grew rapidly afterwards. The little castles consisting of a mount, or mount with a bailey attached, which dot the country, are generally attributed to the 'Anarchy' of Stephen's reign, but it well may be that some of them belong to the early period of the Barons' Wars. They probably had wooden towers crowning the mount and palisades defending the lower earthworks. Such castles were thrown up at Pilton, Beaumont Chase, and Burley, but they soon became useless for military purposes.

The fortified manor house of Oakham, to which the name of castle became attached in the 13th century, consisted of two courts, surrounded by a broad ditch, in the first of which stood the existing late 12th-century hall. This hall is one of the most beautiful and least spoilt examples of the architecture of the period to be found in any domestic building in England, the exquisite detail of the arches and capitals of the arcades being nowhere excelled. The long stiff-stalk foliage of the capitals, often compared with that in the quire of Canterbury Cathedral, is typical of the contemporary classical carving employed in Burgundy and elsewhere on the Continent, and the sculpture on the corbels and label-stops is of the same classic type.¹⁵ The whole of the work is a splendid example of the new school of craft then beginning to prevail. The surviving portions of masonry in other parts of the castle are apparently of 13th-century date.¹⁶

The lords of the manors, tenants of the greater barons, lived on the land and in the early 13th century built houses generally within moated sites for protection from man and beast. No houses of this date survive in the county, but the moats remain at Hambleton, Horn, North Luffenham, Whissendine and elsewhere.

Flore's House in Oakham retains a good 13th-century moulded doorway, and internally an interesting lavatory basin of perhaps a century later, but the building was subsequently much altered. To the 13th century also belongs a vaulted cellar in Ryhall, and a window in a house at Braunston dates from about 1300. The gatehouse at Tolethorpe Hall, in Little Casterton parish, appears to be of the latter half of the 14th century, but it has few distinguishing architectural features.

The growing prosperity of the 14th century was probably due to the increase of sheep-farming. No sheep are mentioned in the Domesday Survey of Rutland, but 200 years later the export of Rutland wool was evidently an

¹⁴ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 234.

¹⁵ See below, p. 9.

¹⁶ See below, p. 8.

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established trade, which could be injured by the quarrel between England and Flanders in 1270.¹⁷ At first the common rights existing in the forest districts may have sufficed for the needs of the sheep-farmers. Brooke Priory, for instance, had common for 300 sheep in Leighfield Forest,¹⁸ but the 14th and 15th centuries saw the conversion of arable land into pasture, and the consequent displacement of the population. The small parish of Horn was apparently depopulated by 1376¹⁹ and its lands turned to pasture. Whether the village may have suffered unusually severely in the Black Death is not known, but it is significant that William Dalby, the wealthy wool merchant and founder of the Hospital of St. John and St. Anne at Oakham, belonged to the neighbouring parish of Exton. In 1394 Dalby and his son-in-law, Roger Flore, were exporting wool through the port of Lynn to Calais.²⁰ The chief Rutland merchants belonged to the important company of the Staple at Calais in the 15th and 16th centuries, amongst the members in 1470 being William Trafford, John Kyrton, William Wareyn, all of Oakham, Richard Salesbury of Brooke, and Thomas Adam of Langham.²¹ William Rose or Rosse, then a burgess of Calais, came from Oakham and was probably identical with the official of the same name who was Victualler of Calais for many years.²² So great was the unrest caused by the unemployment due to the increase of sheep-farming that the government was forced in 1517 to hold an inquiry. The returns made by the Inclosure Commissioners for Rutland, although incomplete, show that the inclosures in East Hundred were of considerable dimensions. As early as 1445 the hamlet of Hardwick in Empingham had been depopulated, but many of the inclosures in the parish had been made recently by George Mackworth, the lord of the manor, and other freeholders.²³ In contrast to the inclosures in East Hundred, those round Oakham were small, and sheep-farming on a large scale could be carried on without much disturbance of the arable land. The will of Thomas Haselwood of Ridlington, made in 1558, is instructive. He was deputy for life for Francis Hastings, Earl of Huntingdon, in Leighfield Forest and Ridlington Park, where he leased rights of herbage and pannage, and later he bought the manor of Belton from Lord Mountjoy. He left a ewe and a lamb each to his four maidservants and also to all his godchildren in Belton and Wardley, besides gifts of horses to the Earl and Countess and others. Huntingdon died two years later, leaving the bailiwick of the forest to another servant; consequently Thomas Haselwood's son and heir, Francis, found himself short of pasture at Belton, and was brought into collision with some of his tenants over his inclosures.²⁴ In spite of the loss of Calais in 1557, which especially impoverished the town of Oakham, the wool trade flourished in the 17th century. Abel Barker, the Parliamentarian, carried on a considerable trade in wool, while Col. Thomas Waite, the regicide, who purchased the manor of Hambleton from the Trustees for the Sale of Delinquents' Lands, caused bitter complaints by his inclosures and high-handed methods.²⁵

¹⁷ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 236-7; *Rot. Hund.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 52.

¹⁸ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, x, no. 1191.

²⁰ *Cal. Close R.* 1392-6, p. 199.

²² *Ibid.*; *P.R.O. List of Various Accts.* pp. 60, 141-2.

²³ *Chan. Misc.* bdl. 7, file 2 (2); see below, p. 242.

²⁴ *P.C.C.* 18 Cheyney; 8 Loftes; see below, p. 29.

²⁵ *Cal. S.P. Dom.* 1653-4, p. 28; 1654, pp. 27, 83.

¹⁹ See below, p. 139.

²¹ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1467-77, pp. 212-3, 290.

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Although politically there is little to record relating to the county in the 15th century, socially it saw the beginning of a great change. The outstanding leaders in the Wars of the Roses had little personal connection with Rutland, although the Earl of Warwick had lands there. It was the scene of the battle of Loosecoat Field, where in 1470 Edward IV met and defeated the Lincolnshire insurgents near Empingham.²⁶ Hitherto the resident landowners were generally small men; even if lords of a manor, their estates were small, and they themselves were little known except in county matters. The Despencers at Essendine and the Bishops of Lincoln at Liddington are almost the only exceptions. The activities of these local landowners in the county were, however, very noticeable, whether as members of parliament, sheriffs, magistrates or royal officials. The most striking example of this activity comes from the next century in the person of Anthony Colley of Glaston, but many other similar examples can be found.²⁷ For the future, however, Rutland was remarkable as a county of resident landowners, owning large estates, still taking a leading share in county matters, but also in those of the country generally. The Mackworths, Haselwoods, Brownes, Digbys, and Haringtons all come into prominence in the 15th century, although if they built themselves new houses, there are no traces of them left. Domestic work of the 15th century is represented by the still charming but neglected house of the Bishops of Lincoln at Liddington, which, though perhaps first erected in the 14th century or earlier, appears to have been wholly rebuilt by Bishop William Alnwick²⁸ (1436-49), and altered by Bishop William Smith (1496-1514), when it assumed in the main its present appearance. It was, however, again altered in 1602, when it became a bede house, and thus includes work of three periods. The great hall on the first floor still retains a beautiful panelled wood ceiling and elaborate traceried cornice of the time of Bishop Smith, and there is also a good ceiling in the great chamber. Both rooms contain interesting stained glass, some of which is of Alnwick's time, but the greater part of Smith's.

The Digbys came to Stoke Dry by the marriage of Everard Digby with Alice daughter of Francis Clarke. He himself was killed in 1461 at the battle of Towton, but the family remained at Stoke Dry for many generations, and in the 16th century were also stewards of various royal manors in the county. Another Everard was a prominent courtier and was one of the Gunpowder Plot conspirators in 1605, but the most famous was Sir Kenelm Digby, courtier, diplomatist, admiral, philosopher and scientist, friend of Oliver Cromwell and also exiled royalist. His career shows a diversity of attainments rarely met with except in the 17th century.²⁹ The Haringtons also obtained their first connection with Exton by marriage with Catherine Culpeper, who was descended from the family of Bruce or Brus. To this descent is attributed the rise of her son John Harington in the favour of James I, who stopped at his house at Burley and hunted there on his way to assume the crown of England. Harington, who had inherited or bought large estates in the county and rebuilt the house at Burley-on-the-Hill, was created Baron Harington of Exton, but the expenses of his public life—he was governor to Princess Elizabeth, and accompanied her on her marriage journey—impoverished him, and his heirs

²⁶ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 179.

²⁸ See below, p. 189.

²⁷ *Ibid.* 182-3.

²⁹ See below, p. 223.

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were forced to sell most of his property. Ridlington Park, however, he left to his younger brother James, and from this branch came Sir Edward Harington, bart., the parliamentary leader in the county, his son James, one of the commissioners of the trial of Charles I, and James Harington, the author of *Oceana*.³⁰ In the 16th century two other families became great landowners, but obtained their footing in the county as royal officials. David Cecil was the steward or bailiff of various royal manors, and his son Richard enriched himself with monastic lands, which were inherited by William Cecil, Lord Burghley, the great statesman and secretary of Queen Elizabeth. His Rutland property at Liddington and Barrowden and elsewhere passed to his eldest son, whose descendants the Earls of Exeter own them at the present day. Essendine, however, was left to his younger son Robert, Earl of Salisbury, who took his first title of Baron Cecil of Essendine from it, and in his youth may have lived in the old manor house of the Despensers.³¹ The Noels rose to importance in the county in the same way. Andrew Noel was the king's feodary in Rutland. His son purchased the lands of Brooke Priory and was the brother-in-law of the first Lord Harington. He bought up many of the Harington estates in the county. Others, notably Burley-on-the-Hill and Oakham Lordshold, were bought by the Duke of Buckingham, who rebuilt the house at Burley and added the famous stables there. Here was the scene of the first production of Ben Jonson's masque *The Gipsies*, and also of the introduction of the famous dwarf, Geoffrey Hudson, to the court.³²

Buildings of the 16th century are less rare than those of the 15th, though not common. They include the original schoolhouses at Oakham and Uppingham, both erected in 1584, but in part altered in the 18th century. The older part of Clipsham Hall is dated 1582, and a house at Barrowden 1586. At North Luffenham Hall (formerly the Digbys' house) a barn bears the date 1555, and the oldest part of the house itself is probably of about the same time or a little earlier, though subsequently much altered and enlarged (c. 1616 and in 18th cent.); in one of the outbuildings is some timber and plaster work, the only example of its kind in the county. The gateway and lodge of the 16th-century house built on or near the site of Brooke Priory are still standing.

Houses of the 17th century are found almost in every village, generally with high-pitched gables and mullioned windows, but frequently the mullions have been removed and the windows otherwise altered. Of the large houses of the period, Exton Hall and Tolethorpe Hall date from very early in the century, but the former is now in ruins, and the latter has been altered and enlarged in modern times. Hambleton Old Hall, an unaltered building of more moderate size, now a farmhouse, was erected about 1610, and is a very charming example of its period, with loggias between the end wings on its two principal fronts. The older part of Stocken Hall is of 17th-century date, and the old manor houses at Preston and Tinwell remain externally little changed, the former, at present a farmhouse, presenting a long many-gabled front directly on the road. Several houses in the High Street of Uppingham belong to this period and style, and others of good design are found at Braunston, Caldecott, Clipsham, Edith Weston, Langham, Liddington, Manton,

³⁰ *Dict. Nat. Biog.*; *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 183; see below, pp. 93, 115, 129.

³¹ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 180, 183; see below, pp. 172, 192, 252-3.

³² *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 184; see below, pp. 10, 112.

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Morcott, Oakham, Ryhall, Thorpe-by-Water, and Wing ; many of these bear dates ranging from 1604 to 1691.

There is little further information as to the county in the 16th century, although there were disturbances in the reign of Edward VI.³³ This lack of evidence suggests that the latter half of the century was a time of prosperity, while the troubles caused by the inclosing of land were probably mitigated by the disafforestation of Leighfield Forest about 1630. The negotiations relating to compensation for loss of common rights afford a pleasant glimpse of the relations between the different classes of the community, since the freeholders of Belton refused to accept the inclosed lands offered them unless the poor of the parish were also compensated.³⁴ There is little evidence of dissatisfaction under the early Stuart kings, since the different subsidies, the forced loan of 1626, and even the ship-money levies were raised with little opposition, but in the petition presented by various gentlemen and others to Charles I, as he went to York in 1640, there is obvious disapproval of his breach with parliament.³⁵ More elaborate were the petitions, presented by Sir James Harington and other Rutland gentlemen in 1642 to parliament, wherein the Irish rebellion, the influence of the Papists, and the need for various religious reforms were the chief points emphasised.³⁶ Indeed, these petitions suggest that the religious aspect of the quarrel was more strongly felt in the county, which seems to have been Puritan in sympathy, than its political features. When war actually broke out the majority of the leading men of Rutland joined the royalist forces, but its geographical position, especially after the battle of Edgehill, put it definitely into the sphere of the Parliamentary Midland Association. The chief protagonists were Edward Noel, Viscount Campden, and his son Baptist for the king, with Sir Edward Harington and his son James for the parliament. It is rather difficult not to view the Civil War in Rutland as a rivalry between the Noel and Harington cousins. Even the insistence on the Irish rebellion in the petition of 1642 may have been aimed at Lord Campden, who had fought in Ireland. Sir Edward Harington, indeed, secured Oakham and its magazine and called out the militia, but his efforts in this were much impeded by the success of the Noels in recruiting for the king.³⁷ The personal popularity of the Noels in the county emerges and an echo of it arises as late as 1648 in a petition of various Rutland parliamentarians to General Fairfax.³⁸ In 1643, when an expedition from Grantham under Captain Wray attempted to seize Baptist Noel's house at Exton, he met with 'resistance by the coming in of the neighbours' and was forced to withdraw, threatening vengeance on the whole Noel family.³⁹

In consequence Henry Noel at North Luffenham thought it necessary to collect 'a little guard' of his neighbours to defend his house. So menacing was the royalist feeling that Lord Grey, the commander of the forces of the Midland Association, joined Wray and marched to Lord Campden's house at Brooke, but he failed to find its owner, and then turned on North Luffenham with a force estimated at 1,300 men with artillery. There could be only one end to Noel's defiance, and he was forced to surrender.⁴⁰ While in prison in

³³ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 181, 223.

³⁴ *Ibid.* 224.

³⁵ *Ibid.* 184-5, 186-7.

³⁶ B.M. Press-mark 669, fol. 6 (1).

³⁷ *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* (Portland MSS.), i, 43, 80.

³⁸ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 195 ; B.M. Press-mark 669, fol. 6 (1).

³⁹ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 190.

⁴⁰ *Ibid.*

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London he sent a petition to the House of Lords, where it still exists, describing the siege. Lord Grey had drawn up his force on the slope opposite the house and sent a trumpeter demanding the surrender of Noel's person, his horses and arms. He refused, saying he had 'not a gunne more in my house than the feedinge of my hawkes require,' but offered to disarm those men not members of his household, for, according to Lord Grey, the little guard had increased to some 200 men. After further parleys the assault began in the evening, and was continued next day with such vigour that outhouses, stacks and barns were fired. The villagers were terrified and Noel surrendered to save their houses, but his conditions, he complained, were not kept, with the one exception of finding a suitable escort for his wife. Lord Grey admitted that 'with much difficulty I preserved their lives' (Noel and his friend Skipwith), 'but the soldiers were so enraged I could not save their goods.' The destruction of Sculthorpe hamlet is traditionally laid to their charge.⁴¹

Burley-on-the-Hill was taken in the same year and became the headquarters of the Rutland Committee. A garrison was maintained there until after the fall of Newark and much damage was done in erecting the fortifications.⁴²

The little information that reaches us during the remainder of the Civil War is largely concerned with disagreements between different commanders. The best-known amongst the parliamentarians, in addition to Sir James Harington, were Colonel Thomas Waite, Abel Barker and Evers Armyn. There was little more fighting in the county, although the Rutland Committee was often in fear of a royalist rising. The heavy taxation demanded was unpopular, and even when collected the local men were unwilling to transmit it to London.⁴³ A curious clause in the will of Sir Edward Harington, dated 1654, shows that he still had in his possession part of the sum raised for the defence of the county.⁴⁴ After 1644, and still more after the fall of Newark, many royalists compounded for their estates, while in 1657 the Duke of Buckingham recovered Burley—or what remained of it after its garrison had burnt and deserted the house in a panic in 1645—and other Rutland estates by a judicious marriage with Mary Fairfax.⁴⁵ Even more unpopular was the Protector's government, and probably the general feeling of the county was truly represented in the address presented to Charles II on his restoration in which the signatories made their 'thankfull acknowledgement' to God 'of His goodnesse in so great a Blessing accomplished without effusion of blood.'⁴⁶

The county remained famous for its large houses and estates, although Buckingham was succeeded at Burley by Daniel Finch, 2nd Earl of Nottingham. The second half of the 17th century was a time of considerable activity in building and a new influence is seen in such houses as Lyndon Hall and the Top Hall in the same place, both interesting examples of the transition from the Jacobean to the more classic type then being gradually adopted, and the hall at South Luffenham is of the same type. In these buildings gables give place to hipped roofs with small dormers, and the windows are increased in height and have moulded architraves. The more fully developed new style

⁴¹ *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* (Portland MSS.), i, 99; *Rutland Magazine*, ii, 202-8.

⁴² *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 189, 191, 192; *Cal. S.P. Dom.* 1644-5, pp. 85, 100-1.

⁴³ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 193; see *Cal. S.P. Dom.* 1644, 1644-5, 1645-7, *passim*.

⁴⁴ P.C.C. 326, 1653.

⁴⁵ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 194-5.

⁴⁶ *Ibid.* 200.

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is best seen in Nottingham's great house at Burley-on-the-Hill, built between 1694 and 1702 on the site of the older mansion burnt by the parliamentary forces. It occupies a commanding site on the brow of a hill, and in general lay-out follows the then rapidly prevailing type in which the main block is supported by outlying buildings, and connected with them by colonnades. Its plan is strictly symmetrical and the elevations are simple and dignified. The architect is not known.

The families of Heathcote, Sherard, and Lowther appeared in Rutland in the 18th century. The great house built at Normanton by Sir Gilbert Heathcote about 1730 was pulled down in 1925, and no 18th-century building of the same size or character now exists in the county. Tickencote Hall dates from early in the century. Clipsham Hall was rebuilt, Stocken Hall enlarged, and a new south front erected at the Digbys' house, North Luffenham. Dated 18th-century houses are found in Barrowden, Caldecott, Liddington, Manton, and Oakham.

Of the five crosses formerly existing in Oakham only the picturesque covered market-cross remains: it is known as the Butter Cross, and is an octagonal structure with high-pitched roof supported on timber posts, of late 16th, or early 17th-century date. Part of the shaft of what is said to have been a market-cross, long laid aside, has been recently set up in Liddington, and mutilated village or wayside crosses are found at Barrow and Edith Weston. At Oakham the stocks still stand under the roof of the market-cross, and on the green at Market Overton there are stocks and whipping-post combined. At Wing is a well-preserved turf maze, and there is said to have been one formerly at Liddington.

Rutland was still mainly an agricultural county. The cloth manufacture of 'tammy,' which continued till the early 19th century, and the trencher manufacture were never developed on a large scale, although the repercussion of the industrial revolution reached the county.⁴⁷ Most of the arable farming was still carried on in common fields, in the old-fashioned three-field system, and though there is evidence that some of the earlier inclosures were made with a view to improvement of method and not for sheep-farming, no change on a large scale was carried out till the need for increased food production brought about a continuous series of parish inclosures from 1760 onwards. If the movement involved hardship to the tenants, and particularly to the cottagers, an improved system of agriculture eventually resulted. The movements to form friendly societies and develop home industries were a special feature of Rutland at this time. They were started to counteract the rapidly increasing poverty, which sent more and more of the inhabitants to seek parish relief.⁴⁸

The county is famous for its schools founded in 1584 at Oakham and Uppingham by Robert Johnson. Both have developed into important schools, but the headmastership of Edward Thring at Uppingham (1853-87) had an especially wide influence on English education. There were also a noticeable number of endowed elementary schools, while the schools of rural industry promoted at the end of the 18th century deserve mention.⁴⁹

No great monastic house was established in Rutland, for the priory of Brooke was small and impecunious. Ecclesiastically Rutland is remarkable as a land of beautiful parish churches, due to the plentiful supply of

⁴⁷ *V C.H. Rutl.* i, 233, 237.

⁴⁸ *Ibid.* 223-5.

⁴⁹ *Ibid.* 243, 298-300.

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good building stone. It is difficult to find who was responsible for their building. The numerous monastic patrons of the benefices were only responsible for the chancels of the churches, although Westminster Abbey, with its well-organised estates at Oakham, may have been more active both there and at Uppingham. Presumably, too, the churches attached to the prebendal manors of the chapter at Lincoln may have owed something to the canons, but generally speaking, if we may judge from the wills that have come down to us, here as elsewhere the inhabitants of the different towns and villages took a lasting interest in the fabric of their churches. The Bishops of Lincoln, famous in the 13th century for their administrative reforms, used their influence to promote church-building as well as to procure proper provision for the vicars of the churches. Thus Bishop Hugh de Welles (1209–1235) bestowed spiritual benefits on all who helped in the rebuilding of Ketton church, and this was probably not an isolated instance.⁵⁰

At the principal manors churches were built which served a wide area around them and took the tithes for their support from that area. As the population increased, subsidiary churches or chapels were built which were served from the older or mother churches; such, for instance, was the case of Oakham with its chapelries of Langham, Egleton, Brooke, and Gunthorpe,⁵¹ while Hambleton and Ridlington each had three churches in 1086.⁵² Several of these churches were granted to religious houses and vicarages were later ordained at them.⁵³

For so small a county Rutland has an exceptionally large proportion of churches possessing features of architectural interest, some of them of considerable size and nearly all comprising work of more than one period. Of the fifty-two original parish churches, two—Horn and Martinthorpe—no longer exist, three others (Bisbrooke, Normanton, and Pickworth) have been entirely rebuilt, while at Teigh and Thistleton the towers only are ancient. All the medieval styles, from the 12th to the 16th century, are represented in the ecclesiastical architecture of the county; though work of the 13th and 14th centuries in the main predominates, it has been frequently modified by the later insertion of windows, the addition of clearstories, parapets and other features, and in some cases by the remodelling in the 15th century of whole portions of a fabric, as in the north transept of Empingham.

Only at Market Overton does any structural part of a Saxon church remain *in situ*,⁵⁴ but carved fragments of pre-Conquest date have been inserted in the west wall of the south aisle at Greetham, and another found at Ketton is preserved in the church there. There were churches returned in the Domesday Survey (1086) at Oakham, Hambleton (three churches), and Ridlington (three churches), and there were priests at Ketton, Barrowden, South Luffenham, Great Casterton, and Horn, implying perhaps the existence of churches. It is quite likely the churches at these places were there before the Conquest. The expansion of the county both politically and ecclesiastically occurred in the 12th century, when nearly all the ancient churches were built or rebuilt, in most instances probably the former, and more than half retain

⁵⁰ Blore, *Hist. of Rutl.* 183.

⁵¹ See below, p. 23.

⁵² *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 139–40.

⁵³ *Ibid.* 144.

⁵⁴ The claim of Whitwell is very doubtful: see below, p. 166. In addition to the tower arch at Market Overton, two pre-Conquest sculptured stones are incorporated in the later walling of the tower outside.

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work of this date or show evidence of a 12th-century origin. The dedications are almost entirely to Biblical saints, which were common to all periods. Of the others, the cult of St. Nicholas (to whom the churches of Cottesmore, Pilton, Stretton, and Thistleton are dedicated) did not reach this country until the 11th century. The churches of St. Botolph at Wardley, mentioned in the reign of Edward the Confessor, and St. Edmund at Egleton have dedications which they are unlikely to have received after the Conquest.

The principal surviving work of the 12th century is at Braunston (jambs of chancel arch), Cottesmore (south doorway), Edith Weston (jambs of chancel arch and east respond of north arcade), Egleton (chancel arch and south doorway), Essendine (south doorway), Morcott (tower, tower arch, and north arcade), Preston (north arcade), Seaton (jambs of chancel arch and south doorway), Stoke Dry (carved jambshafts, etc., of chancel arch), Stretton (south doorway), Tickencote (richly decorated chancel arch), Tixover (tower and tower arch), and Wing (south arcade). Sculptured tympana remain at Egleton, Essendine, Little Casterton, and Ridlington, the two former *in situ*, and a plain one at Stretton. The remarkable Norman chancel at Tickencote was rebuilt late in the 18th century and retains little or no ancient work, but is interesting as preserving in some measure a record of the original design. All the above work may be assigned to c. 1150–80. The later work of the century (c. 1190–1200) is more widely distributed, and includes an interesting series of nave arcades in which ‘the shape and ornamentation of the capitals are frequently curious and assume a characteristic local form.’⁵⁵ The series includes Belton (south arcade), Brooke (north), Burley (north), Little Casterton (north), Edith Weston (north), Glaston, Hambleton, South Luffenham (north), Morcott, Seaton (north), Wing (north), and one bay of the north arcade at Ashwell. In these the development of the Romanesque volute into the elementary stiff-stalk foliage of the next period can be well studied in the capitals. The water-leaf with its inward-curving volutes is found at Edith Weston, Glaston, Hambleton, Seaton, and Wing, and the incurved fir-cone ornament at South Luffenham and Morcott. At Edith Weston, Glaston, and Seaton the arches have a large hollow on the soffit between two bold round or keel-shaped mouldings. Doorways of late 12th-century date occur at Brooke, Hambleton, Morcott, Oakham, and Wing, those at Brooke and Oakham having pointed arches.⁵⁶ The west front of the nave at Ketton is an outstanding piece of work of the period, in which the characteristic features of the 12th and 13th-century styles are intermingled.

The 13th century was a period of church-building throughout the land, and nearly every church in Rutland shows evidence of this activity.⁵⁷ Many churches built or rebuilt at this time were, however, extensively remodelled in the next century—as at Ashwell and Whissendine—and though they retain a good deal of 13th-century work, it is no longer predominant. The chief structural work of the period in the county is found at Great and Little Casterton, Cottesmore, Empingham, Exton, Ketton, Langham, North Luffenham, Manton, Pilton, Seaton, Stretton, Tinwell, Tixover, and Whitwell; in

⁵⁵ R. P. Brereton, ‘Some Characteristics of Rutland Churches,’ in *Rutl. Mag.* i, 16.

⁵⁶ In the nave arcades pointed arches occur only at Glaston and Hambleton, in the first case apparently a later reconstruction in that form.

⁵⁷ It occurs in forty-one churches.

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the towers at Brooke and Hambleton ; and in one or other of the arcades at Ashwell, Ayston, Barrowden, Braunston, Burley, Caldecott, Clipsham, Edith Weston, Greetham, South Luffenham, Preston, Ridlington, Stoke Dry, and Whissendine. Some of this work is late in the century, as at Cottesmore and North Luffenham, and much of it is plain in character, with cylindrical piers and moulded capitals ; but piers with engaged shafts are found at Exton and Stretton, and capitals with stiff-stalk or more natural foliage occur at Barrowden, Great Casterton, Exton, North Luffenham,⁵⁸ Ryhall, Stretton, Tinwell, and Tixover.

A characteristic feature of this period in Rutland is the open bell-turret of stone on the western gable of the nave, remaining examples of which occur at Little Casterton, Essendine, Manton, Pilton, Stretton, and Whitwell.⁵⁹ The turrets differ in design, but all are constructed to hold two bells. Another characteristic of the 13th century in the county is the late retention of the semicircular arch,⁶⁰ both in arcades and doorways. The arches are of this shape in arcades at Barrowden (chancel), Great and Little Casterton, Clipsham, Edith Weston, Empingham, Manton, Preston, Seaton, Stretton, Tixover, and in doorways at Barrowden, Braunston, Wardley, and Whitwell. The towers and spires of Langham and Ryhall and the beautiful bell-chamber stage of the tower at Ketton are excellent examples of the earlier part of the century, while those of Cottesmore and Seaton belong to its later years (c. 1280-1300), a period in which a good deal of reconstruction was carried out in other parts of the county.⁶¹ The plain square-headed windows at Tixover are apparently original 13th-century work.

The period of reconstruction extended well into the 14th century, no fewer than thirty-seven⁶² churches in the county showing work of some kind of this period. Several churches were so extensively remodelled as to assume externally in a great measure the appearance of 14th-century buildings, as at Ashwell, Clipsham, Glaston, South Luffenham, Oakham, Preston, Uppingham and Whissendine. At Langham less work of this century survives, but the nave arcades, chancel arch, and porch are of the period. In many of the churches the ball-flower ornament is used with some profusion, as in windows at Ashwell and Clipsham, and the window tracery is generally very good, new windows being then freely inserted. Probably the advance of education given by the priests of the chantries founded about this time, and the resulting capacity to read the services, were reasons for this enlarged window space and the generally increased light in the churches of the 14th century, a practice carried still further in succeeding years. To this century also belong many of the fine towers and spires of the county, as at Barrowden, Caldecott, Edith Weston, Empingham, Exton, Greetham, Liddington, South Luffenham, Oakham,⁶³ Preston, Uppingham, and Wardley ; all these have spires. Western towers of

⁵⁸ Beautiful well-developed foliage in south arcade.

⁵⁹ There was also one on the old church at Bisbrooke, and evidence exists of others at Great Casterton and Ridlington and perhaps at Braunston and Wing. At Tickencote the bell-turret (for two bells) was on the east gable of the old nave.

⁶⁰ Brereton, *op. cit.* 18.

⁶¹ As at Caldecott and Lyndon ; the south transept at Langham and the north chancel arcade at Oakham date from this time.

⁶² Including St. John's Hospital chapel, Oakham ; or thirty-eight if the detached fragment of the old church at Pickworth is reckoned.

⁶³ Oakham tower derives from Grantham, and Whissendine from Oakham.

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this period without spires are found at Ayston, Burley, Teigh, Thistleton, Whissendine, and Wing,⁶⁴ and there is other good work in the chancels of North Luffenham and Liddington. The beautiful 14th-century spire at Ketton surmounts an earlier central tower; the spires at Empingham and South Luffenham are crocketed.

Work of the 15th century is largely confined to the insertion of windows, the remodelling of parts, the addition of clearstories, and other structural changes. At Langham and Oakham many beautiful windows were introduced and new parapets erected, while at Whissendine, in addition to new windows in the aisles, a lofty clearstory was built. At Empingham the north transept was remodelled and a new clearstory was erected, and at Liddington the nave was rebuilt, as were the chancels at Eggleton, Ryhall, and Tinwell. Other work of the period includes the western towers at Belton, Braunston, Great Casterton, and Ridlington, the clearstories at Little Casterton and Ketton, and the construction in its present form of St. John's Hospital chapel at Oakham. In all, work of this period occurs in twenty-one churches.

To the earlier part of the 16th century may be assigned the vestry at Oakham and the north porch at Stoke Dry, but the interesting remodelling of Brooke church took place late in the century.

The Dissolution of the Monasteries made little difference to the county, for the only monasteries were those of Brooke, always poverty-stricken and neglected, and the alien cell at Edith Weston, which was also allowed to fall into disreputable condition and by the end of the 14th century had been sold to the Carthusians of St. Anne's, Coventry. At neither of these are there any substantial remains of the priory buildings.⁶⁵

We learn from the Archdeacons' Visitations of the 17th century that the state of the churches and parishes was at a low ebb—windows broken and daubed up with plaster, communion vessels damaged and wanting, bells stolen, and irreverence of every kind practised, but some work of the period is found—e.g. the south transept at Stretton and the south porches at Caldecott, Greetham, and Stoke Dry. Normanton church was rebuilt in 1764, Teigh (except the tower) in 1782–84, the nave of Tickencote in 1792, and the chancel of Manton in 1796.

The 19th century, in Rutland as elsewhere, was a period of much church restoration, in some cases (e.g. Exton) of so extensive a character as to amount almost to a rebuilding. New churches replaced the old at Pickworth in 1821 and at Bisbrooke fifty years later, and during the century the chancels at Burley, Caldecott, Edith Weston, Essendine, Hambleton, Market Overton, Pilton, Ridlington, Uppingham and Wing were entirely rebuilt, and at Thistleton all except the tower. At Normanton the 18th-century fabric, to which a west tower and portico had been added in 1826, was replaced by a new building in the classic style in 1911.⁶⁶ Barrow chapel, in Cottesmore parish, was built about 1830 on or near the site of a former chapel destroyed in 1660.

Of the greater churches the most notable are Oakham, Langham, Whissendine, Exton, Empingham, Ketton, Liddington, North Luffenham, and Seaton, all of which, in the words of Mr. Brereton, are 'admirable as whole

⁶⁴ Wing formerly had a spire.

⁶⁵ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 164.

⁶⁶ See below, p. 126.

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buildings.⁶⁷ Of these Oakham is the largest, though exceeded by others as regards length of nave and chancel. At North Luffenham the length of the chancel is 47 ft. 6 in., and in five other churches over 40 ft., while in twelve the length of the nave exceeds 50 ft. Other churches, though less in size, are scarcely less interesting by reason of individual features or on account of the antiquarian problems they present. In the smaller buildings the length of the chancels averages about 22 ft. and that of the naves 30 ft. At Tixover the nave (26 ft. 6 in.) is shorter than the chancel.

The prevailing type of plan is that of chancel and aisled nave, with porch and western tower. This is found, with variations, in thirty-eight churches, in eighteen⁶⁸ of which the tower is surmounted by a spire. In five⁶⁹ there are transeptal chapels on both sides of either the nave or chancel, and in three⁷⁰ on the south side only, but the true cruciform transeptal plan is found only at Ketton. Another type of plan is that already mentioned, where a bell-turret takes the place of a tower at the west end.⁷¹ At Glaston the tower is between the nave and chancel, but there are no transepts.

At Ryhall are considerable traces of a 15th-century anchorage, which stood against the west wall of the north aisle of the nave.

Arrangements for medieval ritual are found in most of the churches, not only in the chancels (where old) but also in aisles and transept chapels. Good triple sedilia occur at Empingham (13th century), Seaton (late 13th century), Glaston (14th century), Liddington (14th century), and South Luffenham (14th century); with two seats at Barrowden, Caldecott, North Luffenham, and Ryhall; and single seats at Preston and Wing.⁷²

Piscinæ remain in thirty-eight churches, but not always in the chancels. There are six at Empingham and five at Oakham. Interesting examples occur in the south aisles at Belton and Morcott. The rectangular form of basin is not uncommon. There are double piscinæ at Ashwell and Empingham, and at Stretton a double-arched recess with a single bowl. At Empingham, Liddington, and Seaton the piscina and sedilia form a single architectural composition. Floor drains are found at Little Casterton (two) and Whitwell.⁷³

At Little Casterton and St. John's Chapel, Oakham, medieval altar slabs have been recovered and set up, while one at Whitwell is in use as a gravestone.

Low-side windows are found at Great Casterton, Essendine, Liddington, North Luffenham, Whitwell, and Wing; that at Essendine (now blocked) takes the form of a large quatrefoil set within a square frame.

There are clearstories in thirty-nine churches, mostly of 14th and 15th-century date, but at Great Casterton the 13th-century clearstory, with circular windows, remains, and one window of similar character at Empingham has survived.

⁶⁷ *Rutl. Mag.* i, 13.

⁶⁸ Or twenty-one if the short 'spires' at Braunston, Hambleton, and Liddington be reckoned.

⁶⁹ Empingham, Exton, Langham (originally), Oakham, and Whissendine (chancel).

⁷⁰ Edith Weston, Greetham, and Market Overton.

⁷¹ Of the six churches of this type, two—Manton and Stretton—have transeptal chapels.

⁷² The sedilia at Ashwell and Exton are over-restored or modern.

⁷³ One at North Luffenham (north aisle) is modern.

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Sanctus bell turrets over the eastern gable of the nave occur at Caldecott and Manton.⁷⁴

There are good medieval iron hinges on the south doors at Barrowden and Great Casterton.

Upper chambers over porches are found at Langham, Manton, Ryhall, and Stoke Dry (north); in another at Cottesmore, rebuilt with the porch, the floor was omitted.

The fonts are often of a rather plain character, none of the bowls having figure sculpture, but some are panelled and moulded. Of thirty-six fonts which are definitely medieval about half can be assigned to the 12th and 13th centuries, and seven or eight to the 14th century. Of these the earlier are the most interesting, the best examples being at Lyndon (archaic animal sculpture), Clipsham, Great Casterton (unmounted), Egleton, Braunston, Brooke, Oakham (intersecting arcade), Whitwell, Belton, Caldecott, Manton, Greetham, and Tickencote. Of 14th-century fonts the best are those at Exton, Ketton, Langham, South Luffenham, and Whissendine; the only good 15th-century example is at Burley. At Cottesmore the early 13th-century base has rudely carved representations of the Crucifixion and an abbot in benediction, but the bowl is a century later. The remarkable font at Market Overton is of composite character, its upper part perhaps fashioned from a late 12th-century capital. At Teigh (in addition to a modern font) there is an 18th-century vase-like mahogany bowl attached by a brass arm to the altar rail.

Little is left in the way of furniture and woodwork. The roofs, where old, are almost everywhere of low pitch and plain in character, and are mostly of late 15th, or early 16th-century date. The best are at Little Casterton, North Luffenham, Oakham, Ryhall, and Whissendine.

Medieval chancel screens remain in position only at Liddington and Stoke Dry, and the lower parts of others at Little Casterton and South Luffenham, all of the 15th century. At Egleton the screen is now in front of the tower arch. At Whissendine (south transept) is an early 16th-century screen from the old chapel of St. John's College, Cambridge, and at Glaston portions of a 15th-century screen have been used up in the pulpit and desk.

At Brooke the interesting late Elizabethan screens and pews in the chancel and oak seating in the nave are still in use.

There are Jacobean oak pulpits at Brooke, Cottesmore, Empingham, Greetham, North Luffenham, Morcott, Uppingham, and Whitwell, some much restored. The chapel at Barrow possesses a good 18th-century pulpit.

At Liddington the 17th-century arrangement of the communion rails surrounding the table on four sides is preserved, though the table is now placed on the east side of the space thus enclosed. There are also 17th-century communion tables at Tickencote (chancel), and in six other churches in different parts of the buildings.⁷⁵ At Manton is a pillar alms-box dated 1627.

Teigh preserves its 18th-century internal arrangements, with pews facing north and south, and pulpit at the west end above the doorway; there

⁷⁴ The small upper opening in the bell-turret in the same position at Tickencote, demolished in 1792, may have been for a sanctus bell.

⁷⁵ Belton (aisle), Exton (south transept), Lyndon (vestry), North Luffenham (south aisle), Morcott (tower), and Whissendine (south transept).

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are 18th-century communion tables at Empingham (north transept) and Pickworth. At Pickworth the early 19th-century three-decker pulpit is retained.

There are stone wall benches at Brooke, Little Casterton, Pilton, and Tixover, and beautiful coffin-lids, mostly of 13th-century date, are found at Little Casterton, Empingham, Glaston (14th century), Hambleton (14th century), Liddington, Lyndon, Manton, and Whissendine. There are stone coffins at Braunston and Market Overton.

Figure brasses are rare, occurring only at Little Casterton (1381, a fine example), Liddington (1486, and another of 15th-century date, re-used in 1530), and at Braunston (1596); there are inscribed brass plates of some interest at Ashwell, Manton, and North Luffenham (Archdeacon Johnson, 1625).

Monuments of considerable interest are to be found in several of the churches. At Great Casterton and Seaton are mutilated 13th-century effigies, and effigies of later date occur at Ashwell (one of wood, another of alabaster), Burley (c. 1500), and Tickencote (wood, 1363). Of structural monuments the fine series of memorials to members of the Harington, Noel, and other families at Exton claims first mention; they comprise nine monuments ranging in date from c. 1379 to 1790, one of them a good example of the art of Grinling Gibbons. Next in importance, and not less in interest, are the three Digby monuments at Stoke Dry (1496 to 1590), while of earlier date are a 14th-century table tomb with civilian male figure at South Luffenham, and another with incised cross (c. 1400) at Manton; good mural monuments with one or more effigies are found at Barrowden (1588), Tinwell (1611), Ridlington (1613-14), Brooke (1619), and Tixover (1623).

Floor slabs with incised figures occur at Ashwell (1480), Langham (1532), and Belton (1559).

A fair amount of stained glass of 14th-century date is found at North Luffenham (figure and armorial), and glass of the same period occurs at Little Casterton (grisaille), Whitwell, and Wing (a roundel). Glass of the 15th century occurs in the north transept at Empingham (chiefly armorial), and fragments at Ayston, Ketton, Liddington, Stoke Dry, and Tickencote, and there is also some old glass from elsewhere at Clipsham and Tixover.⁷⁶

Of the many wall paintings formerly in Rutland churches the principal remains are at Braunston (Mass of St. Gregory), Essendine, Liddington (a Doom), and Stoke Dry (St. Andrew, St. Christopher, St. Edmund), while traces of coloured mural decoration remain in a fair number of churches: Great and Little Casterton, Empingham, Uppingham, and Whitwell. There were formerly representations of St. Christopher at Edith Weston, Ridlington, and Seaton; a Doom at Wing; and a Temptation in Eden at Caldecott.

Scratch dials are found at Braunston, Ketton, South Luffenham, Lyndon, Stretton (on tympanum), and Stoke Dry.

Ancient churchyard crosses have almost entirely disappeared, the mutilated shaft at Empingham and a socket base at Lyndon alone remaining. In the churchyard at Braunston is an early carved stone figure of the type known elsewhere as 'Sheela-na-gig.'

There are dug-out chests at Brooke, North and South Luffenham, and

⁷⁶ The glass at the Bishop of Lincoln's house at Liddington is referred to above, p. xxxii.

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Empingham ; at Stoke Dry a bier dated 1694 ; and a fine display of funeral banners and armour at Exton. The Royal Arms, mostly painted panels, are found in eleven churches, but none is earlier than George II.

There are medieval bells (earlier than 16th century) at Ayston, Langham, Preston, Teigh, Tixover, and Whitwell, but none is dated. Bells of 16th-century date, mainly from the Leicester foundry, occur at Ayston, Barrowden, Braunston, Glaston (1598), South Luffenham (1593), Morcott, Seaton (two, 1597), Wardley, and Wing.⁷⁷

Of pre-Reformation church plate only one piece survives in the county, at Preston :—a silver-gilt paten, without date letter, but c. 1490–1500, with a Manus Dei in the centre. Elizabethan cups and patens are still in use at Ayston, Barrowden, Braunston, Egleton, Essendine (cup only), Exton, Glaston, Hambleton, Manton, Market Overton, Oakham, Pilton, Ridlington, Seaton, and Whitwell.⁷⁸ Plate of 17th-century date is more widely distributed, being found in twenty-nine churches. At Egleton an 18th-century porringer takes the place of a flagon.

⁷⁷ The bells of the county are exhaustively dealt with in North's *Ch. Bells of Rutl.* (1880).

⁷⁸ Of these, four date from 1569–70, and seven from 1570–71. See R. C. Hope, *Ch. Plate in Rutl.* (1887).

COUNTY OF RUTLAND

The origin of the county of Rutland has already been traced so far as can be ascertained from the evidence available.¹ The district which the county now covers, having been forest land, was of late settlement. The types of villages, laid out round a green, and the prevalence of pasture land are indicative of a forest area. The county was afforested land in the time of Henry I, but the forest being destroyed during the 'anarchy' of Stephen's reign, Henry II reafforested it. Henry III, by a mistake in the terms of a writ for perambulation, proposed to disafforest the lands that his grandfather (Henry II) had afforested. On discovering the error, however, in 1227 he ordered proclamation to be made that the county should remain forest.² Leyfield Forest, on the west side of the county, is a survival of the Forest of Rutland, and remained forest into the 17th century.³

On account of the nature of the land, the formation of the county was gradual. Rutland can scarcely be said to have been a county in 1086, when the return for what is called Rutland is entered in the Domesday Book as subsidiary to Nottinghamshire and consisted only of the Hundreds of Alstoe and Martinsley⁴ (including the Soke of Oakham). There was no earl until Edward Plantagenet was created Earl of Rutland in 1390, a date when an earldom, in the old sense, had lost its connexion with its county. Although William de Albini, a justice of the forest, is usually given as sheriff of the county in 1129-30, yet his return to the Exchequer is more in the nature of a bailiff's account than that of a sheriff, and occurs amongst other accounts which cannot claim to be those of shrievalties.⁵ Rutland, however, undoubtedly had a sheriff by 1154, for in 1155 Richard de Humez, constable of Normandy, owed for the farm of the previous year and is described as sheriff. Nevertheless the collections of the Danegeld from Alstoe and Martinsley Hundreds still belonged to the shrievalty of Nottingham,⁶ and that of another part, possibly Wrandike or East Hundred, to the shrievalty of Northampton,⁷ while the remainder was returned by the sheriff of the county.⁸ This arrangement remained as long as the Danegeld was collected (c. 1162). Escheats also appear to have belonged to the shrievalty of Nottingham; at all events an escheat in Wrandike Wapentake appears to have been so claimed in 1169, but it was returned by the sheriff of Rutland in 1177.⁹ Further,

¹ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 134-6.

² *Rot. Litt. Claus.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 169.

³ Wright, *Hist. of Rutl.* 76.

⁴ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 138.

⁵ *Pipe R.* 31 Hen. I (Rec. Com.), 134. Hugh de Port was addressed in the position of a sheriff in 1087-92 (Dugdale, *Mon. Angl.* i, 301-2).

⁶ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 138; *Pipe R.* 2, 3, 4 Hen. II (Rec. Com.), p. 39; *Pipe R. Soc.* v, p. 33.

⁷ *Pipe R.* 2, 3, 4 Hen. II (Rec. Com.), p. 41; *Pipe R. Soc.* v, p. 8.

⁸ *Pipe R.* 2, 3, 4 Hen. II (Rec. Com.), p. 42; *Pipe R. Soc.* v, p. 10.

⁹ Compare entries *Pipe R. Soc.* xiii, p. 65; xxvii, p. 53; xxviii, p. 72, and later vols.

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

according to the Hundred Rolls, the county was not made entirely independent of Northamptonshire until the time of King John,¹⁰ and in 1202 the Hundreds of Alstoe, Martinsley and East gave their verdicts before the justices sitting at Northampton, but these verdicts are entered separately from those of Northamptonshire.¹¹ Wrandike Hundred does not seem to have made an appearance before the justices. The independence of the men of Rutland in this respect was assured by Henry III in 1227, when he directed that they should not be bound to plead before the justices in eyre outside their county.¹²

In 1204 King John made a grant of the county to his queen Isabel,¹³ but resumed it in 1205 and granted it at a fee farm rent of £10 to Ralph de Normanville and his heirs.¹⁴ Ralph had been sheriff from 1202, and continued to take the profits of the county until 1209. He and his sons forfeited their lands, and although they were pardoned by Henry III, they did not recover the county of Rutland, which was given back to Queen Isabel. After the death of the queen in 1246, Henry III apparently granted the county with the shrievalty to his brother Richard, Earl of Cornwall, in 1252, who either acted as sheriff or appointed a deputy.¹⁵ The county with the Hundreds of Martinsley, Alstoe and East and the shrievalty were specifically granted in 1312 to Margaret widow of Piers de Gaveston.¹⁶

Henceforth the office of sheriff followed the descent of the Barony of Oakham (q.v.)¹⁷ until the death of Thomas, Duke of Gloucester, in 1397. After this date the sheriff was appointed in the usual way by the Crown.

With regard to the hundreds of the county, Alstoe Hundred was said in 1086 to be half in Thurgarton Wapentake and half in Broxtow Wapentake (co. Notts),¹⁸ a connexion, as Prof. Stenton points out, which must have been purely fiscal.¹⁹ The Hundreds of Alstoe and Martinsley became known as the Wapentake of Rutland. The remainder of what was later the county formed, about 1075, the two Hundreds of Witchley (Hwicceslea) East and Witchley West,²⁰ and in 1086 comprised the single Wapentake of Witchley (Wiceslea) in Northamptonshire.²¹ The two Witchley Hundreds, which had become East Hundred and Wrandike Hundred, were probably attached to Rutland late in the reign of William II or early in that of Henry I.²² Maud, the first wife of Henry I, was dowered with lands here, and she, who died in 1118, gave Barrowden, Luffenham, Seaton and Thorpe, which then may have represented the Hundred of Wrandike, to Michael de Hanslope.²³ Michael had his soke at Barrowden, from which probably the hundred originated, and Henry II confirmed the hundred to William Mauduit, his

¹⁰ *Rot. Hund.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 49.

¹¹ *Assize R.* 1202 (Northants Rec. Soc.), pp. 18-20.

¹² *Cal. Pat. R.* 1225-32, p. 142.

¹³ *Rot. Chart.* (Rec. Com.), p. 128.

¹⁴ *Ibid.* 149.

¹⁵ *Rot. Hund.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 49, 50, 53, where it is stated that Henry III gave the county to R. Earl of Cornwall and the Earl's sheriff is referred to, but the grant of Oakham (q.v.) to the Earl does not include these liberties.

¹⁶ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1307-13, p. 497.

¹⁷ *Cal. Chart. R.* 1341-1417, 330.

¹⁸ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 138.

¹⁹ *V.C.H. Notts.* i, 213.

²⁰ *V.C.H. Northants.* i, 259, 296, 297.

²¹ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 124; *Pipe R. Soc.* ix, p. 65.

²² They were separate hundreds in 1166 (*Pipe R. Soc.* ix, p. 65).

²³ *Add. MS.* 28024, fol. 49.

COUNTY OF RUTLAND



MAP OF THE HUNDREDS OF RUTLAND

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chamberlain, grandson of Michael de Hanslope, 'when my men came to Woodstock' (July 1163).²⁴ Since this date the descent of the Hundred of Wrandike has followed that of Barrowden (q.v.).

The East Hundred of Witchley Hundred, with Martinsley and Alstoe Hundreds, apparently remained in the Crown until King John in 1205 granted the county to Ralph de Normanville; in any case Henry III, in 1252, seems to have granted the county with the three hundreds to his brother Richard, King of the Romans. The later descents of these hundreds will be found under the separate accounts of them (q.v.).

THE SOKE OF OAKHAM

CONTAINING THE PARISHES OF

OAKHAM
BELTON
BRAUNSTON

BROOKE
CLIPSHAM
EGLETON

LANGHAM
WARDLEY

Until the 15th century Oakham Soke was included in Martinsley Hundred. From an early date, however, it had its separate jurisdiction, which arose no doubt on account of its connexion with the Saxon royal house, as dower land of Saxon queens down to Edith, queen of Edward the Confessor. In 1428 the two hundreds were called the Hundred of Oakham with Martinsley, but by 1684 the Soke had been separated from Martinsley Hundred. The descent of the Soke has been traced under Oakham Barony (q.v.), and Mr. Wilfred Henry Finch is now owner. The court of the Soke was apparently held at the Castle.

²⁴ Add. MS. 28024, fols. 22, 49 d, 50.

OAKHAM

Ocheham (xi cent.), Hocham (xii cent.), Ocham (xiii cent.), Okham (xiv cent.), Okeham (xv to xvii cent.), Oakham (xviii cent.).

Until 1894 the parish of Oakham consisted of three townships: Oakham Lordshold, comprising 2,010 acres; Oakham Deanshold with Barleythorpe, containing some 1,235 acres; and Gunthorpe, covering 500 acres. In 1894, under the Local Government Act, Deanshold and Lordshold with Gunthorpe were united to form the civil parish of Oakham, and Barleythorpe was made a separate civil parish. The present parish of Oakham has an area of 2,250 acres. It lies in the fertile vale of Catmose, the hills on the west side rising to over 600 ft. above Ordnance datum. Here are the sources of three small brooks which, flowing through the parish from west to east, join the main stream of the Gwash below Hambleton. The land is mostly pasture, rather less than a quarter being arable.

The market town of Oakham lies at the head of the Vale of Catmose, midway between the market towns of Melton and Stamford, and forms the natural centre for a small group of villages. The town grew up under the castle, to the south of which the Market Place and High Street seem to mark the limits of the original settlement. The older houses are of local marlstone with Ketton dressings and Collyweston slates, but there was a good deal of building in brick in the late

are not uncommon. One still stands in the High Street, and another, No. 19, Northgate, apparently of early 17th-century date, is a stone-built house with four-centred doorway and two-story mullioned bay windows. In the wall of No. 1, Dean's Street is a panel inscribed 's.c. 1682,' and No. 31, Gaol Street, a rectangular ironstone building, formerly a Quaker meeting-house, now used as a Church Room, bears a panel inscribed 'R.H. 1714.' On another house in the same street is 'M.B. 1809.' At the corner of High Street and Gaol Lane stood the old Gaol and Bridewell, parts of which are still shown. In 1811 the New County Gaol was built on a site in Station Road, but owing to lack of inmates it was closed in 1878.¹

The oldest and most interesting example of domestic architecture in the town, however, is a house on the south side of High Street (No. 34) known as Flore's House, which was no doubt the home of the Flore family that occupied an important position in the town in the late middle ages. William Flore was controller of the works of the castle in 1373-1380 and sheriff of Rutland.² His son, Roger



FLORE or FLOWER.
Erminees a cingfoil ermine.



OAKHAM: FLORE'S HOUSE

18th and early part of the 19th century. The houses then erected, a considerable number of which remain, are generally of simple but good design, with stone-slatted or tiled roofs. Houses with thatched roofs

Flore, was one of the county members in several Parliaments from 1394 to 1414, and was elected Speaker of the House of Commons in the four Parliaments of 1416, 1417, 1419 and 1422.³ He added

¹ *Rutl. Mag.* iv, 212.

² *Mins. Accts.* (P.R.O.), Gen. Ser. bde. 964, no. 5; *Cal. Pat. R.* 1370-74,

p. 290; 1377-81, p. 568; *Cal. Close R.* 1385-89, p. 147. William Flore was build-

ing in West Bargate in 1373 (*Mins. Accts.* loc. cit.).

³ *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

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considerably to the family estates in Oakham,⁴ and by his marriage with Katherine daughter of William Dalby became patron of the Hospital of St. John and St. Anne (q.v.). It is with him that local tradition associates Flore's House. His descendants remained as landholders in the town certainly until the death of Richard Flore in 1540,⁵ shortly after which date the Flore property in Oakham was sold.⁶

The house retains a good 13th-century pointed entrance doorway of two moulded orders on jambshafts with moulded capitals and bases, and label with head-stops, and the middle part of the building, which was occupied by a hall about 33 ft. long by 21 ft. wide,^{6a} is perhaps in the main of the same period though altered and subdivided. The house faces east and the entrance is at the end of the screens. In the wall of the screens there remains a projecting

end, and all that part facing the street is modern. In the Melton Road there is a good 18th-century house (No. 40) with a straight symmetrical front of two stories and an attic with dormer windows. In the middle of the ground floor there is a doorway with a semicircular coved canopy, over which is a panel with the initials and date ^{TD}1719. On the first floor are seven windows. The front is stuccoed and has stone dressings and drafted quoins.

Catmose, lying between the Stamford and Uppingham roads, was largely rebuilt and the extensive gardens were laid out by the Rt. Hon. G. J. Noel, for many years M.P. for Rutland. Adjoining is the Riding School of the Rutland Fencibles, a force raised by the Earls of Nottingham and Gainsborough at the beginning of the 19th century. Near by, too, is a handsome 18th-century house known as 'Judges



OAKHAM: THE BUTTER CROSS

lavatory basin, perhaps of 14th-century date, in the centre of which is a female head, with the drain holes on either side; there is a small staple, probably for a towel, at the apex of the arched recess. The building was much altered towards the end of the 15th or early in the 16th century, to which period the projecting end wings apparently belong. On the ground floor of the north wing are two moulded square-headed windows. The upper floor and end gables are plastered, and the roofs are covered with stone slates and tiles. In 1914, for purposes of street widening, the building was shortened at the north

Lodgings,' which masks a much earlier building. In the old castle park are the Lodge (Mrs. McNeile) and the modern Vicarage, while in Station Road is Deanscroft (Mr. J. Baird, late M.F.H.).

The stocks and Butter Cross form a picturesque group in the Market Place. The cross is an octagonal structure with high-pitched stone-slatted roof supported by a massive central stone pier and by eight upright timber posts on stone bases.⁷ It is of late 16th or early 17th-century date, and about 36 ft. in diameter.⁸ The octagonal central shaft stands on three steps and is surmounted, above the roof, by a four-

⁴ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1370-74, p. 319; 1399-1401, p. 509; Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 22 Ric. II, no. 28; Trin. 7 Hen. IV, no. 4; P.C.C. 69 Luffenham.

⁶ Early Chan. Proc. hdl. 7, no. 108; Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 34 Hen. VI, no. 16; Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), xl, 23; xlv, 6; xlvi, 71.

^{6a} James Wright, *Hist. Antiq. Rutl.*

1684-87, p. 97. For pedigree of Flore, see Whitwell and *Visit. Rutl.* 1618-19 (Harl. Soc.), 29, 30.

^{6a} Part of the roof is visible on the second floor, but it is apparently of later date.

⁷ A beam is carried from post to post and supported by straight struts. There are curved struts from the posts to the principal rafters. The height to the

eaves is about 6 ft. 6 in. The roof is covered with Collyweston slates.

⁸ Sketch of Butter Cross in 1608 in *Rutl. Mag.* iii, 155. The central shaft is 3 ft. in diameter, and there is a cobbled space of about 9 ft. all round between the lower step and the supporting posts. The diameter of the steps is about 16 ft. 3 in.

sided sundial and vane. The steps form the seat for the stocks, which are still in position and have five holes. The position of the old market shambles is marked by a tree planted at each corner.

There were formerly four crosses besides the Market Cross. Those which stood at the junction of Church Street and High Street and of Finkle Street and Northgate Street evidently marked a boundary. Those which stood at the bottom of Mill Street and the west end of Northgate Street, where the North Gate was situated, may have marked the borough boundary.⁹ At the junction of South Street and Catmose Street was Gibbet Gate. The gallows was at Mount Pleasant and the pillory stood opposite the Crown Hotel at the south end of the Market Place.¹⁰

The market of Oakham is mentioned in 1249, when it belonged to Isabel Mortimer, whose predecessors presumably held it by prescriptive right.¹¹ In 1252 Henry III granted to Richard, Earl of Cornwall, two weekly markets on Monday and Saturday,¹² but in 1347 there was apparently only a Saturday market.¹³ In 1792 the market was still held on Saturday,¹⁴ but at the present day there is a weekly market for corn and cattle on Monday. A fair at the feast of the Decollation of St. John the Baptist was held by Walchelin de Ferrers, the lord of Oakham, in the reign of Henry II.^{14a} In 1252 Henry III also granted to his brother the right to hold the two fairs annually, for three days at the feast of the Decollation of St. John the Baptist and three days at the feast of the Invention of the Holy Cross.¹⁵ In 1347 there was only a one-day fair on the feast of the Decollation of St. John the Baptist.¹⁶ It seems to have been the custom at this time to farm the markets and fairs,¹⁷ but in 1385 Richard II, the manor being in his hands, appointed a chief bailiff of the markets and fairs,¹⁸ and in 1521¹⁹ the markets and fairs were in the hands of the lord of the manor.

The port-moot which is mentioned in 1373,²⁰ and was still held in 1521,²¹ appears to have been the precursor of a court of pie-powder²² by which it was replaced in the grant of three fairs made in 1600 by Queen Elizabeth to Sir John Harington.²³ These fairs were to be held for two days at the feast of St. Mark the Evangelist, at the Decollation of St. John the Baptist, and on the Tuesday and Wednesday in the first week of Lent. The three old fairs are still held on 15 March, 6 May, and 9 September. A pleasure fair is also held in May, and there are cattle fairs held on a Monday in each month except January. Tithes of the fair at the feast of the Decollation of St. John the Baptist were granted to the priory of Brooke by Walchelin de Ferrers,^{23a} *temp.* Henry II, and were paid in the 14th century,²⁴ but no tithes appear to have been paid in 1521.²⁵

No record of a pre-Reformation school at Oakham has been found, but one of the chantry priests may have acted as a schoolmaster. The Dean and Chapter of Westminster paid salaries to schoolmasters from 1563 to 1588, and in 1577 the Warden of the Hospital of St. John and St. Anne also had a school but had no bishop's licence.^{25a} In 1584 the sites occupied by the chapels of St. Mary and St. Michael were used by Robert Johnson for his school-house of Oakham School.²⁶ The old school-house, which was restored in 1903, is an oblong building of coursed rubble, lying east and west, with ashlar groins and dressings, stone-slatted eaved roof, and coped gable at each end. It is lighted by three large square-headed transomed windows of three lights on each side, those on the south side having hood-moulds. The entrance is at the west end of the south wall, along which runs an inscription in bold letters: 'SCHOLA LATINA GRÆCA HEBRAICA A° 1584.' Above, between two of the windows, is 'REFECTA A° 1723.' There is also a date stone '1584' in the west wall. The scheme of internal decoration already alluded to²⁷ was completed in 1911. The present school-house was erected in 1858, from designs by Sir Sidney Smirke, on the site of the Hospital of Christ, which had for many years served as the old school-house. The dormitories were enlarged in 1866 and the Old Vicarage, used as a sanatorium, was shortly afterwards acquired. Bank House was built in 1884, a school-house for junior boys was added in 1910, and a second boarding house in 1928. At the same time a large science block, six new class-rooms, a library and music-rooms were added, completing the provision for 250 boys. A school chapel, designed by Mr. G. E. S. Streatfeild, who is also responsible for the other additions, was erected in 1924-5 in memory of old boys and masters who fell in the Great War. This fine monument, costing £17,000 apart from the carvings on the west front by Mr. F. W. Sargant, was provided entirely by subscriptions. The architect, while retaining the Gothic style in keeping with the church, has succeeded in producing a building of great dignity and one admirably adapted for school worship.²⁸

Among 15th-century place-names are Newgate, in which William Flore had a house, a messuage called 'le Bulle' in Estbarregate, Fengate and Haynes Lane, Westbarregate (14th cent.).²⁹

Gunthorpe, a detached part of the parish to the south-east, was attached to Oakham township in 1316.³⁰ There was formerly a village, but in 1684 a shepherd's cottage was the only dwelling.³¹ In 1846 there were 8 inhabitants, but only one house beyond Gunthorpe Lodge. It was then said to be a township in the parish of Egleton.³² The district was excepted from the inclosure of the parish of Oakham in 1820.³³

⁹ *Ruil. Mag.* iii, 155-6. One of these crosses is said to have been like the cross at Liddington, the pedestal of which was carved with cherubim. The remains of it were in 1796 used as a horse block (*Gent. Mag.* lxxvi, 187).

¹⁰ *Ruil. Mag.* iii, 155-8.

¹¹ *Rot. Rob. Grosseteste* (Cant. and York Soc.), pp. 239-40.

¹² *Cal. Chert. R.* i, 392.

¹³ *Cal. Inq.* ix, no. 56.

¹⁴ *Royal Com. on Markets and Fairs*, App. p. 196.

^{14a} Wright, *op. cit.* additions, p. 5.

¹⁵ *Cal. Chert. R.* i, 392.

¹⁶ *Cal. Inq.* ix, no. 56.

¹⁷ *Mins. Accts.* (P.R.O.), Gen. Ser. hdlc. 964, no. 2; *Chan. Inq.* p.m. 13 Ric. II, no. 164.

¹⁸ *Cal. Close R.* 1381-5, p. 552; 1385-9, pp. 218, 536.

¹⁹ *Exch. Treas. Receipt, Misc. Bks.* clxxxii, fol. 6.

²⁰ *Mins. Accts.* loc. cit.

²¹ *Exch. Treas. Receipt*, loc. cit.

²² *Mins. Accts.* loc. cit.

²³ *Pat. R.* 42 Eliz. pt. 16.

^{23a} Wright, loc. cit.

²⁴ *Mins. Accts.* *op. cit.* nos. 1, 2.

²⁵ *Exch. Treas. Receipt*, loc. cit.

^{25a} Arthur Hawley, *A translation of a graunte from his Ma^{ty} to Robert Johnson, clarke, etc.* 17.

²⁶ *V.C.H. Ruil.* i, 261, 269.

²⁷ *Ibid.* 269, 270.

²⁸ *Bk. of Oakham School* (1928).

²⁹ *Irons' Notes; Cal. Pat. R.* 1370-4, p. 319.

³⁰ *Feud. Aids*, iv, 207.

³¹ James Wright, *op. cit.* p. 67.

³² William White, *Hist. Gazetteer and Directory Leics. and Ruil.* 1846.

³³ *Priv. Act of Parl.* 1 Geo. IV, cap. 25.

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The castle³⁵ stands east of the parish church, to the north of the Market Place. Its descent followed that of the Barony (q.v.). It was not until the 13th century that it was definitely called a 'castle,' being in reality a large fortified manor-house with an earthen bank around it, protected at first by timber and surrounded on all sides by a broad ditch. The earthworks, which comprise two courts and represent a type between the mount castle and the moated residence, have already been described.³⁶ The hall, which stands within the first court, was built by Walchelin de Ferrers at the end of the 12th century. Its architectural details point to a period within the ten years between 1190 and 1200; it may, however, have been begun a little earlier, but it was finished before the death of Ferrers in 1201. It is probable that the wall round the first court, or main enclosure, which has already been referred to,³⁷ was raised about the middle of the 13th century by Richard, Earl of Cornwall, after he came into possession in 1252. It is difficult to make out a definite date of what remains of the stonework, as the details are of a very plain kind.³⁸ The most interesting feature of the wall is the small round tower, or bastion, which projects from the west curtain, but apart from this there was no serious attempt to provide the wall with flanking defences. The general character of the work, however, appears to be of the 13th century, and it is most likely that Richard was responsible for the fortifying of the place and for its conversion from a manor-house into a castle with a strong wall. In the inquisition which followed the death of Richard in 1272 nothing is said of the state of the buildings. It was, however, kept in good repair throughout the 14th century,³⁹ and in 1308 the king ordered that it should be one of the castles specially fortified and guarded.⁴⁰

The entrance to the first court is now from a passage on the north side of the market-place immediately opposite the great hall, through a pedimented gateway, which is a restoration of that erected by the first Duke of Buckingham early in the 17th century. The position of the hall in relation to the subordinate buildings can only be reconstructed by a comparison with other known buildings of the time. In 1340 the castle is thus described: 'The castle is walled, and within are a hall, four chambers, a chapel, a kitchen, two stables, a grange for hay, a house for a prison, a chamber for the gatekeeper (*janitore*) and a draw-

bridge with iron chains.⁴¹ The lord's chambers were at the west end of the hall and the kitchen and offices at the east end, but the position of the chapel is not known. Of the date or plan of these buildings it is impossible to speak with certainty, but it is not unlikely that the hall was originally the one permanent stone structure in the castle, the other buildings being of timber. In the course of time these buildings would be superseded by others of a more permanent nature, but these too have perished and only traces of their foundations are left.

The hall of Oakham Castle, often styled the Shire Hall, is well known as a very beautiful and little spoilt example of the domestic architecture of the late 12th century. It has many points of resemblance with the contemporary hall of Auckland Castle (co. Durham), especially as regards the plan, but at Auckland the building was converted into a chapel in the 17th century and many of its original features lost.⁴² At Oakham the changes have been very slight. On plan the hall covers a rectangular space measuring internally about 65 ft. by 42 ft.,⁴³ divided by north and south arcades into a middle space, or nave, and side aisles. The aisles are 9 ft. wide, and the arcades consist of four semicircular arches springing from cylindrical piers. It had the usual internal arrangements of a great hall, with the dais at the west end and the screens at the east, perhaps occupying the whole of the eastern bay. Three doorways, now blocked, which led to the kitchen and offices, still remain in the east wall. Of these the two main doorways are pointed⁴⁴ and have a continuous roll moulding, but the smaller one at the north end has a semicircular arch.⁴⁵ Above it, slightly more to the north, is a small blocked round-headed opening, which led to one of the adjoining upper chambers. The principal entrance was at the lower end by a doorway in the most easterly bay of the south aisle, but in comparatively recent times this has been moved to the middle of the south wall, where it takes the place of a former window.⁴⁶ The lighting was by windows in the side walls and one in the eastern gable;⁴⁷ there was no clearstory.

The building is of rubble throughout, with ashlar quoins and dressings,⁴⁸ and has stone-slatted eaved roofs with coped east and west gables to the nave. There are buttresses of two stages at each end supporting the arcades. The aisles are under separate lean-to roofs,⁴⁹ in which, on each side, a series of three dormer windows has been inserted.⁵⁰ The

³⁵ Use has been made in the following description of a paper on Oakham Castle by Prof. A. Hamilton Thompson in *Ruil. Mag.* v, 82.

³⁶ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 115, where a plan is given.

³⁷ *Ibid.* 116.

³⁸ The wall of the enclosure is built of a coarse, ferruginous upper member of the oolite, with mortar made without much lime (C. H. Hartshorne in *Arch. Journ.* v, 140).

³⁹ *Mins. Accts.* op. cit. nos. 1, 5; *Cal. Pat. R.* 1370-4, p. 290; 1377-81, p. 568; 1381-5, p. 177; *Cal. Inq. Misc.* ii, no. 1703.

⁴⁰ *Cal. Close R.* 1307-13, p. 30.

⁴¹ *Cal. Inq. Misc.* ii, 1703. Within the walls were two acres of land by estimation; without the castle 'a garden of the yearly value of 8s. and preserve with a dyke.'

⁴² The hall of Auckland Castle was built by Bishop Pudsey c. 1190-95, but like other of his works is somewhat advanced in style. The arches are pointed and spring from clustered piers. The hall was converted into a chapel by Bishop Cosin in 1661-64, when the old roof was removed and a lofty clearstory added. None of the original windows remains. The hall measures internally 85 ft. by 48 ft.

⁴³ Length on north side 65 ft. 3½ in., on south side 64 ft. 6 in., width at west end 42 ft. 7 in., at east end 43 ft. 3 in. (Sir Henry Dryden's measurements, May 1848).

⁴⁴ Externally they have segmental chamfered arches.

⁴⁵ By tradition this opening led into the chapel, but it is unlikely that the chapel would be in this position (cf. J. Holland Walker, *Oakham Castle*, p. 17).

⁴⁶ The doorway is shown in its original position in Buck's drawing of the hall, made in 1730. A window now occupies its place.

⁴⁷ This window, though much restored, appears to be an original feature. It is round-headed, but of two plain pointed lights. Below it is a blocked 17th-century square-headed mullioned window of six lights.

⁴⁸ The stone used for dressing is a fine grained shelly oolite from Clipsham (Hartshorne, op. cit. 140).

⁴⁹ There is a low unpierced clearstory between the roofs of the aisles and that of the nave.

⁵⁰ A single dormer window at the west end of the south aisle is shown in the engraving of the hall in Wright's *Hist. Rutl.* p. 104. It is also shown in Buck's drawing (1730).



OAKHAM CASTLE HALL: THE INTERIOR, LOOKING WEST



OAKHAM CASTLE HALL: THE INTERIOR, LOOKING SOUTH-WEST



OAKHAM CASTLE HALL FROM THE SOUTH-EAST

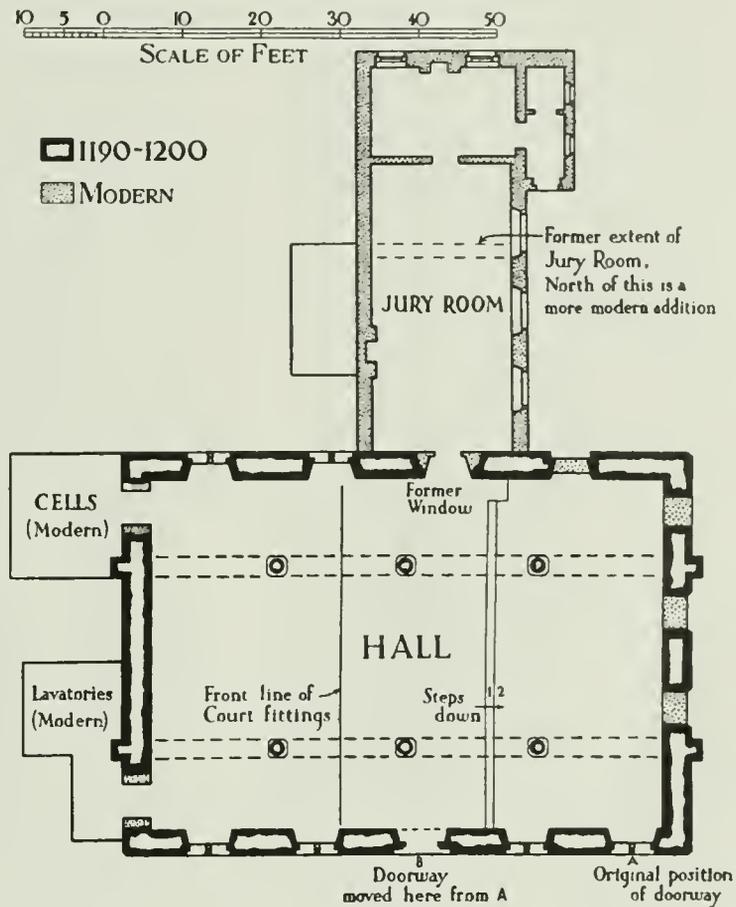
THE SOKE OF OAKHAM

OAKHAM

walls are plastered internally. The west end⁵¹ is filled with wooden court fittings, and until 1911 the east end was similarly furnished as a civil court, the end walls in each case being panelled. In that year, as a memorial to the Right Hon. G. H. Finch, M.P., whose bust is now placed there, the fittings at the east end were removed and the floor lowered to its original level and flagged.⁵² The building was probably the Moot Hall mentioned in 1375,⁵³ which was then and still is used for holding the assizes and later the quarter sessions, and for other public business of the town and county. There are modern additions on the north side⁵⁴ and at the west end.

The arches of the arcades have flat soffits and moulded edges, with a kind of outer order or hood-mould, enriched with dog-tooth on both sides. Towards the aisles the hood has large head-stops, but on the nave side it terminates above the piers in large carved figures⁵⁵ playing musical instruments. The piers have foliated capitals of great beauty, square abaci, and circular moulded bases with plain spurs on low square plinths.⁵⁶ At the ends the arches spring from corbels⁵⁷ composed of figures of animals resting on brackets supported by pairs of heads, one pair at the east end, opposite the former doorway, representing a king and queen. The foliage of the capitals, with its long stiff stalks and leaves which bend over, has often been compared with that in the quire of Canterbury Cathedral, and is typical of the classical carving which was employed on the Continent⁵⁸ at this period.⁵⁹ The lateral windows, though varied in their details, are of one general form. Externally they are double lancets,⁶⁰ with moulded heads and shafted jambs enriched with dog-tooth;⁶¹ the openings are square topped, the pointed heads having solid spandrels ornamented with

foliage⁶² and simple arcading. Internally the windows are recessed, both lights being under a semicircular moulded rear-arch enriched with dog-tooth, which is continued down the jambs to the floor.⁶³ On the north side the two westernmost windows alone remain;



PLAN OF OAKHAM CASTLE

of the others, one has been converted into a doorway leading to the jury room and the other blocked.⁶⁴ The doorway, now in the middle of the south wall, has a semicircular arch of two moulded orders and hood, the outer order on banded nook shafts with foliated capitals.⁶⁵ Inserted in the wall on each side of the doorway is a carved stone—on the east a

⁵¹ To the extent of a bay and a half.

⁵² The floor was lowered 10 in. There are now two steps across the hall in the second bay from the east. Formerly only the middle part of the floor, between the wooden fittings, was flagged. The removal of the panelling at the east end revealed the round-headed north-east doorway.

⁵³ Mins. Accts. *op. cit.* no. 5.

⁵⁴ The jury room on the north side has been enlarged, and the petty sessions and county court are now held in it.

⁵⁵ Of these, two on each side are human figures, the others—over the two eastern piers—being animals.

⁵⁶ The plinths are level with the floor where it has not been lowered. The piers are 24 in. diam.

⁵⁷ Corbels were probably used instead of responds in order to make more room

for the high table at the top and more room for the entry at the bottom of the hall.

⁵⁸ Especially in Burgundy and the Ile-de-France. The contemporary capitals in Edith Weston Church show the same elegance, though not in so high a state of development.

⁵⁹ The sculpture of the heads supporting the corbels and of the figures which form the stops of the hood-moulds of the arches is of the same classic type. 'The hard, vigorous execution of a new school of craft can be seen in the label stops at Oakham Hall' (Prior and Gardner, *Figure Sculpture in Engl.* 227).

⁶⁰ There is no containing arch.

⁶¹ The dog-tooth is on each side both of the jamb shafts and mid-shafts. The shafts have foliated capitals and moulded bases, but only the mid-shafts remain.

These are circular in the westernmost window of each aisle, but elsewhere octagonal.

⁶² The blank spandrel of the westernmost window of the south aisle is apparently modern; it is shown with foliage in Buck's drawing, where, however, the spandrels of the two middle windows are pierced.

⁶³ The rear-arch and jambs of the former window remain unaltered inside the present doorway, and conversely the internal portion of the old doorway is still in its original position.

⁶⁴ The east end of the north wall has been much tampered with. The west jamb of the easternmost window is exposed.

⁶⁵ The moulded bases shown in Buck's drawing have been replaced by square blocks.

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grotesque animal, on the west a much mutilated figure striding a horse.⁶⁶ Another carved stone with mutilated seated figure is near the south-east corner. There is a chamfered string-course along the south wall at sill level, but no plinth.

The present roof is modern, though apparently retaining some 17th-century work.⁶⁷

The chief officials were the constable of the castle⁶⁸ and the porter or janitor of the gaol.⁶⁹

In 1521 the castle was in a ruinous condition; only the hall had been kept in some state of repair, as the courts were held there.⁷⁰ In a survey of the lordship of Oakham made in that year there is apparently the earliest mention of the custom by which every peer entering the town does homage to the castle by giving a horseshoe or paying a fine. The models of the horseshoes which were originally attached to the outer door and gates, as shown in Buck's drawing, are now hung inside on the walls of the hall. The horseshoes vary in size; that given by George IV as Prince of Wales is very large and hangs at the west end of the hall. The origin of the custom is lost, but it is remarkable that the fines were received by the clerk of the market.⁷¹

The town has never been incorporated, but in the 13th and 14th centuries it was a private borough in the hands of the lords of Oakham barony (q.v.). Burgage tenements are mentioned about 1285⁷² and still existed in Newgate in 1521.⁷³ In 1300 there were 29 burgesses in the town,⁷⁴ and in 1305 Margaret, Countess of Cornwall, was granted leave to take a reasonable tallage from her tenants in the borough.⁷⁵ A successful appeal against this taxation was made in 1344 by the inhabitants of Oakham, Langham and Egleton on the ground that Oakham was not a city, borough, nor ancient demesne, and that except on two occasions they had never been tallaged.⁷⁶ This desire to escape the heavier taxation levied on a borough probably stopped any development of the town towards self-government. Nevertheless by comparison with other towns of a similar character it seems probable that the gilds of St. Mary and St. Michael (q.v.), besides their religious and social functions, exercised certain powers for the general welfare of the community. With the dissolution of the gilds, the vestry took over duties of a like nature, such as the provision and charge of the fire engine, buckets and ladders, which were kept in the church, and looked after the rights regarding grass in certain fields, and other matters not directly connected with the church.⁷⁷ The town is now under the administrative control of the Urban District Council formed in 1911, and remains under the jurisdiction of the county magistrates.

⁶⁶ There is a somewhat similar figure, locally known as George and the Dragon, as a finial on the east gable. On the west gable is a centaur or sagittary.

⁶⁷ It is simply framed, with four king-post principals over the nave resting on the wall plate, and three others on corbels and wall-pieces over the piers. The ancient roof was probably semicircular. Hartshorne was of opinion that the oldest remaining portions were two beams put up by the first Duke of Buckingham (*Arch. Journ.* v, 142).

⁶⁸ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1370-74, p. 371; 1374-77, p. 373; 1381-85, p. 180; 1485-94, p. 64.

⁶⁹ *Cal. Inq. Misc.* ii, no. 1703; *Cal. Pat. R.* 1391-96, p. 259; 1408-13, p. 388; *Exch. Treas. of Receipt, Misc. Bks.* vol. cl, fols. 63-4.

⁷⁰ *Ibid.*

⁷¹ For details and list of the horseshoes see Pearl Finch, *Oakham Castle*, pp. 33-39, 49-64; *Notes and Queries* (Ser. iv), vol. iv, pp. 352, 469.

⁷² *Mins. Accts.* op. cit. no. 1.

⁷³ *Exch. Treas. of Receipt*, vol. clxxxi, fol. 6.

⁷⁴ *Cal. Inq.* iii, no. 604.

⁷⁵ *Cal. Close R.* 1302-7, p. 252.

⁷⁶ *Ibid.* 1343-6, p. 289.

⁷⁷ *Rutl. Mag.* iv, 188-91.

There is a railway station at the west end of the town on the London Midland and Scottish Railway, which was opened in 1848. The now disused Melton Mowbray and Oakham Canal, terminating at Oakham, was completed in 1803.

Among the celebrities connected with the town was the Rev. Abraham Wright (1611-1690), who was presented to the vicarage of Oakham in 1645. He was not inducted, as he refused to take the Covenant. After the Restoration he took possession of the vicarage. He published various books, the best known being a Eulogy of Wentworth.⁷⁸ His son, James Wright, of the Middle Temple, was the author of *The History and Antiquities of Rutlandshire* (1684) and of other works. Jeremiah Whitaker (1599-1654), a Puritan and oriental scholar, was master of Oakham School, before becoming rector of Stretton, Rutland (1630), and a member of the Westminster Assembly of Divines (1643).⁷⁹ Sir Jeffery Hudson, the well-known dwarf, in the service of Henrietta Maria, was born at Oakham in 1619.⁸⁰ Titus Oates, who devised the story of the Popish plot and has been described as 'one of the vilest characters in history,' was born at Oakham in 1649.

The town is the centre of the cattle trade of the district. There was formerly a boot factory, owned by a Leicester manufacturer, which is now closed. For a long time the town has been an important hunting centre.

Oakham Lordshold was inclosed in 1820 under an Act of Parliament for the inclosure of the parish, Gunthorpe and Flitteris being excluded from its provisions.⁸¹

The barony⁸² of **LORDSHOLD OR BARONY** Oakham, usually known as the lordship, castle and manor of Oakham, was formed out of part of the estate in Rutland and Leicestershire which was assigned, according to the 12th-century chronicler Gaimar, to two pre-Conquest queens, Elfthrith, the wife of Edgar, and Emma, the wife first of Ethelred the Unready and then of Cnut.⁸³ Edward the Confessor assigned it to his queen Edith,⁸⁴ who held all the manor of Oakham (except a carucate) and its five unnamed berewicks at the time of the Norman Conquest.⁸⁵ Four of the berewicks may doubtless be definitely identified with Langham, Brooke, Egleton, and Gunthorpe; the fifth was perhaps Knossington (co. Leic.).⁸⁶ Edith probably held the manor until her death in 1075,⁸⁶ but, although the Confessor had granted the reversion to the Abbey of Westminster,⁸⁷ William the Conqueror retained the manor in his own hands.⁸⁸ William Rufus gave to the abbey the church of Oakham, which probably included the manor later known as

⁷⁸ *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

⁷⁹ *Ibid.*

⁸⁰ Wright, *Hist. Rutl.* 105; *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

⁸¹ *Priv. Act of Parl.* 1 Geo. IV, cap. 25.

⁸² Campbell Chart. (R.M.), xv, 3.

⁸³ *Estorie des Engles* (Rolls Ser.), lines 4135, 4140.

⁸⁴ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 167.

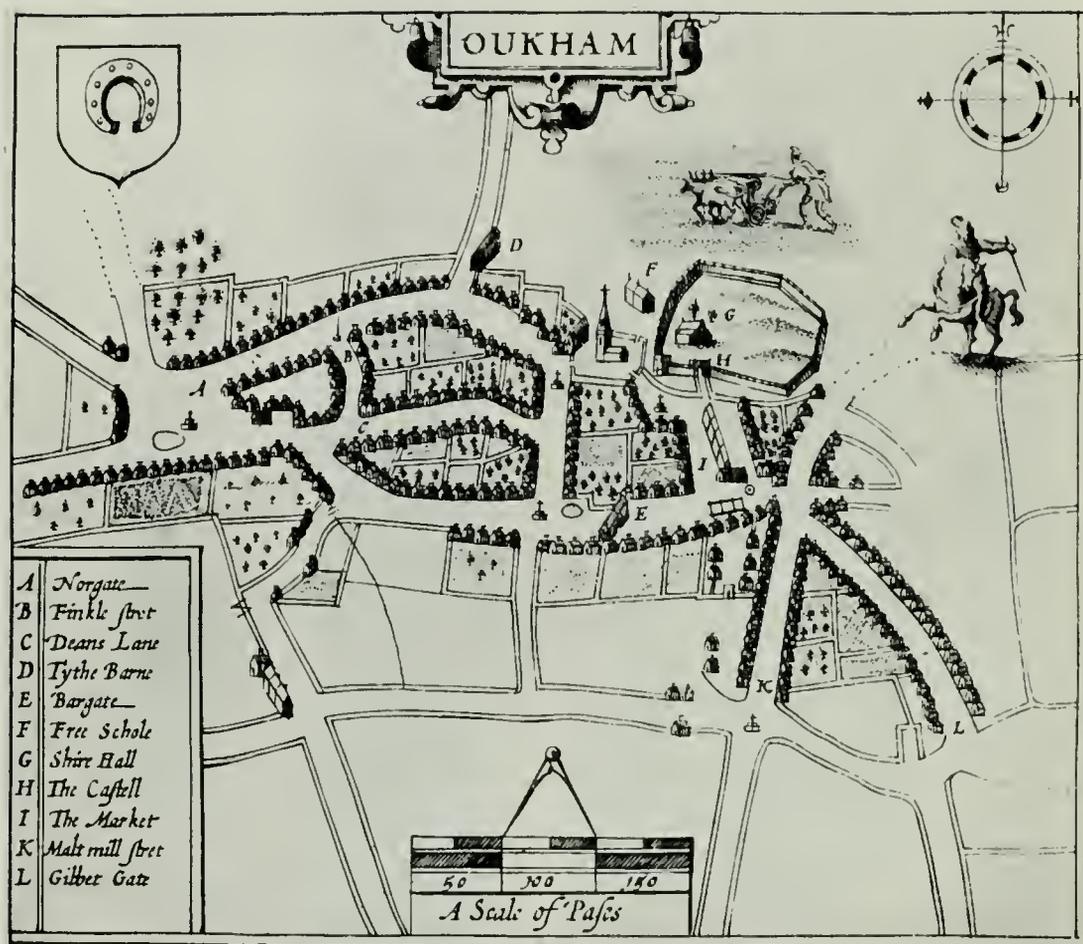
⁸⁵ *Ibid.* 139, 166-7.

⁸⁶ cf. *Westm. Dom.* fol. 594.

⁸⁷ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 139, 166-7.

⁸⁸ Dugdale, *Mon. Angl.* i, 299.

⁸⁹ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 139. For the use here of the term 'Cherchesoch' see *ibid.* p. 133.



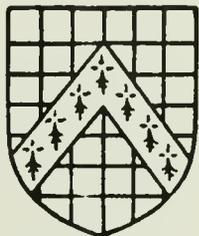
JOHN SPEED'S MAP OF OAKHAM IN 1610

THE SOKE OF OAKHAM

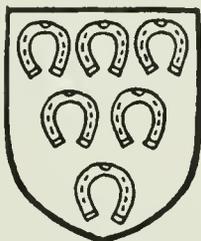
OAKHAM

Deanshold and Barleythorpe.⁸⁹ The remainder of Oakham was held by the Crown until the reign of Henry I, when it was formed into a barony, which seems to have been more or less identical with the former soke, excluding the Westminster holding.

The barony or lordship was granted, probably by Henry I, to Henry de Newburgh or Roger his son, who in 1123 succeeded his father as Earl of Warwick.⁹⁰ The overlordship remained with the Earls of Warwick until about the middle of the 12th century, when it was exchanged with the king for Sutton Coldfield (co. Warw.).⁹¹ After this time it was apparently held of the Crown. Before 1130 Oakham was held by the Ferrers family as sub-tenants of the Earls of Warwick.



NEWBURGH, Earl of Warwick. *Chequy or and azure a cheveron ermine.*



FERRERS, Earl of Derby. *Argent six horse-shoes sable.*

Henry son of Walchelint de Ferrers (Ferrières), the Domesday commissioner, had a son Robert who in 1138 was created Earl of Derby and died in 1139,⁹² another son William, who died before 1131,⁹³ was possibly the first sub-tenant of Oakham, as his sons seem to have successively inherited it. Henry, the eldest of these sons, paid danegeld in Rutland, probably for Oakham, in 1130 and died before 1156-7.⁹⁴ Hugh, another son, gave Brooke in the soke of Oakham to the canons of Kenilworth with the consent of his brother William. Henry was probably dead at the date of the gift, as Hugh obtained confirmation of the grant from his nephew Walchelin, son of Henry, who was apparently under age and in the custody of [Robert] de Newburgh, his overlord, who also assented to the gift.⁹⁵ Walchelin was pardoned a debt to the Crown in 1161.⁹⁶ He was holding Oakham in 1166 and in the same year answered for the barony held by the service due from 1½ knight's fees,⁹⁷ which he was still holding in 1196.⁹⁸ He accompanied Richard I on the Crusades and visited him while in captivity. He died in 1201, leaving two sons, Henry and Hugh, and two daughters, Isabel and Margaret.⁹⁹ Oakham passed to Henry, the elder son, who forfeited his English

lands on the loss of Normandy in 1204.¹ Hugh, to whom his father had given the manors of Lechlade and Longbridge, died in the same year, possibly before his brother's forfeiture, without issue, and these manors passed to Isabel, his eldest sister, the wife of Roger de Mortimer.^{1a} Oakham, however, remained in the king's hands until 1207, when it was granted to Isabel and Mortimer for her life with reversion to the Crown.^{1b} After the death of Roger de Mortimer in 1215, Isabel married Peter Fitz Herbert.² By her first husband she had a son Hugh de Mortimer of Wigmore, who died without issue in 1227. Isabel continued to hold Oakham until her death in 1252, when, in accordance with the terms of the grant from King John, it reverted to the Crown.³

Henry III in 1252 granted the barony to his brother Richard of Cornwall, King of the Romans, on his marriage with Sanchia of Provence.⁴ He was succeeded by his son Edmund, Earl of Cornwall,⁵ on whose death in 1300 it was assigned in dower to his widow Margaret de Clare.⁶ The barony consisted of Oakham



CORNWALL. *Argent a lion gules crowned or in a border sable bezanty.*



CLARE. *Or, three cheverons gules.*

(Lordshold), Langham and Egleton held in demesne; knights' fees in Oakham, Clipsham, Braunston, Pickworth, Belton and Wardley in Rutland, and in Knossington, Thorpe Satchville and Twyford in Leicestershire; and estates held in socage in Gunthorpe and Braunston.⁷ Edward II, after the death of the Countess of Cornwall, granted the barony to his niece Margaret de Clare, daughter of Gilbert Earl of Gloucester and Hertford and widow of Piers Gaveston, Earl of Cornwall, during pleasure.⁸ In 1317 it was regranted to her and her second husband Hugh de Audley and the heirs of their bodies,⁹ but in 1319 the grant was varied and made for their lives only.¹⁰ As a supporter of the Earl of Lancaster, Audley lost his possessions in 1321, and Oakham was granted during pleasure to Edmund, Earl of Kent, the king's brother.¹¹ On the accession of Edward III, Audley was restored and created Earl

⁸⁹ Dugdale, *Mon. Angl.* i, 301, 302; *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 132; it is not clear if the manor was included in the church estate until the reign of Henry I.

⁹⁰ G.E.C. *Complete Peerage*, viii, 52-3.
⁹¹ Dugdale, *Antiquities of Warwickshire* (1730), ii, 909; *Cal. Inq.* iii, no. 477.

⁹² *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), iv, 190-1.

⁹³ This branch of the Ferrers family has been carefully traced by Mr. L. C. Loyd in *Rutl. Mag.* i, 177-85.

⁹⁴ *Pipe R.* 31 Hen. I (Rec. Com.), 135; *Rutl. Mag.* i, 179.

⁹⁵ Stapleton, *Rot. Scacc. Norm.* ii, lix, cxii; *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 159; Dugdale, *Mon. Angl.* vi, 235.

⁹⁶ *Pipe R. Soc.* iv, 58.

⁹⁷ *Ibid.* xi, 124; *Red Bk. of Exch.* (Rolls Ser.), 336.

⁹⁸ *Ibid.* 103.

⁹⁹ Stapleton, loc. cit.; *Rot. de Oblat. et Fin.* 178.

¹ Hardy, *Rot. Norm.* i, 143.

^{1a} *Rot. de Oblat. et Fin.* 209.

^{1b} Hardy, loc. cit.; *Rot. de Oblat. et Fin.* 416; *Rot. Hund.* (Rec. Com.) ii, 49; *Pipe R.* 10 John, m. 5 d; *Red Bk. of Exch.* (Rolls Ser.), 534-5.

² *Cal. Pat. R.* 1225-32, p. 478; *Close R.* 18 Hen. III, pt. i, m. 10; *Cal. Close R.* 1234-7, p. 102.

³ *Bk. of Fees*, i, 619; ii, 1151; *Cal. Close R.* 1237-42, p. 472; 1247-51, p. 287; *Rot. Hund.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 49.

⁴ *Cal. Chant. R.* i, 392.

⁵ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1266-72, p. 640; *Cal. Close R.* 1279-88, p. 72; *Rot. Hund.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 49.

⁶ *Cal. Inq.* iii, no. 604; *Cal. Close R.* 1296-1302, pp. 426, 437. She was the second daughter of Richard Earl of Gloucester and Hertford.

⁷ *Cal. Inq.* loc. cit.; vi, no. 708; *Hen. VII*, i, no. 1209; ii, no. 207; *Chan. Misc. bdl.* 8, no. 3; *Cal. Inq. Misc.* ii, no. 1703; *Feud. Aids*, vi, 386; *Exch. Treas. Receipt, Misc. Bks.* cl, fols. 63-4.

⁸ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1307-13, pp. 497, 502.

⁹ *Ibid.* 1313-17, p. 664.

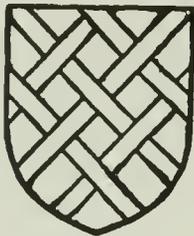
¹⁰ *Ibid.* 1317-21, p. 386.

¹¹ *Cal. Close R.* 1318-23, p. 303; 1327-30, p. 76; *Cal. Pat. R.* 1321-24, p. 144.

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of Gloucester. The Earl of Kent had to surrender the barony, which was recovered by Audley and his wife, who were to hold it for their lives.¹² In 1337 the reversion was granted in tail male to William de Bohun, brother of Humphrey Earl of Hereford, on his creation as Earl of Northampton.¹³ He obtained possession on the death of Hugh Earl of Gloucester in 1347,¹⁴ and died in 1360.¹⁵ On the death in 1372 of his son Humphrey, who succeeded him, the barony reverted to the Crown under the terms of the grant

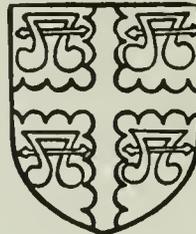
The Gloucester attainder having been reversed in 1399, the barony had been successfully claimed in 1414 by Sir William Bouchier and his wife Anne, Gloucester's daughter and heir.²⁹ Anne was the



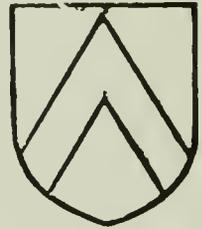
AUDLEY, Earl of Gloucester. *Gules fretty or.*



BOHUN, Earl of Northampton. *Azure a bend argent cotised or between six lions or with three pierced molets gules on the bend.*



BOURCHIER. *Argent a cross engrailed gules between four water-bougets sable.*



STAFFORD, Duke of Buckingham. *Or a cheveron gules.*

of 1337, as he left only daughters.¹⁶ The barony was at first excepted from the dower assigned to his widow Joan,¹⁷ but by a later arrangement she received £96 13s. 1d. annually, paid apparently only from the manor of Langham.¹⁸

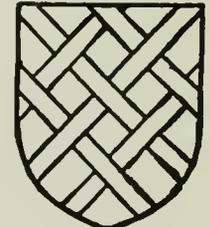
widow of Edmund, Earl of Stafford, and on her death in 1438 Oakham passed to her son Humphrey Stafford, who was created Duke of Buckingham in 1444.³⁰ His grandson and successor Henry, the second Duke, was executed by Richard III in 1483, and the barony was granted to Henry Grey, Lord of Codnor, in 1484.³¹ It was, however, restored to Edward, Duke of Buckingham, on the accession of Henry VII in the following year and was in the king's hands during his minority.³² On a somewhat vague claim to the crown he was executed in 1521 and all his possessions were forfeited.³³ Eleanor, Duchess of Buckingham, continued to hold Oakham as dower until her death in 1530.

In 1380 Thomas Holland, Earl of Kent, half-brother of Richard II, received yearly £100 from the issues of the barony, pending arrangements for his maintenance,¹⁹ and another annuity of £100 was granted to Sir Richard Stury.²⁰ In 1385 the barony was granted to Robert de Vere, Earl of Oxford, for life,²¹ but after his attainder and flight from the country, in 1388,²² it was granted in 1390 to the King's cousin Edward, eldest son of Edmund, Duke of York (d. 1402), on his creation as Earl of Rutland, to hold during the lifetime of his father.²³ The reversion was granted in fee tail in 1390 to the King's uncle Thomas, Duke of Gloucester, on his marriage with Eleanor, one of the daughters of Humphrey de Bohun.²⁴ The Duke of Gloucester was arrested for conspiracy against Richard II and was murdered while a prisoner at Calais in 1397.²⁵ His nephew Edward, Earl of Rutland, who was implicated in his murder, in the following year obtained a new grant of Oakham in tail male.²⁶ Edward himself fell into disfavour in 1399 and forfeited the Dukedom of Aumarle, which he had obtained in 1397; he, however, received a confirmation of Oakham from Henry IV in 1400.²⁷ A further confirmation in 1412 gave him a life tenancy only.²⁸ He was killed at the battle of Agincourt in 1415.

No subsequent grants of the barony as a whole were made, although Henry VIII granted Oakham to Thomas Cromwell in 1531 under the old title of the castle, lordship and manor,³⁴ yet the grant seems to have referred only to the manor of Oakham with certain judicial rights in the soke and not to the



LORD CROMWELL. *Azure a fesse between three lions or with a rose gules between two ebougs on the fesse.*



HARINGTON of Exton. *Sable fretty argent.*

dependent manors and fees of the barony.³⁵ In 1538 the manor was settled on Gregory, Thomas Cromwell's eldest son, and his wife Elizabeth, to hold for their lives, with remainder to their son Henry.³⁶

¹² *Cal. Close R.* 1327-30, p. 76; *Cal. Pat. R.* 1327-30, p. 30; 1338-40, p. 100.

¹³ *Ibid.* 1334-38, p. 417; *Chart. R.* 11 Edw. III, m. 24.

¹⁴ *Cal. Inq.* viii, no. 382; ix, no. 56; *Cal. Close R.* 1346-9, p. 342.

¹⁵ *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), vi, 472.

¹⁶ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 46 Edw. III (1st nos.), no. 10.

¹⁷ *Cal. Close R.* 1369-74, p. 496.

¹⁸ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1388-92, p. 354; *Cal. Chart. R.* v, 332.

¹⁹ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1377-81, pp. 450-1; 1381-5, p. 14.

²⁰ *Cal. Close R.* 1377-81, p. 279.

²¹ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1385-9, pp. 7, 14, 69.

²² *G.E.C. Complete Peerage*, vi, 165.

²³ *Chart. R.* 11-13 Ric. II, m. 6, no. 5;

Cal. Pat. R. 1388-92, p. 354.

²⁴ *Ibid.* pp. 251, 255-6; *Cal. Chart. R.*

v, 330-1.

²⁵ *G.E.C. op. cit.* iv, 43.

²⁶ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1396-9, p. 415.

²⁷ *Ibid.* 1399-1401, p. 204.

²⁸ *Ibid.* 1408-13, p. 413.

²⁹ *Ibid.* 1413-16, pp. 269-70.

³⁰ *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), ii, 388;

Cal. Pat. R. 1452-61, pp. 639, 645;

1461-7, p. 6; *Mins. Accts.* (P.R.O.), *Gen. Ser.* ptf. 1117, no. 11.

³¹ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1476-85, p. 433.

³² *Ibid.* 1485-94, p. 54.

³³ *Cal. Inq. Hen. VII*, i, no. 1209;

ii, no. 207; *Exch. Treas. of Receipt,*

Misc. Bks. cl, fols. 63-4; *L. and P.*

Hen. VIII, iii, no. 2356 (12).

³⁴ *Ibid.* xiii (1), g. 1519 (2).

³⁵ The curious position arose that the new holders of these manors and fees held of the Crown, but that suit of court was still owed to the court of Oakham.

³⁶ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xiii (ii), g. 967 (54).

In this way it escaped forfeiture at the time of Thomas Cromwell's attainder and execution, and was held by his descendants till 1596, when Edward, 4th Lord Cromwell, sold it to Sir John Harington, afterwards first Lord Harington of Exton.³⁷ Lord Harington died in 1613,³⁸ and his widow held the manor till her death in 1620, when it passed by settlement to his elder daughter and heir, Lucy, the wife of Edward, Earl of Bedford,³⁹ who sold it in 1621 to George Villiers, afterwards Duke of Buckingham.⁴⁰ It then passed to his son, the 2nd Duke, a minor at the time of his father's assassination in 1628. He recovered possession of it before the Restoration and sold it between 1684, when he was described as lord of the manor, and 1687, the date of his death,⁴¹ to Daniel Finch, 2nd Earl of Nottingham (d. 1730).⁴² Daniel succeeded his cousin as 6th Earl of Winchilsea in 1729, and his descendants the Earls of Winchilsea and Nottingham owned it till the death of George, 9th Earl of Winchilsea, in 1826.⁴³ Oakham then passed to George Finch of Burley-on-the-Hill.⁴⁴ He was

bably been claimed by his predecessors.⁴⁸ In 1622 the Duke of Buckingham held the view of frankpledge for the soke.⁴⁹ At the present day a court leet for the manor of Oakham Lordshold is held annually.

The court of Oakham appears to have served both as a court of the barony and the ordinary three weeks' court for the manors of Lordshold and Eggleton.⁵⁰ The sub-tenants of the barony owed suit of court⁵¹ at this court.⁵² In 1846 the jurisdiction still extended over the old barony and the inhabitants owed suit at the court held at the Castle and paid *1d.*, otherwise they were liable to be fined at the pleasure of the clerk of the court.⁵³

In 1252 Henry III granted to Richard, Earl of Cornwall, the right to inclose with a ditch and hedge the wood called *FLITTERIS* at Oakham, which was within the king's forest of Leighfield (q.v.). He had also the right of putting his beasts into the park at will.⁵⁴ The deer in the park are mentioned in 1300⁵⁵ and in 1521 it was described as 'within a mile of the town a little park called Flitteris park containing about a mile and a half and having in it 80 fallow deer.'⁵⁶ In 1373 the lodge in the park at Oakham is mentioned.⁵⁷ In 1399 Edward, Duke of York, granted the keepership of the park of Flitteris to Roger Flore for life.⁵⁸

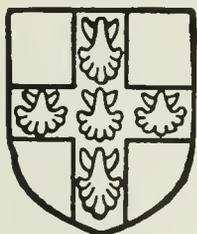
The *LITTLE PARK* was in existence in 1275, when Edmund, Earl of Cornwall, was presented for imparking 2 roods of land of the king's highway passing through the Little Park.⁵⁹

In 1250 Isabel de Mortimer successfully maintained her right not to have the dogs of the manor of Oakham hambled⁶⁰ and in 1275 Peter de Neville, the keeper of the forest of Rutland, was presented for fining the men of Oakham and Langham 10 marks because their dogs were not hambled, which they were not bound by custom to have done.⁶¹

Richard, Earl of Cornwall, and his son had free warren in Oakham,⁶² and the warrener received *6s. 8d.* yearly in 1300.⁶³

A *MILL* was held (*temp.* Henry II) by Walchelin de Ferrers, who granted tithes from it to the Priory of Brooke.^{63a} Two mills were farmed about 1285.⁶⁴ In 1373 they were in lease, one being a water-mill and the other a wind-mill,⁶⁵ and mills were leased with other tenements in 1521.⁶⁶

Deanshold was formerly a township in the parish of Oakham, separated from Lordshold (q.v.) at a date subsequent to 1086. With Barleythorpe (q.v.) it owed suit to a different view of frankpledge⁶⁷ and was separated from Lordshold manorially, but its lands and houses lay intermixed both in the town and



VILLIERS. *Argent a cross gules with five scallops or thereon.*



FINCH. *Argent a cheveron between three griffons passant sable.*

succeeded by his son the Rt. Hon. G. H. Finch, M.P., whose son Mr. Wilfred Henry Finch is the present lord of the manor.

In 1275 the lord of Oakham claimed to have gallows, pillory and tumbrel in the lordship, as well as the assize of bread and ale.⁶⁵ In 1316 Margaret, Countess of Cornwall, also had infangthief and outfingthief.⁶⁶ Edward, Duke of York, in 1403 obtained a special confirmation of the *jura regalia* belonging to the barony: which, besides the above, included waifs, strays, ransomes, fines of trespass and concealments, licences for agreement, aids and certain amercements of sheriffs, chattels of felons, fugitives and outlaws and all other forfeitures, returns of all writs and the execution of the same, rents, services, free customs and all other profits and commodities from and in the county from all tenants and residents.⁶⁷

The view of frankpledge was held for the soke of Oakham by Edmund, Earl of Cornwall, and had pro-

³⁷ Feet of F. Rutl. East. 38 Eliz.; Recov. R. East. 38 Eliz. ro. 62.

³⁸ *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), vi, 321.

³⁹ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), cccxcii, 133.

⁴⁰ Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 18 Jas. I; Mich. 19 Jas. I.

⁴¹ Wright, op. cit. 96.

⁴² William White, op. cit.; *Rutl. Mag.* i, 53.

⁴³ White, op. cit.; Recov. R. Mich. 15 Geo. III, ro. 289; Trin. 45 Geo. III; Priv. Act of Parl. 1 Geo. IV, cap. 25.

⁴⁴ White, op. cit.

⁴⁵ *Rot. Hund.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 53.

⁴⁶ Chan. Misc. bdle. 8, no. 3.

⁴⁷ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1401-5, p. 323; the last item was presumably in right of holding

the shrievalty of the county rather than the castle of Oakham (*ibid.* 1388-91, pp. 387-8).

⁴⁸ Mins. Accts. (P.R.O.), Gen. Ser. bdle. 964, no. 1; *Cal. Inq.* iii, no. 604.

⁴⁹ Add. Chart. (B.M.) 15250.

⁵⁰ Ct. R. (P.R.O.), Gen. Ser. ptf. 195, no. 85.

⁵¹ *Cal. Close R.* 1333-7, pp. 198-9; Mins. Accts. (P.R.O.), Gen. Ser. bdle. 964, no. 1; *Cal. Inq.* iii, no. 604.

⁵² Ct. R. loc. cit.

⁵³ White, op. cit.

⁵⁴ Pat. R. 36 Hen. III, no. 61. There was possibly a park here in 1230 (*Close R.* 14 Hen. III, m. 8.).

⁵⁵ *Cal. Inq.* iii, no. 604.

⁵⁶ Exch. Treas. Receipt, Misc. Bks. cl, fol. 63-4.

⁵⁷ Mins. Accts. (P.R.O.), Gen. Ser. ptf. 964, no. 2.

⁵⁸ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1399-1401, p. 76.

⁵⁹ *Rot. Hund.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 50.

⁶⁰ *Cal. Close R.* 1247-51, p. 287.

⁶¹ *Rot. Hund.* loc. cit.

⁶² *Ibid.* 53.

⁶³ *Cal. Inq.* iii, no. 604.

^{63a} Wright, op. cit. additions, p. 5.

⁶⁴ Mins. Accts. op. cit. no. 1.

⁶⁵ *Ibid.* no. 2.

⁶⁶ Exch. Treas. Receipt, Misc. Bks. clxxxi, fol. 6.

⁶⁷ See Lordshold; Westminster Abbey Roll, 20364.

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fields of Oakham.⁶⁸ Deanshold now belongs to the civil parish of Oakham, Barleythorpe having been formed into a separate civil parish in 1894. It was inclosed at the same time as Lordshold in 1820.⁶⁹

The manor of **OAKHAM WITH BARLEYTHORPE**⁷⁰ or **WESTMINSTER FEE**⁷¹ in Oakham formed part of a larger estate, known from the 13th to the middle of the 16th century as the **CHURCH**⁷² or **RECTORY**⁷³ OF **OAKHAM**, acquired by the Abbey of Westminster some time after 1086.⁷⁴ Edward the Confessor is said to have granted the reversion of Rutland after the death of Queen Edith to the abbot and monks,⁷⁵ and there is a charter of 1067 in which William the Conqueror granted them the mother church of Oakham,⁷⁶ but though Queen Edith certainly held the manor, it was in the king's hands in 1086, eleven years after her death.⁷⁷ The church, however, to which 4 bovates of land were attached, was held by Albert, a Lotharingian clerk in the royal service.⁷⁸ The monks of Westminster then obtained two writs from King William, possibly the Conqueror, but more probably Rufus, granting them the churches and tithes of Rutland, to hold as fully as Albert had held them.⁷⁹ The church of Oakham, to which the chapels of the four berewicks of Langham, Egleton, Brooke and Gunthorpe⁸⁰ were probably already attached, was a valuable possession, but it is clear that at some date the abbey obtained a much larger estate with manorial and other rights in Oakham and Barleythorpe. Although claimed as part of the endowment of the church,⁸¹ the manor was to some extent dependent on the Castle of Oakham (q.v.), since in 1283 Edmund, Earl of Cornwall, confirmed to the abbot all the liberties and free-customs in Oakham, which he had held in the time of Isabel de Mortimer, and also gave leave for the abbot to build a mill in Oakham.⁸² A rent of 13s. a year, which was paid to the Castle in 1300⁸³ from Barleythorpe, in lieu of certain services, was still paid in 1515.⁸⁴ The confirmation of Pope Alexander III implies that the abbey held the advowson of the church before 1178.⁸⁵ Hugh de Grenoble, the



ABBAY OF WESTMINSTER. Gules St. Peter's keys crossed saltirewise with St. Edward's ring or in the chief.

canonised Bishop of Lincoln (1186–1200), granted the abbey a pension of 30 marks a year from the churches of Oakham and Hambleton,⁸⁶ and either Abbot William Postard (1191–1201) or his successor Ralph de Arundel granted 21 marks a year⁸⁷ from the same churches to the infirmary for the expenses of the infirmary. From this it seems clear that at the end of the 12th century the rector still held the whole estate in Oakham, from which the Abbey only received a pension. James Salvage, who was rector in 1205, agreed to pay a pension of 30 marks from Oakham alone.⁸⁸ He also obtained from King John the privilege of freedom for his tenants in Oakham and its chapelries from suit to the shire and hundred courts, from payment of sheriff's aid and from the royal bailiffs and their officials.⁸⁹ This suggests that he had a considerable number of tenants over whom he had manorial rights. His successor Gilbert Marshall, instituted in 1226 or 1227,⁹⁰ undoubtedly held the manorial estate as well as the rectory in the more technical sense.⁹¹ According to Flete, the Westminster historian, Abbot Richard de Berkyng (1222–1246) acquired the church of Oakham with the manor of Barleythorpe at his own cost for the use of the abbey and obtained a charter of confirmation from Hugh de Welles, Bishop of Lincoln, and the Dean and Chapter of Lincoln.⁹² The bishop's charter was only obtained after the matter had been brought to the arbitration of the Abbot of Chertsey and a sufficient share of the church property assigned to form a vicarage.⁹³ This took place in 1231, and from that date the abbey held the great tithes of the church of Oakham, with its chapelries of Langham, Gunthorpe, Brooke, Egleton and probably of Barleythorpe, the township of Barleythorpe, a house on the west side of the church, and all lands belonging to the church in Oakham, excepting one carucate, together with all homages, rents and other services appurtenant to them.⁹⁴ This estate the abbot assigned to the prior and convent of Westminster for the provision of pitances, reserving to himself procurations for two days.⁹⁵ In the 14th century the abbot received £6 13s. 4d. a year from the church of Oakham for the use of his hospice there,⁹⁶ but Abbot Litlyngton (1362–86) granted this for the upkeep of the plate which he had given for the refectory.⁹⁷ The whole estate was administered by the pitancer or the warden of the church of Oakham, one of the monks, who frequently visited the town

⁶⁸ Ibid. 20758c, 20632, 20640, 20665.

⁶⁹ Priv. Act of Parl. 1 Geo. IV, cap. 25.

⁷⁰ Westm. Abb. R. 20340, 20350, 20361.

⁷¹ Ibid. 20732.

⁷² Ibid. 20340, 20350, 20361.

⁷³ Ibid. 20351, 20367, 20368, 20632.

⁷⁴ V.C.H. Rutl. i, 139, 140.

⁷⁵ Dugdale, *Mon. Angl.* i, 299.

⁷⁶ *Cal. Chart. R.* iv, 332. The authenticity of this charter is questioned, but the facts given are probably accurate.

⁷⁷ V.C.H. Rutl. i, 139.

⁷⁸ Ibid. 140. As to Albert the King's clerk, see Round, *Commune of London*, 36–8.

⁷⁹ Dugdale, *Mon. Angl.* i, 301, 302. Round dates these writs as between 1087 and 1092 (*V.C.H. Hants*, i, 424).

⁸⁰ V.C.H. Rutl. i, 139; Westm. Domesday, fol. 595.

⁸¹ Ibid.; *Cal. Close R.* 1341–43, p. 296.

⁸² Westm. Dom. fol. 601.

⁸³ *Cal. Inq.* iii, no. 604.

⁸⁴ *Min. Acct.* (P.R.O.), Hen. VIII, no. 7239, pt. 1.

⁸⁵ Westm. Abb. R. 12732 (notarial instrument of a bull of Alexander III).

⁸⁶ Westm. Dom. fol. 594. The bishop is only named Hugh, but from the position among the Pitancers' charters, which are arranged chronologically, as well as from its contents, it must be assigned to Hugh de Grenoble and not to Hugh de Welles.

⁸⁷ Ibid. fol. 577 d; John Flete, *History of Westminster Abbey* (Notes and Documents relating to Westminster Abbey, II), 98. The Westminster Domesday puts Abbot Ralph's charter first. Flete gives Postard as the grantor, whose anniversary was observed at Oakham (Westm. Abb. R. 20355).

⁸⁸ Westm. Dom. fol. 649.

⁸⁹ Ibid. fol. 594; Westm. Abb. R. 20615.

⁹⁰ *Rot. Hug. de Welles* (Cant. and York Soc.), ii, 138.

⁹¹ Westm. Dom. fol. 595.

⁹² John Flete, op. cit. pp. 103, 106.

⁹³ Westm. Dom. fol. 594b, 595; Westm. Abb. R. 20619; *Rot. Hug. de Welles* (Cant. and York Soc.), ii, 244. The terms of the arbitration bear out the supposition that the manor of Oakham and Barleythorpe was not originally part of the spiritualities of the church. The anniversary of Bishop Hugh was to be kept at the Abbey, but at Oakham sums of money were distributed to the poor on the same day (Westm. Abb. R. 20350).

⁹⁴ Westm. Dom. fol. 595.

⁹⁵ Ibid. fol. 596; *Cal. Chart. R.* i, 401; *Customary of St. Augustine, Canterbury, and St. Peter, Westminster* (Hen. Bradshaw Soc.), ii, 75, 77, 115, 224.

⁹⁶ Westm. Abb. R. 20350, 20354.

⁹⁷ Flete, op. cit. p. 135.

and superintended the bailiff or reeve.⁹⁸ In 1330 the warden came to supervise the harvest work,⁹⁹ but by 1341¹ commutation of these services had been introduced in most of the tenants' holdings. In 1312 a lease of the estate was granted for 9 years to the rector of Oakham at a rent of £120 a year,² but it does not seem to have become the regular custom until some years later to lease the demesne lands,³ and then they seem to have been leased to the various tenants of the manor and not to a farmer.⁴ The granges of the different chapelries, excepting that of Brooke, which was let on lease as early as 1274,⁵ seem to have been in the care of an official called the granger.⁶ He had disappeared by the 16th century and all the granges were let at farm. This led to a more definite separation of the manor and the spiritualities of the rectory before 1515, though both were still administered by the warden.⁷

After the dissolution of Westminster Abbey the manor of Oakham with Barleythorpe was granted in 1542 to the Dean and Chapter of the newly established cathedral of Westminster and the old habit of calling the whole estate the Church or Rectory of Oakham was discontinued.⁸ After the dissolution of the bishopric by Edward VI the manor remained in the Crown until 1559, when Elizabeth granted it to the Dean and Chapter of the newly instituted collegiate church of Westminster.⁹ During the Commonwealth, the possessions of the abbey being confiscated in 1650, the manor was sold to Anthony Twyne,¹⁰ who, however, found that much damage had been done by the former lessee William Busby, who had cut down trees on his copyhold to the value of £200.¹¹ The Dean and Chapter recovered the manor after the Restoration,¹² but have recently disposed of all their property in Oakham piecemeal¹³ and have separated it from Barleythorpe (q.v.).

The prior and convent of Westminster held a view of frankpledge at Oakham on their tenants of Oakham and Barleythorpe,¹⁴ while in the 15th century the tithing of 'Tolcestre' also owed suit to the same court.¹⁵ Queen Elizabeth granted a court leet with the manor to the Dean and Chapter of Westminster in 1559,¹⁶ but it is noteworthy that the title of the court was not changed on the court rolls till after 1705.¹⁷ From 1723, and possibly earlier, the court leet was held once in three years, and it was customary for one or two of the canons to be present.¹⁸ Dean

Vincent was present at the court leet held in August 1803.¹⁹ The court was held for the prior and monks by the steward of the abbey, who came from Westminster for the purpose.²⁰ Under the Dean and Chapter the same procedure was adopted, although a deputy-steward took his place on occasion.²¹

No mill is mentioned in the earliest accounts of the manor in Oakham, but in 1283 Edmund, Earl of Cornwall, ordered his bailiff to allow the Abbot of Westminster to build a windmill at Oakham.²² It is doubtful if it was ever built, as no windmill at Oakham appears in the manorial accounts. A horse-mill is, however, mentioned in 1516.²³

BARLEYTHORPE (Torp, xii cent.; Thorpe, Bolarystorp, xiii, xiv cent.), formerly one of the three townships forming the parish of Oakham, was formed into a separate civil parish in 1894, under the Local Government Act of that year. The hamlet lies about one mile to the north-west of Oakham on the Melton Mowbray road. At the present day it consists of the Hall, Manor House Farm, the Riding School and some slate-roofed cottages. It is not mentioned in Domesday Book (1086) and does not seem to have ranked as one of the berewicks attached to the royal manor of Oakham.²⁴ It is possibly mentioned in 1179, when William, the priest of 'Torp,' paid half a mark to the Exchequer for his lay fee.²⁵ It was inclosed in 1772.²⁶

In the early 13th century the manor was held by the monks of Westminster Abbey²⁷ and formed part of their manor of Oakham with Barleythorpe (q.v.).²⁸ It is still in the possession of the Dean and Chapter of Westminster, though separated since 1894 from the manor of Oakham.

No chapel of Barleythorpe is mentioned at the ordination of the vicarage of Oakham in 1231,²⁹ when tithes were allotted to the abbey of Westminster and the vicarage. In 1515 the rectory of Barleythorpe was leased by the prior and convent for £6 13s. 4d. a year.³⁰ In 1535 Barleythorpe was one of the four chapelries attached to Oakham vicarage,³¹ and in the later 16th century was served by the vicar himself, no resident priest being appointed, as at Langham, Egleton and Brooke.³² Barleythorpe is now attached ecclesiastically to the vicarage of Langham.

A mill at Barleythorpe existed in 1329.³³ It was probably the windmill still standing, of which the rent appears in the manorial accounts of the manor till the 17th century.³⁴ A malt-mill is mentioned in 1514. Under the Commonwealth both these mills were sold to Anthony Twyne.³⁵

LEIGHFIELD was formed from the central part of the Forest of Rutland or Leighfield at its disafforestation about 1630 or possibly somewhat earlier.³⁶ It was inclosed and declared to be extra-



DEAN AND CHAPTER OF WESTMINSTER. Azure a cross paty between five marilets or and a chief or with a pale of the royal arms between two roses gules.

⁹⁸ Westm. Abb. R. 20218, 20348, 20351, 20355, 20624.

⁹⁹ Ibid. 20348.

¹ Ibid. 20632.

² Ibid. 20628.

³ Ibid. 20361, 20632.

⁴ Ibid. 20640; Mins. Accts. (P.R.O.), Hen. VIII, no. 7239, pt. 1.

⁵ Westm. Abb. R. 20218.

⁶ Ibid. 20350.

⁷ Mins. Accts. loc. cit.

⁸ L. and P. Hen. VIII, xvii, g. 714; Westm. Abb. R. 20373.

⁹ Pat. R. 1 Eliz. pt. 11.

¹⁰ Westm. Abb. R. 20728.

¹¹ Ibid. 20732.

¹² Ibid. 20400, 20443.

¹³ Inf. from Mr. W. L. Sargent.

¹⁴ Westm. Abb. R. 20348, and series of court rolls.

¹⁵ Ibid. 20364.

¹⁶ Pat. R. 1 Eliz. pt. 11.

¹⁷ Westm. Abb. R. 20412.

¹⁸ Ibid. 20412-20443.

¹⁹ Ibid. 20443.

²⁰ Ibid. 20348; Mins. Accts. (P.R.O.), Hen. VIII, no. 7239, pt. 1.

²¹ Westm. Abb. R. 20412-20443 (Gunthorpe chapel had fallen into decay and disuse).

²² Westm. Dom. fol. 601.

²³ Westm. Abb. R. 20336.

²⁴ V.C.H. Rutl. i, 139.

²⁵ Pipe R. Soc. xxix, 88.

²⁶ Priv. Act of Parl. 12 Geo. III, cap. 58.

²⁷ Westm. Dom. fol. 596.

²⁸ Westm. Abb. R. 20368, 20640, etc.

²⁹ Westm. Dom. fol. 595.

³⁰ Mins. Accts. (P.R.O.), loc. cit.

³¹ Valor Eccles. (Rec. Com.), iv, 344.

³² First Fruits Office, Plea R. no. 5 (65).

³³ Westm. Abb. R. 20348.

³⁴ Ibid. 20336, 20631, 20632, 20661, 20662, 20668.

³⁵ Ibid. 20732; Close R. 1653, pt. 22.

³⁶ White, op. cit. 1846, p. 647; cf. Cal. S.P. Dom. 1603-10, p. 611; 1623-25, p. 580.

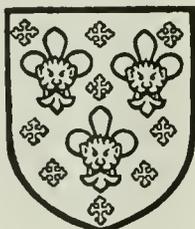
A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

parochial. There was no village and it consisted of hilly land, partly woodland and partly cultivated; there were five lodges of the old forest included in Leighfield—namely, Leigh, Coles, Swintley, Lambley and College Lodges.³⁷ Stilton cheese was largely made in the district, which is still mainly pasture land. It now forms a civil parish.

The manor of Leighfield or Leigh or Lye was formed from land held in the reign of Henry I by a serjeant of the county called Hasculf.³⁸ According to the 13th-century story, as the king was passing through the district on his way to the north, he saw some hinds and ordered one of his servants, named Pichard, to remain behind and guard the hinds for the royal use. When Henry returned the following year, Hasculf was made keeper of the forests of Rutland and Leicester, on the recommendation of Pichard, who had lodged at his house.³⁹ It seems clear, therefore, that Hasculf was a man of some position, and already held the messuage and three carucates of land with pasture, which was afterwards called the manor of Leighfield.⁴⁰ He was killed in the reign of Stephen, and was succeeded by his son Peter,⁴¹ who is probably identical with Peter the Forester who appears in 1166.⁴² Peter married a niece of Ivo de Neville, and his son Hasculf took the name of Neville.⁴³ Peter died in the reign of John and Hasculf appears to have held the manor till he entered religion in 1248 or 1249.⁴⁴ His son Peter de Neville succeeded him and attained an unenviable notoriety for his exactions and waste in the forest, which finally led to his outlawry in 1274.⁴⁵ Leighfield manor had, however, previously, in 1273, been given to his son Theobald de Neville, who granted it immediately to his grandmother Christine for her life, retaining half a bovate of land. She died before the end of the year and Theobald continued in seisin of the manor until he was ejected by the justices of the forest on his father's outlawry.⁴⁶ He recovered it in 1275.⁴⁶ In 1313-14 Theobald granted the manor to Reginald de Warle and his wife Alice and the heirs of their bodies, with remainder to Theobald and his heirs.⁴⁷ Possibly this was only a grant of rent and service, since Theobald apparently continued to hold Leighfield in demesne.⁴⁸ In 1357 the rent of 40s. and a pound of cummin yearly from Leighfield, with the

homage of the tenants in demesne, was granted by Sir Nicholas Peyver, knt., to John Wade, clerk.⁴⁹ In 1360 Wade granted them to the chantry of the Blessed Virgin Mary, recently founded in Manton church by William Wade.⁵⁰ Leighfield manor was held of the chantry until its dissolution.⁵¹

Theobald Neville died in 1316, and his lands were delivered to his daughter and heir Alice and her husband Sir John Hakluyt.⁵² Sir John was dead in 1362⁵³ and his widow married John Wardieu.⁵⁴ They settled Leighfield manor on themselves and the heirs of their bodies, with remainder to Alice's son Sir William Hakluyt, in 1370.⁵⁵ Alice died in 1371,⁵⁶ and though Hakluyt evidently still claimed it up to his death in 1373,⁵⁷ John Wardieu remained in possession probably till his death about 1377.⁵⁸ During Wardieu's absence on the king's service, the custody of the Forest of Leighfield was seized into the king's hands on account of certain forest offences; but as the manor does not figure in the lawsuit, brought by his daughter and heir Elizabeth and her husband Sir Edward Dalingrugge, to recover the custody, it probably escaped seizure.⁵⁹ In 1382 they sold it to Sir William de Burgh,⁶⁰ but on the forfeiture of his lands in 1387 it was granted for life to Edmund, Duke of York,⁶¹ and in 1391 to his son Edward, Earl of Rutland.⁶² In 1399 Henry IV granted it for life to his esquire, Hugh Norburgh,⁶³ but in the next year he was forced to grant £16. 2*d.* a year from the issues of the county of Leicester, in lieu of the manor and custody of the forest, to Sir William de Burgh, whose lands had been restored.⁶⁴ On his death they passed to de Burgh's daughter Amy, wife of Robert Chesilden,⁶⁵ who died seized of the manor in 1448 and was succeeded by her grandson John Chesilden.⁶⁶ In 1462 the manor had come into the hands of Edward IV, who granted it to Sir William Hastings, his chamberlain, recently raised to the rank of baron.⁶⁷ Quitclaims were made to Hastings in 1464 by Sir John Chesilden of Uppingham and his brother William.⁶⁸ The grant may have been made under political compulsion, since after the execution of Hastings, John Chesilden granted the manor to Henry, Duke of Buckingham, the Earl of Wiltshire and other feoffees.⁶⁹ On the accession of Henry VII, Hastings's young son and heir Edward was restored,⁷⁰ and he and his descend-



NEVILLE. *Azure cruissily with three fleurs de lis coming out of leopards' beads argent.*



HASTINGS. *Argent a maunch sable.*

³⁷ White, op. cit.

³⁸ *Select Pleas of the Forest* (Selden Soc.), p. 45.

³⁹ *Ibid.*

⁴⁰ *Cal. Close R.* 1360-64, p. 323; Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 44 Edw. III, no. 60; *Cal. Pat. R.* 1385-9, p. 451.

⁴¹ *Select Pleas of the Forest*, loc. cit.

⁴² *Pipe R. Soc.* xi, 125.

⁴³ *Select Pleas of the Forest*, loc. cit.;

Cal. Close R. 1227-31, p. 343.

⁴⁴ *Select Pleas of the Forest* (Selden Soc.),

p. 46.

⁴⁵ *Ibid.* pp. xvii, 44.

⁴⁶ *Cal. Inq. Misc.* i, no. 984.

⁴⁷ *Cal. Close R.* 1272-79, p. 222.

⁴⁸ Feet of F. Div. Cos. Hil. 7 Edw. II, no. 93. Alice cannot have been Theobald's daughter of the same name, as the

grantee was in the guardianship of Henry de Barton.

⁴⁹ Cf. *Cal. Fine R.* 1307-19, p. 329.

⁵⁰ Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 31 Edw. III, no. 46.

⁵¹ *Inq. a.q.d.* cccxii, 8; *Cal. Pat. R.* 1358-61, p. 360.

⁵² *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 47 Edw. III (1st nos.), no. 18; 26 Hen. VI, no. 2; *Chan. Inq. Misc.* xxxii, 4.

⁵³ *Cal. Fine R.* 1307-19, 296, 329.

⁵⁴ *Cal. Close R.* 1360-64, p. 328.

⁵⁵ De Banco R. no. 425, m. 198.

⁵⁶ Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 44 Edw. III, no. 60.

⁵⁷ *Cal. Close R.* 1369-74, p. 247.

⁵⁸ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 47 Edw. III (1st nos.), no. 18.

⁵⁹ *Chan. Inq. Misc.* ccxiv, 87.

⁶⁰ *Ibid.*; *Plac. in Cancellaria* (Tower Ser.), no. 20.

⁶¹ Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 6 Ric. II, no. 3.

⁶² *Cal. Pat. R.* 1385-9, p. 434; *Chan. Inq. Misc.* cccxxxii, 4.

⁶³ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1388-92, p. 391.

⁶⁴ *Ibid.* 1399-1401, p. 48.

⁶⁵ *Ibid.* p. 337.

⁶⁶ Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 22 Ric. II, no. 27; *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 26 Hen. VI, no. 2.

⁶⁷ *Ibid.*; *Visit. Rutl.* 1618-19 (Harl. Soc.), 21.

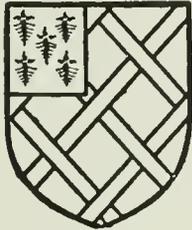
⁶⁸ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1461-7, p. 103; *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 1 Ric. III, no. 32.

⁶⁹ *Close R.* 3 Edw. IV, pt. 1, mm. 18*d.*, 26*d.*

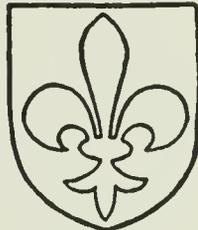
⁷⁰ *Visit. Rutl.* op. cit. 22.

⁷¹ *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), vi, 373-4.

ants held the manor until Henry Hastings, Earl of Huntingdon, sold it to Sir James Harington in 1582.⁷¹ His son John, the first Lord Harington of Exton, died abroad in 1613,⁷² and John his only son and successor settled the manor on feoffees to be sold for the payment of his father's debts.⁷³ The second Lord Harington survived his father only a few months, and in 1614 his sister and heir Lucy and her husband, the Earl of Bedford, sold the manor to Sir Edward Noel, bart.⁷⁴



NOEL. Or fretty gules and a quarter ermine.



DIGBY. Azure a fleur de lis argent.

The Noels held it until the time of Edward, first Earl of Gainsborough, whose daughter Jane married William, the fifth Earl Digby, and the manor seems to have come into the possession of one of her younger sons, Wriothesley Digby, who was the owner in 1747.⁷⁵ His son of the same name was lord of the manor in 1781.⁷⁶ It appears later to have been bought by George, the ninth Earl of Winchelsea, and afterwards passed to Mr. George Finch, who owned it in 1846.⁷⁷ Mr. Wilfred Finch is the present owner of the manor. A portion of Leighfield remained with the Noels and was sold in 1925 to Mr. James Ward.^{77a}

In 1312 Edward II granted a view of frankpledge with sheriff's aid, in Leighfield, to Margaret, Countess of Cornwall.⁷⁸

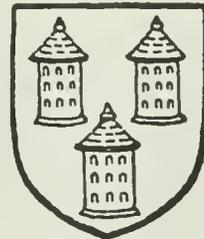
In the time of Edward the Confessor, Leuenot held a carucate of land in the manor of Oakham.⁷⁹ In 1086 Fulcher Malsor (Mala Opera) had succeeded him and held it apparently of the king in chief.⁸⁰ Fulcher Malsor was a large landowner in Northamptonshire and gave his name to Milton Malsor, held of the Bardolf fee, and Thorpe Malsor. His descendants held their Northamptonshire property for several generations, but no later connexion with them has been found at Oakham, and presumably their holding reverted to the Crown and was merged in Oakham Lordshold.

The manor of GUNTHORPE may be identified as one of the five unnamed berewicks attached to the manor of Oakham in the Domesday Survey (1086).⁸¹ It was held in socage tenure as a sub-manor under the

lords of Oakham (q.v.),⁸² certainly until the attainder of Edward, Duke of Buckingham, in 1521.⁸³

The early history of the lords of the manor is obscure. Gunthorpe was probably held by Alexander de Boville or Beville⁸⁴ late in the 12th century, when he claimed the advowson of Gunthorpe chapel against the rector of Oakham.⁸⁵ Possibly he was succeeded by William de Boville, against whom his brother Gilbert brought an unsuccessful action for 2 virgates as his share of their father's land held in socage.⁸⁶ In 1223 the tenant seems to have been Henry de Boville, a grandson of Alexander, who again claimed the advowson of the chapel.⁸⁷ Probably the manor passed to two or more co-heirs, either daughters or granddaughters of Henry, since in 1285-6 Margery and her husband Geoffrey de Fontibus quitclaimed to Sarah and her husband John de Hotot 28s. rent, one-third of a messuage and 2 virgates of land in Gunthorpe, Martinsthorpe and Exton.⁸⁸ The Hotots evidently obtained all the manor of Gunthorpe, as in 1300 William de Hotot held 9 virgates of land there of the castle and manor of Oakham at a rent of 34s. and suit of court at Oakham.⁸⁹ He was still in seisin in 1316,⁹⁰ but had apparently been succeeded by another John de Hotot before 1321.⁹¹ William de Hotot was tenant in 1346,⁹² but from that time the descent of the manor disappears for nearly a century. In 1434 John Sapcote left it by will to feoffees, who were to grant it to his wife Joan for life with remainder to his son John in tail. The will was proved in the spring of 1434. The younger John had two sons living in 1434,^{92a} but in 1463 it was in the possession

of Eleanor, widow of Sir William Sturmy, and Joan, wife of Richard Carlile, who granted it to Richard Sapcote of March (co. Camb.).⁹³ The latter died seised of Gunthorpe in 1498 and was succeeded by his cousin, Sir John Sapcote, son of Sir Richard Sapcote of Elton (co. Hunts) and brother of Sir Thomas Sapcote of Burley.⁹⁴ In 1527 his son, Sir Richard Sapcote of Elton, was lord of the manor,⁹⁵ and on his death in 1543 it passed to his son Robert of Elton, a minor.⁹⁶ Robert held it in 1578.⁹⁷ It passed to Frances, one of his three daughters and co-heirs, who married James Harington of Ridlington⁹⁸ and died in 1599. Her husband was created a baronet in 1611.⁹⁹ Gunthorpe passed to his son Sir Edward Harington, whose lessee of the manor and agent in



SAPCOTE. Sable three dovescotes argent.

⁷¹ Recov. R. Mich. 8 Hen. VIII, ro. 545; Trin. 25 Eliz. ro. 1137; Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 24 Eliz.; Close R. 24 Hen. VIII, m. 30; Com. Pleas, Deeds Enr. Hil. 35 Hen. VIII, m. 13d; P.C.C. 8 Loftes.

⁷² *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), vi, 321.

⁷³ Wright, op. cit. 75.

⁷⁴ Ibid. Wright quotes a fine of Mich. 12 Jas. I, but the Feet of Fines are now missing for that term.

⁷⁵ Recov. R. East. 20 Geo. II, ro. 133; Brydges, Collins's *Peerage*, v, 381, 383.

⁷⁶ Ibid.; Recov. R. Hil. 21 Geo. III, ro. 367.

⁷⁷ White, op. cit. 648.

^{77a} Inf. kindly supplied by Mr. Louis G. Dease.

⁷⁸ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1313-17, p. 664.

⁷⁹ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 139.

⁸⁰ Ibid.

⁸¹ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 139.

⁸² *Cal. Inq.* iii, 604; *Feud. Aids*, iv, 207.

⁸³ *Cal. Inq.* Hen. VII, vol. ii, no. 202; *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), ii, 390-1.

⁸⁴ Maitland, *Bracton's Note Bk.* no. 1653. The name is here given as Boville, but in the *Curia Reg. R.* it appears as Colville, Beivill and Bivill (*Curia Reg. R.* i, p. 314 and n.).

⁸⁵ Maitland, loc. cit.

⁸⁶ *Curia Reg. R.* i, p. 314.

⁸⁷ Maitland, loc. cit.

⁸⁸ Feet of F. Rutl. case 192, file 4, no. 15.

⁸⁹ *Cal. Inq.* iii, no. 604.

⁹⁰ *Feud. Aids*, iv, 207.

⁹¹ *Cal. Inq.* v, no. 330.

⁹² Chan. Misc. bde. 2, no. 39, m. 8.

^{92a} Alfred W. Gibbons, *Early Lincoln Wills*, 163.

⁹³ Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 2 Edw. IV, no. 3.

⁹⁴ *Cal. Inq.* Hen. VII, ii, no. 202; *Visit. Hunts* (Camden Soc.), 12.

⁹⁵ Feet of F. Div. Cos. Mich. 19 Hen. VIII.

⁹⁶ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), lxix, no. 96.

⁹⁷ Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 20 Eliz.

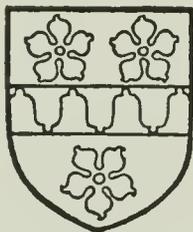
⁹⁸ *Visit. Hunts*, loc. cit.; G.E.C., *Baronetage*, i, 53; Feet of F. Div. Cos. Trin. 8 Chas. I.

⁹⁹ G.E.C. loc. cit.

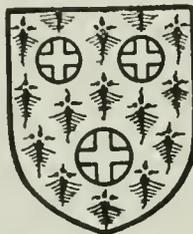
A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

Rutland was Abel Barker of Lyndon.¹ Sir Edward was succeeded in 1653 by his son James, the Parliamentarian, whose orders to cut down all the trees at Gunthorpe naturally drew forth expostulations from Barker.² In 1655 the manor was sold to William Ducie of Islington, afterwards Viscount Downe, or to his brother Sir Hugh Ducie, K.B.³

The latter died seised of Gunthorpe in 1662 and was succeeded by his son William, then a minor.⁴ It passed probably by sale to John Flavell, merchant tailor of London, the owner in 1684,⁵ and then to Sir Joseph Eyles, *knt.*, who sold it to Sir John Heathcote, *bart.*, in 1738.⁶ From that time it belonged to



DUCL. Or a fesse vair between three cinquefoils gules.



HEATHCOTE. Ermine three roundels vert, each charged with a cross or.

his descendants, Lord Aveland being the lord of the manor in 1862.⁷

The lords of the castle and manor of Oakham held the view of frankpledge in the manors of Belton and Gunthorpe.⁸ The Prior of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem claimed in 1283 that his 12 tenants in Gunthorpe should come to the view of frankpledge held by him at Whitwell and Uppingham.⁹ A windmill appurtenant to the manor of Gunthorpe is mentioned in 1632.¹⁰

The church of *ALL SAINTS* consists of chancel 43 ft. by 20 ft., with north and south chapels, each about 16 ft. 9 in. wide, south vestry, clearstoried nave 56 ft. 9 in. by 22 ft. 6 in., with north and south aisles about 17 ft. 6 in. wide, large north and south transepts of two bays divided into eastern and western aisles, south porch, and engaged west tower 16 ft. square, all these measurements being internal. The tower is surmounted by a spire. The width across nave and aisles is 61 ft. 9 in., and the transepts are each 27 ft. 6 in. wide, with a projection beyond the aisles of 15 ft. The chapels cover the chancel its full length, the walls being flush at the east end.

The east end of the chancel, the north transept, two bays of the north aisle and the west wall of the porch are of coursed rubble, but elsewhere the walls are faced with ashlar. All the roofs are leaded, and,

with the exception of that of the chancel, are of low pitch behind battlemented parapets.¹¹ Internally all the walls are plastered.¹²

The oldest part of the present building is the south doorway, which dates from c. 1190, and has a pointed outer arch of two moulded orders supported by shafts and an inner less elaborately moulded drop-arch on half-round responds with fillet. The shafts and responds have moulded bases and capitals with square abaci, but while the capitals on the east side are plain those on the west have stiff water-leaf foliage. The space between the outer and inner arches is plastered. No other portion of the 12th-century¹³ church has survived, the building having been enlarged early in the 13th century, when the nave aisles were either added or widened, and the chancel probably extended its present length. The porch also is substantially of this date. An internal keel-shaped string-course below the windows of the south aisle and both the transepts points to the lower part of these walls at least being of this period, and in the east wall of the north transept is a piscina of the same date with fluted bowl and an edge-roll with two fillets. The string-course, much renewed, occurs also in the north aisle west of the doorway, but is not continued along the west wall, as on the south side. To the 13th century also belong the piers and responds of the transept arcades, together with the remains of two responds in the south aisle, all which would seem to indicate that the plan of the early 13th-century church was the same as at present with the exception of the chancel chapels, tower and vestry. That the end of the chancel originally stood free is clearly shown on the outside, where the north and south arms of the pairs of angle buttresses are yet visible incorporated in the later walling of the chapels.

About the end of the 13th century a north chapel was added to the chancel, or a smaller one enlarged and extended eastward. The three arches of the existing arcade between the chancel and chapel have good mouldings, of which the roll and fillet, used also on the soffit of each arch, forms the principal member. The abaci of the capitals have the scroll-moulding usual in work of this period (c. 1280-90), and the piers consist of four attached shafts with fillets, divided by arrises at the angles formed by the quatrefoil plan.¹⁴ The west arch of the chapel, which divides it from the north transept, is similar in design, but the whole arcade shows evidence of a later heightening.

Shortly afterwards, about the first quarter of the 14th century, the rebuilding of the nave was taken in hand,¹⁵ new arcades with lofty columns and arches erected, the chancel arch reconstructed to match the arcades, and the tower begun at the west end. At the same time the transepts were heightened in proportion

¹ G.E.C. *Baronetage*, i, 53; *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* v, App. pp. 392-94.

² *Ibid.*

³ *Recov. R. Trin.* 1655, ro. 116; *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* v, App. p. 395.

⁴ *Ibid.*; G.E.C. *Baronetage*, ii, 77; Wright, *op. cit.* 67.

⁵ *Ibid.*

⁶ Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 11 & 12 Geo. II. ⁷ *Recov. R. Hil.* 35 Geo. III, ro. 182; White, *op. cit.* 1846, 1862.

⁸ Chan. Misc. bdl. 8, no. 3; Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 18 Jas. I; Mich. 28 Chas. II.

⁹ *Plac. de Quo Warr.* (Rec. Com.), 672.

¹⁰ Feet of F. Div. Cos. Trin. 8 Chas. I.

¹¹ The parapets of the vestry and of the

high-pitched chancel gable alone are straight.

¹² With the exception of the tower.

¹³ The bowl of the 12th-century font is noticed below. The original Norman church may have been cruciform, with transepts and central tower, but there is no actual evidence of this. During repairs to the porch in 1930 what appears to have been one of the consecration crosses of the 12th-century church was found in the west wall. It is a piece of Clipsham stone about 13 in. by 9 in., the cross extending over its entire surface. The stone probably had been used in some former repairs to the porch. It

is now on the outside of the west wall.

¹⁴ It was perhaps the alterations at this date that necessitated the reconsecration of the church for which licence was given in 1311 (*Linc. Epis. Reg. Instit. Dalderby*, 111d).

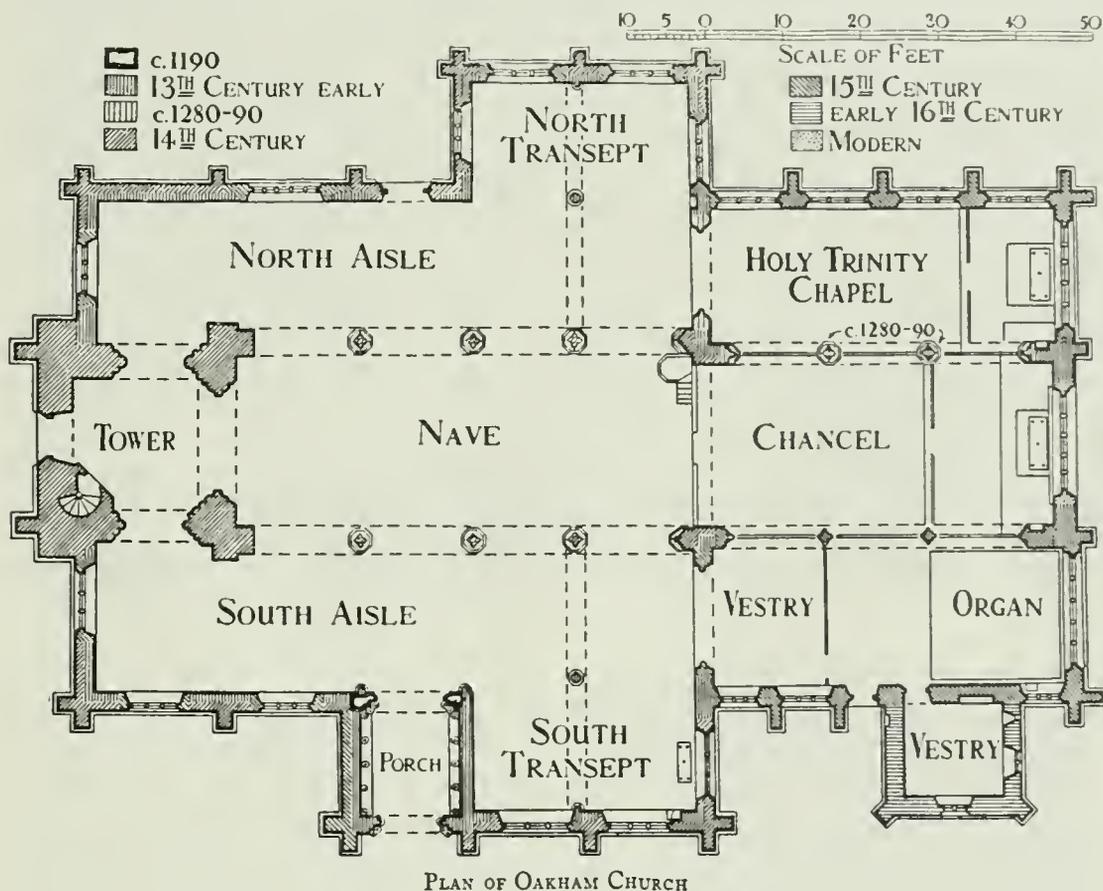
¹⁵ If the original church were cruciform, the old tower over the crossing probably had been left standing till this time, supported by heavy masonry, with the old arches opening into the enlarged transepts. It would now be entirely removed, the old masonry of the crossing taken down, and the crossing thrown into the new nave (*Trans. Rutl. Arch. Soc.* (1912), 37).

THE SOKE OF OAKHAM

OAKHAM

to the new nave, that on the north side being remodelled first. It would appear that in this general reconstruction of the nave the walls of the aisles and transepts were in the main rebuilt from about sill level, all the older windows being of this period. The tower and spire were completed during the 14th century, and were probably designed upon the model of the tower and spire at Grantham church, completed c. 1300, but used here with more modest proportions and less striving after height. The north aisle of the nave was perhaps wholly rebuilt in this century.

In the 15th century, also, new roofs of lower pitch than before were erected over the nave¹⁶ and aisles and the clearstory assumed its present appearance, being then heightened and new windows inserted. New windows were inserted also in the aisles, those in the south aisle being late in date, and new parapets were added to the whole church. All the gables, except that of the chancel, have curious curved crocketed finials, that of the nave being surmounted by a double crucifix. In its general appearance the church affords a good example of combined 14th and



The chief structural changes in the 15th century were in the chancel. During this period, probably after 1450, the north chapel was rebuilt from the ground with walls higher than before, and the arches between it and the chancel were raised to a height corresponding to those of the nave. This remodelling of the arcade was effected by lengthening the piers and bases and by supplying longer bells to the capitals, carved with meagre conventional foliage—the whole of the old stonework being retained. The effect of the old moulded capitals in conjunction with their later bells is more curious than beautiful.

Later in the century, c. 1480, the south wall of the chancel was pierced by an arcade of three arches and a chapel added. The vestry, which is on the south side of the chapel, appears to have been planned with it, but may not have been completed till later.

15th century architecture. Though the abbot and convent of Westminster, as rector, and the secular priests who were vicars, were responsible for the upkeep of the chancel, it is evident that the greater part of the church was built at the expense of the lords of the manor and the important inhabitants of the town. The owners of the castle and the wealthy family of Flore may be held largely responsible for the beauty of the nave and the splendid tower and spire.¹⁷

The chancel had fallen into decay in 1658,¹⁸ and an order was issued for its repair. In 1857-8 there was a very extensive restoration¹⁹ of the fabric under the direction of Sir Gilbert Scott, when the galleries²⁰ and pews which then filled the church were removed, the floors renewed, the gables of the chancel and north chapel taken down and rebuilt, new roofs erected over the chancel and south chapel, and the other roofs

¹⁶ The old roof line of the nave is on the east wall of the tower.

¹⁷ *Trans. Rutl. Arch. Soc.* (1912), p. 40.

¹⁸ *Augmentation of Church Lands*, 980, p. 274, quoted in *Rutl. Mag.* i, 226.

¹⁹ The decree leading to a faculty, dated 17 Sept. 1857, is cited and a full account of the restoration given in *Rutl. Mag.* i, 78-83; ii, 25-30. The church was reopened 10 Nov. 1858.

²⁰ There were two galleries, one over

the other, at the west end (*Rutl. Mag.* i, 73). The internal fittings 'exceeded in meanness even what is usual in country churches' (Sir G. Scott's Report, cited in *ibid.* 78). A plan of the old seating is given at p. 74).

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

restored.²¹ In 1898 a new reredos was erected and the sanctuary repaired.²² The spire was repaired in 1930.

The chancel has a modern pointed east window²³ of five trefoiled lights and geometrical tracery, and is open to the chapels by arcades of three bays. There is a short length of plain walling on each side at the east end, in which, in the usual position, is a 15th-century piscina, the projecting part of the bowl being cut away. On the north side is a modern credence bracket, and in the east wall, immediately over the altar, now covered by the reredos, a rectangular recess.²⁴ The north arcade has already been described; that on the south side has pointed arches of two moulded orders, the outer continued to the ground, the inner supported by soffit shafts, or half-round responds with high bases and battlemented capitals. The arch between the chapel and transept is of the same design; all the arches have hood-moulds, and both arcades are filled with modern oak screens. The 14th-century chancel arch is of two moulded orders, without hood-mould, the outer order springing from slender shafts with moulded bases and carved capitals, and the inner from short half-round corbelled responds, the carved capitals of which are no longer distinguishable. Those of the shafts are, on the south side, foliage, and on the north a man's figure with hands to mouth. The chancel roof was raised to its original pitch at the restoration.²⁵ There is no chancel screen.²⁶

The north or Holy Trinity Chapel is divided externally into four bays by buttresses which terminate above the parapet in panelled and crocketed pinnacles. The east window is of five cinquefoiled lights with Perpendicular tracery, and the windows in the north wall of three lights, all with moulded jambs and mullions, and hood-moulds which are continued along the wall and round the buttresses as a string. The westernmost window differs slightly in design from the others, but the tracery of all has battlemented transoms, and in the east window the middle bar is enriched with strawberry-leaf ornament. In the short length of south wall is a moulded trefoil-headed piscina, the fluted bowl of which has a five-leaved flower in the centre with orifices on either side.²⁷

The south chapel or chapel of St. Mary²⁸ is now used as a quire vestry and organ chamber, the organ occupying the whole of the east end and hiding the piscina. Externally the chapel is divided into five unequal bays, the second from the east being covered by the vestry, and the buttresses are continued above the parapet as pinnacles as on the north. The east window is of five lights under a depressed head, with simple vertical tracery. In the south wall are four pointed windows of three lights, of the same type,

but of slightly different design from those of the north chapel,²⁹ the hood-moulds of which have head-stops. The priest's doorway is below the window west of the vestry, in the adjoining wall of which is a stoup; the doorway has a four-centred head.

The 14th-century nave arcades are of four bays with pointed arches of two moulded³⁰ orders, springing from piers consisting of four attached shafts, similar in plan to those of the north arcade of the chancel, except that the fillets are not set at right angles to the shafts, but project from them with an ogee curve. The moulded tops of the capitals are also shorter and plainer than those in the chancel, and the rather tall bases are set diagonally, and have a series of independent roll mouldings. The arches have hood-moulds on each side, with head-stops; at the east end they spring from responds similar in design to the piers and at the west from corbels. The chief feature of the arcades, however, is the elaborate carving of the bells of the capitals. That of the east respond of the north arcade, which has been much damaged by late screenwork, now destroyed, has a beast-like figure playing upon a musical instrument, the figure ending in foliage. The carvings on the capitals of the piers of the north arcade, from east to west, are (i) foliage, (ii) grotesque heads and limbs with a dragon biting itself, (iii) a somewhat similar design of heads and hands, while the capital of the corbel has a sculpture of the Expulsion from Eden. The corresponding corbel on the south side has rich foliage and a pelican in piety, and the carvings of the south arcade,³¹ from west to east, are (i) fox stealing goose followed by goslings and man with a besom, and on the other side an ape with his clog, (ii) four angels, (iii) symbols of the four Evangelists, while on the respond three subjects are represented: (a) the Expulsion from Eden, (b) the Annunciation, and (c) the Coronation of the Virgin.

The raising of the north transept to the height of the nave arcade was effected by building loftier arches without raising the pier and respond of the arcade which divides it longitudinally into eastern and western aisles. This resulted in the south arch of this arcade abutting awkwardly upon the adjoining pier of the north arcade of the nave below its capital, and when the south transept was remodelled its pier and respond were heightened, the old capitals being retained and new arches built upon them. The arches of both transept arcades³² are of two hollow-chamfered orders, and the piers are octagonal with moulded capitals and bases. The respond at the angle where the south transept meets the south aisle was heightened by the simple expedient of placing a sculptured figure of a lion above it, to fill the space between it and the timbers of the aisle roof, the arch being removed. The 13th-century piscina in the north transept has

²¹ The roofs of the transepts had been repaired some thirty years before. The chancel had a modern roof concealed by a flat plaster ceiling, which cut across the chancel arch. The same roof served the north chapel, 'thus deforming the east end by placing two divisions under one gable.' The south chapel had a modern roof of the meanest description (Scott's Report, *ibid.* 77).

²² *Rul. Mag.* i, 106. The reredos is of alabaster and extends the entire length of the east wall.

²³ It dates from 1858. The former east window is described as 'debased.'

²⁴ *Rul. Mag.* ii, 30. It measures about 18 in. by 10 in. by 8 in. deep. The purpose of the recess was 'deemed doubtful by antiquaries'; it had no provision for doors.

²⁵ A former low-pitched roof of the chancel is shown in the view of the church in Wright's *Hist. of Rul.* 99.

²⁶ During the restoration, when the old deal pews were being removed, there were found under the flooring in front of the chancel four or five pieces of the chancel screen, with deep cut mouldings and still bright colours (*Rul. Mag.* ii, 28).

²⁷ The piscina is now fitted with a door and serves as an aumbry for the Reserved Sacrament. The altar and rails in the chapel date from 1914.

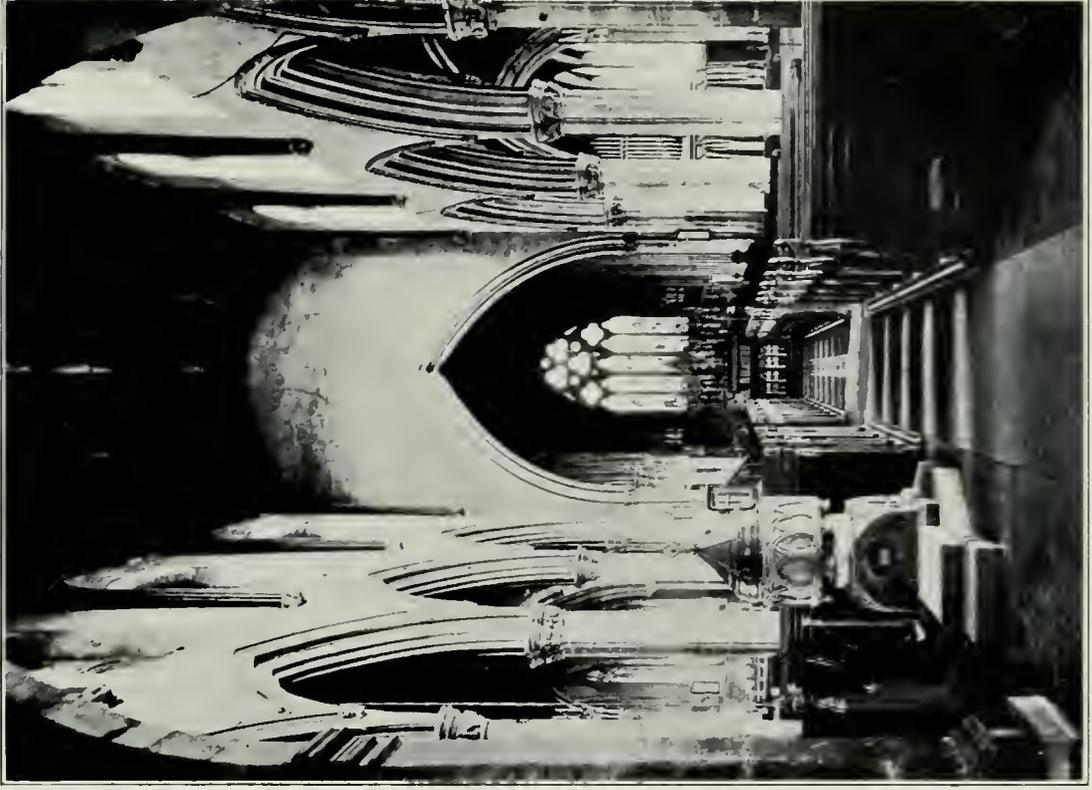
²⁸ P.C.C. 36 Horne.

²⁹ The transoms in the tracery are plain.

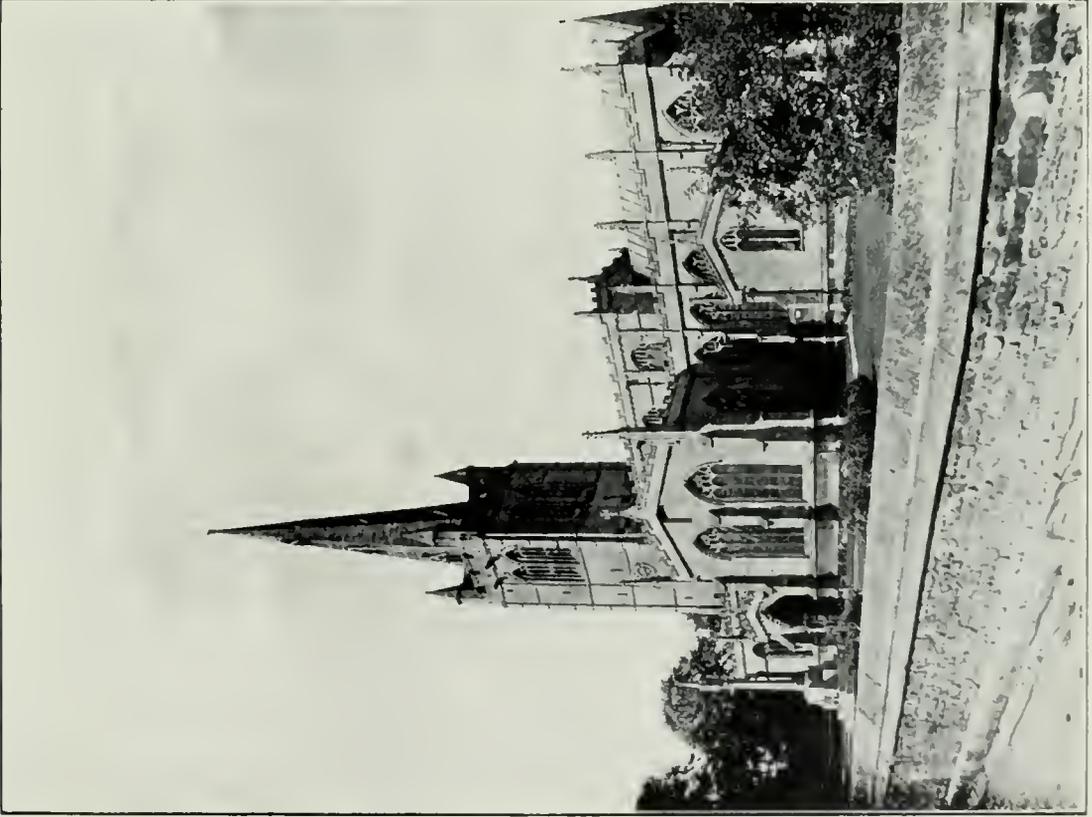
³⁰ In one order the roll and fillet and in the other the scroll are the predominant mouldings.

³¹ Five of the subjects are figured in *Rul. Mag.* i, 44.

³² The arcades are supported externally by buttresses between the windows at the ends of the transepts.



OAKHAM CHURCH: THE INTERIOR, LOOKING EAST



OAKHAM CHURCH FROM THE SOUTH-EAST

already been mentioned, and that³³ in the south wall of the south transept, which retains a wooden shelf, is apparently of the same date, as is probably also the rectangular cupboard³⁴ near to it in the east wall. In the upper part of the same wall, formerly between the two east windows, but now between the remaining window and the arch to the chapel, is a wide pointed 13th-century recess,³⁵ and in the corresponding position in the north transept, above the piscina, a canopied niche,³⁶ apparently of late 14th-century date. In the south transept the windows, two in the south and one in the east wall, are of three cinquefoiled lights with tracery of a somewhat advanced 14th-century type,³⁷ and there is a small 15th-century window of two lights in the west wall above the roof of the porch. Externally in the wide-spreading gable of the transept there is a large empty niche immediately below the parapet.

The windows of the north transept are 15th-century insertions, similar in type to those of the chapel, with moulded jambs and battlemented transoms in the tracery. The hollow of the moulding below the parapet is here enriched with four-leaved flowers and heads. In the south transept it is plain, but in the aisles, clearstory and porch this moulding is enriched with carved heads and a 15th-century version of dog-tooth ornament, and along the rake of the west end of the north aisle with large and widely spaced carvings of animals and grotesque heads. The aisle windows are 15th-century insertions, differing in design, but all of three lights, except that in the north wall of the north aisle, which is a large pointed opening of five lights with Perpendicular tracery.³⁸ The 14th-century north doorway has a pointed arch of two shallow hollow-chamfered orders on moulded impost, and hood-mould with notch-stops. The lofty clearstory has four large four-centred windows on each side, all of three cinquefoiled lights, with transoms and Perpendicular tracery. The hood-moulds are continued along the wall as strings.

The interior of the porch preserves its 13th-century features, though extensively restored. On each side is a wall arcade of four pointed arches of a single chamfered order, with hood-moulds, on detached shafts with moulded capitals and bases standing on a low bench table; some of the capitals are enriched with nail-head.³⁹ The outer doorway has a pointed arch of three moulded orders on keel-shaped responds and shafts on each side with moulded bases and capitals enriched with nail-head. The parapets and gable belong to the 15th-century remodelling; the Crucifixion on the finial is a modern copy.

The tower is of five stages marked by strings, with

moulded plinth, pairs of buttresses its full height, and massive octagonal pinnacles, or small angle turrets, between which is a somewhat nondescript parapet with three slightly ogee openings. The west doorway and window are included in the lofty lower stage beneath a containing arch of two hollow-chamfered orders, the jambs of which are interrupted by a moulded impost continuing that of the doorway. The window is of two trefoiled lights with curvilinear tracery, and the doorway is of two moulded orders and hood with head-stops and a head at the apex. Above, in the second stage, are three graded trefoiled niches containing figures of our Lord and of two Apostles, probably St. Peter and St. Paul. The bell-chamber has double windows of two trefoiled lights, with transoms, and Decorated tracery of two types; the arches are of two moulded orders on banded shafts with moulded capitals and bases, and have separate hood-moulds. The vice is in the south-west angle.⁴⁰ Internally the tower opens into the nave by a pointed arch of three chamfered orders, the innermost on half-octagonal responds with moulded capitals and bases, and into the aisles by narrower and more sharply pointed arches of similar type, but the responds of that to the north aisle are half-rounds. On the south buttress of the south-east pier, at the level of the springing of the arch, is a moulded bracket supported by a seated figure playing a symphony. The spire has plain angles and three tiers of gabled lights on the cardinal faces, each of two openings; those of the two lower tiers have traceried heads, the upper ones being pierced with quatrefoils. The total height of tower and spire is given as 162 ft.⁴¹ The cock vane is dated 1632.⁴²

The roofs, apart from those of the chancel and south chapel, though much restored, are in great part of the 15th century, with moulded ribs and panelling over the transepts and north chapel.⁴³ The nave roof is of four bays, with long wall-pieces taken down to the stone corbels which supported the earlier roof; the principals are curved, but the moulded ridge and purlins alone appear ancient. The stone corbels are carved with grotesque animal heads.⁴⁴ The lean-to roof of the north aisle has shaped moulded principals and short wall-pieces on carved stone corbels.⁴⁵

The font has a late 12th-century circular bowl ornamented with an arcade of intersecting round arches, formerly supported by eight shafts, the capitals of which, carved with water-leaf foliage, remain.⁴⁶ The bowl now stands on a short modern drum and square base with traceried panelling, apparently of 14th-century date,⁴⁷ and has a modern oak pyramidal cover with oxidised iron and bronze mountings.⁴⁸

³³ It has a drop-arch and jamb shafts with moulded capitals; the keel-shaped string is lifted over the head to form a hood-mould. The bowl is circular.

³⁴ It is 28 in. long, divided by a chamfered mullion; the jambs are not rebated. There are references to the chapel of St. Katherine in 1275 (Westm. Abb. R. 20219) and the altar of St. John in 1483 and 1506 (P.C.C. 20 Logge; 12 Adeane) which may give the dedications of the altars in the north and south transepts.

³⁵ The pointed arch of the recess is moulded, upon jamb shafts with moulded capitals, and hood with head-stops. A line of nail-head runs round the whole.

³⁶ It is 6 ft. above the floor.

³⁷ They have double hollow-chamfered jambs and hoods with head-stops.

³⁸ The transoms of the tracery are plain. The two windows in the south wall of the south aisle are alike, of three cinquefoiled lights and vertical tracery.

³⁹ Four on the east side and two on the west. All the shafts and bases are new; one of the shafts on the east side is of Devonshire marble, given in 1860 by the Rev. C. A. Stevens (*Ruil. Mag.* ii, 27).

⁴⁰ The windows on the south and west sides are thrown out of the centre of the wall by reason of the vice.

⁴¹ Height of tower to top of parapets 85 ft., thence to the vane 77 ft. (*Ruil. Mag.* i, 44).

⁴² It bears the names of the wardens

of that year, along with records of its repair in 1737, 1811, 1864, and 1930 (*ibid.* i, 102).

⁴³ Each aisle of the transepts has a flat-pitched panelled inner roof; the roof of the north chapel is the least restored and has carvings at the intersections of the ribs.

⁴⁴ The corbels are below the sills of the clearstory windows. The line of the old roof is above the tower arch.

⁴⁵ The spars and boarding, as in the nave, are modern.

⁴⁶ They form part of the bowl.

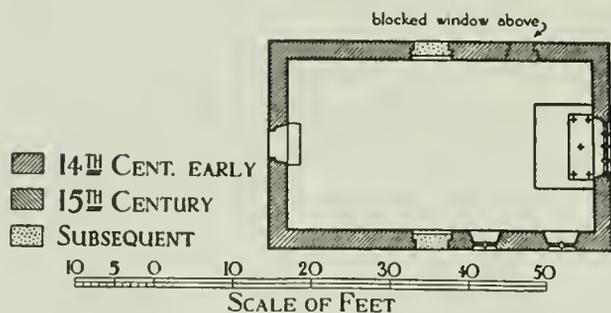
⁴⁷ It may be the base of a churchyard cross reused.

⁴⁸ The cover was designed by Mr. J. N. Comper.

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

The oak pulpit dates from 1905 and all the seating is modern.⁴⁹ There is no ancient glass.⁵⁰

At the east end of the north chapel is a large early 16th-century table tomb, without inscription or identification of any kind, its two exposed panelled sides carved with representations of ringed weights, probably designating a wool merchant.⁵¹ At the west end of the south aisle⁵² is a small wall monument with kneeling figure and rhyming inscription to Ann, daughter of Andrew Barton, of Oakham, who died in 1642, aged 15. There is also a tablet to Abraham Wright, vicar (d. 1690), father of Joseph Wright, the historian of the county,⁵³ and in the south aisle a memorial to the men who fell in the war in South Africa, 1899-1902. The library given in 1616 by Anne Lady Harington of Exton for the use of the vicar and benefit of the local clergy is housed in two handsome Jacobean oak presses in the vestry: it



OAKHAM: PLAN OF ST. JOHN'S CHAPEL

consists of an interesting collection of about 200 volumes on theology, history, and canon law. The church also possesses a MS. Latin Bible of the 13th century, probably of English work. It is inscribed 'ex dono Thome Pilkington.'⁵⁴

There is a ring of eight bells, cast by Gillett and Johnston, of Croydon, in 1910,⁵⁵ and a priest's bell of 1840.

The plate⁵⁶ consists of a cup of 1578-9; a cup of 1637-8 inscribed 'Ex dono Willielm Gibson de Barlythorp Armiger 1638'; two covers without hallmarks fitting the cups; a paten of 1742-3 inscribed 'The gift of Mary daughter of John Warburton late Vicar of Oakham 1742'; a flagon of 1725-6; a paten of 1895-6; another of 1903-4; and a chalice and paten of modern mediæval design given by the Rev. J. H. Charles, vicar, in memory of his wife and son (d. 1915). There are also two pewter plates of 1748, and three of 1750.

⁴⁹ There is one old poppy-head bench-end at the west end of the south aisle.

⁵⁰ Wright (1684) records armorial glass in the windows of the chancel, the south chapel, and the 'south building' (transept) (op. cit. 101).

⁵¹ It is probably the 'plain tomb of freestone' on the north side of the middle chancel mentioned by Wright, who records an inscription lately remaining: 'Orate pro animabus . . . Wyght istius ville qui obiit xi die mensis Octobri, An. Dom. mv . . . et consortis suis quorum animabus ppietetur Deus . . .' (op. cit. 100).

⁵² In Wright's time it was on the south side of the chancel.

⁵³ The monumental inscriptions are given in *Rutl. Mag.* i, 109-110; others,

given by Wright (op. cit. 98-100), have disappeared.

⁵⁴ *Rutl. Mag.* i, 114; Fraser, *The Story of Oakham Church*.

⁵⁵ They are a recasting in December 1910 of a former ring of eight, three of which were dated respectively 1677 (by Tobie Norris), 1618, and 1723 (Henry Penn). The new bells were dedicated 24 February 1911. For inscriptions on the old bells see North, *Cb. Bells of Rutl.* 146.

⁵⁶ The plate is described in Hope, *Cb. Plate in Rutl.* 9. The flagon is inscribed 'To the Honour of the Ever Blessed undivided Incomprehensible Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Ghost, three Persons one God. For the more decent communion of the blood of God our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ within

The registers before 1812 are as follows: (i) all entries 1564-1743;⁵⁷ (ii) baptisms and burials 1746-1809, marriages 1746-54; (iii) marriages 1754-85; (iv) baptisms and burials 1810-12; (v) marriages 1785-1805; (vi) marriages 1805-12. There are no churchwardens' accounts.

The churchyard was levelled and lowered about 1860. A Calvary cross on the south side forms the Oakham War Memorial, 1914-19.

In 1681 an order was made on Mr. Abraham Wright, vicar, and Mr. Burton, tenant of the Dean and Chapter of Westminster, to pave the chancel and repair the ceiling, seats and windows; and on the churchwardens to remove the rubbish out of the churchyard, repave the church alleys throughout, repair the seats and the roof and glaze the windows, rebind the Bible, provide a new Common Prayer Book, plaster and whitewash the vestry, provide a covering to one of the pewter flagons, a carpet for the Communion table of fine green or purple broad cloth, to repair the beam in the middle aisle over the minister's pew and to take away the seats in the middle aisle.⁵⁸

THE HOSPITAL OF ST. JOHN stood on a site now largely covered by the Midland Railway. It was established by John Dalby in 1399 on the east side of a field called Chamberlayn's Close. The site was a quadrangle inclosed by a wall, to the north of which Dalby built a house for himself with access to the chapel. Within the precinct wall stood the chapel, near the north-east corner, with a house for twelve poor men to

the south of it. The warden had a house on the south side and the chaplain on the north. In 1845 the Midland Railway acquired practically the whole of the western half of the hospital site, and such of the old buildings as then remained, except the chapel, were demolished.⁵⁹

The chapel⁶⁰ is a small rectangular building measuring internally 39 ft. by 21 ft. 3 in., faced with local stone with dressings of Clipsham stone and Barnack rag. The walls are without plinths or buttresses and terminate in plain parapets, and there is a bell-cote at the west end. The flat-pitched roof is covered with lead. The fabric is for the most part earlier than the recorded foundation of the hospital in the later part of the 14th century. The chamfered rear-arch of the east window, carried on small moulded corbels shaped like capitals of shafts, and the pointed doorways in the north, south, and west walls, which are of a very plain character, with chamfered arches and

the Parish Church of Oakeham in Rutland this Flagon is offer'd by H.W. in the year of our Redeemer mcccxxv.' The two modern patens were given by Canon Baggallay, vicar.

⁵⁷ Volume i also contains baptisms, marriages and burials for 1768, and baptisms and burials for 1769.

⁵⁸ Irons' Notes, Archd. Visit.

⁵⁹ From information collected by Mr. A. Hawley from records and from papers relating to the Bill in Parliament for building the railway.

⁶⁰ Use has been made in the description following of Prof. Hamilton Thompson's paper in *Trans. Rutl. Arch. Soc.* (1913), 38. The chapel is in Gas Street, close to the railway, and is used for occasional services in connection with the Parish Church. It is known as St. John's Chapel.

hood-moulds, date from c. 1300, and a pointed window of two cinquefoiled lights with simple curvilinear tracery in the head at the east end of the south wall is only a little later (c. 1320-30). The walls, however, appear to have been largely rebuilt or heightened late in the 14th or early in the 15th century, the masonry throughout being coursed and the jointing towards the west of remarkable fineness. At this time a square-headed window, now blocked, was inserted high in the wall north of the altar,⁶¹ and a long two-light window, with flat label and slight cusping in the rectangular heads of the lights, was made in the south wall east of the doorway. New tracery was made in the east window during the 15th century, when the outer arch and jambs seem to have been newly moulded, and the roof and parapets⁶² are of the same period. A broad ogee-topped crocketed finial at the east end, which may have supported a gable cross, is similar to those at the parish church. Later in date is a single-light window above the west side of the south doorway, the reason for which, unless it was intended to give light to a pulpit, is difficult to explain. The square-headed two-light transomed window over the west doorway is a 17th-century insertion.⁶³ The north and south doorways are blocked. There is a stone sundial at the south-west corner.⁶⁴

Internally the building is without structural division. Originally, no doubt, there was a screen crossing the building immediately to the east or west of the lateral doorways, which divided it into a quire for the hospital and a western ante-chapel, but of this no trace remains. The western part is too small in area to have been used, as was commonly the case in mediæval hospitals, as the common hall of the inmates, and the chapel was evidently distinct from the rest of the hospital.⁶⁵ The warden's house was on the north, and the bedehouse on the south side, an arrangement which accounts for the provision of north and south doorways in addition to the western entrance, which was probably reserved for lay folk visiting the building.⁶⁶

The roof is of three bays and of plain construction, with cambered tie-beams⁶⁷ and wall-pieces resting upon large and well-carved corbels. Three of these on each side are grotesque heads, but one on the south is a blank shield upon carved foliage, which retains much of its original colour. The corresponding shield on the north side is modern.

During a restoration of the building in 1912-13 a pointed piscina with rectangular trough, contem-

porary with the earlier work, was discovered in the usual position in the south wall: the projecting portion of the trough, or bowl, had been cut away, but from a remaining fragment it was possible to reconstruct the grooves and drain holes. A number of put-log holes in the east wall were also found, some of which had been blocked with old masonry, and a small alabaster head of delicate execution was discovered in the wall as well as a portion of a stone head, probably the support of a former image bracket north of the altar.⁶⁸ The removal of the modern plaster from the walls further revealed a recess in the south wall west of the doorway, inside which was found the end of a bar-hole,⁶⁹ and west of this again a fireplace, now blocked, with a flue in the wall above, put in when the chapel was used for secular purposes.⁷⁰ The floor was restored to its original level,⁷¹ and the old altar slab was repaired and set up upon a new freestone base.⁷² About half-way up the south wall, near the altar, a small head, probably the stop of a hood-mould, has been inserted.

The bell in the turret is by T. Eayre, of Kettering, 1744.⁷³

Wright in 1684 mentions two inscriptions in Latin remaining in the chapel windows.⁷⁴

The plate consists of a cup of Elizabethan type, and a paten of 1904-5, the latter inscribed 'To the glory and honour of God. St. John and St. Ann's Trustees 1905.'

The church of All Saints⁷⁵ or All Hallows⁷⁶ was in existence before the Norman Conquest,⁷⁷ and was described as the mother church of Oakham in a charter of William I dated 1067, which, however, may be spurious.⁷⁸ The church and chapels were confirmed to the Abbey of Westminster in 1178 by Pope Alexander III,⁷⁹ and in 1231 the four chapels of Langham, Egleton, Brooke and Gunthorpe were enumerated as belonging to the church of Oakham.⁸⁰ Barleythorpe, at this date, was only mentioned as a township, but a chapel was possibly in existence.⁸¹ The history of the rectory is identical with that of the manor of Deanshold (q.v.). It has been noted that the title of 'the Rectory of Oakham' was used by the abbots of Westminster in a much extended sense, but in the 15th century a separation was made between the manor and the rectory or parsonage in the more technical meaning.⁸² The rectories of the chapels of Langham, Brooke and Egleton were separated from that of Oakham and were

⁶¹ I.e. at the east end of the north wall. Internally the window has a wooden lintel.

⁶² There are grotesque gargoyles on the north and south sides.

⁶³ There is a panel dated 1667 in the gable above the window.

⁶⁴ It is about 8 ft. above the ground; the gnomon is gone.

⁶⁵ This was the arrangement at St. John's Hospital, Northampton.

⁶⁶ The fact that these doorways are of the date already indicated points to the likelihood that the foundation of the hospital is of a period earlier than the date for which there is documentary evidence, as their number and disposition do not suit the plan of an ordinary chapel' (A. Hamilton Thompson, *op. cit.* 38).

⁶⁷ There are two middle and two end tie-beams.

⁶⁸ The stone head is now (1930) in a put-log hole low down in the east wall north of the altar. It is covered with a thin coating of plaster painted flesh colour, with the hair and remaining eye in suitable tints.

⁶⁹ When the south door was open the wooden bar was entirely pushed back into the hole, and to close the door had to be pushed forward from this end. The west door was also closed by a bar, but there was none to the door of the entrance next to the warden's lodging.

⁷⁰ Nothing was found in the north wall, but a portion of its upper part was seen to have been repaired in brick.

⁷¹ The old level was found 5 in. below the then existing floor. These are now two steps down from the west entrance. The eastern part of the old floor was paved with plain square tiles set lozenge-wise. A rectangle of plain walling two

courses high against the east wall marked the foundation of the old altar.

⁷² The altar slab, with its south end cut off and its north-west corner repaired, was identified in the floor. It now measures 8 ft. by 3 ft., but 2 ft. 3 in. at the south end is new.

⁷³ North, *Cb. Bells of Rutl.* 147.

⁷⁴ *Hist. of Rutl.* 102. The inscriptions commemorated William Grafton and Ellen his wife, and Henry Bell and Isabel his wife.

⁷⁵ Westm. Abb. R. 20615.

⁷⁶ P.C.C. 12 Adeane.

⁷⁷ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 140.

⁷⁸ *Cal. Chart. R.* iv, 332.

⁷⁹ Westm. Abb. R. 12732.

⁸⁰ *Ibid.* 20619; Westm. Dom. fol. 595.

⁸¹ *Ibid.* 596.

⁸² Mins. Accts. (P.R.O.), Hen. VIII. no. 7239, pt. 1.

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leased to separate tenants.⁸³ Brooke seems to have been leased as early as 1366 to the priory of Brooke,⁸⁴ which was the lessee in 1515.⁸⁵ Gunthorpe chapel seems to have fallen into disuse and decay,⁸⁶ and in the latter year its tithes were included in the rectory of Oakham, which was leased by Thomas Tileston.⁸⁷ It was then said to consist of tithes only, but later some 19 acres of land belonged to the rectory.⁸⁸ The Barleythorpe tithes were also held on a separate lease. The rectory of Oakham and Gunthorpe, with tithes in the other chapelries, was granted in 1542 to the Dean and Chapter of Westminster Cathedral⁸⁹ and in 1559 to the Dean and Chapter of the Collegiate Church.⁹⁰ It was held by a succession of lessees, who seem to have been responsible for the repair of the chancel of the church.⁹¹ Under the Commonwealth it was confiscated, and the trustees for the sale of the manors, rectories, etc., belonging to bishops, deans and chapters, and others sold the reversion of the parsonage house and tithes in 1650, on the expiration of a lease granted in 1633 to Francis Jephson for three lives, to Cornelius Burton of Oakham.⁹² After the Restoration, the Dean and Chapter were re-established and recovered the rectory, but Burton seems to have retained his lease.⁹³ The rectory with 19 acres of land was leased in 1682 to Elizabeth, the Dowager Viscountess Campden.⁹⁴ In 1820, at the time of the inclosure of the parish, the rectory was leased for three lives to the Earl of Winchilsea and all tithes were abolished and land allotted in their place.⁹⁵

The advowson of the church belonged to the abbey of Westminster and the abbot presented to the rectory until 1231⁹⁶ and afterwards to the vicarage.⁹⁷ In 1534 Abbot Boston gave the next presentation to Thomas Cromwell,⁹⁸ but after the Dissolution the advowson came to the Crown, when it was granted to the newly established bishopric of Westminster.⁹⁹ In 1550 Edward VI granted it to Nicholas Ridley, Bishop of London,¹ and it belonged to the see of London² until 1697, when it passed by exchange, made under Act of Parliament, to the Earl of Northampton.^{2a} From him it passed to the Earls of Winchilsea,³ and at the present day the advowson belongs to Mr. W. H. Finch. The chapelries of Langham and Brooke have been separated, but the chapel of Egleton is still attached to the church of Oakham.

The vicarage was ordained in 1231, but a vicar named William is mentioned at the institution of Gilbert Marshall as rector in 1225 or 1227,⁴ and appears to have had a house on the south side of the church and a curate of land.⁵ At the time of the ordination of the vicarage, the abbey of Westminster recovered the greater part of the rectory held by Gilbert Marshall to its own use, and he was apparently

compensated by the abbot with money for the loss of everything but the newly constituted vicarage.⁶ The fate of William is not recorded. To the vicarage were assigned the vicar's house and curate of land, all the altarage of the church of Oakham and of the four chapels of Langham, Egleton, Brooke and Gunthorpe, the small tithes, half of the tithes of hay and the tithes of sheaves to the value of 30 marks a year, together with one mark a year paid out of the chapelry of Knossington. The rector was to provide suitable chaplains to serve the church and chapels.⁷ The title rector was retained until the middle of the 14th century,⁸ but the officials of the Bishop of Lincoln seem to have had doubts whether it was a rectory or vicarage, and in 1264 and 1273 the institutions were made to a benefice in the church of Oakham.⁹ In 1339 the vicar of the church of Oakham is mentioned,¹⁰ and from that time the title of vicar seems to have prevailed.¹¹ In 1488 the parishioners made serious complaints as to the negligence of their vicar, who behaved more like a layman than a priest. They also complained that he had neglected to provide two priests besides himself to serve the parish as was the custom and only apparently had a deacon to assist him.¹² Egleton may have depended to some extent on the services of the priest of the well-endowed chantry there, and in 1549, when the vicar seems to have had no assistants, an effort was made to reserve the endowment to provide an assistant priest for the vicar of Oakham.¹³ This was not successful, but by 1563 there were three stipendiary priests, resident at Langham, Egleton and Brooke, paid by the vicar of Oakham, who, however, served Barleythorpe chapel himself. Besides the vicarage, certain other emoluments came to the vicar. In 1291 the Pope granted an indulgence to all visiting the church of Oakham on the feast and during the octave of All Saints' Day and the feasts of the Nativity, Purification and Assumption of the Blessed Virgin, as well as on the dedication feast of the church. There were also two pilgrimages, one to the image of the Virgin at St. Mary's well,¹⁴ a spring near the brick-kilns about a quarter of a mile to the north of the town, and the other to the image of St. Michael, possibly set up in the chapel of St. Michael (q.v.) in the churchyard. By the time of Elizabeth's accession the vicar was suffering, not only from the disappearance of these oblations, but the town was impoverished by the loss of Calais, for its chief citizens had been merchants of the Staple of Calais and had been forced to leave the town. Consequently in 1563 Thomas Thickpenny, the newly instituted vicar, appealed against his assessment for first fruits and tenths. The vicarage, which was nearly the same in constitution

⁸³ Mins. Accts. (P.R.O.), Hen. VIII, no. 7239, pt. 1.

⁸⁴ Westm. Abb. R. 20361.

⁸⁵ Mins. Accts. loc. cit.

⁸⁶ V.C.H. Rutl. i, 146.

⁸⁷ Mins. Accts. (P.R.O.), Hen. VIII, 7239, pt. 1.

⁸⁸ Westm. Abb. R. 20749; cf. Close R. 1651, pt. 20. Barleythorpe tithes in 1650 were farmed to William Bushby (Lambeth MSS. Parl. Surv. vol. vii, p. 317).

⁸⁹ L. and P. Hen. VIII, xvii, g. 714.

⁹⁰ Pat. R. i Eliz. pt. 11.

⁹¹ Rutl. Archd. Rec. 1605, 1681; Close R. 1651, pt. 20.

⁹² Ibid. ⁹³ Rutl. Archd. Rec. 1681.

⁸⁴ Westm. Abb. R. 20749.

⁸⁵ Priv. Act of Parl. i Geo. IV, cap. 25.

⁸⁶ Westm. Dom. fol. 595; *Rot. Hug. de Welles* (Cant. & York Soc.), ii, 138; see Deanshold Manor.

⁸⁷ *Rot. Rob. Grosseteste* (Cant. & York Soc.), pp. 158, 239; *Rot. Ric. Gravesend* (Cant. & York Soc.), pp. 105, 121; *Rot. Hund.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 52.

⁸⁸ Westlake, *Hist. of Westm. Abb.* p. 198.

⁸⁹ L. and P. Hen. VIII, xvi, g. 503 (33).

⁹⁰ Cal. Pat. R. 1549-51, p. 263.

⁹¹ Instit. Bks. (P.R.O.), 1690.

⁹² Bacon, *Liber Regis*, 846.

⁹³ Instit. Bks. (P.R.O.), 1736, 1782, 1806, 1815.

⁶ *Rot. Hug. de Welles*, loc. cit.

⁷ Westm. Dom. fol. 595.

⁸ See Deanshold Manor.

⁹ Westm. Dom. fol. 595.

¹⁰ *Rot. Rob. Grosseteste* (Cant. & York Soc.), 177; Westm. Abb. R. 20628.

¹¹ *Rot. Ric. Gravesend* (Cant. & York Soc.), 105, 121.

¹² Westm. Abb. R. 20355.

¹³ Cal. Pat. R. 1377-81, p. 381; 1381-85, p. 365; 1396-99, p. 203; 1408-13, p. 117.

¹⁴ Mem. Bishop Russell (Linc. Episc. Reg.), 1480-1499, fol. 54.

¹⁵ Chantry Certif. (P.R.O.), no. 39.

¹⁶ Pearl Finch, *Oakham Castle*, 43.

as in 1231, was valued at £52 19s. 8d. a year, from which the vicar paid £30 in stipends to the chaplains. As a result the assessment was considerably lowered and the vicar also obtained relief, by the cutting down of the chaplains' stipends to £8 a year.¹⁵ Another attempt was made in 1658 to increase the value of the vicarage by the addition of the rents from the rectories, which were then in possession of the Commonwealth.¹⁶ The Protector consented,¹⁷ but it is improbable that any action was taken before 1660, when the Dean and Chapter of Westminster recovered the rectories.¹⁶

By his will, which was proved in 1409, Robert Stonham, the vicar of Oakham, left plate and 3 books to the parish church.¹⁹ In 1662 the sum of 10s. a year, part of the interest arising from £100 stock given by Mrs. Parthenia Lowman, was assigned for a sermon in the parish church on Ash Wednesday.²⁰

We have reference to four gilds at OAKHAM—namely, those of St. Mary, St. Michael, All Saints and Holy Trinity—and each of them seems to have been connected with a chapel or altar belonging to the parish church. The most important was the gild of St. Mary,²¹ which no doubt was connected with the chapel of St. Mary on the south side of the chancel²² and supported the chapel of St. Mary on the north side of the churchyard. There was a toft attached to the chapel in the churchyard which was possibly the site of the gild-hall or the house of the chantry priest.²³ In 1513 the master of the gild paid rent for lands in Oakham and Barleythorpe.²⁴ The priest of the chapel was known as the 'chaunter preeste' or 'gild preeste.'²⁵ The chapel is mentioned in the will of William Pensax, vicar of Oakham, in 1378²⁶ and the gild is referred to in 1404²⁷ and in 1483,²⁸ when it was said to be in the church of Oakham.

On an adjoining site (60 ft. in length and 30 ft. in breadth) stood the chapel of St. Michael the Archangel, served by the gild priest. It is referred to in 1404 and 1424.²⁹ Both chapels escaped confiscation under the Chantries Act of 1547, but from that date they ceased to be used as places of worship. At an inquiry held at Oakham in March 1584 both chapels were described as in decay and in ruins and both sites, having been returned as concealed lands,³⁰ were granted by the Crown to Anthony Collins and George Woodnet,³¹ who sold them in the same year to Robert Johnson, the founder of Oakham School. Upon the sites of the two chapels he built 'the schoolhouse' (i.e. schoolroom) for Oakham School.³²

The gild of All Saints mentioned in 1501³³ was probably founded at the high altar of the parish church, and the gild of Holy Trinity, to which bequests

were made in 1404 and 1499,³⁴ was doubtless founded at the altar of Holy Trinity in the chapel on the north side of the chancel of the parish church.

The free chapel in the castle of Oakham is mentioned in 1248, but had probably been in existence since the building of the hall within the castle enclosure. The advowson belonged to Isabel de Mortimer at that time, and passed to the succeeding lords of Oakham certainly till the close of the 14th century.³⁵ The castle fell into disrepair in the 16th century and no chapel is mentioned among the possessions of Edward, Duke of Buckingham, in 1521. In 1248 Isabel Mortimer presented Richard, son of Hugh de Clyva, to the chapel, and he received a house and toft appurtenant to the chapel, 9 soams of corn a year and an annuity of 40s. from the farm of Oakham, as well as tithes of the market of Oakham and certain tithes of stock and small tithes in the manors of Oakham and Langham.³⁶ In 1300 the chaplain received 50s. a year, which, it is noticed, were formerly paid from the rents of the bondmen of Egleton, while the tithes had been commuted into an annual sum of 43s. 7d.³⁷ In 1373 the tithes had increased in value.³⁸ In 1388, however, the chaplain claimed, besides an annual salary of 8 marks 7s. 1½d., the right of having 4 loads of wood a year from the park.³⁹

The chapel of Gunthorpe was certainly in existence at the end of the 12th century and was dependent on the church of Oakham. Alexander de Boville, who was probably lord of the manor (q.v.), attempted to obtain the advowson and presented a chaplain named Reginald, who was admitted and held the chapel during his life. In his old age he was assisted by his son Henry, who continued to serve the chapel after Reginald's death. Then the rector of Oakham, named Herbert le Poure, intervened, but made an agreement by which Henry was to hold the chapel for life as a farmer, while the right of the rector was recognised. Henry never obtained institution by the Bishop of Lincoln, and when Henry de Boville, Alexander's grandson, put forward a claim to the advowson in 1223, he lost his case.⁴⁰ Later the chapel fell into disuse and ruin,⁴¹ and it was not mentioned as one of the chapelries of Oakham in 1534, when the new valuation of churches was made.⁴² The tithes of Gunthorpe were excepted from the provisions for the inclosure of the parish of Oakham in 1820.⁴³

The hospital of ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST and ST. ANNE was founded in 1399 by William Dalby (d. 1405), then of Exton, but later of Oakham, for a warden and chaplain and twelve poor men to pray for King Richard II and Queen Isabella, Anne, the late queen, and the king's father, Edward the

¹⁵ First Fruits Office, Plea R. no. 5 (65); *Valor Eccles.* (Rec. Com.), iv, 344.

¹⁶ *Cal. S.P. Dom.* 1658-59, p. 46.

¹⁷ *Ibid.*

¹⁸ Westm. Abb. R. 20749.

¹⁹ Alfred Gibbon, *Early Lincoln Wills*, 138.

²⁰ Wright, op. cit. Additions, p. 9.

²¹ See P.C.C. 20 Logge; 36 Horne; 69 Luffenham; 33 Bennett; 1 Jankyn.

²² P.C.C. 36 Horne.

²³ Exch. Spec. Com. no. 1867; Rutl. Archd. Rec. 1584.

²⁴ Westm. Abb. R. 20640, 20657; see also 20661, 20758 b.

²⁵ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 269.

²⁶ Gibbon, op. cit. 65.

²⁷ *Ibid.* 116.

²⁸ P.C.C. 20 Logge.

²⁹ Gibbon, loc. cit.; P.C.C. 69 Luffenham.

³⁰ Exch. Spec. Com. no. 1867; Rutl. Archd. Rec. 1584.

³¹ Arth. Hawley, *Transl. of Grant of Rob. Johnson*, 7.

³² See Dr. Clement Bretton's Bk. of Evidences. This book was thought to have been lost, but is in existence. *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 267.

³³ Wright, op. cit. Add. p. 8.

³⁴ Gibbon, op. cit. 116; P.C.C. 20 Logge; 36 Horne.

³⁵ *Rot. Rob. Grosseteste* (Cant. & York Soc.), 239-40. The king presented from 1360 until 1389. Irons' Notes, Linc. Episc. Reg. (Institut.).

³⁶ *Rot. Rob. Grosseteste*, loc. cit.

³⁷ *Cal. Inq.* iii, no. 604.

³⁸ Mins. Accts. (P.R.O.), Gen. Ser. bde. 964, no. 3.

³⁹ *Cal. Close R.* 1385-89, pp. 402-3.

⁴⁰ Maitland, loc. cit.; Feet of F. Rutl. 9 Hen. III, no. 11.

⁴¹ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 146.

⁴² *Valor Eccles.* (Rec. Com.), iv, 344.

⁴³ Priv. Act of Parl. 1 Geo. IV, cap. 25.

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Black Prince, and his mother, Joan the Fair Maid of Kent, and for William Dalby and Agnes, his wife.⁴⁴ The patronage was to have been with the priory of St. Anne next Coventry, which was to pay to the hospital £40, afterwards reduced to 40 marks, and later a further £20 a year charged on lands in Edith Weston. Dalby, however, was dissatisfied with the priory's management and in 1406 had settled the patronage on Roger Flore or Flower, husband of his daughter, Katherine, and his heirs.⁴⁵ Flore revised the arrangement with the priory and endowed the hospital further with a toft and 64 acres of land and 6 acres of meadow in Oakham and Egleton.⁴⁶ He made new statutes in 1421, whereby it was provided that if the patrons failed to present either the chaplain or the bedesmen, the vicar of Oakham was to act.⁴⁷ The patronage continued in the family of Flore of Whitwell (q.v.). Edith Weston having become the property of John Flore, he refused to pay the rent-charge from it to the hospital.⁴⁸ After long litigation the hospital seems to have gained its case, yet John failed to pay the charge. The hospital fell into decay and in 1590 its property was sold as concealed land to William Tipper and Robert Dawe, the famous fishing grantees.⁴⁹ In 1593 the property had passed to Robert Johnson,⁵⁰ the founder of Oakham and Uppingham Schools, who also acquired the patronage from Henry Allen of Wilford, to whom John Flore had conveyed it.⁵¹ He refounded the hospital in 1597, vesting the patronage in himself and his heirs, and appointed the Dean of Peterborough, the rector of North Luffenham and vicar of Oakham governors.⁵²

The endowment now consists of 59 acres 2 roods and 35 poles of land, a rent-charge and stocks held by the official trustees producing in all £310 a year. The net income is distributed among 34 poor persons. Capt. W. D. Johnson of Ketton, descendant of Robert Johnson, is now patron, and the governors, the successors to those appointed by Queen Elizabeth, are the Bishop and Dean of Peterborough, the rectors of North Luffenham and Uppingham and the vicar of Oakham. During the last century the chapel was occasionally used as a place of worship, but is now regularly used for religious service.

In 1672 a licence was granted to Benjamin King, who had been intruding minister at Oakham during the time of the Commonwealth, for Presbyterians to meet at the house of Matthias Barry at Oakham.⁵³ King had two daughters, one of whom married Vincent Alsop, usher of Oakham School and later an eminent minister in Westminster; the other married Robert Ekins, the first minister in the Northgate Barn. In 1727 the old meeting-house, now the property of Oakham School, was built and in 1861 the present church in High Street. A Congregational chapel is said to have been founded in 1662. There is a Baptist chapel, originally built about 1770, enlarged in 1851 and rebuilt in 1870; a Wesleyan chapel was built in 1865 and a Catholic chapel in 1883.

The Foundation of Robert John-
CHARITIES son, clerk, was made by virtue of letters patent, dated 24 October 1587, granting licence in mortmain to erect the Free Grammar School in Oakham, the Hospital of Christ in Oakham, the Free Grammar School in Uppingham and the Hospital of Christ in Uppingham. The endowment of the foundation now consists of land containing 77 a. o r. 13 p., tithes and rent-charges and several sums of stock held by the official trustees of Charitable Funds, producing in all approximately £4,800 per annum. After deduction of a small sum to provide for the insurance and upkeep of five chancels and for various payments to the vicars of Leake, Whaplode and Whaplode Drove for church expenses and for the poor and for the Receivers' salary and expenses, the income for each year is divided in round figures into seven equal parts, of which two are paid to Oakham School, two to Uppingham School and the remaining three to certain aged poor in Rutland. The charity is managed by a body of governors.

For the Hospital of St. John and St. Anne, see above.

Lady Ann Harington's Charity was founded by an indenture dated 1 November 1617, and is regulated by a scheme of the Charity Commissioners dated 2 November 1915, which appoints a body of trustees consisting of the vicar of Oakham All Saints (ex officio) and four trustees appointed by the Urban District Council of Oakham. The income, consisting of a rent-charge of £32, is distributed in varying amounts among 80 poor persons primarily of Oakham Lordshold.

Robert Towell, by his will dated 29 January 1721, gave a sum of money to the poor of Lord's liberty in Oakham for 10 poor widows as the minister and churchwardens should think fit. The charity is lost.

Burton's Charity.—From an entry in the parish register book it appears that a sum of £5 was paid by a Mr. G. G. Noel to poor of Lordshold and Deanshold. The charity is lost.

Bread Money.—A sum of £50 was given by a person unknown to purchase bread for the poor of Oakham. The only document in respect of the gift is a promissory note dated 25 March 1771 signed by Mary Davie for payment of £50 with interest at 4 per cent. The charity is lost.

The United Charities are regulated by a scheme of the Charity Commissioners dated 2 November 1915 and comprise the following charities :—

Cramp's Charity, date of foundation unknown.⁵⁴ The sum of £20 is understood to have been given by a person named Cramp for the annual benefit of poor widows of Oakham. The endowment now consists of a yearly payment of £1 from the churchwardens.

Mary Davie, otherwise Daniel Davis, founded by will dated 31 July 1729. The endowment consists of a rent-charge of £2 12s. arising out of a house and shop in Oakham.

The charity of Henry Foster is comprised in in-

⁴⁴ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1396-9, p. 580. This account of the hospital is mainly taken from a paper in MS. by Mr. Arthur Hawley.

⁴⁵ *Ibid.* 1405-8, p. 265.

⁴⁶ *Inq. a.q.d.* file 447, no. 17; *Pat. R.* 9 Hen. V, pt. 1, m. 2.

⁴⁷ *Westm. Abb. R.* 20637. The counter-

part of the ordinance of Flore; the original, supposed to be lost, was recently found in fragments and has been repaired and is in the possession of the governors; see also *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 162.

⁴⁸ *Ct. of Requests*, bdle. 32, no. 71.

⁴⁹ *Pat. R.* 32 Eliz. pt. 4, mm. 1-22.

⁵⁰ *Close R.* 35 Eliz. pt. 3, m. 30 d.

⁵¹ Abraham Johnson MS.

⁵² *Pat. R.* 39 Eliz. pt. 11.

⁵³ *Cal. S.P. Dom.* 1672, p. 195.

⁵⁴ Probably founded after 1786, as it is not in *Abstract of Returns of Charitable Donations, Rutland*, of that date.

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dentures of lease and release dated respectively 19 and 20 August 1692. The endowment consists of a yearly sum of £10 payable by the trustees of the general charity of Henry Foster.

The charity of John Green, founded by will dated 7 October 1679, consists of a rent-charge of £4 issuing out of an estate at Market Overton.

These charities are administered by a body of 5 trustees. The income of Foster's charity, now about £950, one-tenth of which is applied in apprenticing poor children, and the remaining charities are applied for the general benefit of the poor.

Warburton's Gift, founded about 1731 by the will of the Rev. John Warburton, consists of a rent-charge of 10s. per annum arising out of a close of land called Burley Bridge. The income is distributed to the poor by an Alms Committee.

Church Estate. The origin of this charity is unknown. The trustees are the vicar and churchwardens of Oakham, appointed by an order of the Charity Commissioners dated 19 April 1882. The endowment consists of lands containing 3 a. 2 r. and £220 6s. 4d. 2½ per cent. Consolidated stock held by the official trustees, producing about £19 18s. per annum, which is applied towards the maintenance of the services and fabric of the church.

Thomas Watkin (in memory of Thomas and Mary Watkin), by his will proved at Birmingham on 7 March 1905, bequeathed the sum of £10 to the trustees of the parish church of Langham, the income to be applied to the fund for the poor at Christmas. The endowment of the charity now consists of £11 1s. 8d. 2½ per cent. Consolidated stock with the official trustees, producing 5s. 4d. per annum, which is distributed among the poor by an Alms Committee.

The Victoria Hall (formerly the Agricultural Hall) is comprised in an indenture dated 15 October 1858 and regulated by a scheme of the Charity Commissioners of 15 August 1899 as varied by a scheme of 12 February 1915. There are 15 trustees, nine being co-optative, 3 appointed by the Rutland County Council and 3 by the Urban District Council of Oakham. The hall is let for various purposes and the rent, approximately £250 per annum, is applied towards the upkeep of the hall.

Henry Foster, by his will dated 26 August 1692,

devised several lands and hereditaments lying in Swineshead, Lincolnshire, Sewsterne, Leicestershire, and Thistleton, Rutland, to his trustees upon trust that any two or more of them with the consent and approbation of the justices of the peace of the county should apply the rents as follows: (a) To the churchwardens and overseers of Oakham and Westminster Fee £10 per annum for apprenticing fatherless children born in the parish or otherwise for the use of the poor; (b) to the vicars of Empingham and Greetham £10 per annum each as augmentation to the vicarages; (c) directed the minister, churchwardens and overseers of Thistleton, Greetham, Exton, Langham and Empingham to appoint a schoolmaster for each of the respective parishes to teach poor children in the English Bible and Catechism, and to each of the schoolmasters and their successors he gave the sum of £10 per annum: and in the case of no schoolmaster being employed the money to be expended in clothing and apprenticing poor children. By a codicil dated 5 June 1700 the testator gave several other lands at Swineshead to the same trustees and directed that out of the rents £10 per annum should be paid to the vicars of Whissendine and Ketton and the balance employed in making good the several sums of £10 mentioned in his will. The property belonging to the charity has been sold and the endowment now consists of £5,286 2s. 6d. 2½ per cent. Consols and £23,824 10s. 8d. 3½ per cent. Conversion Stock producing in dividends about £966 per annum. The charity is administered in accordance with the original trusts, it appearing, however, from the recent accounts that the sums of £10 per annum have been substituted by the larger figure of £93 per annum, due apparently to the increase in the total income.

The Rutland Prison Charity, formerly that proportion of the Prison Charity of Rebecca Hussey allotted to the Rutland County Gaol, is regulated by a scheme of the Charity Commissioners dated 3 July 1891. The endowment consists of a sum of £211 2s. 10d. 5 per cent. War Stock producing in dividends £10 11s. 2d. per annum. The income is paid over to the Leicestershire and Rutland Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society by the visiting committee of the prison at Leicester, who are the trustees.

BELTON

Beleton (xii cent.); Beautone, Belton (xiii cent.).

The parish of Belton contains 1,024 acres of land and was formerly within the bounds of Leighfield Forest. The soil is clay and the subsoil consists of Upper and Middle Lias and the Great Oolite series.¹ The land falls about 200 ft. from the north-west of the parish, where it is 500 ft. above the Ordnance datum, to the Eye Brook which forms the southern boundary. The parish, which was inclosed in 1794, is almost entirely pasture land.

The village stands on the side of a steep hill about half a mile north of the main road from Leicester to Uppingham, from which it is distant about 3½ miles. It is formed round an oval space once surrounding the

village green, which is now obscured by some modern brick houses. At the ends of the back gardens of the houses on the outer side of the road inclosing this space, lanes have been made forming an outer ring, that on the west being called Backside Lane. The village was practically destroyed by fire in 1776 when 27 houses were completely burnt.² The present houses are mostly of stone with slate or stone roofs, one or two only being thatched. On the green is a stone obelisk which forms the war memorial, the base of which, called the King's Stone, is said to have been a stone on which Charles I sat after the battle of Naseby.³ At one time there was a cross at the east end of the village, towards the setting up of which

¹ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 1, seq.

² William White, *Hist. Gazetteer and Directory of Leic. and Rutl.* 1846.

³ There is also a King's Stone at Caldecott.

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

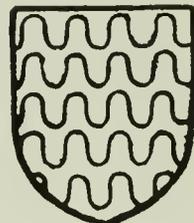
Thomas Haselwood of Belton bequeathed 2s. in 1612.⁴ The Old Hall, near the church, with remains of Tudor work, was probably the manor house and the site of the house where the Blounts lived in the 14th century.⁵ The present house was probably built by the Haselwoods in the 16th century.

The nearest station is at East Norton.

The manor of *BELTON* was probably *MANORS* one of the berewicks attached to the manor of Ridlington in 1086.⁶ It was presumably alienated by the Crown with the manor of Oakham (q.v.) in the 12th century, and from that time was held of the castle and manor of Oakham⁷ as one knight's fee.

The first sub-tenant of the manor seems to have been Ralph de Freney (de Fraisseto, du Frenai), who granted land belonging to his fee in Belton to the Priory of St. Mary at Brooke,⁸ probably at its foundation by Hugh de Ferrers before 1153.⁹ Whether Ralph held the whole manor or whether its division into moieties¹⁰ had already taken place is unknown. Ralph was living in 1166-7, and was succeeded by his son William, mentioned in relation to Rutland from 1175 to 1203.¹¹ William refers in charters to Brooke Priory, to his sons Robert, his heir, and Reginald.¹² Robert possibly died without issue, as Reginald succeeded to Belton, where he had held a virgate of land in his father's lifetime.¹³ He lost his property in England, as a Norman, in 1205,¹⁴ but Alice de Freney, probably holding the manor in dower as widow of William de Freney, leased in that year a carucate of land to Peter de Aslaketon.¹⁵ After her death the manor reverted to the chief lords, and in 1232 Henry III intimated to Peter Fitz Herbert and Isabel his wife, then overlords, that it was his pleasure that they should restore Belton to Henry son of Reginald de Freney.¹⁶ Before 1237 Henry de Freney sold a moiety of the manor of Belton to Hugh de Mortimer, son of Isabel by her former husband Roger de Mortimer.¹⁷ On his death it passed to his mother, who was the tenant in 1244,¹⁸ when Alice, widow of Hugh, sued her mother-in-law for dower in Belton. Alice, however, was required to give an undertaking that if she recovered dower, it should revert to the Crown after the death of Isabel.¹⁹ Isabel died in 1252,²⁰ when the overlordship reverted to the Crown and passed in that year with Oakham (q.v.) to Richard, Earl of Cornwall. The sub-tenancies granted for the life of Isabel probably went to the Earl of Cornwall and were granted out by him.

We find one moiety a few years later in the possession of the Blount family. It is said to have been brought to them by the marriage of Robert le Blount with Isabel, one of the heirs of Sir (William) Odinsells.²¹ There is no contemporary evidence, however, that Robert, who is said to have died in 1288, or his son and successor Ralph ever held Belton.²² The first member of the family who was undoubtedly seised of property in Belton was William le Blount, who in 1270 settled lands and rents, which evidently represented the moiety of the manor, on himself and Isabel his wife and the heirs of their bodies with remainder to Walter le Blount, their younger son.²³ Sir William le Blount, son of Walter, was holding Belton of the Earl of Cornwall in 1300²⁴ and was knight of the shire for Rutland in 1301, 1307 and 1313.²⁵ In 1322 he served against the Scots in the retinue of Henry, Earl of Lancaster.²⁶ He married as his second wife Joan de Soddington and died in 1337. He was succeeded by his brother John le Blount.²⁷ Before 1370



BLOUNT. Barry wavy or and sable.

the moiety of Belton had passed to Alice, daughter of Sir John Blount, and her first husband Richard Stafford.²⁸ In 1393 Alice and her second husband, Sir Richard Stury, settled Belton on themselves and the heirs of their bodies, with remainder to Elizabeth le Blount for life and then to Sir Walter Blount, kt., and his son John, who were cousins of the Soddington (co. Worc.) branch of the family.²⁹ Alice died in 1415, leaving no children. The manor, however, had been granted by Richard Dudley and John Lovedale, probably feoffees, to Sir Walter le Blount (d. 1403) in the reign of Richard II.³⁰ Sir Walter was succeeded by his son Sir John le Blount of Soddington,³¹ whose brother Thomas was lord of the manor in 1428.³² He was succeeded by his son Walter le Blount, who in 1465 was created Lord Mountjoy,³³ but Belton seems to have come into the hands of John Elryngton and his wife Margaret, against whom his younger son John, the third Lord Mountjoy, brought an action for its recovery in 1476.³⁴ His successors³⁵ held the manor until 1557, when James, sixth Lord Mountjoy, sold it to Thomas Haselwood,³⁶ at one time keeper of Leighfield Forest, under the Earl of Huntingdon.³⁷ On his death in 1559³⁸ the manor passed to his son

III, no. 60; Chant. Cert. (P.R.O.), 25, no. 20. There has been much confusion regarding the pedigree of the Blounts of Belton in most of the Peerages.

²⁰ Feet of F. Div. Cos. Trin. 17 Ric. II.

²¹ Wrottesley, op. cit. 438.

²² Chan. Inq. p.m. 5 Hen. V, file 8, no. 27.

²³ Feud. Aids, iv, 212.

²⁴ G.E.C. Complete Peerage, v, 398; Pat. R. 5 Edw. IV, pt. 1, m. 6.

²⁵ De Banco R. no. 857, m. 424.

²⁶ Cal. Inq. Hen. VII, i, no. 240; Feet of F. Div. Cos. Trin. 24 Hen. VIII; Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), lviii, 63; H. R. Moulton's Catalogue of Deeds, p. 68.

²⁷ Feet of F. Div. Cos. East. 3-4 Phil. & M. Thomas Haselwood held lands in the parish some twenty years earlier (Moulton, op. cit. p. 67).

²⁸ P.C.C. 8 Loftes.

²⁹ M.I., Wright, op. cit. p. 23; P.C.C. 18 Chaynay.

⁴ P.C.C. 48 Fenner. He was the son of Thomas Haselwood (d. 1559).

⁵ Parl. Writs (Rec. Com.); Chan. Misc. bdle. 2, no. 39, m. 8.

⁶ V.C.H. Rutl. i, 140.

⁷ Cal. Inq. iii, no. 604; ibid. Misc. ii, 1703; Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), cclxxxii, 24.

⁸ Exch. Eccles. Doc. (P.R.O.), bdle. 2, no. 9.

⁹ V.C.H. Rutl. i, 159.

¹⁰ Bk. of Fees (P.R.O.), i, 619; Cal. Inq. Misc. ii, no. 1703; Feet of F. Div. Cos. Mich. 44 Edw. III, no. 60.

¹¹ Pipe Roll Soc. xi, 124; xxv, 55; xvii, 53; N.S. vi, 106; vii, 228.

¹² Exch. Eccles. Doc. loc. cit.

¹³ Ibid.

¹⁴ Cal. Pat. R. 1225-32, p. 478.

¹⁵ Rot. de Oblat. et Fin. 247; Pipe R. 7 John, m. 5 d.

¹⁶ Cal. Pat. R. 1225-32, p. 478.

¹⁷ Red Bk. of Exch. (Rolls Ser.), 805; Bk. of Fees (P.R.O.), i, 619; ii, 1151.

¹⁸ Ibid. She is here called the wife of Hugh instead of mother.

¹⁹ Cal. Close R. 1242-47, p. 239.

²⁰ Ibid. 1251-53, p. 82.

²¹ Alex. Croke, *Hist. of the Fam. of Croke*, i, 108. None of the sisters and co-heirs of Edmund de Odinsells bore the name of Isabel and no evidence has been found that he held Belton (Wrottesley, *Ped. from Plea R.* 544).

²² Croke, loc. cit.

²³ Feet of F. Rutl. case 192, file 3, no. 73. For descent of this branch of the Blount family, see *V.C.H. Worc.* iii, 154.

²⁴ Cal. Inq. iii, no. 604, p. 474.

²⁵ Parl. Writs (Rec. Com.).

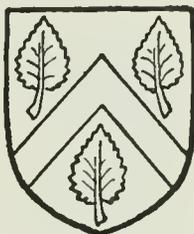
²⁶ Cal. Pat. R. 1321-24, p. 268; Chan. Misc. bdle. 2, no. 39, m. 11.

²⁷ Cal. Inq. viii, 115.

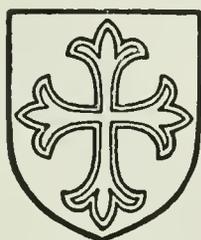
²⁸ Feet of F. Div. Cos. Mich. 44 Edw.

Francis, who married Anne daughter of Paul Dayrell of Lillingstone Dayrell (co. Bucks).³⁹ The Haselwoods were people of considerable wealth and Francis's household at Belton contained some forty people. His demesne lands were insufficient for his household needs and he annexed the lands of several farms at Belton. For his action in the matter he was sued by John Dive of Ridlington Park Lodge, who had recently become a tenant at Belton.⁴⁰ The evidence showed, however, that Haselwood had improved his property, building new houses and adding land to some of his farms.⁴¹

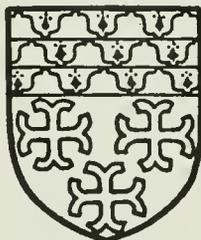
Francis Haselwood died in 1604 leaving his son Thomas, a minor, as his heir,⁴² but the manor was held for life by his widow Anne, who married Christopher Beane.⁴³ In 1612 Christopher and Anne leased the manor for 40 years, should Anne live so long, to William Rolfe and George Burrowes.⁴⁴ The next year the lessees assigned the lease to George Boteler of Leigh Lodge, and it appears that the manor was charged with an annuity of £40 payable to Sir Thomas Dayrell of Lillingstone Dayrell.⁴⁵ On succeeding his mother, apparently in 1613 or 1614, Thomas Haselwood



HASELWOOD. *Argent a cheveron between three bazel leaves vert.*



PILKINGTON. *Azure a cross paty voided argent.*



VERNEY. *Argent three millrind crosses gules and a chief vairy ermine and sable.*

seems to have renewed the lease of the manor to George Boteler.⁴⁶ His lands were sequestrated under the Commonwealth for recusancy,⁴⁷ but Boteler in 1650 petitioned to have the manor of Belton released as he had been in possession of it for many years.⁴⁸ Haselwood had no sons and his co-heirs were Elizabeth, the wife of George Pilkington of Stanton le Dale (co. Derb.), and another daughter, probably Jane, wife of Robert Smyth. These latter in the same year had released the manor to Thomas Waite, with

warranty against the heirs of Jane.⁴⁹ George Pilkington died in 1658,⁵⁰ but his widow Elizabeth survived him and was apparently living in 1672.⁵¹ After the Restoration, the Pilkingtons evidently recovered Belton, since Haselwood, son of Elizabeth, died there in 1661⁵² and his brother Thomas, with other members of the family,⁵³ levied various fines of the manor, presumably to secure peaceful possession from the various claimants to ownership.⁵⁴ After 1672 Thomas seems to have sold the manor to Richard Verney, who was lord of the manor in 1684.⁵⁵ Verney was knighted in 1685 and successfully claimed the barony of Willoughby de Broke in 1695.⁵⁶ He was a learned antiquary of some repute: 'a true lover of antiquities and a worthy Mecænas.'⁵⁷ Before 1775 the manor had come into the hands of George, Earl of Winchelsea and Nottingham,⁵⁸ who died in 1826.⁵⁹ Belton, like Burley (q.v.), passed to George Finch, who died in 1870.⁶⁰ His son, George Henry Finch, M.P. (d. 1907), succeeded him and his grandson,⁶¹ Alan George Finch of Burley-on-the-Hill, is the present lord of the manor.

The second moiety of the manor of Belton, which seems to have reverted to the Crown after the death of Isabel de Mortimer, the overlord, in 1252, was possibly represented by the lands which we find in the possession of the two co-heirs, Emma the wife of Nicholas de Brimminghurst and Isabel wife of John de Beyvill, who, in 1285-6, quitclaimed 2 messuages and 2 virgates of land in Belton to Peter le Venur.⁶² This, however, would not represent the whole of the moiety.⁶³ Peter was living in 1324,⁶⁴ but before 1340 had been succeeded by Theobald le Venur, who held half a knight's fee in Belton valued at 100s., William le Blount holding an exactly similar amount.⁶⁵ Theobald possibly held only as a guardian, since the Beyvills continued to have land in Belton. In 1386, John, son of John Beyville, alienated the lands in Belton, which he had inherited on the death of his father, to certain feoffees.^{65a} This perhaps was the sale of the moiety of the manor, or Beyvill's share of it, to Alice Blount, who obtained the whole manor before 1393.⁶⁶ After this date the moieties, being united, followed the same descent.

The Priory of St. Mary at Brooke had lands in Belton, 5 bovates of which were granted to them by Ralph de Freney in the 12th century.⁶⁷ They were alienated, after the Dissolution, with the other possessions of the priory in 1536 to Anthony Cope.⁶⁸ Lands in Belton, which had belonged to St. Michael's Priory, Stamford, Oulston Priory, Lincolnshire, and the Priory of Launde, Leicestershire, were sold in 1553 to Thomas Brown and William Breton of London.⁶⁹ The possessions of the hospitals of St. Lazarus and

³⁹ Moulton, op. cit. p. 68; *Visit. Rutl.* (Harl. Soc.) (1618-19), p. 44. His wife Clemencia had a life interest in the manor. In his will he is described as of Ridlington Park (P.C.C. 18 Chaynay).

⁴⁰ Moulton, loc. cit.; Exch. Dep. by Com. Rutl. Mich. 39-40 Eliz. no. 13.

⁴¹ *Ibid.*

⁴² Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), cclxxxii, 24.

⁴³ Moulton, loc. cit.

⁴⁴ Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 10 Jas. I.

⁴⁵ Moulton, loc. cit. A Thomas Haselwood, lessee of the Mill, may have been the brother of Francis (*ibid.*).

⁴⁶ Recov. R. Mich. 11 Jas. I, m. 19 (2). Thomas Haselwood married Jane Boteler or Butler.

⁴⁷ *Cal. of Com. for Comp.* p. 2633.

⁴⁸ *Ibid.*

⁴⁹ *Visit. Rutl.* loc. cit.; Nichols, *Hist. of Leic.* iii, 650; Feet of F. Rutl. East. 1650.

⁵⁰ Blore's Notes to James Wright, *Hist. and Antiq. of Rutl.* p. 82-3 (B.M. c. 59, n. 14).

⁵¹ Feet of F. Rutl. East. 24 Chas. II.

⁵² Blore's Notes, loc. cit.

⁵³ *Ibid.*

⁵⁴ Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 15 Chas. II; Hil. 15-16 Chas. II; East. 24 Chas. II.

⁵⁵ Wright, op. cit. 22.

⁵⁶ G.E.C. *Complete Peerage*, viii, 152.

⁵⁷ Wright, loc. cit.

⁵⁸ Recov. R. Mich. 15 Geo. III, ro. 289.

⁵⁹ G.E.C. op. cit. 181.

⁶⁰ Burke, *Landed Gentry*, 1906.

⁶¹ *Ibid.*

⁶² Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 14 Edw. I, no. 13.

⁶³ Cf. *ibid.* case 192, file 3, no. 73 (William le Blount made a settlement of 19 virgates of land in 1270).

⁶⁴ Add. Ch. (B.M.) 5435.

⁶⁵ *Cal. Inq. Misc.* ii, no. 1703.

^{65a} De Banco R. 503 (D. Enr.), m. 1.

⁶⁶ Feet of F. Div. Cos. Trin. 17 Ric. II.

⁶⁷ Exch. Eccles. Doc. (P.R.O.), bdle. 2, no. 9; Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 40 Hen. III, no. 50.

⁶⁸ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xi, g. 519 (13).

⁶⁹ *Valor Eccles.* (Rec. Com.), iv, 153; *Cal. Pat. R.* 1553, 159.

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

St. Giles in Burton Lazars were granted in 1544 to Sir John Dudley, Viscount Lisle.⁷⁰

In 1330 a fair was granted to William le Blount and his heirs to be held in the manor of Belton yearly on the vigil and day of St. James the Apostle.⁷¹ In 1332 the fair was extended to three days.⁷²

A mill is mentioned in 1270 among the properties at Belton settled on William le Blount and his wife Isabel.⁷³ Three mills are mentioned as appurtenant to the manor in 1650⁷⁴ and two in 1663.⁷⁵ A windmill was sold with other property in Belton in 1680 by Richard Verney and his wife Frances to Baptist, Lord Campden.⁷⁶

The church of *ST. PETER* consists **CHURCH** of chancel, 20 ft. by 16 ft., with modern vestry and organ-chamber on the north side, clearstoried nave 45 ft. by 18 ft., south aisle 12 ft. 6 in. wide, south porch, and west tower 9 ft. 3 in. square, all these measurements being internal. The width across nave and aisle is 33 ft. 9 in.

There was formerly a north aisle, but the church is said to have been partially destroyed by fire some time before the 14th century, and the aisle, with its arcade, was not rebuilt. The remaining south arcade is the oldest part of the church, dating from c. 1190, but nothing else of this period has survived, with the possible exception of the lower part of the walls of the chancel, where at sill level there is a string-course chamfered on both edges. The south doorway and a lancet window at the west end of the north wall of the nave are of 13th-century date, but if the former north arcade was set out like that opposite, the window cannot be in its original position. In the 14th century a great reconstruction appears to have taken place, the south aisle being rebuilt and probably widened, the old doorway being re-used, a clearstory erected on this side and the porch added. The tower is an addition or rebuilding of the 15th century, in which period too the upper part of the walls of the chancel was rebuilt and a buttress added on its south-east angle. The western part of the south aisle was rebuilt, or refaced in ashlar, in the late 16th or early 17th century, but with this exception all the walling is of rubble.

The chancel⁷⁷ has a stone-slatted eaved roof, but there are straight moulded parapets to the aisle and porch. The low-pitched roof of the nave is leaded and overhangs. There was an extensive restoration of the building in 1897-8, when the organ-chamber was added. With the exception of the tower all the walls are plastered internally. The roofs are modern.

The chancel has a 15th-century east window of four cinquefoiled lights, and a priest's doorway on the south side with four-centred moulded head. West of the doorway is a modern two-light window. The later walling above the string is reduced in thickness. The piscina is coeval with the earlier walling and has a pointed recess with chamfered hood and circular bowl. In the north wall is a rectangular aumbry and further west a modern arch to the organ-chamber and vestry.

There is no arch between the chancel and the nave, its place being taken by a modern arched oak beam on stone corbels. There is a modern oak screen. The floor of the chancel is level with that of the nave.

The late 12th-century nave arcade consists of four semicircular arches of two chamfered orders springing from short⁷⁸ octagonal piers and similar responds, with moulded bases and large moulded octagonal capitals. The arches have chamfered hood-moulds without stops on the nave side only. The capitals vary in design and the bases of the eastern respond and of the first pier are mutilated. The mutilated capital of the eastern respond has good conventional stiff-leaf foliage, but those of the first pier from the east and of the western respond are without ornament. The capitals of the middle and western piers are carved on the north and south sides with rude masks between the upper member and the neck-band.

The 13th-century window in the nave is a trefoiled lancet,⁷⁹ and the south doorway has a pointed arch of two continuous moulded orders and hood with head-stops. In the usual position in the aisle is a trefoil-headed piscina, the bowl of which has in the centre a semi-human head with ass-like ears and protruding tongue, the orifices being on either side.^{79a} In the same wall further west is a wide tomb recess with plain two-centred chamfered arch. The east window of the aisle, and two in the south wall east of the porch, are of 14th-century date, that next the porch of two and the others of three lights, all with tracery and hood-moulds. The aisle has diagonal angle buttresses and a string at sill level east of the porch. At the west end, as already stated, the walling is of ashlar, and the windows, one in the west and one in the south wall, are plain square-headed openings of three and two lights respectively, with moulded string-course above. There are three modern windows in the north wall of the nave, but the blocked doorway appears to belong to the 14th-century rebuilding. The three south clearstory windows are square-headed and of two trefoiled lights.

The porch has been considerably repaired and contains little old work.⁸⁰ The outer doorway is of two continuous chamfered orders and hood with head-stops; above it in the gable is a sundial.

The tower is of three stages with moulded plinth, battlemented parapet and small clasping angle buttresses stopping at the middle of the upper stage. The bottom stage is blank on the north and south, but has a pointed west window of two trefoiled lights. There is a single-light trefoiled window on the south side of the middle stage, and the bell-chamber has tall pointed transomed windows of two trefoiled lights with quatrefoil in the head. Below the parapet is a band of traceried panelling,⁸¹ and at the angles big gargoyles. The vice is in the south-west angle. The arch to the nave is of two chamfered orders⁸² with hood-mould, the inner order on half-round responds with moulded capitals and tall bases.

The 13th-century font consists of a circular bowl

⁷⁰ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xix (1), g. 610 (8).

⁷¹ *Cal. Chart. R.* iv, 178.

⁷² *Ibid.* 270.

⁷³ Feet of F. Rutl. case 192, file 3, no. 73.

⁷⁴ *Ibid.* (bdle. 589), East. 1650.

⁷⁵ *Ibid.* (bdle. 711), Trin. 15 Chas. II.

⁷⁶ *Ibid.* Trin. 32 Chas. II.

⁷⁷ Presentments were made from 1570 to 1613 that the chancel was out of

repair and windows and roof required mending by default of Lord Cromwell or the Crown (Irons' Notes, Archd. Visit.).

⁷⁸ The arches spring at a height of about 6 ft. above the floor; the diameter of the piers is 22 in.

⁷⁹ The opening is 12 in. wide.

^{79a} One of the stops of the external hood-mould of the window immediately

above the piscina is carved with a head of similar type.

⁸⁰ The moulded parapets of the side walls are apparently of the same build as the west part of the aisle.

⁸¹ Quatrefoils set diagonally on the south and east, circles on the north, and diagonal trefoils on the west.

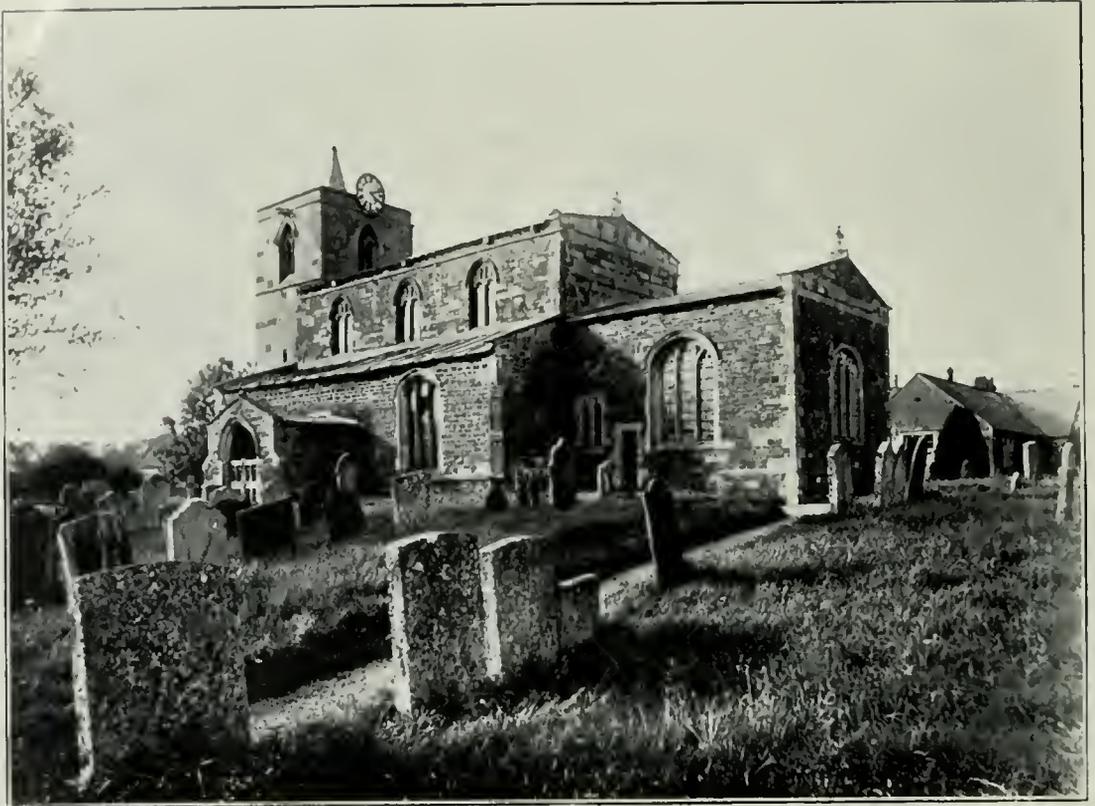
⁸² Facing west there are three orders, the two outer dying into the wall.



BELTON CHURCH FROM THE EAST



BRAUNSTON : STONE FIGURE IN CHURCHYARD



BRAUNSTON CHURCH FROM THE SOUTH-EAST



BRAUNSTON CHURCH : THE INTERIOR, LOOKING EAST

and cylindrical stem, but of the supporting shafts only the capitals and bases remain. The pointed arcading and bold dog-tooth ornament of the bowl are badly mutilated.

The pulpit and seating⁸³ are modern. The modern altar is of a somewhat elaborate character, the front being of wood inlaid with mother-of-pearl, ebony and ivory. The wooden reredos and organ-case are illuminated in gold and colours. There is a good 17th-century oak communion table at the east end of the aisle.

In the chancel floor, north of the altar, is an alabaster slab with incised effigies of Thomas Haselwood (d. 1559) and Clemence his wife. The man is in armour and the hands of the woman are uplifted; their eight children are also represented.⁸⁴ Inserted in the wall near by are two 16th-century shields with the arms of Haselwood.⁸⁵

Of later memorials the oldest is one in the nave to George (d. 1700) and Thomas Mairston (d. 1715), the latter of whom left the interest of £10 to be distributed to the poor in bread yearly on St. Thomas's Day.

A lych-gate was erected at the south-east entrance of the churchyard in 1911.

There are six bells by Gillett and Johnston of Croydon, cast in 1911.⁸⁶

The plate consists of a paten of 1637 with scalloped edges and two fluted ears for handles; a cup and cover paten of 1715-16; a flagon of 1764 inscribed 'The gift of Mrs. Catharine Roberts, youngest daughter of the Rev. Mr. Rowland Roberts⁸⁷ and Catharine his wife 1764'; and a cup and paten of 1845-6 inscribed 'Belton Church The gift of the Venerable Archdeacon Pott, A.D. 1845.'⁸⁸

The registers before 1812 are as follows: (i) all entries, 1577-1653; (ii) 1653-90; (iii) 1690-1739; (iv) 1740-86; (v) marriages, 1754-95; (vi) baptisms and burials, 1787-1812; and (vii) marriages, 1796-1812.

The chapel of St. Peter at Belton *ADVOUWSON* was in existence in the latter part of the 11th century and was then attached to the church of Wardley. It is mentioned in the charters relating to Wardley of William the Conqueror and Henry II.⁸⁹ The patronage has passed to the present day as a chapelry or vicarage belonging to Wardley (q.v.).⁹⁰

In 1609 the rectorial tithes of Belton were severed from Wardley and were held of the king by Francis Morrice and Francis Phelps, for the rent of £6 10s.⁹¹ Morrice and Phelps sold them to George Boteler, who immediately enfeoffed George Marston, yeoman, and his heirs.⁹² Marston died seised of the rectory in

1638, his heir being his son Thomas, a minor.⁹³ Thomas died at Belton in 1702, having purchased other property in Belton, and was succeeded by his grandson, George Marston, who was sheriff of Rutland in 1731.⁹⁴ On his death in the following year, he was succeeded by his surviving son George, who owned the rectory at his death in 1771.⁹⁵ It passed to John Loake and his wife Jane, possibly the sister and heir of George Marston, who were the owners in 1779.⁹⁶ Francis Chesilden and Francis Kemp were the joint owners of the rectory in 1794.⁹⁷ At that date, when the parish was inclosed by Act of Parliament, all tithes were commuted for an allotment of land.⁹⁸ It may be noticed that East Mickling, a meadow which had belonged to the rectory, was then in the ownership of William Kemp.⁹⁹ In 1846 the land allotted for tithes was owned by John Engleton and one Bishop.¹⁰⁰ In 1862 the rectory belonged to the Corporation of Lincoln,¹⁰¹ and since 1874 has belonged to the Bishop of Peterborough.

There is a Baptist chapel in the village built in 1843.

The United Charities are regulated *CHARITIES* by a scheme of the Charity Commissioners dated 16 March 1926 and comprise the following charities:—

Poor's Land.—By a decree of the Commissioners of Charitable Uses dated 25 October 1688, 34 acres of land in the parish of Leighfield, known as Fair Ash Sale, were assigned, together with several sums of money, for the relief and maintenance of the poor. The endowment now consists of Fair Ash Sale, rented at £20 per annum, and £400 2½ per cent. Consolidated Stock producing £10 per annum.

Duke of Buckingham's charity, founded by deed dated 7 February 1651, consists of a rent-charge of £10 issuing out of 2 pieces of land called Stockwood and Huntswood in the parish of Leighfield.

John Neale, by his will proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury on 9 April 1842, gave an annuity of £5 to be distributed in bread to the poor. The testator's estate being insufficient to pay the charge in full, an order of the court reduced the payment to £1 11s. 2d. The endowment now consists of £53 7s. 9d. 2½ per cent. Consolidated Stock producing £1 6s. 8d. per annum.

James Neal York, by his will proved in the Principal Registry 27 December 1882, gave to the vicar and churchwardens of Belton £100 to be invested in Consols, the income to be distributed in bread to the poor. The endowment consists of £97 18s. 3d. 2½ per cent. Consolidated Stock producing £2 8s. 8d. per annum.

The trustees of the United Charities are the vicar

⁸³ The seating dates from 1898, when it replaced box pews introduced in 1841.

⁸⁴ An inscription round the border reads: 'Here lyeth the Body of Thomas Haselwood Esquire and Clemence his wyffe which Thomas departed xx day of December in the year of our Lord God M.DLIX and the said Clemence departed the . . . day of . . . in the year of our Lord God MD . . . upon whose souls God have mercy Amen' (Wright, *Hist. of Rutl.* 23).

⁸⁵ The shields are alike and are probably from the sides or ends of a Haselwood monument. The arms are: Argent a chevron gules between three owls sable with three lozenges ermine on the chevron and a chief azure with three sprigs of hazel or therein, for Haselwood

of Maidwell, co. Northants; impaling a chevron between three squirrels, a molet for difference. But Haselwood of Belton proved the arms figured above at the visitation of Rutland in 1618.

⁸⁶ The four old bells, dated respectively 1730, 1681, 1695 and 1660, were then recast and two trebles added. For inscriptions on old bells see North, *Cb. Bells of Rutl.* 121. Order at Visitation of 1681 for bells to be recast and new hung (Irons' Notes, Archd. Visit.).

⁸⁷ There is a memorial in the nave to the Rev. Rowland Roberts (d. 1720), and one in the aisle to his son the Rev. Thomas Roberts (d. 1762) and daughter Catharine (d. 1764), the donor of the flagon.

⁸⁸ Hope, *Cb. Plate in Rutl.* 21.

⁸⁹ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 133; Dugdale, *Mon. Anl.* i, 301.

⁹⁰ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), xciv, 45; Inst. Bks. (P.R.O.), 1638, 1660, 1666, 1682, 1690, 1724, 1762, 1811.

⁹¹ Blore's Notes to James Wright, *Hist. and Antiq. of Rutl.* (B.M.), c. 59, p. 14.

⁹² *Ibid.*

⁹³ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), cccclxxxviii, 47.

⁹⁴ Blore's Notes, loc. cit.

⁹⁵ *Ibid.*

⁹⁶ Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 19 Geo. III.

⁹⁷ Priv. Act of Parl. 34 Geo. III, c. 79.

⁹⁸ *Ibid.*

⁹⁹ *Ibid.*

¹⁰⁰ White, op. cit. 1846.

¹⁰¹ *Ibid.* 1862.

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

of Belton, *ex officio*, 3 representative trustees appointed by the parish council and 3 co-optative trustees. The net income of the charities is applied for the general benefit of the poor.

Church Land.—By an inclosure award, dated 15 October 1900, a piece of land, 1 acre 21 poles, was allotted to the churchwardens of Belton, no trusts being declared. The land has been sold and the endowment now consists of £100 New South Wales 5½ per cent. Inscribed Stock, 1947–57, producing £5 5s. per annum. The income has always been applied for purposes of the church.

Orlando Green, by his will proved at the Principal Registry on 11 May 1905, gave the proceeds of the sale of real estate (subject to a life interest) to trustees (vicar and 2 workmen) to be invested and the income to be applied primarily for a poor and deserving young couple about to be or who had been married in the parish church, who intend to reside in the parish, and who were, or one of whom was, born in the parish. Any income not so applied in any year to be equally divided between families of the labouring classes. The endowment of the charity now consists of £554 1s. 6d. New Zealand 5 per cent. Inscribed Stock, 1935–45, producing £27 14s. per annum. The

charity is administered by a body of trustees appointed by a scheme of the Charity Commissioners dated 31 January 1919, and the income is applied in accordance with the trusts.

The Rev. F. D. Hall, by a declaration of trust dated 17 December 1927, gave the sum of £129 12s. 11d. 3½ per cent. Conversion Stock, the dividends to be applied by the Belton church council in augmentation of the organist's salary. The stock produces £4 10s. 8d. per annum.

The Rev. Abraham Jobson's Charity.—The trusts of the charity are set out in a letter dated 30 January 1824 signed by the Rev. A. Jobson, who gave £100 3 per cent. Reduced Annuities and directed the interest thereon to be applied in the purchase of Bibles, Testaments and prayer books and thereafter school books, sold by the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, for the poor of Wardley and Belton. The charity is administered by the vicar and churchwardens of Belton and the endowment now consists of £100 2½ per cent. Consolidated Stock producing £2 10s. annually in dividends which are applied in accordance with the trusts.

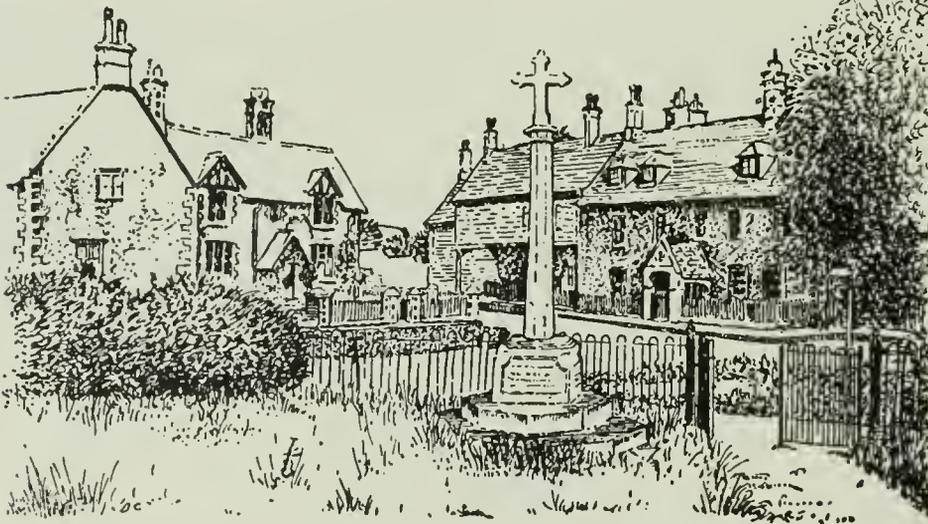
The several sums of stock are with the official trustees.

BRAUNSTON

Brantesdon, Brautesdon, Braunston (xiii cent.).

The parish of Braunston comprises 1,577 acres and adjoins Leicestershire on its western boundary. It is on high land which falls from the north, where it reaches a height of over 600 ft. above the Ordnance datum, to the River Gwash in the south, which is some

Station on the London Midland and Scottish Railway. As is frequently the case in the county, the main part of the village is grouped in and around a rough rectangular figure. The cottages are of stone with thatch or stone roofs; a few are built of brick with tiled roofs. There are several farm houses in



BRAUNSTON WAR MEMORIAL

the village, one with a stone dated 1660, another with a modern stone tablet with the inscription 'Cheseldyne Farm 1604.' The church and Manor House, which was rebuilt in 1863, are in the south of the village. Near the Manor House is a small Georgian house, possibly the

200 ft. to 250 ft. lower. The soil is clay and the sub-soil Middle and Lower Lias, and nearly the whole of the parish is pasture land.

The village, which is crossed by the road from Oakham into Leicestershire with a branch to Brooke and other places, lies on the north side of the Gwash near its source and 2½ miles west-south-west of Oakham

old manor house, which has a wing with a late 13th or early 14th century two-light window in the gable.

An old sunken road, known as Old Leicester Lane, crosses the parish,¹ while to the north of the Gwash, not far from the village, there are traces of entrenchments.² Braunston parish was formerly within the bounds of Leighfield Forest and gave its name to one

¹ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 118.

² *Ibid.*

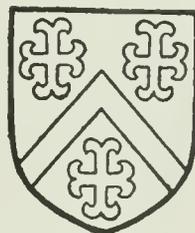
of the forest bailiwicks.³ The parish was inclosed in 1801 by private Act of Parliament.⁴ The Whisp, a piece of land on the western boundary, is mentioned in 1299 and contained, in 1584, 14 acres of wood and pasture. It was settled on Bastin Burton of Oakham, in trust for the freeholders of Braunston, who had common in the parish, for certain charitable purposes.⁵

The manor of *BRAUNSTON* is not *MANORS* mentioned by name in 1086 in the

Domesday Survey, but was presumably included amongst the berewicks dependent on the manor of Hambleton,⁶ since the chapelry of Braunston (q.v.) was later dependent on the church of Hambleton. The manor, however, was afterwards transferred to the Soke of Oakham, which consisted of the Rutland manors and townships held of the barony of Oakham. Walchelin de Ferrers was holding it in 1167.⁷ Braunston was held of the lords of Oakham⁸ by the service due from one knight's fee.

In the 12th century the greater part of Braunston was subinfeudated and was known as the manor of *BRAUNSTON*. The first sub-tenant whose name appears is Nicholas Meynil, who in 1204 either forfeited his lands or had died. The lands, valued at 8 librates, were granted by the king in that year to Hamo Falconer⁹ and in 1215 to William de Ferrers.¹⁰ These grants disseised Gilbert de Meynil, presumably the heir of Nicholas, and in 1216 or 1217 he brought an action against Hamo Falconer and recovered the manor,¹¹ while Hamo was ordered to answer for his action in deceiving the king as to the title to Braunston. Sir Gilbert de Meynil was living in 1248,¹² but in 1261 the manor had passed to two Meynil heiresses, probably his daughters, Isabel, the wife of William de Rues, and Lucy de Meynil. William and Isabel sold their moiety of the manor and all claim to Lucy's land in Braunston to Peter de Nevill.¹³ Nevill presumably had seisin of Lucy's land also, since he certainly obtained the whole manor.¹⁴ In 1268 Richard, the king's brother, claimed certain lands in Braunston, probably those of Lucy de Meynil, and though Nevill resisted on the ground that Richard had not been in seisin at the beginning of the war, the decision went against him.¹⁵ Lucy's lands appear to have escheated to the lord of Oakham before 1284, when they were in the hand of Robert de Typaco by the king's grant.^{15a} Peter de Nevill gave the manor of Braunston to his son Theobald in 1273, before his outlawry.^{15b} He was dead in 1276, when the manor

was seized by the justices of the forest, but Theobald recovered it¹⁶ and held it till 1305, when he apparently granted it to Walter Langton, Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield.¹⁷ The bishop also obtained a quitclaim of his right in the manor from John, son of Stephen de Nevill.¹⁸ In 1305 Oliver la Zouche appears as the tenant of the knight's fee in Braunston,¹⁹ but by what right he held it does not appear. By 1313 Theobald de Nevill seems to have recovered the manor and granted it in fee tail to Reginald de Warle and his wife Alice²⁰ to hold of him for one rose yearly. In 1316, however, he was returned as tenant,²¹ but he died in August of that year²² and his manor passed to John Hakluyt and his wife Alice, the daughter and heir of Theobald.²³ It was settled on Hakluyt and his wife in 1325.²⁴ Hakluyt died in 1358, leaving his son William as his heir.²⁵ The manor remained in the possession of Alice, who obtained a quitclaim in 1363 from her son William and his heirs of his right in it.²⁶ Before 1366 she married John Wardedieu,²⁷ and in 1370 they settled the manor on themselves for life, and the heirs of their bodies, with remainder to William Hakluyt.²⁸ Alice died in 1371,²⁹ John Wardedieu surviving.³⁰ William Hakluyt seems to have held the manor at his death in 1373, without direct heirs,³¹ but it passed before 1377 to Wardedieu's daughter and heir Elizabeth, then wife of Sir Edward Dalyngrugge.³² In 1382 Dalyngrugge and Elizabeth sold the manor to Sir William de Burgh, one of the judges who forfeited their lands during the political disturbances of the reign,³³ and Theobald Warde, son of Simon Warde,³⁴ who had married Sir William's daughter and heir Amy.³⁵ In 1388 Theobald Warde and Thomas de Ashby were granted the custody of de Burgh's lands in Rutland.³⁶ Theobald died before the autumn of 1392,³⁷ and on William de Burgh's death Braunston passed to Amy, his widow Margery holding a third in dower till her death in 1428.³⁸ Amy was in 1392 the wife of Robert Chesilden,³⁹ and in 1427 she and Robert made a settlement of Margery's third part.⁴⁰ Robert Chesilden was tenant in 1428.⁴¹ Amy died seised of the manor in 1445 and was succeeded by her grandson John, son of John Chesilden,⁴² who is said to have been succeeded by three John



CHESILDEN. *Argent a chevron between three millrind crosses gules.*

³ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1334-38, p. 214; 1413-16, p. 382.

⁴ 41 Geo. III, cap. 84.

⁵ *Sec. Charities.*

⁶ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 140.

⁷ *Pipe R. Soc.* xi, p. 124.

⁸ *Cal. Inq.* iii, no. 604; *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 36 Edw. III (pt. 1), no. 98; 45 Edw. III (1st nos.), no. 54; 6 Hen. VI, no. 34; 23 Hen. VI, no. 14.

⁹ *Rot. Litt. Claus.* (Rec. Com.), i, 9.

¹⁰ *Ibid.* 233.

¹¹ *Ibid.* 347.

¹² *Rot. Rob. Grosseteste* (Cant. and York Soc.), 219-40.

¹³ Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 46 Hen. III, no. 54.

¹⁴ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1272-81, p. 143.

¹⁵ *Abbrev. Plac.* (Rec. Com.), 176.

^{15a} P.R.O. Mins. Accts. bdlc. 964, no. 1.

^{15b} *Cal. Inq. Misc.* i, no. 984.

¹⁶ *Cal. Close R.* 1272-79, p. 222; *Cal. Pat. R.* 1272-81, p. 143.

¹⁷ *Cal. Inq.* iii, no. 604; Feet of F. Rutl. East. 33 Edw. I, no. 42.

¹⁸ *Ibid.* no. 43.

¹⁹ *Feud. Aids*, iv, p. 206.

²⁰ Feet of F. Div. Cos. Hil. 7 Edw. II no. 93; see p. 16, n. 47.

²¹ *Feud. Aids*, iv, p. 207.

²² *Cal. Fine R.* ii, pp. 295-6.

²³ *Ibid.* 379.

²⁴ Feet of F. Div. Cos. East. 18 Edw. II, no. 56.

²⁵ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 36 Edw. III (pt. 1), no. 98.

²⁶ *Cal. Close R.* 1360-64, p. 328; De Banco R. 425, m. 198.

²⁷ *Ibid.*

²⁸ Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 44 Edw. III, no. 60.

²⁹ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 45 Edw. III (1st nos.), no. 54. The heir was her son, William Hakluyt.

³⁰ *Cal. Close R.* 1369-74, p. 247.

³¹ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 47 Edw. III (1st nos.), no. 18.

³² *Plac. in Canc.* (Tower Ser.), no. 20; *Cal. Close R.* 1381-5, p. 95.

³³ *Foss. Lives of the Judges*, iv, 3-4.

³⁴ Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 6 Ric. II, no. 3; *Cal. Close R.* 1381-5, p. 95.

³⁵ Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 22 Ric. II, no. 27. The name is sometimes misread as Anne.

³⁶ *Cal. Fine R.* 1383-91, p. 231.

³⁷ *Cal. Close R.* 1392-96, p. 4.

³⁸ Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 6 Hen. VI, no. 2; *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 6 Hen. VI, no. 34.

³⁹ *Cal. Close R.* 1392-96, p. 4. She appears to have had no children by her first husband.

⁴⁰ Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 6 Hen. VI, no. 2.

⁴¹ *Feud. Aids*, iv, p. 212.

⁴² *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 23 Hen. VI, no. 14.

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Chesildens in succession.⁴³ Edward Chesilden, son of the fourth John, died seised of Braunston in 1549 and was succeeded by his son, George Chesilden,⁴⁴ and grandson, Kenelm, who died in 1596. Edward son of Kenelm died in 1642⁴⁵ and was succeeded by his son Kenelm, who owned the manor in 1655.⁴⁶ Kenelm Chesilden and his son Thomas apparently conveyed the manor in that year to William Whitby or Welby,⁴⁷ who, with William Clark and Stephen Chesilden, sold it in 1668 to Giles Burton.⁴⁸ In 1682 Burton and his son Giles sold it to Richard Burneby.⁴⁹ In 1711, however, Gustavus Browne and his wife quitclaimed a moiety of the manor to Benjamin Browne,⁵⁰ and in 1713 Orlando Browne and Gustavus and his wife quitclaimed the whole manor to the heirs of Benjamin.⁵¹ In 1742 the owner was Orlando Browne, who seems to have had a son or grandson of the same name,⁵² described as of Braunston, who died in 1794, aged 37.⁵³ In 1801 the manor was in the possession of George (Finch), Earl of Winchelsea and Nottingham, and his manorial rights were said to extend over the whole parish.⁵⁴ Since this date the manor has passed with that of Burley (q.v.), Mr. Wilfred H. M. Finch being the present owner.

Richard de Braunston, living in 1166-7,⁵⁵ is the first recorded tenant of another manor of *BRAUNSTON*. Reginald, son of Robert de Braunston, and benefactor of Brooke Priory,⁵⁶ may be identified with the Reginald who in 1202 recovered 3 virgates in Braunston.⁵⁷ In 1313 Hugh de Braunston or Bradewell and his wife Alice settled 5 virgates on their son Hugh known as Hugh de Swaffield.⁵⁸ On the death of the younger Hugh before 1365 his estate passed to Hugh son of Hugh de Swaffield (living 1332) and grandson of Hugh de Bradewell who held lands in Braunston in 1311.^{58a}

It is uncertain if this was the manor known as *THE HALL* which later belonged to the Swaffields. In 1300 William atte Halle held 5 virgates of the castle of Oakham at a rent of 28s. 8d.,^{58b} and a Hugh atte Hall was living in 1365.^{58c} William Swaffield of Braunston, mentioned in 1394, was one of the keepers of the peace in the county in 1434.⁵⁹ Thomas Swaffield died seised of the manor in 1519 and was succeeded by his sons Simon (d. 1537) and Robert.⁶⁰ In 1588 Augustus Swaffield and his wife Philippa sold the manor to Sir Andrew Noel,⁶¹ to whom Augustus junior, his son, quitclaimed it ten years later.⁶² Noel and Swaffield, jun., sold it in 1607 to Augustine Burton,⁶³ a younger son of William Burton, the lord of Brooke manor in

Braunston⁶⁴ (q.v.). Augustine Burton died in 1614 seised of the Hall and other tenements, formerly in the possession of Thomas Swaffield.⁶⁵ By his will, dated 8 March 1614, he left it to his nephew, Sir Thomas Burton, son of his eldest brother John.⁶⁶ Andrew Burton seems to have had the estate in 1680⁶⁷ and William Burton in 1694.⁶⁸

The Priory of St. Mary of Brooke held lands in Braunston, which were known as the manor of *BRAUNSTON* or *BROOKE* manor. In the 12th century, the canons held a bovate of land at a yearly rent of 12d. of Reginald son of Robert de Braunston, lord of Braunston.⁶⁹ Reginald, who, as already stated, was living in 1202,⁷⁰ granted this rent to the sacrist of the priory on condition that the canons maintained certain lamps and candles at specified services.⁷¹ They probably received other grants of land in Braunston, and in 1316 the Prior of Kenilworth, to which house Brooke was subordinate, appears as one of the lords of Braunston.⁷² After the dissolution of the Priory of Brooke in 1534,⁷³ their property in Braunston was granted in 1536 to Anthony Cope to hold in chief of the king.⁷⁴ He sold it in 1544, under the name of the manor of Braunston, to John Burton.⁷⁵ The same property was given by Burton in 1545 to his son and heir William Burton, at the time of the latter's marriage to Alice, daughter of Richard Peck.⁷⁶ Although at the time of John's death in 1553 it was only described as a messuage, with lands and tenements,⁷⁷ it seems clear that it was identical with the manor, which William and Alice settled in 1575.⁷⁸ In 1581 William Burton and his eldest son John and his wife Anne gave the manor to Bartin, William's second son.⁷⁹ Bartin obtained a new crown grant of the manor in 1610, to be held with the rights and liberties which the Priory of Brooke or Abbey of Kenilworth had held.⁸⁰ He died seised of the manor in 1612 and left the manor to his brother Augustine for two and a half years until his son and heir Andrew was of age.⁸¹ Andrew settled the manor in 1623 on his marriage with Anne, daughter of William Fairmedow and grandchild of Cornelius Fische of London.⁸² In 1633 Andrew and his wife Anne alienated it to Richard Warde and his wife



BURTON of Braunston.
*Sable a cheveron between
sbree owls argent crowned
or.*

⁴³ Wright, *Hist. of Rutl.* p. 24.
⁴⁴ *Ibid.*; Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), lxxxix, 122; Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 4 & 5 Eliz. ⁴⁵ M.I.
⁴⁶ H. R. Moulton, *Cat. of Deeds*, p. 68; Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 1655. ⁴⁷ *Ibid.*
⁴⁸ *Ibid.* Trin. 20 Chas. II.
⁴⁹ *Ibid.* Mich. 34 Chas. II.
⁵⁰ *Ibid.* Hil. 10 Anne.
⁵¹ *Ibid.* East. 12 Anne.
⁵² *Recov. R. Trin.* 16 Geo. II, ro. 300.
⁵³ *Musgrave's Obituary* (Harl. Soc.), 278.
⁵⁴ *Priv. Act of Parl.* 41 Geo. III, cap. 84.
⁵⁵ *Pipe R. Soc.* xi, 124.
⁵⁶ Wright, *op. cit.* Additions, 5.
⁵⁷ Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 4 John, no. 10.
⁵⁸ *Ibid.* Hil. 6 Edw. II.
^{58a} *Ibid.* 4 Edw. II; Excheq. Plea R. no. 86, m. 23.
^{58b} *Cal. Inq.* iii, no. 604, p. 461.
^{58c} Excheq. Plea R. no. 86, m. 23.

⁵⁹ *Ibid.* 535, m. 264; *Cal. Pat. R.* 1429-36, p. 370.
⁶⁰ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), xxxiv, 67; lx, 78. The overlordship of the manor is given differently in both inquisitions, but both seem improbable.
⁶¹ Feet of F. Rutl. East. 30 Eliz. On Palm Sunday 1577 at the parish meeting in the chancel of the church of Braunston, William Burton called Augustus Swaffield, the curate, knave and other indecent words. The churchwardens concealed the offence, but reported Augustus Swaffield for giving Simon Burton a stroke on Low Sunday (Irons' Notes, Archd. Visit.).
⁶² Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 40 Eliz.; Chan. Proc. (Ser. ii), bdle. 255, no. 26.
⁶³ Feet of F. Rutl. East. 4 Jas. I.
⁶⁴ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), cccxl, 215.
⁶⁵ *Ibid.* dclxv. 72.
⁶⁶ *Ibid.*

⁶⁷ *Recov. R. Trin.* 1 Will. & M. ro. 98.
⁶⁸ Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 5 Will. & M.
⁶⁹ Wright, *loc. cit.*
⁷⁰ Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 4 John, no. 10.
⁷¹ Wright *loc. cit.*
⁷² *Feud. Aids*, iv, p. 207; *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 159.
⁷³ *Ibid.* 160.
⁷⁴ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xi, g. 519 (13).
⁷⁵ *Ibid.* xix (i), g. 610 (116), p. 384.
⁷⁶ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), ci, 102; *Rutl. Mag.* v, 194, quoting deeds in possession of Lord Gainsborough.
⁷⁷ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), ci, 102.
⁷⁸ Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 17 and 18 Eliz.; *Pat. R.* 19 Eliz. pt. 4.
⁷⁹ Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 23 and 24 Eliz.
⁸⁰ *Pat. R.* 8 Jas. I, pt. 59.
⁸¹ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), cccxl, 215.
⁸² *Rutl. Mag.* v, 194-5.

Bridget, Dabridgecourt Warde and Kenelm Fawkener,⁸³ who sold it in 1636 to Edward, Viscount Campden.⁸⁴ His descendant Henry, Earl of Gainsborough, held the property in 1795,⁸⁵ but it is doubtful whether any manorial rights then actually existed. In 1801, at the time of the inclosure of the parish, Gerard Noel Noel, who had inherited the property of the Earl, appears as a landowner only, while the Earl of Winchelsea claimed the manorial rights over the whole parish.⁸⁶ In 1817, however, it was still called the manor of Braunston in a settlement made by Sir Gerard Noel Noel, bart., and Charles Noel Noel.⁸⁷ The latter was created Earl of Gainsborough,⁸⁸ and his successors held it in 1846 and 1862.⁸⁹

In 1655 and 1668, in conveyances of the manor of Braunston, rights of free warren, court-leet, court-baron, view of frankpledge, waifs and strays, goods and chattels of felons and deadlands are enumerated as appurtenant to the manor.⁹⁰ At no other time were any such privileges claimed. The view of frankpledge was apparently held by the lords of Oakham for the whole soke and, in 1300, 20s. a year was exacted from the soke for the view of frankpledge and 40s. for sheriff's aid.⁹¹

A windmill and a horse-mill were sold with the manor of Braunston, alias the Hall (q.v.), in 1588 by Augustus Swaffield to Sir Andrew Noel⁹² and were bought with it in 1607 by Augustine Burton.⁹³ Another windmill seems to have been bought by Burton in 1613⁹⁴ and was probably the same mill which appears in conveyances in 1694⁹⁵ and 1702.⁹⁶

The church of *ALL SAINTS* consists **CHURCH** of chancel 23 ft. by 17 ft. 6 in., with vestry on the north side, clearstoried nave 41 ft. 8 in. by 17 ft. 6 in., north aisle 9 ft. 6 in. wide, south aisle about 8 ft. wide,⁹⁷ south porch, and west tower 11 ft. square, all these measurements being internal. The tower is surmounted by a short lead-covered spire. The width across nave and aisles is 40 ft.⁹⁸ All the roofs are leaved and of low pitch, with overhanging eaves.

The building is generally of roughly coursed rubble, but has been much restored. The vestry was added about 1860,⁹⁹ and the restoration of the chancel took place in 1887-8,¹ when its south wall was rebuilt. The nave was restored in 1890, the old high closed pews and a west gallery erected in 1791 being then removed. The present seating dates from 1928. The tower is said to have been taken down to its foundations and rebuilt in 1728-9,² but the old materials appear to have been used again.

The earliest work in the building dates from c. 1150, to which period the half-round responds of the chancel arch belong: they have moulded bases and scalloped capitals with square chamfered abaci or impost

continued along the wall on the nave side. The extent of the nave of the 12th century church was probably the same as at present, but in the first half of the 13th century a south aisle was added and the chancel rebuilt as now existing. The south arcade and chancel arch are of this period (c. 1225-30), and the south doorway is also probably contemporary, though in appearance rather earlier in style. At the beginning of the 14th century a north aisle was added to the nave, and about a century later the tower appears to have been erected, followed shortly after by the addition of the clearstory. New windows were inserted in the chancel and south aisle, the east end of the aisle refaced or rebuilt, and the porch added. All this later work apparently extended over a considerable period towards the end of the 14th and the beginning of the 15th century. All the walls are plastered internally.

The chancel has a chamfered plinth, but is without buttresses. At the east end of the north wall is the only remaining 13th-century window, a single lancet,³ the hood of which has notch-stops. The four-centred east window and one in the rebuilt south wall are of three cinquefoiled lights, and there is a square-headed window of two trefoiled lights west of the modern priest's doorway. A round-headed north doorway, now opening into the vestry, may belong to the 12th-century church. The unmoulded trefoiled piscina recess has a slot for a wooden shelf, but the bowl is new; below the south-east window is a rectangular ambry. The chancel arch is of two chamfered orders without hood-mould. The roof is modern, with flat-boarded ceiling.

The nave arcades are of three bays, with pointed arches of two chamfered orders, those of the 13th-century south arcade springing from cylindrical piers with circular moulded capitals and bases, and from similar half-round responds. The arches have plain hood-moulds on each side. The piers and responds of the later north arcade are octagonal, with deeper moulded capitals⁴ and the hood-moulds of the arches have head-stops.

The south doorway is a good example of early 13th-century work, with semicircular arch of two orders, and hood-mould enriched on the underside with a continuous line of dog-tooth. The inner order has a keel-shaped moulding springing from plain chamfered impost on nook-shafts with moulded bases, and simple water-leaf (west) and foliated capitals. There are traces of colour on the wall on either side the opening inside the porch, and a scratch dial at the top of the west jamb.⁵

The south aisle is lighted by two windows in the south wall, one on each side of the porch, that to the east being of three lights similar to those in the

the date is given as 1728. A stone in the top stage bears the initials of the churchwardens and the date 1729. A brief for Branston Church, Rutland (charge £1,157), was received and collected at Hambleton in January 1728. In the middle stage of the tower is inserted a stone with two sets of initials and the date 1615.

³ The opening is 12 in. wide, splaying internally to 3 ft. 6 in. The window is about 6 ft. from the east end.

⁴ The capitals of the south arcade are 12 in. deep, those on the north 16 in. The piers on both sides are 13 in. diameter.

⁵ It is cut on the face of the stone on which the capital of the shaft is carved.

⁸³ Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 9 Chas. I.

⁸⁴ Ibid. Hil. 11 Chas. I.

⁸⁵ Recov. R. Trin. 35 Geo. III, ro. 154;

see also Feet of F. Div. Cos. Mich. 18

Chas. I; Recov. R. Hil. 5 Anne, ro. 14.

⁸⁶ Priv. Act of Parl. 41 Geo. III, cap. 84.

⁸⁷ Recov. R. Hil. 57 Geo. III, ro. 161.

⁸⁸ Complete Peerage (2nd ed.), v, 601-2.

⁸⁹ W. White, *Hist. Gaz. and Directory of Leic. and Rutl.* 1846 and 1862.

⁹⁰ Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 1655; Trin. 20 Chas. II.

⁹¹ Cal. Inq. iii, no. 604.

⁹² Feet of F. Rutl. East. 30 Eliz.

⁹³ Ibid. East. 4 Jas. I.

⁹⁴ Ibid. Mich. 10 Jas. I.

⁹⁵ Ibid. Hil. 5 Will. & M.

⁹⁶ Ibid. Mich. 13 Will. III.

⁹⁷ The south aisle is 8 ft. 9 in. wide at the west end, and 7 ft. 4 in. at the east.

⁹⁸ This is the width at the west end. At the east it is a foot less.

⁹⁹ It is described as 'recently erected' in *Stamford Mercury*, May 22, 1863.

¹ By the Ecclesiastical Commissioners under the direction of Mr. Ewan Christian. Mr. Christian's Report, dated March 30, 1886, describes the east wall as much fractured above and to the south of the window, and the south wall as generally in a bad condition.

² *Leic. and Rutl. N. and Q.* i, 72, where

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chancel, and the other a square-headed window of two trefoiled lights. There is also a single-light trefoiled window of c. 1350 in the west wall, but the east wall is blank. In the north aisle are two 14th-century square-headed windows respectively of three⁶ and two cinquefoiled lights, and west of the blocked doorway a modern window of two lights.⁷ The end walls are blank.

There are three pointed clearstory windows on each side, all of two cinquefoiled lights, with tracery and hood-moulds, and above them a hollow-moulded string. The low-pitched east gable has a modern apex cross, and stands high above the chancel roof.

The tower is faced with ashlar, and is of three stages, with moulded plinth and diagonal buttresses the height of the lower stage. The pointed bell-chamber windows are of two trefoiled lights with quatrefoil in the head, and the tower terminates with a plain moulded parapet behind which the tiny spire is scarcely seen. There is no vice. The two lower stages are blank on the north and south, but on the west there is a square-topped doorway with plain lintel, and above it a second lintelled opening with wooden door; over this again is a glazed pointed opening with central mullion, the whole arrangement apparently dating from the 18th-century rebuilding. There is no arch to the nave, the west wall of which is pierced by a square-headed doorway.

The font is of 12th-century date, and consists of a large rectangular bowl⁸ with plain sides and shafted angles with cushion capitals and moulded bases; the capitals have a line of pellets at the angle.

The modern Gothic oak pulpit was formerly in Wisbech parish church.

In the floor at the east end of the south aisle are the brass effigies of Kenelme Cheseldyn of Uppingham (d. 1596) and his wife Winefred, daughter of Francis Say of Wilby, Northants,⁹ and an armorial brass plate to Edward Cheseldyn of Braunston (d. 1642).¹⁰ A large blue floor-slab in front of the chancel arch has the indents of a single figure and an inscription.

There are considerable traces of mediæval paintings on the east and south walls of the south aisle. In the middle of the east wall is an image bracket about 6 ft. 6 in. above the floor, which probably supported a figure of our Lady of Sorrows, of which the painting formed the background. An angel with outstretched wings is depicted on either side and on a medallion at the north end are a cross and the instruments of

the Passion. On the south wall are portions of a text and fragments of a painting in red and black of the Mass of St. Gregory. It depicts an altar with chalice and paten, and about the altar four candlesticks and a patriarchal cross.¹¹

There is a stone coffin in the south aisle, and in the churchyard is preserved a grotesque stone figure¹² of the type known in Ireland as 'Sheela-na-gigs,' which was found in use, face downward, as a doorstep into the church.

There are four bells in the tower: the treble is by Thomas Newcombe (II) of Leicester (c. 1562-80), inscribed 'S. Thoma,' the second dated 1710, the third by Hugh Watts of Leicester (c. 1593-1615), inscribed 'Praise the Lord,' and the tenor by Thomas Norris of Stamford, 1660.¹³

The plate consists of a cup of 1570-71; a paten of 1640-41; an undated paten with makers' marks 'R-S' only, and a pewter flagon.¹⁴

The registers before 1812 are as follows: (i) all entries 1558-1632; (ii) 1655-1694; (iii) 1695-1721; (iv) 1721-1753; (v) baptisms and burials 1754-1789; (vi) marriages 1754-1789; (vii) baptisms, marriages and burials 1790-1812; (viii) marriages 1802-1812.¹⁵

The chapel of Braunston was dependent on the church of Hambleton in the early 13th century,¹⁶ and presumably this arrangement was made when the chapel was first built. In the confirmation of the grant by Edward the Confessor of the church of Hambleton to the Abbey of Westminster, made by William the Conqueror in 1067, there is no mention of the chapel.¹⁷ In 1086 the church was actually in the hands of Albert, the King's clerk, and it is unlikely that the abbey obtained it till the reign of William Rufus.¹⁸ The chapel existed in the 12th century,¹⁹ and in 1227 it had a 'vicar' whose rights were reserved to him at the institution of a new rector of Oakham.²⁰ This suggests that the advowson still belonged to the monks of Westminster, who were also owners of the advowson of Oakham, but in 1232 it was in the hands of Hugh of Welles, Bishop of Lincoln.²¹ In that year he granted to Hambleton church a pension in the church of St. Peter's, Stamford, and the chapel of Braunston to his successors in the see of Lincoln.²² Between 1268, when the Bishop collated, and 1274 it had been assigned to the Dean and Chapter of Lincoln,²³ who owned the advowson of Hambleton with Braunston until 1884. In that year Braunston

⁶ Internally the sill of the three-light easternmost window is lowered to within about 2 ft. from the floor and the splayed jambs cut into a series of three steps descending from either side to the middle. The purpose of this arrangement is not clear.

⁷ It is a modern copy of that on the east of the doorway, and takes the place of an unsightly window in the same position (*Stamford Mercury*, May 22, 1863).

⁸ The bowl measures 2 ft. 10 in. by 2 ft. 7 in. and is 22 in. deep. It was at one time turned out of the church and buried in the churchyard, but was recovered in 1890. It was then in three pieces, but has been repaired and placed on a new stem (*Leic. and Rutl. N. and Q.* i, 274; *Rutl. Mag.* v, 200).

⁹ The inscription reads: 'Here lyeth Kenelme Cheseldyn of Vpingham Esquier who linally desended from Ann Broogh

daughter and heir to y^e Lord Broogh, who married Winefred daughter of Francis Say of Wilby in y^e county of Northampton gent. & had by her a XI sones and 3 daughters, who deceased the 2 of August 1596 leaving Edward his sone & heire succeedinge.' In Wright's time (1684) the figures were on a 'handsome tomb' (*Hist. of Rutl.* 25).

¹⁰ Inscribed 'Hic jacet corpus Edwardi Cheseldyn de Braunston in Com. Rotel armigeri qui obiit 13^o die Ivnii Anno Dñi 1642.'

¹¹ It is figured in Wall, *Med. Wall Paintings*, 5. The painting was perhaps unfinished.

¹² It is figured in *Rutl. Mag.* v, 200. The stone on which it is carved is 3 ft. 10 in. long by 14 in. wide and 7 in. thick, but the sculpture extends over about 21 in. only at the top. It is apparently an example of the rude Fertility Figures which occur in England, Wales, Ireland

and Normandy. Their date is uncertain but they occur in association with details of the 13th to the 15th centuries. For 'Sheela-na-gigs' see *Journ. R. Soc. Antiq. Ireland*, xxiv, 77; *Man*, Aug. 1929, p. 133-135; July 1930, p. 123; Jan. 1931, p. 4.

¹³ North, *Cb. Bells of Rutl.* 123.

¹⁴ Hope, *Cb. Plate in Rutl.* 2. The paten is inscribed 'Branston 1640.'

¹⁵ There is a gap 1632-1655. A copy of the registers on vellum made by the Rev. Benjamin Barrett, vicar, is also kept.

¹⁶ *Rot. Hug. de Welles* (Cant. and York Soc.), ii, 138.

¹⁷ *Cal. Chant. R.* iv, p. 332.

¹⁸ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 133, 140.

¹⁹ See above.

²⁰ *Rot. Hug. de Welles*, loc. cit.

²¹ *Ibid.* 258.

²² *Ibid.*

²³ *Rot. Ric. Gravesend* (Cant. and York Soc.), 123.

chapel was separated from Hambleton, and by Order in Council formed into a separate vicarage, with the chapelry of Brooke annexed. The Dean and Chapter of Lincoln own the advowson of the new vicarage. The rectorial estate at Braunston was leased in the 17th century to the lords of Brooke Manor (q.v.).²⁴ In 1801, when the parish was inclosed, the Dean and Chapter or their lessees were entitled to all tithes except those belonging to the vicar of Hambleton. Both rectorial and vicarial tithes were commuted for land. The chapter also claimed a yearly custom of 7½*d.* from each yard-land, and the right to take payment of the tithe of hay in kind.²⁵

Roger de St. John was vicar of the chapel in 1227, but it is improbable that any vicarage had been permanently instituted at that time, though it was already the custom to appoint a special chaplain to serve Braunston, with a right to certain profits of the church.²⁶ On the institution of the vicarage of Hambleton in 1274 by Bishop Gravesend, the patronage of the chapel was assigned to the vicar, who was bound to appoint a resident chaplain at Braunston.²⁷ This was still the rule in the 16th century.²⁸ The small tithes of Braunston were assigned to the vicarage of Hambleton.²⁹

The Consolidated Charities are regulated by a scheme of the Charity Commissioners dated 25 September 1891, and comprise the following :

Augustine Burton Charity, founded by will proved at Peterborough 12 November 1614 (an educational charity).

The Whisp (or Wisp) Land Charity.—By an indenture dated 19 April 1636 a piece of land called the Wisp was conveyed to certain persons, the rent to be applied towards the maintenance of a preacher to preach in the chapel at Braunston, or in default thereof for and towards the repairs of the parish church of Braunston and the bells therein, and for repair and amendment of decayed bridges and highways and relief of the poor. The land is let for £25 per annum, which has been applied towards the stipend of the vicar, coal for 14 poor recipients, and repairs of the roads.³⁰

The Church or Town Land Charity.—It is not known by whom the land was given, and there are no deeds relating to it. The land, situated in Braunston, contains 11 acres 21 poles, and is let for £20 per annum, which is applied towards the maintenance and repair of the fabric of the church.

Duke of Buckingham's Charity (see under Belton).—The annual income, amounting to £10, is applied for the general benefit of the poor. The trustees of the charities are the vicar and churchwardens of Braunston (ex officio), two representative trustees appointed by the vestry and six co-optative trustees.

BROOKE

Broc (xii, xiii cent.) ; Brock (xiv cent.).

The parish of Brooke lies to the south of Oakham near the Leicestershire border, and was formerly within the bounds of the forest of Rutland. It contains 1,439 acres, the subsoil of which consists of Middle and Lower Lias formation. The river Gwash flows through the northern part of the parish and for about half a mile forms the boundary between Brooke and Braunston, its north-west neighbour. The highest land, some 500 ft. above Ordnance datum, is near the centre of the parish; and the village lies on the northerly slope overlooking the Gwash, about 2½ miles from Oakham station. Most of the houses are of stone, with thatch, stone or slate roofs. They stand at the place where the road or path from the south divides, one branch going west and then north to Oakham, and another east and north-east, past the church, towards Egleton. The priory of Brooke stood on the south bank of the river about half a mile to the north-west of the village. The site was bought by Andrew Noel in 1549,¹ and a portion is now occupied by a picturesque red brick house² known as the Priory, which incorporates some remains of the monastery. Near to this house are the ruined gateway and porter's lodge³ of the late 16th-century mansion known as

Brooke House, which was the home of the Noel family in the 17th century. The second Viscount Campden lived here, and after his death in 1642 his widow remained here until her death in 1680, aged 100 years.⁴ The lodge is a small octagonal building⁵ of two stories, faced with ashlar, with stone-slatted roof and projecting chimney, with the gateway on its south side. Access to the upper room was by an external balustraded stair, but the steps and the floor⁶ are gone. At some later time, probably in the 18th century, the lodge was converted into a dovecote, the interior being lined with nesting-places in brick. The gateway has a semicircular keystone arch on moulded imposts below an entablature supported by Tuscan columns, but of the entablature only the architrave remains. The doorways of the lodge have four-centred heads and the square-headed windows are of two lights. On the west front, below the upper window, are the arms of Noel.⁷

It is uncertain whether the terraces remaining near the site of the priory were the work of the canons or of the Parliamentary forces.⁸ Farther to the west are earth mounds and a rampart close to the Gwash which appear to be the remains of an early settlement.⁹

²⁴ Rutl. Archd. Rec. 1605-81.

²⁵ Priv. Act of Parl. 41 Geo. III, cap. 84.

²⁶ Rot. Hug. de Welles, loc. cit.

²⁷ Rot. Ric. Gravesend, loc. cit.

²⁸ Rutl. Archd. Rec. 1546-1600.

²⁹ Rot. Ric. Gravesend, loc. cit.; Priv. Act, loc. cit.

³⁰ For history of this charity see Wright, op. cit. 25.

¹ Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 3 Edw. VI.

² This is a large rectangular two-story

building, for long a farm-house, but now the residence of the Misses Wilson. It is probably of 17th-century date and retains a few mullioned windows, but the majority of the windows have wooden frames. The roof is covered with stone slates. The gateway lies to the south-east.

³ Figured in *Rutl. Mag.* ii, 181.

⁴ Irons' Notes.

⁵ Its internal diameter is 12 ft. 6 in.

⁶ A single wooden beam remains.

⁷ An inventory of household goods at

Brooke House in 1680 is given in *Rutl. Mag.* ii, 181. About 43 rooms and places are mentioned, including the great hall, great dining-room, lower dining-room, withdrawing room, low parlour, purple chamber, red chamber, my lady's chamber, the chaplain's chamber, etc. There is also mention of 'the territ at the great gates, being the porter's lodge.'

⁸ *F.C.H. Rutl.* i, 117.

⁹ *Ibid.*

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

The manor of *BROOKE* is not mentioned in Domesday Book (1086), but was one of the five berewicks attached to Oakham Manor.¹⁰ It was presumably in the hands of Queen Edith, who held Oakham in the reign of Edward the Confessor, and its early history followed that of Oakham (q.v.).¹¹ As is shown under Oakham, Hugh de Ferrers (Ferrières) gave Brooke to the priory (later the abbey) of Kenilworth probably before 1153, and his grant was confirmed by his brother William and his nephew Walchelin.¹² The small priory of St. Mary was founded at Brooke for Austin Canons, as a cell of the abbey of Kenilworth,¹³ apparently during the third quarter of the 12th century, and the manor of Brooke was assigned to it.

The priory of Brooke continued to hold the manor until its surrender in 1535.¹⁴ The prior, anxious to obtain a good pension for himself, maintained that the priory at Brooke was independent of Kenilworth,¹⁵ while the abbot claimed it as a cell of his abbey to which the manor of Brooke would revert on the dissolution of the priory.¹⁶ To placate Cromwell, the abbot leased the manor to a friend of Cromwell,¹⁷ apparently Sir William Fielding.¹⁸ After the surrender of the priory,¹⁹ Henry VIII in 1536 granted the site of the priory and the manor in fee to Anthony Cope.²⁰ The rival claims of Fielding and Cope were brought for arbitration before Sir Anthony Fitzherbert, who assigned Brooke to Anthony Cope.²¹ In 1549 he sold it to Andrew Noel,²² who held the manor in chief by knight service.²³ Noel died seised in 1563, when it passed, under a settlement of 1559, to his executors for thirteen years, for the performance of the terms of his will, and then to Andrew, a younger son, in tail male with further remainders.²⁴ Sir Andrew Noel died seised of the manor in 1607, when he was succeeded by his son Edward.²⁵ The latter married Juliana, the elder daughter of Baptist Hicks, first Viscount Campden,²⁶ and obtained a fresh Crown grant of the manor and site of the priory in 1610, a confusion probably having arisen regarding the lease and grant after the surrender of the priory.²⁷ Noel succeeded his father-in-law in 1629 as Viscount Campden,²⁸ and his grandson Edward, fourth Viscount Campden, was created Earl of Gainsborough in 1682. The manor has continued in the possession of the Earls of Gainsborough,²⁹ and the trustees of the present Earl are now lords of the manor and own the entire parish of Brooke.

The lords of the manor appear to have held view of frankpledge during the reign of Henry III, without paying any dues to the sheriff. In 1278 complaint

was made that Richard, Earl of Cornwall, and later Edmund his son, as lords of Oakham Soke, unjustly took 10s. a year from the township.³⁰ The Noels continued to hold view of frankpledge after their purchase of the manor (q.v.).³¹

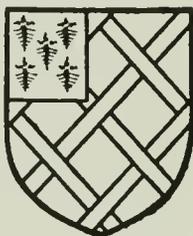
In 1459 Henry VI granted to the abbey of Kenilworth various privileges in their lands in Rutland, including the privilege for the abbot's bailiff to act for the steward, marshal and coroner of the king's household within the township of Brooke and elsewhere.³²

Brooke mill is situated on the river Gwash, east of the site of St. Mary's Priory. It is mentioned by name in 1389.³³ In 1605 the water-mill and a wind-mill were attached to the manor.³⁴

The church of *ST. PETER* consists of *CHURCH* chancel 30 ft. by 14 ft. 6 in., with north aisle or chapel its full length, nave of three bays 40 ft. by 15 ft., north aisle 13 ft. wide, south porch, and west tower 8 ft. square, all these measurements being internal. The width across nave and aisle is 29 ft. The chapel or chancel aisle is separated from that of the nave by an arch, but as it now exists is of the same build, and both are under one continuous gabled roof. The chapel is of equal size to the chancel, and as originally built may have been set apart for the canons of the priory. The chancel and nave are under separate roofs, with intervening gable, the roof of the chancel being slightly the higher. There is no clear-story. All the roofs are eaved and covered with Colleyweston slates. Internally the walls are plastered and the floors flagged. There was a restoration in 1880.

The original building was probably erected in the first half of the 12th century and would consist of a small square-ended chancel and an aisleless nave covering the area of the present one. About 1190-1200, a north aisle was thrown out and the existing arcade of three semicircular arches inserted. The arches are of a single chamfered order with hood-moulds, and spring from cylindrical piers and half-round responds, with circular moulded bases³⁵ and carved capitals with square abaci. The capitals have heavy volutes at the angles, the spaces between which on the piers have stiff-leaf ornament, and on the west respond a plain indented pattern. The capital of the east respond is badly mutilated and the abacus has a hollow chamfer and bevelled angles. The south doorway is apparently contemporary with the arcades and has a pointed arch of two orders, the inner with a round edge-moulding, continued down the jambs below a restored impost which is supported at the ends by shafts with moulded bases. The outer order, which consists of a double chevron forming a lozenge pattern on both wall and soffit plane, sits on the walls beyond the shafts, and the label is an enriched cable moulding.

The tower was added in the 13th century, and is of



NOEL, Earl of Gainsborough. Or fretty gules and a quarter ermine.

¹⁰ *V.C.H. Rutl.*, i, 139.

¹¹ *Ibid.* 132, 139.

¹² Harl. MS. 3650 (Chartul. of Kenilworth), fol. 17 d.

¹³ *V.C.H. Rutl.*, i, 159.

¹⁴ *Ibid.* 160; *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, x, no. 1151.

¹⁵ *Ibid.* no. 1191.

¹⁶ *Ibid.* viii, no. 749.

¹⁷ *Ibid.* x, nos. 444, 1151.

¹⁸ *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* (Denbigh MSS.), 2.

¹⁹ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, x, no. 1151.

²⁰ *Ibid.* xi, g. 519 (13).

²¹ *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* loc. cit.

²² Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 3 Edw. VI; East.

²³ Edw. VI; *Cal. Pat. R.* 1547-48, p. 338.

²⁴ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), cxxxvii, 44.

²⁵ *Ibid.*

²⁶ *Ibid.* ccciii, 145.

²⁷ *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), ii, 516.

²⁸ *Pat. R.* 7 Jas. I, pt. 24.

²⁹ *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), ii, 515.

³⁰ *Ibid.* 516-17; *Recov. R.* Trin. 1 Will.

& M. ro. 98; Trin. 5 Geo. II, ro. 241;

Trin. 35 Geo. III, ro. 154; Wright,

Hist. of Rutl. p. 27.

³¹ *Rot. Hund.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 49.

³² Feet of F. Div. Coa. Hil. 3 Jas. I;

Rutl. Mich. 6 Jas. I.

³³ *Cal. Chart. R.* vi, p. 134.

³⁴ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1388-92, p. 56.

³⁵ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), ccciii, 145.

³⁶ The easternmost pier has a modern square base, and that of the west respond is covered by a stone seat.

THE SOKE OF OAKHAM

BROOKE

three receding stages, without buttresses or vice. It is built of rubble, with a lancet window on the west side of the lower stage and another in the middle stage facing south. The bell-chamber windows³⁶ consist of two plain lancet lights divided by a mullion, set within a pointed inclosing arch springing from moulded imposts on slender jamb-shafts with foliated capitals and moulded bases. The spandrels are blank. A corbel table of notch-heads supports the later battlemented parapet. The arch to the nave is a pointed one of three chamfered orders, springing from hollow impost mouldings which, in the outer order, form the upper member of the plain bell capitals of angle shafts.

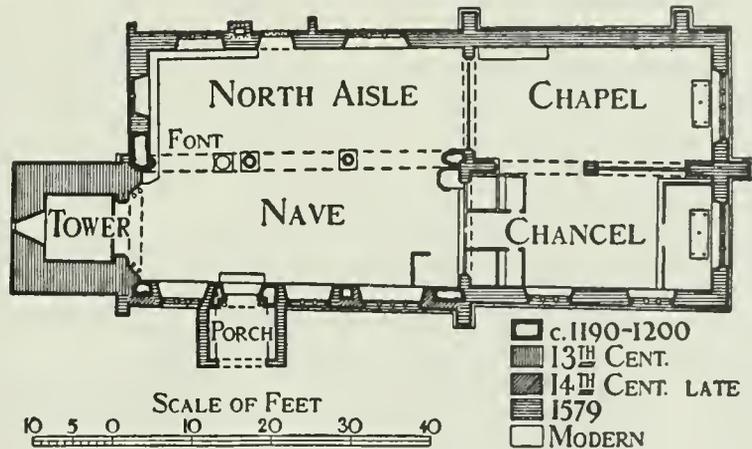
The further development of the plan before the end of the 16th century is uncertain, as the extensive reconstruction then carried out obliterated nearly all the old work, a late 14th-century square-headed window of four lights alone remaining in the south wall of the nave. It is, however, reasonable to assume that the nave aisle was originally of less width than now and that the chancel aisle, or chapel, whenever added, was from the first its present size. No record remains of the architectural character of the east end of the church before the rebuilding of the chancel and its aisle in their present form in 1579. The whole of the nave aisle was rebuilt at the same time or immediately after. The porch also is an addition or rebuilding of this period: it has a round arch and coped gable.

All this work, with the exception of the porch, is faced with ashlar, and the windows are of one type—square-headed, with plain rounded lights, returned labels and moulded jambs. The ashlar facing and chamfered plinth are extended along the lower part of the south wall of the nave for about 12 ft. west of its junction with the chancel, and two three-light windows in the same wall, one on each side of the porch, were inserted at this time. The east wall of the chapel is flush with that of the chancel, with a buttress of three stages at the junction, the east end of the church thus consisting of two approximately equal gables. The chancel has a four-light east window and two windows of three lights on the south side. The chapel has also a four-light east window, but its north wall is blank. The dividing arcade is of two semicircular ashlar arches of Renaissance character on a square pier and responds with bevelled angles, moulded capitals and chamfered bases: there is a short length of wall at each end. The chancel arch and the arch between the chapel and nave aisle are of similar design. The nave aisle is lighted by two three-light windows in the north wall, and one of two lights at the west end; there is also a four-centred north doorway, now blocked. The chancel has a modern curved rafter

roof, and there are modern flat-pitched boarded ceilings to the nave and aisles.

There is a stone bench against the west wall of the nave aisle, extended along the north wall as far as the doorway. The font is of late 12th-century date, and consists of a rectangular bowl with arcaded sides in high relief, the round arches resting on circular shafts with moulded bases and volute capitals.³⁷ The pyramidal oak cover is of late 16th or early 17th century date.

The late Elizabethan oak fittings³⁸ are of more than usual interest. There is a good oak screen in the



PLAN OF BROOKE CHURCH

eastern arch of the chancel arcade, with two tiers of solid panels and turned balusters at the top, and at the west end of the chancel two high-backed square pews, one on each side, with fluted panelling, door with good hinges, and open balustraded or pierced tops, the west sides of which form a chancel screen. Attached to these pews are two short seats facing east, with fluted back panelling, and under one of the windows in the south wall a pew with good strapwork panelling. In the nave and aisle³⁹ are eleven square oak pews with long fluted wall panels, doors, and turned knobs, and below the tower arch a screen with two tiers of solid panelling and balustraded top.

The polished oak pulpit and turned altar rails are perhaps a century later in date: the pulpit has a canopy with dentilled cornice and ball pendants. In the chapel is a dug-out oak chest.

Against the north wall of the chapel is a canopied Renaissance marble monument, with recumbent effigy, to Charles Noel, second son of Sir Andrew Noel, who died in 1619, aged 28. The figure is in plate armour and above the cornice is a large circular strapwork panel with the arms and crest of Noel. On the wall behind the figure is a Latin inscription, and on the pedestal a rhyming English inscription on two panels.⁴⁰ The colours on the monument are still good.

On the same wall is a memorial to three men of the parish who died in the Great War, 1914-18. There are floor slabs in the chapel to Endymion Cannyng⁴¹

³⁶ The east window has been renewed.

³⁷ The upper part of the bowl has been renewed.

³⁸ The fittings were in a very dilapidated state before the restoration of 1880 (*Rud. Mag.* i, 207).

³⁹ Five on the south side of the nave, three on the north side, and three in the aisle.

⁴⁰ Wright, *Hist. of Rutl.* 28, where both inscriptions are given.

⁴¹ He was Captain of Horse in the service

of King Charles I in the Civil War, and afterwards steward to Viscountess Campden at Brooke (*Cox, Rudl.* 520). In his will he left £50 'to the poor of this towne.'

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

(d. 1683), and to Henry Rawlins (d. 1742), 'who was buried by his fifth wife.'⁴²

There are four bells, the first by Edward Arnold of St. Neots, 1780; the second by Tobie Norris of Stamford, 1610; the third dated 1648, and the tenor by R. Taylor of St. Neots, 1811.⁴³

The plate consists of a cup and cover paten of 1629-30, both inscribed 'Brooke church.'⁴⁴ There are also a pewter plate and flagon.

The registers before 1812 are as follows: (i) baptisms 1576-1630,⁴⁵ marriages 1582-1630, burials 1574-1630; (ii) all entries 1632-1683; (iii) baptisms 1685-1786, marriages 1687-1779, burials 1685-1766; (iv) baptisms 1786-1812, burials 1787-1812.

No dependent chapel at Brooke *ADVOWSON* is mentioned in Domesday Book, where, however, the church and priest of Oakham are recorded.⁴⁶ In 1086 the church of Oakham belonged to Albert, a Lotharingian clerk,⁴⁷ but Westminster Abbey claimed the church by grant of Edward the Confessor,⁴⁸ and later obtained the advowson.⁴⁹ From the architectural evidence there was a chapel at Brooke in the first half of the 12th century, when it was dependent on Oakham (q.v.) and was served by a chaplain. During the 13th century and later the patronage was with the prior and convent of Kenilworth, the church being usually served by a canon of either Kenilworth or Brooke,⁵⁰ but it was probably held under a lease from the Abbey of Westminster and certainly remained dependent on the church of Oakham. The chapel had a separate endowment, and in 1509 the rectory of Brooke was leased by Westminster Abbey to the prior of Brooke for an annual rent of 10*s.* 8*d.*⁵¹ In 1542, after the dissolution both of the Abbey of Westminster, which had held the patronage of Oakham, and the Priory of Brooke, the church of Oakham and its chapelries were granted to the Dean and Chapter of Westminster, together with certain tithes in Brooke.⁵² The custom of leasing the rectory of Brooke to the lords of Brooke was continued. Sir Andrew Noel appears as lessee in 1605,⁵³ Edward Lord Noel in 1619,⁵⁴ and in 1640 Baptist Noel, Viscount Campden, obtained a new lease at the yearly rent of £6 and 6 'fatt muttuns,' or 10*s.* for each sheep.⁵⁵ In 1652 the commissioners under the Act for abolishing Deans and Chapters granted the rectory and tithes to John Grainge. The rectory then consisted of a parsonage house, half a virgate of land, and other houses, etc.⁵⁶ The chapel was served by a curate of the vicar of Oakham, who, however, found it difficult to maintain his church and chapels. Consequently, in 1658, the inhabitants of Oakham petitioned for a grant of the rents from the different

impropriations to increase the income of the vicarage. Out of this they proposed to increase the endowment of Brooke chapel, valued at £20 a year, by £21. Egleton was to be joined with Brooke. An Order in Council confirmed this scheme,⁵⁷ but probably it never took effect, and after the Restoration the Dean and Chapter of Westminster recovered the patronage.⁵⁸

Brooke chapel remained dependent on Oakham till 1884, when it was transferred to the newly formed vicarage of Braunston with Brooke, and the patronage was assigned to the Dean and Chapter of Lincoln.

The condition of the parish at the end of the 16th century was very bad, judging from the archdeacon's visitations. The chancel was 'very ruinous' in 1577 by default of Sir James Harington, and was rebuilt in 1579. Other parts of the church were also in decay. 'The curate will be overcome with drink marvellously,' he did no catechising, and had 'sometimes a drunken evening prayer.' In 1584 there was no service at Brooke for 16 weeks. The curate was inhibited in 1587, but in 1590 he was again serving Braunston and Brooke.⁵⁹

Poor's Land, founded by indentures *CHARITIES* of lease and release dated 29 and 30 March 1682, consists of 2 cottages at Morcott, farmyard and land containing 15 acres 26 poles at Morcott, and land containing 15 acres 1 rood 10 poles situated at South Luffenham, which are let at a net rental of £50 per annum. The income is applied for the benefit of the Sunday School and for coal for poor families resident in the parish, and the balance given to poor people at Christmas and Easter.

James Grocock's Charity, comprised in an indenture of feoffment dated 20 October 1721, whereby in consideration of £15 a dwelling-house was conveyed to the minister, churchwardens and overseers, the rents to be distributed in bread to the poor. Of this sum £10 was bequeathed by James Grocock. The dwelling-house and property have been sold and the endowment of the charity now consists of a sum of £260 *9s.* 4*d.* 2½ per cent. Consolidated Stock held by the official trustees, producing an annual income of £6 10*s.*

The above-mentioned charities are administered by a body of trustees in accordance with a scheme of the Charity Commissioners dated 23 November 1926, and the income is applied towards the general benefit of the poor.

Poor's Money or Kemp's Charity.—There is a sum of £5 supposed to have been left by will of Thomas Kemp, dated 1749, for bread to the poor of the parish.⁶⁰ The endowment of this charity is included in that of Grocock's Charity.

⁴² Similar slabs cover the graves of his four wives, who died respectively in 1713, 1716-17, 1718, and 1722.

⁴³ North, *Cb. Bells of Rutl.* 123, where the inscriptions are given.

⁴⁴ Hope, *Cb. Plate in Rutl.* 3. The cup bears the arms of Hicks, and the paten the crest of Noel.

⁴⁵ The year 1628 has been cut out.

⁴⁶ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 139.

⁴⁷ *Ibid.* 140.

⁴⁸ *Ibid.* 132.

⁴⁹ *Ibid.* 133; *Rot. Hund.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 52.

⁵⁰ Irons' Notes, Linc. Epis. Reg. (Instit.).

⁵¹ *Mina. Accts.* (P.R.O.), Hen. VIII, no. 7239, pt. 1, fol. 52 d.

⁵² *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xvii, g. 714 (5).

⁵³ *Rutl. Archd. Rec.* 1605.

⁵⁴ *Ibid.* 1619.

⁵⁵ *Close R.* 1652, pt. 48, no. 16.

⁵⁶ *Ibid.*

⁵⁷ *Cal. S.P. Dom.* 1658-9, p. 46.

⁵⁸ *Rutl. Archd. Rec.* 1681.

⁵⁹ Irons' Notes, Archd. Visit.

⁶⁰ Cf. Abstract of Return of Charit. Don. for Rutland ordered by H. of C. 26 June 1816, p. 1004.



BROOKE CHURCH FROM THE SOUTH-EAST



CLIPSHAM CHURCH FROM THE NORTH-EAST



CLIPSHAM CHURCH : THE INTERIOR, LOOKING EAST

CLIPSHAM

Kilpesham, Kypesham (xiii, xiv, xv cent.); Clyppesham, Clipsham (xv cent.).

The parish of Clipsham contains 1,669 acres of land, and lies on the borders of Lincolnshire. Geographically it lies in the hundred of Alstoe, but it was included first in the hundred of Martinsley and afterwards in the soke of Oakham (q.v.), which was formed of the townships and manors held of the castle and manor of Oakham.¹ The land is fairly level, being generally about 300 ft. above Ordnance datum, and is mostly pasture and woodland, Clipsham Park, Clipsham Park Wood and Allah Wood occupying a large part of the parish.

The straggling village lies along the road from the Great North Road at Stretton to Little Bytham. It is $\frac{3}{4}$ miles west of Little Bytham Station, on the London and North Eastern Railway, and 2 miles south of Castle Bytham Station, on the London Midland and Scottish Railway.

On the western side of the village there are some picturesque farmhouses built and roofed with local stone, having for a background Clipsham Park, with its trees and good grass land. The old manor-house, in the middle of the village, is an interesting two-story gabled stone building of simple design, erected in the first half of the 17th century, with low mullioned windows and good wind-break chimneys. It is H-shaped in plan, with attics in the end wings, and the roof is covered with stone slates. Near to it, on the west, is another 17th-century house of the same type, but different in plan and in less perfect state, with a two-story bay window towards the road, and gabled north wing. The cottages in the eastern part of the village are of stone and roofed with slates or tiles; the Park Wood beyond them gives a pleasant view. It is probable that, as in many parts of Rutland, the village was built round a rough square, formed here on the north side of the Stretton Road. The road halfway between the church and the Stretton Road, and parallel to it, was constructed some time in the last century by the then squire, and is still known as the New Road. There was a windmill in the parish in 1686.²

Clipsham Hall, the residence of Mr. John Davenport-Handley-Humphreys, J.P., which lies to the north-east of the church, was rebuilt of the local stone in the 18th century, and is a plain but well-designed house of two stories, with slightly projecting pedimented middle portion, cornice and stone-slatted hipped roof. A semicircular pillared porch on the east or principal front is a later addition, and at the north end are considerable remains of the older house, including two mullioned windows and a panel with the arms of Harington, dated 1582.³

Quarries of excellent freestone, near Pickworth Wood, are still worked, and the stone from them is being used for the restoration at present being carried out on the Houses of Parliament. In 1556 a mason named Roger Warde, writing to Sir William Cecil about the building materials he should use, remarks that 'the best stone for stairs is to be had at Clyppesham.'⁴ There were 80 houseling people in the parish in 1548.⁵

The manor of CLIPSHAM is not MANOR mentioned in Domesday Book (1086), but it was presumably in the king's hands until granted away with the manor and castle of Oakham by Henry I in the 12th century. From this time it was held of the Castle of Oakham by the service of one knight's fee,⁶ and formed part of Oakham Soke. The first recorded tenant of the manor seems to have been William de Freney (de Fraisneto), against whom the Templars brought a plea of warranty for 4 bovates of land in Clipsham in 1203.⁷ From this date the manor followed the descent of that of Belton (q.v.). The lands of Reginald de Freney which had been forfeited as lands of a Norman would have escheated to the overlord, Henry de Ferrers, lord of Oakham.⁸ In 1205 John de Freney (du Frénoi) farmed the lands of Henry de Ferrers,⁹ who as a Norman had also forfeited his lands in England. John de Freney appears as lord of the manor of Clipsham in 1209 and 1218,¹⁰ and between 1219 and 1226 his heir was in the wardship of Roger de Cantilupe.¹¹ In 1232 Henry de Freney received seisin of the lands in Belton forfeited by Reginald his father as a Norman.¹² The lands at Clipsham probably passed at the same time, as Henry son of Reginald de Freney sold 100s. worth of land in Belton to Hugh de Mortimer.¹³ At the death of Hugh in 1227 these lands passed to his mother Isabel, sister of Hugh de Ferrers,¹⁴ who was holding them in 1244.¹⁵ Probably the manor of Clipsham was not sold with Belton, as Peter de Freney, possibly the son of John de Freney, conveyed the manor in 1244 to William de Cantilupe.¹⁶ In 1245 Cantilupe obtained a grant of free warren,¹⁷ and died in 1254. He was succeeded by his son George de Cantilupe,¹⁸ whose heirs were his nephew, John de Hastings, and his sister, Millicent, who divided his possessions on his death in 1273.¹⁹ Clipsham was assigned to Millicent, the wife of Eudo la Zouche. In 1296, as Millicent de Monte Alto, she made provision for her son, William la Zouche, and his wife Maud.²⁰ She died in 1298, and William la Zouche succeeded her,²¹ and was recorded as holding one fee in Clipsham in 1300 and later.²² In 1317 he granted the manor for their lives to his younger sons William,

¹ *Feud. Aids*, iv, pp. 205, 207, 212; *Cal. Inq.* iii, no. 604.

² Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 2 Jas. II.

³ The 16th-century house appears to have been of three stories ranging with the two stories of the present building. The principal entrance was formerly on the west side. There is a long modern wing on the north-west.

⁴ *Cal. S.P. Dom.* 1547-1580, p. 84.

⁵ *Chant. Cert.* (P.R.O.), no. 39.

⁶ *Cal. Inq.* iii, no. 604 (p. 474); *Cal.*

Inq. Misc. ii, no. 1703; *Chan. Inq.* p.m.

5 Ric. II, no. 62; 8 Edw. IV, no. 53.

⁷ *Cal. Curia Regis R.* ii, 312-13.

⁸ *Rutl. Mag.* i, 183.

⁹ Stapleton, *Rot. Scacc. Norm.* ii, lxxix.

¹⁰ *Rot. Hug. de Welles* (Cant. and York Soc.), i, 61; ii, 100.

¹¹ *Ibid.* ii, 100, 137.

¹² *Rutl. Mag.* i, 183, cit. *Cal. Pat. R.*

1225-32, p. 478.

¹³ *Bk. of Fees* (P.R.O.), p. 1151.

¹⁴ *Blore, Hist. of Rutl.* 42.

¹⁵ *Bk. of Fees*, loc. cit.

¹⁶ Feet of F. Rutl. East. 28 Hen. III, no. 24; *Curia Regis R.* 131, m. 8; *Cal. Chant. R.* i, 276.

¹⁷ *Ibid.* 284.

¹⁸ Dugdale, *Baronage*, i, 732-3.

¹⁹ *Ibid.*; *Cal. Fine R.* i, p. 17.

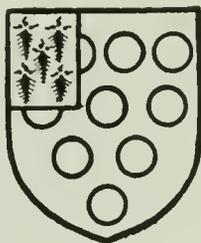
²⁰ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1292-1301, p. 184.

²¹ *Cal. Fine R.* i, pp. 408, 410.

²² *Cal. Inq.* iii, no. 604 (p. 474); *Feud. Aids*, iv, pp. 205, 207; *Cal. Inq. Misc.* ii, no. 1703.

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

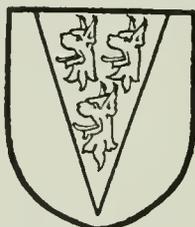
John and Roger, who were to pay £20 a year to him for his life, and then a rose yearly to his heirs.²³ The manor had reverted to him before 1351, when he settled it on his grandson William la Zouche,²⁴ who succeeded him in 1352.²⁵ His descendants held the manor of Clipsham until 1485,²⁶ when John, Lord Zouche, having fought for Richard III at Bosworth,²⁷ was attainted, and Henry VII granted it to his esquire, David Philip.²⁸ Zouche recovered his honours in 1495,²⁹ and some of his lands, including Clipsham, which his son and heir John sold in 1539 to Sir John Harington.³⁰ The latter died seised of it in 1553, and was succeeded by his son James³¹ and grandson John,³² who was created Baron Harington of Exton in 1603.³³ Lord Harington died at Worms, when accompanying Princess Elizabeth on her marriage journey in 1613.³⁴ His son and heir John died a few months later, and Clipsham passed to his eldest sister and co-heir Lucy, Countess of Bedford.³⁵ Edward, Earl of Bedford, sold the manor in 1614 to his wife's cousin, Francis Stacy,³⁶ who in



ZOUCHE of Haringworth. *Gules bezanty with a quarter ermine.*



JOHNSON of North Luffenham. *Argent a cheveron sable between three lions' heads gules cut off at the neck and crowned or.*



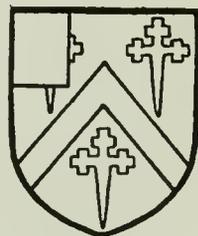
JOHNSON of Olney. *Argent a pile azure with three ounces' beads razed argent thereon.*

turn sold it in 1618 to Robert Johnson, Archdeacon of Leicester.³⁷ In 1623 the Archdeacon settled it on his grandson Isaac, on his marriage with Lady Arabella Fiennes.³⁸ He died in 1625³⁹ and Isaac, who emigrated to America, in 1630,⁴⁰ leaving no children. The manor passed under the settlement to his half-brothers Samuel, who died in 1658,⁴¹ and Ezekiel, who owned it in 1686.⁴² Rents from Clipsham and other manors were payable to Thomas Johnson of Olney (co.

Buck.) and Anne his wife,⁴³ and to Thomas Marsh and Margaret his wife, Anne and Margaret being daughters of Ezekiel.⁴⁴ By his will proved in 1688⁴⁵ Ezekiel left his grandson, William Johnson, his heir, and legacies to his granddaughters Anne Johnson and Elizabeth and Martha Marsh. Ezekiel, however, had sold the manor in 1686 to Richard Snow of Staple Inn,⁴⁶ who in 1699 also bought other property in Clipsham from Elizabeth Fawkener, widow and devisee of Anthony Fawkener, clk.⁴⁷ Snow died in 1739, and was succeeded by his son Matthew (d. 1757), grandson, the Rev. Paul George Snow, the rector of Clipsham, and great-grandson, the Rev. Matthew Snow.⁴⁸ The last was lord of the manor in 1802,⁴⁹ but died in 1809, when his sisters became his heirs. The eldest, Jane, married in 1784 John Paget of Cranmore Hall, Somerset, and left a son John Moore Paget,⁵⁰ who sold Clipsham in 1865, a year before he



HANDLEY. *Argent three voided lozenges set fessewise between two bars gules and three goats passant sable.*



DAVENPORT. *Argent a cheveron between three crosslets fitchy sable with a quarter azure.*

died, to John Handley, sometime M.P. for Newark. His daughter married William Davenport Davenport of Bramhall, Cheshire (d. 1869), and her son, who took the additional names of Handley (1881) and Humphreys (1910), became lord of the manor. He died in 1914, and his son Mr. John Davenport-Handley-Humphreys, of Clipsham Hall, is now lord of the manor.⁵¹

A view of frankpledge is mentioned in the sale of the manor to Archdeacon Robert Johnson in 1618.⁵²

The church of *ST. MARY* consists of *CHURCH* chancel 27 ft. 3 in. by 13 ft. 6 in., with north aisle 8 ft. wide, clearstoried nave 36 ft. 4 in. by 13 ft. 6 in., north and south aisles each 13 ft. wide, south porch and engaged west tower 9 ft. 9 in. square, all these measurements being internal. The tower is surmounted by a spire. The width across nave and aisles is 43 ft. 9 in.

The chancel has a modern high-pitched slated,

²³ Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 11 Edw. II, no. 21.

²⁴ *Ibid.* 25 Edw. III; Hil. 26 Edw. III, no. 43.

²⁵ *Cal. Inq.* x, no. 42.

²⁶ *Inq.* 3.q.d. cccxxiii, 10; *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 5 Ric. II, no. 62; 19 Ric. II, no. 52; 3 Hen. V, no. 46; 4 Hen. VI, no. 7; 8 Edw. IV, no. 53; *Feud. Aids*, iv, 212; G.E.C. *Complete Peerage*, viii, 224. William, Lord la Zouche, who died in 1468, enfeoffed Katherine, daughter of Sir William Plumpton, with the manor for her life. She was his stepmother. The manor was probably in lease during the 15th century, as John, Earl of Huntingdon, presented to the rectory in 1420; Henry, Earl of Northumberland, in 1440; and Henry and Katherine Chaderton from

1453 to 1472 (Irons' Notes, Linc. Episc. Reg. (Instit.)).

²⁷ G.E.C. loc. cit.

²⁸ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1485-94, p. 78.

²⁹ G.E.C. loc. cit.

³⁰ Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 31 Hen. VIII; *Recov. R. Mich.* 31 Hen. VIII, ro. 128.

³¹ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), ci, 101.

³² *Ibid.* cccxxii, 81.

³³ *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), vi, 321.

³⁴ *Ibid.*; *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), ccclvi, 116.

³⁵ *Ibid.* 117.

³⁶ Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 12 Jas. I.

³⁷ *Recov. R. East.* 16 Jas. I, ro. 28; Feet of F. Rutl. East. 20 Jas. I.

³⁸ *Ibid.* Div. Cos. Hil. 22 Jas. I; *Chan. Inq. p.m.* dccxvi, 70.

³⁹ *Ibid.*

⁴⁰ *Ibid.* ccccxciii, 98.

⁴¹ *Ibid.*; Wright, *Hist. of Rutl.* 38.

⁴² *Close R.* 2 Jas. II, no. 9.

⁴³ Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 16-17 Chas. II.

⁴⁴ *Ibid.* Div. Cos. Hil. 8 Will. III; Wright, loc. cit.

⁴⁵ P.C.C. 127 Exton.

⁴⁶ *Close R.* 2 Jas. II, no. 9.

⁴⁷ *Ibid.* 11 Will. III, no. 33. Everard Fawkener presented Anthony Fawkener to the church in 1679 (Irons' Notes, Linc. Episc. Reg. (Instit.)).

⁴⁸ Blore's notes to Wright, *Hist. and Antiq. of Rutl.* p. 38 (B.M.); Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 13 Geo. II; cf. *Instit. Bks.* (P.R.O.), 1764.

⁴⁹ *Recov. R. East.* 42 Geo. III, ro. 121.

⁵⁰ Burke, *Peerage*.

⁵¹ Burke, *Landed Gentry*.

⁵² Feet of F. Rutl. East. 20 Jas. I.

raved roof and the porch is covered with stone slates, but elsewhere the roofs are leaded and behind plain parapets. The building was extensively restored in 1858, when the north wall of the north aisle was rebuilt throughout its length, and the chancel aisle, which had long been destroyed, was re-erected. Internally all the walls are plastered.

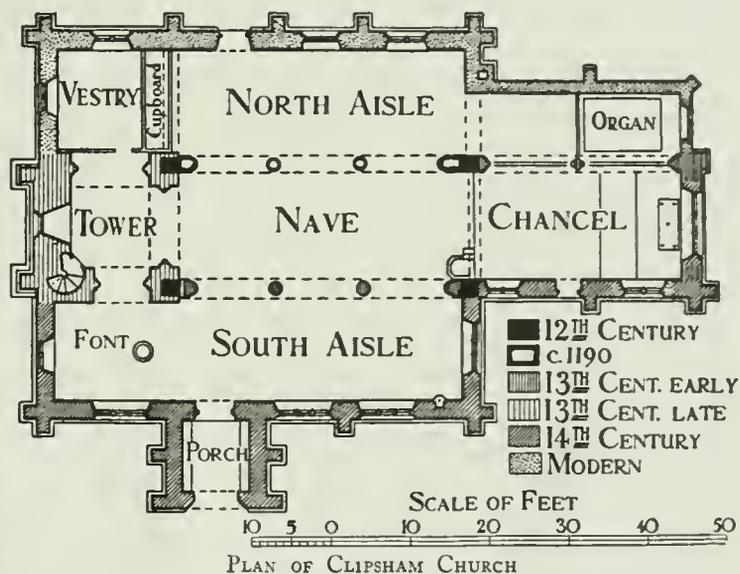
The original 12th-century church seems to have been an aisleless building with short square-ended chancel, and probably a west tower. To the nave of this structure a north aisle was added c. 1190, the wall being pierced for the erection of the existing north arcade of three bays, the semicircular arches of which are of two orders, with a heavy half-round moulding on the soffit. Towards the aisle both orders are square, but on the nave side they have edge-rolls and in the westernmost arch one outer order of chevron moulding enriched with leaves and pellets. The arches spring from cylindrical piers and half-round responds with square scalloped capitals and moulded bases on square chamfered plinths; the arches are without hood-moulds.

Early in the 13th century a south aisle was added to the nave and the chancel was apparently extended to its present length, the north-east buttress⁵³ and the lower part of the east wall being of this period. The south arcade, which was pierced through the old wall,⁵⁴ consists of three semicircular arches of two chamfered orders on cylindrical piers⁵⁵ and half-round responds, all with moulded capitals and high circular moulded bases. The shallow outer order has a series of ornamental stops, except over the east respond, in which the dog-tooth occurs twice, and the capitals of the piers are octagonal in shape, with nail-head ornament. There are no hood-moulds. The respond capitals are circular, and that at the east end alone has nail-head enrichment. The bases stand on circular plinths.

Later in the same century the north aisle seems to have been extended to cover the chancel and the tower rebuilt. Shortly afterwards, probably early in the 14th century, the building underwent an extensive remodelling, by which it assumed the plan⁵⁶ and external appearance that it has since retained. The chancel was rebuilt in its present form (beginning with the upper part of the east wall and proceeding westward from the south-east angle), the nave aisles rebuilt and widened and extended westward to engage the tower, to which a spire was added, and the porch and clearstory were erected.

The chancel is of two bays and has a pointed east window of three trefoiled lights with reticulated

tracery and hood-mould with head-stops; the 14th-century sill string is taken round the south-east buttress, but the chamfered plinth at the east end belongs to the older lower part of the wall. But from the south-east angle of the chancel, westward as far as the tower, there is a moulded plinth, which is repeated along the north aisle in modern form. Of the two windows, each of two trefoiled lights, on the south side of the chancel, the westernmost is square-headed; the other, which is pointed and has geometrical tracery, is either modern or is very much



restored. The narrow priest's doorway is also much restored.⁵⁷ On the north side the chancel is open to the aisle by an arcade of two wide pointed arches⁵⁸ of two chamfered orders with hood-mould on both sides, springing from a pier consisting of four clustered shafts with moulded capital and base and from similar shafted responds. The hood-moulds have notch-stops at the ends and a head above the pier. The arch between the aisles of chancel and nave, though much restored, is apparently contemporary; it is of two chamfered orders on moulded corbels supported by heads. The chancel and nave are of the same width and the arch between them is modern.⁵⁹ No ancient ritual arrangements remain.⁶⁰

At the east end of the south aisle is a large pointed window of three trefoiled lights with curvilinear tracery, the outer hollow moulding of which is enriched all round with ball-flower and the hood-mould has head-stops representing a king and queen. The windows in the south wall, two east of the porch and one west of it, are square-headed and of three trefoiled lights with quatrefoil tracery: the west window is of two lights with a cusped triangle in the head. The south doorway has a continuous wave-moulding and hood with head-stops. In the usual position at the east end of the aisle is a pointed piscina with deeply

⁵³ It is a clasping buttress about mid-height with string chamfered on each edge.

⁵⁴ A portion of the external 12th-century nebuli string-course remains at the east end, now facing the aisle.

⁵⁵ The piers are 18 in. diam. Those of the north arcade are 22 in.

⁵⁶ Except that the chancel aisle, subsequently rebuilt, was demolished at some period unknown.

⁵⁷ It is 7 ft. 10 in. high by 2 ft. 2 in. wide, with continuous single chamfer and hood-mould with head-stops.

⁵⁸ The arcade was found incorporated in the north wall of the chancel at the

time of the restoration, and opened out.

⁵⁹ It is a stilted, pointed arch of a single chamfered order, on shafted corbels. Before the restoration the chancel had a plaster ceiling. The present open-timber roof is of a somewhat elaborate design.

⁶⁰ Unless they exist behind the plaster.

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recessed trefoil tracery, projecting fluted bowl and wooden shelf, and on either side of the east window an image bracket supported by a head. Externally there is a moulded sill string round the aisle and the buttresses are of two stages with triangular heads. The hollow moulding below the parapet is enriched with ball-flower⁶¹ along the south wall, but not at the raking ends. The north aisle reproduces in modern form many of the same features, but the windows are of two lights and of different design.⁶² The hollow moulding under the eaves of the porch has also ball-flower enrichment. The much-restored porch has an outer pointed doorway of three continuous hollow chamfered orders and a trefoiled niche in the gable. The clearstory windows, three on each side, are square-headed, and of two trefoiled lights without tracery.

The tower is of three stages, with moulded plinth, and a single-light trefoiled west window in the bottom stage. The vice is in the south-west angle, which is thickened at the second stage, where the western buttresses stop and the wall sets back, in the form of a slightly projecting clasping buttress.⁶³ The pointed bell-chamber windows are of two trefoiled lights, with soffit cusping, and quatrefoil in the head on the north and south sides; on the west the spandrel is solid. The openings have modern stone quatrefoil filling. The spire, which is of somewhat unusual design, rises from a cornice of notch-heads, immediately above which there is a short slope and shorter piece of upright walling crowned with coarsely constructed battlements, or diminutive turrets, behind which begins the spire proper, which is of the 'stone-timber' type, twice banded, with two tiers of gabled lights in the cardinal faces, each of two openings and surmounted by a cross. The angles are plain. Internally the tower opens into the nave by a pointed arch of three chamfered orders, the inner order on clustered responds with moulded capitals and bases, and into the aisles by similar but less lofty arches.⁶⁴

The font has a 12th-century circular bowl with a band of hatched ornament round the rim, standing on a circular stem and moulded base.⁶⁵

The oak pulpit and fittings are modern, and there are modern screens in the chancel arcade. The reredos has modern carvings of the Last Supper (after Leonardo da Vinci), Transfiguration and Ascension.

In the east window⁶⁶ of the chancel aisle are some pieces of old glass which are said to have been brought from the old church at Pickworth. They include shields with the arms of Thomas Neville of

Pykale, the royal arms (France modern and England quarterly), the town of Stamford, and the royal arms of the Stewart sovereigns; there is also a Lancastrian rose.

The west end of the north aisle is used as a vestry, and the organ is at the east end of the chancel aisle. A carved panel with the arms of the Stewart sovereigns is in the vestry. There are no monuments earlier than 1738-9.⁶⁷

There are three bells in the tower: the first dated 1671, the second by Tobie Norris (II) of Stamford 1675, and the tenor by Thomas Norris 1657.⁶⁸ On the timber framework supporting the clock is inscribed 'I.W. 1688.'

The plate consists of a cup and cover paten of 1691-2, with the maker's mark 'M.K.' On the cup is engraved a representation of Our Lord as the Good Shepherd with the lamb on His shoulder.⁶⁹ There is also a plated paten.

The early registers have been lost. Those before 1812 which remain are as follows: (i) baptisms and burials 1726-90, marriages 1726-54; (ii) baptisms and burials 1790-1812; (iii) marriages 1754-1812.⁷⁰

The advowson of the church of *ADVOWSON* Clipsham belonged to the lords of the manor⁷¹ at least since the time of John de Freney, who presented between 1209 and 1219.⁷² At that time, however, a vicarage was in existence and the vicar paid a pension of 100s. to the rector and undertook all the duties of the church.⁷³ In 1679 Everard Fawkener presented to the rectory, presumably *pro hac vice*.⁷⁴ After the death of the Rev. Paul George Snow, in 1796, his widow Mary Snow presented in 1809 and 1816.⁷⁵

At the present day Mr. John Davenport-Handley-Humphreys owns the advowson of the rectory. The benefices of Clipsham and Stretton are to be united at the first voidance of either rectory.

In 1337 William la Zouche, a king's clerk and Dean of York, together with Roger la Zouche, founded a chantry in the chapel of St. Nicholas in the church of Clipsham.⁷⁶ At the dissolution of the chantries it was endowed with lands and tenements in Rutland and Lincolnshire of the yearly value of 106s. 8d., from which a rent of 4d. a year was paid to the lord of Clipsham Manor.⁷⁷ The priest, named Richard Taylor, was described as 'impotent, but of very honest report and conversation amongst his neighbours.'⁷⁸ The advowson of the chantry belonged to the lords of the manor,⁷⁹ and is mentioned in the sale of the manor (q.v.) in 1539 to James Harington.⁸⁰

⁶¹ West of the porch the ball-flower is interspersed with heads and flowers.

⁶² The old work is said to have been faithfully copied (*Stamford Mercury*, June 6, 1862).

⁶³ It is corbelled out at this level to the west face of the tower buttress with a row of small grotesque heads.

⁶⁴ That to the south aisle is contracted in width by the vice. The nave arch has a hood-mould with head-stops.

⁶⁵ The bowl is about 30 in. diam. and 20 in. high; it has a modern crocketed wooden cover.

⁶⁶ The window is of two lights, with a top light in which are some miscellaneous fragments. The royal arms are within garters; of another shield only one quarter remains, and there are two others.

⁶⁷ Esther Russell (d. March 1738-9), Rev. Paul George Snow, rector (d. 1796),

Rev. Matthew Snow, rector (d. 1809), and his four daughters, Rev. Benjamin Newman Cherry, rector (d. 1905). There is also a memorial in the north aisle to two men of the parish who fell in the war of 1914-19.

⁶⁸ North, *Cb. Bells of Rutl.* 126, where the inscriptions are given. At the visitation in 1605 it was said there had been three 'tunable' bells, but 5 or 6 years ago one bell was taken by Mr. Geo. Butler of Lile Lodge, Ridlington, by the consent of some of the parish, but not of all (Irons' Notes, Archd. Visit.).

⁶⁹ Hope, *Cb. Plate in Rutl.* 3. At the visitation in 1681 the churchwardens were ordered to change the chalice and paten 'for bigger' (Irons' Notes, Archd. Visit.).

⁷⁰ The first and last entries in the third volume are 1756 and 1811 respectively.

⁷¹ *Rot. Hug. de Welles* (Cant. and York

Soc.), ii, 100; *Rot. Ric. Gravesend* (Cant. and York Soc.), 124; *Cal. Chart. R.* i, 276; *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 14 Edw. III (2nd nos.), no. 67; 5 Ric. II, no. 62; 19 Ric. II, no. 52; Feet of F. Rutl. East. 28 Hen. III, no. 24; Trin. 31 Hen. VIII; Div. Cos. East. 8 Jas. I; Rutl. East. 16 Jas. I; 20 Jas. I; Close R. 2 Jas. II, no. 9; Instit. Bks. (P.R.O.), 1628, 1695, 1722, 1764, 1796.

⁷² *Rot. Hug. de Welles* (Cant. and York Soc.), i, 61.

⁷³ *Ibid.*

⁷⁴ Instit. Bks. (P.R.O.), 1679.

⁷⁵ *Ibid.* 1809, 1816.

⁷⁶ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1334-38, p. 406; 1348-50, p. 358.

⁷⁷ Chan. Cert. (P.R.O.), no. 39.

⁷⁸ *Ibid.*

⁷⁹ Chan. Inq. p.m. 19 Ric. II, no. 52.

⁸⁰ Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 31 Hen. VIII.

The lands of the chantry were, however, sold by Edward VI in 1553 to Thomas Reve and George Cotton to hold in fee. There was then a Chantry House, opposite the south side of the church yard, with some 7 acres of arable land and a close in Clipsham.⁸¹

The chantry of St. Maur is mentioned in the registers of Bishop Russell (1480-1494).⁸²

A hermitage at Norewode, apparently in Clipsham parish, existed c. 1227, when a chaplain was presented to it by Roger de Cantilupe,⁸³ presumably as guardian of the heir of John de Freney.⁸⁴ The rector of Clipsham gave his consent and the rights of his and the neighbouring churches were reserved.⁸⁵

There are no charities for this parish.

EGLETON

Egelton (xiii, xiv cent.); Egilton (xvi cent.); Egleton, Egleton (xvii, xviii cent.).

Egleton is a small civil parish formerly included as one township with Oakham and Gunthorpe,¹ and was until recently attached ecclesiastically to Oakham, but has now been joined to Hambleton. The parish contains 923 acres of clay land, mostly laid down to grass, but there is a small amount of arable land. A stream forms the northern boundary of the parish, from which the land rises slightly and falls again to another stream in a shallow valley on the south side of the village.

The village lies about half a mile on the east side of the main road from Oakham to Uppingham and 1½ mile south-east of Oakham. It is grouped round two rough squares between the stream on the south and the church on the north, and affords a pleasing picture with its stone farms and cottages with their stone and thatch roofs. The stream on the south of the village wandered through the common fields of the parish, but when these were inclosed in 1756 provision was made for straightening its course. Amongst those who consented to the scheme for inclosure under an Act of Parliament were certain tenants of the manor holding freehold cottages, each of whom was entitled to common for a cow and five sheep in the common fields, for which they received compensation in allotments of land.² Worked flints of the Neolithic period have been found in the parish.³

EGLETON is not mentioned by name *MANOR* in Domesday Book in 1086, but was one of the five berewicks attached to the king's manor of Oakham (q.v.).⁴ It was held by the lords of Oakham Castle and Manor, but in the 14th century was generally described as a hamlet⁵ rather than a manor, and it is doubtful if it had a separate court.⁶ It was called a manor in 1484 in the grant of Oakham and its dependencies to Henry Grey, Lord of Codnor.⁷ In the time of Edward, Duke of Buckingham, a separate court for Egleton Manor was apparently held, and the perquisites of the court were valued after his attainder in 1521 at 6s. 6d. a year.⁸ Egleton was separated from Oakham under the grant in 1528 from Henry VIII to Sir Anthony Browne and his

wife Alice.⁹ The grantees, however, seem to have reconveyed it to the king, and the manor remained in the Crown until Queen Elizabeth sold it in 1600 to Sir John Spencer, knt., subject to the interests of various leaseholders.¹⁰ Sir John died seised of the manor of Egleton in 1610, and it passed to his daughter and heir Elizabeth, wife of William, Lord Compton.¹¹ William, Lord Compton, was created Earl of Northampton in 1618,¹² and he and his son Spencer granted it to trustees, who were certainly in seisin of the manor in 1627.¹³ They apparently sold it to George, Duke of Buckingham, since it was amongst his possessions which were seized under the Commonwealth. In 1652 the Commissioners for Forfeited Lands conveyed it to Oliver Cromwell,¹⁴ but after the Restoration the manor was recovered by the Duke of Buckingham,¹⁵ to whom it belonged in 1684.¹⁶ From this time it has followed the descent of the manor of Oakham Lordshold (q.v.)¹⁷ and now belongs to Mr. Wilfred H. M. Finch.

A portion of Egleton called the *HIDE* appears to have been separated from the rest of the hamlet.¹⁸ In 1300 the Hide paid 16d. a year for sheriff's aid to the lord of Oakham and a free tenant called Walter atte Hide held a messuage, a bovat of land at a rent of 13s. 4d. and did suit of court at Oakham.¹⁹ Various other persons of the same surname appear, but it is not known if they succeeded to Walter's tenement. In 1335 William atte Hide of Egleton was a witness to a proof of age at an inquisition²⁰ and in 1346 he was one of the collectors of the tenth and fifteenth in Rutland;²¹ in 1373-1375, John atte Hide of Egleton was controller of the works at Oakham Castle and he was living in 1397.²²

The lords of Oakham Castle and manor held a view of frankpledge in the Hide of Egleton.²³ In 1588 Queen Elizabeth leased the view of frankpledge with the demesne lands of the manor for 21 years to Thomas Key and in 1600 she sold the reversion in fee of the lease with the manor to Sir John Spencer.²⁴

In 1756 Thomas Carter, miller, owned a windmill in Egleton, with 32 perches of land in the common fields. At the inclosure of the parish, it was agreed

⁸¹ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1553, p. 154.

⁸² *Linc. Episc. Reg. Instit. Bp. Russell*, fo. 55 d.

⁸³ *Rot. Hug. de Welles* (Cant. and York Soc.), ii, 137.

⁸⁴ *Ibid.* 100.

⁸⁵ *Ibid.* 137.

¹ *Feud. Aids*, iv, 207.

² *Priv. Act of Parl.* 29 Geo. II, cap.

52.

³ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 84.

⁴ *Ibid.* 139.

⁵ *Cal. Inq.* iii, no. 604 (p. 461); *Cal. Pat. R.* 1307-13, p. 497; *Feud. Aids*, iv, 207.

⁶ Moreover, the customary payments called *Scorfe* and *headsilver* made by the

villeins were included in the amount paid by their fellows at Oakham.

⁷ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1476-85, p. 433.

⁸ *Chan. Inq.* p.m. (Ser. ii), lxxxii, no. 303; *Rent. and Surveys* (P.R.O.), ptf. 19, no. 1; *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, iv, g. 6490 (23).

⁹ *Ibid.* g. 3991 (8).

¹⁰ *Pat. R.* 42 Eliz. pt. 14; *Wright, Hist. of Rutl.* 43.

¹¹ *Chan. Inq.* p.m. (Ser. ii), ccxviii, no. 165.

¹² *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), iii, 391.

¹³ *Ibid.*; *Close R.* 1653, pt. 13, no. 27.

¹⁴ *Ibid.*

¹⁵ *Recov. R. Mich.* 12 Chas. II, ro. 134.

¹⁶ *Wright, op. cit.* 75.

¹⁷ *Recov. R. Mich.* 15 Geo. III, ro. 289; *Feet of F. Rutl. Trin.* 45 Geo. III; *William White, Hist. Gaz. and Dir. of Leic. and Rutl.* 1846, 1862, 1874.

¹⁸ *Cal. Inq.* iii, no. 604; *Cal. Pat. R.* 1307-13, p. 497; 1313-17, p. 576; 1330-34, p. 540.

¹⁹ *Chan. Inq.* p.m. Edw. I, file 95, no. 13; *Cal. Inq.* loc. cit.

²⁰ *Ibid.* vii, no. 691.

²¹ *Cal. Close R.* 1346-49, no. 128.

²² *Cal. Pat. R.* 1370-74, p. 349; 1374-77, p. 105; *Cal. Close R.* 1374-77, p. 40; 1396-99, p. 82-3.

²³ *Ibid.* 1296-1302, p. 426; *Cal. Pat. R.* 1307-13, p. 497; 1313-17, p. 574.

²⁴ *Pat. R.* 42 Eliz. pt. 14.

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that he should be given a holding of the same size in the common-fields of Oakham and that the Earl of Winchelsea and Nottingham and his trustees, as lords of the manor and owners of the Oakham land, would undertake to move and re-erect the windmill.²⁵

The church of *ST. EDMUND* consists of chancel 28 ft. 6 in. by 15 ft. 3 in., clearstoried nave 41 ft. 6 in. by 20 ft., south porch 8 ft. 6 in. by 12 ft. 3 in., and west tower 9 ft. square, all these measurements being internal. The tower is surmounted by a spire. There was formerly a north aisle of four bays.

With the exception of the tower, which is faced with ashlar, the building is of rubble,²⁶ with low-pitched leaded roofs. There are plain parapets to the chancel, but the nave roof is eaved. The walls are plastered internally.

The building dates from the 12th century, to which period the existing chancel arch and south doorway belong, together with a considerable portion of the walling of the nave. The church remained unaltered

12th-century work. It has a semicircular arch with chevron and double-cone moulding and outer band of star pattern, springing from enriched square impostes supported on nook-shafts with carved cushion capitals. The soffit of the arch is plain and the hood-mould terminations are a beast's head and a mask. The western shaft is covered with a variety of devices²⁹ and that on the east with a flat zigzag pattern.³⁰ Within the arch is a remarkable tympanum of elaborate design, in the centre of which is a large six-limbed geometrical figure, perhaps a conventional rose, set within a circular cable border. The border also encloses a series of shallow concentric circles, and is supported by a dragon and a beast perhaps intended for a lion, both with their claws on the cable and tugging at the ends of another cable above it. On the lintel is a band of scroll foliage with cable above and a wavy line below.³¹

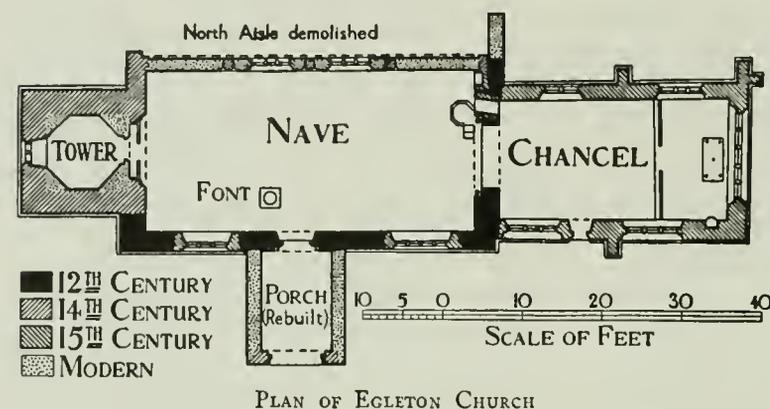
The chancel is divided externally into two bays by buttresses, and there is a pair of buttresses at the north-east, but none at the south-east angle.³² There

is a small priest's doorway in the south wall, and with one exception the windows have four-centred heads, hood-moulds and cinquefoiled lights. The east window is of five lights with tracery, but the two windows on the south side and the easternmost on the north are without tracery and of three lights. The remaining two-light window is square-headed. The sills of the two south windows are lowered to form seats and in the usual position is a moulded piscina, with projecting angular grooved trough. There is a four-

centred moulded wall recess below the north-east window, and in the east wall, on either side of the altar, a plain image bracket. The roof has a plastered ceiling of four bays, between exposed tie-beams. The floor is flagged.

North of the chancel arch, at the north-east corner of the nave, is a blocked doorway to the rood loft stair and above it the opening to the loft. The lower doorway is four-centred, the upper square-headed. There is also a squint, with plain four-centred head, cut through the wall north of the chancel arch, directed from the former north aisle. The 15th-century oak rood screen is now in front of the tower arch. It is of three bays, with wide middle opening and traceried lower panels, and on either side are three trefoiled openings. The upper rail has a band of alternate heads and flowers. The screen has been partly restored and reduced in height.

The 14th-century arcade, now incorporated in the north wall of the nave, consists of four pointed arches of two chamfered orders with hood-moulds, on octagonal piers with moulded capitals. The inserted windows are of similar design to the three-light windows of the chancel, but the four clear-



till the 14th century, when a north aisle was thrown out, an arcade with clearstory over being erected, and the tower and porch added. The chancel seems to have been rebuilt in its present form in the 15th century, and new windows were inserted in the nave. There appears to be no record of the date of the removal of the aisle, but when this took place the arcade was left standing, the arches being blocked²⁷ and windows inserted in the filling of the two middle bays. The spire and the two upper stages of the tower were rebuilt more than a century ago,²⁸ and the porch, too, appears to have been rebuilt. There was a restoration in 1872.

The semicircular chancel arch is 7 ft. 9 in. wide and of two chamfered orders, resting on large square impostes and single nook-shafts on the nave side with carved capitals and moulded bases. Both impostes and shafts are highly enriched, the former with cable, billet, chevron and guilloche mouldings and scroll foliage, and the shafts with beaded chevrons and trellis pattern respectively. The capitals of the shafts are carved with conventional foliage and the bases have a cable moulding.

The south doorway is an equally good example of

²⁵ Priv. Act of Parl. 29 Geo. II, cap. 52.

²⁶ The east wall of the chancel has bands of coloured stone.

²⁷ The external facing of the filling is of ashlar.

²⁸ Laird, writing about 1810, described the tower as 'quite modern' (*Topog. and*

Hist. Desc. Rutl. 59). The old tower is said to have been destroyed by fire (*Rutl. Mag.* i, 175).

²⁹ Plaits, guilloche, chevron, trellis and interlacing patterns.

³⁰ A pattern suggesting the binding of thongs.

³¹ Keyser, *Norman Tympana*, 2nd ed., 16-17, where the tympanum is figured (fig. 28) and other references given.

³² This may indicate the retention of some portion of the earlier chancel walling at the time of rebuilding.



EGLETON CHURCH: THE SOUTH DOORWAY



EGGLETON CHURCH FROM THE SOUTH-EAST



EGGLETON CHURCH : THE INTERIOR, LOOKING EAST

story windows are square-headed and of two trefoiled lights. The two large pointed windows on the south side of the nave, as already noted, are 15th-century insertions.³³ That east of the porch is of four cinquefoiled lights with tracery and battlemented transom below which the lights are again cusped; the other is of three cinquefoiled lights, with the mullions continued to the head, and the transom is plain. Above the porch is a small square-headed two-light window, like those of the clearstory opposite, but without cusping. The grotesque stone corbels which supported the earlier roof still remain in the walls of the nave.³⁴

The porch, which is of great depth, has an outer continuous moulded ogee doorway and hood with head-stops. Its flat-pitched gable has a moulded coping.

The tower is of three stages, but only the lower portion of the 14th-century structure, with a pointed west window of two trefoiled lights, remains. There is no vice, and the angles are without buttresses. The arch to the nave is of three chamfered orders, the outer continuous and the inner order on half-octagonal responds with moulded capitals. The arch is blocked on the west side and a modern doorway inserted. The filling in of the internal angles of the tower is modern and exists only on the ground floor. The two modern upper stages are faced with closely jointed ashlar, and the bell-chamber windows are wide single openings with segmental heads. The tower terminates in a plain parapet with angle pinnacles. The spire has plain angles and is pierced with three tiers of small holes on its cardinal faces. There is a cock vane.

The font dates from c. 1200, and consists of a square bowl³⁵ on four modern legs and central shaft, set on the original chamfered plinth. The sides of the bowl are carved with a floriated Calvary cross between two discs³⁶ (east), a six-leaved flower or star (west), a plain Latin cross (north), and a circle, now nearly obliterated (south).

The church was reseated in 1872, but four old bench-ends with carved poppy-heads remain in the nave. The pulpit is modern. There are no monuments older than 1756.³⁷

In the tower are two bells, both blank.³⁸

The plate consists of a cup and cover paten of 1569-70, and a two-handled porringer of 1719-20. There are also two pewter plates.³⁹

The registers before 1812 are as follows: (i) baptisms and burials 1538-1768, marriages 1538-1754; (ii) baptisms and burials 1767-1812; (iii) marriages 1754-1812.

The chapel of Egleton was formerly appurtenant to the church of Oakham (q.v.). It would be included among the chapelry attached to Oakham

when, in 1229, the rector, Gilbert Marshall, obtained for tenants of the church of Oakham and its chapels the privilege of being quit of suit at the shire and hundred courts and of the payment of the sheriff's aid.⁴⁰ The chapel is mentioned in 1374, 1534 and 1584.⁴¹ The rectory of Egleton was appropriated by the Abbey of Westminster, which held the advowson of Oakham church, but the two rectories formed separate estates. In 1509 that of Egleton was leased at a rent of £6 13s. 4d. to Sir Maurice Berkeley, knt.⁴² After the dissolution of the abbey, the tithes of Egleton were granted in 1542 to the short-lived cathedral church of Westminster.⁴³ In 1613 the rectory was apparently in the hands of Elizabeth, the wife of William, Lord Compton,⁴⁴ although it had not been included in the grant of the manor to her father, Sir John Spencer, knt.⁴⁵ It seems, however, to have been recovered by the collegiate church of Westminster, since the Dean and Chapter were the impropriators at the time of the Civil War. In 1658 the rectory was let on lease at £17 a year, which was then received by the Trustees for the Maintenance of Ministers.⁴⁶ The Dean and Chapter again recovered possession after the Restoration, and in 1756 they as impropriators of the rectory held some 39 acres of land and two-thirds of the tithes, leased for a term of 21 years to the Earl of Winchelsea. The common fields of Egleton were inclosed by an Act of Parliament in that year, and land was allotted in lieu of the tithes.⁴⁷ The chapelry is now annexed to Hambleton.

In 1547 the vicar of Oakham had only one curate to assist him, though there were several chantry priests,⁴⁸ but in the 17th century the chapel was served by a curate appointed by the vicar of Oakham. In 1658 his parishioners petitioned the Council of State for a rearrangement of the vicarage, by separating its dependent chapels, except Barleythorpe chapel. Egleton was to be united to Brooke and endowed with the vicarial tithes of both hamlets, augmented by £21 from the profits of the impropriations. It was hoped that 'the chapels of ease shall be more certainly and efficiently provided with painfull and pious ministers,'⁴⁹ but the scheme was not carried out and at the Restoration the rectory was restored to the Dean and Chapter. In 1756 the vicar of Oakham owned a third of the tithes of Egleton in right of his church and was allotted land in their place at the inclosure.⁵⁰

The Trinity Gild in Egleton held lands in Egleton and Oakham valued, in 1547, at 108s. 6d. a year, out of which the wardens paid rents of 29s. a year. The gild priest was old and unable to serve a cure, but he was 'a very poor man of good repute among his neighbours.' He probably helped to serve the chapel, as the parish was badly understaffed. A memorandum is appended to the certificate of the possessions of the gild, by the commissioners under

³³ East of the porch, however, the wall is reduced in thickness, and may be a rebuilding contemporary with the window.

³⁴ Five on each side, but one on the south is missing. The present roof is similar to that of the chancel.

³⁵ The bowl was found in 1872 and replaced in the church.

³⁶ Or more properly two eight-rayed wheels within circles.

³⁷ In the chancel are mural tablets to Thomas Crofts (1756), Mary Dain (1768) and Thomas Tomson (1797).

³⁸ North, *Cb. Bells of Rutl.* 128. They are respectively 15 in. and 39 in. diam. It was presented in 1605 that 'Mr. Harbottle's father of Egleton about 50 or 60 years since sold the great bell' (Irons' Notes, Archd. Visit.).

³⁹ Hope, *Cb. Plate in Rutl.* 4.

⁴⁰ *Cal. Chart. R.* i, 103, 106.

⁴¹ Linc. Episc. Reg. Mem. Bp. Buckingham, pt. ii, fol. 203; *Valor Eccles.* (Rec. Com.), iv, 344; Rutl. Archd. Rec. 1584.

⁴² Mins. Accts. (P.R.O.), Hen. VIII, no. 7239, pt. i, fol. 52 d.

⁴³ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xvii, g. 714 (5).

⁴⁴ Feet of F. Div. Cos. Mich. 10 Jas. I.

⁴⁵ Pat. R. 42 Eliz. pt. 14; Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), cccxviii, 165.

⁴⁶ S.P. Dom. (Interreg.), vol. clxxxii, no. 75.

⁴⁷ Priv. Act of Parl. 29 Geo. II, cap. 52.

⁴⁸ Chant. Cert. (P.R.O.), no. 39.

⁴⁹ S.P. Dom. loc. cit.

⁵⁰ Priv. Act of Parl. loc. cit.

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the Act for the Dissolution of the Chantries, urging that the endowment of the gild should be retained to provide another priest to help the vicar of Oakham.⁵¹ The recommendation was not accepted, and in 1549 the lands of the gild were sold to Sir Edward Warner, knt., and John Gosnold,⁵² who conveyed them in the same year to Robert Harebottell.⁵³

Egleton suffered from the general neglect of the chapelries of Oakham during the time of Thomas Thickpenny, vicar of Oakham (1565 to 1596). Francis Pratt was presented in 1576 for saying to Thickpenny that 'if all covetousness were lost it would be found in you priests . . . and in the chancel of Egleton.' The church was at this time served by Thomas Ashbrooke, a layman and schoolmaster at Oakham, who was licensed by the Bishop of Peterborough. He had aided in administering the Communion, which was celebrated only once a year—none 'would receive often if it were oftener ministered unto them.' Ashbrooke was ordered to desist from administering the sacrament and the vicar warned to have four celebrations a year. In 1586 it was reported 'that the vicar letteth his benefice and there is an alehouse kept upon it.' The negligence continued through

the early part of the 17th century, when Zacharias Seaton, the farmer of the rectory, was presented for not keeping the chancel in repair.⁵⁴

Nicholas Towell, by his will dated *CHARITIES* 21 December 1774, bequeathed £100, the interest to be distributed by the vicar and churchwardens to the poor. It cannot be ascertained whether the whole of the legacy was paid, but it is known that £11 was placed out at interest with a person who became insolvent. Since the year 1800 Mr. Richard Needham paid £3 11s. 6d. a year to the charity. In 1864 a Mr. Thomas Needham paid the sum of £25 to the official trustees. The endowment now consists of a sum of £27 3s. 4d. 2½ per cent. Consolidated Stock with the Official Trustees, producing 13s. 4d. annually in dividends, which are distributed by the vicar and churchwardens amongst the poor, together with the income arising from the poor's money.

Poor's Money.—The origin of this charity is unknown. The endowment consists of a sum of £10 16s. 4d. 2½ per cent. Consolidated Stock with the Official Trustees, producing 5s. 4d. annually in dividends.

LANGHAM

Langham, Langeham (xiii cent. onwards); Longham (xvi cent.).

The parish of Langham lies on the Leicestershire border of the county and contains 2,920 acres of land. Ranksborough Hill in the west of the parish rises to a height of 626 ft., and the land falls from it in a south-easterly and easterly direction about 200 ft. to the stream called the Dyke, a tributary of the Gwash,

the Rutland forest settlements, it is built along roads forming a rectangular figure with the church on the north-east side and the stream running through the south side of the figure. The back premises of the houses built on the north and south sides of the original enclosure extend to lanes which form an outer ring of the village, except on the west side, which is bounded by the Melton Mowbray-Oakham road.



LANGHAM: THE VILLAGE

that runs approximately through the middle of the parish. The land rises very slightly on the south side of this stream. The soil is sand and the subsoil Upper and Middle Lias, and nearly the whole of the parish is pasture land.

The large and somewhat scattered village stands at a bend in the road from Melton Mowbray to Oakham about two miles from the latter town. Like many of

The houses and cottages are mostly of red brick, but a few thatched cottages remain. The population is mainly agricultural, but a brewery, established in 1858, gives employment to a fair number of men. Langham Institute was founded in 1890 by public subscription on land given by the Earl of Gainsborough. It has a reading room and library.

Langham House was purchased in 1890 by Col.

⁵¹ Chant. Cert. (P.R.O.), no. 39.

⁵² Cal. Pat. R. 1548-9, p. 216.

⁵³ Rutl. Mag. i, 170-2, where an account of the gild is given.

⁵⁴ Irons' Notes, Archd. Visit.



LANGHAM: THE OLD HALL, SOUTH FRONT



LANGHAM: THE OLD HALL, NORTH FRONT



LANGHAM CHURCH FROM THE SOUTH



LANGHAM CHURCH : THE INTERIOR, LOOKING EAST

Clarke-Jervoise (later Sir Henry), a great benefactor to the church and village. At his death in 1908 it passed to his cousin, Sir Harry Clarke-Jervoise, who sold it to Mr. Owen Hugh Smith. The Old Hall, the residence of Mr. Smith, is a 17th-century two-story stone building of simple design, with low mullioned windows, stone-slatted roof, and gabled stone dormers, to which recent extensive additions have been made and the interior modernised. On the old south front, which is of rubble and has a square-headed middle doorway, is the date 1665, but the principal entrance is now on the north side. The west wing dates from 1926.



SMITH. Or a cheveron cotised between three demigripons sable, those in the chief face to face.

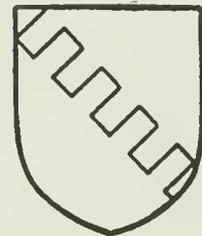
Another picturesque but undated 17th-century house, known as The Manor, is generally of the same type, but has a two-story mullioned bay window on each side of the doorway.

Ranksborough Hill is said to have been the site of a Roman camp, but there are only very slight traces of its earthworks.¹ Near to it is Ranksborough, the property of the Marquess of Londonderry. A model farm adjoining, at which pedigree red poll cattle and Suffolk punches are bred, belongs to Mr. Owen Hugh Smith.

Simon Langham, Archbishop of Canterbury (1366–68) and Cardinal of St. Sixtus (1368), is said to have been born at Langham in 1310. Besides his public and political career, which culminated in his appointment as Chancellor, he was a great benefactor to Westminster Abbey, where he was a monk and abbot. He is also said to have rebuilt the chapel of Langham, which belonged to the abbey.²

LANGHAM may be identified as one of MANOR the five unnamed berewicks which were attached to Oakham in 1086.³ It was held by the lords of Oakham Castle (q.v.).⁴ In 1360 it was said to be no manor, but it had a court in 1388.⁵ On the death of Humphrey de Bohun, Earl of Hereford, in 1372, Oakham and its members came into the king's hands, but the manor of Langham was assigned to Joan, Countess of Hereford, until her death in 1419.⁶ The manor then reverted to the lords of Oakham, until the death of Eleanor, Duchess of Buckingham, in 1530.⁷ Owing to the attainder and execution of Edward, Duke of Buckingham, in 1521, the reversion of his estates after her death belonged to the Crown, and in 1531 Henry VIII granted Langham to Henry Norris, an

esquire of the king's body, for life.⁸ Norris, however, was attainted for treason in 1536,⁹ and in 1538 it was granted in fee with Oakham to Thomas Cromwell, Lord Cromwell, afterwards Earl of Essex. Cromwell immediately settled the manor on his son and heir Gregory and his wife Elizabeth, with remainder to their son Henry.¹⁰ The manor escaped forfeiture on Cromwell's fall and execution in 1540, and was held by Gregory.¹¹ In the same year the barony was restored to him and Langham passed to his son Henry (d. 1592) and grandson Edward.¹² Edward in 1600 granted a lease of the manor with all its appurtenances at a rent of 20s. for 200 years to Thomas Philipps and Ralph Holland.¹³ Philipps and Holland were financiers and the lease was probably made as security for a loan, which was doubtless repaid when Edward sold the manor in the same year to Sir Andrew Noel. Edward, son of Sir Andrew Noel, became the second Viscount Campden by marriage with Juliana, eldest daughter and heir of Baptist Hicks, first Viscount Campden.¹⁴ In 1630 Juliana and her sister Mary, with their respective husbands, granted a rent of £100 received from the manor to Henry Noel of North Luffenham,¹⁵ the younger son of Juliana, who died a prisoner in the hands of Parliament, leaving no children.¹⁶ It appears to have passed to Henry Noel, the second son of Baptist, third Viscount Campden, whose daughter and heir Juliana married Charles Boyle, Earl of Burlington. They owned the rent of £100 from the manor of Langham in 1693¹⁷ and their son Richard, the third Earl, in 1721.¹⁸ The latter died in 1753 and his daughter Charlotte was his heir.¹⁹ Langham passed to the Earl of Gainsborough²⁰ and the manor now belongs to the trustees of the present Earl, who is a minor.



BOYLE. Party bendwise and bated argent and gules.

The lords of the manor of Oakham held a view of frankpledge for Langham and also had infangthief and outfangthief in the soke.²¹ The villein tenants in Langham paid an aid to their lord called 'scorfe,' which in 1392 amounted to £13 6s. 8d. a year. This aid was expressly excepted from the grant of Langham manor to Joan, Countess of Hereford.²² As late as 1846 the copyholds of the manor were subject to arbitrary fines.²³

In 1536 certain mills at Langham were let at farm at a rent of £13 16s. 4d. One was a windmill, which needed repair while the manor was in the king's hands after the attainder of Henry Norris. At the same period a new kiln-house was built.²⁴ Two

¹ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 90.
² *Diet. Nat. Biog.*; William White, *Hist. Gaz. and Directory of Leic. and Rutl.* 1846.

³ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 139.
⁴ *Cal. Inq.* iii, no. 604; ix, no. 56; *Cal. Pat. R.* 1307–1313, p. 497; *Feud. Aids*, iv, 207; *Chan. Inq. Misc.* cxxxix, 20; *Cal. Close R.* 1374–77, p. 176.

⁵ *Cal. Inq.* x, no. 639; *Chan. Inq. p.m.* Ric. II, no. 23.

⁶ *Ibid.*; *Cal. Close R.* 1374–77, p. 176; *Cal. Chant. R.* 1341–1417, 330; *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 7 Hen. V, no. 59.

⁷ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1476–85, p. 433; *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, v, g. 318 (10).

⁸ *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), ii, 391; *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, loc. cit.

⁹ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), lxxxii, 71; *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, x, no. 878 (2); g. 1015 (38); *Mins. Accts.* (P.R.O.), Hen. VIII, no. 6066.

¹⁰ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xiii, pt. i, g. 1519 (2); pt. ii, g. 967 (54).

¹¹ *Ibid.* xvi, no. 744; *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), xciv, 45; *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), iii, 557–8.

¹² *Ibid.*; *Recov. R. Mich.* 33 Eliz. ro. 86.

¹³ Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 42 and 43 Eliz. This lease cannot be traced later.

¹⁴ *Recov. R. Mich.* 42 and 43 Eliz. ro.

35; Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 43 Eliz.; *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), ii, 515–16.

¹⁵ Feet of F. Rutl. East. 6 Chas. I.

¹⁶ Burke, *Peerage and Baronetage*, 1930.

¹⁷ *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), ii, 432; *Recov. R. Trin.* 5 Will. & M. ro. 212.

¹⁸ *Ibid.* 7 Geo. I, ro. 238.

¹⁹ *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), ii, 433; iii, 303.

²⁰ White, op. cit. 1846, 1868, 1874.

²¹ *Chan. Misc. bdl.* 8, no. 3; *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), xciv, 45.

²² *Cal. Chant. R.* 1341–1417, 330.

²³ White, op. cit. 1846.

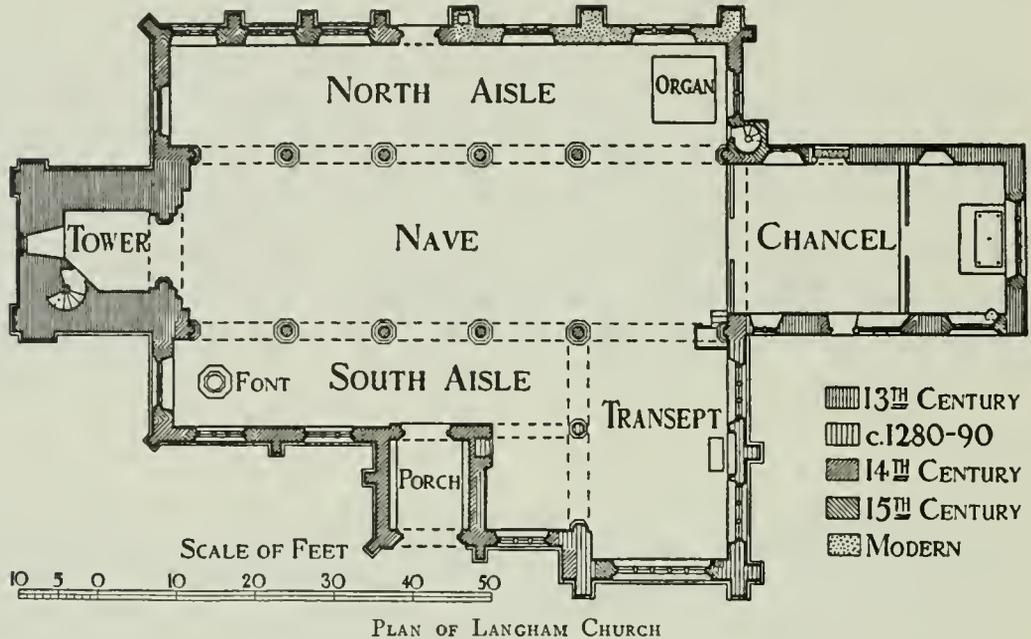
²⁴ *Mins. Accts.* (P.R.O.), Hen. VIII, no. 6066.

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mills were attached to the manor when it was sold to Sir Andrew Noel.²⁵

The church of *ST. PETER AND CHURCH ST. PAUL* was formerly cruciform, but now consists of chancel 33 ft. by 19 ft., clearstoried nave 68 ft. 6 in. by 20 ft., north and south aisles, south transept 27 ft. 6 in. by 17 ft. 6 in. with west aisle 11 ft. 6 in. wide, south porch, and west tower 10 ft. square, all these measurements being internal. The tower is surmounted by a broach spire. The north aisle of the nave is 12 ft. 6 in. wide and the south aisle 11 ft., the width across nave and aisles being 47 ft. 6 in. The north transept, which seems to have been of equal size to that on the south, is said to

added, or an existing transept remodelled c. 1280-90, and a further rebuilding of the whole fabric took place in the 14th century, to which period the present nave arcades, the chancel arch and the porch belong. The aisles also appear to have been rebuilt above sill level at this time, and the transept remodelled.²⁸ The difference in character between the east windows of the transept and that at the end of its west aisle, which is of fully developed 14th-century character, suggests that all this work was spread over a considerable period, or was perhaps executed at two separate times. In the 15th century the roofs of the chancel, nave and aisles were taken down and new ones erected, a clearstory being added to the nave: new windows were inserted



have been taken down in 1802, when the outer wall of the aisle was carried eastward in its present form.

The chancel and the east wall of the transept are of coursed local ironstone interspersed with bands of freestone,²⁶ but elsewhere the walls are faced with grey ashlar,²⁷ and all the roofs are of low pitch and leaded. Internally, with the exception of the tower, the walls are plastered.

The existing plan may have developed from a cruciform 12th-century building with tower at the crossing, but of this older fabric no part remains, the earliest parts of the present building being the chancel and tower, which are of 13th-century date, at which period probably the whole church was rebuilt, the central tower, if such existed, being removed either when the new tower at the west end was begun or at its completion. The south transept appears to have been

in the chancel and aisles and at the end of the transept, and battlemented parapets with enriched cornices and curved finials on the gables, similar in style to those at Oakham Church,²⁹ were erected throughout.

The chancel was restored in 1876-8,³⁰ under the direction of Mr. Ewan Christian, and the nave in 1880 by Bodley and Garner. In 1890 the floors were renewed, and in 1899 the north aisle roof. There were other repairs of the roofs in 1903.³¹

The chancel is without buttresses, and retains a widely splayed lancet window³² at the east end of the north wall, and at the west end of the south wall a wider single-light pointed window with soffit cusping, the sill of which is dropped, and the lower portion divided by a transom and mullion to form two small low-side openings.³³ The round-headed piscina recess is also of the 13th century,³⁴ and there is a rectangular

²⁵ Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 43 Eliz.

²⁶ At the east end the bands occur every fourth or sixth course: on the south side they are not continued the full length of the wall westward.

²⁷ The upper portion of the middle of the north wall of the chancel is also faced with ashlar.

²⁸ Though it is possible that some of this work is due to Simon de Langham, Abbot of Westminster and later Archbishop of Canterbury, nothing certain is known beyond the fact that he bestowed

benefactions on the place of his birth' (Note by Mr. V. B. Crowther-Benyon). He left a vestment and altar cloth to Langham (*Rutl. Mag.* i, 143, quoting will in Widmore, *Hist. of St. Peter's, Westm.*).

²⁹ The plan of the building, too, has certain affinities with that of the parent church at Oakham.

³⁰ It was reopened 2 May 1878.

³¹ The roofs of the south aisle, porch and aisle of transept were restored, and the transept roof taken off and all the unsound parts replaced. The old lead of the

south aisle roof was dated 1767 and that of the transept 1725 and 1772 (*Rutl. Mag.* i, 146).

³² The opening is 16 in. wide, and splays internally to 5 ft. 9 in. The hood has notch-stops.

³³ The transom is 2 ft. 6 in. above the sill, the height of which above the ground is about 4 ft. The mullion is rebated on both sides, but the west jamb only. Each of the lower openings is 11 in. wide.

³⁴ It is moulded all round and has a projecting fluted bowl.

aumbry in the north wall. The four-centred east window is a 15th-century insertion, and is of five lights with battlemented transom, and two other windows, one at the east end of the south wall of three lights, and the other at the west end of the north wall of two lights, are of the same period. The square-headed middle window on the south side is of the 14th century, but the priest's doorway, which has plain chamfered imposts, may be rather earlier. A doorway³⁵ in the north wall, now blocked, appears to have served a former vestry.

The arch to the nave, which is contemporary with the nave arcades, is the full width of the chancel, its two moulded orders dying into the wall on either side. The stairway to the rood-loft remains at the north end, entered by a 15th-century doorway, now blocked, from the former north transept.³⁶ The roof and all the chancel fittings are modern.³⁷ The altar and reredos date from 1895.

The 14th-century nave arcades are of five bays, with pointed arches of two orders, springing from octagonal piers with moulded capitals and bases, and from responds of similar character. The outer hollow chamfer of the arches is divided from the inner moulded order by a deep hollow; and the hood-moulds have good head-stops, alternately male and female. The eastern arch on each side is wider and higher than the others, its size being determined by the width of the transept, but the arcade is all of one build and design.

The south transept is of two bays marked externally by a buttress, and has pairs of buttresses at the angles. Each bay is lighted from the east by a large pointed window of three lights with uncusped intersecting tracery, and hood-moulds with notch-stops. These windows date from c. 1290, and may indicate the period when the transept was first built on its existing plan, its dividing arcade, which is also mainly of late 13th-century date, indicating that its west aisle belongs to the original design. There is a keel-shaped string at sill level inside along the east and south walls, and between the two east windows a wide 13th-century wall recess with moulded arch on attached jamb-shafts with fillet on face. The piscina in the south wall is also of the 13th century, with moulded trefoil arch, shafted jambs with moulded capitals and bases and fluted bowl.³⁸ The dividing arcade is of two bays with arches of two hollow-chamfered orders springing from an octagonal pier and south respond with moulded capitals and bases; the arches are apparently later than the pier and respond, and are probably contemporary with the nave arcade, from the adjoining pier of which the north arch springs on that side.³⁹ There is also a

transverse arch from the transept pier westward across the aisle. The great south window of the transept occupies nearly the whole of the wall and is a good example of 15th-century work, of five cinque-foiled lights with transom and Perpendicular tracery, though the hollow-chamfered jambs⁴⁰ point to its being an insertion in an earlier opening. The aisle is 4 ft. less in length than the transept proper and has a lean-to roof; it is lighted at the end by a beautiful 14th-century pointed window of three trefoiled lights with reticulated tracery, its inner moulded order being enriched with a profusion of ball-flower, and smaller ball-flowers occur in the hood-mould. The fine late 14th-century oak roof of the transept, though much restored, retains some good carved bosses, and is supported by boldly carved head corbels.

At the west end of the north aisle is a good 14th-century window of three lights, with reticulated tracery and shafted jambs with moulded capitals, and the east window is of two lights with modern Decorated tracery.⁴¹ Elsewhere in the aisles, however, the windows are 15th-century insertions of three cinquefoiled lights and Perpendicular tracery, except two⁴² in the rebuilt eastern portion of the north aisle, where all the work is modern. The line of the former north transept roof is on the wall of the nave below the clearstory windows. The north and south doorways are of 14th-century date, that on the north being apparently the earlier, of two moulded orders, the outer on nook-shafts with moulded capitals. The south doorway is of two hollow-chamfered orders with moulded imposts, and is covered by the porch, originally of two stories, but now open to the roof. Access to the porch chamber was by a stair from the transept aisle,⁴³ where the wall is thickened. The chamber was lighted by a square-headed window of two lights, the hood-mould of which is enriched with ball-flower.⁴⁴ The pointed outer doorway is of three hollow-chamfered orders, with moulded imposts, the inner order on responds with moulded capitals, which in the 18th century were mutilated to allow for the introduction of wooden gates.⁴⁵ In the north-east angle of the porch is a plain pointed niche.⁴⁶

The clearstory has five pointed windows on each side, of two trefoiled lights, with alternate quatrefoils and sexfoils in the head. There are also two similar windows in the east wall above the chancel arch. All the parapets follow the rakes of the gables, and the lower hollow moulding is everywhere enriched with a profusion of late type of ball-flower, heads, four-leaved flowers, and other ornaments,⁴⁷ animals occurring only on the transept. The buttresses of the south aisle and porch are carried up as pinnacles,

³⁵ It has the appearance of a modern restoration of a 14th-century doorway opening outwards.

³⁶ The door sill is about 2 ft. 6 in. above the floor.

³⁷ There is a low oak screen, with gates, below the arch: the floor is raised one step above that of the nave.

³⁸ No other ancient ritual arrangements remain in the transept, though it doubtless contained two altars. At the north end of the east wall is a mutilated image bracket supported by a head.

³⁹ The arches were originally filled by wooden screens, the mortice holes for which remain in the pier and respond.

⁴⁰ The jambs have three hollow chamfers, two of which are taken round the head of the window. The hood-mould has notch-stops.

⁴¹ On each side of this window inside is an image bracket, that on the south very small, but supported by a large head. The window, apparently an old one restored, if in its original position, was one of the east windows of the north transept. No ancient ritual arrangements remain in this part of the church.

⁴² Of these two windows, one in each bay, the westernmost has Perpendicular tracery, but in the other the mullions run up to the head without cusping. Both are of three lights.

⁴³ The lower part of the stair, which now serves as a cupboard, retains its original oak door; the sill is 3 ft. above the floor. Three or four steps remain. The upper doorway is blocked.

⁴⁴ There is an animal carved on the face of the stone above the hood-mould, at its east end.

⁴⁵ The gates still remain: on some iron-work which surmounts them is the date 1734.

⁴⁶ There is also a roughly formed recess, or niche, over the inner doorway, at the level of the chamber floor.

⁴⁷ On the chancel the ball-flower alone is used.

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

and there are also pinnacles at the angles of the transepts.

The tower is of three stages, and has a moulded plinth and pairs of wide but very shallow angle buttresses. The west window is a single widely splayed lancet and there is a similar window in the middle stage on the south side, but otherwise the two lower stages are blank. The vice is in the south-west angle. The deeply recessed bell-chamber windows are of two lancet lights, with arches of four orders and shafted jambs enriched with dog-tooth;⁴⁸ the spandrels are pierced on three sides by a pointed quatrefoil and on the north by an octofoil opening. The contemporary spire rises from a cornice of heads and flowers and has short broaches and plain angles. There are three tiers of gabled spire lights on the cardinal faces, each of two openings, the middle group enriched with dog-tooth. The larger lower lights were altered in the 14th century, when curvilinear tracery was introduced. Internally the tower opens to the nave by a pointed arch of three chamfered orders, the innermost on half-octagonal responds with moulded bases and capitals enriched with nail-head ornament. There is a square-headed opening above the arch.

The 14th-century font has a plain octagonal bowl moulded on the underside, and square stem with attached shafts with fillets and moulded bases, on an octagonal plinth. It has a modern flat oak cover.

The wooden pulpit and the seating are modern. There is an old iron-bound chest with one lock in the nave, which was given to the church by Mr. Owen H. Smith.

In the floor of the transept is an alabaster slab with incised effigies of a man and wife, the inscription on which reads 'Of your charity pray for [the sol]ls of John Clarke, Jane and Anys his wyves the which John deceydyt the iii day of February in [the yere of] owre lord God MCCCCXXXII [1532] on whose solls Jhū have mercy Amē.' The slab is broken, and the middle part⁴⁹ is missing: below the effigies are the smaller figures of eight children.

None of the heraldic glass mentioned by Wright in 1684 now remains.⁵⁰

There are six bells in the tower, the two trebles by Taylor of Loughborough, 1900; the third by Thomas Norris of Stamford, 1636; the fourth a late mediæval bell inscribed 'Sit Nomen Domini Benedictum'; the fifth by Thomas Hedderley of Nottingham, 1771; and the tenor by Thomas Norris, 1660.⁵¹

The plate consists of a cup and cover paten of

1679-80, and a flagon of 1724-5 given by Hannah Willes, widow.⁵²

The registers before 1812 are as follows: (i) all entries 1559-1633; (ii) 1633-54; (iii) 1658-87; (iv) baptisms and burials 1687-1769, marriages 1687-1754; (v) marriages 1754-93; (vi) baptisms 1770-98, burials 1770-99; (vii) marriages 1794-1812; (viii) baptisms and burials 1799-1812.

The churchyard was levelled and inclosed by a new wall in 1897-98 by the generosity of Sir Henry Clarke-Jervoise, and the churchyard enlarged on the south-west side in 1921. The work was mostly carried out free of cost by the inhabitants of Langham. A memorial cross to the men of the parish killed in the war, 1914-19, was erected in the churchyard.

Some idea of the condition of the church in the 17th century can be obtained from the archdeacon's visitations.⁵³ In 1605 the chancel was unpaved and stones lay in the corner 'very unseemly'; the communion table was in decay and the carpet for it 'is naught'; the seats were broken and needed repair and the font wanted a cover. In 1619 the chancel required whitening all over, 'being very foul and filthy,' and the roof defective; there was no paten, and a basin was sometimes used for christening; a school was kept in the church by Mr. Royd. In 1681 it was ordered that the chancel should be paved and the seats, floor and rood-loft be repaired, the windows glazed, and the Ten Commandments, Creed and Lord's Prayer and King's Arms be painted and the sanctus bell repaired and hung.

The chapel of St. Peter and St. ADVOWSON Paul⁵⁴ was severed from the church of Oakham before 1913. It was probably in existence in 1229, when certain immunities were granted to the tenants of Oakham Church and its chapels,⁵⁵ and it is mentioned as a chapelry of Oakham in 1534 and 1584.⁵⁶ The rectory of Langham was separated from that of Oakham, possibly with the original object of providing a stipend for a chaplain. When the abbey of Westminster, to whom the church of Oakham was granted, first by Edward the Confessor and then later by one of the Norman kings,⁵⁷ instituted the vicarage and appropriated the great tithes, the rectories of Oakham and Langham still seem to have remained separate. In 1509 Langham rectory was let at farm for £18 to Thomas Wyllewys, John Ball and Henry Hychcook at a rent of £18 a year.⁵⁸ The tithes of Langham were granted in 1542 to the Dean and Chapter of Westminster⁵⁹ and the custom of leasing the rectory was continued. In 1646 it was

⁴⁸ There are three banded jamb-shafts on each side, and two lines of dog-tooth; the dog-tooth is taken round the arch in the first and third orders. The mid-shafts have moulded capitals and bases.

⁴⁹ The parts of the inscription thus missing are in brackets. The man is represented in a merchant's gown with furred collar and sleeves. The inscription is round the verge. In Wright's day (1684) the tomb was on 'the left hand going into the chancel' (*Hist. Rutl.* 75). It is now in the south-east corner of the transept. Wright also records a gravestone with inscription to William Byby of Langham in 'the north building' (i.e. the north transept).

⁵⁰ He records four shields of arms in the windows—Hastings, Earl of Pembroke; Clare, Earl of Gloucester and Hertford; Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick; and Azure

three crowns or (St. Edmund) (Wright, loc. cit.). The glass is said to have been removed in 1876 (*Rutl. Mag.* i, 148). There is good modern glass designed by Mr. J. N. Comper in the east window of the chancel and south window of the transept.

⁵¹ The bells were restored and the first two recast in December 1900. The old treble was by Thomas Eyre of Kettering, 1754, but the second had been recast by Taylor in 1874. The fourth bears the royal arms and a cross, thought to have been originally the property of a London founder, but afterwards widely distributed. The arms show that the bell is later than 1413 (North, *Cb. Bells of Rutl.* 136, where the inscriptions are given). A piece of oak from the bell-chamber, preserved in the church, is inscribed 'E.C., H.H., C.W. 1662.'

⁵² Hoop, *Cb. Plate in Rutl.* 7. The cup is inscribed 'N. Moysey Curate, Tho. Hubbard, Will. White, churchwardens. Anno Dni. 1679,' and the flagon 'Langham. The gift of Hannah Willes, widow of W. Willes Esq., daughter of Doct. Cotton who was formerly curat of this Town.' The cup is by Ralph Leeke, of London; the flagon bears the maker's mark I.L.

⁵³ Irons' Notes, Archd. Visit.

⁵⁴ P.C.C. 2 Spert.

⁵⁵ *Cal. Chant. R.* 1226-57, 106.

⁵⁶ *Valor Eccles.* (Rec. Com.) iv, 344; *Rutl. Archd. Rec.* 1584.

⁵⁷ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 133.

⁵⁸ *Mins. Accts.* (P.R.O.), Hen. VIII, no. 7239, pt. i, fol. 52.

⁵⁹ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xvii, g. 714 (p. 395).

ordered by the Committee for Plundered Ministers that £50 from the tithes of Langham, sequestered from Lord Campden, delinquent, be given to the minister of Oakham,⁶⁰ and in 1650 it was reported that the parsonage of Langham was worth £120 a year, whereof the vicar of Oakham had £50 and the curate of Langham had the rest. The church, it was said, was fit to be a parish church.⁶¹ The vicar of Oakham appointed the curate to whom in 1658 the impropriate tithes were leased for £17, when the living was worth about £50 a year, the vicarial tithes being worth £40 a year.⁶² The tithes belonging to Langham rectory were exempted from the provisions of the Inclosure Act for Oakham.⁶³ In the reign of Henry II Walchelin de Ferrers granted the tithes of the mills of Langham to the Priory of Brooke.⁶⁴ In 1536 8s. a year was paid to the prior for tithes from the mills.^{64a} The Bishop of Peterborough is now patron.

Bishop Dalderby of Lincoln (1300-1328) granted an indulgence for the construction of the Chapel of the Hermitage of Langham,⁶⁵ the hermitage itself being probably already in existence. In 1320, and again in 1323, John de Norton, the hermit of Langham, was granted a royal protection for himself and his men seeking alms through the country.⁶⁶ In 1326 and 1327 John de Warrewyk appears as the hermit, and he and his men were still seeking alms, presumably for building the chapel,⁶⁷ but no later reference to the hermitage has been found.

The gild of Our Lady is mentioned in the will of John Bery of Langham, dated 1541, but it may possibly have been one of the Oakham gilds.⁶⁸

There is a Baptist chapel in the village, built in 1854.

The Bainton Poor's Land.—By *CHARITIES* indentures of lease and release, 1 May 1682, certain lands were given upon trust, the rents to be applied towards the relief of the poor and repair of the church at Langham. The endowment of the charity consists of a farm-house and land at Bainton and land at Glington (co. Northants), containing about 14 acres and 1 acre 1 rood respectively, producing about £29 per annum. The

charity is administered by the vicar and churchwardens together with Hubbard's Charity (see below), and the net income is applied in doles and bread for the poor and gifts of money to poor widows.

The Bilsdon Poor's Land.—By indentures of lease and release, dated 14 and 15 April 1685, a piece of land was conveyed in trust for the use of poor decayed inhabitants of Langham. The endowment now consists of a close of land at Billesdon (Leicester) containing about 6 acres and let at about £10 per annum. The net income, together with Clarke's Charity (see below), is distributed by the vicar and churchwardens in cash to about 20 or 30 poor people.

Frances Clarke's Gift consists of a sum of £10 per annum paid by the Tallow Chandlers' Company in London.

Henry Hubbard, by his will dated 15 November 1714, gave £40, £10 of which was to be applied towards the repair of the parish church and the income from the remainder to be given to the ten poorest widows in the parish. The endowment of the charity now consists of a rent-charge of £1 5s. per annum arising out of land at Sewstern. The charity is now administered by the vicar and churchwardens together with the Bainton Poor's Land.

Thomas Watkins ('In memoriam Thomas and Mary Watkins'), by his will proved at Birmingham 7 March 1905, bequeathed £10 to the trustees of the parish church at Langham, the income to be applied for the benefit of the poor at Christmas. The endowment of the charity consists of £9 16s. 11d. 2½ per cent. Consolidated Stock with the Official Trustees, producing 4s. 8d. per annum, which is given to two poor persons.

Thomas Busby of Meyford, co. Staffs, by his will dated 13 Dec. 1577 (P.C.C. 34 Watson), bequeathed to Dr. Gabriel Goodman, Dean of Westminster, and to Mr. Edward Chambers and their heirs one messuage or cottage in Langham, desiring them to bestow in deeds of charity to the poor sick and impotent people of Langham and Barleythorpe the yearly rent thereof. There is now no trace of this charity.

WARDLEY

Werlea (xi cent.); Warleg (xii cent.); Warley, Warlee, Warle (xiii cent.); Wardeley (xiv cent.).

The parish of Wardley comprises 748 acres and lies on the borders of Leicestershire. The soil is clay and the subsoil consists of Middle and Lower Lias and Inferior Oolite. The land falls from the north-east of the parish, where it reaches 535 ft. above the Ordnance datum, to Eye Brook, known in the 13th century as 'Litelye' water,¹ which forms the parish and county boundary on the west, where the land falls to a little under 300 ft. The parish lay in the Forest of Rutland or Leighfield, from which grants of trees and deer were made to the tenants of the manor in the 13th century;² at the present day the parish is all pasture and woodland, Wardley Wood occupying a large part of the south-east of the parish. The village stands on high land about a quarter of a mile south of the main road from Leicester to Uppingham,

from which latter town it is distant about 2½ miles. The cottages, which are mainly of stone, with stone, thatch or slate roofs, border a twisting and undulating lane branching from the main road to Uppingham. Like other neighbouring villages, evidences of former prosperity may be seen in the use of the walls of ruined cottages as boundary walls, etc. Wardley House, near the church, is a good stone-built farmhouse with barns and outbuildings. The nearest station is at East Norton (co. Leic.) on the London and North Eastern and the London Midland and Scottish Railways 2½ miles west of the village.

The manor of *WARDLEY* is not *MANOR* mentioned in Domesday Book (1086), but was probably included amongst the unnamed berewicks attached to Ridlington.³ Later it became attached to the Barony of Oakham (q.v.), of which it was held as half a knight's fee, but the exact

⁶⁰ S.P.D. Interreg. F1, fol. 283.

⁶¹ *Parl. Surv.* (Lambeth MS.), vii, p. 317.

⁶² S.P. Dom. clxxxii, no. 75.

⁶³ Priv. Act of Parl. 1 Geo. IV, cap. 25.

⁶⁴ Wright, op. cit. Additions, 5.

^{64a} Mins. Accts. (P.R.O.), Hen. VIII, no. 6066.

⁶⁵ Linc. Episc. Reg. Mem. Bp. Dalderby.

⁶⁶ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1317-21, p. 525; 1321-4, p. 283.

⁶⁷ *Ibid.* 1324-27, p. 318; 1327-30, p. 176.

⁶⁸ P.C.C. 2 Spert.

¹ *Rot. Hund.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 50.

² *Cal. Close R.* 1251-3, pp. 302, 334.

³ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 133.

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date is not known.⁴ In the early 12th century, Wardley was probably held by Richard Bassett, who, with his wife, Maud Ridel, about 1125, founded Launde Priory (co. Leic.), to which he gave the advow-

Robert de Tateshale, the father, died in 1336 when John was still a minor.¹⁵ John died in 1354 leaving a daughter Joan, then an infant,¹⁶ who died before 1377, when the custody of her daughter Mary de Percy

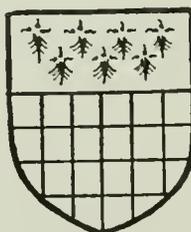


WARDLEY: OLD COTTAGES

son of the church.⁵ His son and heir Geoffrey Ridel, about 1160, granted Wardley to John son of John, whom he describes as his brother. On doing homage for Wardley and other lands, John gave a war-horse and a gold ring to Ridel. From another charter, he may be identified with John de Stuteville, who by 1166 had become by recent enfeoffment a military tenant of considerable importance under Ridel.^{5a} His successor was probably Roger de Stuteville, a benefactor in Wardley of Launde Priory.⁸

At the close of the 12th century, however, the immediate tenant of the manor was William Pantulf,⁷ through whose daughter Isolda the manor came to her son Robert de Tateshale, who had succeeded in 1223.⁸ A second Robert was holding of the Barony of Oakham in 1285 and died seised of the lordship of Wardley in or before 1304,⁹ and his son and heir, a third Robert, died on 30 January 1306, while in the king's wardship. His lands were divided between Emma, wife of Adam de Caylly, Joan, the wife of Robert de Driby, and Isabel, wife of John de Orreby, sisters of Robert, the grandfather or father,¹⁰ or their heirs, and Wardley was assigned to Isabel, who obtained seisin in 1309.¹¹ Her heir was her son Philip de Orreby,¹² who died in his father's lifetime, leaving a son John.¹³ On the death of John de Orreby, husband of Isabel, in 1328, the wardship of John, his grandson, was granted to Geoffrey le Scrop.¹⁴ Joan, widow of

was granted to Henry de Percy, Earl of Northumberland.¹⁷ Mary married John de Roos of Hamelak and died in 1395 without issue, when a partition was made of her lands between (1) Constantine de Clifton, son of Constantine the son of Adam, the son of Margery the daughter of Thomas Cayley, the son of Emma Tateshale the sister of Isabel mother of Philip de Orreby, ancestor of the said Mary, and (2) Ralph



TATESHALE. *Cbecky or and gules a chief ermine.*



ORREBY. *Gules two lions passant argent and a label or.*

de Cromwell, knt., husband of Maud daughter of John Bernak, son of Alice widow of William de Bernak and daughter of Joan de Driby sister of the said Isabel de Orreby.¹⁸ The Tateshale overlordship of Wardley is, however, last mentioned in 1362.^{18a}

Wardley was subinfeudated into three portions, all

⁴ *Cal. Inq.* iii, no. 604; *Cal. Inq. Misc.* ii, no. 1703; *Chan. Inq.* p.m. (Ser. ii), lii, 111.

⁵ Dugdale, *Mon. Angl.* vi, 138. Richard Bassett was living in 1130 (*Pipe R.* 31 Hen. I (Rec. Com.), p. 134).

^{5a} Harl. Ch. 55, D. 8; Lansd. Ch. (B.M.) 691; *Red Bk. of Exch.* (Rolls Ser.), 5.

⁶ Add. Ch. (B.M.), 47811.

⁷ William Pantulf, acting for Walter de Baskerville and Isolda his wife, brought an action in 1202 against the prior of Launde

to recover the advowson of Wardley church (*Assize R.* 613, m. 13). William married Joan daughter of Peter de Goldinton (*Abbrev. Plac.* (Rec. Com.), i, 27).

⁸ *Excerpt. e Rot. Fin.* i, 105. Robert is called grandson and heir of William Pantulf in 1228-9 (*Extracts from Curia Regis R.* 1211-31 (Leic. Arch. Soc.), 101).

⁹ *Chan. Inq.* p.m. 31 Edw. I, no. 40.

¹⁰ *Cal. Inq.* iv, no. 391. The co-heirs are given in the inquisition as sisters of the grandfather Robert, but in Wrottesley, *Ped. from the Plea R.* pp. 82, 85, they are

shown as daughters. Cf. also *ibid.*, 245, 542.

¹¹ *Ibid.*; *Cal. Close R.* 1307-13, p. 101.

¹² *Chan. Inq.* p.m. 36 Edw. III (pt. 1), no. 98.

¹³ *Cal. Fine R.* iv, pp. 78, 122, 127, 410, 476.

¹⁴ *Ibid.* 78.

¹⁵ *Ibid.* 476.

¹⁶ *Cal. Inq.* x, no. 105.

¹⁷ *Cal. Fine R.* ix, p. 137.

¹⁸ *Ibid.* xi, 145.

^{18a} *Cal. Close R.* 1360-64, p. 328.

held in demesne of the immediate tenants by military service. In the early 13th century, the main portion, to which the manorial rights were attached, was held apparently of William Pantulf, by Sir Henry Murdac, whose brother William may have preceded him here as well as at Ayston, which Sir Henry obtained in 1204.¹⁹ From a later Sir Henry Murdac, Peter de Neville seized Wardley, which was valued at £20 per annum, during the rising of Simon de Montfort, but it had been restored by 1265.²⁰ Probably this Peter was the tenant of 4½ acres of land, forming the smallest of the three holdings in Wardley, which was held directly from the Tateshales and not from Murdac;²¹ his granddaughter Alice, wife of John Hakluyt of Braunston, held it of the Orrebys in 1362.²² The manor, however, apparently passed from Sir Henry Murdac, who was living in 1269,²³ to his son William, and from this date it followed the descent of Ayston (q.v.). Mr. Vere Finch is now lord of the manor and sole landowner in the parish.

The third holding in Wardley, which probably consisted of a messuage and one virgate of land, was held directly of the Tateshales by military service.²⁴ In the 12th century it was apparently held by the Silitot family. Walter de Silitot was a witness of the charters of Geoffrey Ridel, granting Wardley to John de Stuteville.^{24a} John de Silitot, son of Hugh, in the early 13th century charged a certain bovate of land, which Roger de Stuteville had given to Nuneaton Priory, with a rent of 4s. a year for the benefit of the nuns, on condition that his father Hugh and his heirs should hold it for ever by that rent.²⁵ Possibly he was identical with John son of Hugh de Wardley, who seems to have held land there in 1249 together with Nicholas de Criol.²⁶ Before 1284 Silitot's holding seems to have been divided between two heiresses, Emma, wife of Nicholas Brymynghurst, and Isabel, wife of John de Boyville.²⁷ In 1288 Nicholas and Emma made a composition with the prioress of Nuneaton, with regard to the rent from the bovate of land granted by Stuteville,²⁸ and Nicholas was still the tenant in 1306 and 1309.²⁹ He died before 1312 and was succeeded by his son John, who in that year made an agreement with the nuns as to arrears.³⁰ The holding seems shortly afterwards to have passed to John Hakluyt, who died in 1358, seised of a capital messuage and land in Wardley.³¹ His successors in the manor of Braunston (q.v.) held land in Wardley in 1391 and 1435.³² In 1536 Richard Chesilden, presumably a younger son of the Chesildens of Braunston (q.v.), held lands in Wardley at the time of his death.³³

In 1306 John de Boyville answered for Isabella's moiety of Wardley,³⁴ and he seems to have been living

in 1320.³⁵ He was succeeded by Peter de Boyville, a contemporary of John Hakluyt,³⁶ but by 1428 these sub-tenancies had disappeared, and the manor was held in demesne by the John Boyville, last in the descent from Thomas Boyville and Alice Murdac.³⁷

The church of *ST. BOTOLPH CHURCH* consists of chancel 19 ft. 4 in. by 17 ft. 9 in., aisleless nave 38 ft. 9 in. by 18 ft., south porch, and west tower 5 ft. 10 in. square, all these measurements being internal. The tower is surmounted by a broach spire.

The chancel is modern, having been entirely rebuilt in 1871, but the nave is substantially of early 13th-century date. The tower and spire and the porch are of the 14th century, towards the end of which period, or early in the 15th century, the nave walls were heightened by the addition of a clearstory. All the walls are plastered internally.

The chancel has a high-pitched stone-slatted eaved roof³⁸ and diagonal angle buttresses. The four-centred east window is apparently an old one re-used, and is of 15th-century date, of four cinquefoiled lights, but without tracery; in the south wall is a modern two-light window, but the north wall is blank. The pointed piscina recess,³⁹ and a rectangular aumbry on the north side, belong to the former chancel. The arch to the nave is modern.⁴⁰

The nave is of rubble, but its only original architectural features are the south doorway and two 13th-century windows, one on each side of the porch. Near the east end of the south wall is a small square-headed window of late date, probably inserted to light the reading desk.⁴¹ The south doorway has a semicircular arch of two orders, the inner with a round moulding, resting on moulded impost, the outer chamfered order on nook-shafts with capitals of early conventional foliage and moulded bases. The window west of the porch is a plain lancet⁴² with hood-mould, but that to the east is of two pointed lights with uncusped circle in the head, a good example of early plate tracery.⁴³ There are no windows in the lower part of the north wall, and a blocked round-headed doorway⁴⁴ is apparently not ancient. The clearstory windows, three on each side, are square-headed and of two trefoiled lights, with hood-moulds. On the east face of the tower is the line of the former high-pitched roof of the nave. The existing low-pitched oak roof is ancient, but of very plain character, with chamfered principals; it is of four bays and lead-covered without parapets. The porch is also leaded, with flat-pitched coped gable, diagonal buttresses, and pointed doorway of two chamfered

¹⁹ *Rot. Litt. Claus.* (Rec. Com.), i, 2. For Murdac pedigree see Dugdale, *Warw.* i, 563b.

²⁰ *Cal. Inq. Misc.* i, no. 856.

²¹ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 36 Edw. III (pt. 1), no. 98.

²² *Ibid.*; *Cal. Close R.* 1360-64, p. 328.

²³ Nichols, *Hist. of Leic.* ii, pt. 2, p. 815.

²⁴ This appears by the Tateshale inq. p.m. cited above; *Cal. Inq. iv*, no. 391.

^{24a} *Lansd. Ch. loc. cit.*

²⁵ *Add. Ch. (B.M.)*, 47811. Henry Murdac was a witness.

²⁶ *Cal. Close R.* 1247-51, p. 149; 1251-53, p. 302. In 1253, Nicholas de Criol had lands in Croxton, Wardley, etc., by gift of Bertram de Criol (Feet of F. Div. Cos. Trin. 37 Hen. III).

²⁷ *Cal. Close R.* 1279-88, p. 267; Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 14 Edw. I, no. 13; *Cal. Inq. iv*, no. 391.

²⁸ *Add. Ch. (B.M.)* 47813.

²⁹ *Cal. Inq. iv*, no. 391; *Cal. Close R.* 1307-13, p. 101.

³⁰ *Add. Ch. (B.M.)* 47812.

³¹ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 36 Edw. III (pt. i), no. 98. His widow, Alice, had livery in 1362; the land in Wardley was held of the heir of John de Orreby by knight's service. (*Cal. Close R.* 1360-64, p. 328).

³² *Cal. Pat. R.* 1388-92, p. 432; Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 13 Hen. VI, no. 8.

³³ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), lx, 74.

³⁴ *Cal. Inq. iv*, no. 391.

³⁵ *Add. Ch. loc. cit.*

³⁶ *Feud. Aids*, iv, p. 212.

³⁷ *Ibid.*

³⁸ The ridge is higher than that of the nave roof.

³⁹ There is no drain.

⁴⁰ There was no chancel arch before 1871.

⁴¹ The opening is 3 ft. 1 in. high by 14 in. wide, and the sill is about 5 ft. above the ground.

⁴² It is about 8 ft. from the west wall, and its sill is 8 ft. 6 in. above the ground. The width of the opening is 10 in. splaying internally to 4 ft. 6 in.

⁴³ The sill is 5 ft. 8 in. above the ground.

⁴⁴ The head is now glazed, to form a window.

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orders. There are wooden gates, and on the gable is a sundial dated 1694.

The tower is of three stages with moulded plinth and pairs of buttresses stopping at the middle stage. The west window consists of a single trefoiled opening, but on the north and south the lower stage is blank. In the middle stage there is a small square-headed window on the south side only; the pointed bell-chamber windows are of two trefoiled lights with a quatrefoil in the head. There is no vice. The arch to the nave is of two chamfered orders, the inner resting on head corbels, the outer continued to the ground. On its west side the arch is blocked by a studded partition. The short broach spire has plain angles and two tiers of gabled lights on its cardinal faces. The lower lights have two trefoiled openings with a quatrefoil in the head; the upper are single. There is a band at the level of the upper lights. The finial and vane are modern.

The font consists of a plain octagonal bowl with curved sides, dated 1797.

The plain square pews were 'introduced some years before the tide for church restoration had set in.'⁴⁵

In the chancel are memorials to George Bridges Brudenell, of Ayston (d. 1801), his sister Caroline (d. 1803) relict of Sir Samuel Fludyer, bt., and her son George Fludyer (d. 1837). The Brudenell vault was closed in 1871.⁴⁶ In the nave are memorials to George Godfrey (d. 1813) and his great-nephew George Godfrey Ward (d. 1819).⁴⁷

At the west end of the nave is a barrel organ by T. C. Bates and Son, London.

There are two bells in the tower, the smaller dated 1677, and the other a 16th-century bell by Thomas Newcombe (II) of Leicester, inscribed 'Thoma.'⁴⁸

The plate consists of a cup and cover paten of 1638-9, with maker's mark B.F., the cup inscribed 'St. Botolph, Wardley,' and the paten '1638 Ex dono Joh. Roberts 48'; and an undated paten with maker's mark F.W., inscribed 'In usu ecclesie parochialis de Wardley Rutland, Deus dedit.' There are also a pewter dish and flagon.⁴⁹

The registers before 1812 are as follows: (i) baptisms and marriages 1574-1703, burials 1574-1709; (ii) baptisms 1703-1802, marriages 1703-54, burials 1709-1802; (iii) baptisms and burials 1803-1812; (iv) marriages 1757-1812.

The church of Wardley, to which the chapel of Belton was appurtenant,⁵⁰ appears to have been granted by Edward the Confessor to Westminster Abbey.⁵¹ The monks, in spite of obtaining a confirmation of the church of Wardley and chapel of

Belton from William the Conqueror in 1067,⁵² do not seem to have obtained possession of them, although the charter was confirmed as late as 1335 by Edward III.⁵³ Actually the advowson in the early part of the 12th century was in the hands of Richard Bassett, who, with his wife Maud, daughter of Geoffrey Ridel, granted it to the priory of Launde in Leicestershire.⁵⁴ The grant was confirmed both by Henry I and Henry II.⁵⁵ In 1202 William Pantulf,⁵⁶ and in 1205 the Abbot of Westminster,⁵⁷ brought suits against the priory of Launde to recover the advowson, but without success, and the priory of Launde retained the advowson until the Dissolution.⁵⁸

In 1244 a vicar was instituted in the church of Wardley, the right of presentation belonging to the rector. The vicar provided a chaplain and the vicarage consisted of the altarage of the whole parish, 3 virgates of land with meadow and the tithes of the mills. The vicar paid the synodals, all other expenses being borne by the rector.⁵⁹ It seems probable that this institution of a vicarage lapsed, since in 1398 the priory obtained leave to appropriate the church towards the support of two canons of the house to serve the chantry recently founded at Launde by the king. The vicarage was instituted in 1403, but the church was served by a canon of Launde, appointed at the will of the prior, while a certain sum was ordered to be set aside from the rectory for distribution amongst poor parishioners.⁶⁰ In 1428, a pension of 16*d.* was paid yearly from the rectory and chapel to the priory,⁶¹ and the living was subsequently described as the rectory of Wardley with the vicarage of Belton. After the dissolution of the priory, the arrangements for the vicarage at Wardley lapsed. The advowson came into the king's hands and apparently a rector was appointed to the cure of souls. At Belton the vicarage remained, though it was still attached to Wardley and certain tithes and lands there belonging to the rectory were retained by the Crown.⁶² In 1548, Edward VI granted the advowsons of the rectory and church of Wardley and of the vicarage of Belton, together with tithes and land in Belton, to Gregory, Lord Cromwell and his wife Elizabeth for their lives.⁶³ On the death of Gregory in 1551,⁶⁴ his widow obtained a new grant from Queen Mary in 1553. A further grant was made by Queen Elizabeth in 1558 to Lady Cromwell and her second husband John Paulet, Lord St. John, for their lives or at the queen's pleasure.⁶⁵ They presented jointly in 1559 and Sir John Paulet alone in 1565.⁶⁶ After the death of Elizabeth, Lady St. John in 1568, the rectory and advowson were leased for 21 years to her son Henry, Lord Cromwell⁶⁷ who presented in 1575 and 1579.⁶⁸

⁴⁵ *Stamford Mercury*, July 20, 1860.

⁴⁶ An inscription records: 'In a vault at the back of this chancel are deposited the remains of George Bridges Brudenell, Esq., of Ayston, for many years M.P. for the county of Rutland. He died 1801. And of Caroline his sister, relict of Sir Samuel Fludyer, 1st Baronet. She died 1803. Also of George Fludyer Esq. of Ayston, younger son of the above, nephew and heir of G. B. Brudenell. He died 1837. And of his widow the Rt. Hon. Lady Mary daughter of the 9th Earl of Westmorland. She died 1855. This vault was finally closed when the chancel was rebuilt.'

⁴⁷ Two large floor slabs with initials and dates mark the place of burial.

⁴⁸ North, *Cb. Bells of Rutl.* 162. Thomas Newcombe (II) was casting c. 1562-80. There were formerly three bells: the ancient tenor, being cracked, was taken down and eventually sold.

⁴⁹ Hope, *Cb. Plate in Rutl.* 30.

⁵⁰ Dugdale, *Mon. Angl.* vi, 138.

⁵¹ *Cal. Cbart. R.* iv, 332.

⁵² *Ibid.*; *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 133.

⁵³ *Cal. Cbart. R.* iv, 332.

⁵⁴ Dugdale, loc. cit.

⁵⁵ *Ibid.*

⁵⁶ Assize R. 613, m. 13.

⁵⁷ *Cal. Curia Regis R.* iii, p. 295.

⁵⁸ *Rot. Hug. de Welles* (Cant. & York Soc.), ii, 117, 203; *Rot. Ric. Gravesend* (Cant. & York Soc.), 102.

⁵⁹ *Rot. Rob. Grosseteste* (Cant. & York Soc.), 217.

⁶⁰ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1396-9, p. 322; *Linc. Episc. Reg. Instit.* Bp. Beaufort, 1399-1404, fol. 119.

⁶¹ *Feud. Aids*, iv, 211.

⁶² *Pat. R.* 1 Eliz. pt. 7. In 1542 Richard Blunte, possibly lessee, presented. (Irons' Notes, *Linc. Episc. Reg. (Instit.)*).

⁶³ *Pat. R.* 1 Eliz. pt. 7.

⁶⁴ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), xciv, 45.

⁶⁵ *Pat. R.* 1 Eliz. pt. 7.

⁶⁶ Irons' Notes, *Linc. Episc. Reg. (Instit.)*.

⁶⁷ *Pat. R.* 10 Eliz. pt. 3.

⁶⁸ Irons' Notes, loc. cit.



WARDLEY CHURCH FROM THE SOUTH



AYSTON CHURCH FROM THE SOUTH-EAST

THE SOKE OF OAKHAM

WARDLEY

The lease was renewed⁶⁹ and he died in possession. Early in the 17th century the advowson reverted to the Crown and in 1609 King James I presented. The Crown remained patrons until 1874, when the patronage passed by exchange to the Bishop of Peterborough.⁷⁰

A hermitage existed at Wardley which escaped the immediate dissolution under the Chantries Act of 1547. In 1584, however, Sir Edmund Brudenell was

holding the Hermitage and its site, valued at 6*d.* a year, but it was then taken into possession of the Crown as concealed land and granted by Queen Elizabeth to William Kirkham and Richard Gardner and their heirs.⁷¹

CHARITY

This parish participates in the charity of the Rev. Abraham Jobson particulars of which are set out under the parish of Belton.

⁶⁹ *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* (Salisbury MSS.), ii, 246.

⁷⁰ *London Gaz.* 10 July, 1874, p. 3437.

⁷¹ *Exch. Spec. Com.* no. 3051; *Pat. R.* 27 Eliz. pt. 14.

THE HUNDRED OF MARTINSLEY

CONTAINING THE PARISHES OF

AYSTON	LYNDON	PRESTON
BEAUMONT CHASE	MANTON	RIDLINGTON
EDITH WESTON	MARTINSTHORPE	UPPINGHAM
HAMBLETON	NORMANTON	WING

Martinsley Hundred takes its name from a piece of land so called, in the parish of Martinsthorpe which Anthony Cope claimed in 1536 as late parcel of the possessions of the priory of Brooke.¹ The hundred court was probably held here on the high land between the rivers Gwash and Chater. In 1086 Martinsley Hundred comprised only the manors of Oakham, Hambleton and Ridlington, but Braunston, Edith Weston, Lyndon, Manton, Martinsthorpe, Normanton and probably Uppingham were the seven berewicks or outlying hamlets of Hambleton mentioned in the Domesday Survey,² and Ayston and Wing were then included in Ridlington. In 1428 Martinsley and Oakham still formed one hundred under the name of the Hundred of Oakham with Martinsley,³ and Martinsley Hundred has passed with Oakham Barony (q.v.) to Mr. Wilfred Henry Finch, the present owner.

Separate views of frankpledge in Martinsley Hundred were claimed in 1286 by the Abbot of Westminster in Oakham and Barleythorpe,⁴ and by the Hospitallers in Whitwell, Gunthorpe, Martinsthorpe, Bernards-hill, and Uppingham.

¹ *MSS. of Earl of Denbigh* (Hist. MSS. Com.), pp. 1, 2. It passed with the manor of Brooke (Feet of F. Rutl. East. 4 Edw. VI).

² *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 139-40.

³ *Feud. Aids*, iv, 211.

⁴ *Plac. de Quo Warr.* (Rec. Com.), 671-2.

AYSTON

Adelstanestone, Atheston (xiii cent.); Astonstone (xiii-xiv cent.); Aston (xiii-xviii cent.); Aiston (xvii cent.); Ashton (xvii-xviii cent.); Ayston (xviii cent. onwards); Ayson (xviii cent.).

The area of the parish of Ayston is 904 acres, with a population of 56 in 1921, showing a decrease on the 1911 census. The land falls from the south-west, where it reaches over 500 ft. above the Ordnance datum, towards the north-east, where it is about 300 ft. The subsoil is Upper Lias and Inferior Oolite, the soil being red loam growing wheat, barley and turnips.

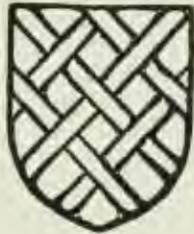
The pretty little village stands on high ground sloping down to the north, on the road from Uppingham to Oakham, about three-quarters of a mile north of Uppingham. The cottages are built of stone with thatched or stone roofs, the trees in Ayston Park forming a charming background. The church is on the west side of the village and Ayston Hall adjoins it on the north. Ayston Hall, the seat of Mr. James Finch, is a plain two-story house rebuilt during the first few years of the 19th century, probably by George Fludyer, who succeeded to the property in 1803 and lived at the Hall. It may have been the predecessor of this Hall which was visited by Edward I on 23 September 1275.¹

The nearest railway station is at Uppingham.

There is no mention of *AYSTON* in *MANOR* the Domesday Book (1086), when it was probably one of the seven hamlets of Ridlington (q.v.); for which reason the manor would subsequently be held of the earldom of Warwick, as is recorded in 1531.² It had come by 1203 into the tenure of the Leicestershire family of Murdac, and descended to the Boyvilles, who held it until the latter part of the 15th century.

In 1203 William Murdac made an agreement with his mother Alice as to her dower in Ayston, Alice being possibly the widow of Henry Murdac of whom we find reference in Rutland in 1185. William gave her 5½ bovates of land and a quarter of the demesne, while his own share was to include the whole mill.³

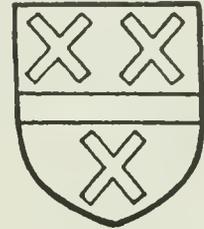
Sir Henry Murdac, kt., brother of William, presented to the church in 1228-9.⁴ Henry Murdac, probably of a later generation, presented in 1240 and 1247,⁵ and his land in Ayston and Wardley was worth £20 in 1265.⁶ He was succeeded in or after 1269 by a son Sir William, who gave Ayston in 1285-6



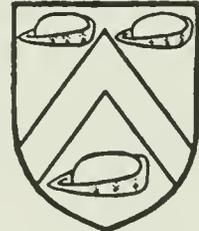
MURDAC. Or fretty sable.

to his son Hugh. Hugh's heir was his sister Alice, wife of Thomas de Boyville of Stockerston (co. Leic.),⁷ who held a knight's fee here in 1305.⁸ The pedigrees give Robert "Rabay" as Alice's first husband,⁹ but it seems more likely that he was her second, for 'Robert de Abaz' is returned as lord here in 1316,¹⁰ when he probably held by courtesy. In 1318 Henry de Fenton settled the manor and advowson on Alice's son Sir John de Boyville, Beatrice his wife and the heirs of John.¹¹ John died in 1376. His eldest son, another John, died without issue and was succeeded by his brother Thomas, a knight, living in 1396, he by his son Thomas, knight, who was followed by a son John,¹² the tenant of the knight's fee here in 1428.¹³ John died in 1467, leaving three daughters and co-heirs, Elizabeth, Margaret and Ann, of whom the second married firstly Thomas Restwold,¹⁴ sheriff of Berkshire and Oxfordshire 1477-8.¹⁵ Thomas died in 1480, and Margaret married as her second husband Christopher Bellingham, who settled the manor in 1502; Richard son of Thomas Restwold, sheriff of Buckinghamshire in 1491 and 1499,¹⁶ made a settlement of this manor and advowson in 1510, apparently on the marriage of his son and heir Edward with Agnes Cheyne.¹⁷

Richard died in 1522, and Edward in 1547;¹⁸ but this property had probably been alienated with the manor of Wardley in 1510¹⁹ to Sir Robert Brudenell, kt., lord chief justice. Sir Robert died seised of both Ayston and Wardley in 1531, leaving a son and heir, Sir Thomas²⁰ of Deene, Northamptonshire, who was succeeded in March 1549 by his son Edmund.²¹ Sir Edmund settled the manor and advowson in March 1570 on his brother Robert, who died seised in 1599, leaving a son and heir Thomas,²² created a baronet in 1611.²³ The estate was forfeited for the recusancy of Sir Thomas and leased to the Earl of Rutland in 1627 for 60 years;²⁴ but by 1641 it was once more in Thomas's possession.²⁵ He was created Baron Brudenell of Stonton, Leicestershire, in 1628 and in 1661 Earl of Cardigan. He died in 1663, leaving a son and heir Robert,²⁶ who with Francis, his eldest son, made a settlement of this property in 1671-2



BOYVILLE. Gules a fesse or between three saltires argent.



BRUDENELL. Argent a cheveron gules between three bats azure turned up with ermine.

¹ Cal. Fine R. 1272-1307, p. 53.

² Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), lii, 111.

³ Cur. Regis R. iii, 1; Pipe R. Soc. xxxiv,

54.

⁴ Wright, Hist. Rutl. 18; Rot. Litt.

Claus. (Rec. Com.), i, 2.

⁵ Irons' Notes, Linc. Episc. Reg.

(Instit.).

⁶ Cal. Inq. Misc. i, no. 856.

⁷ Nichols, Hist. of Leic. ii, 916.

⁸ Feud. Aids, iv, 206.

⁹ Nichols, loc. cit.

¹⁰ Feud. Aids, iv, 207, where the form of the name is queried. There is possibly a connexion with the Richard Abbas and Albus of the Red Bk. of the Exch. (Rolls Ser.), 535, 585.

¹¹ Nichols, loc. cit.; Feet of F. Rutl.

Mich. 12 Edw. II.

¹² Nichols, loc. cit.

¹³ Feud. Aids, iv, 212.

¹⁴ Nichols, loc. cit.

¹⁵ Misc. Gen. et Her. ii, 134-5.

¹⁶ V.C.H. Bucks, iii, 137-8.

¹⁷ Com. Pleas, D. Enr. Mich. 2 Hen. VIII, m. 2 d; V.C.H. loc. cit.

¹⁸ Ibid.

¹⁹ Com. Pleas, loc. cit.

²⁰ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), lii, 111.

²¹ Ibid. xcii, 76.

²² Ibid. cclxiv, 136; Recov. R. East. 1570, ro. 806.

²³ Complete Peerage (2nd ed.), iii, 13.

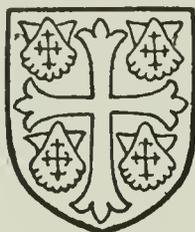
²⁴ Pat. R. 2 Chas. I, pt. 3, m. 22.

²⁵ Feet of F. Div. Cos. Mich. 17 Chas. I.

²⁶ Complete Peerage, loc. cit.

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and again in 1688.²⁷ Francis died in his father's lifetime and a grandson George became third Earl;²⁸ but James Brudenell, brother of the third Earl, who had married Susannah daughter of Bartholomew Burton of



FLUDYER. *Sable a cross patty between four scallops argent with a cross patty sable on each scallop.*



FINCH. *Argent a chevron between three griffons passant sable in a border wavy erminees.*

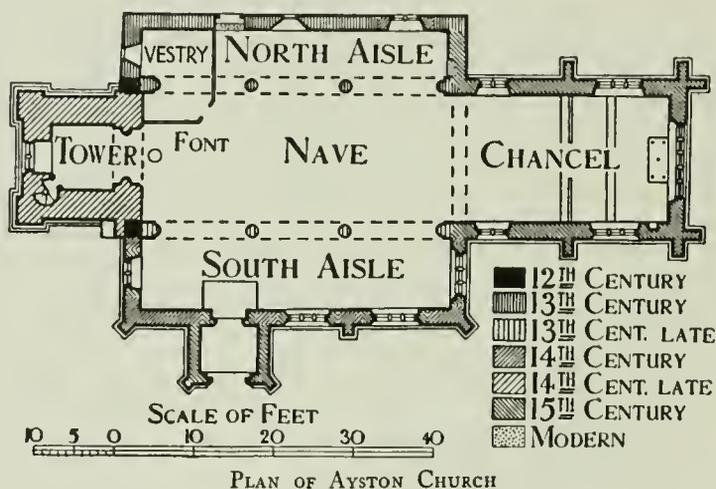
Oakham, succeeded to the property. On the death of James in 1746 it passed to George Bridges Brudenell, M.P. for Rutland,²⁹ who barred the entail³⁰ and died in 1801.³¹ Ayston and Wardley then went to Caroline, his sister, widow of Sir Samuel Fludyer, bt., alderman of London. Caroline died in 1803 and left Ayston and Wardley to her younger son George Fludyer. George Fludyer of Ayston Hall died in 1837, and was succeeded by his eldest surviving son, Rev. John Henry Fludyer, who was rector of Ayston from 1834 until his death. He succeeded his cousin, Sir Samuel, as 4th baronet in 1876 and died in 1896. His son, Sir Arthur John Fludyer, 5th and last baronet, died childless in 1922 at Ayston Hall. His sister and heir Katherine had married in 1873 Henry Randolph Finch of the Croft, Manton, second son of George Finch of Burley-on-the-Hill.³² She died in 1919, and her son Mr. Vere Finch now owns the manors of Ayston and Wardley.

The church of *ST. MARY* consists **CHURCH** of chancel 25 ft. 6 in. by 15 ft. 6 in., clearstoried nave of three bays 39 ft. by 15 ft. 6 in., north aisle 5 ft. 8 in. wide, south aisle 8 ft. 6 in. wide, south porch and west tower 8 ft. square, all these measurements being internal. The width across nave and aisles is 33 ft. 9 in.

The north aisle and arcade are of 13th-century date, but appear to have been additions to an aisleless 12th-century building, the north-west angle of which still remains. The south arcade is a little later in the same period, but the aisle appears to have been rebuilt and widened in the 14th century. The tower was erected later in the 14th century, and the clearstory perhaps at the same time or shortly after. The chancel

was rebuilt in its present form in the 15th century, at which time new windows were inserted in the south aisle and the porch added. The plan has not since been altered.³³ With the exception of the north aisle, which is of rubble, the building is faced with finely dressed stone in wide courses, and has low-pitched leaded roofs and plain parapets. The porch alone has a stone-slatted caved roof. All the walls are plastered internally, and the floors are flagged. The roofs are modern.

The chancel is divided externally into two bays by buttresses, and has pairs of buttresses at the eastern angles. A hollow moulding below the parapet, enriched with four-leaved flowers, is carried round the east wall,³⁴ following the gable, and there are crocketed angle pinnacles. The four-centred east window is of five cinquefoiled lights without tracery, and the lateral windows, two on each side, are of the same character, but of three and two lights. The sill of the westernmost window on each side is lowered.³⁵ There is a trefoil-headed piscina with projecting bowl, and in the north wall a rectangular aumbry fitted with a modern door. The chancel and nave are of



PLAN OF AYSTON CHURCH

equal width, and are separated by a four-centred arch of two chamfered orders, without hood-mould, springing from moulded and embattled corbels carved on the underside with foliage. There are remains of a rood-loft doorway in the thickened east wall of the north aisle.

The north arcade consists of three semicircular arches of two chamfered orders, springing from cylindrical pillars and half-round responds with moulded capitals and water-holding bases. The plaster above the arches covers the hood-moulds, the stops of which alone are exposed: of these three are heads, and one an ornamented disc. In the south arcade the arches are pointed and of two chamfered orders, on cylindrical pillars and responds of slightly greater height and diameter,³⁶ with plainly moulded capitals and bases.³⁷ The north aisle retains a widely splayed

²⁷ Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 23-4 Chas. II; Trin. 4 Jas. II.

²⁸ *Complete Peerage*, loc. cit.

²⁹ G.E.C. *Baronetage*, v, 118.

³⁰ Inst. Bks. (P.R.O.); Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 1 Geo. I; Recov. R. East. 1 Geo. I, ro. 32; 20 Geo. II, ro. 134.

³¹ *Gent. Mag.* (1801).

³² G.E.C. loc. cit.; Burke, *Peerage*, etc. (1930).

³³ There is a drawing of the church from the south-east, dated October 7, 1818, in the British Museum.

³⁴ At the north-east angle the moulding is broken by a shield.

³⁵ The sills are dropped 18 in. but are 4 ft. 5 in. above the chancel floor.

³⁶ The pillars of the south arcade are 19½ in. diam., those of the north 17 in. The north arches spring at a height of 8 ft. above the floor, those on the south side at 8 ft. 6 in.

³⁷ The capitals are of very slight projection and the bases are higher than those on the north side and have no water-holding character.

lancet window in the middle of the north wall, and at its west end is a small pointed quatrefoil opening high in the wall, cut in a single stone, with wide internal splay and sloping sill. A square-headed window of two trefoil lights near the east end of the north wall is a 14th-century insertion, and the doorway has a plain segmental chamfered head in one stone. The north aisle is without buttresses, plinth or string.

The south aisle has diagonal angle buttresses of two stages and plainly moulded plinth, but all the windows and the doorway are 15th-century insertions. The east window, and two in the south wall, are of three cinquefoiled lights, and the west window of two lights, similar in character to those of the chancel. The doorway has a four-centred hollow-chamfered head within a moulded square frame and hood-mould with returned ends. The porch has a plain coped gable and four-centred doorway with wide continuous chamfer, but no hood-mould. There are three square-headed two-light clearstory windows on each side.

The tower is of three stages, with moulded plinth, and has wide clasping buttresses the height of the second stage, and a vice in the south-west angle. The pointed west window is of two cinquefoiled lights with good Decorated tracery, and above it in the middle stage is a single loop. On the north and south the two lower stages are blank. The top stage appears to have been rebuilt or remodelled in the 15th century, the bell-chamber having tall four-centred transomed windows of two trefoil lights, without tracery; the battlemented parapet is stepped, and there are plain spitters on the north and south sides. Internally the tower opens into the nave by a sharply pointed arch of two chamfered orders on half-round responds, with moulded octagonal capitals and bases.

The 18th-century font has a small incurved bowl on a stem with moulded base.

The nave and aisles are filled with box pews in grained deal, and there is a modern Gothic pitch-pine chancel screen. The pulpit also is modern. A vestry is screened off at the west end of the north aisle.

There is some ancient painted glass in two windows of the south aisle: the 15th-century glass in the east

window is somewhat fragmentary and depicts a Crucifixion, with labelled figures of the Virgin and St. John,³⁸ beneath which are heads of two bishops, and a crowned Virgin and Child. The window next the porch contains pieces of old glass found about thirty years ago at the Hall, including two brown and yellow roundels, apparently Dutch, representing the Adoration of the Magi and the Presentation in the Temple. Other fragments have the bearded head of a friar, and a white hart within a rectangular border. There are also three shields with the arms of Brudenell and their alliances.³⁹

There are mural tablets to Thomas White, rector (d. 1735), John Sprigs (d. 1741), Sir Arthur John Fludyer, 5th and last baronet (d. 1922), and to eight men of the parish who fell in the war of 1914-19.

There are four bells, the treble probably by Robert Newcombe of Leicester (c. 1520-61), inscribed 'Ambrose,' the second a late medieval bell inscribed 'Ave Rex Gentis Anglorum,' the third by Tobie Norris (I) of Stamford 1626, and the tenor by Taylor of Loughborough 1877.⁴⁰

The plate consists of a cup and cover paten of 1570-71; a paten of 1714-15; and a flagon by Paul Lamerie 1739-40, inscribed 'The gift of Mrs. Eliz. White to the parish church of Ayston in Rutlandshire 1739.'⁴¹

The registers before 1812 are as follows: (i) all entries 1657-1722; (ii) baptisms and burials 1778-1812; (iii) marriages 1776-1812.⁴²

In the churchyard, west of the porch, is a monumental slab with male and female effigies, now very much defaced and moss-grown, but probably representing a knight and lady.⁴³

The living is a rectory, and from *ADVOWSON* 1229, the date of the first known institution, the advowson has descended with the manor. The benefices of Ayston and Uppingham were united in 1930.

Poor's Stock.—The endowment of *CHARITIES* this charity appears to be a sum of £10 secured by a note of hand dated 24 December 1795 given by the incumbent to the then churchwarden. In respect of this charity a sum of 10s. is yearly given to some object in the parish.

BEAUMONT CHASE

Beaumont, Beaumont (xiii cent.); Beaumont (xv cent.); Beaumont (xvii cent.).

Beaumont Chase is an extra parochial district within the ecclesiastical parish of Uppingham, and is divided from Leicestershire by the Eye Brook. It has an area of 463 acres. In 1885 a detached part of Uppingham, known as Preston Leys and Preston Leys Plantation, was added to Beaumont Chase. There are only two lodges and one or two cottages in the district, and the population in 1921 was only 14.

The ground is high, in some places reaching a

height of over 500 ft. There are the remains of an ancient castle¹ in the north-east of the parish situated in a commanding position about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile from the road from Uppingham to Leicester. It was probably thrown up during the anarchy of Stephen's reign by Hasculf, Keeper of the Forest of Rutland and holder of the property which was afterwards the manor of Leighfield in Oakham. Beaumont Chase has always followed the descent of Leighfield (q.v.). The first mention of the name is in 1254 with regard to an inquiry as to Peter de Montfort's interest in Upping-

³⁸ The Virgin and St. John occupy the outer lights; the labels bear the names 'Maria' and 'Johes'.

³⁹ The shields are: 1, Brudenell; 2, Quarterly (i) Ermine on a chevron gules, 3 escallops; (ii) Brudenell; (iii) Gyronny of 8 or and sable; (iv) azure a bend cotised or between 3 cross crosslets or; 3, Quar-

terly of 8 (i) Brudenell, (ii) Bulstrode, (iii) Entwistle, (iv) Tallyard, (v) Anstey, (vi) two four-leaved shamrocks, (vii) Reyners, (viii) Scudamore. (Ex inform. C. R. Haines).

⁴⁰ North, *Cb. Bells of Rutl.* 119. There were three bells till 1877, when the tenor was given by Sir J. Henry Fludyer, bt., rector.

⁴¹ Hope, *Cb. Plate in Rutl.* 21.

⁴² A volume containing entries between 1722 and 1778 is apparently lost. Baptisms 1784-93, and burials 1784-94 occur on a loose sheet.

⁴³ A drawing of the effigies, dated October 7, 1818, is in Brit. Mus. 36378.

¹ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 112.

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ham sub Beaumont,² and in 1257 an order was given by the king against the destruction of oaks in Beaumont.³

It was in the possession of the Earl of Gainsborough in 1689, when it is first alluded to as a chace.⁴

It continued to pass with Leighfield⁵ until 1925, when the Beaumont Chase area then in the occupation of Mr. W. R. Shelton, and another area then occupied by Mr. W. C. Smith, were sold and there was a re-sale to these gentlemen in the following year.⁶

EDITH WESTON

Weston, Vestona (xii cent.); Weston, Weston Edith, Edweston (xiii cent.); Weston, Editheweston, Weston Edith, Edyweston, Edi Weston, Weston St. Edith (xiv cent.); Edyweston (xv cent.); Edyweston, Edith Weston (xvi, xvii, xviii cent.).

The parish of Edith Weston, which takes its name from Edith, queen of Edward the Confessor, comprises a long narrow strip of land containing 1852 acres. The land is undulating and falls from about 400 ft. above the Ordnance datum in the south-west to about 200 ft. along the River Gwash, which forms the boundary between Edith Weston and Hambleton. The river flows through Normanton Park, which extends into Edith Weston parish, up to the village. Witchley Warren and Witchley Warren Farm, at the eastern end of the parish, mark the site of 'Wichele,' which was in 1310 within the forest of Rutland. In that year the abbot of Boscherville (or Baskerville) paid 12 marks for licence to assart this waste ground of 100 acres.¹ The warren belonging to the prior of Edith Weston, is mentioned in 1376.² Richard Halford, in 1621, had a grant of free warren in parcels of land and pasture called Wicheley, le Cowe Close, Kittam Close, New Kirke Golding, le Towne Close, Over and Nether Spynney, and licence to inclose any part with a wall.³

The village is picturesquely situated on the north side of the main road from Manton to Ketton. At the roadside, in the village street, is the base and part of the shaft (21 in. high) of a cross. The church is in the middle of the village, and close to it on the north side stood the Old Hall which was pulled down in 1830. The present hall was built at that date further to the north by the Rev. Richard Lucas, from designs of Lewis Vulliamy. The building, which is in the Elizabethan style, was severely damaged by fire in 1920, but was restored in 1924. It is now the residence of Lady Cicely Hardy, widow of Lieut.-Colonel Francis Henry Hardy, J.P. A portion of the Old Hall, which was left standing in 1830,⁴ abuts on to the vestry, or north quire aisle of the church. It is a 17th-century structure of two stories, with stone-slatted eaved roof and a mullioned bay window on the east side; another window is blocked with brickwork.

To the north-west of the church is a plain two-story ashlar-faced house with stone-slatted roof and high end gables, which is sometimes spoken of as the Old Rectory. It has low square-headed mul-

lioned windows with labels and a long projecting wing of rubble at the back. On one of the gables is a panel inscribed '1626. W.A.F.'⁵ It was exchanged about 1860 for a farmhouse, now the Rectory.

Nothing positive is known as to the site of the monastic cell of Edith Weston. Many have assumed that it occupied the site of the Old Hall north of the church. It is more probable that it stood to the north-west of the modern Hall in the park, where there are fishponds and some signs of former buildings.⁶

EDITH WESTON was probably included at the time of the Domesday Survey in Hambleton Church soke, as one of the seven 'berewes,' and was therefore demesne of the Crown.⁷ Henry I gave Weston manor to William de Tankerville, his chamberlain, who with the king's consent bestowed it upon the abbey of St. George de Boscherville,⁸ which he and his father, Ralph, had founded in Normandy. Henry I confirmed this gift in 1114 and granted to the abbey freedom from shire and hundred courts, hidage and other dues.⁹ Henry II, Richard I, Henry III and Edward II also confirmed privileges to the Abbey.¹⁰

From time to time during the wars with France this manor, valued in 1244 at £30,¹¹ was taken into the king's hands and the custody was committed to various keepers.¹² These were sometimes monks of the priory of Edith Weston, which had been established as a cell of the abbey of St. George de Boscherville. Towards the end of the reign of Henry III the manor was seized by the king's officers because the prior was beyond the seas and had not done service for the manor. Occasionally the rent due from the manor to the king, while it was in his hands, was remitted to the abbot and his proctor in England.¹³

In September 1390 the prior and convent of the Carthusian house of St. Mary and St. Anne of Coventry obtained licence to acquire the manor house or priory of Edith Weston from the abbot of St. George de Boscherville.¹⁴ The manor was at that time in the king's hands, and he remitted to the prior the rent due from it.¹⁵ In 1404 the prior and convent of St. Anne of Coventry, for 577 marks, paid by William Dalby of Oakham, founder of the hospital of St. John the Evangelist and St. Anne of Oakham, granted in mortmain to the warden of that hospital a yearly rent of £20 with power of distraint on their lands at Edith Weston, and a payment of 100s. each time the rent

¹ *Cal. Close R.* 1253-4, p. 307.

² *Ibid.* 1256-9, p. 131.

³ *Recov. R. Trin.* 1 Will. and M. 10, 98.

⁴ *Ibid.* Hil. 57 Geo. III, ro. 161.

⁵ Inf. from Mr. Louis G. Dease.

⁶ *Abbrev. Rot. Orig.* (Rec. Com.), i, 171; *Cal. Pat. R.* 1307-1313, p. 206.

⁷ *Ibid.* 1374-77, p. 217.

⁸ *Pat. R.* 18 Jas. I, pt. 8, no. 11.

⁹ For use as a gardener's store house.

There is said to have been formerly a window from this portion of the house opening into the north quire aisle of the church (*Stamford Mercury*, Aug. 30, 1861).

¹⁰ The third figure of date is indistinct.

¹¹ Note by Mr. V. B. Crowther-Beynon, M.A., F.S.A.

¹² *Cal. of Doc. France*, p. 66.

¹³ *Ibid.* 60.

¹⁴ *Ibid.* 66.

¹⁵ *Ibid.* 69, 70; *Cal. Cbart R.* 1226-57, p. 436; *Cal. Pat. R.* 1313-17, p. 475.

¹⁶ *Cal. Inq. Misc.* i, no. 483; *Bk. of Fees* (P.R.O.), ii, p. 1151.

¹⁷ *Cal. Fine R.* 1337-47, pp. 152, 154;

Cal. Pat. R. 1340-3, pp. 12, 220, 233, 250; 1354-8, p. 205; 1377-81, p. 602; 1385-9, p. 112.

¹⁸ *Ibid.* 1340-3, p. 250; 1354-8, p. 205.

¹⁹ *Ibid.* 1388-92, p. 317.

²⁰ *Ibid.* p. 361.

was a month in arrear.¹⁶ At the time of the Dissolution the farm of the manor was 13*s.* 4*d.*,¹⁷ and the priors were receiving a rent of £27 6*s.* 8*d.* from the farm of the rectory appropriated to them.¹⁶

The manor and the advowson of the vicarage were granted in June 1550 to William, Marquess of Northampton, the Great Chamberlain, 'for his late services against rebels and traitors.' A condition of the grant was that he was to continue to pay the yearly rent, then £26 13*s.* 4*d.*, to the warden of the hospital of St. Anne of Oakham for the use of the poor therein.¹⁹ The manor was bought from the Marquess in 1552 by Reginald Conyers of Wakerley (co. Northants) and his wife²⁰ Elizabeth, daughter of Geoffrey Chambers, who married (1) Sir Walter Stonor, (2) Reginald Conyers (d. 1560), (3) Sir Edward Griffen, attorney general, and (4) Lord St. John of Bletsoe, whom she survived.²¹ The manor was settled on her death on her children by Reginald Conyers—namely, a son Francis, who died before his mother in 1572,²² and a daughter Lucy, who married Edward Griffen of Dingley (co. Northants), son of Sir Edward Griffen, third husband of Lady St. John, by a former wife.²³ Edward Griffen appears to have sold his wife's interest in the manor before the death of her mother, Elizabeth, Lady St. John, whose refusal to make a conveyance to her daughter led to proceedings in Chancery.²⁴ Edward and Lucy conveyed the manor in 1586 to Walter Hastings, Sir James Harington and Sir John Harington,²⁵ who seem to have been acting as trustees for John Flower or Flore.²⁶ Soon after the purchase by Flower, the warden of the hospital of St. Anne of Oakham found it necessary to sue Flower in the Court of Requests for the rent due to the hospital.

He maintained that the rent had been paid regularly until about a year before, when Flower, 'perceiving the hospital to grow weak and not able to contend in law with him,' withheld it.²⁷ John Flower was summoned before the Privy Council in 1582 to account for his dealings with Edward Chambers, a relative of Lady St. John²⁸ and 'a wandering papist and Jesuit.' Rice or Richard Griffen, son of Lady St. John by Sir Edward Griffen, was also involved in this matter, and his mother in 1581 made suit to the Privy Council for the custody of certain papers belonging to her son, who was then abroad, the papers having been found in a farmhouse at Edith Weston, when search was made there for Chambers.²⁹

In 1595 Flower and Sir John Harington conveyed the manor to Elizabeth, Lady St. John,³⁰ possibly in consequence of the proceedings in Chancery, which may have led to a denial of Lucy's claim while her mother lived. Lady St. John and her son, Richard Griffen, who had a lease of the manor,³¹ sold it in 1601 to Richard Halford,³² son of Roger Halford of Welham (co. Leic.).³³ In 1621 Halford obtained a grant of

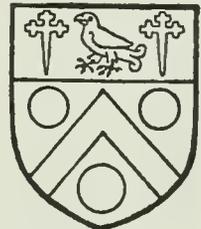
free warren³⁴ and died in 1627, when the manor passed to his son Richard.³⁵ Thomas, a younger son, was rector of Edith Weston and died in 1648.³⁶ Richard, who was sheriff of Rutland in 1619 and 1631,^{36a} conveyed the manor in 1654 to Thomas Bradgate and Anthony Oldfield, probably as trustees.³⁷ He presented to the church in 1667,³⁸ and died in 1675 at the age of 80.³⁹ Charles Halford, his son and successor, presented to the church in 1683 and 1687.⁴⁰ He was sheriff of Rutland in 1665. His eldest son, Richard Halford, succeeded in 1696 and presented to the church in 1735.⁴¹ He died in 1742,⁴² and the manor passed to the Lucas family, who were benefactors to the parish.⁴³ Mary

Lucas (by birth Halford) was patron in 1753,⁴⁴ and in 1758 Mary Lucas, widow, and Rev. Richard Lucas, clerk, made a conveyance of both manor and advowson.⁴⁵ Richard Lucas was patron in 1786,⁴⁶ when he presented his son Rev. Richard Lucas, who died in 1827 and was succeeded by his son Rev. Richard Lucas, also rector, who rebuilt the Hall and died in 1846. His son and heir Richard Lucas died in 1888 and was succeeded by his brother George Vere Lucas, who assumed the name of Braithwaite under the will of Miss Braithwaite of Stock Park, Ulverston. He died in 1895, and his son Major Ernest Lucas Braithwaite sold Edith Weston in 1904 to his nephew, Stafford Vere Hotchkin (grandson of George Vere Braithwaite). In 1913 Mr. Hotchkin sold the estate (by auction), except the Hall and Park, some of the farms being purchased by the Earl of Ancaster, who in 1921 purchased the advowson. In 1922 Mr. Hotchkin sold the Hall and Park with the lordship of the manor to Mr. F. T. Walker of Norton Lees (co. Derby) and he in 1924 sold them to Mr. T. J. Burrowes, retaining the lordship of the manor. In 1927 Mr. Burrowes sold the Hall and Park to Lieut.-Col. F. H. Hardy.

The church of *ST. MARY* consists of **CHURCH** chancel 28 ft. 6 in. by 15 ft. 6 in., with north and south aisles at its west end, clearstoried nave of three bays 41 ft. 6 in. by 13 ft. 3 in., north and south aisles respectively 7 ft. 3 in. and 6 ft.



HALFORD. *Argent a greyhound passant sable and a chief azure with three fleurs de lis or therein.*



LUCAS. *Argent a cheveron gules between three roundels sable and a chief azure with a moorcock argent between two crosslets fitchy or therein.*

¹⁶ *Ibid.* 1401-5, p. 476, and see 1405-8, p. 265. Subsequently the rent seems to have been made payable from several manors, including Edith Weston.

¹⁷ Dugdale, *Mon. Angl.* vi, 19.

¹⁸ *Valor Eccles.* (Rec. Com.), iii, 53.

¹⁹ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1549-51, pp. 368, 370; 1550-53, p. 147.

²⁰ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), cxvii, 42; Chan. Proc. (Ser. ii), bdle. 240, no. 16.

²¹ *Ibid.*

²² Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), clxv, 129.

²³ Burke, *Extinct Peerage*, 1866, p. 255.

²⁴ Chan. Proc. (Ser. ii), bdle. 240, no. 16.

²⁵ Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 29 Eliz.

²⁶ Court of Req. bdle. 32, no. 71.

²⁷ *Ibid.*

²⁸ Chambers was a canon of Chichester (Foster, *Alumni Oxon.*).

²⁹ *Acts of Privy Council*, 1581-82, pp. 259, 362, 386, 396.

³⁰ Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 37 Eliz.

³¹ Chan. Proc. (Ser. ii), bdle. 240, no. 16.

³² Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 43 Eliz.

³³ *Visit. Rutl.* (Harl. Soc.), 1681-2,

p. 29.

³⁴ Pat. R. 18 Jas. I, pt. 8, no. 11.

³⁵ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), decl, 87.

³⁶ *Visit. Rutl.* op. cit. 30; *Cal. S.P. Dom.* 1637-8, 390.

^{36a} *List of Sheriffs* (P.R.O.), p. 114.

³⁷ Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 1654.

³⁸ Inst. Bks. (P.R.O.), 1667.

³⁹ *Visit. Rutl.* op. cit. 29.

⁴⁰ Inst. Bks. (P.R.O.), 1683, 1687.

⁴¹ *Ibid.* 1735; M.I.

⁴² M.I. in church.

⁴³ See Charities.

⁴⁴ Inst. Bks. (P.R.O.), 1753.

⁴⁵ *Recov. R. Mich.* 32 Geo. II, ro. 463; Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 32 & 33 Geo. II.

⁴⁶ Inst. Bks. (P.R.O.), 1786.

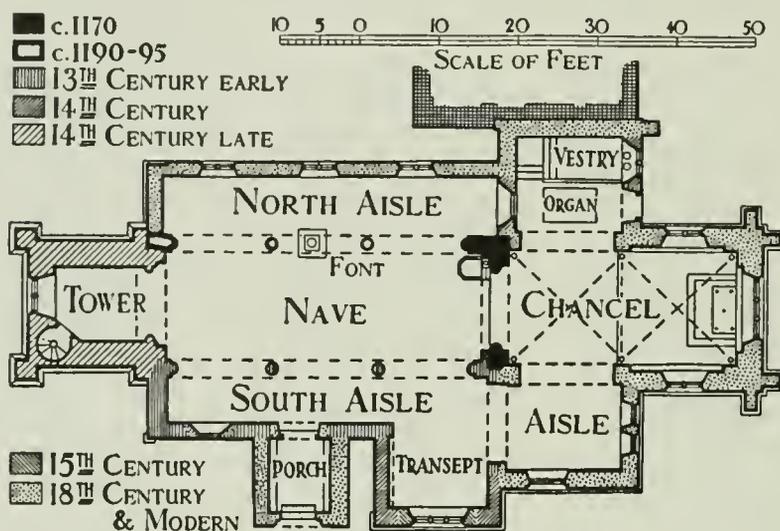
A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

wide, south transept 15 ft. 9 in. by 12 ft., south porch, and west tower 9 ft. 4 in. by 8 ft. 10 in., all these measurements being internal. The tower is surmounted by a lofty spire. The width across nave and aisles is 30 ft. 9 in. The north aisle of the chancel is used as an organ-chamber and vestry.

The chancel was rebuilt in the French style of the 14th century in 1865,⁴⁷ and its aisles erected in the position of former quire aisles or chapels, which had long disappeared, but the blocked arches of which were still visible in the walls.⁴⁸ These arches were pulled down with the rest of the old chancel, but they are said to have been of 13th-century date,⁴⁹ and two moulded corbels of the same period supported by heads, together with two fluted piscina bowls, were preserved and are now in the vestry.⁵⁰ The whole of

suggesting foliage.⁵¹ On the west side the inner faces of the jambs are enriched with late star ornament, and towards the nave there are slender engaged shafts with very early stiff-leaf capitals. The capital of the north-east respond resembles those of the chancel arch, though differing slightly in detail, and one of its volutes has been cut away. The arches, pillars and western respond of the north arcade are somewhat later in character, apparently c. 1190-95, though the difference in style may not necessarily indicate that any long period of time elapsed between the beginning of the arcade at its east end and its completion. It is unlikely that a north aisle and arcade of c. 1170 existed to be followed about twenty years later by another, the probability being that the building of the aisle was interrupted soon after it was begun and not resumed till after an interval.

The north arcade consists of three rounded⁵² arches with roll moulding and hood towards the nave and chamfered on the side towards the aisle, the soffits having a deep hollow between two bold round mouldings.⁵³ The arches spring from cylindrical pillars with well-defined water-holding bases on plinths which are octagonal above and square below, and the capitals have octagonal abaci and are carved with early incurved stiff-leaf foliage which becomes more developed on the second pier and west respond. Early in the 13th century, c. 1200-10, a south aisle was



PLAN OF EDITH WESTON CHURCH

the north wall of the north aisle of the nave has also been rebuilt. The interior of the church had been repaired and reseated in 1848. The modern work is faced with coursed dressed ironstone, and the transept and tower are of ashlar, but elsewhere the walling is of rubble, plastered internally. The chancel and its aisles, the transept and porch have stone-slatted roofs, but those of the nave and aisles are leaded and of low pitch. All the roofs overhang.

The earliest work in the building dates from c. 1170 and comprises the jambs or responds of the chancel arch and the east respond of the north arcade. The chancel arch itself is later and belongs to the period of the rebuilding of the chancel in the 13th century. The jambs have massive half-round responds with moulded bases and capitals with angle volutes and square hollow chamfered abaci, the space between the volutes being carved with simple conventional designs

added, and the existing arcade is of this date. The arches are shaped like those opposite, but are of two chamfered orders with hood-moulds on the nave side, springing from cylindrical pillars and half-round responds with circular moulded capitals and bases, the capitals of the eastern respond and adjoining pillar being enriched with nail-head. The aisle wall retains no 13th-century features, though the masonry is probably original. The chancel may have been rebuilt shortly after the completion of the aisle, but all that has survived is its western or chancel arch, which is of three chamfered orders with hood-mould on each side, the middle order being very small. Before its demolition the chancel was without buttresses, and though it apparently retained no distinctly 13th-century features, except perhaps the capitals of its blocked lateral arches, may have been substantially of that period.⁵⁴

⁴⁷ The faculty for rebuilding the chancel and adding thereto a north and south aisle is dated 21 July, 1864; the first stone was laid on 26 November.

⁴⁸ A drawing of the chancel from the south-east made before 1865 shows a large semicircular arch at the west end of the south wall, in the blocking of which was a doorway. The south window of the chancel east of this was covered outside by a monument.

⁴⁹ *Stamford Mercury*, Aug. 30, 1861,

where the capitals are described as being enriched with nail-head.

⁵⁰ The piscina bowls form the sill of the vestry window.

⁵¹ The capitals of the chancel arch, etc., have a general resemblance to work in the church of the abbey of Boscherville in Normandy, which held the patronage, indicating perhaps a French influence. Cf. Paper by A. Hamilton Thompson among Mr. Crowther-Beynon's MS. notes in the

custody of the churchwardens; W. Slater's Rep. (1864).

⁵² The arches are not semicircular, being very wide in proportion to their height, but they are not true ellipses.

⁵³ Compare Glaston, where the mouldings are keel-shaped.

⁵⁴ Such evidence as there is would seem to indicate that the destroyed chancel aisles, or chapels, were of 13th-century date, and were probably coeval with the chancel.



EDITH WESTON CHURCH FROM THE SOUTH



EDITH WESTON CHURCH: THE INTERIOR, LOOKING EAST

During the 14th century new windows appear to have been inserted in the aisles,⁵⁵ and it is possible that the transept was then added or an older one rebuilt. On its west side the chamfered plinth stops about 2 ft. from the angle, beyond which northward there is a square rubble plinth, and the upper part of the wall is also of rubble, the ashlar facing on this side being confined to three or four courses. There is also a portion of string-course below the eaves with roughly wrought enrichments, which may be of 13th century date. It is possible, therefore, that there was a transept here in that period, or even earlier, and that it was rebuilt in the 14th century.⁵⁶ The disturbance of the masonry on each side of the existing south window shows that it is a 15th-century insertion. Internally the west wall of the transept is occupied by a wide arched chamfered recess 8 in. deep, now almost hidden by the Halford monument,⁵⁷ which springs at a height of about 4 ft. 10 in. above the floor from chamfered impost, and has a hood-mould with notch-stops. The claim that this is a 12th-century arch reused is doubtful.⁵⁸ The transept is divided from the aisle by a pointed arch of two chamfered orders springing from the first pillar of the arcade and from a moulded corbel supported by a large notch-head on the south side.⁵⁹

Late in the 14th century, c. 1380-1400, the tower was added, and the clearstory is little, if any, later in date. The tower is built of Barnack rag and is of four stages marked by strings, with moulded plinth and clasping angle buttresses to the top of the third stage. There is a vice or spiral staircase in the south-west angle. The pointed two-light window extends upwards for the height of the lowest stage into the stage above, the bottom stage being very short; the third stage is blank. The pointed bell-chamber windows have transoms and are of two trefoiled lights with quatrefoil in the head, and the tower terminates with a battlemented parapet, crocketed pinnacles and grotesque gargoyles at the angles. The spire is of Ketton stone, with plain angles and two tiers of lights on the cardinal faces. The tower opens into the nave by a lofty arch of two wave-moulded orders,⁶⁰ with hood-mould, the outer order continuous, the inner on half-round responds with moulded capitals and bases.⁶¹ The doorway to the vice has a four-centred head. The clearstory has three square-headed windows of two trefoiled lights on each side.

The present porch and south doorway apparently date from the 18th century, and the aisle window west of the porch was probably altered at the same time,

or earlier; it is a plain square-headed opening of two lights, but the head-stops of the hood-mould of a former window remain above it. The outer doorway of the porch has an elliptical arch of two chamfered orders, and is provided with wooden gates; the inner doorway is square-headed, with keystone and plain jambs. The roof of the nave is largely old, but is of very plain character with moulded purlins and ridge piece.

The rebuilding of the chancel in 1865 was at the charges of the Rev. Charles Halford Lucas, rector, and is of a somewhat elaborate character with vaulted roof of Ketton stone.⁶² The ridge of the roof is considerably higher than that of the nave,⁶³ and the quire aisles are under separate gabled roofs running north and south. Internally the walls are lined with ashlar, the eastern bay, or sanctuary, being arcaded with a series of pointed arches on banded shafts; three of the arches on the south side are recessed to form sedilia. In the west bay are wide arches opening to the aisle and vestry, the roofs of which are of wood. The east window is of three lights with geometrical tracery.⁶⁴ A gilded oak reredos (1896) designed by Mr. A. H. Skipworth, with panels⁶⁵ by Sir George Frampton, is a memorial to Rev. Charles Halford Lucas, rebuilder of the chancel.

The font is ancient, and consists of a plain rectangular bowl with slightly bevelled angles, on a solid stepped base.⁶⁶ It has a modern wooden cover (1897).

The wooden pulpit is modern, but the reading desk is made up of four old pew ends and other material; two of the stalls have old bench ends with carved poppy heads, and another has a human head.

The organ is by Samuel Green, 1787, and has a well-designed case and gilded pipes. It was formerly at the Hall, but was presented to the church in 1867 by Richard Lucas.⁶⁷

The Halford monument, formerly against the north wall of the chancel, but now in the transept, comprises tablets to Richard Halford, 1627, Richard Halford, 1675,⁶⁸ Charles Halford, 1696, Richard Halford, 1742, and the Rev. Richard Lucas, D.D., 1789.

A large painting of St. Christopher was found in 1848 on the north wall of the nave, between the clear-story windows, opposite the south doorway, but could not be preserved.

The royal arms of George III (1801-1820) are on a painted board. In the north aisle is a memorial to ten men of the parish who fell in the war of 1914-19.

There are three bells: the first by Tobie Norris (1) of Stamford, 1621, the second dated 1597, and the tenor by Henry Penn of Peterborough, 1723.⁶⁹ A

⁵⁵ The windows of the old north aisle, which may have been widened at this time, were of this date. The two-light vestry window is a 14th-century window re-used, and a square-headed window at the east end of the aisle, now opening into the vestry and fitted with a wooden frame, is apparently a 14th-century window altered; on its north side is an image bracket supported by two large notch heads.

⁵⁶ A pointed window of two lights which existed at the north end of the east wall of the transept before 1865 was described as 'Decorated' (*Stamford Mercury*, Aug. 30, 1861), but it is doubtful whether it was in its original position.

⁵⁷ The monument was removed to this position from the chancel in 1865.

⁵⁸ Prof. A. Hamilton Thompson suggests that it may once have been the arch

leading from the 12th-century nave to a transept, before the south aisle was built, and that when the aisle was added the arch was placed in its present position.

⁵⁹ There has been much disturbance of this arch, doubtless due to the insertion of the arch behind the Halford monument. It is quite unsymmetrical and the corbel projects much further than its proper function demands. Only the inner order springs from the corbel. The outer order dies out on the west side, and on the east sits awkwardly upon the angle of the transept wall. There is a hood-mould on the east side only.

⁶⁰ On the west side there are three orders, the two outer chamfered and dying out.

⁶¹ Both capitals and bases bear the marks of a former gallery.

⁶² The architect was William Slater.

⁶³ The old chancel roof was of much lower pitch, its ridge being slightly below that of the nave.

⁶⁴ The east window of the old chancel was described as 'Perpendicular.'

⁶⁵ The panels are of a hard form of plaster: in the centre 'Pascé oves meas,' and on either side 'Ave gratia plena' and 'Ecce Ancilla Domini.'

⁶⁶ The bowl is 2 ft. square, and 17 in. high, the base 18 in. high. The date is uncertain.

⁶⁷ The organ was originally in a London house, whence it was removed in 1842 to Edith Weston Hall.

⁶⁸ Inscription given in Wright, *Hist. of Rutl.* (1634), 42.

⁶⁹ North, *Cb. Bells of Rutl.* 123, where the inscriptions are given. The bells were rehung in 1924.

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new clock was erected in 1920 in place of an old 'one handed clock,' believed to date from the time of the Commonwealth.⁷⁰

The plate consists of a cup of 1608-9; a paten of 1637-8; a paten of 1736-7; an alms-dish of 1717-18, given by Richard Halford in 1718; and a flagon of 1829-30, given by Richard Lucas.⁷¹ There is also a pewter flagon.

The registers before 1812 are as follows: (i) baptisms 1585-1683; (ii) baptisms and burials 1683-1812, marriages 1683-1753; (iii) marriages 1754-1812. There are churchwardens' accounts from 1778 to 1847.

The church is not mentioned in the *ADVOWSON* grants of the manor confirmed by Henry I, Henry II and Richard I, but Henry III confirmed to the abbey of St. George de Boscherville 'the land of Weston and the church.'⁷² Presentations were made very frequently by the king in the 14th century during the wars with France,⁷³ for it was customary to retain the advowson in the king's hands when appointing a custodian of the manor.⁷⁴

The advowson followed the descent of the manor (q.v.) until 1913, when Mr. Hotchkin reserved the advowson from the sale of the Edith Weston estate, and in 1921 sold it to the Earl of Ancaster, who is the present patron.

Edith Weston was in 1538 returned as a church appropriated to the priory of Coventry,⁷⁵ and when the manor and advowson were granted in 1550 to the Marquess of Northampton the living is described as a vicarage.⁷⁶ In 1551, when a similar grant was made to the Marquess, it included the advowson of the rectory,⁷⁷ and the living has since been a rectory.

Wing's Charity.—It appears from *CHARITIES* an inscription on the table of benefactions in the church at Edith Weston that the sum of £10 was given by Michael Wing, the interest thereof to be laid out in bread and distributed by the minister and churchwardens yearly on Easter Eve. The endowment now consists of a sum of £26 17s. 5d. 2½ per cent. Consols, producing in dividends 13s. 4d. per annum. The income, together with that of the charities of Halford, William Louth, and Humphrey Wells, is distributed by the trustees in bread and meat among 40 families in the parish.

Halford's Charity.—There is a sum of £30 which is

stated in an entry in the parish register dated 1742 to have been received by the rector in full satisfaction of a legacy left by Richard Halford for the poor of the parish. The sum of £1 received as interest on the money, which is on deposit, is distributed in the manner stated under Wing's Charity.

Mary Dorothy Lucas, by her will proved in the P.C.C. on 2 October 1868, gave a sum of money to the rector and churchwardens, and directed the income to be expended in the purchase of coals to be distributed at their discretion during the winter among the poor. The endowment now consists of £161 1s. 6d. 2½ per cent. Consols, producing in dividends the sum of £4 0s. 4d. per annum. The income is expended in coal amongst 40 families.

Mary Dorothy Lucas, by the same will, give the sum of £100 to the rector and churchwardens, and directed the income to be applied in maintaining and repairing the memorial window erected by her in the church at Edith Weston. The endowment, increased by accumulations, now consists of a sum of £215 5s. 5d. 2½ per cent. Consols, producing in dividends £5 7s. 8d. per annum.

Humphrey Wells, by his will proved in the P.C.C. on 8 June 1865, gave the sum of £50 to the incumbent to be distributed among the poor. The endowment now consists of a sum of £57 6s. 2d. 2½ per cent. Consols, producing in dividends £1 8s. 4d. per annum. The income is distributed in the manner stated under Wing's Charity.

Richard Lucas, by his will proved in the P.C.C. on 8 February 1889, gave to the rector and churchwardens of Edith Weston the sum of £250, the income arising therefrom to be applied in repairing the parish church and in defraying expenses of any services connected with the church. The endowment consists of £252 8s. 10d. 2½ per cent. Consols, producing in dividends £6 6s. per annum.

William Louth during his lifetime gave the sum of £100 3 per cent. annuities, the income to be distributed among the poor. No deed or instrument declaring the trust exists, but the charity was founded more than 50 years ago. The endowment now consists of £100 2½ per cent. Consols, producing in dividends £2 10s. per annum. The income is distributed in the manner stated under Wing's Charity.

The several sums of stock are with the Official Trustees.

HAMBLETON

Hameldune (xi-xii cent.); Hamildon (xi-xv cent.); Hameldon (xii-xviii cent.); Halmeden (xii cent.); Hamuldon (xiv, xv cent.); Hambledon (xv-xviii cent.); Hambleton (xvii cent.).

The area of the parish of Hambleton is 2,862 acres. The subsoil is Upper Lias and Inferior Oolite; the soil varies. The land is chiefly under pasture, but the usual cereal crops are grown.

The village of Upper Hambleton stands on the top of a hill some 417 ft. above the Ordnance datum, and fine views over the Vale of Catmos can be had from it. The land falls away from the village about

200 ft. to the River Gwash on the south and east and to a stream, a tributary of the Gwash, on the north. The village street is built along a by-road leading from Edith Weston to the main road from Stamford to Oakham, which latter town is about three miles distant. The church is at the west end of the street, and near it are some old thatched and stone roofed cottages. On the south side of the church is a long, low, two-storied building with thatched roof, known as the "Priest's House." It is apparently of late 16th century date. The south front is faced with ashlar and has a mullioned bay-window with

⁷⁰ The works of the old clock are under the tower.

⁷¹ Hope, *Cb. Plate in Rutl.* 13.

⁷² *Cal. Chari. R.* 1226-57, p. 436.

⁷³ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1343-5, p. 38; 1358-61, p. 147; 1381-5, p. 90; 1385-9,

p. 285.

⁷⁴ *Ibid.* 1340-3, pp. 220, 233.

⁷⁵ *Valor Eccles.* (Rec. Com.), iii, 53.

⁷⁶ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1549-51, p. 368.

⁷⁷ *Ibid.* 1550-53, p. 147.



UPPER HAMBLETON : THE 'PRIEST'S HOUSE'



HAMBLETON : THE OLD HALL FROM THE NORTH



HAMBLETON CHURCH FROM THE SOUTH-EAST



HAMBLETON CHURCH : THE INTERIOR, LOOKING EAST

corbelled gable above. Along the village street eastward of the church the houses extend along the north side, while on the south is Hambleton Hall, built in 1881, standing in a park of 250 acres, and now the residence of Mrs. Clement Astley Paston Cooper. Near it, a little to the west, is a 17th-century house known as the Manor, now occupied by Major J. Orr-Ewing. It stands probably on the site of the manor house in which the Umfravilles and Badlesmeres lived in the 13th and 14th centuries. The present house is built of stone. It is gabled and of simple but attractive design, with mullioned windows, good chimneys and stone-slatted roofs. The house has been modernised and extensive additions have been made to it.

Southward of Upper Hambleton is Middle Hambleton, comprising a few scattered cottages on the west side of the by-road to Manton.

Farther south again is Nether Hambleton, where is the Old Hall, a charming Jacobean house of moderate size. It was not apparently a manor house, but was built about 1610, as recorded in a deed dated 6 April 1611,¹ wherein Roger Quarles,² who then purchased the estate from Christopher Loveday, mentions it as 'his capitall new erected messuage.' The descendants of Roger Quarles parted with their interest in the property, in December 1634, to Abel Barker of Hambleton, and the sale included 'all dores, waynscott, lockes, keyes, glasse, tables, formes, bedsteads, shelves, thralls, utensills, etc.' Abel Barker's son, who bore his father's christian name, was created a baronet in 1665. He had purchased the neighbouring manor of Lyndon in 1662 in conjunction with his brother. Shortly before his death Sir Abel Barker (d. 1679) went to reside at the house at Lyndon (q.v.) which he had lately built. The Old Hall at Hambleton was thereupon let as a farm-house, and such it has since remained.³ The Barker family continued in possession until they died out in 1845. The estate was then purchased by the Rev. Edward Brown, whose wife was Sarah Barker, an aunt of the last direct descendant, and on his death it passed to his nephew, Edward Nathaniel Conant, grandfather of the present owner. The fact that the Old Hall answered its purpose as a farm-house no doubt accounts for its having been left unaltered and unmodernised, and that it remains so interesting an example of its period. The Palmer family were its tenants for some century and a half. The house is built of stone and the general treatment is simple, with mullioned windows and straight gables. The windows have mostly a single row of two or three lights, but on the south front are some of four lights and some of two lights in height. What gives its particular character to the house is the introduction of loggias on the north and south fronts; that on the north or entrance front is arched, and is ingeniously divided in order to get a porch and a bay window to the hall, while that on the south front is a small open colonnade. There are short lengths of arcaded parapet similar in detail to that at Exton Old Hall, and it would appear that the builder, who presumably was Christopher Loveday, acquired the

services of a very competent mason who (it is likely) designed the house after the type prevalent at the time, with the hall in the middle, the family rooms at one end and the kitchens at the other. There is little of ancient interest inside, and practically nothing remains of the various articles enumerated in the sale to Abel Barker.

The tenants of Hambleton and the inhabitants of adjacent towns joined in petitions to the Council of State during the Commonwealth against the oppression of Col. Wayte, member of the Rump Parliament. As lord of the manor, then 2,244 acres in extent, he had broken a promise made when purchasing the property by lessening the tenants' farms, taking their best lands, forcing them to enclose their pastures, doubling their rents, enclosing the springs and turning the brooks, so that they could get no water without trespassing on enclosures, and would not let them reap corn sown with his consent unless they paid 10s. an acre. 'The tenants being 80 families will thus be undone, 30 families of labourers thrown out of work, the parish depopulated, as he says he will pull down houses as they become his by the death of the tenants.'⁴

There was an estate Act passed in 1693.⁵

Rider Haggard has described the system of cottage holdings introduced here and in three other Rutland parishes. In 1901 there were 43 small holders in these parishes with holdings varying from 5 to 40 acres, the holdings being all grass. Originally there were many more, the Hambleton cow pasture, which is 102 acres, being divided into 80 cow commons. Some of the holders occupied two or more fields, but usually fields were grazed in common and separate small fields reserved for mowing, five roods being allowed to a cow in the common fields.⁶

The Black Death was felt very severely, bringing a yearly loss of £11 in rent to the lord.⁷

Some 14th-century field-names are: Landwar, Sundermedow, Dwpwelleholmes, Elerformedows, Holdmedow, Lampolmedow.⁸ The names Oatemeale Meadow, West Well Spring, Wall Greasons occur in the rectory lands in 1650;⁹ 'le Blynde Lane' in the 'Nethertowne' in 1549.¹⁰

The nearest railway stations are Manton, 3 miles south-west, and Oakham, 3 miles north-west.

The manor of *HAMBLETON*, with *MANORS* the rest of Martinsley wapentake, first appears as part of the dower of Aelfthryth, mother of Ethelred the Unready, and afterwards as dower of Ethelred's queen Emma. The Confessor granted the two mother churches of Oakham and Hambleton, with the church of St. Peter, Stamford, belonging to Hambleton, and all appurtenances, to St. Peter's, Westminster, while the manors of Oakham and Hambleton belonged to his queen Edith at the time of the Norman Conquest under his grant to her of Rutland for life with reversion to the Abbey. In 1066 Edith had 4 carucates of land in Hambleton with its seven berewicks, 'church soke-land.' Possibly she retained this land until her death

¹ Document *penes* Mr. Conant of Lyndon Hall (*Rutl. Mag.* v, 170).

² Roger Quarles of New Sleaford (co. Linc.), who died in 1616, by deed dated in that year settled his house at Hambleton on Elizabeth his wife with contingent remainders to his brother Francis's sons George, James, Robert

and Doily (Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), cccclxxxviii, 74).

³ *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* v, App. i, pp. 337-404; *Cal. S.P. Dom.* 1664-5, pp. 444, 556.

⁴ *Ibid.* 1653-4, pp. 28, 159, 330; 1654, p. 27.

⁵ *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xiv, App. vi, p. 298.

⁶ Slater, *Engl. Peasantry*, 138-9.

⁷ *Cal. Inq.* x, no. 639 (p. 527).

⁸ Chan. Inq. p.m. 12 Edw. III (2nd nos.), no. 543.

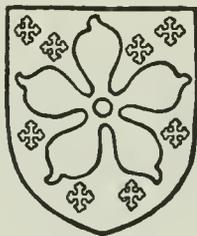
⁹ Close R. 1650, pt. 76, m. 4.

¹⁰ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1548-9, pp. 216-17.

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

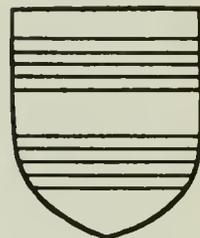
in 1075, when William I took it into his own hands. In 1086 he had 5 ploughs here in demesne and 140 villeins and 13 bordars having 40 ploughs. There were three priests and three churches, to which one bovat 8 acres of land belonged. The whole manor with its berewicks was 3 leagues 8 furlongs by 2 leagues 8 furlongs. Albert the clerk held 7 bovates belonging to the churches in Hambleton and the neighbouring lands.¹¹ In the Lincolnshire survey, Albert¹² appears as holding the church of St. Peter, Stamford, with two dwellings and $\frac{1}{2}$ carucate land in Hambleton.¹³ The whole wapentake was in 1086 in the king's hands, with its vills all grouped round the three manors of Oakham, Hambleton and Ridlington. The seven berewicks of Hambleton may have been Braunston, Normanton, Lyndon, Martinsthorpe, Edith Weston, Manton,¹⁴ and Market Overton (q.v.). Ayston and Wing, which seem to have been attached to Ridlington (q.v.) church, were with Manton members of Hambleton manor in 1622.¹⁵ Market Overton remained for some time a member of Hambleton manor, but the first five manors developed separately.

The manor known by the 14th century as *GREAT HAMBLETON* was granted by the Conqueror or William Rufus after 1086 to the ancestor of the Umfravilles, apparently Robert 'with the beard,'¹⁶ 'who came to the Conquest of England.' Robert was apparently succeeded by another Robert (d. about 1145) who was pardoned for some default in 1130,¹⁷ and he by Odinel, who built Prudhoe Castle. Odinel's son, Odinel d'Umfraville, one of the barons who captured William the Lion at Alnwick,¹⁸ died seised of land in Normanton and elsewhere in the county in 1182 and was succeeded by his son Robin or Robert (ob. s. p. about 1195).¹⁹ Hambleton was taken into the king's hands in 1199 as security for a debt owed by Robin's brother and heir Richard to Maud daughter of Ralph Vintonor.²⁰ Richard joined the barons against King John and his lands were forfeited and granted to Hugh de Balliol. He, however, returned to his allegiance to Henry III and his lands were restored in 1217.²¹ He was succeeded in 1226 here and in Redesdale by his son Gilbert (I), the 'Flower of the North,' who did homage in Jan. 1226-7 and in 1238 he presented to the church of Market Overton where he held a knight's fee in 1241. He married Maud, Countess of Angus, and became Earl of Angus in her right in 1243. At his death in March 1244-5 the king's brother sought the guardianship of the son and heir Gilbert but was outbid by Simon de Montfort



UMFRAVILLE. *Gules crusily and a cingfoil or.*

who paid 10,000 marks for it.²² His widow Maud (d. 1261) received the manor in dower in 1245 until the king assigned her full dower.²³ Simon de Montfort, Earl of Leicester, was still guardian in 1258.²⁴ The heir Gilbert (II), second Earl of Angus, joined the baronial party against Henry III,²⁵ but was in possession of Market Overton in 1267 and of Hambleton in 1275. He settled the two manors in 1289 on his eldest son Gilbert (III) and his wife Margaret daughter of Thomas de Clare, and their issue.²⁶ Gilbert (III) died in 1303 in his father's lifetime and the Earl then settled the reversion of the manor of Hambleton, after Margaret's death, on himself and Elizabeth his wife, daughter of Alexander Comin, Earl of Buchan.²⁷ Margaret widow of Gilbert (III) had the three Rutland manors in dower. She married as her second husband Bartholomew de Badlesmere,²⁸ and they acquired the manors of Hambleton, Normanton



BADLESMERE. *Argent a fesse double cotised gules.*

and Market Overton before 1305, when they are returned as holding one knight's fee there.²⁹ In 1315 Richard de Middleton and Agnes his wife granted to them and the heirs of Bartholomew 150 acres of land in Hambleton and yearly rents of 6s. and $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. cummin.³⁰ Bartholomew was returned as lord in 1316.³¹ Gilbert (II) de Umfraville died in 1307 and was succeeded by his eldest surviving son Robert (d. 1325). His son Gilbert (IV) with his son Robert in March 1336-7 released to Giles son of Bartholomew all his right in these manors, apparently for the payment of 1,100 marks.³² Bartholomew joined the Earl of Lancaster against Edward II; and after his death in 1322³³ his manors of Hambleton and Market Overton were granted for life in that year to Ralph Basset of Drayton.³⁴ It is evident there was considerable ill feeling about Basset's tenure of the manor, for we find that his lands were entered in 1326 and 1334, his servants assaulted and his horses, oxen and sheep driven away.³⁵ This is probably to be accounted for by the fact that Hambleton had been the residence of the Badlesmeres. Margaret de Umfraville, Lady of Badlesmere, widow of Bartholomew, dated a petition from Hambleton in 1325³⁶ and her son Giles was born here in 1314.³⁷ On the accession of Edward III, Giles, although he did not come of age until 1335, obtained a reversal of his father's attainder in 1327.³⁸ Ralph Basset did not die till 1343, but Giles seems to have entered into possession of his Rutland manors in 1337³⁹ and died seised of them without issue in 1338. His four sisters and coheirs and their husbands divided his estates. William de Bohun, Earl of

¹¹ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 139-40.

¹² Cf. Ridlington.

¹³ Mellows, *Pytchley's Bk. of Fees*, 21.

¹⁴ See below.

¹⁵ Add. R. (B.M.), 7177.

¹⁶ *Rot. Hund.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 49. This record throws doubt on the interpretation of 'barba' as beard; cf. *Hist. of Northumb.* (Northumb. Co. Hist. Com.), xii, 81.

¹⁷ *Hist. of Northumb.* xii, 81, 100, citing *Northumb. Plea R.* (Newcastle Rec. Soc.), no. 103; *Pipe R.* 31 Hen. I (Rec. Com.), p. 35, under Rob. de Umfraville.

¹⁸ Hodgson, *Northumb.* vol. i, pt. ii, p. 6.

¹⁹ *Pipe R. Soc.* xxxii, 46.

²⁰ *Curia Regis R.* i, 107; *Hist. of Northumb.* xii, 86.

²¹ *Rot. Litt. Claus.* (Rec. Com.), i, 123.

²² *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), i, 146-7; *Cal. Inq. Hen. III*, no. 49; *Excerpt. e Rot. Fin.* (Rec. Com.), i, 153, 436.

²³ *Cal. Close R.* 1242-7, p. 308.

²⁴ *Rot. Ric. Gravesend* (Cant. & York Soc.), 99.

²⁵ *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), i, 147.

²⁶ *Abbrev. Plac.* (Rec. Com.), 218.

²⁷ *Inq. a.q.d.* xliii, 13.

²⁸ *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), i, 149.

²⁹ *Feud. Aids*, iv, 204, 206.

³⁰ Feet of F. Rutl. East. 8 Edw. II, no. 14.

³¹ *Feud. Aids*, iv, p. 207.

³² *Cal. Close R.* 1337-9, pp. 102-3.

³³ *Complete Peerage*, loc. cit.

³⁴ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1321-4, p. 135.

³⁵ *Ibid.* 1324-27, p. 291; 1330-4, p. 569.

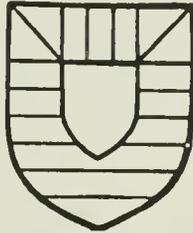
³⁶ *Cal. Doc. Scoll.* iii, 159.

³⁷ *Cal. Inq.* vii, no. 691.

³⁸ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1327-30, p. 337.

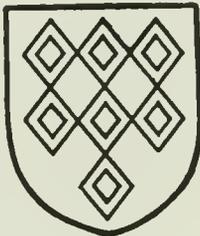
³⁹ See under Market Overton.

Northampton, and his wife Elizabeth, sister of Giles, received the manor of Hambleton.⁴⁰ On the death of the Earl (d. 1360), who outlived Elizabeth, this manor reverted to Edmund son of Roger Mortimer, Earl of March, who was the son of Elizabeth by her first husband Edmund Lord Mortimer of Wigmore.⁴¹ Edmund was a minor, and the king granted the wardship of Hambleton manor to his daughter Isabel in 1361.⁴² Edmund married Philippa, daughter of Lionel, Duke of Clarence, and dying in 1381 was succeeded by his son Roger, acknowledged heir-presumptive to the throne in 1387. He was killed in an Irish raid in 1398 and was succeeded by his son Edmund aged 7 years.⁴³ 'Sir John Lovell kt.' (Lord Lovell of Titchmarsh), who died in 1408, held Hambleton manor for life with reversion to Edmund Earl of March, and instead of being held in chief the manor was said to be held of Edward Duke of York by virtue of a grant by Richard II to the Duke of York and his heirs male.⁴⁴ Edmund Earl of March, the last of the Mortimers in the male line, like his father and grandfather, was lieutenant of Ireland, and died there in 1425. Richard Duke of York, son of his sister Anne, succeeded as Earl of March,⁴⁵ and was in possession of this manor in 1449,⁴⁶ though William Porter kt. was holding the Badlesmere fee in Hambleton and Normanton in 1428.⁴⁷ The Duke of York made a settlement in 1449⁴⁸ and probably in 1454.⁴⁹ Richard Duke of York died in 1460 when the manor, after various subsidiary dealings, passed to his son Edward, who ascended the throne as Edward IV in the same year. In 1467-8 Edward granted the manor to Sir Henry Ferrers,⁵⁰ grandson of the fifth Lord Ferrers of Groby, when it was stated that he had obtained it by exchange with Richard Quatermaynes and others who held it in fee.⁵¹ Sir Henry Ferrers kt. died seised in 1500, leaving a son and heir Edward,⁵² who



MORTIMER. *Barry or and azure a chief or with two pales between two gyrons azure therein and a scutcheon argent over all.*

made a settlement in 1548.⁵³ Edward's widow Constance held the manor as dower and died in 1551, when it reverted to her grandson Edward, son of her son Henry Ferrers.⁵⁴ Edward in 1553 settled the manor on himself and Bridget his wife with remainders to Henry, Ferdinando and Edward their sons.⁵⁵ Their son Henry in 1601 sold the manor to Sir John Harington.⁵⁶ From that time, except for an interval during the Commonwealth, the manor has descended with the manor of Burley (q.v.)⁵⁷ and is now the property of Mr. Wilfred H. M. Finch, J.P., the chief land owner. In 1650 Col. Thomas Wayte, M.P. for Market Overton, obtained a lease of the manor from the trustees of delinquents' lands, in this case the delinquent being the Duke of Buckingham,⁵⁸ and shortly afterwards purchased it.⁵⁹



FERRERS. *Gules seven voided lozenges or.*

In 1275 it was stated that the Umfravilles had always had gallows.⁶⁰ Bartholomew, Lord Badlesmere, and his heirs had a grant of free warren in 1315,⁶¹ confirmed in 1337,⁶² which Ralph Basset exercised in 1326.⁶³ A mill belonged to the manor in 1086,⁶⁴ and a windmill is recorded from 1338 to 1674, the capital mesuage and dovecote also being mentioned in 1338.⁶⁵

The manor of *LITTLE HAMBLETON* (Parva Hambleton) was a member of the Honour of Huntingdon. Earl David⁶⁶ about 1200 confirmed a rent of 30d. here to the priory of St. James near Huntingdon (Hinchingbrooke) as William de Camera had granted it.⁶⁷ In 1442 William de Camera was stated to have granted the priory a rent of 13s. 4d. here,⁶⁸ which the priory received until the Dissolution.⁶⁹ It was then granted in 1538 with all the other priory lands to Richard Williams alias Cromwell in fee.⁷⁰ Richard was succeeded here in 1544 by his son Henry, a minor,⁷¹ but in 1533 and 1612 the manor was said to be held of the manor of Great Hambleton.⁷²



CROMWELL. *Sable a lion argent.*

The first undertenant found is Geoffrey de Ketton, who in 1241 conveyed a carucate of land and the mill to John Talbot⁷³ (Taleboth). The latter had a manor-house and chapel,⁷⁴ but is called of Fincham, and was son of Geoffrey Talbot.⁷⁵ John was concerned with lands here in 1247⁷⁶ and 1249.⁷⁷ John de Causton some time before 1314 leased half the manor to Margaret Gailleway, and in 1314 granted the rever-

title, and the above grant by feoffees is quoted (Exch. Spec. Com. 4418).

⁴⁰ *Cal. Inq.* viii, no. 185; *Cal. Fine R.* 1337-47, p. 103; *Abbrev. Rot. Orig.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 125; *Cal. Close R.* 1339-41, pp. 281-2.

⁴¹ *Cal. Inq.* x, no. 639 (p. 527).

⁴² *Cal. Pat. R.* 1358-61, p. 552.

⁴³ G.E.C. *Complete Peerage*, v, 243-4.

⁴⁴ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 9 Hen. IV, no. 29. Edmund Duke of York died seised of tenements here in 1402 by virtue of a grant from Edward III to him and his wife Isabel in tail male.

⁴⁵ G.E.C. loc. cit.

⁴⁶ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1446-52, p. 218.

⁴⁷ *Feud. Aids*, iv, 212.

⁴⁸ Feet of F. Rutl. East. 27 Hen. VI, no. 14.

⁴⁹ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1452-61, p. 200.

⁵⁰ *Ibid.* 1467-77, pp. 18, 40, 123.

⁵¹ *Rolls of Parl.* (Rec. Com.), vi, 307a.

In 1613 it was stated that it was supposed to have escheated on account of defective

title, and the above grant by feoffees is quoted (Exch. Spec. Com. 4418).

⁵² *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), xvii, 4.

⁵³ Feet of F. Div. Cos. Trin. 2 Edw. VI.

⁵⁴ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), xcvi, 61.

⁵⁵ Irons' Notes.

⁵⁶ Exch. Spec. Com. 4418; Wright, *Hist. and Antiq. of Rutl.* 68.

⁵⁷ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), cccxvii, 116; cccxcii, 133; Add. R. 7177; *Fine R.* 21 Jas. I, pt. ii, no. 15; *Cal. S.P. Dom.* 1640, p. 455; *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* v, App. i, 387-404; *Recov. R.* East. 15 Chas. II, ro. 60; *Mich.* 15 Geo. III, ro. 289; Feet of F. Rutl. East. 15 Chas. II.

⁵⁸ *Cal. of Com. for Comp.* pp. 372, 387, 398, 2187.

⁵⁹ *Cal. S.P. Dom.* 1653-4, p. 330.

⁶⁰ *Rot. Hund.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 49.

⁶¹ *Cal. Chart. R.* 1300-26, p. 283.

⁶² *Cal. Pat. R.* 1334-8, p. 554.

⁶³ *Ibid.* 1324-7, p. 291.

⁶⁴ *V.C.H.* op. cit. 139.

⁶⁵ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 12 Edw. III (2nd nos.), no. 54a.

⁶⁶ See Whissendine.

⁶⁷ Add. Chart. 34255.

⁶⁸ *Ibid.* 33618.

⁶⁹ *Valor Eccles.* (Rec. Com.), iv, 255; Add. R. 39589.

⁷⁰ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xiii (i), g. 646 (12).

⁷¹ Add. R. 34302.

⁷² *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), xl, 23; *Misc. dclxvi*, 80.

⁷³ Feet of F. Rutl. East. 25 Hen. III, no. 21.

⁷⁴ See below.

⁷⁵ *Rot. Rob. Grossteteste* (Cant. & York Soc.), 208.

⁷⁶ Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 31 Hen. III, no. 34.

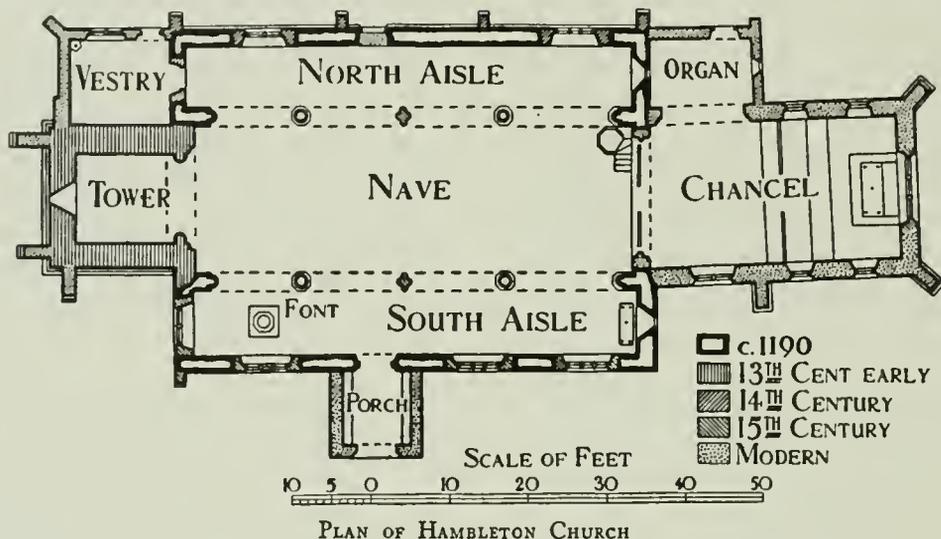
⁷⁷ *Cal. Close R.* 1247-51, p. 228.

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sion to Bernard de Brus of Exton (q.v.) and Agnes his wife and the heirs of Bernard,⁷⁸ who in 1317 conveyed the half-manor to John son of Henry Byron of Whitwell.⁷⁹ John Byron of Whitwell received further grants from the Gailleway family in 1333.⁸⁰ Sir William de Burton, kt., and Joan widow of John Byron were tenants of the priory here in 1348.⁸¹ Sir William died 1375-6 and his son Sir Thomas died seised of this manor in 1382, leaving a son Thomas aged 14, and a widow Margery who had a life interest.⁸² She and Thomas Burton, kt., alienated the manor to Roger Flore (Flower) in 1412.⁸³ From this date the descent of the manor followed that of Whitwell (q.v.) until 1631, when John Flore and William Sheldon and their wives conveyed the manor to William Smyth and John Tibbs and the heirs of William;⁸⁴ and about 1635 John Flore of Whitwell died seised of tenements

aisles being covered with modern slates. The nave has a battlemented parapet, which is continued along the east gable, but the parapets of the chancel and aisles are plain. The porch has a stone-slatted eaved roof. With the exception of the tower, all the walls are plastered internally.

In the main the building is of late 12th-century date (c. 1180-90), to which period the existing nave arcades and aisles belong, the tower being not very much later, added probably early in the 13th century. In the 14th century new windows were inserted in the north aisle and the chancel seems to have been remodelled, or perhaps wholly rebuilt on its present plan, but most of its mediæval details were obliterated in a restoration about a century ago,⁸⁵ and in 1892 it was pulled down and the present chancel built. In the 15th century new windows were inserted in the



here.⁸⁵ In 1674 George Legge and Barbara his wife conveyed half the manor and windmill to Edward Seymour and others;⁸⁶ and in 1711-12 Edward Greathead and others made a settlement of one-third of an annual rent of £60 arising from the manor,⁸⁷ while in 1720 Thomas Dodds and Deborah his wife and Thomas Moore and Eleanor his wife, by right of the wives, made a settlement of the remaining two-thirds.⁸⁸ No further mention of the manor has been found.

The church of *ST. ANDREW* stands *CHURCH* on the summit of the hill and consists of chancel 32 ft. by 18 ft., with organ chamber on the north side, clearstoried nave of four bays 55 ft. 9 in. by 18 ft., north and south aisles respectively 7 ft. 6 in. and 8 ft. wide, south porch, and west tower 11 ft. square, all these measurements being internal. The width across nave and aisles is 38 ft. 6 in.

The church is built throughout of rubble and has low-pitched leaded roofs to chancel and nave, the

south aisle and the clearstory added, the erection of which appears to have necessitated the renewal of the middle pillar of the nave arcades, the new pillars being in the style of the period.⁸⁹ The old seating was removed in 1847 and in 1861 the tower was restored and strengthened by the addition of buttresses. The porch has been rebuilt and a vestry added on the north side of the tower, entered from the aisle.

The chancel is divided externally into two unequal bays and has diagonal angle buttresses and a re-used 15th-century east window of three lights,⁹¹ the tracery of which, however, is modern. No other ancient features remain, the trefoil-headed 14th-century piscina with fluted bowl supported by a female head being now in the vestry. The eastern bay, or sanctuary, is lighted on each side by two single-light windows, and the shorter western bay by a two-light window on the south. The chancel arch is modern and of two orders, the inner order chamfered on

⁷⁸ Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 8 Edw. II, no. 12.

⁷⁹ Ibid. Mich. 11 Edw. II, no. 18.

⁸⁰ Ibid. 7 Edw. III, no. 18; cf. Add. Chart. 34256.

⁸¹ Ibid. 33603.

⁸² Chan. Inq. p.m. 6 Ric. II, no. 19; *Cal. Close R.* 1381-5, p. 175.

⁸³ Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 13 Hen. IV, no. 11.

⁸⁴ Ibid. 6 Chas. I.

⁸⁵ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), Misc. dxxvi, 90.

⁸⁶ Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 26-7 Chas. II.

⁸⁷ Ibid. Div. Cos. Hil. 10 Anne.

⁸⁸ Ibid. Rutl. Trin. 6 Geo. I.

⁸⁹ 'The chancel was restored about thirty years ago': *T. Paradise in Stamford Mercury*, Aug. 7, 1863. At that time the Decorated piscina, chancel

arch, and Perpendicular east window still remained.

⁹⁰ The original pillars may have become weakened by the action of the weather, owing to their position near to the north and south doorways.

⁹¹ This window was itself an insertion in the east wall of the old chancel. In 1589 the glass windows in the chancel were in decay (*Irons' Notes, Archd. Visit.*).

half-round responds with moulded capitals and bases, and the outer with continuous wave moulding.⁹² The chancel is elaborately furnished and has modern sedilia, piscina and credence, and good wrought-iron dwarf screen and gates.

The nave arcades are alike and consist of four pointed arches of two chamfered orders with un-stopped hood-moulds on cylindrical pillars and half-round responds, the capitals of which are carved with early incurved stiff-leaf foliage, and have octagonal abaci; the circular moulded bases stand on octagonal plinths. The 15th-century middle pillar on each side is on plan an oblong set north and south, down the angles of which the outer chamfer of the arch is carried, the longer sides having attached columns with moulded capitals and bases.⁹³

The late 12th-century south doorway has a semi-circular arch of two orders, the inner with a continuous edge roll, and the outer with very large and roughly wrought tooth ornament, small sunk roundels, and rounded label moulding, springing from two capitals on each side, the shafts of which are gone. On the west side the capitals are scalloped, but those on the east differ in design and have a small four-leaved flower in the common abacus. The north doorway, now blocked, is probably contemporary, but is of very plain character, with rectangular chamfered opening, the head of which is formed by a large plain stone shaped like a tympanum and enclosed by a chamfered hood-mould.

There is an early string chamfered on both edges at sill level round the south aisle outside, and both aisles at the east end retain their original widely splayed single-light windows,⁹⁴ that in the south aisle being round-headed, the other (now opening to the organ chamber) a lancet. No ancient ritual arrangements remain in the aisles, but since 1895 the east end of the south aisle has been used as a chapel.⁹⁵ Of the 15th-century windows in this aisle that at the west end is pointed and of two cinquefoiled lights; the others are of three lights, those on each side of the porch square-headed and with vertical tracery, the easternmost pointed. The north aisle is divided externally into three bays by later buttresses and is lighted by two square-headed 14th-century windows, the easternmost of three lights, and that in the western bay of two, but the latter is not in its original position and its tracery is restored.

The four-centred clearstory windows, four on each side, are of two cinquefoiled lights with hood-moulds and the nave gable has a crocketed pinnacle at the apex.

The tower is of three stages marked by strings, with thrice chamfered plinth, widely splayed west lancet in the lower stage, and a rather larger one in the middle stage on the north and south sides. There is no vice. The bell-chamber windows consist of

two lancet lights divided by a mid-shaft with moulded capital and base, set within a chamfered pointed arch with shafted jambs, and hood-mould with notch stops; the spandrels are pierced.⁹⁶ The tower terminates with a plain parapet, behind which rises a very short broach spire with plain angles and two-light gabled openings near the base. The modern four-stage buttresses are well set back from the angles. Internally the tower opens into the nave by a pointed arch of three chamfered orders with hood-mould on the nave side only, the outer order continuous and the two inner springing from clustered responds with mutilated bases and moulded capitals enriched with nail-head.

The font is ancient and may be of 12th-century date; it has a square bowl with bevelled angles,⁹⁷ and stands on a short stem and chamfered plinth.

Some Jacobean arched panels have been worked up in the modern pulpit. There is an old iron-bound oak chest with one lock in the south aisle.

Two coped stone coffin lids, perhaps of 14th-century date, formerly in the churchyard, are now inside the building. They are similar in type, showing the exposed head and feet of an effigy, but of the larger only the upper part remains.⁹⁸ At the east end of the north aisle is a floor slab with an incised cross of somewhat unusual character. There are no monuments earlier than the end of the 18th century.⁹⁹ In the churchyard is a War Memorial Cross.

There are five bells, a new treble by Taylor, of Loughborough, having been added in 1887, to a former ring of four, and the tenor recast. The second and third, dated respectively 1610 and 1621, are by Tobie Norris (I) of Stamford, and the fourth is by Taylor, 1861.¹

The plate consists of a cup and cover paten of 1569-70, and a cup, two patens, flagon, and almsdish of 1749-50, the latter pieces inscribed 'Given to the church of Hambleton in Rutland in memory of the Revd. Willm. Gardiner, LL.B., 40 years vicar of the said parish 1750.'²

The registers before 1812 are as follows: (i) all entries 1558-1653; (ii) 1654-1715; (iii) 1716-49; (iv) baptisms and burials 1750-1800, marriages 1750-54; (v) baptisms and burials 1801-12; (vi) marriages 1754-1812. In the second volume is a register of briefs 1707-16, and in the third a similar register 1716-48. The fifth volume contains 'A valuation of the Lordship of Hambleton made in 1792.' There are churchwardens' accounts 1759-1879, and overseers' accounts 1781-1836.

In 1585 the church walls were said to be in decay.^{2*} The church of Hambleton and its dependent churches were, like the manor, dower of the Saxon queens before the Conquest, and were granted by the Con-

⁹² It probably reproduces the former arch, which in 1863 was described as Decorated.

⁹³ The upper and lower members of the capitals and bases are taken round the whole pillars.

⁹⁴ The east window of the south aisle is 8 in. wide and splays internally to 4 ft. In the north aisle the splay is 4 ft. 6 in.

⁹⁵ In memory of the Rev. George Gibb, vicar (d. 1893). There are modern paintings on the east and south walls.

⁹⁶ On the north and east sides by pointed and rounded quatrefoils, on the south by

a trefoil, and on the west by a small vesica-shaped opening.

⁹⁷ The bevel at the angles widens from 4 in. to 7 in. at the bottom, the height of the bowl being 19 in. It has a moulded rim.

⁹⁸ The smaller is 2 ft. wide at the head and 6 ft. 2 in. long, but the feet of the figure are gone. The larger, in which a priest is represented, is 2 ft. 7 in. at the head, but is reduced in length to 4 ft. See Boutell, *Christian Mon.* (1854), 144, where the smaller is figured.

⁹⁹ The earliest is a tablet to Tobias Hippisley (d. 1796) and his wife (d. 1776).

¹ North, *Cb. Bells of Rutl.* 134, where the inscriptions on the older bells are given. There was formerly a priest's bell dated 1636, which, with the old third bell, went to the casting of the present fourth in 1861. The former tenor was by Tobie Norris, 1611. See also *Leic. and Rutl. N. and Q.* i, 137.

² Hope, *Cb. Plate in Rutl.* 6. In 1681 the churchwardens were ordered to change the chalice 'for a bigger and likewise the cover to it' (Irons' Notes, Archd. Visit.).

² *Ibid.*

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fessor to Westminster Abbey, a grant confirmed by William I in 1067.³ However, in 1086, when Hambleton had three churches and three priests, Albert the Lotharingian clerk held of the king the churches of Oakham, Hambleton and St. Peter, Stamford.⁴ Before his death William I restored these churches to the Abbey 'as Albert of Lorraine held them'; and a further charter of Rufus ordered the sheriff to do right to the Abbey concerning the churches of Rutland that Osbern the clerk held, and to cause it to have all its lawful churches as in the days of the king's father.⁵ The jury of 1275 stated that the advowson belonged to Westminster Abbey, by what right they did not know,⁶ a curious return, for already in the early part of the century the church advowson belonged to the Bishop of Lincoln and was appropriated to the dean and chapter of Lincoln in 1292.⁷ In 1232 the bishop decreed that at every vacancy his successors might appoint a pension of 20s. of the church of St. Peter, Stamford,⁸ and in 1296 the church was returned as appropriated to the dean and chapter of Lincoln, and the vicar mentioned.⁹ The advowson has remained in the possession of Lincoln Cathedral.¹⁰ The living is a vicarage separated from Braunston in 1885, and now united to Egleton.

The rectory, except for a few interludes, has also been retained by the dean and chapter.¹¹

'Lampol meadow' was mentioned in 1338.¹² William Gybbyns, farmer, bequeathed in 1535 certain sums to the high altar and rood light, and to the Lady light in the chancel if anybody else would contribute to endow it and so relieve the church box. He left 4d. to every endowed light, 12d. to 'all soulen' light, and something to the chantry priest.¹³

At Little Hambleton in 1242 John Talbot received licence for a private chapel in his manor-house, without font or bell, to be served by his own chaplain at his own expense; but he, his wife and their heirs were to attend the church at Great Hambleton on Sundays and similar feast days, unless prevented by sickness, and no Sacrament was to be administered without special licence. Further, John Talbot and his wife agreed to give the Church of St. Andrew, Great Hambleton, on St. Andrew's day, $\frac{1}{2}$ stone of wax or 2s. yearly.¹⁴

Lady Ann Harington's Charity.—**CHARITIES** A sum of £10 per annum is received for poor people being tenants of the manor. The annual income is distributed by the

vicar and churchwardens among 16 recipients on Lordshold (Oakham).

Thomas Watkins, by his will proved 7 March 1905, gave the sum of £10 to be invested and the income to be devoted to the fund for the poor at Christmas, 'In memoriam—Thomas and Mary Watkins.' The endowment now consists of a sum of £11 3s. 10d. 2½ per cent. Consols producing in dividends 5s. 4d. per annum. The income is applied by the vicar and churchwardens in accordance with the trusts.

Mrs. Mary Clara Dixon, by a declaration of trust dated 25 January 1916, gave a sum of £50 to be invested for the benefit of the poor and expressed a desire that the charity should be called The Rev. Henry Daniel and Louisa James Trust. The endowment consists of a sum of £52 12s. 8d. 5 per cent. War Stock producing in dividends £2 12s. 8d. per annum. The charity is administered by the vicar.

The Hambleton War Memorial Repairs Fund was founded by a declaration of trust dated 28 December 1922. The endowment consists of a sum of £10 19s. 10d. 4½ per cent. Treasury Bonds 1932-34, producing in dividends 9s. 10d. per annum. The income is applicable by the vicar and two trustees, appointed by the parish meeting, in the repair of the war memorial erected in Hambleton Churchyard in 1920.

Fryers' Almshouses.—The parish participates in this charity, particulars of which are set out under Manton.

Bell's Charity.—A sum of £10 was left by William Bell for the use of the poor, as appears from an inscription on a tablet in the church and from an entry in an old parish book dated 10 April 1787, in which it is stated that 8s. should be given away in bread to the poor on 1 January in each year and that the money should be deemed the parish stock. This charity is now lost.

John Mitchell's Gift.—John Mitchell, a native of Hambleton and a mariner, about the year 1800 sent the sum of £10 to Mr. Nicholas Needham to be applied for the benefit of John Mitchell's mother. His mother having died before the whole of the money had been expended, the balance of £3 13s. 6d. was paid over to the churchwardens and overseers for the use of the poor. The income was distributed in bread to the poor in the same manner as Bell's Charity. This charity is now lost.

The several sums of stock are with the Official Trustees.

LYNDON

Lindon (xii-xviii cent.); Lyndon (xiii cent. onwards); Lindune (xiii cent.); Linden (xvi-xviii cent.).

The parish of Lyndon covers an area of 911 acres, and the population in 1921 was 103, the only parish in the division that showed an increase over the 1911 return. The land falls from between 400 ft. to

350 ft. along the road from Manton to Edith Weston, forming the northern boundary of the parish, to about 200 ft. along the river Chater, which forms the southern boundary. The subsoil is Upper Lias and Inferior Oolite; the surface soil varies. In digging a trench in 1780 to lay a drain talc was found in the stiff blue clay,¹ and there are ancient stone pits.²

³ Cott. Chart. vi, 3; Cal. Chart. R. 1327-41, p. 332.

⁴ V.C.H. op. cit. 139-40.

⁵ Davis, Reg. Regum Anglo-Norm. nos. 381, 420; Dugdale, Mon. i, 301-2.

⁶ Rot. Hund. (Rec. Com.), ii, 52.

⁷ Rot. Ric. Gravesend (Linc. Episc. Reg.), m. 3 d.

⁸ Hist. MSS. Com. Rep. (MSS. Dean and Chap. of Wells), i, 404.

⁹ Pope Nich. Tax. (Rec. Com.), 56 h.

¹⁰ Inst. Bks. (P.R.O.). The presentation by Sir Edward Hungerford in 1642 (ibid.) must have been through a lease.

¹¹ Bacon, Lib. Reg. 847; cf. Cban. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), cclxiv, 177; Chan. Proc. (Ser. ii), xxix, 95; cxvii, 61; Archd. Rec.;

Close R. 1650, pt. 76, m. 4; Exch. Dep. Rutl. Trin. 1651, no. 2; 13 Will. III, no. 3.

¹² See above.

¹³ Linc. Dioc. Doc. (E.E.T.S.), 191-2.

¹⁴ Rot. Rob. Grosseteste (Cant. & York Soc.), 208.

¹ V.C.H. Rul. i, 234.

² Ibid. 236.

MARTINSLEY HUNDRED

LYNDON

Lyndon lies in the by-road from Pilton to Manton. It is a typical Rutland village, with large farm-houses and thatched cottages picturesquely situated on the northern slope of the Chater Valley. The older houses near the church are of stone with stone or thatched roofs, but near the Rectory, in the southern part of the village, are several brick houses. The Village Hall was built in memory of Ernest William Proby Conant, lord of the manor, who died in 1920.

Lyndon Hall, the seat of Capt. R. J. E. Conant, M.P., which stands south of the church on the west side of the village, was begun in 1665 and completed in 1675 by Sir Abel and Thomas Barker,³ but considerable additions were made on the west side, and a porch erected on the north, about 1867. Except for these additions, the house remains as when first erected, and is an excellent example of the transition between the Jacobean and the more pure classic

to have been erected about ten years earlier.⁴ The walling is of ashlar, but without quoins at the angles or architraves to the windows. The longer sides face east and west, and there are modern additions on the north side, where the entrance now is; the former entrance doorway on the east side, opposite which are tall gate piers surmounted by balls, is now blocked. Two of the rooms on the ground floor are panelled and there is a good oak staircase with turned balusters. A portion of the older 17th-century house, with gabled roof, remains at the north-west corner.

The nearest railway station is Manton, 2½ miles west, on the Syston and Peterborough branch of the London Midland and Scottish railway. Oakham is 5 miles to the north-west, Uppingham 6 miles south-west.

In disputes in 1621-5 about inclosures in the late 16th century the close called 'Breach' is mentioned.⁵



LYNDON: OLD COTTAGES

style of architecture which was then being gradually adopted. It is a rectangular two-story building, faced with ashlar, without wings or projections, the corners emphasised by quoins, and with tall two-light windows of the older type with mullions and transoms. The stone-slatted hipped roof has widely projecting coved eaves, but is without gables or pediment, its slopes being broken by small dormers. The windows have moulded architraves, and the middle one on each side on the upper floor, with the doorway below it, has distinguishing architectural embellishments. The north, east and south fronts, which are symmetrical and of uniform design, are of much simple dignity, depending for their effect upon the proper relation of the several parts to one another and the use of refined detail.

Some distance to the north of the Hall, on high ground, is the Top Hall, a rather smaller building of the same general character, but plainer in detail, said

The Barker family was represented by some distinguished members.⁶ Samuel Barker the Hebraist married the daughter of the famous though unorthodox divine William Whiston, who died at Lyndon Hall and was buried at Lyndon.⁷ Their son Thomas married Ann, sister of Gilbert White of Selborne,⁸ in whose works Lyndon is often mentioned.

It is probable that *LYNDON*, *MANOR* not separately mentioned in 1086, was at that time one of the seven berewicks of Hambleton (q.v.) and therefore royal demesne. It must have been granted by the Conqueror to the first Earl of Warwick, and he sub-tenanted the Montforts, who appear as mesne lords of most of the Warwick lands in Rutland.⁹

From 1250 until the 15th century the Warwick overlordship and the Montfort mesne lordship are recorded.¹⁰

The undertenants probably from at least 1086 were

³ *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* v, App. i, 398; *G.E.C. Baronetage*, iv, 23.

⁴ Inf. kindly supplied by Capt. Conant.

⁵ *Chan. Proc.* (Ser. ii), bde. 369, no. 3.

⁶ See below.

⁷ *Ibid.*

⁸ *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

⁹ See Uppingham.

¹⁰ *Cal. Close R.* 1247-51, p. 281; *Cal. Inq.* v, p. 402; *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 2 Hen. IV, no. 58, m. 54; 8 Hen. IV no. 68.

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the local family of Lyndon, sometimes also called 'of Easton' (co. Northants). Roland de Lyndon was lord of Easton in 1086¹¹ and his son Simon succeeded.¹² He mortgaged his lands after 1130 to Robert, 'nepos of the bishop,'¹³ grandfather of William de Humez, Constable of Normandy. In 1167 Roland son of Simon was lord of Lyndon,¹⁴ and Simon,¹⁵ presumably his son, married before 1194 Margaret, daughter of William de Otteringham. William de Humez held the land at Easton, which in 1204 was claimed by Simon de Lyndon, grandson of the above Simon.¹⁶ Through the loss of Normandy, William de Humez's connexion with England was severed, and Simon was allowed to have his land on payment of 300 marks.¹⁶ Simon de Lyndon died before 1217, when the custody of his lands was given to Bartholomew Pecche, and later to the Bishop of Salisbury.¹⁷ Simon left three sons. Roland, apparently the eldest, went to the Holy Land, and was reported dead in 1221-2, when William de Cantilupe, who had the custody of Peter de Montfort, the overlord, seized the manor of Lyndon.¹⁸ In 1227 the Bishop received a renewal of the custody of Simon's land and heirs with their marriage.¹⁹ Alan, the second son, held Easton,²⁰ Little Casterton and Lyndon, and presented to Lyndon church after the reported death of his brother.²¹ Roland, however, returned with two other pilgrims in 1231; they received hospitality from Alan in that year and were never seen again. A body was found in the river near Stamford and identified by various acquaintances, including his sister Alina and his 'amica' Emma (by whom he had a son), as that of Roland. Grave suspicion fell on Alan,²² but he was holding Easton, Lyndon and Little Casterton in 1236 and died in or before 1239. He was a clerk, probably in minor orders, as he had a wife Maud who survived him.²³ Richard, brother of Roland and Alan, also a clerk, succeeded,²⁴ and died about 1255 and was buried at Easton.²⁵ His son and heir Simon²⁶ paid 80 marks in 1277 for two knights' fees.²⁷ As Sir Simon de Lyndon, kt., he demised the manors of Lyndon and Little Casterton (q.v.) to Master Henry Sampson, who in 1285 released his right to the king and queen,²⁸ to whom Simon also conveyed them.²⁹ Lyndon was in the possession of the Crown in 1285-7³⁰ and was assigned to Queen Eleanor (d. 1291), and she demised it to John de Boghton of Northampton. In 1290, however, it was

granted as dower to Joan widow of Sir Simon de Lyndon.³¹ Joan possibly married Simon de Wapleade, who was returned in 1305 as tenant of the knight's fee here.³² The manor was held by Joan until her death in 1310, when it reverted to Edward II, who retained it until 1311. He then granted it to Ingelard de Warley, keeper of his wardrobe. Ingelard demised it to Reynold his brother, and they or their farmers were in possession until 1315,³³ in spite of the revocation of the grant by the Lords Ordainers.³⁴ In 1315 and 1316 the manor and advowson were both in the king's hands.³⁵ The manor was leased during pleasure in the latter year to Edmund de Kendale; and in the following March he received a grant for 6 years, quit of rent, for his sustenance during a pilgrimage to the Holy Land.³⁶ Edward III on his accession confirmed Edmund's custody of the land in Lyndon that he held by grant of Edward II;³⁷ but Edmund, it seems, failed to pay the farm³⁸ and was deprived, and the estate was granted for life to John de Montgomery, King's Yeoman and Usher of the Chamber.³⁹ In 1335 Montgomery obtained a confirmation of the grant to him for life of the manor and advowson,⁴⁰ and in the same year a grant, apparently in reversion, was made to Robert de Corby and Joan his wife and the heirs of Robert for good services to the queen mother and in exchange for lands in Kent.⁴¹ In 1348, after the death of John, the manor was granted for life to Hugh de Montgomery, apparently by error, which grant was surrendered. The manor and advowson were thereupon again granted to Robert de Corby in fee in 1348.⁴² Robert de Corby in 1358 obtained licence to enfeof Robert Daney; and Robert and Joan his wife made the conveyance in the same year.⁴⁴ This manor and advowson then descended⁴⁵ with the Daney's manor of Tickencote (q.v.) until 1433,⁴⁶ when John Daney died seised of both manors, leaving Robert his son and heir. Robert died seised of the Lyndon estate and it passed to his younger sister and co-heir Elizabeth.⁴⁷ She married William Hasylden, who survived her and died seised in her right in 1480, when their son John succeeded.⁴⁸ Francis son and heir of John Hasylden received licence of entry in 1509.⁴⁹ His daughter Frances and her husband Robert Peyton had livery in 1522 and made a settlement of the manor and advowson in 1535 with reversion to the right heirs of Frances.⁵⁰ In 1553 Frances

¹¹ *V.C.H. Northants*, i, 343b.

¹² *Ibid.* 367b, 388a; Farrer, *Honors and Knights' Fees*, iii, 281-5.

¹³ Robert was son of John, son of Odo, Bishop of Bayeux (Farrer, *op. cit.* 281).

¹⁴ *Pipe R. Soc.* xi, 125.

¹⁵ Referred to on *Pipe R.* 1196 and 1197; *Pipe R. Soc.* (N.S.), vii, 229; viii, 92.

¹⁶ *V.C.H.* *op. cit.* ii, 565.

¹⁷ Farrer, *op. cit.* 283.

¹⁸ *Rot. Litt. Claus.* (Rec. Com.), i, 510.

¹⁹ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1225-32, p. 110.

²⁰ *V.C.H.* *loc. cit.*

²¹ *Rot. Hug. de Welles* (Cant. and York Soc.), ii, 158, 178, 239.

²² Maitland, *Bracton's Note Bk.* no. 514.

²³ *Exc. e Rot. Fin.* (Rec. Com.), i, 330; *Bk. of Fees* (P.R.O.), 603.

²⁴ Farrer, *op. cit.* 284.

²⁵ *V.C.H.* *op. cit.* 568; M.I. Easton Church.

²⁶ *Cal. Inq. Hen.* III, no. 331.

²⁷ *Cal. Fine R.* 1272-1307, 85.

²⁸ *Cal. Close R.* 1279-88, p. 375.

²⁹ Feet of F. Div. Cos. Trin. 13 Edw. I, no. 21.

³⁰ *Mins. Accts.* (Gen. Ser.), bdle. 1089, no. 22; bdle. 1124, no. 8.

³¹ *Cal. Inq. Misc.* ii, no. 258.

³² *Feud. Aids*, iv, 206.

³³ *Cal. Inq. Misc.* *loc. cit.*; *Cal. Fine R.* 1307-19, pp. 89, 242; *Abbrev. Rot. Orig.* (Rec. Com.), i, 177, 220; *Cal. Close R.* 1307-13, p. 415.

³⁴ *Cal. Close R.* (Suppl.), 1277-1326, p. 100.

³⁵ *Cal. Close R.* 1313-18, pp. 237, 248; *Feud. Aids*, iv, 207.

³⁶ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1313-17, p. 628.

³⁷ *Cal. Fine R.* 1327-37, 60.

³⁸ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1348-50, p. 539.

³⁹ *Ibid.* 1327-30, p. 230.

⁴⁰ *Ibid.* 1334-8, pp. 82, 343.

⁴¹ *Abbrev. Rot. Orig.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 196.

⁴² *Cal. Fine R.* 1347-56, 77; *Cat. Anct. D. A* 5792; *Cal. Chart. R.* 1341-1417, p. 95.

⁴³ *Abbrev. Rot. Orig.* *op. cit.* 251; *Cal. Pat. R.* 1358-61, p. 131.

⁴⁴ Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 32 Edw. III, no. 50.

⁴⁵ The Daney's family must have been dispossessed in 1397-8, when this manor and 'Chirchefeld' were granted to Sir John Holt kt. 'against Sir Walter Fitzwauter kt. and Joan his wife' (*Close R.* 21 Ric. II, pt. 2, m. 13).

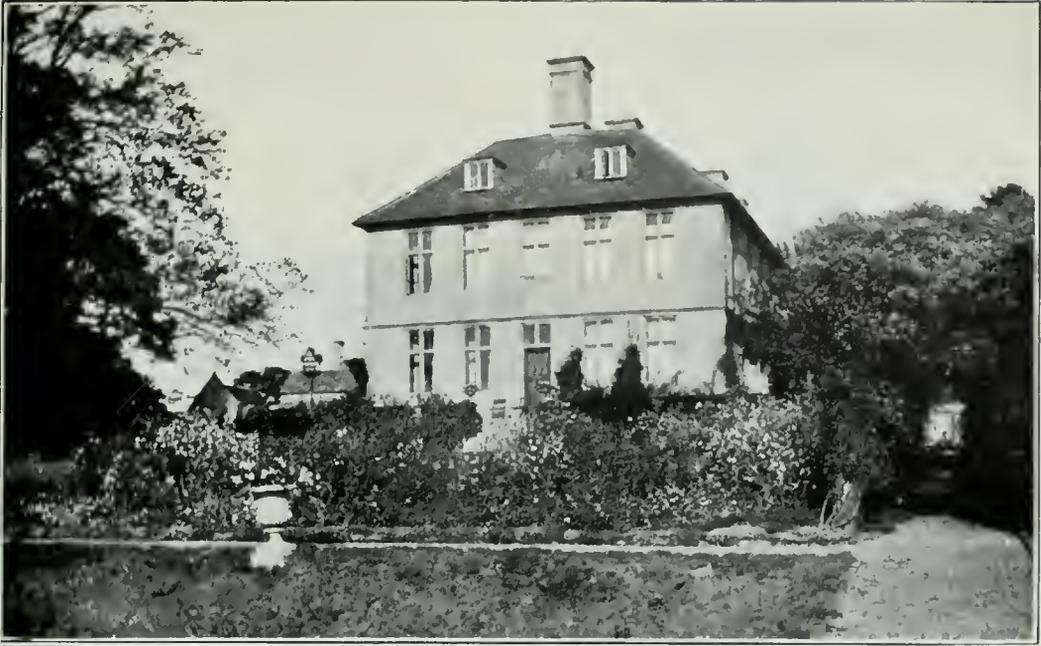
⁴⁶ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1361-4, p. 125; *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 35 Edw. III (1st nos.), no. 65; 49 Edw. III (1st nos.), no. 34; 51 Edw. III (1st nos.), no. 9; 1 Hen. IV (1st nos.), no. 33; *Cal. Close R.* 1374-7, p. 505.

⁴⁷ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 13 Hen. VI, no. 15.

⁴⁸ *Ibid.* 20 Edw. IV, no. 2.

⁴⁹ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1494-1509, p. 596.

⁵⁰ Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 27 Hen. VIII; Mich. 27 Hen. VIII; *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, iii (2), 890; viii, g. 962 (11).



LYNDON : THE TOP HALL FROM THE SOUTH



LYNDON HALL FROM THE NORTH



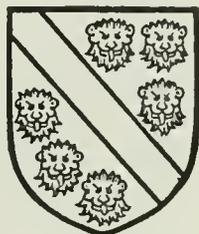
LYNDON CHURCH FROM THE SOUTH-EAST



LYNDON CHURCH : THE INTERIOR, LOOKING WEST

as the widow of Robert Peyton, kt., with Robert her eldest son and his brothers, conveyed the manor and advowson to John Hunt, his heirs and assigns.⁶¹ John Hunt of Lyndon who received a grant of arms in 1585⁶² died seised of this estate in the following year, leaving a son and heir Remige or Remigius, to whom he had bequeathed the manor in tail male, leaving the advowson to his son Thomas.⁶³

Remige made a settlement in 1617 of both manor and advowson⁶⁴ and died seised in 1618, leaving two sons, Thomas and Francis. Thomas⁶⁵ died seised in 1624 leaving a widow Ann and three sons, Edward his heir, Thomas and John.⁶⁶ Edward, with his wife Elizabeth and his mother and brothers,⁶⁷ conveyed the manor in 1634 to feoffees for Valentine Saunders of Chiswick. His grandson Valentine was sequestrated in 1646 for delinquency, into which condition he claimed to have been 'inveigled' in 1642, at the age of 17.⁶⁸ He married Ann, sister of Sir Francis Mannoock, and settled the property in 1649 and 1652,⁶⁹ and in 1654 sold it to Hugh Audley,⁷⁰ by whom it was sold in 1662⁷¹ to Abel Barker of Hambleton (q.v.). Abel Barker made a settlement of the manor and advowson in 1665.⁷² The Hambleton family was becoming enriched by their wool trade. The Abel who purchased Lyndon was son of another Abel Barker of Hambleton. Abel the son was created a baronet in 1665,⁷³ and had been sheriff of Rutland in 1646-7, M.P. in 1656-8, and again in 1679, the year of his death. His accounts show that he continued to carry on a successful business as a grazier,⁷⁴ and built a large house at Lyndon,⁷⁵ into which he moved shortly before his death. His son and successor Sir Thomas, sheriff of the county 1670-1 and 1680-1, died childless and was buried at Lyndon 1707. By his death the title became extinct and the estates devolved on the descendant of his great-uncle, Samuel Barker of North Luffenham.⁷⁶ Samuel Barker, 'the Hebraist,' came to live at Lyndon, and in 1752 his father-in-law, the celebrated divine William Whiston, died at Lyndon House.⁷⁷ Thomas, son and heir of the Hebraist, married Ann, sister of Gilbert White of Selborne, and was himself noted for



HUNT of Lyndon.
*Azure a bend between
six leopards' heads or.*



BARKER of Hambleton.
*Party fessewise
and nebuly sable and or,
with three martlets
countercoloured.*

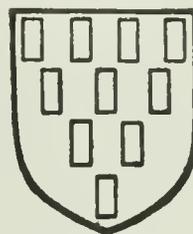
his scientific writings. His observations, made at Lyndon during 58 years, related chiefly to natural history and meteorology, and were regularly published in 'Philosophical Transactions' of the Royal Society. He died at Lyndon, his birthplace, in 1809, at the age of 87.⁷⁸ His son Samuel, a frequent correspondent of his uncle, Gilbert White,⁷⁹ died in 1835 and was succeeded by his daughters and co-heirs Mary and Ann Barker, who died in 1843 and 1846 respectively.⁸⁰ In accordance with their will the estate was purchased by their cousin, the Rev. Edward Brown in 1846.⁸¹ He died in 1862 and was succeeded by his nephew Edward Nathaniel Conant, son of his sister Catherine, who had married in 1817 John Edward Conant, son of Sir Nathaniel Conant, kt., and Sarah daughter of John Whiston. Edward Nathaniel Conant was sheriff in 1867, and died in 1901, leaving a son Ernest William Proby Conant, who was succeeded in 1920 by his son Capt. Roger John Edward Conant,⁸² now lord of the manor and patron of the living.

With the conveyance of the manor in Jan. 1552-3, and subsequently, there passed view of frankpledge; and free warren, courts leet and baron were mentioned in 1742.⁸³

The garden of the manor, with its trees, is mentioned early in the 14th century.⁸⁴ In 1315 Edmund de Kendale was allowed 4 oaks to repair the houses.⁸⁵ The dove-cote was in a ruinous condition in 1361.⁸⁶ A capital message passed with the manor in the early 17th century, and a windmill then and subsequently.

The church of *ST. MARTIN* stands *CHURCH* within the Hall grounds, and consists of chancel 20 ft. by 14 ft., with north vestry and organ-chamber, clearstoried nave of two bays 32 ft. by 12 ft. 3 in., north aisle 7 ft. 6 in. wide, south aisle 5 ft. 6 in. wide, south porch, and west tower 7 ft. square, all these measurements being internal. The width across nave and aisles is 29 ft. 6 in.

The building underwent a very extensive restoration in 1866,⁸⁷ and few original architectural features remain. The walls have been much rebuilt or refaced and, except in the tower, all the windows are new. The font is a relic of a 12th-century church, recovered at the restoration, but the earliest part of the present structure is the plain 13th-century south doorway, with pointed arch of a single chamfered order, with moulded impost and hood with head-stops. Part of a wheel gable-cross with simple chevron ornament, now preserved in the porch, may be of the same period, though apparently rather earlier. The church,



CONANT of Lyndon.
Gules ten billets or.

⁶¹ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1550-3, p. 274; Feet of F. Rutl. East. 7 Edw. VI.

⁶² *Genealogist* (N.S.), xix, 62.

⁶³ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), ccxix, 98.

⁶⁴ Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 15 Jas. I.

⁶⁵ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), cclxxxix, 142.

⁶⁶ *Ibid.* ccccv, 148.

⁶⁷ Deed *penes* Mr. R. J. E. Conant.

⁶⁸ Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 10 Chas. I.

⁶⁹ *Cal. of Com. for Comp.* pp. 89, 157. Deed *penes* Mr. R. J. E. Conant.

⁷⁰ *Ibid.*; Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 1652.

⁷¹ *Ibid.* East. 1654.

⁷² In 1661 Abel Barker was informed that Audley would sell (*Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* op. cit. 398). Hugh Audley presented to the church in 1662 (Inst. Bks. (P.R.O.)). Abel Barker was concerned with the advowson in 1661-2 (Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 13-14 Chas. II). Deed *penes* Mr. R. J. E. Conant.

⁷³ *Ibid.* East. 17 Chas. II.

⁷⁴ G.E.C. *Baronetage*, loc. cit.

⁷⁵ *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* loc. cit.

⁷⁶ *Ibid.*

⁷⁷ G.E.C. loc. cit.

⁷⁸ *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

⁷⁹ *Ibid.*

⁸⁰ *Ibid.* (under White).

⁸¹ Inf. kindly supplied by Mr. R. J. E. Conant.

⁸² *Ibid.*

⁸³ Burke, *Landed Gentry* (1921).

⁸⁴ *Recov. R. Hil.* 16 Geo. II, ro. 47.

⁸⁵ *Cal. Inq. Misc.* ii, no. 258.

⁸⁶ *Cal. Close R.* 1313-18, p. 237.

⁸⁷ Chan. Inq. p.m. 35 Edw. III (1st nos.), no. 65.

⁸⁸ It had been restored previously by Samuel Barker (d. 1835) (*Stamford Mercury*, 28 Dec. 1860).

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

however, seems to have been almost completely rebuilt at the end of the 13th or early in the 14th century, to which period the existing nave arcades belong, and the tower and clearstory are only slightly later, the building assuming its present form in the 14th century. The narrower south aisle is apparently that of the early 13th-century church, the north aisle having probably been added, or a former one widened in the later rebuilding. The upper part of the tower was rebuilt or remodelled in the 15th century. The organ-chamber and vestry are modern.

The building throughout is of rubble and is without buttresses in any part. The roofs of the chancel, vestry and porch are covered with stone slates, but those of the nave and aisles are leaded. There are plain parapets to the nave. Internally all the walls are plastered; the roofs are modern.

The chancel has a three-light east window and in the south wall a modern doorway and a window of two lights, all in the style of the 14th century. On the north side a modern cusped arch opens to the organ-chamber and vestry. No ancient ritual arrangements remain. There is a marble reredos, erected in 1866, with extensions along the wall on either side.⁷⁹ The early 14th-century chancel arch is of two chamfered orders with hood-mould towards the nave, the inner order resting on half-octagonal responds with moulded capitals. The rood-loft doorway and the top steps of the staircase remain on the north side at the east end of the nave wall.

The nave arcades are apparently of equal date, but vary somewhat in detail. The arches on each side are of two chamfered orders, with hood-mould towards the nave, springing from an octagonal pillar and half-octagonal responds with moulded capitals and bases.⁸⁰ The stops of the hood-moulds vary in character, one on the south side being a combination of tooth and ball-flower ornament. In the middle of the blank east wall of the south aisle is an image bracket, and an arched opening in the corresponding position in the north aisle is apparently an old window with mullions and tracery removed. The aisles⁸¹ have pointed three-light windows north and south, and a two-light window at the west end, all in the style of the 14th century. There are three two-light clearstory windows on each side in the same style, the hood-moulds alone being old. The roof is of low pitch, with large gargoyles. The porch is modern, with timber gable and square-headed doorway with masonry jambs.

The tower is of three stages marked by strings, with moulded plinth and battlemented parapet. There is no vice. The 14th-century west window is of two trefoiled lights with quatrefoil in the head, the hood-mould having a face at the apex, but no end stops, and there is a modern doorway on the south side. Except for an oblong opening on the west side, the middle

stage is blank. The tall pointed 15th-century bell-chamber windows have transoms and are of two trefoiled lights with hood-moulds. Internally the tower opens into the nave by a narrow pointed arch of two chamfered orders, the inner order springing from moulded corbels, the outer continuous.

The font now used was found buried in the churchyard in 1866. It is of 12th-century date, in the form of a capital, square at the top and circular below, the angles and each face of the upper part somewhat rudely carved with scrolled undulating and other ornament, and animals of archaic character on two of the sides. The bowl rests on modern supports. A discarded 18th-century baluster font is now in the churchyard.

The marble pulpit, in form like a north ambo, dates from 1856. The fittings are all modern.⁸²

Under the tower is a much-defaced 13th-century coffin lid, and in the vestry a Jacobean altar table. There are also a Jacobean chair and a chest, and in the south aisle is a War Memorial tablet of oak (1914-18).

On the east jamb of the south doorway is a scratch dial.

There are four bells, the first and second by Taylor and Co. of Loughborough, 1889; the third dated 1716, and the tenor undated, but cast early in the 18th century.⁸³

The plate consists of a cup and cover paten of 1632-3 with maker's mark D.T., a flagon of 1768-9 and an almsdish of 1693-4.⁸⁴

The registers before 1812 are as follows: (i) all entries 1580-1710; (ii) baptisms 1710-1813; (iii) marriages 1718-48, burials 1711-1813; (iv) marriages, 1757-1813.

There is the base of a churchyard cross south of the porch, and in the west wall of the churchyard are a number of headstones to members of the family of Barker and others, including the Rev. William Whiston,⁸⁵ the translator of Josephus, who died 22 August 1752.

The archdeacons' visitations of the 17th century show the condition of the church to have been bad. In 1605 there was no decent pulpit, the church was unpaved 'and the rain cometh in most intollerable,' there was no 'pewter stoope pot for the communion,' there was 'a chapel on the south side of the church which is very much in decay and annoyeth the chauncell very much and the repair thereof belongeth to M^r Hunt,' the churchyard fence was in decay so that hogs 'do root up the churchyard.' In 1619 'the stoope pot' for the communion was like an alehouse quart, the register book was not subscribed according to the Canons, the aisle northward was wholly down in the roof. In 1640 the chapel on the south side of the church had become utterly ruinous and the cross

⁷⁹ The reredos has a jewelled cross in the middle panel, and on either side representations of the first Passover meal and the Serpent in the Wilderness.

⁸⁰ The upper part of the base moulding of the pillar of the south arcade is octagonal on plan, the lower circular on a square plinth. The base of the north pillar is octagonal throughout on an octagonal chamfered plinth. In all four responds the bases are octagonal.

⁸¹ Before 1866 each aisle was lighted

by a 'square domestic window' (*Stamford Mercury*, 28 Dec. 1860).

⁸² In 1860 the furniture was described as 'very plain, with the exception of two elaborately carved pews' (*Stamford Mercury*, 28 Dec. 1860).

⁸³ The first and second are recastings of bells dated respectively 1597 and 1624, the latter by Tobie Norris I of Stamford. The tenor bears the names of Sir Thomas Barker, who died in March 1706-7, and of the Rev. William Clayton, rector (d. 1730). The inscriptions on

the old bells are given in North, *Cb. Bells of Rutl.* 141.

⁸⁴ Hope, *Cb. Plate in Rutl.* 24, where the cup and paten are figured. The flagon is inscribed 'Lyndon. The gift of S.B., probably Sarah, widow of Samuel Barker, and the almsdish 'This plate was given by M^{rs} Mary Bailey who lived for many years in the family of S^r Tho: Barker Bart. and departed this life the 28 of October 1691.'

⁸⁵ The inscription, now somewhat obliterated, is printed in Gough's *Camden's Britannia* (1789), ii, 223.

MARTINSLEY HUNDRED

MANTON

in the churchyard was also ruinous and there was no paten. In 1681 the churchwardens were ordered to set up the Ten Commandments, the Creed and the Lord's Prayer, and buy a new Erasmus' Paraphrase, a Book of Canons, Bishop Jewell, a Book of Homilies, and a Table of Marriages.⁸⁶

The advowson has descended *ADVOWSON* with the manor (q.v.)⁸⁷ since the first mention of it is found early in the 13th century.⁸⁸ Capt. Roger John Edward Conant is the present patron. The living is a rectory.

Distinguished incumbents have been Thomas Hutchinson, scholar, rector 1731-48,⁸⁹ and Thomas Kerchever Arnold, rector 1830-53, who was able to devote much leisure to writing educational works, having only 100 parishioners.⁹⁰

MANTON

Manatona (xii cent.); Manetun, Maneton (xiii cent.); Maynton (xvii cent.).

Manton covers an area of 1,181 acres, and is bounded on the north by the River Gwash, and on the south by the River Chater. The soil is mainly clay, but is sandy in places, and the land is almost wholly under grass. The parish was inclosed under an Act of 1804-5.¹

The village stands in the middle of the parish on the top of the ridge about 400 ft. above the Ordnance datum between the two rivers, to which the land falls about 100 ft. to 150 ft. It is on the east side of the road from Oakham to Uppingham, where that road meets the by-road from Edith Weston. The houses are grouped round a rough square; several of them are good, undated houses and cottages of stone with mullioned windows which were saved from the disastrous fire in 1732.² A house south of the church has a bay window on the ground floor, and another north of the church, known locally as Manton Priory, is said to contain some features of 14th-century date, but a square-headed two-light cinquefoiled window with embattled sill, perhaps an insertion, is considerably later.³ A 17th-century house at the north-east end of the village has a panel inscribed 'r.s. 1625.' There are also a few well-designed 18th-century houses, two of which have panels inscribed respectively 'i.s.s., 1703,' and 'r.g.m., 1709,' the latter recently altered; another is dated 1753.

The Syston and Peterborough line of the London Midland and Scottish Railway passes here through a tunnel under the village, and has a station about half a mile to the south, near the south entrance to the tunnel. Manton is a junction for Nottingham, Peterborough and Kettering.

Thomas Blore, the antiquary and historian of Rutland, resided for a time at Manton. During his

Sir Thomas Barker, by his will *CHARITIES* dated 13 December 1704, devised as follows: 'I do give and bequeath to the poor of Lyndon aforesaid £5 a year for ever, which together with £3 a year given by my brother Christopher Dighton, in all £8 per annum, I do charge upon and shall be secured and paid out of the close called the Holme Close in Lyndon aforesaid, quarterly from my death free from taxes or any other charge whatsoever, the same to be distributed on such times and in such manner as the Lord of the manor and rector of the church of Lyndon aforesaid for the time being shall think best for the use and benefit of the said poor.' The rent-charge is received from Capt. R. J. E. Conant, owner of the Holme Close, and is distributed by him, as lord of the manor, and the rector among the poor.

residence here he was persuaded by Sir Gerard Noel, of Exton, and other Rutland landowners, to undertake the history of Rutland, one volume of which appeared in 1811.⁴

It is probable that in 1086 Manton *MANORS* was one of the seven berewicks of the king's manor of Hambleton Churchsoke, as it is not otherwise referred to in the Survey, Henry I gave half the manor of Manton to the Abbey of Cluny.⁵ This half of the manor remained a possession of Cluny Abbey⁶ until the lands of the alien priories were finally seized by Henry V in 1414. The abbot leased the manor in 1285 to John de Crokesle and in 1307 to Walter de Langeton, Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, for life.⁷

The manor was from time to time taken into the king's hands by reason of war with France, when the lands of all alien priories were seized. In 1342 a grant of a rent from the manor was made to John de Ufford or Offord, a king's clerk, who was the proctor of the Abbot of Cluny in England, in part satisfaction for his expenses in London on the king's affairs.⁸ In 1355 the manor was restored to the abbot,⁹ who granted it in 1361 to Nicholas de Tamworth¹⁰ and Joan his wife for their lives.¹¹ Eight years later the manor was again seized into the king's hands, but Nicholas and Joan, in consideration of the good services of Nicholas, were allowed to retain it.¹² Nicholas died in 1377, when the lease of the manor was confirmed to Joan,¹³ who afterwards married the king's knight, Gilbert Talbot. In 1389 the collectors for



CLUNY ABBEY. Gules two keys crossed saltirewise or in front of a sword set upright with its blade argent and its hilt and pommel or.

⁸⁶ Irons' Notes, Archd. Visit.

⁸⁷ Also: *Cal. Close R.* 1313-18, p. 248; *Cal. Pat. R.* 1324-7, p. 124; 1327-30, p. 490; 1330-4, p. 513; 1361-4, p. 125; *Inst. Bks.* (P.R.O.).

⁸⁸ With the exceptions of 1617, 1624 and 1647, when presentations were made by Robert Johnson clerk, the King, and Abraham Johnson, respectively (*Inst. Bks.* (P.R.O.)).

⁸⁹ *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

⁹⁰ *Ibid.*

¹ Stat. 45 Geo. III, cap. 95 (private, not printed).

² Briefs in Hambleton Reg.

³ In 1860 this house was described as 'recently restored.'

⁴ *Rutl. Mag.* i, 56-7.

⁵ *Cal. of Doc. France*, p. 507.

⁶ *Rot. Hund.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 49; *Cal. Inq. Misc.* i, no. 483; *Bk. of Fees* (P.R.O.), ii, 1151; *Feud. Aids*, iv, p. 207.

⁷ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1281-92, p. 163; 1301-7, p. 500.

⁸ *Cal. Fine R.* 1337-47, p. 177; *Cal. Pat. R.* 1340-43, p. 396; *Mins. Accts.* (Gen. Ser.), bdle. 1126, no. 3.

⁹ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1364-8, pp. 221, 283.

¹⁰ Called also 'de Thibout' (see Duckett, *Cluny Charters*, i, 125, 127, 143).

¹¹ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1361-4, p. 3.

¹² *Cal. Fine R.* 1369-77, p. 50.

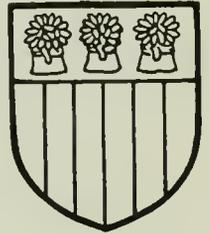
¹³ *Ibid.* 1377-83, p. 45.

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

Rutland were ordered to withdraw their demand for a fifteenth upon the manor of Manton, as Joan had a every former taxation been assessed to a tenth with the clergy and not to a fifteenth.¹⁴ After the death of Joan, the king in 1392 granted the manor to Gilbert,¹⁵ who died seized of it in 1399. The custody was then granted to Simon Felbrigge, the king's knight,¹⁶ during the war with France.

In 1412 the king's esquire, William Porter, obtained licence to cross the sea to bargain with the Abbot of Cluny for the purchase of the manor.¹⁷ The journey was delayed until after the death of Henry IV, and a further licence was obtained from Henry V in April, 1413.¹⁸ Porter's negotiations were unsuccessful owing probably to the dissolution of the alien priories, but in June 1413 the king gave him the custody of the manor,¹⁹ and in 1415 granted it to him in fee to hold by the service of rendering a rose yearly. This gift also included all franchises formerly held by the abbot and convent.²⁰ The manor was confirmed to Porter in 1423,²¹ who settled it in 1430, and afterwards sold it for a great sum of money to Ralph, Lord Cromwell.²² Lord Cromwell conveyed it to trustees for the college and almshouse of Holy Trinity, which he founded in 1438-9 at Tateshale (co. Linc.).²³ He died in Jan. 1455, and the manor was confirmed to the college in 1463 by Joan, wife of Sir Humphrey

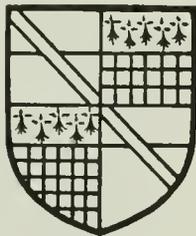
grandfather, Sir William Brandon, the aunts of the first Duke of Suffolk.²⁹ On a partition made in 1560, this manor was assigned to Sir Henry, son of Sir William Sidney, Lord President of the Marches of Wales.³⁰ Sir Henry conveyed it to trustees in 1562,³¹ and he and his wife Mary and Philip Sidney, his son, obtained licence to alienate it in 1579 to Michael Lewis, of Collyweston (co. Northants) and Elizabeth his wife, the actual conveyance being made in the following year.³² Michael died in 1584, Elizabeth surviving him.³³ Clement Lewis, brother and heir of Michael, sold the manor in 1591 to William Kirkham,³⁴ of Fineshade (co. Northants). In 1595 William and his wife Martha conveyed the manor to Roger Dale, of the Inner Temple, though William had not paid, and never did pay, Lewis much more than half what he should have paid.³⁵ This conveyance was probably a mortgage, but in 1604 a further feoffment was made



DALE. *Paly argent and gules a chief azure with three sheaves or therein.*

by William and Martha and their son Walter, to Roger Dale.³⁶ Roger afterwards stated that he had purchased this manor and Tixover at the urgent request of William, who had lately come out of Scotland and was in great want. In 1592 William Kirkham was sentenced in the Court of Star Chamber, and fined £31,000 'for divers very heinous practices and great abuses by him committed.' The fine was soon afterwards reduced to £200, which was duly paid, but later Kirkham was again accused of improper practices, and a threat was made to re-impose the fine of £31,000. Roger Dale, however, bought the manors from William Kirkham knowing of the charge on these manors, but expected it to be remitted. About 1609 the king actually remitted the fine, but William and his son Walter 'carying unconscionable minds not only to defeat their creditors but to trouble and encomber' Roger's lands caused the fine to be continued and to be conveyed by the king to Christopher Vickers, one of the pages of his Privy Chamber, to their use, stating that it would be laid upon the manors of Manton and Tixover as well as their other estates, though a clause had been inserted in Dale's conveyance to prevent this.³⁷

In 1611 Vickers assigned his interest in the fine to Roger Dale, who died in 1623, leaving a son Roger his heir.³⁸ The younger Roger had married Margaret daughter and heir of Anthony Andrewes of Bisbrooke, and during his father's lifetime they lived with him. Margaret his mother married as her second husband Sir Francis Leigh of Newnham Regis (co. Warwick).



TATESHALE COLLEGE. *Quarterly: 1 and 4, Argent a chief gules with a baston azure over all, for the founder, Lord Cromwell; 2 and 3: Cbecky or and gules a chief ermine, for Tateshale.*



BRANDON, Duke of Suffolk. *Barry of ten argent and gules a lion or with a crozier party argent and gules.*

Bourchier, and Maud, wife of Gervase Clifton, co-heirs of Lord Cromwell,²⁴ and by Edward IV in 1478.²⁵ At the time of the Dissolution it was valued at £6 2s. 7d.²⁶

In 1545 Manton Manor was granted with the other possessions of the college to Charles, Duke of Suffolk,²⁷ who died in 1545, when it passed to his son Henry.²⁸ Both Henry and his only surviving brother Charles died in 1551, and the estates devolved on the descendants of the numerous daughters of their great-

¹⁴ *Cal. Close R.* 1385-9, p. 666.

¹⁵ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1391-6, p. 48; 1396-9, p. 58.

¹⁶ *Chao. Inq. p.m.* 22 Rich. II, no 47; *Cal. Fine R.* 1391-9, p. 299; *Cal. Pat. R.* 1399-1401, pp. 64, 338, 525.

¹⁷ *Ibid.* 1408-13, p. 369. Letters which passed between the abbot and Sir William regarding the purchase are printed in Duckett, *Cluny Charters*, i, 238-251.

¹⁸ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1413-16, p. 144.

¹⁹ *Ibid.* pp. 24, 161.

²⁰ *Ibid.* p. 354.

²¹ *Ibid.* 1422-29, p. 77.

²² *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xii, App. ix, p. 133; *Cal. Pat. R.* 1476-85, p. 107.

²³ *Ibid.*; Dugdale, *Mon. Angl.* vi, 1432.

²⁴ Feet of F. Div. Cos. Trin. 3 Edw. IV, no. 15.

²⁵ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1476-85, p. 107.

²⁶ *Valor Eccl.* (Rec. Com.), iv, 42.

²⁷ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xx (1), g. 465 (38).

²⁸ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), ccxix, 53.

²⁹ *G.E.C. Complete Peerage*, vii, 310.

³⁰ *Chan. Inq. p.m. loc. cit.* In 1553 Thomas Lovell, one of the co-heirs, died seized of a fifth of the manor (*ibid.* ci, 103).

³¹ Feet of F. Div. Cos. Mich. 4 & 5 Eliz.

³² *Pat. R.* 21 Eliz. pt. 7; Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 22 Eliz.

³³ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), ccvii, 56.

³⁴ *Recov. R. Trin.* 33 Eliz. ro. 22.

³⁵ Feet of F. Rutl. East 37 Eliz.; *Chan. Proc.* (Ser. ii), bdle. 266, no 15.

³⁶ Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 2 Jss. I.

³⁷ *Chan. Proc.* (Ser. ii), bdle 266, no.

15.

³⁸ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), cccclxii, 106.

In 1625 Roger sued her for withholding goods which had belonged to his wife, Margaret, who had died in 1622, without issue,³⁹ and for failing to carry out the terms of his father's will.⁴⁰

Charles Dale son of Roger made a settlement of the manor in 1656⁴¹ and in 1682 it was conveyed by the trustees of the four daughters of Charles Dale to the Rev. Abraham Wright of Oakham (d. 1690), and his son James.⁴² Anne,⁴³ wife of Robert Connington and Katherine, wife of Edward Hastings, the two married daughters of Charles Dale, conveyed their interest in the manor to James Wright in 1682-3.⁴⁴ James Wright, who became a member of the Middle Temple in 1669, and was called to the Bar in 1672, was a skilful antiquary and author of the well-known *History of Rutland*. He possessed many rare and valuable manuscripts, which were consumed in a fire at the Middle Temple in 1678. Thomas Hearne records that he died a papist, having adopted that faith in the time of King Charles II.⁴⁵ He died unmarried in 1716.^{45a}

In the early part of 1714 Henry Smith and Penelope his wife, and Elizabeth wife of Edward Shield conveyed the manor to Thomas Roberts and John Sharpe.⁴⁶ Probably Penelope and Elizabeth were the heirs of James Wright, for the editor of *Magna Britannia* (1727) states that Mr. Wright or his heirs had the manor. Henry Smith, who was sheriff of Rutland in 1707,⁴⁷ died in 1716, leaving two daughters. His widow Penelope died in 1727,⁴⁸ the younger daughter Elizabeth, wife of the Rev. W. Shield, rector of Saddington, having predeceased her in 1724.

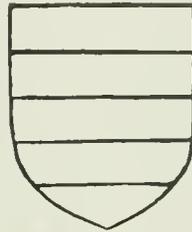
In 1741 Kenelm Johnson, who was Sheriff of Rutland in 1740, conveyed the manor to Thomas Jackson,⁴⁹ presumably for a settlement, and in 1767 it was held by Robert Johnson. He sold it in 1790 to Mr. Springthorpe, who conveyed it in the same year to Hugh Jackson. It passed in 1798 to Thomas Jackson and in 1813 to Thomas Hippisley Jackson. In 1821 it came into the possession of George Watson Smyth and passed in 1830 to Edward Watson Smyth, who died in 1869. His trustees held it till 1871, when it passed to George Bradley and Edward Westwood. George Bradley was lord till 1899, when Benjamin Colet Pulleyne came into possession. He died in 1907 and his trustees are the present owners.

The Court Rolls show that it was customary to appoint at each court a constable, a 'Thirdborough and a Pindard.'⁵⁰

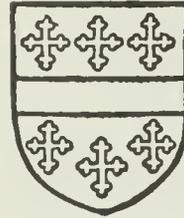
The other half of Manton was granted with Barrowden to William Mauduit, the King's Chamberlain, and was held with Barrowden, South Luffenham and Morcott by serjeanty of being the King's Chamberlain.⁵¹ Manton was included in a grant by Henry II to William son of William Mauduit of the barony

which his father held 'on the day when my men came to Woodstok.'⁵²

In 1297-8 Thomas de Bokland was the undertenant of the Earl of Warwick for a messuage, 9 tofts and 9 virgates of land in Manton.⁵³ Thomas had in 1286 acquired from Almaric de Paris 8 messuages and 8 virgates,⁵⁴ and in 1297 he bought of Reginald Toky and Alice his wife, a messuage and a bovate of land



MAUDUIT. Argent two bars gules.



BEAUCHAMP. Gules a fesse between six crosslets or.

in Manton.⁵⁵ In 1330 Robert son of John de Exton and Maud his wife conveyed to Alfred de Broke an eighteenth part of a tenement at Manton, including a mill. Isabel de Bokland held the estate for life of Maud's inheritance.⁵⁶ A similar eighteenth part was conveyed in the same year by John de Gretham of Exton and Margery his wife to John de Luffwyk and Joan his wife. Part of the premises were held by Roger Putot and Elizabeth his wife for their lives of the inheritance of Margery.⁵⁷ Roger had in the same year acquired of Robert son of John de Exton and Maud, an estate in Manton, Glaston and Ridlington which they held in right of Maud.⁵⁸ Alfred de Broke had purchased several other estates at Manton, including a messuage and 90 acres bought in 1319 of John Reynvile of Manton and Alice his wife,⁵⁹ and a similar estate in 1325 of Robert de Luffwick and Alice his wife.⁶⁰ Robert and Alice sold him another larger property in Empingham, Manton, Langham and Okeham in 1328,⁶¹ and in 1331 he acquired of John de Gretham and Margery his wife a third of a messuage and a virgate of land in Manton.⁶² John and Margery retained some land in Manton, which they conveyed in 1335 to Richard de Marnham.⁶³

Some of this land became known as 'the manor of Manton called Luffewyk.' John Lynford died in 1401 holding it in right of his wife Katherine. It was held of the Earl of Warwick, and passed to John's son John,⁶⁴ who was in possession in 1403.⁶⁵ This manor has not been found later.

A twentieth part of a knight's fee in Manton was held in 1305 by William de Hokthorp.⁶⁶ It afterwards passed to Robert Hokthorp,^{66a} but belonged in 1353 to William Wade. It formed part of the Earl of Warwick's estate at Manton.

³⁹ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), cccxcvii, 91.

⁴⁰ Chan. Proc. (Ser. ii), bdle. 345, no.

37. ⁴¹ Recov. R. Hil. 1656, ro. 116; Mich. 1656, m. 21.

⁴² Com. Pleas, D. Enr. Mich. 34 Chas. II, no. 18.

⁴³ Anne or Amelia had previously married William Hunt by whom she had two daughters (Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 27 Chas. II).

⁴⁴ Ibid. Hil. 34 & 35 Chas. II.

⁴⁵ Dict. Nat. Biog.

^{45a} Will dated 20 Aug. and probate

granted 2 Nov. 1716 (P.C.C. 218, Fox).

⁴⁶ Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 12 Anne.

⁴⁷ List of Sheriffs (P.R.O.), p. 114.

⁴⁸ M.I. (see church).

⁴⁹ Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 15 Geo. II.

⁵⁰ Inf. kindly supplied by Mr. Paul Pulleyne.

⁵¹ Cal. Inq. iii, no. 477 (p. 377); Chan. Inq. p.m. 3 Hen. IV, no. 2; 8 Hen. IV, no. 68.

⁵² Add. MS. 28024, fol. 22.

⁵³ Cal. Inq. loc. cit.

⁵⁴ Feet of F. Rutl. file 4, no. 14.

⁵⁵ Ibid. Mich. 25 Edw. I, no. 31.

⁵⁶ Ibid. Trin. 3 Edw. III, no. 11.

⁵⁷ Ibid. no. 13.

⁵⁸ Ibid. no. 6.

⁵⁹ Ibid. 13 Edw. II, no. 29.

⁶⁰ Ibid. 19 Edw. II, no. 51.

⁶¹ Ibid. 2 Edw. III, no. 3.

⁶² Ibid. Hil. 5 Edw. III, no. 16.

⁶³ Ibid. 9 Edw. III, no. 21.

⁶⁴ Chan. Inq. p.m. 3 Hen. IV, no. 2.

⁶⁵ Ibid. 8 Hen. IV, no. 68; Cal. Close R.

1402-5, p. 74.

⁶⁶ Feud. Aids, iv, p. 205.

^{66a} Ibid. p. 214.

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

What was probably the greater part of the Earl of Warwick's estate at Manton, including the mill, became the endowment of a chantry or college at Manton founded by William Wade. In 1351 he obtained the king's licence to grant a messuage and 3 virgates of land in Manton to a chaplain to celebrate for the soul of William and his ancestors daily in the church of Manton. The return to the writ of *ad quod dampnum* shows that this parcel of land was held of John de Lye, chaplain, by fealty and service of 10s., and that John held it of Robert atte Halle of Luffenham by service of 1d., and Robert held of Richard de Caldecote by service of one rose, and Richard of John de Braunche by the service of 2d and John held of the king in chief.⁶⁷ Two years later William Wade obtained licence to grant messuages, land and a mill in Manton to two chaplains to celebrate in Manton church. Of this land one messuage and a virgate were held of the rector of the parish church of Manton for service of 9s. 10½d., and the rector of the church and the Earl of Northampton were mesne lords between the king and William Wade for a similar quantity of land. One messuage and a virgate were held of the Earl of Warwick by homage and fealty and scutage, as parcel of a tenement which William de Hokthorp once held, and a messuage and one virgate and a sixth of a messuage and the mill were held of the Earl of Warwick as parcel of a tenement which Hamo del Park once held, the whole tenement being held of the Earl for the service of a red sparrow hawk or 2s.⁶⁸

The chantry was founded by William Wade in 1351⁶⁹ in the Lady Chapel of Manton church for the maintenance of a Master and two stipendiaries or brethren to sing three masses every day, the first a requiem for the founder and all Christian souls; the second at the celebrant's discretion was to be a mass of the Holy Trinity, the Holy Spirit, the Holy Cross, the Blessed Mary or St. Thomas of Canterbury, and the third was to be of the season, such as Christmas and Easter.⁷⁰

John Wade, clerk, brother of the founder, in 1360 added to the endowment of the chantry a rent in Lye (co. Rutl.),⁷¹ and in 1364 messuages and land in Pickwell (co. Leic.).⁷² In 1383 John Wade made the additional gift of the advowson of the church of Manton, and the King and Queen, John Holt, William Burgh and John de Lincoln, clerk, were added to those enjoying the benefits of the chantry.⁷³ The advowson of the chantry itself belonged to the Dean and Chapter of Lincoln⁷⁴ and the cure of Manton was served by one of the stipendiary priests.⁷⁵ The rectory was appropriated to the chantry under the terms of John Wade's gift.

The chantry was dissolved by Edward VI and its possessions were then of the yearly value of £26 18s. 8d.⁷⁶

The whole of the possessions of the late chantry,

including, in Manton, the capital house and site, a windmill, and the rectory and church, as well as a rent from the manor of Lyefield and a tenement in Pickwell, were granted in 1548 to Gregory, Lord Cromwell, and Elizabeth, his wife, for their lives.⁷⁷ Gregory died in 1551,⁷⁸ and after the death of Edward VI some doubts arose as to the validity of the grant to Elizabeth, and Queen Mary in 1553 confirmed it to her. She soon afterwards married John Pawlet second Marquess of Winchester.⁷⁹ On the death of Queen Mary, similar doubts again arose as to Elizabeth's status, and Queen Elizabeth at the petition of John and Elizabeth in 1559 confirmed the estate to them for the life of Elizabeth. The patents of Queen Mary and of Queen Elizabeth contained a stipulation that Elizabeth during the term of her lease should pay to the curate of the parish church of Manton £8 a year for his stipend.⁸⁰

The chantry, its site, possessions and windmill were granted in 1563 to Robert Lord Dudley, afterwards Earl of Leicester, in fee,⁸¹ but he reconveyed it in 1566 to the queen.⁸²

The college, rectory and chantry were leased for 21 years in 1581 to Edward Harington and the lease was renewed to him for a further term of 21 years in 1588, Edward undertaking to repair all houses and buildings and the chancel of the church.⁸³ The rectory of Manton was granted in fee in 1607 to William Blake and George Tyte, at the petition of the Duke of Lennox, and in 1599 the site of the college was granted in fee to Thomas Eastchurch and Henry Best.⁸⁴ After this time there is no further mention of the site, and the lands of the chantry with the rectory appear to have come into the hands of the Burneby family. Nicholas Burneby was a tenant under the college before the Dissolution, and his holding is mentioned in the various grants by the Crown. In 1571 Thomas and Richard Ardys conveyed a capital messuage and land in Manton to Thomas Burneby,⁸⁵ and in 1611 Thomas Lightfoot and Jane his wife sold land and a windmill in Manton to Robert Burneby.⁸⁶ Jasper Burneby and Margaret his wife were parties to a conveyance of land and tithes in Manton in 1627.⁸⁷ During the Commonwealth period, Thomas Burneby son of Jasper held half the rectory of Manton, Peregrine Buck being owner of the other half in right of his wife Mary.⁸⁸ Before the Restoration, Buck sold his share to William Towell, and in 1684 Robert Towell and Rebecca his wife sold land in Manton and half the rectory to Richard Burneby who had succeeded his father, Thomas, about 1683.⁸⁹ Richard and his wife Sarah moved to Martinthorpe about 1687, and gave Manton rectory to their son Thomas.⁹⁰

Thomas became involved in a dispute with the farmer of the rectory of Hambleton about certain tithes from Manton payable to the rectory of Hambleton. Jasper and the first Thomas Burneby had paid

⁶⁷ Inq. a.q.d. ccciv, 3.

⁶⁸ Ibid. cccxii, 8; *Cal. Pat. R.* 1350-4, p. 148.

⁶⁹ Inq. a.q.d. ccciv, 3; cccxii, 8; *Cal. Pat. R.* 1350-4, p. 148.

⁷⁰ *Rutl. Mag.* v, 226 et seq.

⁷¹ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1358-61, p. 360.

⁷² Ibid. 1361-4, p. 505.

⁷³ *Cal. Close R.* 1381-5, p. 385. M.I. n church.

⁷⁴ *Linc. Rec. Soc.* xii, 32, 85.

⁷⁵ *Chant Cert.* (P.R.O.), 39.

⁷⁶ Ibid. See also under account of church.

⁷⁷ *Pat. R.* 1 Eliz. pt. 7.

⁷⁸ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), xciv, 45.

⁷⁹ *G.E.C. Complete Peerage*, viii, 173.

⁸⁰ *Pat. R.* 1 Eliz. pt. 7.

⁸¹ Ibid. 5 Eliz. pt. 4.

⁸² Feet of F. Div. Cos. Trin. 8 Eliz.

⁸³ *Pat. R.* 30 Eliz. pt. 18.

⁸⁴ Ibid. 41 Eliz. pt. 6.

⁸⁵ Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 13 and 14 Eliz.

⁸⁶ Ibid. 9 Jas. I.

⁸⁷ Ibid. 3 Chas. I.

⁸⁸ *Exch. Dep. Trin.* 13 Will. III, no. 3; Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 3 Chas. I.

⁸⁹ *Exch. Dep. Trin.* 13 Will. III, no. 3; Feet of F. Mich. 36 Chas. II. Richard Burneby of Manton was among those disclaiming arms in co. Rutland in 1681-2 (*Visit. Rutl.* (Harl. Soc.), 36).

⁹⁰ The transfer was probably made by a fine of 1694 (Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 6 Will. & M.).

£10 yearly in lieu of this tithe, but during the Civil Wars the farmers of the rectory had disturbed Buck and Burneby in their possession of the tithes. Owing to the war nothing was done by Burneby about this, and afterwards, as the Towells refused to join with him in disputing the rector's right to tithe in kind, and very little wheat was then grown at Manton, Burneby decided that it was not worth while to prosecute a suit. In 1701, however, the farmer of the rectory of Hambleton seems to have set up a claim that of the 30 yardlands in the fields of Manton, 27 owed no tithe to the rector of Manton, two of the remaining 3 yardlands being in Burneby's own possession. Thomas Burneby maintained that the sum of £10 which he paid to the rector of Hambleton was in lieu of the old right to tithes, and since the tithes of wheat and oats had now become much more valuable than in his grandfather's time he withstood the claim of the rector of Hambleton,⁹¹ with results that are not known.



BURNEBY. *Argent two bars with a leopard gules in the chief.*

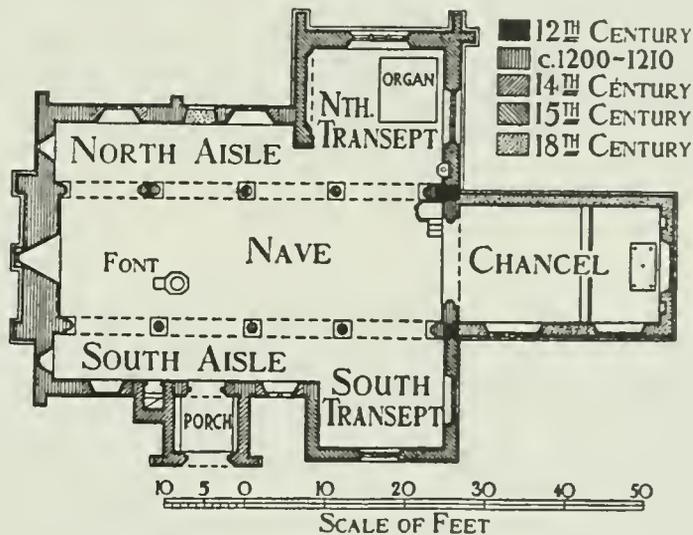
Thomas Burneby married Mary daughter of Thomas Jackson of Duddington. He died in August 1705,⁹² leaving two daughters Mary and Sarah. Mary and her husband John Maddocks conveyed land and the tithes of Manton in 1720 to Thomas Jackson,⁹³ and in the same year Thomas Jackson and his wife Sarah conveyed half the same estate to John Arme, clerk, and Francis Jackson, junior.⁹⁴ The estate passed to the Jacksons, and in 1867 the Rev. W. H. Jackson was improPRIATOR of the tithes.

The church of *ST. CHURCH MARY* stands on high ground in the centre of the village and consists of chancel 25 ft. by 14 ft. 6 in., clearstoried nave of four bays 48 ft. by 14 ft. 9 in., north and south aisles respectively 7 ft. and 5 ft. 3 in. wide, north transept 16 ft. 6 in. by 16 ft. 3 in., south transept 13 ft. 6 in. by 15 ft. 9 in. wide, and south porch, with chamber over, 6 ft. 8 in. by 8 ft., all these measurements being internal. The width across nave and aisles is 31 ft. 10 in. The west wall of the nave is surmounted by a bell-cote containing two bells.

The building is of rubble plastered internally, and the chancel has a stone-slatted eaved roof. The other roofs are leaded and of low pitch and there is a plain parapet to the north transept, but elsewhere the lead overhangs. The chancel was almost entirely rebuilt in 1796⁹⁵ and externally is wholly of that period.

There was a restoration of the fabric in 1887. The chancel was new roofed in 1894.⁹⁶

The earliest church on the site was probably a 12th-century aisleless building with small square-ended chancel, the extent of whose nave is represented by the existing three eastern bays. About 1200 a north aisle was thrown out and an extra bay added at the west end, increasing the nave to its present length. This is indicated, as at Burley, by a break in the north arcade between the third and fourth bays from the east, where a masonry pier, or short length of wall with a respond on each face represents the position of the original west wall, which probably was left standing till the completion of the arcade. The erection of the present west end of the church was then proceeded with, the old wall taken down and a south aisle added, the new arcade being set out in four regular bays after the demolition of the south wall. All this work is very early in the 13th century, and the chancel, from the evidence of the existing chancel arch, seems to have been built, probably on its present plan, at the same time, or shortly after. The slightly greater width of the north aisle seems to have obtained from the first: there is no indication of any widening



PLAN OF MANTON CHURCH

having taken place and its west window is somewhat larger than the corresponding one in the south aisle.⁹⁷

In the 14th century new windows were inserted in the aisles, the porch and clearstory erected, the wall of the south aisle heightened and the pitch of its roof altered. A north transept may have been added at the time of the foundation of the chantry in 1351, but if so it was apparently remodelled, or rebuilt in a more elaborate fashion in the following century,⁹⁸ when the walls were heightened, the new roof thus covering the eastern bay of the clearstory.⁹⁹ The south transept was probably added about the same

⁹¹ Exch. Dep. Trin. 13 Will. III, no. 3.
⁹² M.I. (see church); *Leic. and Rutl. N. and Q.* ii, 63.

⁹³ Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 7 Geo. I.
⁹⁴ *Ibid.*

⁹⁵ The date is on a panel between the windows on the south side.

⁹⁶ During the 17th century this church appears to have been much neglected. The

north chapel was unpaved and its windows and those of the chancel were daubed up with mortar, stone and boards (Irons' Notes, Archd. Visit.).

⁹⁷ Both windows are 2 ft. 6 in. high, but that in the north aisle is 7 in. wide splaying externally to 12 in., while that in the south aisle is 5 in. splaying to 8 in. The internal splay in each case is 3 ft.

⁹⁸ The memorial to William and Thomas Villers and Robert Newton noted below records that they gave many goods to the chantry and repaired the buildings.

⁹⁹ The line of a former low-pitched roof remains on the wall below the present one.

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

time, but it is of very plain character, without distinguishing architectural features of any kind except in the windows, which are of 15th-century date.

The chancel appears to have been rebuilt on the old foundations, its chamfered plinth being apparently original. The lower part of the east wall, in which there are two round-headed recesses, or aumbries,¹ one on each side of the altar, appears also to have been left standing, and two grotesque stone corbels in the eastern angles, supporting the wall-plates, are also old. Otherwise the chancel is as rebuilt at the end of the 18th century, with a round-headed east window, and two windows of similar character on the south side.² The north wall is blank. The pointed 13th-century chancel arch is of two chamfered orders on half-round responds with moulded capitals and bases, the latter much mutilated: the capitals have plain bells.

The nave arcades consist of four semicircular arches of two chamfered orders, with hood-moulds on the side towards the nave, springing from cylindrical pillars and half-round responds, all with moulded capitals and bases. In the north arcade the three eastern arches are of equal size, but the western arch, beyond the masonry pier, is of less width and height and the capitals of its responds correspondingly smaller. The outer order of the easternmost arch and that on the east side of the second, have moulded stops above the capitals, and there are head-stops and one with an ornamented disc to the hood-moulds. In the south arcade the arches are uniform and the outer order of each has moulded stops; there are head-stops to all the hood-moulds. The bases of all the pillars stand on short square plinths, which are probably portions of the original nave walls.

The north transept, in which the organ is placed, has a moulded plinth and string at sill level along the north and east walls. There is a single north-west buttress and a pair at the north-east angle, the two buttresses facing north going up the full height of the wall, breaking the parapet, and finishing originally with pinnacles, the stumps of which alone remain. The east buttress stops below the parapet with a crocketed triangular head, and has on its face a shallow trefoiled niche, with moulded bracket and battlemented sill. The transept is lighted in the north and east walls by two large pointed windows each of three cinquefoiled lights, with moulded jambs, sloping sills and vertical transomed tracery. The sill of the north window has large moulded battlements. The west wall is wholly occupied internally by a four-centred widely chamfered tomb recess, with hood-mould, and trefoiled panelling on the chamfer face, to provide for which the wall is continued about 3 ft. into the aisle, and from it a stone lintel is carried to the nave wall above the arcade; the end of the wall and the soffit of the lintel are panelled. At the south end of the east wall is a cinquefoiled piscina with projecting fluted bowl and embattled sill supported on a half-octagonal pedestal with chamfered plinth. No other piscina remains in the church.

The south transept is lighted from the south and east by windows of three cinquefoiled lights, that on the east square-headed with simple vertical tracery;

the taller south window is four-centred with moulded jambs and mullions and transomed tracery with a large quatrefoil in the middle light. There is a moulded image bracket on each side of the east window. The west wall of the transept is carried across the aisle on a wooden lintel.

The plain round-headed north doorway, now blocked, is contemporary with the nave arcades, and has a chamfered hood-mould; the pointed south doorway is of 14th-century date, of two continuous orders, the inner hollow chamfered, the outer with wave moulding, and the hood has rounded stops. The lateral windows of both aisles are square-headed and of two trefoiled lights without tracery, the westernmost on the north side being rather earlier in character than the others, with single-chamfered jambs and soffit cusping.

The porch has buttresses of two stages east and west, and pointed doorway of two continuous orders similar to that of the nave, with wooden gates. The upper story stands awkwardly above the roof of the aisle and has a low-pitched coped gable at each end. The chamber was approached from the aisle by a staircase contained in a rectangular buttress-like projection, of which only the upper steps remain, and was lighted at its south end by a small square-headed grated window.

There are three square-headed 14th-century windows of two trefoiled lights on each side of the clearstory, and on the south a fourth and larger one of three cinquefoiled lights at the east end inserted in the 15th century: the easternmost window on the north side is now covered by the transept, the west wall of which blocks one of the lights of the second window. There are also two single-light 15th-century cinquefoiled windows, now blocked, at the east end of the nave above the chancel arch, and on the apex of the gable is a sanctus bell-cote.

The west end of the building forms a very interesting early 13th-century composition, the end wall of the nave being thickened to about 5 ft. to support the massive bell-cote, which rises high above the roof, and is strengthened by three buttresses, one at each angle and one centrally placed which is carried up in a series of stages almost the full height of the bell-cote. The buttresses have a greater projection than Norman pilasters, but are more or less of the same type; those at the angles stand well in front of the aisle walls and are surmounted at the second stage by tall cylindrical pinnacles terminating in truncated cones. At the end of the aisles are the lancet windows already described,³ and the middle buttress is pierced by a taller but very narrow lancet splaying internally to over 5 ft. The bell-cote terminated originally in a single large gable with lateral gablets at its base facing north and south, but the upper part of the gable has been removed⁴ and its place taken by a roughly wrought ridged roof; the gablets, surmounted by crosses, remain. The bell openings have arches of three chamfered orders.

The early 13th-century font has a circular bowl with simple round arched arcading, standing on five later octagonal shafts.

¹ But they are not rebated and are now plastered all round. The sills are about 3 ft. 6 in. above the floor.

² The windows have keystones, and are now fitted with wooden frames of three lights.

³ The head and hood-mould of the north aisle window are cut from one stone; in the south aisle the window head is composed of two stones, with separate semi-circular hood-mould. The slightly greater

width of the north window has already been referred to.

⁴ The date 1780 incised on the top of the buttress between the bell-openings probably indicates the year when the alteration took place.



MANTON CHURCH FROM THE SOUTH-WEST



MANTON CHURCH: THE INTERIOR, LOOKING EAST

The pulpit and all the fittings are modern.

In the south transept is a well-preserved 13th-century coped coffin lid with floriated cross, the stem of which has the 'omega' ornament.

The nave roof is nearly flat and of 15th-century character, but one of the tie-beams is dated 1637 and another 1804.

Over the chancel arch are extensive remains of a well-painted Royal Arms, probably dating from 1796.⁵ Near the south doorway is a square pillar alms-box with three staples, carved with simple scroll work and the initials and date 'T. B. 1637.'

The 'small plate of brass fixt on a gravestone,' noted by Wright, is still in the floor of the north transept close to the nave; the inscription reads 'Hic jacet Willielmus Wade fundator hujus cantarie, cujus anime ppicietur Deus.'⁶ On the north wall of the transept, now hidden by the organ, is a brass plate recording the benefactions to the chantry of William Villers, bachelor of laws, formerly master, Thomas Villers his brother, and Robert Newton, master, the dates of whose deaths are not stated.⁷ On the eastern most pillar of the north arcade is a brass plate to William Chesilden (d. 1698), in the south transept a tablet to Thomas Burneby (d. 1705), and in the north aisle tablets to Henry Smith (d. 1716), lord of the manor, and Penelope his widow (d. 1727), whose 'extraordinary success in Physick and her extensive charity to thousands of poor people (made) her loss universal to the British Nation.'⁸

The two bells were recast by Taylor and Co. of Loughborough in 1920.⁹

The plate consists of a cup and cover paten of 1570-71, and a paten of 1638-9, the latter inscribed 'Manton 1639.'¹⁰

The registers before 1812 are as follows: (i) baptisms 1573-1705, marriages 1571-1652, burials 1661-1705; (ii) baptisms, marriages and burials 1705-51; (iii) baptisms and burials 1752-1812; (iv) marriages 1754-1812.

There is a War Memorial Cross in the churchyard.

The advowson of Manton appears *ADVOWSON* to have been held by the Crown during the 12th century. Queen Eleanor presented to the church in 1223.¹¹ King Henry III gave the advowson to his brother Richard, Earl of Cornwall, when he gave him the county of Rutland, and Richard's son Edmund, Earl of Cornwall, claimed it in 1274.¹² He presented frequently¹³ and the advowson is mentioned among his possessions at his death in 1300,¹⁴ after which it reverted to the Crown. It was apparently included in the grant of 1317

of the Castle of Oakham to Hugh de Audley Earl of Gloucester and Margaret his wife for their lives.¹⁵ A grant from the end of their term was made in March 1336-7, to William de Bohun, Earl of Northampton,¹⁶ and this took effect in January 1341.¹⁷ William died in 1360 and his son Humphrey de Bohun, Earl of Hereford, Essex and Northampton made presentations to the church in 1363 and 1372.¹⁸ He died in 1372¹⁹ and the advowson reverted to the Crown. It was purchased of the king in 1383 by John Wade, clerk, the part founder of Manton chantry, and was given by him to the master of the chantry.²⁰ The master presented to the church in 1401, but after that the presentations were made by the Dean and Chapter of Lincoln who, as patrons of the chantry, presented the master who was in effect rector of Manton.²¹ In 1537 the master made an attempt to acquire the advowson of the benefice from the dean and chapter,²² apparently without success, for the advowson passed to the Crown and was conveyed in the lease of the chantry to Edward Harington in 1581.²³ No vicar was, however, appointed after the suppression of the chantry until 1772. In the meantime a succession of curates took charge of the parish and the rectory belonged to the owners of the site and lands of the chantry.²⁴ The king presented a vicar in 1772,²⁵ and in 1774 Miss Mary Bourne of Abbots Langley (co. Herts.) presented.²⁶ In 1828 George Watson Smyth presented the Rev. William Watson Smyth, and on his resignation Edward Watson Smyth, presented in 1859. In 1867 the Rev. W. H. Jackson was patron and impropiator.²⁷ He sold the advowson to the Rev. Trapp, who left it to his daughter Miss Edith Trapp. When the living was united to Martinthorpe, about 1897, the patronage was alternately with the Duke of Devonshire and Miss Trapp. In 1930 these parishes were united to Lyndon and Mr. R. J. E. Conant now has the gift of the combined livings.²⁸

Thomas Lightfoot, by his will *CHARITIES* dated 30 June 1789, bequeathed to the churchwardens and overseers a yearly sum of £4 charged upon his real estate at Manton to be applied amongst the poor. The charge was redeemed and the endowment now consists of a sum of £216 10s. 2d. 2½ per cent. Consols producing in dividends £5 8s. per annum. The income is applied, together with that of Jane Lightfoot's charity, in payments in money to poor widows and other poor persons.

Jane Lightfoot, by her will proved in the P.C.C. on the 26 May 1882, gave the sum of £200 to the vicar

⁵ Originally the top of the arch was plastered over and partly covered by the Royal Arms, the motto of which is now broken. The arms are those of the Hanoverian sovereigns before 1801, with supporters, crown, and mantling.

⁶ Wright, *Hist. of Rutl.* (1684), 87. The brass, which is partly covered by the choir stalls, measures about 20 in. long by 2½ in.

⁷ *Ibid.* 86, where the inscription is given. It reads: "Orate pro animabus Magistri Willielmi Villers in Legib' Baccallarii quondam Magistri hujus cantarie, Thome Villers fratris ejusdem civis & Pannarii Civitatis London, ac Roberti Newton in Decretis Baccallarii quondam apprehenticii dicti Thome posteaque Magistri hujus cantarie, qui multa bona eidem cantarie contulit ac Edificiam re-

paravit, Parentum & Benefactor' Suor' Quoru' animabus ppicietur Deus Amen."

⁸ Other monumental inscriptions, ranging from 1716 to 1832, are given in *Rutl. Mag.* v, 233.

⁹ The smaller of the two old bells was inscribed 'Cum voco ad ecclesiam venite. 1610. T.S.'; the larger was an 'alphabet' bell, probably by Robert Newcombe of Leicester. The old inscriptions are repeated in facsimile on the new bells. In *North's Cb. Bells of Rutl.* 143, the order of the inscriptions is reversed and the date wrongly given as 1619.

¹⁰ Hope, *Cb. Plate in Rutl.* 7.

¹¹ *Rutl. Mag.* v, 227.

¹² *Rot. Hund.* (Rec. Com.) ii, 52.

¹³ Irons' Notes, Linc. Episc. Reg. (Instit.).

¹⁴ *Cal. Inq.* iii, no. 604 (p. 475).

¹⁵ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1313-17, p. 664.

¹⁶ *Ibid.* 1334-8, p. 416; *Cal. Inq. Misc.* ii, no. 1703.

¹⁷ G.E.C. *Complete Peerage*, vi, 67.

¹⁸ *Rutl. Mag.* v, 228.

¹⁹ *Chan. Inq.* p.m. 46 Edw. III (1st nos.), no. 10.

²⁰ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1381-5, p. 233; *Harl. MS.* 506, fol. 42.

²¹ *Rutl. Mag.* loc. cit.

²² *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xii (i), 628.

²³ *Pat. R.* 30 Eliz. pt. 18.

²⁴ Archd. Rec.

²⁵ Bacon, *Liber Regis*; *Inst. Bks.* (P.R.O.).

²⁶ *Ibid.*; *Rutl. Mag.* op. cit. 229.

²⁷ *Ibid.*

²⁸ Inf. kindly supplied by the rector.

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

and churchwardens, the income to be distributed on Christmas Day among the poor. The endowment now consists of a sum of £178 17s. 8d. 2½ per cent. Consols producing in dividends £4 9s. 4d. per annum.

Thomas Fryer, by his will dated 14 January 1903 bequeathed two freehold cottages situate at Manton to be used as almshouses for aged or infirm persons residing in Manton or Hambleton. He further bequeathed a sum of £1,200 and directed the income to be equally divided among the inmates of the almshouses. The endowment now consists of the almshouses and the following sums of stock producing in dividends approximately £58 per annum, viz.:—£73 13s. 9d. 8 per cent. cumulative preferred ordinary

stock of the British Electric Traction Co., Ltd.; £7 14s. deferred ordinary stock of the same company; £66 4s. 6d. 6 per cent. cumulative participating preference stock of the same company; £200 5 per cent. perpetual debenture stock of the same company; £180 4½ per cent. cumulative 1st preference shares of the Bournemouth and Poole Electric Supply Co., Ltd.; £140 6 per cent. cumulative preference shares of the City of London Electric Supply Co., Ltd.; and £490 19s. 8d. 4 per cent. Consolidated stock.

The charity is managed by a body of trustees appointed under the provisions of a scheme of the Charity Commissioners dated 21 September, 1917. The several sums of stock are with the Official Trustees.

MARTINSTHORPE

Martintorp (xii cent.); Martinsthorp, Martinthorp (xiii cent.); Martinsthorp, Martynsthorp (xiv cent.); Martinsthorpe, Masthorpe (xv cent.); Mastropp (xvi cent.); Marstingthorpe, Martinsthorpe, Marstroppe (xviii cent.).

Martinsthorpe is a small parish containing 539 acres to the west of Manton. It is separated from Gunthorpe on the north by the river Gwash and from Ridlington and Preston on the south by the river Chater. The parish is wholly pasture land. The population in 1921 was one.

There is no village and the only house in the parish is the Old Hall Farm, which is all that remains of Martinsthorpe Hall, the seat of the Earls of Denbigh. This house has been described as having been 'a handsome edifice of two stories and a basement, with a light portico and battlements, and twelve windows in a line on the front,'¹ but, with the exception of the chapel, was pulled down in 1755, the stables being turned into a house² in which Col. Heathcote's farm bailiff now lives.

The chapel of St. Martin seems to have been on the ground floor of the house, with two square-headed two-light transomed windows at its liturgical east end. On the demolition of the mansion the walls of the chapel were left standing and a gabled roof was erected over it, the chapel thus forming a small oblong building, standing detached from, but in proximity to, the old stables. At the beginning of the 19th century the chapel was described as 'totally deserted and its windows gone,'³ though it was still roofed. Later the roof fell, but considerable portions of the walls, including both end gables, were standing until about 1908, when they were removed and used elsewhere for purposes of building.⁴

Marriages were solemnised as late as 1744,⁵ and a sermon was preached there on particular occasions

about 1813 to secure the possession,⁶ but since that time the chapel had been desecrated to secular uses and latterly had the appearance of a barn.

MARTINSTHORPE probably formed MANOR part of Preston from the earliest times, and was acquired with that manor by the Montfort family. It formed part of 6 knights' fees held by the Montforts of the Earls of Warwick in Preston, Uppingham, Wing, Ridlington, Glaston, Martinsthorpe and Lyndon.⁷

The earliest reference to Martinsthorpe is in 1199, when three bovates of land there were divided between William de Banull and Hawisia his wife and Thomas de Bringeton and Gunnora his wife,⁸ but it probably formed part of Robert de Montfort's estate in 1130,⁹ and of the land in Rutland for which Robert's brother Thurstan de Montfort paid 20 marks in 1156-7.¹⁰ From this date to the end of the 13th century the manor followed the descent of Uppingham (q.v.).

According to the Northamptonshire visitation of 1564, the Montforts had subinfeudated Martinsthorpe to the Seytons early in the 13th century, and Erasmus (Ernsius ?) de Seyton, stated to be father of Sir Roger, the justice in the time of Henry III, was said to have held it. Richard de Seyton who was lord of Martinsthorpe in 1316¹¹ was probably Richard brother of John de Seyton who was accused by Ralph de Beaufeu (Bello Fago) of destroying his houses at Seaton in 1295.¹² He was pardoned for adhering to Thomas, Earl of Lancaster, in 1318.¹³ He or another of the same name presented to the church from 1305 to



SEYTON. Gules a bend argent between six martlets or.

¹ Laird, *Topog. and Hist. Description Rutl.* 129. The south front is figured in Wright, *Hist. of Rutl.* (1684), 90. The engraving shows a high basement, with a flight of steps to the portico, which has a balcony over. There are twelve tall windows on each floor, and a long unbroken battlemented parapet and hipped roof. The windows are of two lights, with mullions and transoms. There is no letterpress. The engraving is reproduced in *Rutl. Mag.* v, 229.

² Laird, loc. cit.

³ Ibid. But the two end windows, like

those shown in Wright's view of the house, were in position for long after, together with two small openings high in the gable, lighting the roof space.

⁴ Inf. kindly supplied by Mr. V. B. Crowther-Beynoa. Photographs taken early in the present century show the 'east end' with two windows as described, and the south and west sides as having been originally internal walls of the house, the former with an external fireplace and the latter with a plain lintel doorway.

⁵ See Wing parish register, 1732 and 1733, and Uppingham register for 1744.

To the latter entry is a note by the rector of Uppingham that he will not grant a licence for marriage at Martinsthorpe unless he solemnises it himself, because there was no surplice nor any register kept there.

⁶ Britton, *Beauties of Engl. and Wales.*

⁷ *Cal. Ing.* v, no. 615 (p. 402).

⁸ Feet of F. Rutl. file 2, no. 1.

⁹ *Pipe R.* 31 Hen. I (Rec. Com.), 134.

¹⁰ Ibid. 3 Hen. II, m. 2.

¹¹ *Feud. Aids*, iv, 207; cf. p. 212.

¹² *Cal. Pat. R.* 1292-1301, p. 163.

¹³ Ibid. 1317-21, p. 230.



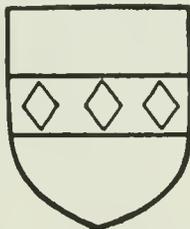
MARTINSTHORPE HOUSE IN 1684
(From James Wright, *History of Rutland*)



MARTINSTHORPE: RUINS OF ST. MARTIN'S CHAPEL BEFORE DEMOLITION.

1344,¹⁴ and in 1345 with his wife Alice, widow of William Cage, was described as of Martinsthorpe.¹⁵ Before 1357, however, the manor had reverted to the elder branch of the Seyton family, when Sir John Seyton presented to the church.¹⁶ From this date the manor descended with that of Seaton (q.v.);^{16a} the overlordship of the Montforts was recognised as late as 1515,¹⁷ although occasionally it was said to be held of the Earls of Warwick.¹⁸

Though the pedigree of the Seytons given in the visitation of Northamptonshire shows that John Seyton had a son Thomas and three grandsons, Martins-
thorpe is said to have passed to William Feilding by his marriage with Agnes, daughter and heir of John de St. Liz or de Seyton.¹⁹ This John may perhaps have been a younger brother of Thomas, who had acquired the manor under a settlement. In any case the manor came into the possession of the Feildings, and William presented to the church in

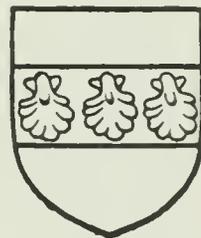


FEILDING. *Argent a fesse azure with three lozenges or thereon.*

1442.²⁰ Everard Feilding, son of William, died seised of the manor in 1515, having settled it on his wife Juliana, with remainder to his son William.²¹ William was knighted in 1533,²² and became involved in a dispute with Anthony Cope, or Coope, who had obtained a grant of the lands of the priory of Brooke, as to their respective possessions in Martinsthorpe. Cope claimed Martinsley, Esturwende and Westurwende and 7s. rent from Tymsons land, while Feilding maintained that Martinsley alone came into his grant.²³ Sir William died in 1547, having settled the manor on his wife Isabel, who survived him.²⁴ Basil, son and successor of Sir William, made conveyances of the manor in 1557 and 1584, the latter being a settlement on his son William and his wife Dorothy, daughter of Sir Ralph Lane.²⁵ Basil died in 1585, when William succeeded.²⁶ William was knighted in 1603, and died 1607 holding the manor.²⁷ Basil son of William succeeded, and in 1608 he and his son Sir William conveyed the manor to trustees.²⁸ William had been knighted on 4 March 1607 and was in 1620 created Baron Feilding of Newnham Paddocks and Viscount Feilding, and in 1622 Earl of Denbigh. He was one of the attendants on the Prince of Wales at the Spanish court in 1623 and was an admiral in several expeditions. He joined Prince Rupert's Horse as a volunteer in 1642, and was mortally wounded in a skirmish near Birmingham in the following year. His son and successor Basil joined the Parliamentary faction.²⁹ Susan, the Dowager Countess of Denbigh, was the only sister of George, Duke of Buckingham. In 1651 she was accused of recusancy,

a charge which she denied, and by her son's agency some allowance was made for her. In a letter to her son she stated that she was no longer with the queen, who had gone into a nunnery, leaving her in a sad condition, ready to be cast into the streets. Owing to ill-health she was unable to come to take the oath of abjuration.³⁰

Basil, Earl of Denbigh, though a Parliamentarian, concurred in the Restoration and was in Feb. 1664-5 created Baron St. Liz. He was four times married, but died in 1675 without issue. Martinsthorpe was at this time one of the principal seats of the Earl of Denbigh, and Elizabeth, daughter of Edward, Earl of Bath, the third wife of Basil, died there in 1670.³¹ Basil's nephew William Feilding, son of George Feilding, Earl of Desmond, succeeded, and settled the manor and park of Martinsthorpe in 1676.³² He died in 1685, when his son Basil succeeded. William, Earl of Denbigh (d. 1755), who succeeded Basil his father in March 1716-17, settled the manor in 1720,³³ probably for the purpose of selling it to William Cavendish, Duke of Devonshire, to whom it is known the manor was sold before 1758.³⁴ It passed to William son of George Augustus Henry Cavendish, third son of William, fourth Duke of Devonshire,³⁵ who was dealing with it in 1804.³⁶ William died in 1812, but in 1808 Lord George Henry Cavendish, the brother of William,³⁷ sold Martinsthorpe to the Hon. George Watson of Glasgow. From him the manor passed to his niece Catherine Watson, daughter of Lewis Thomas, second Lord Sondes, and wife of Sir William de Capell-Brooke, third baronet.³⁸ Sir Arthur Richard de Capell-Brooke, grandson of William and Catherine, who succeeded his father Richard Lewis as fifth baronet in 1892, sold the manor in 1918 to Mr. A. M. Bradshaw of Oakham. Mr. Bradshaw sold a part of the estate in 1925 to Richard Bradley, and it is now owned by his son Sir Guy Bradley; the remainder of the property was sold by Mr. Bradshaw in 1927 to Col. Heathcote of Manton.³⁹



DE CAPELL-BROOKE, baronet. *Or a fesse azure with three scallops or thereon.*

The advowson followed the descent *ADVOWSON* of the manor until about 1804, when the manor passed to William Cavendish. The Duke of Devonshire was patron until 1897, but since that date the advowson has followed that of Manton (q.v.) The rector was presented in 1589 for having no service or sermon in the church,⁴⁰ and from about 1656 the rectory became a sinecure, there being no church or chapel.

There are no charities in this parish.

¹⁴ *Rutl. Mag.* v, 230.

¹⁵ *Cal. Close R.* 1343-6, p. 573.

¹⁶ *Rutl. Mag.* loc. cit.

^{16a} Add Ch. 22213-16.

¹⁷ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), xxx, 108.

¹⁸ *Ibid.* 2 Hen. IV, no. 58, m. 54; *Cal. Close R.* 1402-5, p. 74.

¹⁹ Wright, op. cit. 88.

²⁰ *Rutl. Mag.* op. cit. 231.

²¹ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), xxx, 108.

²² Shaw, *Knights of Engl.* ii, 49.

²³ *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* (MSS. Earl of Denbigh), i, 2.

²⁴ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), lxxxvii, 59.

²⁵ Feet of F. Rutl. East. 3 & 4 Phil. and M.; Div. Cos. Mich. 26 & 27 Eliz.; Wright, op. cit. 89.

²⁶ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), cxxi, 194.

²⁷ Shaw, op. cit. 103, 141; Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), ccxii, 112.

²⁸ Feet of F. Div. Cos. East. 6 Jas. I.

²⁹ *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), iv, 178-9.

³⁰ *Cal. of Com. for Comp.* 497.

³¹ *Cal. S.P. Dom.* 1660-70, 478.

³² *Recov. R. East.* 28 Chas. II, ro. 8.

³³ *Ibid.* Mich. 6 Geo. I, ro. 120; Trin.

6 Geo. I, ro. 85; Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. Geo. I.

³⁴ *Rutl. Mag.* op. cit. 230; *Recov. R. Trin.* 31 Geo. II, ro. 31.

³⁵ Burke, *Peerage.*

³⁶ *Recov. R. Mich.* 45 Geo. III, ro. 393.

³⁷ His father was Geo. Augustus Henry

and his brother George Henry Compton.

³⁸ *Recov. R. Trin.* 48 Geo. III, m. 8;

Collins, *Peerage* (Brydges' ed.), vii, 284;

Burke, *Peerage.*

³⁹ Inf. kindly supplied by Mr. A. M. Bradshaw.

⁴⁰ Irons' Notes, Archd. Visit.

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

NORMANTON

Normanton (xii cent.); Northmanton, Normanton (xiii, xiv cent.).

Normanton is a small parish of 720 acres of clay land, and is divided from Hambleton on the west by the river Gwash. The road from Hambleton to Ketton passes near the southern boundary and, except for the rectory and two or three houses on the road, there are no habitations in the parish outside the Park. The parish was depopulated to form the Park about 1764 by Sir Gilbert Heathcote, who demolished the church and village, which stood on the slope towards the river Gwash where the present church stands in the Park.¹

The well-timbered Park of 400 acres covers a great part of the parish. The house, which was taken down in 1925 after the sale of the estate, was built by the first Sir Gilbert Heathcote between 1729, when he bought the estate, and 1734, in the January of which year he died. It was planned on the principle, then much in vogue, of having a central block with low outlying wings connected to it by curved passages. The detail was plain and massive, but in some additions or alterations made towards the end of the century (under the superintendence, it would seem, of Sir Robert Taylor, architect to the Bank of England) the detail was of that delicate character associated with the brothers Adam. Of this wide-spreading and important building, of which the interior was as handsomely designed as the exterior, nothing now remains; it is not even possible to trace its outline, or to grasp the fact that it was arranged on an imposing plan. The stables, which are of no great architectural interest, are still standing. On the east of the Park are Normanton Works, formerly employing about 50 men for carrying out repairs on the estate.

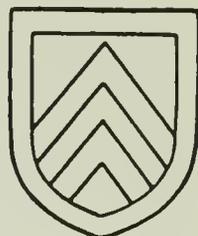
NORMANTON is not mentioned in **MANORS** Domesday Survey (1086), but it probably formed one of the berewicks of the king's manor of 'Hameldune Cherchesoch.' It was acquired by the Umfravilles at an early date, and in 1183 the sheriff rendered account of 25*s.* 8*d.* from Normanton, the land of Odinell de Umfraville.² From this date the overlordship of the manor followed the descent of Hambleton (q.v.) until the death of Sir Giles de Badlesmere in 1338, on whose death it was assigned to Giles's sister and co-heir, Elizabeth, widow of Edmund Mortimer, then the wife of William de Bohun, Earl of Northampton. Normanton, after this date, is said to have been held of Hambleton manor,^{2a} which had also been assigned to Elizabeth Mortimer.

Early in the 13th century Normanton was subinfeudated. Robert Daubeney (Albiniaco), son of William Daubeney,³ presented to the church in 1227, and he or his son Robert presented in 1234.⁴ Probably both Robert the father and son died in that year, as Isabel, widow of William de Hocton,⁵ and a younger sister Ascelina are described as daughters and heirs of Robert and sisters of Robert son of Robert. The wardship of Ascelina was granted to Emery de St. Amand, who married her to his son Ralph.⁶ Eustachia, probably the second wife of Robert, however, seems to have held Normanton in her own right. It may have been she who, as Eustachia, widow of Robert de Sancto Albano, claimed a third of 20 virgates and 5 acres of land in Normanton against Gilbert de Umfraville in 1237,⁷ and she or probably a daughter of the same christian name held Normanton in her own right as wife of Gerard de Fancourt, one of the king's justices. In 1271 Gerard de Fancourt and Eustachia his wife granted a messuage and 8 virgates of land in Normanton and the advowson of the church to Thomas de Normanville to be held of them and the heirs of Eustachia.⁸ In the same year Gerard went on the Crusade⁹ and possibly did not return. Robert Daubeney had granted land to Belvoir Priory (co. Leic.) for the soul of Eustachia his wife; and Eustachia de Fancourt, lady of Wywell, in her widowhood, granted other lands to the priory in 1286 that she might be buried there.¹⁰ Thomas de Normanville died in 1295 holding a capital messuage and 15 bovates of land in Normanton of Eustachia de Fancourt, and left a son and heir Edmund, then aged 4 years.¹¹ Eustachia as guardian and overlord of the heir presented to the church in that year.^{11a} A Roger Fancourt had lands in Normanton in or before 1292,¹² and may have been a son of Eustachia, but if so he apparently predeceased her, as the mesne lordship seems to have lapsed on her death at a great age, after 1295.

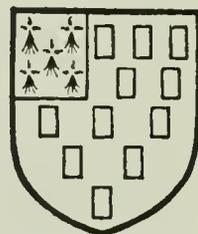
Edmund de Normanville was living in 1305,¹² but was dead before 1315, when the manor was held by William de Basings in right of his wife Margaret daughter of Thomas de Normanville of Kenardington (co. Kent) and of Empingham, who had died in



HEATHCOTE. *Ermine three roundels vert each charged with a cross or.*



DAUBENEY. *Or two cheverons and a border gules.*



FANCOURT. *Azure billety or with a quarter ermine.*

¹ Inf. kindly supplied by Mr. V. B. Crowther-Beynon.

² Pipe R. 29 Hen. II, m. 4 d.

^{2a} Chan. Inq. p.m. 7 Ric. II, no. 6; 24 Hen. VI, no. 41; (Ser. ii), lviii, 74.

³ Maud, dau. of Odinell de Umfraville (d. 1182), married William Daubeney, and the Daubeney may have obtained Normanton through her.

⁴ Rot. Hug. de Welles (Cant. and York Soc.), ii, 180.

⁵ Cal. Close R. 1234-7, p. 91.

⁶ Ibid. 1231-4, pp. 441, 487; Cal. Pat. R. 1232-47, p. 53. Possibly there was another sister married to Geoff. de Beauchamp (*Excerpt. e Rot. Fin.* i, 259, 260).

⁷ Cal. Close R. 1234-7, p. 517.

⁸ Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 55 Hen. III.

⁹ Cal. Pat. R. 1266-72, p. 440.

¹⁰ Hist. MSS. Com. Rep. (Rutl. MSS.), iv, 164.

¹¹ Cal. Inq. iii, no. 253.

^{11a} Wright, *Hist. of Rutl.* 94.

¹² Cal. Inq. Misc. i, no. 1614; Cal. Close R. 1288-96, p. 369; Roberts, *Cal. Gen.* 467.

¹² *Feud. Aids*, iv, 205.



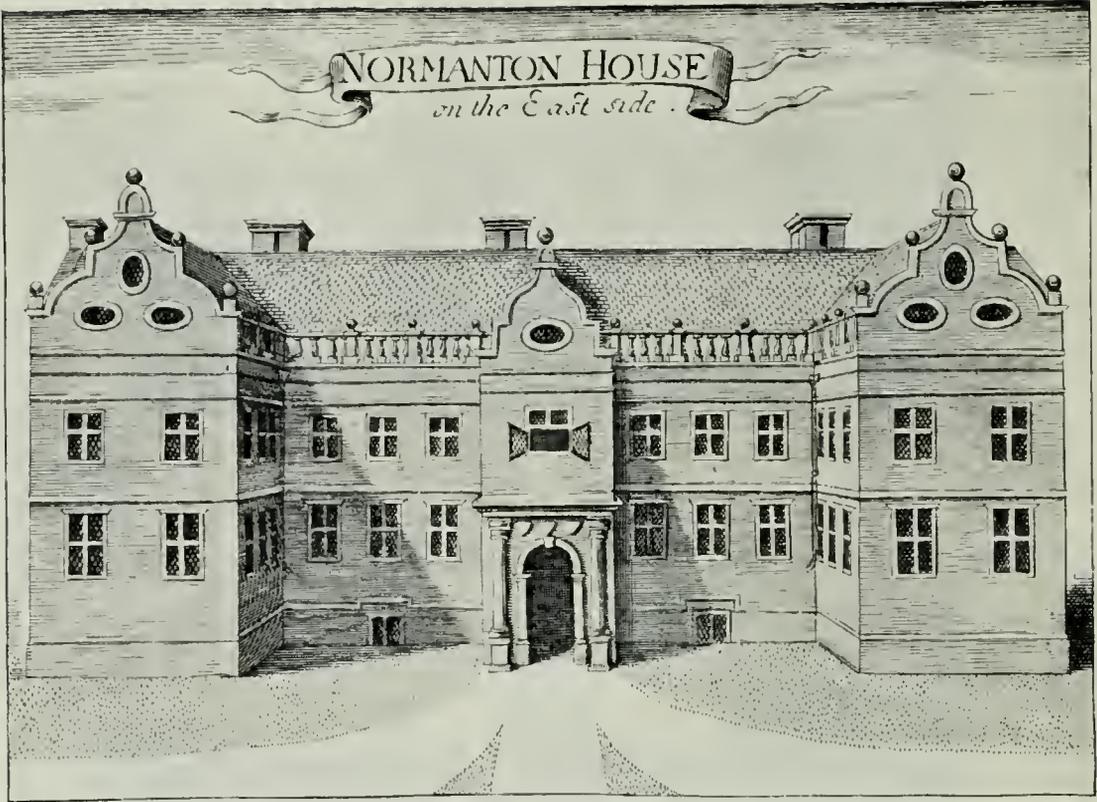
NORMANTON HOUSE IN 1912 : LEFT-HAND WING



NORMANTON HOUSE IN 1912 : HALF-FRONT



NORMANTON HOUSE IN 1912 : DINING-ROOM BLOCK



NORMANTON HOUSE IN 1684
(From James Wright, *History of Rutland*)



NORMANTON CHURCH FROM THE SOUTH

1282-3 and was probably a nephew of Thomas de Normanville of Normanton.^{13a} From this date the manor follows the descent of Empingham (q.v.).

A so-called manor of Normanton was held at the beginning of the 16th century by the Swafelds of the Mackworths. It may have originated in land concerning which several fines were levied in the 13th and 14th centuries. In 1241 Geoffrey de Ketene conveyed 12 virgates in Normanton to John Talbot.¹⁴ In 1293 Henry de Wakerle and his wife Ellen conveyed 100s. of rent to William son of John de Wakerle,¹⁵ and in 1301 they sold three messuages and 1 virgate and 2 acres of land to Hugh de Bradewell and Alice his wife.¹⁶ The reversion of an estate in Normanton comprising three messuages, land and a mill, held for life by Isabel de Bokelond, was conveyed in 1329 by Robert Luffewyke to Alfred de Broke, clerk,¹⁷ possibly for the purposes of some settlement, for in 1373 William Luffewyke of Manton died seised of land in Normanton, leaving a daughter Elizabeth his heir.¹⁸ Land in Normanton, Manton and Exton was conveyed in 1335 by John de Gretham and Margery his wife to Richard de Marnham,¹⁹ and in 1343 Hugh de Swafeld and Margery his wife settled four messuages and land in Normanton, Empingham, and Great and Little Hambleton on their son Hugh and Joan his wife.²⁰ Thomas Swafeld died in 1519 holding a so-called manor of Normanton, which he had settled on his son and heir Simon and Isabel his wife.²¹ Simon died in 1537 without issue, when their manor passed to his brother Robert.²² This manor has not been traced further.

The church of *ST. MATTHEW* now *CHURCH* stands isolated in Normanton Park, to the west of the site of the Hall, and is a small modern structure in the style of the Classic Renaissance. The mediæval church, which was described in 1579 as being in a very ruinous condition, was pulled down by Sir Gilbert Heathcote, 3rd baronet, in 1764, and replaced by a plain building²³ consisting of a chancel about 13 ft. square and aisleless nave 32 ft. by 18 ft. 6 in., the style of which is said to have been 'Italian of the most unpretending character.'²⁴ No view or representation of the mediæval church is known to exist, but portions of tracery and other fragments of stonework found in 1911 suggest that it was of early 14th-century date,²⁵ and it appears to have had a tower, or bell-turret,²⁶ which was left standing till 1826, when the present western vestibule, tower and portico were erected.²⁷ In 1911 the 18th-century nave and chancel were in their turn pulled down and rebuilt, as a memorial to the first Earl of Ancaster, by his widow,²⁸ in a style conforming with that of the 1826 additions.

The whole of the building is of ashlar and consists

of chancel and aisleless nave 19 ft. 6 in. wide under one roof, and western vestibule 14 ft. by 16 ft. 6 in. forming the base of the tower. The length of the nave is 30 ft. and of the chancel and apse 20 ft.,²⁹ all these measurements being internal. When the vestibule was built in 1826 it not only formed the entrance to the church but contained a double staircase leading to a gallery at the west end of the 18th-century nave. The vestibule is entered by a west doorway approached by a semicircular flight of four steps under a portico, the entablature of which is supported by four Ionic columns, and it is lighted by round-headed windows. Externally its north and south sides have Ionic pilasters at the angles, and columns of the same order flank the windows. The tower appears to have been copied from the towers of St. John's Church, Westminster,³⁰ being circular in form (with four attached Corinthian columns supporting an entablature), and incurved roof surmounted by a pineapple finial. The north and south sides of the tower between the columns are entirely open, but on the east and west are built solid and pierced with round-headed windows flanked with Corinthian pilasters, and having small circular openings above.

In the rebuilding of 1911 the west gallery and the staircase were removed and the narrow doorway between the vestibule and nave was superseded by a wide archway on coupled Doric columns. The new building is of three bays, marked externally by Ionic pilasters, and has three segmental-headed windows on each side, two of which serve the nave and one the chancel; the windows have moulded architraves and sills supported by consoles. The walls terminate with a bold dentilled cornice and balustraded parapet. The semicircle of the apse is broken externally by a rectangular projection in which is a round-headed niche, or recess, there being no east window. Internally the walls are faced with ashlar and the floor paved with marble. There is a coved plaster ceiling, and the pulpit, lectern, and altar rails are of wrought iron. The classical stone font apparently belonged to the 18th-century building.

All the mural tablets of the Heathcote family are now in the vestibule and at the west end of the nave; the oldest is that of Sir Gilbert Heathcote, 1st baronet, who died in January 1733, aged 81, 'in his character unblemished, in his extensive trade without a lawsuit.' It bears a medallion bust by Rysbrack. A vault opened in 1888³¹ was found to contain coffins of seventeen members of the Heathcote family ranging from 1710 to 1829. Wright, in 1684, records the arms of Basing in one of the windows of the church.³²

The tower contains one bell, cast by Thomas Hedderly of Nottingham in 1749.³³

The plate consists of a cup and cover paten, both

^{13a} *Cal. Inq.* i, nos. 55, 421; ii, no. 479.

¹⁴ Feet of F. Rutl. East. 25 Hen. III, no. 21.

¹⁵ *Ibid.* Trin. 21 Edw. I, no. 29.

¹⁶ *Ibid.* East. 29 Edw. I, no. 36; Mich. 29 Edw. I, no. 37.

¹⁷ *Ibid.* Trin. 3 Edw. III, no. 12.

¹⁸ Chan. Inq. p.m. 49 Edw. III (1st nos.), pt. 2, no. 3.

¹⁹ Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 9 Edw. III, no. 21.

²⁰ *Ibid.* Trin. & Mich. 17 Edw. III, no. 32.

²¹ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), xxxiv, 67.

²² *Ibid.* lx, 78; cf. above, Braunston, p. 34.

²³ A stone from this building, now in

the vestibule, is inscribed 'Built by Sir Gilbert Heathcote 1764. W^m Cantrel, Rector. Mason, Carpenter and Joiner, Jo^hn Hunt, Mat^w Fancourt.'

²⁴ *Stamford Mercury*, 10 May 1861.

²⁵ *Trans. Rutl. Arch. Soc.* 1916, p. 40.

²⁶ Laird, early in the 19th century, speaks of 'its little Gothic turret peeping out from a shrubbery' (op. cit. 121).

²⁷ 'By Mr. Cundy, of London, at the cost of Sir Gilbert Heathcote' (*Stamford Mercury*, 10 May 1861). This was probably Thomas Cundy the elder, who died in 1825, when the work was already in hand. He was succeeded by his son Thomas Cundy. (*Dict. Nat. Biog.*)

²⁸ The faculty for rebuilding is dated 27 May 1911. It was in the course of preparing the foundations for the new building that the fragments of tracery, etc., were found. The new building was designed by Mr. J. B. Gridley.

²⁹ The rectangular western portion of the chancel measures 12 ft. by 19 ft. 6 in., the depth of the apse being 8 ft.

³⁰ By Thomas Archer, built between 1714 and 1728.

³¹ The faculty for opening the vault is dated 17 November 1888.

³² Wright, *Hist. of Rutl.* 92.

³³ North, *Cb. Bells of Rutl.* 145. It is inscribed 'God be our Speed.'

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without marks, the cup inscribed 'May 30, 1620,' and a breadholder.³⁴

The registers begin in 1755. The first volume contains baptisms and burials 1755-1800, and the second marriages 1757-1800.

The advowson of Normanton has *ADVOWSON* always belonged to the lords of the manor, and the living, now held in plurality with Whitwell, is in the gift of the Earl of Ancaster. After the present rector's retirement or decease, the living will be amalgamated with that of Edith Weston, by an order in Council.

The visitations at the end of the 16th and early part of the 17th centuries show a very unsatisfactory condition of the parish. Henry Tampion, rector from 1572 to 1629, was said to be a common gamester and haunter of alehouses. He was suspended in 1590 for having had a bastard child and another clerk was licensed to the living, but on undergoing 'a 6 man

purgation' he was restored. In the following year the curate was convicted of adultery with a married woman and was suspended and ordered to do penance. The rector would not preach; he had only one communion a year, and in 1590 had not received the communion for more than twelve months; his maidservant was a lewd woman and not fit to be in his house; and he allowed the chancel to fall into decay. In 1604 it was said that he had no prayers on Sunday, but 'played at tables' with the schoolmaster of Hambleton. There was brawling in the church, and Thomas Pope was presented for being a common swearer and notorious sleeper in time of divine service. At the visitation of 1605 the windows of the church were daubed up with mortar; the communion table was in a very bad condition; the Bible was of the Geneva translation; the pulpit was unfit; and the seats were broken and out of repair.³⁵

There are no charities in this parish.

PRESTON

Preston on the Hulle (xiv cent.).

The parish of Preston, which lies about two miles north of Uppingham, contains 1,207 acres, mostly of grass land. The surface soil varies and lies on a subsoil of Inferior Oolite.

The village is situated in the middle of the parish on high land (450 ft. above Ordnance datum), which falls steeply to the north to the River Chater (about 255 ft.), forming the northern boundary of the parish, and to a stream on the south forming the southern boundary (about 330 ft.). It is built mainly along the western limb of a loop in the road from Oakham to Uppingham. The church stands to the south-west of the village and the houses about it are mostly of stone. The picturesque Old Manor House, with its outbuildings, now a farm, lies in the middle of the village. It is a large 17th-century building of two stories and attics, with slightly projecting gabled end wings, four-centred doorway and flanking bay windows carried up above the roof as stone dormers. The walling is of ironstone rubble, with ashlar dressings, and the roofs are covered with stone slates; the mullioned windows are without transoms, the larger ones of six lights. The building is of simple but impressive design, its massive character giving great dignity to the long symmetrical south front, which faces directly on to the road. Adjoining the Manor House is the Congregational church, a plain brick building erected in 1830.

The school-house is a 17th-century ironstone building of two bays, standing north and south, with coped gables, low mullioned windows and stone dormers breaking the roof on either side; the large transomed end windows are modern, and there is an extension on the west side.

The Hall, a small 17th-century building with considerable modern additions, is now the seat of

Lieut.-Gen. Sir Alfred Edward Codrington, K.C.B., K.C.V.O., D.L., J.P., and stands to the north-west of the village. A windmill was situated in the extreme west¹ but is now demolished. King John stayed here 21-22 July 1208.² Preston was the birthplace of Sir Edward Ward (1638-1714), Chief Baron of the Exchequer, who was second son of William Ward of Preston³ and was educated at Uppingham School. The nearest railway station is Manton, 1½ miles to the north. By Act of Parliament, 1773, for 1,100 acres here,⁴ an inclosure award was made for the common fields and waste grounds of the manor, parish and liberties of Preston in 1774.⁵

The king's demesne wood of Preston is mentioned in 1217,⁶ and in 1223 Henry III gave instructions that the parson of the church should have estover in the king's hay of Preston for maintaining his houses and hays as the king's demesne men of that vill had then and before the barons went to war with King John.⁷ In the 18th century an annual rent of £26 1s. 1¾d. from the manor of Preston was descending with Ridlington (q.v.) park and Beaumont Chase.⁸ In a dispute with the lord of Martinthorpe it was agreed that a river divided that manor from the manor of Preston.⁹

The manor of *PRESTON* is not *MANORS* mentioned in Domesday Book, and was probably a berewick of Ridlington (q.v.) at that date. A jury of 1274 returned this manor as demesne of William I which he gave to the Earl of Warwick as 1½ knight's fees, and the Earl gave it to Thurstan de Montfort.¹⁰

Hugh de Montfort held Preston in the early part of the reign of Henry I, and in 1130 Robert de Montfort, his son, gave a palfrey that he might hold it as his father had held.¹¹

No specific mention of the Warwick overlordship

³⁴ Hope, *Cb. Plate in Rutl.* 17: 'The date of the paten is probably 1690, and most likely replaced a former cover.' The breadholder is apparently of 18th-century date. In 1605 it was stated that the communion cup was of pewter 'very unfit and unseemly.' About 30 years previously there was a communion cup of silver which was lost by default

of Hugh Nayler, churchwarden. In 1610 it was said the communion cup was like a tavern bowl and wanted a cover (Irons' Notes, Archd. Visit.).

³⁵ Irons' Notes, Archd. Visit.

¹ For manorial mills see Uppingham.

² *Rot. Litt. Pat.* (Rec. Com.), i, 85 b.

³ *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

⁴ Slater, *Engl. Peasantry*, 298.

⁵ Com. Pleas, D. Enr. Trin. 14 Geo. III, m. 22.

⁶ *Rot. Litt. Claus.* (Rec. Com.), i, 315.

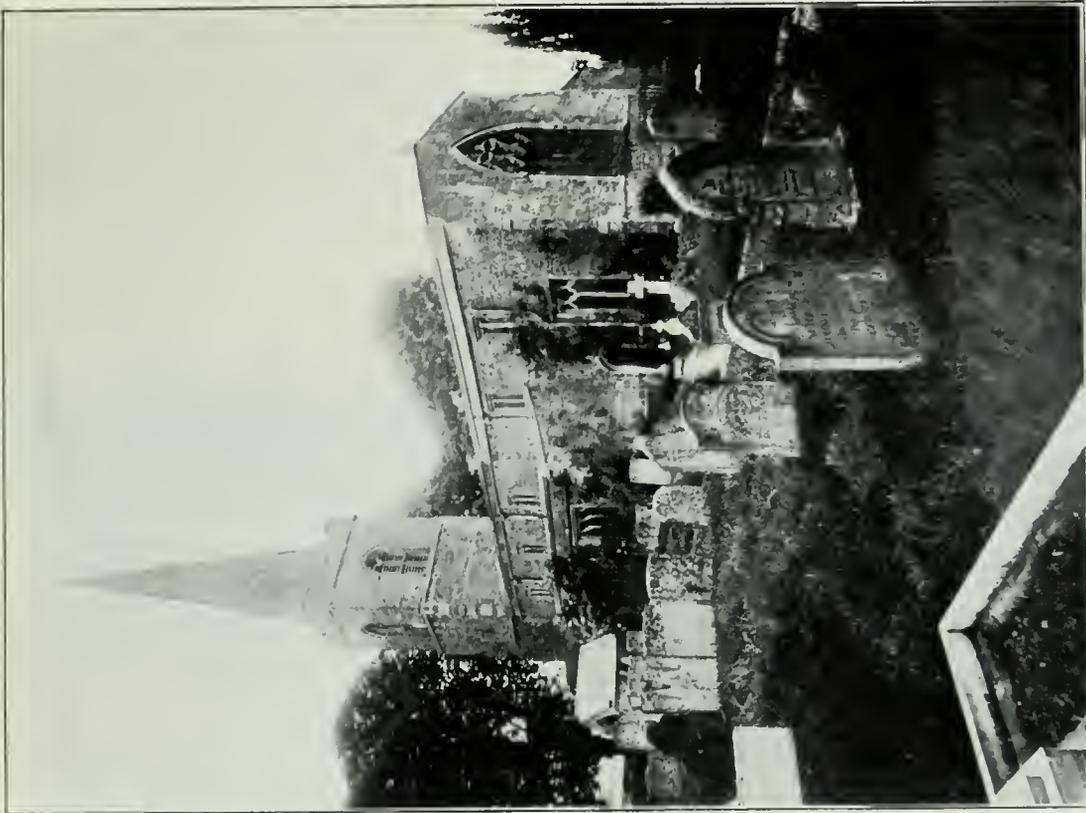
⁷ *Ibid.* 535 [no county given].

⁸ *Recov. R. Mich.* 8 Geo. I, ro. 169; *Hil.* 2 Geo. II, ro. 295.

⁹ *Exch. Dep. Mich.* 16 Chas. II, no. 8.

¹⁰ *Rot. Hund.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 49.

¹¹ *Pipe R.* 31 Hen. I (Rec. Com.), p. 134.



PRESTON CHURCH FROM THE SOUTH-EAST



PRESTON : THE OLD MANOR HOUSE



PRESTON CHURCH : THE INTERIOR, LOOKING EAST

MARTINSLEY HUNDRED

PRESTON

here has been found before 1296, but Preston would be included in the 5½ fees held by Peter de Montfort of the Earl of Warwick in 1235-6,¹² and in 1315 this manor appears as head of the group—'Preston with its members,' Uppingham, Wing, Ridlington, Glaston, Martinthorp and Lyndon—held of the Earl as 6 knights' fees by Peter de Montfort.¹³ Later it followed the descent of Uppingham (q.v.) both as to the overlordship and tenancy in demesne. In 1817 the name is given either as Preston cum Uppingham or Uppingham cum Preston.¹⁴ The manors, now united, belong to the trustees of the Earl of Gainsborough.

The soke of Preston is referred to in 1251,¹⁵ and in 1274 Peter de Montfort had gallows here as his ancestors had.¹⁶

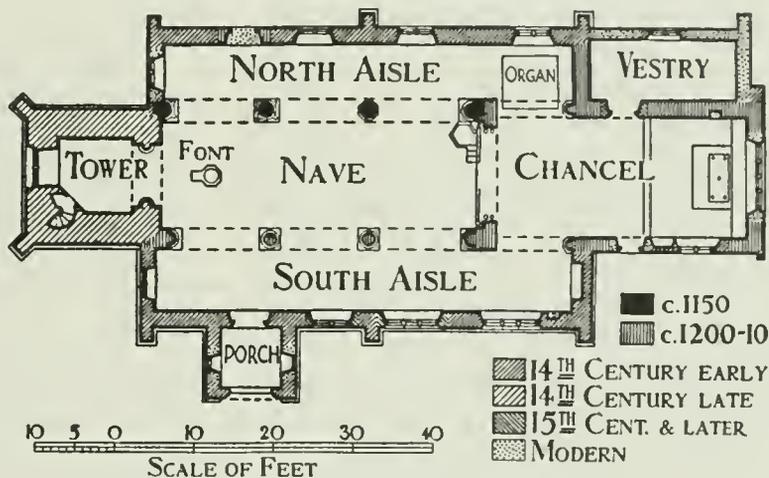
THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL

The church consists of chancel 31 ft. 6 in. by 14 ft. 8 in. with vestry on the north side, nave of three bays 39 ft. 2 in. by 14 ft., north and south aisles respectively 6 ft. 8 in. and 7 ft. 8 in. wide, south porch, and west tower 9 ft. 3 in. square, all these measurements being internal. The tower is surmounted by a lofty spire, and there are clearstories to both chancel and nave. The aisles are 52 ft. 3 in. long and cover the chancel for about a third of its length, forming north and south chapels; the north chapel is now used as an organ chamber. The width across nave and aisles is 33 ft. The vestry is modern and extends the full length of the chancel.

The church is built of coursed dressed local ironstone¹⁷ and has low-pitched leaded roofs, except to the porch, which is covered with stone slates. There are continuous plain parapets to the chancel and nave, and also to the south aisle, but the roofs of the north aisle and porch are eaved. Internally the walls have been stripped of plaster.

The earliest church on the site was probably an aisleless building, but was enlarged c. 1150 by the addition of a north aisle, the arcade of which, of three bays, still remains. The piers and responds are cylindrical and the semicircular arches are of two orders, with chamfered hood-moulds, but both arches and pillars differ in design. From the east, on the side towards the nave, the first arch has both orders plainly chamfered; in the second arch the inner order only is chamfered, the outer having an edge-roll and chevron ornament on the soffit plane; the inner order of the westernmost arch has an edge-roll on both sides, and towards the nave the outer order is enriched on both wall and soffit planes with chevron. Towards the aisle the inner order of the first arch is

chamfered, while that of the second and the outer order of all three arches is square. The east respond has a half-octagonal scalloped capital and circular moulded base on a chamfered plinth; the capital of the first pillar has a plain circular bell with octagonal abacus and circular moulded base on an octagonal plinth, while the second pillar and west respond have scalloped capitals with square abaci and circular moulded bases with claw corners, or 'spurs,' on square chamfered plinths. The arcade appears to have been begun at the west end, the west respond and pier being earlier in character and of greater diameter than the others, but the whole is probably of one build, though perhaps spread over a number of years.



PLAN OF PRESTON CHURCH

Early in the 13th century, c. 1200-10, a south aisle was added to the nave and the chancel rebuilt on its present plan, the aisles being extended eastward so as to form chapels open to the chancel at its west end by rounded arches. The south arcade is of uniform character throughout, with semicircular arches of two chamfered orders springing from cylindrical pillars and half-round responds with circular moulded capitals and bases. The arches have hood-moulds on the nave side only.

The chancel arch is sharply pointed and of two orders,¹⁸ with hood-mould on both sides, the inner order springing from coupled detached shafts on the soffit plane of the wall, with very early leaf capitals and elongated square abaci, the top mouldings of which are of unusual character; the outer order is carried on single angle shafts of similar character, all the shafts having circular moulded bases. The arch is much restored, but with what degree of fidelity is uncertain. The chancel was so much altered in the succeeding period that not very much work of 13th-century date remains. The arches opening to the former chapels are of two chamfered orders with hood-moulds, springing on the west side from moulded corbels and on the east from half-octagonal responds with moulded capitals and bases, the capitals being enriched with nail-head. The east

¹² *Bk. of Fees* (P.R.O.), p. 506.

¹³ *Cal. Inq.* v, p. 402; or 5 fees, p. 407.

¹⁴ Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 57 Geo. III.

¹⁵ *Cal. Close R.* 1247-51, p. 526.

¹⁶ *Rot. Hund.* loc. cit.

¹⁷ The north aisle has alternate courses of ironstone and freestone. From the 17th-century visitations the church appears to have been in a neglected condition: many of the windows were stopped up, the seats out of repair and

the paving decayed. The chancel particularly wanted repair (Irons' Notes, Archd. Visit.).

¹⁸ On the side towards the nave; on the east the arch is of a single chamfered order.

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wall is in the main original with an external string-course chamfered on both edges at sill level and returning for about 4 ft. along the south wall, but the insertion of a later window has disturbed the masonry in the upper part, the original walling remaining only for about 3 ft. at each end. Internally, however, the outer jambs of the 13th-century window, which apparently consisted of three lancets, remain in position with the springing of their respective rear arches, and in the north wall is a rectangular ambry. The line of the former roof remains on the east side of the chancel arch.

In the 14th century, the whole of the fabric was remodelled, the south aisle being entirely rebuilt and the north aisle in part,¹⁹ new windows inserted in the chancel, the porch and tower erected, and a clear-story added to the nave. The tower and clear-story are late in the century, but the remodelling of the chancel probably began before 1320, a new high altar having been dedicated in the time of Bishop Dalderby, whose episcopate ended in that year. Extensive restoration and alterations have obliterated a good deal of the old work, but the east window is said to be a copy of the old one and is of four cinquefoiled lights with Decorated tracery: externally the sill and the lower part of the jambs are old, and internally the jambs to the spring of the arch. Two square-headed traceried windows of two trefoiled lights were inserted in the south wall, their sills being lowered to form seats, and in the wall between was set a beautiful canopied seat with trefoiled ogee arch on shafted jambs with foliated capitals and moulded bases; the arch is under a straight-sided crocketed gable enriched with ball-flower and is flanked by crocketed pinnacles. The windows have segmental rear arches, the mouldings of which are taken down the jambs, the whole composition having apparently formed triple sedilia, but at some later period a doorway was made near the west end of the wall and the window considerably shortened.²⁰ There is no piscina.²¹ The doorway to the vestry in the north wall is of the 16th century, with moulded four-centred arch with a square frame, probably brought here from elsewhere, inserted within a former blocked opening, or window recess. The addition of the chancel clear-story by the heightening of the walls appears to have been early in the 15th century, the two windows on the south side being later in character than those to the nave; they are square-headed and of two cinquefoiled lights, but those on the north are trefoiled. In the nave the clear-story windows, three on each side, are all of two trefoiled lights. A partly blocked rood-loft doorway south of the chancel arch, at the east end of the nave wall, is probably contemporary with the clear-story.

The south aisle has a moulded plinth and three windows east of the porch, two of which are 15th-century insertions, with four-centred heads and respectively of two and three lights. The square-headed easternmost window is of the 14th century and of three trefoiled lights, and at the west end is a pointed 14th-century window of two lights. The

east wall is blank, but internally has a slightly ogee arched recess forming the reredos of the chapel altar; a string with chamfered upper and lower edge forms the sill. The trefoil-headed piscina, with fluted bowl, remains in the south wall. The sharply pointed south doorway is in the western bay of the aisle, and has a continuous chamfer without hood-mould.

In the north aisle are three square-headed 14th-century windows of two trefoiled lights, with a modern pointed window at the west end, copied from that in the south aisle, and in the western bay a plain chamfered segment-headed doorway, now blocked. At sill level there is a keel-shaped string, which is taken round the buttresses. A pointed window of two cinquefoiled lights in the north wall of the vestry is an old one re-used.

The porch is of the same build as the south aisle. It is very low, without buttresses or bench tables, and its pointed doorway is of two hollow chamfered orders. The side windows are modern. An ogee-shaped stone in the north-east angle may be the head of a former stoup recess.

The tower is of four stages with moulded plinth, diagonal angle buttresses to the top of the third stage, and battlemented parapet. There is a vice in the south-west angle. The pointed west window is of two trefoiled lights with quatrefoil in the head, and is common to the two lower stages, breaking the string. There are small openings in the third stage on the west and south, and loops to the vice. The pointed bell-chamber windows are also of two trefoiled lights with quatrefoil in the head, but have transoms at half height. There are grotesque gargoyles at the angles, but no pinnacles. The spire has short broaches and plain angles, with two tiers of crocketed gabled lights, above the upper one of which it is banded. Internally the tower opens into the nave by a lofty pointed arch of two chamfered orders, the inner springing from half-round responds with octagonal moulded capitals and bases.

The roof of the south aisle, though much restored, is in the main old, with arched struts and wall pieces on carved stone brackets. The chancel roof is of four bays with moulded principals, apparently of 17th-century date, with carved bosses.

The 13th-century font has a plain square bowl with bevelled angles, on a circular stem and four cylindrical legs.²²

The pulpit and all the fittings are modern. In 1605 the pulpit was said to be 'very undecent.' There is no chancel screen. A Caen stone reredos, extending across the east wall, was erected in 1880.

There are wall memorials to John Hill, rector (d. 1690), who by his will gave 'one silver plate to the churchwardens of the parish of Preston for collecting the offertory at the communion table,'²³ Henry Sheild (d. 1792), Jeremiah Belgrave, rector (d. 1802), and Henry Sheild, rector (d. 1811). In the churchyard is a War Memorial Cross. There was formerly a churchyard cross which in 1640 was said to be 'ruinous.'²⁴

¹⁹ The lower part of the walls was probably left standing and the upper part rebuilt from the present sill level. There is no plinth.

²⁰ When this was done is uncertain; the present doorway is modern, but

it may reproduce one formerly existing.

²¹ There has been much disturbance of masonry in the south wall, both in the 14th century and subsequently; no 13th-century features remain in situ, but some

wrought stones have been re-used, one of which, over 3 ft. long, forms part of the seat below the easternmost window.

²² It has a modern oak and brass cover.

²³ P.C.C. 116 Verc.

²⁴ Irons' Notes, Archd. Visit.

Inserted in the floor at the east end of the nave are several fragments of marble which formed part of the mosaic pavement of the ruined church of St. John the Baptist, in the stadium, at Constantinople, removed in 1923 and placed here in 1924, and in the chancel step a fragment of the pavement of the church of St. Sophia, Nicæa.²⁵ There is also a wooden alms box from one of the churches of Smyrna, probably of late 17th-century date, with ikons of the Virgin and Child, St. George of Cappadocia, and St. Nicholas, Bishop of Myra.²⁶

There are five bells, two new trebles by Taylor of Loughborough having been added in 1909 to a former ring of three. Of the old bells the first is inscribed 'Gabriel,' the second dated 1717, and the tenor inscribed 'God save our Queene Elizabeth.'²⁷

The plate consists of a pre-Reformation silver-gilt paten, c. 1500, without marks but with the Manus Dei in the centre; a cup of 1610, an almsdish of 1680, a cup and paten of 1863, and a flagon of 1864.²⁸

The registers before 1812 are as follows: (i) all entries 1560-1734; (ii) baptisms and burials 1735-1812; marriages 1735-54; (iii) marriages 1754-1812. There are churchwardens' accounts 1598-1789 and overseers' accounts 1647-1796.

Mounted in a book kept in the safe in the parish church are two sets of documents: (1) Historical papers found in the parish chest illustrative of the taxation of the parish, 1635-1660; (2) twelve Indemnity Bonds, 1630-1702.

Preston was possibly one of the *ADVOWSON* three churches of Ridlington recorded in Domesday Book, but when first specifically mentioned the advowson belonged to the undertenant of Preston manor. In 1216 Walter de Cantilupe had letters of presentation, the gift belonging to the king because the land of Thurstan de Montfort was in his hand.²⁹ The advowson descended with the manors of Preston and Uppingham (q.v.)³⁰ through the Montforts and Earls of Warwick, until the death of Richard, sixteenth Earl of Warwick (the King Maker) in 1471, when the Crown presented until the grant to Richard Branthwaite and Roger Bromley in 1588. The patronage then followed the descent of the manor through the Cecils, Fawkeners and Sheilds until Rev. Cornelius Belgrave, rector of Ridlington, married Mary daughter and coheir of William Sheild of Preston,³¹ and presented to the church in 1734.³²

He died in 1757 and his son and heir Jeremiah, rector of Preston, died in 1802 leaving sons Charles, rector of Ridlington, who died unmarried in 1804; William, of Preston Hall, who died in 1824 leaving daughters; George, of Preston Hall, rector of Cockfield, who died childless 1831. A fourth son Jeremiah, of Stamford, had died in 1819 leaving a son William who succeeded to the estates of his uncle George in 1831.³³ The patronage has passed from this date in the Belgrave family, the present patron being Mr. William Belgrave of Preston House.

Unknown Donor's Charity No. 1, or *CHARITIES* Cockayne's Charity.—The origin of this charity is unknown. The endowment consists of a rent-charge of £2 12s. per annum issuing out of land at Preston belonging to Major Henry Noel of Catmore. The income is distributed once a month by the rector in bread to 12 people in accordance with ancient custom.

Unknown Donor's Charity No. 2.—This charity originally consisted of a sum of £2 per annum paid by the overseer of the poor in respect of the poor house in Preston. This payment existed for many years, but its origin is unknown.

Unknown Donor's Charity No. 3.—In respect of this charity a yearly sum of £1 is paid out of a farm at Preston, the property of Mr. William Belgrave. This payment has been made for many years, but the origin is unknown.

The Poor's Money.—The endowment of this charity originally consisted of a sum of £40, but from what source is wholly unknown. This charity and Unknown Donor's Charity No. 2 are now represented by a sum of £97 17s. 3d. 2½ per cent. Consols producing £2 2s. 8d. yearly in dividends, which sum, together with the income derived from the Unknown Donor's Charity No. 3, is distributed in money and bread to about 65 poor persons.

Thomas Green Parker, by his will proved in the P.C.C. 29 March 1858, bequeathed to the poor a yearly donation of forty sixpenny loaves to be distributed on 21 March, the day of his birth, and directed his executor to invest sufficient money in stock to secure the payment. The endowment consists of a sum of £40 2½ per cent. Annuities producing £1 yearly in dividends, which sum is applied in accordance with the trusts.

The sums of stock are with the Official Trustees.

RIDLINGTON

Redlinctune (xi cent.); Redlinton, Ridelinton (xii-xiii cent.); Redlington (xiii-xviii cent.); Rodlinge, Reddillinton (xiii cent.); Rillyngton (xv cent.); Rodlyngton, Ruddelyngton (xvi cent.).

The area of this parish is 2,081 acres, and in 1921 its population was 158. The parish covers a portion of the high land running east and west (rising to 588 ft.)

between the valley of the river Chater on the north and that of the Eye Brook on the south, where it falls to about 300 ft. Its subsoil is Inferior Oolite and Upper Lias. The land is now chiefly pasture.

It is evident the parish was at one time part of the forest which later went by the name of Leighfield Forest. The woodland in 1086 measured 2 leagues by

²⁵ Brought from Nicæa in 1925 by Captain Codrington.

²⁶ It was looted from a Smyrna church in the autumn of 1922 and taken to Constantinople, where it was bought in 1923. It was placed in the church in March 1924.

²⁷ North, *Cb. Bells of Rutl.* 148. The tenor bears the stamp of Robert Newcombe of Leicester, c. 1586, and also a shield used by Watts.

²⁸ Hope, *Cb. Plate in Rutl.* 26, where the first two pieces are figured. The Manus Dei on the paten issues from the folds of a sleeve, with a cruciform nimbus, within a wreathed circle; the cup has grapes and leaves entwined. The three modern pieces are inscribed: 'The gift of Sophia Elizabeth Belgrave 1864.' In 1605 the communion cup was described as like a drinking bowl and in 1619 as a 'bowl or

goblet and wanteth a cover' (Irons' Notes, Archd. Visit.).

²⁹ *Rot. Litt. Pat.* (Rec. Com.), i, 183b.

³⁰ Also Inst. Bks. (P.R.O.); Wright, *Hist. of Rutl.* 107; Bacon, *Liber Regis*, 847. A conveyance was made 1761-2 (Com. Pleas D. Enr. Mich. 2 Geo. III, m. 59).

³¹ Burke, *Landed Gentry* (4th ed.).

³² Inst. Bks. (P.R.O.).

³³ Burke, loc. cit.

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

8 furlongs,¹ and in a perambulation of 1227 the jury stated that Henry I afforested all the lands he held in the county belonging to the demesne woods of the manors of Oakham and Ridlington, which he had taken into his own hands *ex voluntate sua*.² King John's demesne wood is mentioned,³ and in 1338 it was called the 'forest of Ridlington.'⁴ The royal park here is mentioned from 1238 until 1623,⁵ when it descended with Leighfield Forest. In 1253 Peter de Montfort, lord of the manor, claimed this park,⁶ for which he received land in exchange in 1264.⁷ Parkers and keepers⁸ were appointed, and in 1415 William Parker of Ridlington was granted for life the office of ranger of Rutland Forest.⁹ In the 13th century there was a prison for forest offenders.¹⁰ The King's Lodge in the park is mentioned in 1609,¹¹ and the still surviving names of Pateman's Lodge, Jubilee Lodge, Park Lodge, Rowell's Lodge and Bancroft Lodge indicate the forest area.

The village stands on high land overlooking the valleys of Catmose, Gwash and Chater. It stretches along a street running parallel to and on the north side of the by-road from Preston to Leighfield. The cottages are mostly of stone with thatched roofs. In the middle of the village is the church, and near it to the north-east is the Manor House, formerly a place of importance and the residence of Sir Edward Harington, sheriff in 1637, who directed from it the levying of ship-money.¹² Edward, Viscount Campden, took the title of Lord Noel of Ridlington in 1617.¹³ The 'placea de Halh' in 1249 belonged to the freemen of Ridlington.¹⁴ The 'hundred of Rillyngton' is mentioned in February 1445.¹⁵ Some 17th-century field-names are: Little and Great Tutshill; le Great, Middle and Little Hearne; Lescotts.¹⁶

The nearest railway station is Manton, 3½ miles to the north-east of the village.

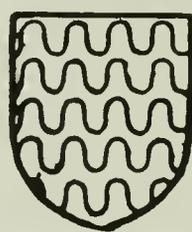
The manor of *RIDLINGTON* was *MANORS* dower of the West Saxon queens from the 10th century, and in 1066 Edith, the Confessor's widow, held 4 carucates of land here. Like Hambleton (q.v.), it was granted to Westminster Abbey and resumed by the Crown. In 1086 it was one of the three manors round which the wapentake of Martinsley was grouped, and it and its 7 berewicks were still called 'church sokeland.' William I held 4 ploughs in demesne, and there were 170 villeins, 26 bordars, 2 priests, 3 churches, 2 sites of mills; while Albert of Lorraine, a personal favourite of the Conqueror,¹⁷ had part of Hambleton (q.v.) and a bovate and a mill at Ridlington.¹⁸ The berewicks attached to it may have been Ayston, Belton, Leighfield, Preston, Uppingham, Wardley and Wing.

It seems that the manor was granted by William I to Henry de Newburgh, Earl of Warwick, and that he subinfeoffed the Montforts; for the 5 or 6 knights' fees of the Montforts in this county all belonged to the Honour of Warwick. Reference to this overlordship in Ridlington is found in 1264, 1315 and 1401.¹⁹

By 1167 Thurstan de Montfort was lord of Ridlington,²⁰ and the manor descended with the Montfort manor of Uppingham (q.v.)²¹ until the end of the 13th century. In 1305 Jacomin de St. Martin was returned as tenant of half a fee,²² but he was probably a trustee or mortgagee, as Peter, third Baron Montfort, was holding in 1315.²³ By 1316 Robert, Lord Holand, and John de Wyvill had acquired the manor.²⁴ Robert, Lord Holand of Upholland, Lancashire, was a partisan of Thomas, Earl of Lancaster, to whom the manor or its mesne lordship must have come.²⁵ The Earl was executed in 1322, and in 1326 the custody of the manor was granted to his brother and heir Henry



HOLAND. *Azure powdered with fleurs de lis and a leopard rampant argent.*



LOVEL. *Barry wavy or and gules.*

during pleasure.²⁶ In 1328 Lord Holand and Maud his wife, having made peace with Edward III, petitioned for the restoration of this manor.²⁷ Robert was murdered in the same year by the Lancastrian faction for his desertion.²⁸ He left a son Robert, aged 16, but the manor was held by his widow Maud,²⁹ who died in 1349.³⁰ Robert, second Lord Holand, made a settlement in 1333,³¹ and died in March 1373. He was succeeded by his granddaughter Maud, aged 17, Baroness Holand in her own right, who married John, Lord Lovel of Titchmarsh. She died a widow in 1423, when her grandson William, Lord Lovel, became also Lord Holand. He died in 1455,³² and the 'John Holand, kt.,' returned in 1428³³ as tenant of the Ridlington half-fee held in 1305 by Jacomin de St. Martin must have been his grandfather returned by the commissioners in error. William's son and heir John was followed in Jan. 1465 by his son and heir Francis, who fought for Richard III at Bosworth, was attainted and forfeited his honours and estates in 1485.³⁴ The manor of Ridlington was granted to

¹ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 140.

² *Rot. Litt. Claus.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 208.

³ *Ibid.* i, 315; cf. *ibid.* i, 386; ii, 80.

⁴ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1338-40, p. 120.

⁵ *Ibid.* 1232-47, p. 234; 1494-1509, p. 423; *Cal. Close R.* 1242-7, p. 10; 1288-96, p. 351; 1374-7, p. 154; *Pat. R.* 1 Edw. VI, pt. 4; *Exch. Dep. Rutl. East.* 33 Eliz. no. 3; *Exch. Spec. Com. Rutl.* no. 4326.

⁶ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1247-58, pp. 237, 242, 401.

⁷ *Ibid.* 1258-66, p. 389; *Cal. Cbart. R.* 1257-1300, p. 51.

⁸ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1354-8, p. 40; 1404-1509, pp. 428, 575; *Feet of F. Rutl. Hil.* 24 Eliz.

⁹ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1413-16, p. 382;

1422-9, p. 14.

¹⁰ *Cal. Close R.* 1279-88, p. 209.

¹¹ *Cal. S.P. Dom.* 1603-10, p. 502.

¹² *Ibid.* 1636-7, pp. 445, 478, 499, 530, 555; cf. *Exch. Spec. Com. Rutl.* no. 6417.

¹³ *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), ii, 516.

¹⁴ *Cal. Close R.* 1247-51, p. 194.

¹⁵ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1441-6, p. 329.

¹⁶ *Exch. Spec. Com. Rutl.* no. 6417.

¹⁷ See Round, *Commune of London*,

p. 28.

¹⁸ *V.C.H.* op. cit. 139-40.

¹⁹ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1258-66, p. 389;

Cal. Inq. v, no. 615 (p. 402); *Chan.*

Inq. p.m. 3 Hen. IV, no. 2.

²⁰ *Pipe R. Soc.* xi, 124.

²¹ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1247-58, p. 401.

²² *Feud. Aids*, iv, 206.

²³ *Cal. Inq.* v, no. 615 (p. 402).

²⁴ *Feud. Aids*, iv, 207.

²⁵ *Rolls of Parl.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 30 b;

Cal. Close R. 1327-30, p. 78.

²⁶ *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), vii,

395; *Cal. Fine R.* 1319-27, 429; *Abbrev.*

Rot. Orig. (Rec. Com.), i, 302.

²⁷ *Rolls of Parl.* loc. cit.

²⁸ *Complete Peerage*, op. cit. vi, 530.

²⁹ *Cal. Close R.* 1327-30, p. 348.

³⁰ *Complete Peerage*, op. cit. 531.

³¹ *Feet of F. Div. Cos.* 6 Edw. III,

no. 2.

³² *Complete Peerage*, op. cit. 531-2.

³³ *Feud. Aids*, iv, 211.

³⁴ *Complete Peerage*, op. cit. 532.

MARTINSLEY HUNDRED

RIDLINGTON

Sir Richard Edgecombe, who assisted Henry VII and also fought at Bosworth.³⁵ Before his death in 1489 the manor reverted to the Crown and was granted for life to Margaret, Countess of Richmond in 1487.³⁶ On her death in 1509 it was again in the king's hands and leased in 1516 to Robert Symmys,³⁷ son of John Symmys of Ridlington.³⁸ It was granted in 1525 to Henry, Duke of Richmond, and he apparently conveyed it to the Harington family, as Sir John Harington died seised in 1553.³⁹ From this time it descended with the manor of Exton (q.v.)⁴⁰ to Edward, Earl of Bedford, husband of Lucy, sister and co-heir of the last Lord Harington of Exton,⁴¹ who conveyed the manor in 1614 to Sir Edward Noel,⁴² afterwards Viscount Campden. From him it again descended with Exton,⁴³ and is now held by the trustees of the Earl of Gainsborough.

A second manor, now extinct, descended from the Wyvills to a younger branch of the Harington family. The John de Wyvill returned as joint lord in 1316 was apparently descended from the rebel John de Wyvill (Wayvil) of 1265 whose land in Ridlington was worth 100s.⁴⁴ A John de Wyvill appears in 1327 as farmer of the manor under the Earls of Lancaster.⁴⁵ In 1331 it was stated to have escheated to the king through the rebellion of Simon de Bereford, who held it at farm of Maud, widow of Lord Holand.⁴⁶ Next year it was leased by the king for 9 years;⁴⁷ and the next reference is in 1461, when it was in the king's hands by the forfeiture of James Butler, late Earl of Wilts.⁴⁸ At the request of his sister Anne, Edward IV then granted it⁴⁹ to her and her heirs by Henry Holand, late Duke of Exeter.⁵⁰

Further settlements were made in 1467 and 1469, by which on the death of Anne's daughter Anne the manor was to revert to the king's wife Elizabeth.⁵¹ Anne died seised in 1476, leaving an infant daughter Anne, by her second husband Thomas St. Leger;⁵² but the manor seems to have been forfeited, like much other Yorkist land, in 1485. Soon after his accession Henry VII granted the manor to his mother Margaret, Countess of Richmond, for life.⁵³ On her death in 1509 it reverted to the Crown,⁵⁴ and was granted in 1525 to Henry VIII's son Henry, Duke of Richmond,⁵⁵ who remained in possession until his

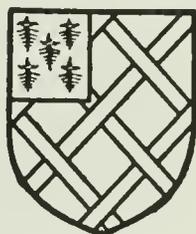
death in 1536.⁵⁶ In 1555 Christopher Smith obtained licence to alienate the manor, late parcel of the possessions of the Duke of Richmond, to Sir John Harington, kt.,⁵⁷ who seems to have been already in possession of the other manor. From this time it passed with the chief manor of Ridlington until in 1596 Sir John (afterwards Lord) Harington of Exton conveyed it to his younger brother Sir James Harington, bart. (1611), who died seised in Feb. 1614 leaving a son and heir Edward.⁵⁸ Sir Edward, who was sheriff of Rutland, died in 1653. His son and heir James, one of the Commissioners for trying Charles I, lost his estates and honours at the Restoration.⁵⁹ His Ridlington estate was granted to the Duke of York,⁶⁰ but on his death in 1680 his son Edmund Harington succeeded to the baronetcy,⁶¹ and his successors as far as the 8th baronet were called 'of Ridlington.'⁶² The family estates have long been alienated,⁶³ though the baronetage is still extant.

There was a windmill attached to this estate in 1613.⁶⁴ The house in which the second baronet lived would be the capital messuage in the tenure of Edward Wingfield in 1662.⁶⁵

Pipewell Abbey, Northants, had tenements here in the 13th century.⁶⁶

The church of *ST. MARY MAGDA-CHURCH LENE AND ST. ANDREW*⁶⁷ consists of chancel 27 ft. by 13 ft. 9 in., clear-storied nave of three bays 37 ft. 9 in. by 13 ft. 9 in., north aisle 6 ft. 6 in. wide, south aisle 9 ft. wide, south porch, and engaged west tower 5 ft. 6 in. square, all these measurements being internal. The width across nave and aisles is 33 ft. 6 in.

An extensive restoration in 1860 left little ancient work remaining save the chancel arch, nave arcades, clearstory and tower, and the history of the building is thus difficult to follow. The chancel arch and the south arcade belong to the first half of the 13th century, and the north arcade is later in the same period. The church may therefore be said to be in the main a 13th-century building, the chancel of which was enlarged or entirely rebuilt in the 14th century, the tower and clearstory being added a century later. During the restoration there was found in the south wall of the chancel a tympanum⁶⁸



NOEL. Or fretty gules with a quarter ermine.



HARINGTON of Ridlington. Sable fretty argent.

³⁵ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1485-94, p. 93; *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

³⁶ *Pat. R.* 2 Hen. VII, pt. 1.

³⁷ *Ibid.* 8 Hen. VIII, pt. 2.

³⁸ *Bloue, Hist. of Rutl.* 164.

³⁹ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), ci, 101.

⁴⁰ *Ibid.* ccxxxii, 81; ccclvi, 117;

Recov. R. Hil. 33 Eliz. ro. 76; *Mich.*

11 Jas. I, ro. 11; *Feet of F. Rutl. Mich.*

11 Jas. I.

⁴¹ *Complete Peerage*, op. cit. 322.

⁴² *Feet of F. Rutl. Mich.* 12 Jas. I.

⁴³ *Cal. S.P. Dom.* 1619-23, p. 483;

1639, p. 364; *Feet of F. Rutl. Hil.*

15 Chas. I; *Recov. R. Trin.* 1 Will. & M.

ro. 98; *Hil.* 5 Anne, ro. 14; *Trin.*

5 Geo. II, ro. 241; 35 Geo. III, ro. 154;

Hil. 57 Geo. III, ro. 161.

⁴⁴ *Cal. Inq. Misc.* i, p. 262.

⁴⁵ *Cal. Close R.* 1327-30, p. 78.

⁴⁶ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1330-4, p. 81.

⁴⁷ *Ibid.* 303.

⁴⁸ *Ibid.* 1461-7, p. 104.

⁴⁹ *Ibid.* pp. 9, 104; *Duchy of Lanc.*

Misc. Bks. 21, p. 7.

⁵⁰ Descendant of a younger branch of

the Holands of Upholland (*Complete*

Peerage, op. cit. v, 212 et seq.; vii, 150).

⁵¹ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1467-77, pp. 32, 137;

Rolls of Parl. (Rec. Com.), vi, 215 b.

⁵² *Ibid.* 216-17; *Chan. Inq. p.m.*

15 Edw. IV, no. 36.

⁵³ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1485-94, p. 155.

⁵⁴ *Exch. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), dclxxx, 9;

cf. *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, i, no. 479.

⁵⁵ *Ibid.* iv (i), 1500 n.

⁵⁶ *Ibid.* xi, no. 164 (2).

⁵⁷ *Wright, Hist. of Rutl.* 108.

⁵⁸ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), ccxxlii,

105. There is a monument to Sir James

in the church.

⁵⁹ *G.E.C. Baronetage*, i, 53.

⁶⁰ *Cal. S.P. Dom.* 1661-2, p. 408.

⁶¹ *G.E.C. op. cit.* 53-4.

⁶² *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* ix, App. 2,

p. 102 a; *Dict. Nat. Biog.* (under Andrew

Stuart).

⁶³ *G.E.C. op. cit.* 55.

⁶⁴ *Feet of F. Rutl. Mich.* 11 Jas. I.

⁶⁵ *Exch. Spec. Com. Rutl.* no. 6417;

cf. *Cal. S.P. Dom.* 1661-2, pp. 346, 408.

⁶⁶ *Maitland, Bracton's Note Bk.* no.

665; *Cal. Chart. R.* 1226-57, p. 205;

Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 29 Hen. III.

⁶⁷ It is suggested the dedication is not

to St. Andrew the Apostle, but St.

Wandregisil, called by the French Wand-

drille or Wandre, hence Andrew (*Trans.*

Rutl. Arch. Soc. 1917, p. 60).

⁶⁸ It was used as a lintel of the chancel

doorway, the jambs of which were of

brick (*Leic. and Rutl. N. and Q.* ii, 83;

Rutl. Mag. ii, 100).

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

from a doorway of the earlier 12th-century building, and this is now inside the church over the doorway of the vestry at the west end of the south aisle. The tympanum has a border of guilloche ornament and is rudely sculptured with a lion and griffin in combat, and below them a small eight-spoked wheel within a circle. Above the lion are the letters 'IO.'⁶⁹

The restoration of 1860 included the rebuilding of the chancel and aisles, and the erection of new roofs throughout.⁷⁰ In 1887 a new porch⁷¹ was erected, and in 1903 the upper part of the tower was rebuilt.

The building is faced with local ironstone, which in the chancel and south aisle is interspersed with freestone bands, and all the windows are modern. The roofs are eaved and covered with stone slates. Internally the walls are plastered.

The chancel is of two bays and has a pointed east window of five lights, which reproduces in some measure the former 14th-century window, but not with entire accuracy,⁷² the outer lights, which are much lower than the others, having originally been without tracery. The window has a transom at the height of the springing of the arch, and the three middle lights are trefoiled. The lateral windows, one on the north and two on the south side, have no relation to the windows of the old chancel; like those elsewhere in the church, they are in the style of the 14th century, those in the eastern bay being single lights.⁷³ No ancient ritual arrangements have been preserved. The 13th-century chancel arch is of two orders, the outer order square, the inner chamfered, springing from large half-round responds with moulded octagonal capitals, and circular bases on octagonal plinths. The rood-loft doorway and the upper part of the stair remain on the north side in a short length of wall at the east end of the arcade.

The south arcade is contemporary with the chancel arch and similar in character, consisting of three pointed arches of two orders on cylindrical pillars and half-round responds. In the north arcade the arches are of two chamfered orders on octagonal pillars and responds, with moulded capitals and plain bell-shaped bases.⁷⁴ At the east end of the north aisle, on the north side of the respond wall, is a small trefoil-headed recess, with flat modern sill, which was apparently the piscina of the aisle altar.⁷⁵ The south

doorway⁷⁶ is modern, and the square-headed two-light clearstory windows are very much restored, or inexact copies of the old ones.⁷⁷

The tower stands almost completely within the nave, its west wall alone being in front of the west end of the aisles. It is of three stages, with chamfered plinth and a large four-stage buttress to about half height in the middle of the west wall. The middle stage is very short and the upper stage is slightly recessed, its angles forming broad pilasters, with a band of quatrefoil and other ornament below the plain parapet. The pointed bell-chamber windows are of two trefoiled lights with elongated quatrefoil in the head. A tablet on the west side records the rebuilding of the upper stage in 1903. There is no vice. A bell-ringers' doorway pierced through the west wall is now blocked. Internally the tower opens into the nave by a pointed arch of two chamfered orders dying into the wall, and above the arch the east wall of the tower appears to embody a large portion of the old west wall of the church and contains openings which were originally parts of windows, whose masonry seems to have been adapted to the tower with some freedom.⁷⁸

The font is modern, replacing one which was described in 1860 as 'so much mutilated as to be useless.'⁷⁹ The new font has a bowl of triangular shape, with curved sides, supported on marble shafts with moulded capitals and bases.

There was formerly a painting of St. Christopher on the nave wall.⁸⁰

The pulpit and all the fittings are modern.

On the north wall of the chancel is a small alabaster monument with entablature and kneeling figures of Sir James Harington, bt. (d. Feb. 1613-14), and Frances his first wife (d. 1599), daughter and co-heiress of Robert Sapcote of Elton, Hunts.⁸¹ There are also memorials to Edward Chesilden (d. 1688) and other members of the Chesilden family (1725-1815), and to eight men of the parish who fell in the War of 1914-19.

A case containing a bassoon, fiddle, two oboes and a flute, which were in use till 1860, was placed at the west end of the church in 1923. The royal arms of Queen Victoria are in the vestry.

There are four bells, a treble by Taylor of Loughborough having been added in 1911 to a former ring

⁶⁹ Perhaps part of the name John, a possible reference to the carver; but the meaning of the whole is obscure. The tympanum is figured in Keyser's *Norm. Tympana*, 2nd ed. fig. 47 and p. 45. See also *Arch.* xlvii, 194; *The Antiquary*, xi, 117; *Rutl. Mag.* ii, 129, 136. Outside on this wall was an ancient rudely executed carving, a drawing of which is given in *Gent. Mag.* Mar. 1796, pl. II, fig. 6, p. 185.

⁷⁰ The restoration was carried out under the direction of Mr. Henry Parsons, architect, London. The old chancel was found to be unsafe, the walls having large rents and fissures. The north wall of the north aisle was more than a foot out of plumb and bulged in every direction, and the south aisle was nearly as bad. The roof of the chancel was comparatively modern and cut across the east window, and the nave had a flat ceiling, and gallery at the west end. Everything was covered with whitewash half an inch thick. In rebuilding the aisle

walls they were reduced in height and the pitch of the nave roof was altered. The pillars of the nave arcades were underpinned. The church was reopened 5 July 1861 (*Leic. and Rutl. N. and Q.* ii, 87; *Rutl. Mag.* ii, 101, 130).

⁷¹ The former porch is said to have been built 'probably towards the latter end of the reign of George II.' It was described as 'very unsightly' (*Leic. and Rutl. N. and Q.* ii, 88; *Rutl. Mag.* ii, 101).

⁷² *Rutl. Mag.* ii, 130.

⁷³ In the old chancel there were two 14th-century windows in the north wall, one pointed and one square-headed, and in the south wall a window of much later date of very rude workmanship (*Leic. and Rutl. N. and Q.* loc. cit.; *Rutl. Mag.* ii, 101).

⁷⁴ The bases possibly date from the restoration.

⁷⁵ It is, however, only 6 in. wide and 12 in. high. The sill is 3 ft. 10 in. above the floor.

⁷⁶ The old south doorway was 'Perpendicular of very poor design.' The windows of the old north aisle were 'common wooden cottage windows,' and those of the south aisle 'common square-headed windows of a later date, rudely executed and repaired with wood' (*Leic. and Rutl. N. and Q.* loc. cit.; *Rutl. Mag.* loc. cit.).

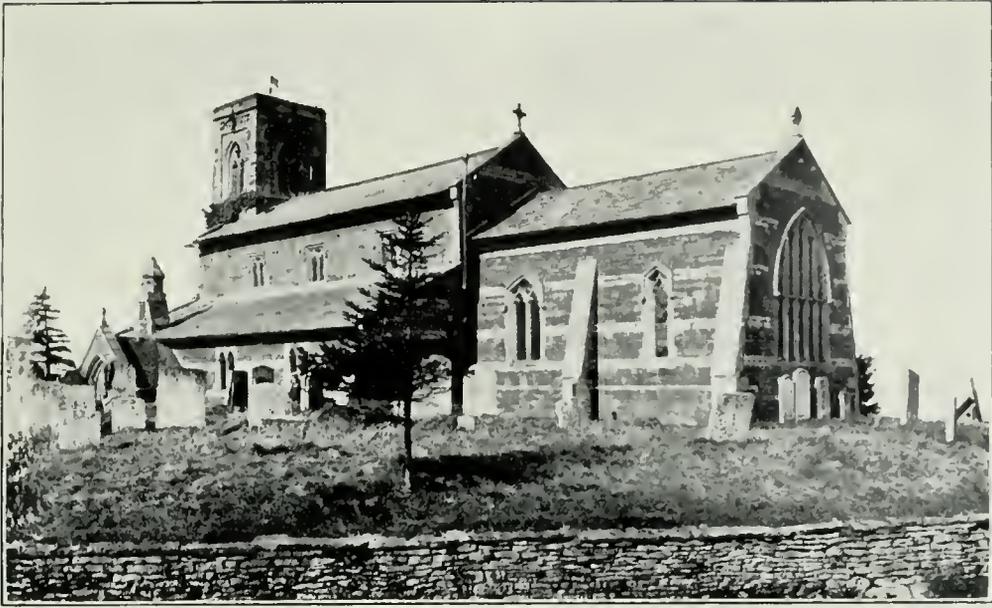
⁷⁷ *Ibid.* 130.

⁷⁸ Prof. A. Hamilton Thompson in *Trans. Rutl. Arch. Soc.* 1917, p. 61. The original design is not very clear. Some of the openings were blocked before 1860. Before the erection of the tower there may have been a west bell-cote.

⁷⁹ *Stamford Mercury*, 29 June 1860.

⁸⁰ *Rutl. Mag.* loc. cit.

⁸¹ The inscription is given in Wright, *Hist. of Rutl.* 110. He was youngest son of Sir James Harington of Exton. The issue of this marriage was nine sons and seven daughters. The monument is figured in *Rutl. Mag.* ii, 132.



RIDLINGTON CHURCH FROM THE SOUTH-EAST



RIDLINGTON CHURCH: NORMAN TYMPANUM

of three, which had been recast by the same founders in 1903.⁸²

The plate consists of a cup and cover paten of 1571;⁸³ a paten and flagon of 1709-10 given by Richard Watts; and a fluted paten or small almsdish of 1637-8, originally having two handles, but one is now missing.⁸⁴

The registers before 1812 are as follows: (i) baptisms 1581-1713, marriages 1561-1713, burials 1560-1713; (ii) baptisms and burials 1714-1812, marriages 1714-54; (iii) marriages 1756-1812.

The first mention found of the *ADVOWSON* church after the Domesday Survey is in the opening of the 13th century, when William de Cantelupe presented, as guardian of the heir of Thurstan de Montfort.⁸⁵ The advowson then descended with the manor to about 1316, when the manor was acquired by Lord Holand, and the advowson passed to the Earls of Warwick until the attainder of George, Duke of Clarence and Earl of Warwick, in 1477. The Crown were patrons apparently until the manor and advowson were granted to Sir James Harington. The advowson then followed the descent of the manor, and the Earl of Gainsborough is now patron.⁸⁶

The portion of Ridlington was appurtenant to the church of Uppingham in 1296,⁸⁷ and the church is referred to as a chapel of Uppingham in 1366.⁸⁸ The living is now a discharged rectory.

John Symmys⁸⁹ of Ridlington, in his will in 1517, desired to be buried before the altar of St. Nicholas in Ridlington church.⁹⁰

The parish and church, like others in the county, were not in a satisfactory state in the 17th century. Thomas Gibson, the rector, was deprived in 1604 for nonconformity; he refused to conduct the services in accordance with the Prayer Book and seldom wore a surplice. In 1605 the windows in the chancel were daubed up with mortar and stone. In 1618 the clock and chimes were out of repair and would not go. In 1619 a yew and ivy growing at the east end of the chancel 'doth annoy the same very much.' In 1634 Margaret Vines received the Communion

with her glove on. In 1640 the stairs that go up into the loft 'are very undecent' and the paten 'is thin and of an undecente fashion.' In 1681 the churchwardens were ordered to repair the service and other books, amend the dial in the churchyard and provide 'a new carpet' for the communion table.⁹¹

Richard Watts, by his will proved *CHARITIES* at London on 18 March 1707, as appears from an entry in the parish register book, gave a sum of £50 for plate and utensils for administration of the sacrament in the parish church. From a further entry in the same book it appears that the legacy was invested in the purchase of £53 10s. 3 per cent. reduced annuities and the dividends distributed among the industrious poor of the parish in small sums. The endowment, owing to accumulations, now consists of a sum of £92 18s. 5d. 2½ per cent. Consols, producing in dividends £2 6s. 4d. per annum. The income is distributed by the rector and churchwardens among twelve poor people.

Edward Chesilden's Charity.—A rent-charge of £2 12s. per annum, in respect of 11 acres of land at South Croxton, is stated in a memorandum in the parish book of accounts dated February 1802 to have been left by Edward Chesilden. The endowment now consists of a sum of £87 2½ per cent. Consols, producing in dividends £2 3s. 4d. per annum. The income is distributed by the rector and churchwardens among four poor women in accordance with ancient custom.

Needham Chesilden, by his will dated 9 April 1818, gave a sum of £130 to the minister and churchwardens to be invested, the dividends to be expended in purchasing twelve twopenny loaves to be disposed of every week to twelve poor children. The endowment now consists of a sum of £130 2½ per cent. Consols, producing in dividends £3 5s. per annum, which is distributed by the trustees in accordance with the trusts, but only for a period of 33 to 34 weeks in the year.

The several sums of stock are with the Official Trustees.

UPPINGHAM

Oppingeham (xii cent.); Uppyngham (xiv, xv cent.).

The parish of Uppingham contains 1,463 acres of land, lying for the most part on a tableland. The greater part of the parish was inclosed under an Act of Parliament of 1770,¹ but further inclosures were made under an Act of 1799, when Beaumont Chase, formerly extra-parochial, was formed into a parish and part of its land was annexed to Uppingham.² The

common, called Uppingham Brand, where horse-races were held till 1783,³ was inclosed at the same time. In 1885 a detached portion of Uppingham, called Preston Leys, was joined to Beaumont Chase. The parish is almost entirely pastoral, only a small part being arable land. Formerly there were brickworks to the south-east of the town, and the Uppingham trencher manufacture is said to have been carried on in the town,⁴ but more probably the utensils were

⁸² Of the former ring the first was a late mediæval bell with the recurrent letter S alternating with a cross and mark attributed to Richard Mellor of Nottingham (1488-1508) and used by his son. The second was by Thomas Norris of Stamford, 1671, and the third, undated, by Watts of Leicester (1600-43) (North, *Cb. Bells of Rutl.* 149, where the inscriptions are given). The old inscriptions were reproduced on the recast bells and new inscriptions added.

⁸³ They are kept in the original case of tooled leather.

⁸⁴ Hope, *Cb. Plate in Rutl.* 27. The 1709-10 pieces are inscribed 'The gift of Richard Watts, merchant deceased to ye Parish of Ridlington Com. Rutland to which his Father James Watts, clerk, was formerly Rector.' The fluted paten, or almsdish, is similar to one at Belton. See also below, under Charities

⁸⁵ *Rot. Hug. de Welles* (Cant. and York Soc.), i, 27, 112.

⁸⁶ See manorial refs. and *Cal. Pat. R.* 1258-66, p. 440; 1476-85, p. 296; 1485-94, p. 303; 1548-49, p. 374; 1549-

1551, p. 56; Inst. Bks. (P.R.O.); Bacon *Lib. Reg.* 847.

⁸⁷ *Pope Nich. Tax.* (Rec. Com.), 66.

⁸⁸ Epis. Reg. Mem. of Bp. Buckingham, pt. 1.

⁸⁹ See above.

⁹⁰ *Linc. Dioc. Doc.* (E.E.T.S.), 266.

⁹¹ Irons' Notes, Archd. Visit.

¹ Priv. Act of Parl. 10 Geo. III, cap. 24.

² *Ibid.* 39 Geo. III, cap. 89.

³ *Ibid.*; Will. White, *Gazetteer of Leics. and Rutl.* 1846.

⁴ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 233.

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

made in the neighbouring woodlands and sold in Uppingham market.

The High Street of Uppingham, which is the main street, runs east and west from the north side of the Market Place, which is in the centre of the town. Roughly parallel to the High Street are North Street and South Street. On the south side of the Market Place is the church, on the north side the 'Falcon,' once an inn, now rebuilt as an hotel. In early times there was a town hall in the Market Place, which in 1587 was 'in very greate Ruyn and decaie.'⁵

Uppingham School buildings occupy the greater part of the south-west portion of the town. The modern school buildings were designed by G. E. Street, R.A., Sir Thomas Jackson, and Messrs. Newton. The chapel is in the Geometrical Decorated Style; adjoining it to the west is the schoolroom, both built in the time of Edward Thring. This schoolroom is now used as a museum. To the east of the chapel is the old school-house, of which the south portion is now the school library. The north-west bay, which was built about 1590, formed part of the Hospital of Christ in Uppingham. North of the old school-house is the memorial hall built in memory of those who died in the Great War; adjoining the hall to the west is a block of new classrooms. These buildings together form an irregular quadrangle with a grass plot in the centre. On the west side of the museum the school-house, built some forty years ago, with another block of classrooms forms a second and smaller quadrangle. The school gymnasium is on the north side of the road to Stockerston: beyond it are the school bath and the sanatorium. The school numbers a little short of 500 boys, and there are thirteen school boarding houses.

Of the old schoolroom, which stands to the south-east of the church, something has already been said,⁶ and its general resemblance to that at Oakham pointed out. The two buildings, however, are not identical in character, the doorway at Uppingham being still at the west end with a large fanlight window over it, and above the window, in bold lettering, inscriptions in Hebrew, Greek and Latin, the Latin being *MEMENTO CREATORIS TVI IN DIEBUS IVENTVTIS TVÆ*. Other inscriptions, on the tablet over the doorway and on a panel above the eaves on the south side of the building, are now illegible or removed. There are additions on the north side, but the south elevation remains unaltered, with four square-headed transomed windows, and there is a bell-cote over the west gable. The stone⁷ inscribed 'A° 1584' is in the east gable. The building is now used as a studio.

The Hall, now leased to Uppingham School and used as a school boarding house, is situated near the east end of the town and stands well back from the south side of the High Street. It is a large two-story stone building erected early in the 17th century, with projecting gabled end wings facing north, on one of which is the date 1612. The house, however, was extensively remodelled in the 18th century, the long unbroken south front being entirely of that period, as well as most of the windows elsewhere. On the north side an addition was made between the wings and a porch built, but the east end of the house is little

altered and retains several mullioned windows and a tall stone dormer. Several of the rooms have good 17th and 18th century panelling.

The so-called 'Tudor House,' on the north side of the western portion of the High Street, is a building of wrought ironstone, perhaps dating from the end of the 16th or early years of the 17th century, consisting of two principal stories and attics, with stone-slatted roof. It has a four-centred moulded doorway, mullioned windows of three lights, and three gabled stone dormer windows, but has been much restored and modernised. Near to it and approximately of the same age, but standing well back from the street, is the Manor House, a long, low two-story building of ironstone rubble, with wind-break chimneys, stone-slatted roof and porch with four-centred doorway; the windows are all modern and of wood. At the end of the garden, fronting North Street, is a large 17th-century barn of wrought stone, now used as a garage. On another house, behind the south side of High Street, is a panel inscribed 'w.w.1729.'

A few other old stone houses remain in the town, but none with any outstanding architectural features. On the north side of the High Street are several undated 17th-century buildings, one a two-story house with mullioned bay windows and a good round-headed moulded doorway under a square label opening to a side passage. A two-story gabled house with mullioned windows at the east end of the south side of the same street is dated 1616, and on the same side is a well-designed house, now converted into a shop, with a rain-water head dated 1734.

The cattle market was held on Beast Hill, on the east side of the churchyard. Opposite Beast Hill is Hog Hill, where the pig market was held. The beasts were driven to their market by Horn Lane, now known as Queen Street or Station Road. The last house on the east at the south end of Horn Lane, rebuilt in 1895, is called 'Cromwell House'; in the house which formerly stood on the site tradition has it that Cromwell lay for a night. On the other side of Horn Lane is Thimble Row, and a yard near by was once known as Bodkin Square.⁸

The old town Pound, or Pinfold, still exists between the churchyard and Beast Hill, inclosed by walls of local building stone. Twenty years ago one or two old inhabitants could remember the stocks near the Pinfold.⁹

There is a station to the south-east of the town which is the terminus of a branch line from Seaton Junction on the London Midland and Scottish and the London North Eastern Joint Railway, opened in 1894. The Manton and Uppingham station on the London Midland and Scottish Railway is 3 miles from Uppingham. Castle Hill, on the borders of Beaumont Chase parish, is an artificial mount, with remains of fortifications, commanding the surrounding neighbourhood.¹⁰ There is a tumulus $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles to the north-west of Uppingham,¹¹ and various coins of the Romano-British period have been dug up in the parish.¹²

The manor of *UPPINGHAM* is *MANORS* not mentioned in Domesday Book (1086), but it may be identified with one of the 7 berewicks dependent at that date on

⁵ Exch. Dep. by Comm. 27 & 28 Eliz. Mich. no. 19.

^{6a} The history of the school is given in *V.C.H. Rutland* i, 261-9, 281-97.

⁷ *V.C.H.* op. cit. 281.

⁸ *Ibid.*

⁹ Alice M. Bell in *Ruil. Mag.* v, 47, published in 1912.

¹⁰ *Ibid.* 49.

¹¹ *V.C.H.* op. cit. 112.

¹² *Ibid.* 119.

¹³ *Ibid.* 93.



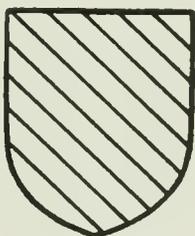
UPPINGHAM : THE OLD SCHOOLROOM



UPPINGHAM : THE MARKET PLACE

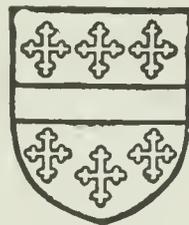
the manor of Ridlington, which was in the king's hands.¹³ Subsequently the manors of Preston and Uppingham were held by the same tenants,¹⁴ and Uppingham was presumably granted at the same time as Preston by William the Conqueror to Henry de Newburgh,¹⁵ Earl of Warwick. The two manors were held as 1½ knight's fees of the Honour of Warwick until 1367, when they reverted to the overlord, Thomas Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick,¹⁶ whose successors held them in demesne.

Henry de Newburgh, Earl of Warwick, is said to have enfeoffed the Montforts of some of his Rutland manors at an early date. Hugh, son of Hugh de Montfort the companion of the Conqueror, had two sons, Robert and Hugh, who both died without issue, and a daughter, Alice or Emma, who married Gilbert de Gant. Hugh, a younger son of Gilbert and Alice, took his mother's name of Montfort and apparently inherited her lands in Rutland. He fell into disgrace by joining Amaury de Montfort in his rising against Henry I in Normandy in 1124,¹⁷ but in 1130 his son Robert de Montfort redeemed his father's lands in Preston in Rutland,¹⁸ which probably then included Uppingham. Robert died about 1165, and in 1166 his brother and successor Thurstan owed the Crown 50 marks under Rutland, probably for relief, by the pledge of Geoffrey de Newburgh, possibly a relative of his overlord, which debt was pardoned in 1169.¹⁹ Thurstan seems to have held Uppingham and Ridlington in 1167,²⁰ and was apparently dead before 1177, when Robert his son was holding Uppingham.²¹ Robert was succeeded by his brother Henry²² before 1190. Henry's son Thurstan (living in 1208²³) was father of Peter de Montfort, a minor in 1216 and in the custody of William de Cantilupe.²⁴ He was of age in 1228, and was then and in 1251 engaged in litigation as to his lands in Uppingham and elsewhere.²⁵ In 1255 inquiry was ordered to be made whether Thurstan de Montfort, great-grandfather of Peter, was seised of certain woods—namely, the park of Ridlington and woodland in Uppingham under Beaumont.²⁶ Peter was eventually granted £55 a year in lieu of the woods of which his ancestors had been dis-



MONTFORT. *Bendy of ten pieces or and azure.*

seised.²⁷ He took an active part in the Barons' wars and was killed at the battle of Evesham in 1265²⁸ and his lands were forfeited. His son Peter de Montfort was, however, pardoned, and in 1286 he granted Uppingham to his son and heir John on his marriage with Alice, daughter of William de la Planche.²⁹ Peter died in 1287, and his son John was summoned to parliament as a baron in 1295 and died in 1296.³⁰ John, second Baron Montfort, was implicated in the murder of Piers Gaveston in 1312, but was pardoned in 1313.³¹ He was killed at the battle of Stryvelin in 1314, and was succeeded by his brother Peter. This Peter was a priest, but on succeeding to the barony he repudiated his orders and married. His son Guy de Montfort married Margaret Beauchamp, the daughter of his overlord, the Earl of Warwick. In 1349, with the consent of Peter de Montfort, who became the tenant for life, the reversion of the manor of Uppingham was settled on Guy and Margaret and the heirs of their bodies, with remainder to Thomas, Earl of Warwick. Peter lived till 1367, but Guy predeceased him, leaving no children to succeed, and the manor passed to the Earl, who held it in demesne.³² His successor, another Thomas de Beauchamp, forfeited his lands in 1397, and Richard II granted Uppingham to Thomas, the Earl Marshal and Earl of Nottingham.³³ Beauchamp was restored on the accession of Henry IV and died seised of Uppingham in 1401.³⁴ The manor followed the vicissitudes of the Earldom of Warwick, until it was finally surrendered in 1488 by Anne, Countess of Warwick, to Henry VII.³⁵ It remained in the Crown,³⁶ although at times let on lease,³⁷ until 1550, when Edward VI granted it to Princess Elizabeth.³⁸ In 1588 she granted it to Richard Brantthwaite and Roger Bromley to hold as a twentieth part of a knight's fee of the manor of East Greenwich, and in the same year these grantees obtained licence to alienate it to William Cecil, Lord Burghley.³⁹ It passed in 1598 to his eldest son Thomas, Earl of Exeter,⁴⁰ and in 1622 to William, the second Earl.⁴¹ The latter gave it to his daughter Anne on her marriage to Henry, Earl of Stamford.⁴² They sold it, probably in 1658, to Edward Fawkener,⁴³ who had



BEAUCHAMP. *Gules a fesse between six crosses or.*

¹³ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 140.

¹⁴ *Cal. Inq. Misc.* i, no. 856; *Cal. Inq.* v, no. 615; Feet of F. Div. Cos. Mich. 6 Edw. IV, no. 41. After the manors were surrendered to Henry VII in 1488, they seem to have been treated as one manor, generally called Preston-cum-Uppingham (Min. Accts. (Gen. Ser.), ptf. 14, no. 14).

¹⁵ *Rot. Hund.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 49; Dugdale, *Warwickshire*, ii, 798.

¹⁶ *Rot. Hund.* loc. cit.; *Pipe R. Soc.* xxvi, 106; *Bk. of Fees*, i, 506; *Cal. Inq.* iii, no. 364; v, no. 615; *Feud. Aids*, vi, 386; Feet of F. Div. Cos. East. 23 Edw. III, no. 435; G.E.C. *Complete Peerage*, v, 349; viii, 57.

¹⁷ The above account of the Montforts is taken from Dugdale, *Baronage*, i, 407.

¹⁸ *Pipe R.* 1130 (Rec. Com.), p. 134.

¹⁹ *Pipe R. Soc.* ix, 65; xi, 124; xiii, 67.

²⁰ *Ibid.* xi, 124, 125.

²¹ *Ibid.* xxvi, 104; xxvii, 81; xxviii, 113.

²² Dugdale, loc. cit.

²³ *Curia Reg. R.* v, 305.

²⁴ Close R. 18 John, m. 6.

²⁵ *Cal. Close R.* 1227-31, p. 109; 1247-51, p. 526; 1253-5, p. 307; *Cal. Pat. R.* 1247-58, p. 242.

²⁶ *Ibid.* p. 401.

²⁷ Close R. 52 Hen. III, m. 8.

²⁸ *Cal. Inq. Misc.* i, no. 856.

²⁹ Feet of F. Div. Cos. Hil. 14 Edw. I, no. 163.

³⁰ G.E.C. *Complete Peerage*, v, 349; *Cal. Inq.* iii, no. 364.

³¹ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1313-17, p. 23.

³² G.E.C. loc. cit.; Chan. Misc. bdl. 2, file 39, m. 11; Feet of F. Div. Cos. case 287, file 43; case 288, file 46.

³³ *Cal. Close R.* 1396-99, p. 123; *Cal. Pat. R.* 1396-99, p. 220.

³⁴ Close R. 1 Hen. IV, pt. i, m. 18; Chan. Inq. p.m. 2 Hen. IV, nn. 58, m. 10.

³⁵ Chan. Inq. p.m. 8 Hen. IV, no. 68; 17 Hen. VI, no. 54; 24 Hen. VI, no. 43; *Feud. Aids*, iv, 212; *Cal. Pat. R.* 1446-52, p. 37; Feet of F. Div. Cos. case 294, file 74, no. 41; case 294, file 79.

³⁶ *Cal. Inq. Hen. VIII*, ii, no. 206; *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, i, no. 132 (49).

³⁷ *Rent. & Surv.* (P.R.O.), ptf. 14, no. 14; *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, ii, no. 3552.

³⁸ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1549-51, pp. 240-41; 1550-53, pp. 90, 92.

³⁹ *Pat. R.* 30 Eliz. pts. 6, 16.

⁴⁰ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), cldvii, no. 91.

⁴¹ *Complete Peerage* (new ed.), v, 217, 218; Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 2 Chas. I.

⁴² Wright, *Hist. and Antiq. Rutl.* (1684-1687), p. 131; Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 2 Chas. I; Hil. 1656.

⁴³ *Recov. R. Trin.* 1657, ro. 21; Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 1658; East. 4 Jas. II; Wright, loc. cit.; Blore's Notes to Wright (B.M. c. 59, h. 14). At the visitation of Rutland in 1638 William Fawkener of Uppingham claimed, but failed to prove, descent from Sir Thomas Falconer, mayor of London in 1414, who bore arms *paly argent and table a bend vert with three trefoils or thereon* (Coll. Arm. MS. c. 29).

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

inherited the manor of Scarlies in Uppingham (q.v.) a few years previously. He appears to have vested his property in feoffees and died in 1691,⁴⁴ leaving a wife Dorcas.⁴⁵ He was succeeded by his son, Edward Fawkener⁴⁶ of the Middle Temple, barrister, who lived in London and was buried at St. Dunstan's-in-the-West, Fleet Street, on 4 Dec. 1694. His wife Susanna and his only son Henry, born in 1689, survived him. Probate of his will was granted to his widow.⁴⁷ In 1695 she held a court of his manor, but from 1696 to 1708 her son Henry Fawkener appears as lord of the manor.⁴⁸ He apparently died unmarried, or at any rate without children, for he was succeeded by his father's four sisters—Mary, wife of William Standish, Rector of Uppingham; Sarah Merriman, widow; Dorcas, wife of William Fancourt; and Susanna Wych, widow.⁴⁹ They or their heirs held the manor jointly until 1722, when John Merriman, the son of the eldest sister Sarah, and James Humberston, probably a feoffee or mortgagee, held a court,⁵⁰ as in the same year Merriman's name appears alone. John Merriman died in 1727.⁵¹ From 1729 to 1737 Thomas Ridlington held the manor, again probably as feoffee.⁵² In 1747 a court was held by Thomas Bradgate,⁵³ son of William Bradgate and Dorcas his wife, which Dorcas was heir of John Merriman.⁵⁴ Thomas Bradgate sold the manor in 1747 to the Earl of Gainsborough,⁵⁵ and the trustees of the present Earl are the present owners.

Courts with view of frankpledge were held by succeeding lords of the manor during the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries.⁵⁶

The manor of *SCARLIES*, *SKARLEYS* or *CHESIL-DENE* in Uppingham was held of the manor of Preston by fealty, suit of court and a yearly rent of 3s. 4d.⁵⁷ This so-called manor probably took its name from the family of Scarle, and was acquired by the family of Chesilden of Alexton (co. Leic.) by the marriage of John Chesilden with Elizabeth, daughter and co-heir of — Scarle, about the middle of the 15th century. John, great-grandson of this John, left a son and heir, Edward Chesilden, who married Bridget, daughter and heir of William Montgomery and Elizabeth (Aynesworth).⁵⁸ The manor was settled in 1515 on Edward and Bridget with remainders to Eusebius, William and Elizabeth, brothers and sister of Edward.⁵⁹ In 1540 Edward granted the manor to his son George, who was seised of it at the time of his father's death in 1549.⁶⁰ Kenelm (d. 1596), son of George, left a son Edward (d. 1642), who married Bridget, daughter

of Anthony Fawkener (Falkoner, ffawkener) of Uppingham.⁶¹ The manor was sold in 1623 by Edward Chesilden and Bridget to Bridget's kinsman Everard Fawkener,⁶² who was son of Kenelm Fawkener of Stoke Dry by his second wife, and half-brother of Bridget's father.⁶³ Everard served as sheriff of Rutland in 1628.⁶⁴ In 1650 he settled the manor on himself for life, with reversion to his great-nephew, Edward Fawkener.⁶⁵ Everard died in 1653.⁶⁶ His successor had obtained the chief manor of Uppingham (q.v.) before 1658, and from that time Scarlies Manor followed the descent of Uppingham.⁶⁷ It is mentioned in a fine relating to the manors in 1817,⁶⁸ but seems in practice to have disappeared as a separate estate before 1770, since it is not mentioned among the Uppingham manors at the time of the inclosure of the common fields.⁶⁹

The *RECTORIAL MANOR* appears early in the 14th century, when the rector held manorial rights including view of frankpledge over his tenants.⁷⁰ The earliest record of the manor is the Roll of the Court held at Uppingham on 6 May 1574. At that time John Barton of Stockerston (co. Leics.) was 'farmer.'⁷¹ In 1634 the property of his manor consisted of the parsonage house, 67½ acres of land in the fields and precincts of Uppingham, some twenty houses and cottages, a wind-mill, a horse-mill, a close of 1 acre at Wing,⁷² and some land called Wilkershaw near Beaumont Chase.⁷³ Wilkershaw is, no doubt, identical with Walgareshagh, which in 1282 was held by Sir Peter de Montfort, who was then lord of the manor of Preston cum Uppingham.⁷⁴ The rector was presented in 1628 for dealing wrongly with the lands of the manor.⁷⁵ The manor is mentioned at the time of the inclosure of the common fields of Uppingham in 1770,⁷⁶ and it still belongs to the rector for the time being.

Before 1200 William de Clopton granted a virgate of land to the Brothers of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem,⁷⁷ and in 1510 the Preceptor of Dingley held a view of frankpledge for the tenants in Uppingham.⁷⁸ William also granted in frankalmoin to the abbey of Pipewell the land which Henry de Montfort, lord of Uppingham (q.v.), gave him.⁷⁹ Thurstan de Montfort, son of Henry, also gave to the abbey 6 virgates in Uppingham and Ridlington, which grant was confirmed by Peter de Montfort in 1225.⁸⁰ At the time of its dissolution no lands in Uppingham appear amongst the abbey's possessions.⁸¹

The Bishop of Lincoln was the overlord of land in Uppingham in 1255.⁸²

⁴⁴ Blore's Notes, loc. cit.

⁴⁵ Court R. of Rectory Manor.

⁴⁶ Ibid.; Feet of F. Rutl. East. 4 Jas. II.

⁴⁷ P.C.C. 85 Irby.

⁴⁸ Blore's Notes, loc. cit.

⁴⁹ Ct. R. Rectory Manor of Uppingham, 2 Oct. 1713.

⁵⁰ Blore's Notes, loc. cit.

⁵¹ Ibid.; cf. Feet of F. Rutl. East. 4 Jas. II.; Hil. 8 Anne; Mich. 12 Anne; Mich. 8 Geo. I.

⁵² Blore's Notes, loc. cit.; Add. Ch. (B.M.) 25984.

⁵³ Blore's Notes, loc. cit.

⁵⁴ Court R. Rectory Manor, 14 Nov. 1738.

⁵⁵ Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 21 Geo. II; Recov. R. Hil. 57 Geo. III, ro. 161.

⁵⁶ Ct. R. (P.R.O.), ptf. 197, nos. 88, 89; Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 8 Anne; Rutl. Mich. 12 Anne; Add. Ch. (B.M.) 25984;

Rent. & Surv. (P.R.O.), ptf. 14, no. 14.

⁵⁷ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), lxxxix, 122. The manor probably extended into Beaumont Chase.

⁵⁸ *Visit. Rutl.* 1618-19 (Harl. Soc.), 21-2.

⁵⁹ Ibid.; Exch. Inq. p.m. dclxxx, 8.

⁶⁰ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), lxxxix, 122.

⁶¹ *Visit. Rutl.* 1681-2 (Harl. Soc.), 27.

⁶² Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 8 Jas. I; East. 21 Jas. I; Mich. 21 Jas. I; P.C.C. 79 Brent.

⁶³ *Visit. Rutl.* op. cit. 33-34; Uppingham Par. Reg.

⁶⁴ Blore's Notes, loc. cit.

⁶⁵ P.C.C. 79 Brent.

⁶⁶ Ibid.; Mon. in Uppingham Ch.

⁶⁷ Feet of F. Rutl. East. 4 Jas. II; Hil. 8 Anne; Mich. 12 Anne.

⁶⁸ Ibid. Trin. 57 Geo. III.

⁶⁹ Priv. Act of Parl. 10 Geo. III, cap. 24.

⁷⁰ Chan. Misc. bdle. 8, no. 3.

⁷¹ Ct. R. *penes* Rector.

⁷² Terrier of Rectory lands, etc., 1634, *penes* Rector.

⁷³ Churchwardens' Bk. (1634-1727).

⁷⁴ *Knights of Edw. I* (Harl. Soc.), iii, p. 185.

⁷⁵ Irons notes, Archd. Rec. (Visit.).

⁷⁶ Priv. Act of Parl. 10 Geo. III, cap. 24.

⁷⁷ *Curia Reg. R.* i, 148; Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 2 John, no. 3.

⁷⁸ Ct. R. (P.R.O.), Gen. Ser. ptf. 197, no. 90.

⁷⁹ *Cal. Chart. R.* i, 205.

⁸⁰ Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 9 Hen. III.

⁸¹ *Valor Eccles.* (Rec. Com.), iv, 294.

⁸² *Cal. Close R.* 1254-56, p. 52; *Cal. Inq. Misc.* i, no. 576.

A windmill in Uppingham is mentioned in 1212, when it was held by the abbey of Pipewell.⁸³ In 1517 John Symes left his mill at Uppingham to his three sons, on the condition that none of them became priests.⁸⁴ A mill in a ruinous condition was attached to the manor of Uppingham in 1526.⁸⁵ In 1610 a windmill in Scarlies Manor (q.v.) is mentioned, and was left by Everard Fawkener by will, dated 1650, to his great-nephew Edward.⁸⁶ In 1654 Lyon Fawkener bequeathed a malt-mill, which he had bought from his uncle, to his grandson Lyon. It was apparently one of the mills leased for 99 years by the Earl and Countess of Stamford to Everard, Lyon and Anthony Fawkener in 1634.⁸⁷

In 1281 Edward I granted a weekly *MARKET* on Wednesday to Peter de Montfort,⁸⁸ the lord of Uppingham Manor (q.v.). It was held by his successors, and with the manor came into the hands of Edward IV, who in 1478 granted an annuity of 6 marks to John Walle, the toll-keeper, to be paid out of the profits of the market.⁸⁹ The market followed the history of the manor,⁹⁰ but the tolls were regularly let on lease from 1527.⁹¹ Elizabeth granted a lease for 21 years to Anthony Digby in 1588,⁹² and in 1633 the Earl and Countess of Stamford granted a lease for 99 years to Everard and Lyon Fawkener and Anthony the son of Lyon.⁹³ Everard died in 1653,⁹⁴ and Lyon, in his will dated 1654, left the profits of the fair of Uppingham to his grandson Lyon.⁹⁵ This suggests that a new lease had been obtained from the Earl of Stamford. The market is still held on Wednesdays.

A *FAIR* for 3 days at the feast of St. Margaret the Virgin was granted to Peter de Montfort at the same time as the market,⁹⁶ and followed the same descent. In 1531 Henry VIII granted to Richard Chesilden and other inhabitants of Uppingham, two fairs yearly for two days at the feast of the Translation of St. Thomas the Martyr and at the feast of St. Matthew.⁹⁷ In 1792 and 1888 fairs were held on 7 March and 7 July.⁹⁸ At the present time cattle fairs are held on the second Wednesday in March and July. In 1495-6 the standard of weights for the county of Rutland was appointed by Statute to be kept at Uppingham.⁹⁹

The church of *ST. PETER AND CHURCH ST. PAUL* stands on the south side of the market place, and consists of chancel 27 ft. 6 in. by 18 ft. 6 in., with north chapel and south organ-chamber and vestry, clearstoried nave of four bays 54 ft. 4 in. by 21 ft., north aisle 20 ft. wide, south aisle 12 ft. wide, north and south porches,

and west tower 11 ft. square, all these measurements being internal. The tower is surmounted by a spire. The chapel and organ-chamber cover the chancel its full length, and are under separate gabled roofs; the vestry forms an outer aisle to the organ-chamber. The width across nave and aisles is 57 ft.

The building is faced throughout with dressed local ironstone in wide courses, and internally, save in the chancel, the walls are plastered. All the roofs are modern, and except that of the south aisle, which is leaded, are covered with blue slates. There are plain parapets to the chancel and aisles, but the nave is battlemented. The wider north aisle is under a separate gabled roof.

Except where modern, the building is of 14th-century date, but during an extensive restoration and enlargement in 1860-1 four sculptured fragments of the 12th century were found, two of which are now built into the wall on either side of the north doorway, and two in the north chapel.¹ A coped coffin lid of the 13th century, with floriated cross, was also found.²

Before the reconstruction of 1861 the building consisted of chancel 37 ft. by 16 ft., nave of three bays about 41 ft. by 21 ft., with north and south aisles extending eastward and covering the chancel about half its length, and west tower and spire; there were also 'miserable porches' north and south. The aisles and the west bay of the nave were filled with galleries³ which laterally projected in front of the arcades, and the ceiling of the nave was below the apex of the chancel arch. The chancel and other parts of the church were in a dilapidated state. There was a rood-loft doorway on the north side of the chancel arch.⁴

The restoration and enlargement⁵ comprised the demolition of the chancel and the rebuilding of the east end of the church on its present plan, the extension of the nave a bay eastward, the widening of the north aisle 8 ft., the erection of new porches, and the new roofing of the church throughout. In extending the nave the old chancel arch was rebuilt about 15 ft. further east, and the eastern responds of the arcades were also reused. The north wall of the north aisle was rebuilt 'stone for stone,' and the east windows of both aisles were reused in the new east end.

The chancel has a modern east window of five lights, and is open to the chapel and organ-chamber by arcades of two trefoiled arches on marble shafts and responds with carved stone capitals. The arches are filled with traceried oak screens. The reredos is of marble and Caen stone. The walls of the chancel

of the aisles eastward, north and south of the chancel. A drawing preserved in the church shows the gallery filling the pointed arch on the south side of the chancel. The nave was filled with box pews and the pulpit was in front of the chancel. The galleries seated 233 adults and 64 children.

⁴ This was noted by Sir Stephen Glynne, who visited the church in 1829 (Brit. Mus. Add. MS. 37256, f. 96).

⁵ The faculty is dated 20 August 1860. The architect was Mr. Henry Parsons of London. The contract provided for 'taking down the whole of the fabric except the arches and clearstory walls of the nave, and tower and spire, and part of the south aisle.' The tower was to be restored and the old stonework scraped.

⁸³ Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 14 John.

⁸⁴ Alfred Gibbons, *Early Lincoln Wills*, 200.

⁸⁵ Rent. & Surv. (P.R.O.), ptf. 14, no. 14.

⁸⁶ Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 8 Jas. 1; East. 21 Jas. 1; P.C.C. 79 Brent.

⁸⁷ P.C.C. 226 Aylett; Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 9 Chas. I.

⁸⁸ Chart. R. 9 Edw. I, m. 7.

⁸⁹ Chan. Inq. p.m. 24 Edw. I, no. 59; *Cal. Pat. R.* 1476-85, p. 76.

⁹⁰ Rent. & Surv. (P.R.O.), ptf. 14, no. 14; Pat. R. 30 Eliz. pt. 16; Feet of F. Rutl. bdle. 475, Hil. 9 Chas. I.

⁹¹ Rent. & Surv. (P.R.O.), ptf. 14, no. 14; Pat. R. 19 Eliz. pt. 11, m. 31.

⁹² *Ibid.* 30 Eliz. pt. 18.

⁹³ Feet of F. Rutl. bdle. 475, Hil. 9 Chas. I.

⁹⁴ P.C.C. 79 Brent.

⁹⁵ P.C.C. 226 Aylett.

⁹⁶ Chart. R. 9 Edw. I, m. 7.

⁹⁷ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, v, g. 318 (11).

⁹⁸ *Royal Com. on Market Rights and Tolls*, App. 196.

⁹⁹ Wright, op. cit. 132.

¹ All four fragments are of the same type, and represent the upper part of a male figure with the right hand upraised, and the left hand grasping a staff or cross.

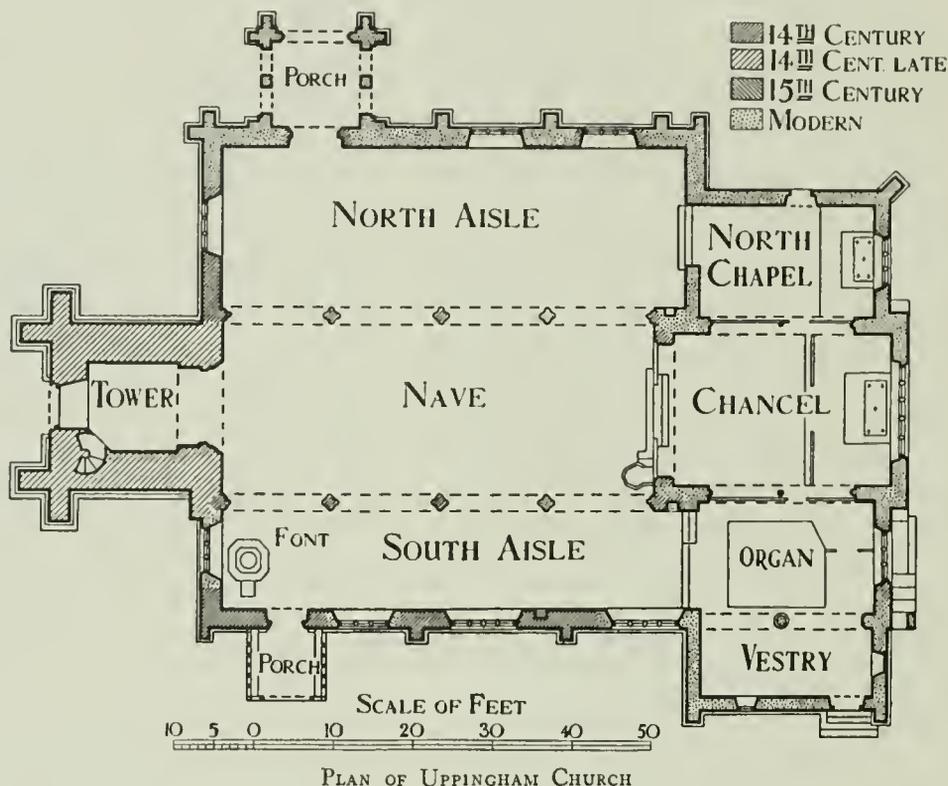
² *Rutl. Mag.* ii, 33. It was found at the west end of the south aisle, and is now, in two pieces, built into the walls of the steps of the south-west entrance to the churchyard, along with other fragments.

³ The galleries extended the full length

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are lined with rubbed Clipsham stone. The old arch to the nave is of two chamfered orders dying into the wall. The east window of the chapel⁶ is a re-used 15th-century window of three cinquefoiled lights, and that of the organ-chamber a pointed 14th-century window of three lights with curvilinear tracery.⁷

The arches of the 14th-century nave arcades are of two chamfered orders without hood-moulds, on piers composed of four engaged columns with moulded capitals and bases and responds of similar character. The easternmost pier and arch on each side are modern. The capitals of the piers differ in detail, and those on the north side have octagonal abaci; all the bases are much restored.⁸ The arches at the east end of the aisles are modern. Both aisles have scroll



strings at sill level, and on the north aisle the hollow moulding below the parapet is enriched with ball-flower and large tooth ornament. The ball-flower enrichment also occurs in the hood-mould of the north doorway, which is the old one re-used, and of the square-headed windows⁹ of the north wall. The pointed west window of the north aisle is of early 14th-century date, of three sharply pointed lights, the middle one trefoiled, and hood-mould with head-stops.

The south aisle has three square-headed windows east of the porch, the westernmost of three and the others of four lights, but the middle one only is original; the four-centred west window is modern. The 14th-century south doorway is of a single chamfered order with moulded impost and hood with notch-stops. The modern south porch is of open timber on a stone base, and is covered with stone slates.

The piscina of the south aisle altar remains in the south wall, now at some distance from the east end; it has a plain chamfered recess and fluted bowl. Another piscina, with trefoiled head and octofoil bowl, probably that of the old south chapel, is now

inserted in the modern wall at the east end of the aisle on the north side, south of the chancel arch. At the east end of the north aisle, in the modern wall forming the extension of the nave arcade and north of the chancel arch, is a small pointed recess with a fragment of scroll moulding as sill, which probably was part of the piscina of the north aisle altar.

The clearstory has four square-headed windows of

three trefoiled lights on each side, much restored on the north¹⁰ and wholly new on the south side.

The late 14th-century tower is of three stages, with boldly moulded plinth and pairs of buttresses at the angles to about half the height of the top stage, the middle part of which is slightly recessed and the angles carried up as clasping buttresses. There is a vice in the south-west angle. The much restored¹¹ west doorway has a continuous moulding enriched with four-leaved flowers and hood-mould with head-stops, above which the upper member of the plinth is carried as a square frame, with plain spandrels. Over the doorway is a window of two trefoiled lights, the mullion and tracery of which are new. The pointed bell-chamber windows are of two cinquefoiled lights, with transom and quatrefoil in the head, and the tower terminates in a battlemented parapet with gargoyles at the angles. The spire has plain angles and three tiers of gabled lights on the cardinal faces. The tower opens into the nave by a pointed arch of four¹² continuous chamfered orders, without hood-mould.

The font now in use is of serpentine marble

⁶ Apparently the chapel of the Holy Trinity.

⁷ The Chesilden Chapel.

⁸ The piers had been much damaged by the erection of the galleries.

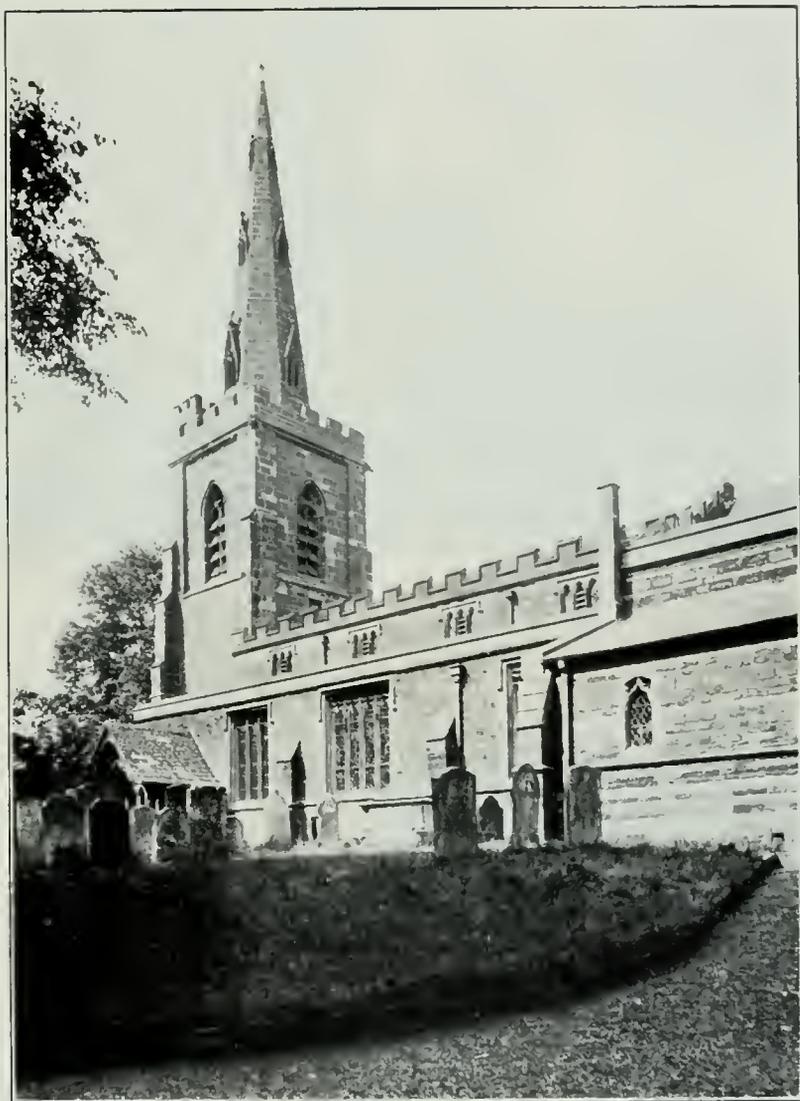
⁹ One only of these windows is original.

¹⁰ The three old clearstory windows on the north side were blocked before the restoration (*Rutl. Mag.* ii, 65).

¹¹ Before the restoration the lower part

of the doorway was below the soil. The jambs on either side, to a height of 4 ft. 6 in., are modern.

¹² On the west side there are three orders, the two outer dying into the wall.



UPPINGHAM CHURCH FROM THE SOUTH-EAST



UPPINGHAM CHURCH: THE INTERIOR, LOOKING EAST



WING CHURCH FROM THE NORTH

and dates from 1861. The bowl of the old font,¹³ described by Sir Stephen Glynne in 1829 as 'a large plain octagon,' is under the tower; it has a moulded lower edge, and may be older than the 14th-century rebuilding.

The Jacobean oak pulpit has been somewhat spoilt by alteration, and now stands on a circular serpentine marble base. In plan it forms six sides of an octagon, the other two being open, and has two tiers of round arched panels.

There are some remains of coloured decoration on the two middle arches of the south arcade.

The only monument earlier than the 18th century is that of Everard Fawkener (d. 1653), which is now in the vestry.¹⁴ There is an oak War Memorial tablet (1914-19) at the west end of the nave, and in 1925 a brass tablet in memory of Jeremy Taylor, rector 1637-42, was placed under the chancel arch 'near the pulpit from which he preached.'

There is a ring of eight bells, the third, sixth, seventh and tenor by Pack and Chapman of London, 1772; the treble and second by the same founders, 1773; the fourth by Robert Taylor of St. Neots, 1804; and the fifth a recasting in 1895 by Taylor and Co. of Loughborough.¹⁵ The clock dates from 1898.

The plate consists of a paten¹⁶ of 1627-8; two¹⁷ patens of 1632-3, inscribed 'Deo et Sacris Ecclesiae Parochialis de Uppingham'; and two cups, a paten, and a flagon of 1870-1, all inscribed 'Church of SS. Peter and Paul, Uppingham.' There is also a brass almsdish given in 1859.¹⁸

The registers before 1812 are as follows: (i) baptisms 1571-1654, marriages 1571-1656, burials 1572-1654; (ii) baptisms 1653-80, marriages and burials 1653-83; (iii) burials 1678-1729; (iv) burials 1729-44; (v) baptisms 1684-1748, marriages 1684-1746 (and a few burials); (vi) baptisms 1748-61, marriages 1748-1754; (vii) baptisms and burials 1762-77; (viii) marriages 1754-1812; (ix) baptisms and burials 1778-1812. There are churchwardens' accounts from 1634 onwards.¹⁹

On the south side the churchyard falls rapidly to the road in a series of stepped terraces,²⁰ but on the north the floor of the nave is approximately level with the Market Place, on to which the porch opens.

There is a War Memorial cross facing the road in the south-west corner of the churchyard; a head-

stone near the south doorway commemorates John Beaver (d. 1682), 'that honest man who stood up for the Common of Uppingham.'

The church of Uppingham may *ADVOWSON* probably be identified with one of the three churches attached to the manor of Ridlington with its berewicks in 1086.²¹ With the manor of Uppingham (q.v.) it had presumably been granted by Edward the Confessor to Queen Edith, and passed on her death in 1075 into the hands of William the Conqueror.²² He or his son William Rufus granted it to the abbey of Westminster in part satisfaction of the reversionary grant of Queen Edith's possessions made by the Confessor to the abbey.²³ In the early 12th century, however, the advowson was claimed by Simon de Den, though there is no indication of the grounds of his claim, and in 1210 he recognised the right of the abbey to the advowson on condition that he and his heirs should be commemorated at Westminster for ever.²⁴ The advowson was held by Westminster Abbey till its dissolution.²⁵ In 1541 Henry VIII granted it to the newly established bishopric of Westminster,²⁶ but the see was abolished under Edward VI, who granted the advowson of Uppingham to Nicholas Ridley, Bishop of London.²⁷ His successors held it until 1852, when it was transferred, on the next voidance of the see of London, to the Bishop of Peterborough,²⁸ who is the present patron.

A pension of 40s. a year was paid by the rector of Uppingham to the abbey of Westminster in the 13th century.²⁹ In the 16th century it was assigned to the chamberlain of the abbey.³⁰ After the Dissolution Henry VIII granted the pension, in 1542, to the Dean and Chapter of Westminster.³¹

The chapel of the Holy Trinity in Uppingham church is mentioned in 1516.³² In 1650 the chapel on the south side of the church appears to have belonged to the lords of Scarlies Manor (q.v.).³³ Lands in Uppingham and elsewhere of the annual value of 4s. 4d. were returned at the dissolution of the chantries for the upkeep of lamps and lights, and other lands of the yearly value of 3s. 4d. had been given to provide drinks on Rogation Monday.³⁴ In 1629 three of the parishioners were presented for meeting in private houses, holding conventicles of prayers and expounding the Scriptures,³⁵ and in 1672 a licence was

¹³ Though locally this is said to have been dug up in the churchyard at the time of the restoration, it is obviously the font seen by Glynne (Add. MS. (B.M.) 37256). It now supports a 'table,' said to be the canopy of the pulpit. A beautiful 14th-century font with trefoiled ogee niches, standing on eight legs, now in the Roman Catholic church at Deeping St. James, Lines, is said to have been formerly at Uppingham, but the claim is disputed by Ridlington. Both churches were restored at the same time and by the same architect. Mr. Crowther-Beynon has investigated both claims, but the evidence is contradictory and inconclusive. It is clear, however, that the Deeping font was not in Uppingham church in 1829.

¹⁴ It is a small mural monument with long Latin inscription, which is given in Wright, *Hist. Rutl.* 132. The inscriptions on other monuments, mostly of 19th-century date, are in *Rutl. Mag.* ii, 69-71.

¹⁵ North, *Cb. Bells of Rutl.* 155, where the inscriptions are given. The old fifth bell was by Pack and Chapman, 1772.

¹⁶ It has a modern inscription similar to that on the cups, etc.

¹⁷ One of the patens, long lost to the church, was recovered by purchase in 1932. It bears the maker's mark I.G. In 1661 the plate consisted of 'one Communion Cup of silver gilt with a cover to it, two patens silver and gilt,' and a 'gilt chalice weighing 20 ounces hate [less] a pennyweight, with this inscription upon y^e foot "Deus Dedit in usum ecclesiae parochialis de Uppingham Comitatus Rutlaadie."' There were also two large pewter flagons. Two cups or chalices and three patens or plates are mentioned in inventories until 1825. The last mention of the flagons is in 1711.

¹⁸ Hope, *Cb. Plate in Rutl.* 29; *Rutl. Mag.* ii, 66.

¹⁹ The first volume comprises the years 1634-1727.

²⁰ There are thirty-four steps, in five flights.

²¹ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 140.

²² *Ibid.* 167.

²³ *Ibid.*; Dugdale, *Mon. Angl.* i, 301.

²⁴ Feet of F. Rutl. case 192, file 2, no. 21.

²⁵ *Rot. Ric. Gravesend* (Cant. & York Soc.), pp. 116, 124; *Cal. Pat. R.* 1313-17, p. 203; *Feud. Aids*, iv, 210.

²⁶ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xvi, g. 503 (33).

²⁷ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1549-51, 263.

²⁸ *fastit. Bks. (P.R.O.)*, 1631, 1637, 1660, 1682, 1684, 1743, 1752, 1755, 1786, 1815; Bacon, *Liber Regis*, 847; *London Gazette*, 4 June 1852.

²⁹ *Rot. Ric. Gravesend* (Cant. & York Soc.), p. 116; *Pope Nsch. Tax.* (Rec. Com.), 66; cf. *Feud. Aids*, iv, 210.

³⁰ *Valor Eccles.* (Rec. Com.), iv, 414.

³¹ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xvii, g. 714 (5).

³² Alfred Gibbons, *Early Lincoln Wills*, 199.

³³ *P.C.C.* 79 Brent.

³⁴ *Chant. Cert.* (P.R.O.), no. 39.

³⁵ Irons' Notes, Archd. Rec. (Visit.).

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

granted for John Richardson to hold Presbyterian services in his house at Uppingham.³⁶

The parish seems to have been in a bad condition in the late 16th and early 17th centuries. The rectors were strongly puritanical and are said to have preached false doctrines; one of them was absent for two years. The church was in a bad state, many of the windows were boarded up or 'daubed' with mortar and stone, and the paving and roof were out of repair.³⁷ In 1632 work upon the restoration was commenced. This work, which took six years to complete, cost no less than six hundred pounds, the money being provided by levies made upon the customary tenants of the Rectory manor.³⁸ During the whole of this time Anthony Fawkener, joiner, was churchwarden. He does not appear to have belonged to the Fawkeners of Uppingham, but probably was distantly related to them. This heavy tax was strongly resented by the customary tenants, some of whom, it would appear, refused to pay their assessments. In 1638 Everard and Lyon Fawkener of Uppingham on behalf of themselves and others by petition complained to the Archbishop of Canterbury against the 'insupportable taxes and charges imposed and occasioned' by Anthony Fawkener, but with what success is not known.³⁹

Among the rectors of Uppingham mention may be made of Hervey de Borham, c. 1269, Dean of St. Paul's, London, and a justice of the Court of King's Bench; Edmund Bonner, 1528-41, elected Bishop of London in 1539;⁴⁰ Edmund Martin, D.D., 1631-37, President of Queens' College, Cambridge, royalist and theological writer; Jeremy Taylor, 1637-8 to 1642; John Jones, 1743-1752, editor of Horace;⁴¹ and Dr. Reginald P. Lightfoot, 1890-1906.

The Congregational chapel was founded in 1770. The present plain red-brick building in Adderley Street has an inscription in front: EBENEZER, HÆC DOMUS AD CULTUM DEI EDIFICATA AN. DOM. 1814 OBSEURO JEHOVA PROSPERA NUNC. The Bethesda chapel is dated 1845, and the Wesleyan chapel 1819, date of original building, and 1872, date of rebuilding.

Endimion Canning, by his will in *CHARITIES* 1681, gave 1s. per week to buy bread to be distributed in church every Sunday among such poor as frequented divine service.

Mary Standish gave £50 in 1721 to buy land, the yearly rent to be laid out in bread and given away every Sunday in the church to six poor widows.

Henty Cossington, rector of Dean, about 1665 gave £20 to the poor.

These benefactions are stated in an inscription on a tablet in the parish church to have been laid out in the purchase of an estate at Ayston (Ashton) containing about 10 acres. The charities are now known as the Poor's Land and the endowment consists of a house and land at Ashton. The property is let to Mr. John Cooke of Stamford at an annual rent of £16, which is distributed in bread by trustees appointed by the Parish Council.

Pakeman's Charity, otherwise known as Horninghold Poor's Lands.—From a tablet in the church it appears that Richard Pakeman by will in 1701 gave £100 to buy lands and directed that 20s., part of the rents, should be paid yearly to the poor of Thorpe Satchville and the remainder to the poor of Uppingham on St. Thomas's

Day. The endowment consists of land containing 14 acres 1 rood 23 poles, let to Mr. A. Wild at an annual rent of £18 2s. 6d. After payment of the sum of 20s. to the churchwardens of Thorpe Satchville the balance is distributed by the churchwardens of Uppingham among about 90 people.

William Allebon, as appears from the above tablet, in 1720 gave by his will 20s. per annum to the poor on St. Thomas's Day, and charged a copyhold estate in Uppingham with the payment. The charge issues out of the White Swan Hotel, and is distributed in bread by the trustees appointed by the Parish Council.

Ralph Hotchkin, by his will proved at Canterbury 6 May 1818, gave £100 consolidated 3 per cent. annuities, the income to be applied to poor people of Uppingham, preference being given to widows and poor persons with large families. The endowment now consists of £100 2½ per cent. Consols, producing in dividends £2 10s. per annum. The income is distributed in bread by trustees appointed by the Parish Council and the churchwardens.

The Langley Charity was founded by a declaration of trust dated 25 Nov. 1863, whereby it was directed that the income should be distributed among 10 of the most deserving poor inhabitants of Uppingham. The original endowment consisted of £400 East India 5 per cent. Stock, now represented by £400 India 3½ per cent. Stock, producing in dividends £14 per annum. The income is distributed in bread by the rector, churchwardens, and trustees appointed by the Parish Council.

Parish Lands and Stock Charity.—The origin of this charity is not known, but it has existed from time immemorial. It is regulated by a scheme of the Charity Commissioners dated 13 October 1905, which appoints the churchwardens trustees. The endowment consists of a sum of £455 8s. 6d. 2½ per cent. Consols, producing in dividends £11 7s. 8d. per annum. The income is applied in order of priority towards maintenance and repair of the fabric of the church, maintenance of services and of furniture of the church, and maintenance of churchyards attached thereto.

Church Lands.—The origin of this charity is not known, but from time immemorial the income has been applied to church purposes. The endowment now consists of a piece of land containing 15 acres and 30 poles, let to the rector at an annual rent of £16 17s., and the following sums of stock: £230 4s. 2½ per cent. Consols, £500 0s. 1d. 3½ per cent. Conversion Stock, £406 Bengal Nagpur Railway 4 per cent. Debenture Stock, and £2,191 0s. 4d. 5 per cent. War Stock. These stocks produce in dividends £149 0s. 10d. per annum. The income is placed by the churchwardens to the church alms account, and is applied towards the maintenance of the parish church.

Julia Pretty, by her will proved in the P.C.C. on 11 March 1930, bequeathed to the rector and churchwardens the sum of £500 to be invested upon trust to apply the annual income for the general purposes of the parish church. The endowment of the charity now consists of a sum of £637 6s. 6d. 3½ per cent. Conversion Stock, producing in dividends £22 6s. per annum.

Congregational Chapel and Trust Property is comprised in an indenture dated 21 June 1819, and a deed

³⁶ *Cal. S.P. Dom.* 1672, pp. 78, 196.

³⁷ Irons' Notes, loc. cit.

³⁸ Uppingham Churchwardens' Bk. I.

³⁹ *Cal. S.P. Dom.* Chas. I, 1638-9,

p. 211.

⁴⁰ *Trans. of Ruit. and Nat. Hist. Soc.* Rep. xi, 42.

⁴¹ *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

MARTINSLEY HUNDRED

WING

of enfranchisement 20 June 1918. The endowment consists of the chapel, minister's house, vestry and schoolroom, and a sum of £683 8s. 8d. 5 per cent. War Stock, producing in dividends £34 3s. 6d. per annum.

Elizabeth Palmer's Charity, founded by will dated 3 December 1744, is for the benefit of the minister of the chapel. The endowment consists of a sum of £398 13s. 5d. 5 per cent. War Stock, producing in dividends £19 18s. 8d. per annum.

Thomas Lewin's Charity, founded by will dated 30 April 1777, is for the poor of the congregation of the chapel. The endowment consists of a sum of £26 6s. 4d. 5 per cent. War Stock, producing in dividends £1 6s. 4d. per annum.

These three charities are regulated by a scheme of the Charity Commissioners dated 12 September 1919, which appoints the Leicestershire and Rutland Con-

gregational Union (Incorporated) as trustees, who pay the income to the treasurer of the church.

The charity consisting of the trust property in connection with the Bethesda Chapel is comprised in the will of John Wade proved on 26 May 1854, and is held subject to trusts to pay £1 per annum to the British and Foreign Bible Society, £1 per annum to the London Missionary Society, and the balance, after deducting for repairs of the chapel and minister's house, is applied for the benefit of the minister of the chapel. The endowment consists of land and hereditaments let at an annual rent of £21 16s. 3d., and a sum of £256 10s. 2½ per cent. Consols, producing in dividends £6 8s. per annum. The total income is applied in accordance with existing trusts by a body of trustees appointed by an order of the Charity Commissioners dated 12 January 1926. The several sums of stock are held by the Official Trustees.

WING

Wenge (xii-xv cent.); Wieng (xii cent.); Wyenge, Weyng, Whenge (xiv cent.); Wyng (xiv-xvii cent.).

The parish of Wing is on the hill, which rises to over 400 ft. above the Ordnance datum, between the River Chater (about 220 ft. above Ordnance datum), there forming the northern parish boundary, and a stream forming the southern boundary. The land falls somewhat abruptly on the north side of the hill but gradually

the road at the summit being called Top Street. The church on the south side at the west end of this street is approached by steps. The cottages are mostly built in rows at right angles to the street similar to those at Greetham.

The rectory house has been much altered and modernised, but a stone, now on an inside wall, bears the date 1617. On the north side of the church is an



WING: THE VILLAGE STREET

on the south. The subsoil is Inferior Oolite and Upper Lias, and the soil a red loam. The land is mostly pasture, only about a third of the area being used for cereals and roots.

The village stands on the northern slope of the hill overlooking the valley of the Chater. Like so many of the Rutland villages of the forest type, it is built round and within roads forming roughly a quadrilateral figure,

undated 17th-century stone house, with two-story mullioned bay window, end gables and stone-slatted roofs, and another farther east has a panel inscribed 'ANNO 1622. w.s., w.b.' A block of three cottages on the north side of the village, known as 'The Almshouses,' is also of 17th-century date, with low mullioned windows, sundial and stone dormers. A short distance up the lane leading to Glaston, cut in the turf

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by the roadside, is a circular maze, 40 ft. in diameter, with narrow grass paths about a foot in width.¹ The Grange, half a mile to the south-west of the village, is a red brick house and the seat of Miss Brocklebank, O.B.E., J.P.

'Westthrope' was apparently a hamlet of Ridlington in former times.²

An Inclosure Award for 1,400 acres was made in 1773.³

The nearest railway station is at Manton, about three-quarters of a mile from the village.

Among the celebrities of Wing was Amelia Woodcock, the wise woman of Wing, the wife of a labouring man, who died about 1867. She obtained a reputation for healing every variety of disease including cancer. At first she relied on herbs gathered in the fields and woods, but later she made up her medicines from drugs purchased from a chemist. She was visited by many persons of wealth, and it is said she was consulted by medical men. So many were her patients that they had to take lodgings in the neighbourhood until she could attend to them.⁴

The manor of *WING* was probably *MANORS* one of the unnamed berewicks of Ridlington (q.v.) in 1086, and granted with Preston (q.v.) to Henry de Newburgh, the first Earl of Warwick, who seems to have sub- infeoffed the Montforts of his lands.⁵ It continued to be a member of Preston (q.v.) in 1315 and until the middle of the 16th century.⁶ In 1622 its tenants owed suit of court at Hambleton.⁷

Robert de Montfort (ob. c. 1165) gave half the church of Wing and half the manor to the monks of Thorney (co. Camb.), and Thurstan de Montfort his brother, who succeeded him, resumed the gift until King Stephen threatened him. He then granted half the town with half the church and mill except the fee of Thurstan his esquire and the fee of Ralph Fitz Nigel.⁸ John de Stutevill also gave to Thorney half the vill as Robert de Montfort gave it, and the whole church.⁹ In 1206 the Prior of St. Neots (co. Hunts.) sued Thurstan grandson of the above Thurstan for the whole manor and church granted to his church by Thurstan the grandfather and Robert his son.¹⁰ Both these religious houses retained a manor here until the Dissolution of the Monasteries in 1539.¹¹ The possessions of St. Neots as an alien priory, however, were frequently in the hands of the Crown during the French wars of the 14th century, until in 1412 the priory was declared independent of the monastery of Bec in Normandy.

Queen Elizabeth leased both manors to Sir Everard Digby of Stoke Dry, who was later implicated in the Gunpowder Plot Conspiracy (1605). The manors were

stated to be distinct in 1606; the Thorney manor having its own court and the tenants of St. Neots manor going to the court at Eggleton.¹² The grant in fee of the manor of Wing in 1604 to Sir Thomas Smith, the Latin secretary, and Edmund Lascelles, groom of the chamber, evidently covered both estates. Edmund Lascelles received the customary lands of St. Neots in fee farm.¹³ Both manors were conveyed in 1608 by Hugh Middleton and Richard Hartopp, citizens and goldsmiths of London, to Robert Johnson, Archdeacon of Leicester.¹⁴ Hugh Middleton, who constructed the New River, was connected with Johnson, his wife being a niece of Johnson's first wife. This conveyance seems to have been for a mortgage, as Sir Thomas Smith's widow, Frances, married a year after his death in 1609 Thomas Cecil, Earl of Exeter,¹⁵ who acquired the fee of the manors. The Earl made a settlement and died seised in 1622-3.¹⁶

From this time this manor has descended with Liddington (q.v.).¹⁷ It now belongs to the Marquess of Exeter.

In Feb. 1445 Thorney Abbey was granted exemption from suits in the county and in 'Framlescounte' and the 'hundred of Rillington' for their lands in Wing.¹⁸

In 1305 John Knyvett held one-sixth of a fee here;¹⁹ and at the close of the century this family was represented by Sir John Knyvet, kt.²⁰

The church of *ST. PETER AND CHURCH ST. PAUL* consists of chancel 26 ft. 9 in.

by 12 ft., with north organ chamber and vestry, clearstoried nave 32 ft. 4 in. by 12 ft., north and south aisles respectively 10 ft. 8 in. and 8 ft. wide, north porch and west tower 8 ft. by 8 ft. 6 in., all these measurements being internal. The width across nave and aisles is 34 ft. 9 in. Owing to the unsafe state of the tower, the spire with which it was then surmounted was taken down in 1840 and has not been rebuilt.²¹ The chancel was wholly rebuilt in its present form in 1875, the organ chamber and vestry extending its full length, and in 1885 the south aisle was rebuilt, a south porch and west gallery removed, the nave restored, and the north porch added. The tower was restored in 1903.

The church is built of rubble, the modern walling having alternate bands of ironstone and freestone. The tower and north aisle bear external traces of a



CCCL, Marquess of Exeter. Barry of ten argent and azure six scutcheons sable each charged with a lion argent.

¹ *Arch. Journ.* xv, 224-5, where it is figured; Matthews, *Mazes and Labyrinths*, 74. The maze is similar to one at Aldborough, in North Lincolnshire, but slightly less in size. The plan is identical with that of the labyrinths at Chartres and St. Quentin, and one formerly at Poitiers. It is stated that a raised bank of earth formerly surrounded the maze, but was levelled early in the 19th century (*Trans. Rutl. Arch. Soc.* (1915), 34).

² *Exch. Dep. Rutl. Camb. and Hunts. Mich.* 4 Jas. I, no. 1.

³ *Recov. R. Trin.* 14 Geo. III, m. 38; *Slater, Engl. Peasantry*, 298.

⁴ Cuthbert Bede in *Notes and Queries* (5th Ser.), v, pp. 4, 375.

⁵ See Uppingham.

⁶ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1348-50, p. 30; *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 3 Hen. V, no. 46; 4 Hen. VI, no. 7; *Ct. R. (Gen. Ser.)*, ptf. 197, no. 88.

⁷ *Add. R.* 7177.

⁸ Dugdale, *Baronage*, i, 407; Dugdale, *Mon. Angl.* ii, 602, 604.

⁹ *Ibid.*

¹⁰ *Cur. Reg. R.* iv, 97-8, 164.

¹¹ *Cal. Pap. Lett.* i, 187; *Feud. Aids*, iv, 207; *Mins. Accts. Rutl. bdl.* 1127, no. 18; *Valor Eccles. (Rec. Com.)*, iv, 261; Dugdale, *Mon. Angl.* iii, 482.

¹² *Exch. Dep. loc. cit.*

¹³ *Cal. S.P. Dom.* 1603-10, pp. 118, 175.

¹⁴ *Close R.* 7 James I, pt. 7.

¹⁵ *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), v, 216-17.

¹⁶ *Chan. Inq. p.m. Misc.* dxxiv, 4; *Complete Peerage*, op. cit. 218.

¹⁷ *Chan. Inq. p.m. Misc.* dxxxvii, 18; *Feet of F. Div. Cos. Mich.* 22 Chas II; *Hil.* 8 Will. III; *Rutl. Hil.* 10 Anne; *Recov. R. Trin.* 21 and 22 Geo. II, ro. 57; *East. 16 Geo. III*, ro. 467.

¹⁸ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1441-6, p. 329.

¹⁹ *Feud. Aids*, iv, 206, 214.

²⁰ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 4 Ric. II.

²¹ An undated print of the church from the south-west, in the vestry, shows the spire still standing; it had two tiers of spire lights on the cardinal faces and was of considerable height.

former coat of plaster. The chancel is covered with stone slates, but the nave and aisles are leaded. All the roofs are eaved. Except in the south aisle the walls are plastered internally.

The earliest church on the site was probably an aisleless building and was enlarged c. 1140 by the addition of a south aisle, the arcade of which, originally of three but now of two and a half bays, remains. The pillars and the east respond are cylindrical, with large scalloped capitals and moulded bases, standing on high plinths which are probably portions of the original south wall of the church. The capitals have square abaci. The semicircular arches are of two orders with edge rolls on the side towards the nave, but square towards the aisle, and large half-round soffit moulding. Towards the nave the two eastern arches have chevron ornament upon the wall and soffit surfaces of their outer orders, but in the western arch this ornament appears only at its eastern springing.

Towards the end of the 12th century, probably c. 1180, a north aisle was added, and the existing arcade is of this date. The semicircular arches are of two chamfered orders on slender cylindrical pillars,²² less in height than those opposite,²³ with disproportionately tall capitals²⁴ ornamented with early water-leaf or incurved foliage below the octagonal abaci, and moulded bases with octagonal lower members on high square plinths. The east respond is of similar character. In both arcades the arches have hood-moulds on the nave side only. Both aisles appear to have been rebuilt in the 13th century, the north aisle being afterwards widened, but the late 12th-century north doorway still remains within the modern porch.²⁵ It has a round arch of two orders, the outer order with a prominent edge-roll springing from tall jambshafts, banded in the middle, with moulded bases and water-leaf capitals with square abaci; the inner order has a continuous chamfer.

A plain lancet window at its west end indicates the rebuilding of the north aisle in the 13th century, and part of the head of the south doorway is old and appears to be plain work of the same period.²⁶ The chancel arch is also of the 13th century, and in all probability the chancel was rebuilt on its present plan at that time.²⁷ A trefoiled lancet window has been re-used in the east wall of the vestry, and at the west end of the south wall of the chancel is a low-side window of lancet shape, the sill and jambs of which are ancient.²⁸ Some portions of a string-course chamfered on both edges appear also to be old. The chancel arch is acutely pointed, with hood-mould on each side, the inner order springing from half-octagonal moulded corbels supported by heads, the outer dying into the walls. In front of

the arch, at its south end, is the doorway to the rood-loft, with a plain triangular head, the sill of which is nearly level with the spring of the arches of the adjoining arcade; it was probably approached by a ladder.²⁹

The north aisle appears to have been widened in the 14th century, the wall being rebuilt with diagonal buttresses, and the chancel remodelled. The ogee-headed piscina, with sexfoil bowl, and the head of the single sedile, with cusping on the inner plane, are of the early part of the century, and were reused in the modern rebuilding. In the north aisle there are two 14th-century windows, that west of the doorway being of two lights with geometrical tracery; the other, a three-light pointed window east of the doorway, appears to be rather later and is a handsome example of reticulated tracery c. 1330, perhaps introduced to give more light to the altar at this end of the aisle. The piscina of this altar was found behind the plaster on the south side when the east wall of the aisle was taken down in 1875, but it was not retained.

Until the close of the 14th century it seems likely that the church had no tower, but only a western bell-cote. The present tower was built c. 1380-1400, and to make room for it the western bay of the nave was shortened, the tower being constructed partly within the nave, and the west responds and half an arch on each side taken down. The half-arches which remain abut against the eastern buttresses of the tower, but the old responds were re-used in part to support the tower arch, their bases being retained and new capitals provided.

The tower is of three stages marked by strings, with boldly moulded plinth and clasping buttresses its full height.³⁰ There is no vice. The west window is of two lights with quatrefoil in the head, and the bell-chamber windows are of the same type, but with transoms; they are much restored and have double hollow chamfered jambs, and hood-moulds with head stops. Below the battlemented parapet is a band of quatrefoils on three sides and of trefoils on the north. In the middle stage there is a small trefoiled window on the north side and a quatrefoil opening on the south. The arch³¹ to the nave is of two chamfered orders, the outer continued to the ground. The squinches for the spire remain, and its cock vane surmounts a staff on the roof of the tower.

The clearstory appears to have been added shortly after the completion of the tower; it has three four-centred windows of two trefoiled lights on each side.

The modern chancel is without buttresses and has a pointed east window of three trefoiled lights and geometrical tracery, and two two-light windows in the

²² The pillars are 17 in. in diameter, those of the south arcade 24 in.

²³ On the north side the arches spring at a height of about 7 ft. 8 in. above the floor, the corresponding height on the south side being 8 ft. 6 in.

²⁴ The height of the capitals is 18 in.

²⁵ In 1578 the church porch was in ruin and also the chancel windows 'by casualtie of the great windes that they have had lately' (Irons' Notes, Archd. Visit.).

²⁶ The two-light east window of the south aisle apparently reproduces one of 13th-century date with pierced spandrel, and the head of the modern west window

is an old one of the same period re-used: it is a semicircular shaped stone in which the tops of two lancet lights are cut. There was no window in this position before the rebuilding of the aisle. The former south porch is said to have been of 13th-century date (*Stamford Mercury*, February 6, 1863).

²⁷ There were two narrow windows of unequal height in the north wall of the old chancel, one with a rounded head and 4½ in. wide, the other a lancet.

²⁸ The sill is 3 ft. 6 in. above the ground outside. The opening is 12 in. wide, splaying inside to 3 ft. 9 in. The head is modern.

²⁹ There is no trace of a stair.

³⁰ In 1615 the steeple was out of repair (Irons' Notes, Archd. Visit.).

³¹ The church books record that the following inscription was painted over the tower arch, but was too much injured to be retained at the restoration: 'Dominus Henricus de Clipstoe (? Clipston) in Foresta de Sherwood in Comitatu Nottinghamiae templum hoc fecit et Sancto Petro Apostolo dedicavit.' In Wright, *Hist. of Rutl.* (1684), 139, it is recorded thus: 'Templum Sancti Petri Dominus Henricus de Clipstoe in Foresta de Shirwood in Comitatu Nottinghamiae me fecit.'

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south wall in addition to the low-side window already mentioned. Its ancient features have been noted above. A modern aumbry in the north wall is a copy of the piscina recess.³² The ancient stone altar slab is again in use. The modern windows in the south aisle are square headed and in the style of the 14th century. Part of the roof of the north aisle is old, but elsewhere the roofs are modern.

The font has a plain octagonal bowl, chamfered on the underside, on a modern stem and base.

The pulpit and all the fittings are modern.³³

Two roundels of painted glass, formerly in the windows of the north aisle, are now in the vestry windows: one, of 14th-century date, depicts the head of our Lord, the other is a yellow foliated quatrefoil on a red ground.³⁴

Traces of wall paintings were discovered during the restoration, but were too decayed to be preserved; over the chancel arch was a Doom, and in the south aisle were faint traces of a hunting scene.³⁵

There are memorial tablets to John Sharpe (d. 1737), John Binnifield (d. 1732), James Turner, rector (d. 1774), Charles Boys, R.N. (d. at sea, 1809), and to nine men of the parish who fell in the war of 1914-19.³⁶ There is a monument to Lieut. A. F. Taverner (d. of wounds, 1916).

There are five bells, the first three by Robert Taylor of St. Neots 1789, the fourth inscribed 'Gloria in Excelsis Deo,' and the tenor by Thomas Newcombe of Leicester inscribed 'S. Taddee.'³⁷

The silver plate consists of a cup and cover paten of 1617-18 inscribed with the names of the rector and churchwardens 1617. There are also a plated paten and a pewter flagon dated 1714.³⁸

The registers before 1812 are as follows: (i) baptisms and burials 1625-1773, marriages 1625-1754; (ii) marriages 1752-1812; (iii) baptisms and burials 1774-1812.

The Prior of St. Neots seems to *ADVOWSON* have been successful in his suit of 1206³⁹ and held the advowson from 1217 until the dissolution of the monastery in 1539 except from 1348 to 1411, when the priory was in the hands of the Crown owing to the wars with France.⁴⁰

Edward Watson, probably lessee of the manor, presented in 1527, William Palmer (*pro hac vice*) in 1550, one Broughton in 1577 and Thomas Baker in 1602.⁴¹ The advowson did not pass with the grant of the manor in 1604, but remained in the hands of the Crown until 1874, when an exchange of it was made with the Bishop of Peterborough,⁴² who is the present patron.

The living is a rectory. Among distinguished rectors was the divine and author Francis Meres, rector 1602-1647. It is said that he kept a school here;⁴³ it is, however, more probable that he had a licence to teach and had a few pupils at the Rectory. His son Francis Meres was head master of Uppingham School, 1641-66, and afterwards Archdeacon of Leicester.⁴⁴

There is a small Wesleyan chapel.

Dole Money.—The sum of £1 4s. *CHARITIES* was paid annually by the overseers as interest belonging to several benefactions. From an entry in the overseers' book it appears that at a parish meeting held 21 December 1815, the sum in the hands of the parish, of which the interest was to be distributed yearly at Christmas to the poor, amounted to £24.

Ancient Payments.—(1) A yearly sum of 3s. 4d. was paid customarily for the use of the poor by the ancestors of Mr. Thomas White of Wing. When he succeeded to the estate he increased the payment to 6s. for purchase of coal for poor to be given at Christmas.

(2) A further sum of 6s. a year was paid by Mr. Richard Gregory of Wing as a customary payment in his family. Upon his death his estates were divided among several grandchildren and descendants and the payment ceased.

(3) A further sum of 13s. 4d. was paid by the ancestors of Mr. Henry Sharpe and was understood to be a charge on a yard of land in the open field of Wing according to an entry in the parish register book in 1688. The money was distributed among the poor at Christmas.

It is believed that all these charities have been lost.

³² A blocked aumbry in the north wall is mentioned in *Stamford Mercury*, 6 February 1863.

³³ A painted Jacobean pulpit is mentioned in 1863, loc. cit. In 1605 it was said the communion table was very unfit and there was no pulpit (Irons' Notes, Archd. Visit.).

³⁴ They measure respectively 6 in. and 7 in. in diameter.

³⁵ Note in church books. The Royal Arms were in front of the Doom.

³⁶ Wright in 1684 records an inscription on a brass plate, on a marble gravestone in

the chancel, to Robert Gilbert, rector (d. 1503); this had disappeared before 1863.

³⁷ North, *Cb. Bells of Rutl.* 165, where the inscriptions are given. The fourth bears a cross found elsewhere in conjunction with Newcombe's stamps. The dedication on the tenor is to St. Thaddeus. In 1605 it was stated that 'the Saintes bell about 16 years since and 2 hand bells were put into one of their bells when it was cast so that now they have not a Saintes bell. And it was supposed that then they had a bigger or great bell which they sold.' It was also stated that there

was a clock in the church which was taken away by the widow of Mr. Cooke the late parson (Irons' Notes, Archd. Visit.).

³⁸ Hope, *Cb. Plate in Rutl.* 31, where the cup and cover paten are figured.

³⁹ See above.

⁴⁰ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1348-50, pp. 43, 285, 288, 291, 436; 1354-8, p. 367; 1358-61, pp. 92, 242, 493; 1388-92, p. 175.

⁴¹ *Inst. Bks. (P.R.O.)*; Irons' Notes, Linc. Episc. Reg. (Instit.).

⁴² *Lond. Gaz.* 10 July 1874, p. 3437.

⁴³ *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

⁴⁴ *Alumni Cantab.*

THE HUNDRED OF ALSTOE

CONTAINING THE PARISHES OF

ASHWELL

BURLEY

COTTESMORE WITH BARROW

EXTON

GREETHAM

HORN

MARKET OVERTON

STRETTON

TEIGH

THISTLETON

WHISSENDINE

WHITWELL

Alstoe Hundred was named apparently after Alstoe (Altiechestouwe) in the north of Burley parish (q.v.). The court was probably held at Alstoe Mount, a mount and bailey fortress to the north-east of Burley village.¹ Horn was in the 14th century in East Hundred.² It is not clear whether the profits of the hundreds of Martinsley, Alstoe and East were included in the grant of the county to Ralph de Normanville in 1205,³ but they seem to have passed with the grant to Richard Earl of Cornwall in 1252,⁴ and they are specifically mentioned in the grant to Margaret, widow of Piers de Gaveston.⁵ Martinsley was apparently conveyed to Thomas Cromwell in the grant of Oakham in 1538,⁶ but Alstoe and East Hundreds appear to have been retained by the Crown. The Crown still holds them.

Separate views of frankpledge in Alstoe Hundred were claimed in 1286 by Hugh Hussey in Thistleton, by Gilbert de Umfraville in Market Overton, by Bernard de Brus in Exton, by Patrick le Fleming and Isabella, his wife, in Whissendine, and by Thomas Tuchet in Ashwell.⁷

¹ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 112.

² *Feud. Aids*, iv, 205, 208, 214.

³ *Rot. Chart.* (Rec. Com.), i, 149.

⁴ *Rot. Hund.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 49, 50, 53.

⁵ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1307-13, p. 497.

⁶ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xiii (i), g. 1519 (2).

⁷ *Plac. de Quo Warr.* (Rec. Com.), 671-3.

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ASHWELL

Exewell, Exwell (xi cent.); Assewell, Ayswell, Aiswell (xiii cent.); Aswelle, Ashewell, Assewell (xiv cent.).

Ashwell is on the Leicestershire border of the county and comprises 1,835 acres, about two-thirds of which are grass land. The soil is fertile and produces the ordinary cereals and roots. A coarse kind of stone is quarried which is used for roads and as rough building material. The village lies at the crossing of the main road from Oakham to Edmondthorpe by the by-road from Whissendine to Cottesmore. The church and rectory are at the south-east angle of the crossing, and on the north side is the Old Hall with its grounds. The chief part of the village is to the south-east of the church, where the cottages with thatched or stone-tiled roofs are grouped round a rough square. The new Ashwell Hall stands in a small park about half a mile south of the village. It was built in 1879 in the Tudor style, and is the seat of Col. Frederick Gordon Blair, C.B., D.L., J.P.

Thomas Mason, rector of Ashwell, was an ardent Royalist. He was several times imprisoned, plundered and otherwise maltreated for reading the Common Prayer in private houses. During his sequestration from the living he commanded a company at Belvoir Castle, and on one occasion escorted his royal master from Newark to Banbury. He was restored to the living in 1660.¹ Richard Levett, the intruding minister, was father of Sir Richard Levett, haberdasher, Lord Mayor of London in 1700.²

In more recent times another rector of Ashwell achieved distinction in the field, the Rev. James Adams, who died in 1903, being the only clergyman before that time who was entitled to wear the Victoria Cross.³

Place-names which have been found in the records are Tatton land; Bradbek,⁴ Brig Leys, Crodykehades,⁵ Hakberlund, Roychards Crofte.⁶

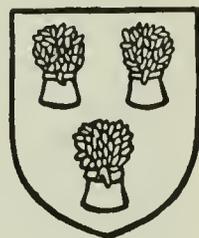
Before the Conquest Earl Harold *MANOR* held *ASHWELL*. In 1086 Gozeline held it of Hugh Earl of Chester as his man,⁷ and the manor was subsequently held of the honour of Chester as a third part of a knight's fee.⁸ Gozeline also held land in or near Markeaton in Derbyshire of the Earl of Chester, and both Ashwell and Markeaton passed to the Tucket family. The chief fief of the Tuckets was at Claxton (co. Leic.), where Henry Tucket had succeeded the Domesday tenant, Robert Hostiarus, by 1124-9.⁹ Among gifts confirmed to the abbot and convent of St. Mary de Pré in Leicester by King Henry II was a grant of land in Ashwell made by Henry Tucket.¹⁰

It has usually been inferred that Gozeline or

Josceline, the Domesday tenant, was a Tucket,¹¹ and this is strengthened by a charter of between 1143 and 1149 whereby Ranulf, Earl of Chester, confirmed to Henry Tucket all the lands which belonged to Henry Tucket his father and Joscelin Tucket his grandfather.¹² Henry was living between 1156 and 1166, but by 1178 he had been succeeded by Simon Tucket, who in the following year allowed reasonable dower to Maud widow of Henry Tucket in Ashwell.¹³ Simon's wife was Petronella.¹⁴ In 1235-6 8s. 11d. was paid for a third of a fee in Rutland held by Thomas Tucket of the Earl of Chester,¹⁵ but Thomas died in 1235, when the king took the homage of Henry his son for the vill of Leigh Cumbray (co. Salop).¹⁶

Henry was succeeded in 1242 by his brother Robert, who then paid relief for his lands.¹⁷ In 1244 Robert had respite from taking arms till the end of the year.¹⁸ Robert Tucket died in 1248, his heir being then a child of 5 years whose name was unknown to the jurors.¹⁹ The heir was Thomas Tucket,²⁰ who was summoned in 1285 to answer by what warrant he claimed view of frankpledge and waif in Ashwell. Thomas said that all his ancestors from time out of mind had enjoyed these rights, except when Ashwell was in the hands of Elizabeth, grandmother of Thomas,²¹ Richard King of Almain having then forced the tenants of Ashwell to come to his turn, Thomas being then a minor. The succeeding Earl of Chester had restored his rights to Thomas.²² Thomas pleaded prescription, but it is doubtful whether he maintained his claim, and there is no mention of view of frankpledge in the inquisition taken on his death. This occurred in 1315, his son Robert then being aged 40 or more.²³

Robert did homage in June 1315.²⁴ He was keeper of the Castle and Soke of Melburn (co. Derby) in 1323,²⁵ and in 1335 settled the manors of Ashwell and Markeaton (co. Derby) upon his son Thomas and Joan his wife in tail.²⁶ The date of Robert's death is not known, but Thomas (then Sir Thomas) died in 1349²⁷ and was succeeded by his son John, who did homage in 1351.²⁸ This John, who married Jane



CHESTER. *Azure three sheaves or.*



TUCKET. *Ermine a cheveron gules.*

¹ Exch. Dep. Mich. 18 Chas. II, 20; Brewer, *Beauties of Engl. & Wales*.

² *Ruil. Mag.* i, 237; ii, 31.

³ *Ibid.* i, 162.

⁴ *Rent. & Surv.* (Gen. Ser.), 806, m. 1.

⁵ Exch. Dep. loc. cit.

⁶ *Mins. Accts.* (Gen. Ser.), hdl. 1116, no. 2.

⁷ *V.C.H. Rul.* i, 139b; Domesday Bk. f. 349b (Lincolnshire).

⁸ *Bk. of Fees* (P.R.O.), i, 506; *Feud. Aids*, iv, 204; *Cal. Inq.* v, no. 515.

⁹ Round, *Feud. Engl.* 210, etc.

¹⁰ Farrer, *Honors and Knights' Fees*, ii, 28.

¹¹ *Ibid.*

¹² *Ibid.*; Add. MS. 6032, fol. 100.

¹³ *Pipe R. Soc.* xxviii, 72.

¹⁴ Add. MS. 6032, fol. 114.

¹⁵ *Bk. of Fees* (P.R.O.), i, 506.

¹⁶ *Excerpta e Rot. Fin.* i, 271; Farrer, *Honors and Knights' Fees*, ii, 31. Henry's wife was Emma, who had dower.

¹⁷ *Excerpta e Rot. Fin.* i, 390.

¹⁸ *Cal. Close R.* 1242-47, 247, 347.

¹⁹ Roberts, *Cal. Gen.* 25.

²⁰ Farrer, loc. cit.

²¹ Lady Elizabeth Tucket was patron of Ashwell in 1244 (*Linc. Rec. Soc.* ii, 221).

²² *Plac. de Quo Warr.* (Rec. Com.), 673.

²³ *Cal. Inq.* v, no. 515.

²⁴ *Cal. Fine R.* 1307-19, 251.

²⁵ *Cal. Close R.* 1323-7, 140.

²⁶ Feet of F. Div. Cos. Trin. 9 Edw. III, no. 169.

²⁷ *Cal. Inq.* ix, no. 250; *Cal. Fine R.* 1347-56, 128. Robert's wife was Agnes.

For pedigree of Tucket, see Wrottesley, *Ped. from Plea R.* 222, and *Ruil. Mag.* i, 233.

²⁸ *Cal. Fine R.* 1347-56, 283.

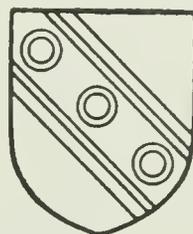
sister of Nicholas Lord Audley, was slain at Rochelle in 1371, when his son John succeeded him.²⁹ John may have died about 1379–80, when Ashwell is returned as held by John Dabridgecourt,³⁰ possibly guardian of the son and heir John who was born in 1371.³¹ He became co-heir of his great-uncle Nicholas Lord Audley in 1391 and was summoned to Parliament as a baron in 1405. He took part in the Welsh wars against Glendower, and died in 1408. His son James was then only 10 years old. John's mother, Maud, held a third of the manor in dower, and in case the heirs of John, 4th Lord Audley, failed, the manor was to remain to John Tuchet, brother of Thomas Tuchet, clerk, if he would take the name and arms of Sir John. In default, the manor was to be used to found a chantry to celebrate mass for the soul of Sir John Tuchet.³² James proved his age and had livery of his lands in 1420.³³ He distinguished himself in the wars with France and in 1447 had exemption for life from attendance in Parliament. He was slain by the Yorkists at Blore Heath in 1459.³⁴ His son, John Lord Audley, in consideration of his father's services, had special livery of his lands in 1459–60 without proof of age. He was taken prisoner at Calais in the next year and joined the cause of Edward IV. He died in September 1490, having settled Ashwell on his wife Ann, who survived him.³⁵ His son and successor Sir James joined in the Cornish insurrection and was taken prisoner and beheaded in June 1497.³⁶ Ashwell with his other lands escheated to the king. Sir James's son John Tuchet was restored in blood and honours in 1512, and made conveyances of this manor in 1513 and 1515,³⁷ the purpose of which appears to have been to sell it to Guy Palmes, serjeant at law. Guy died in 1516, the manor being then held by trustees for him.³⁸ His eldest son Brian succeeded and Ashwell became the chief seat of the family, who came from Yorkshire.³⁹ Brian was succeeded in 1528 by his son Francis, then aged 7.⁴⁰ He was in turn succeeded in 1567 by a son Francis, a minor,⁴¹ afterwards Sir Francis, on whose death in 1613 his son Sir Guy succeeded.⁴² Sir Guy was sheriff of Rutland in 1607, 1617 and 1625. His son Brian married Mary daughter of Gervase Tevery,⁴³ and a settlement of Ashwell manor was made in 1628, probably on their marriage, as Gervase was a party.⁴⁴ Sir Guy and Brian were Royalists, and at the outbreak of the Civil War Brian raised a regiment for the king.⁴⁵ He was knighted in 1642. Both he and his father had to compound for their estates in 1646. The fine was set at £3,905 and then reduced to £3,317, but Sir Guy was accused of undervaluing Ashwell manor and

other estates and an additional fine of £600 was imposed. Afterwards the original fine was ordered to stand. Sir Brian was fined at one-sixth, or £681.⁴⁶ He died about August 1654 and Francis Palmes, his son, who succeeded in the possession of Ashwell manor,⁴⁷ died without issue. His brother and successor William, who was sheriff of Rutland in 1661,⁴⁸ appears to have been encumbered by debts and was obliged to sell some of his lands. Ashwell and other estates in the counties of Nottingham and Derby had been settled by him on his wife Mary, kinswoman and co-heiress of William Lord Eure, and in 1667 he applied for permission to make an exchange of the settled lands, as some of his estates had to be sold for payment of his debts, and he did not wish to sell the Yorkshire lands which were his most ancient paternal inheritance.⁴⁹ Ashwell was sold by him and his son Guy in 1699 to Bartholomew Burton.⁵⁰ Bartholomew presented to the church in 1743 and William Burton in 1759.⁵¹ Bell no. 2 in Ashwell church, dated 1760, was the gift of Bartholomew Burton.

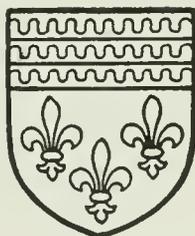
Lora, the only child of William Burton of Luffenham and Ashwell, who was a Commissioner of Excise, married in 1763 John Dawnay, Viscount Downe.⁵² He predeceased his wife, on whose death in May 1812 Ashwell passed to her son John Christopher Burton Dawnay, Viscount Downe. He was M.P. for Petersfield 1787–90 and for Wootton Bassett 1790–96, and was created Baron Dawnay of Cowick in 1796. He took his seat in the House of Lords in 1800. On his death without issue in 1832 the barony of Dawnay became extinct, and his brother William Henry succeeded to the Viscountcy.⁵³ He was in Holy Orders and was rector of Ashwell in 1803. On his death in 1846 his son William Henry, Conservative M.P. for Rutland 1841–6, succeeded. He died in 1857, and the west window in Ashwell church is a memorial to him. His son Hugh Richard, 8th Viscount Downe, sold Ashwell manor to Westley Richards, who on his death in 1897 left it to his daughter Lady Bromley for life.⁵⁴

In 1370 there was a dovecote, a windmill and a fishpond in the manor of Ashwell. By custom called cornbote the lord of the manor had of each tenant holding a bovate of land a sheaf of wheat and a sheaf of barley, and this custom was levied in 1370 upon 46 bovates.⁵⁵

The land which was granted by Henry Tuchet to the monastery of St. Mary de Pré⁵⁶ does not seem to have remained in the possession of that house. It may possibly be the same estate which was held at



DAWNAY, Viscount Downe. *Argent a bend cotised sable with three rings argent on the bend.*



PALMES. *Gules three fleurs de lis argent and a chief vair.*

²⁹ Rent. & Surv. (Gen. Ser.), 806, m. 1.

³⁰ Chan. Inq. p.m. 2 Ric. II, no. 19.

³¹ Complete Peerage (2nd ed.), i, 340.

³² Chan. Inq. p.m. 10 Hen. IV, no. 47.

³³ Cal. Close R. Hen. V, ii, 70.

³⁴ Complete Peerage, op. cit. 341.

³⁵ Cal. Inq. Hen. VII, i, no. 591.

³⁶ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), xxiii, 165.

³⁷ Feet of F. Div. Cos. Trin. 5 Hen. VIII; Rutl. Trin. 7 Hen. VIII.

³⁸ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), xxxii, 13.

³⁹ Cal. S.P. Dom. 1667–8, p. 65.

⁴⁰ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), l, 157.

⁴¹ Ibid. cl, 155. The manor was then said to be held of the Earl of Rutland's manor of Belvoir.

⁴² Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), cccxxxiii, 43.

⁴³ Wright, Hist. of Rutl. 17.

⁴⁴ Feet of F. Div. Cos. Mich. 4 Chas. I.

⁴⁵ Dict. Nat. Biog.

⁴⁶ Cal. of Com. for Comp. 1316.

⁴⁷ Recov. R. Hil. 1654, ro. 49; Wright, loc. cit.

⁴⁸ List of Sheriffs (P.R.O.), 114.

⁴⁹ Cal. S.P. Dom. 1667–8, 65.

⁵⁰ Feet of F. Rutl. East. 11 Will. III.

⁵¹ Bacon, Liber Regis, 843; Rutl. Mag. i, 237.

⁵² G.E.C. Complete Peerage, iii, 167.

⁵³ Ibid.

⁵⁴ Rutl. Mag. i, 236.

⁵⁵ Rent. & Surv. (Gen. Ser.), r, 806, m. i.

⁵⁶ See above.

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

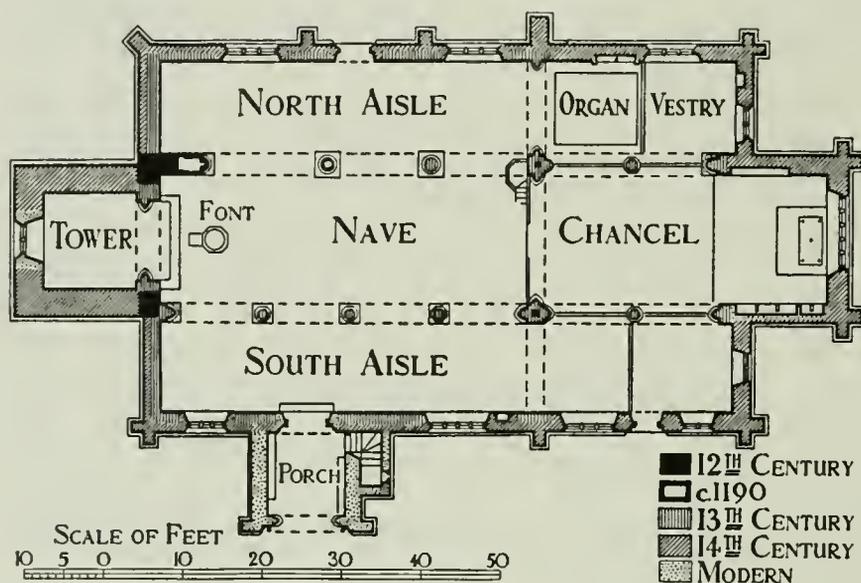
the Dissolution by the hospital of Burton Lazars.⁵⁷ This was granted in 1544 to Sir John Dudley, Viscount Lisle, Great Admiral of England, with the rest of the possessions of the hospital.⁵⁸

It was stated in 1586 that the Church land in Ashwell was held by the churchwardens for the use of the church, and had been employed for the maintenance of lamps before the image of our Lady, and for the payment of 2s. 8d. yearly to a priest for reading a beadrolle, as appeared by a church book dated 1515.⁵⁹

The church of *ST. MARY* consists of chancel 35 ft. 6 in. by 15 ft. 6 in., with north and south chapels, nave 46 ft. 6 in. by 15 ft. 9 in., with north and south aisles, south porch, and west tower 11 ft. 9 in. square, all these measurements being internal. The chapels are continuations eastward of the aisles and cover the chancel for about two-thirds of its length: that on the north side is used as a vestry and organ chamber. The aisles are 11 ft. 6 in. and 11 ft. wide

arch has a chamfered hood-mould on the nave side. Originally the arcade may have been of two bays with a portion of wall at each end, but when the south aisle was added in the next century the north arcade appears to have been remodelled at its east end and is now of three bays, the older western bay being considerably the wider. The alterations in the 13th century amounted almost to a rebuilding of the church, a new chancel with north and south chapels being then erected, and a south aisle and west tower added to the nave. The former porch also appears to have belonged to this period.⁶⁰ In the 14th century the whole of the fabric was remodelled and assumed the character it has since retained, the walls being refaced and in part rebuilt, and new windows and doorways made throughout. The external appearance of the church has since been that of a 14th-century building.

Of the 13th-century work the chancel arcades, the arch between chancel and nave, the south nave



PLAN OF ASHWELL CHURCH

respectively, the total width across nave and aisles being 43 ft.

The building is faced with ashlar and has high-pitched, slated, caved roofs to chancel, nave and porch. The aisles are under lean-to leaded roofs without parapets. There is no clearstory. There was an extensive restoration of the fabric in 1851 under the direction of William Butterfield, when the porch was rebuilt and the roofs renewed. Internally all the walls are plastered.

The church is mainly of 13th and 14th century date, but has developed from a 12th-century building to which a north aisle appears to have been added c. 1190. The wide semicircular westernmost arch of the existing north arcade of the nave belongs to this period and is of two chamfered orders, springing on the west from a half-round respond with moulded capital and base on a high square plinth, and on the east from a cylindrical pier the moulded base of which is apparently contemporary with the respond: the

arcade, the tower arch, and the arches dividing the nave aisles from the chapels are all more or less contemporary, and may be c. 1220-30. The nave arcade is of four equally spaced bays, with pointed arches of two chamfered orders on octagonal piers and keel-shaped responds, all with moulded capitals enriched with nail-head. The bases of the responds are moulded, but those of the piers are chamfered and on square plinths, all much restored: the

moulded hoods towards the nave have head-stops. The chancel and tower arches, the arches of the chancel arcades, and that between the north aisle and chapel are of the same character, with keel-shaped responds and nail-head enrichment in the capitals, but the arch dividing the south chapel and aisle rests on moulded corbels, that on the north side semicircular with nail-head, and the other a half-octagon without enrichment, supported by a head. The chancel arcades are of two bays, and differ from one another only in that there is a hood-mould on the south side alone. The two easternmost arches of the north arcade of the nave are pointed and of two chamfered orders, springing from cylindrical piers with moulded capitals and bases, and at the east end from a half-round moulded corbel, which, like the capitals of the piers, is enriched with nail-head. The western pier is apparently contemporary with the western arch with a later capital introduced when the pointed arches were erected; the eastern pier is taller and slenderer, and the size of the

⁵⁷ Dugdale, *Mon. Angl.* vi, 632.

⁵⁸ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xix, g. 610 (8); and see *Cal. Pat. R.* 1550-3, 348.

⁵⁹ *Exch. Dep. Mich.* 28 & 29 Eliz. 19.

⁶⁰ The new porch is in the style of the 13th century.



ASHWELL CHURCH : WOODEN EFFIGY



ASHWELL CHURCH FROM THE SOUTH-EAST



ASHWELL CHURCH : THE INTERIOR, LOOKING EAST

chamfers on the two later arches is increased, while the hoods are moulded and have head-stops.

The external 14th-century work varies in its architectural detail, but is of a rather elaborate character, ball-flower ornament being used in some profusion. It occurs in a string about 3 ft. below the eaves round the chancel and chapels, and also alternately with heads and four-leaved flowers along the south aisle of the nave: it is used also in the outer hollow chamfer of both windows of the north chapel, in one in the south aisle, and in the hood-mould of the chancel window. Of the windows generally the earliest in character is the east window of the south chapel, which is of two trefoiled lights and cinquefoiled circle with soffit cusping in the head, single chamfered jambs and hood-mould with notch stops. The corresponding window in the north chapel is also of two trefoiled lights, with a trefoiled opening in the head, but it has double hollow chamfered jambs and a hood with head-stops. Two other windows have double hollow chamfered jambs, but the rest are moulded. The north window of the north chapel and two on the south side of the church⁶¹ are square-headed, but elsewhere the windows are pointed. The buttresses are all of two stages with triangular heads and fleur-de-lys terminations, those at the east end and on the south side having trefoil cusping.

The chancel is faced with alternate wide and narrow courses of ironstone and grey freestone and has a much-restored east window of five trefoiled lights with reticulated tracery and internal shafted jambs with moulded capitals and bases; the lower part of the window was blocked in 1851 when the present reredos was erected. The east end of the chancel stands in front of the chapels about 12 ft., but there are no lateral windows. The beautiful double piscina is much restored and seems to have been moved to the extreme east end of the wall during the restoration, when the present triple sedilia were put in.⁶² The piscina has a pointed traceried head and two cinquefoiled moulded openings, and hood-mould with notch stop; the bowls have six foils, or flutings. In the north wall opposite the sedilia is a 15th-century recess 7 ft. wide and 15½ in. deep, under a round arch with heavy edge-roll, on the soffit of which, between two shallow sinkings, is a series of incised T's, probably referring to some member of the Tuchet family. On the inner face of each jamb and in the centre of the back of the recess is a small niche with embattled sill and crocketed pointed head with finials, that on the east being supported by a shield-shaped corbel on which the T device is repeated.⁶³

In the south chapel is a priest's doorway with slightly ogee head and label with finial and head-stops, the jambs with an inner wave moulding and outer

chamfer, and there are two windows in the south wall, that east of the doorway of two trefoiled lights with quatrefoil in the head, the other square-headed, of three lights, with reticulated tracery and returned hood-mould with head-stops. The square-headed window of the north chapel is of the same design, and at the north end of the east wall is a trefoil-headed recess, the sill of which is level with that of the window; south of the window there is a 13th-century image bracket enriched with nail-head.⁶⁴ The piscina of the chapel is a small bowl attached to the east respond of the chancel arcade, on its north side. In the north wall of the western part of the chapel, now almost hidden by the organ, are two sedilia forming a composition of great beauty, with cinquefoiled arches, moulded jambs and mullion and hood-moulds enriched with ball-flower, set in a crocketed gable with finial.⁶⁵ The presence of an altar at the east end of the south aisle of the nave is attested by a 14th-century piscina with trefoiled head and projecting sexfoil bowl. The south doorway is modern in the 14th-century style, but the original doorway remains on the north side, the jambs of which have an outer wave moulding. The three-light windows of the north aisle have good curvilinear tracery, but in the south aisle the tracery is reticulated.

The tower appears to have been rebuilt in the 14th century, but perhaps retaining the lower portion of the walls: it is of three stages, without buttresses or vice, but externally preserves few original architectural features below the bell-chamber. The west window is modern, or an old one completely restored, and in the middle stage is a small square-headed window on each side. The tall 14th-century bell-chamber windows are of two trefoiled lights with quatrefoil in the head, and the tower terminates in a battlemented parapet and pyramidal slated roof with cock vane. The 13th-century arch to the nave has already been mentioned. The lower stage is faced with grey ashlar as in the aisles, and on the north this is continued the full height of the tower, but on the other sides the facing consists of alternate courses of ironstone and freestone, as in the chancel.

The font is modern, with octagonal stone bowl, in the style of the 14th century, given in 1851 by Viscountess Downe. The wooden pulpit and all the fittings are of the same period.

On the floor of the south chapel is a cross-legged wooden monumental effigy, probably representing a knight of the Tuchet family, in hauberk, mail hose, surcoat, girdle and coif of mail, the head resting on cushions and a lion at the feet,⁶⁶ and in the same part of the church a flat marble slab with incised effigies of John Vernam (d. 1480) and Rose his wife (d. 1479) with Latin inscription round the verge.⁶⁷

⁶¹ The south-west window of the south chapel and the window west of the porch.

⁶² In the absence of a proper record of what was done in the chancel at the restoration it is impossible to say whether the sedilia are copied from old work or are entirely new. It has been suggested that the double sedilia in the north chapel, referred to below, were moved to that position from the chancel.

⁶³ The niche in the west jamb is shaped like a monstrance or reliquary. The recess would no doubt be used for the setting up of the Easter Sepulchre. In 1570 the foot of the rood loft, certain images 'in the top of the Chancel' and the old taper

stocks were ordered to be removed (Irons' Notes, Archd. Visit.).

⁶⁴ There is also a bracket on the south side of the east window of the south chapel.

⁶⁵ The seats are on the same level, 9 in. above the floor.

⁶⁶ Fryer, *Wooden Mon. Effigies* (Arch. lxi, 544), where the figure is thus described: 'In hauberk with gambeson beneath, mail hose, surcoat reaching to knees, girdle, coif of mail with narrow fillet round temples, sword belt (2 in.) with sword (1 ft. 11 in. remaining) on left side, spurs (pricks gone) and straps. Hands in prayer, right leg crossed over

left, lion (mutilated) at feet, and two cushions under head. Face, hands, and other portions somewhat decayed. Length 6 ft. 1 in.'

⁶⁷ The inscription reads: 'Hic jacent Johannes Vernam et Rosa uxor ejus parentes Mri Johis Vernam Canonici Ecclesie Cath. Sar. et Here. qui quid' Johannes obiit xx die Januarii Anno Dni Mille°cccc° Octogesimo. Et Rosa memorata obiit decimo septimo die mensis Decembris Anno Domini M.CCCC. septuagesimo nono quorū animabus propicietur Deus Amen.' In Wright's time (1684) the slab was in the chancel; it measures 7 ft. 3 in. by 3 ft. 7 in.

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

In the north chapel (vestry) is the alabaster effigy of a priest in eucharistic vestments, upon an earlier tomb of freestone: the figure retains traces of gilding and colour.⁶⁸ There is a brass plate in memory of Margaret Palmer (d. 1603) on the east wall of the same chapel, and below it a plate commemorating the benefaction of Elizabeth Wilcox (1648), 'born in this town but living in Derbyshire.' There are wall memorials in the south aisle to Westley Richards (d. 1897) and his wife (d. 1847), and to eleven men of the parish who fell in the war of 1914-19.

There is a ring of six bells, the first by C. and G. Mears of London, 1850; the second by Thomas Hedderley (I) of Nottingham, 1760; the third, fourth and tenor dated 1708, and the fifth by Edward Arnold of Leicester, 1786.⁶⁹

The plate consists of a silver gilt cup, paten and flagon by John Keith of London, 1849-50, modern mediæval pattern, given by Viscount Downe, and a plated almsdish.⁷⁰

The registers before 1812 are as follows: (i)

baptisms and burials 1595-1760, 1764-1806, marriages 1598-1754; (ii) baptisms and burials, 1806-12; (iii) marriages, 1754-1812.⁷¹

A churchyard cross was erected in 1851, and there is a modern lych gate.

The advowson has always passed *ADVOWSON* with the manor, but was retained when Viscount Downe sold the manor to Westley Richards. His son, the present Viscount, is patron.

Elizabeth Wilcox, by her will dated *CHARITIES* 20 April 1646, gave a piece of land situate near St. Peter's Bridge End and directed that one half of the yearly profits should be distributed by the vicar and churchwardens amongst the poor on St. Thomas's day. The endowment now consists of a sum of £952 13s. 10d. 2½ per cent. Consols held by the Official Trustees, and the annual income, amounting to £23 16s. 4d., is distributed among about 34 poor people in coal.

BURLEY

Burgelai (xi cent.); Burgle, Burgel, Burgeleia (xii cent.); Burlee (xiii cent.); Boroughle, Burle, Burleigh, Burley (xiv cent.).

Burley parish lies to the north-east of Oakham and contains about 3,051 acres. There is a gentle slope down from north to south, and over half the acreage is grassland.

A large part of the parish is occupied by Burley Park with Burley Wood, which comprises about 500 acres, to the south, part of the wood being in Exton parish. In 1207 there was a dispute between Henry de Armenters and Earl David as to these woods and in the boundary set out in the agreement regarding them¹ there is reference to a green ditch next to 'Altiechestouwe' towards the north. This may refer to Alstoe, from which the hundred takes its name, Alstoe Mount being near the northern boundary of the parish.

Alsthorpe was once a hamlet separate from Burley, but the name is now lost.² Even in 1652, when Alsthorpe manor was regularly included in conveyances of Burley manor, the locality seems to have disappeared under that name, and the land belonging is probably identifiable with Ostroppe field and Farre Ostroppe Close mentioned in a sale of the manor in that year.³ Chapel farm probably shows the site of Alsthorpe, for in 1312 there was a chapel which Nicholas de Segrave endowed with land at Alsthorpe.

The village of Burley stands along the highroad from Oakham to Stretton on a hill which rises abruptly from the vale of Catmose and commands a very extensive view. It is mainly grouped round a green on the side of the road. It was described by White in 1862 as a small neat village on a pleasant eminence.⁴ Burley appears once to have been a flourishing town.

In 1375 it was destroyed by fire, and in order to restore its fortunes the king granted to Thomas le Despenser a yearly fair on the Vigil and Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross.⁵

Burley-on-the-Hill and its surroundings combine to form the lordliest residence in the county. The only house and lay-out that could vie with it was Normanton Park, now pulled down; but even this, although a fine mansion, lacked the commanding position that helps to give Burley its pre-eminence. Sir John Harington entertained James I in April 1603 at his house at Burley when the king was on his way southward to receive the crown. Sir John provided him with sport by hunting hares on Empingham Heath and engaged 'a hundred high men that seemed like the Patagones [Patagonians] huge long fellows of twelve or fourteen feet high.' The king wondered what they were, but coming nearer they proved to be a company of poor suitors on high stilts preferring a petition against Lady Hatton. The king spent two nights at Burghley, near Stamford, and returned to Burley (co. Rutland). On the way he had a fall from his horse, of which he made light, but was so bruised that he had to continue his journey by coach.⁶ The present house replaces a great predecessor which was erected by the princely George Villiers, Duke of Buckingham, the 'Steenie' of James I. It was here that he entertained royalty more than once,⁶ Ben Jonson's masque of the 'Gipsies' being presented by a company of distinguished amateurs on one occasion, while on another occurred the well-known incident of introducing to their majesties the dwarf, Geoffrey Hudson, in a cold baked pie. Hudson was then a child of nine and had attained a height of only a foot and a half.⁷

⁶⁸ The figure is said to represent John Vernam (d. 1489), four times rector (1465-71, 1471-73, 1477-82, 1486-89).

⁶⁹ North, *Cb. Bells of Rutl.* 118, where the inscriptions are given.

⁷⁰ Hope, *Cb. Plate in Rutl.* 1. Each of these four pieces bears a long Latin inscription indicating their use and recording the donor's name and the date.

There are also a pewter paten, two dishes of base metal, and a gilt bronze baptismal shell.

⁷¹ The last marriage entry is 1808. The first volume is on parchment, and was bound in rough calf in 1809. A copy is also kept.

¹ Feet of F. Rutl. file 2, no. 18.

² *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 131-2.

³ Close R. 1652, pt. 50, no. 3.

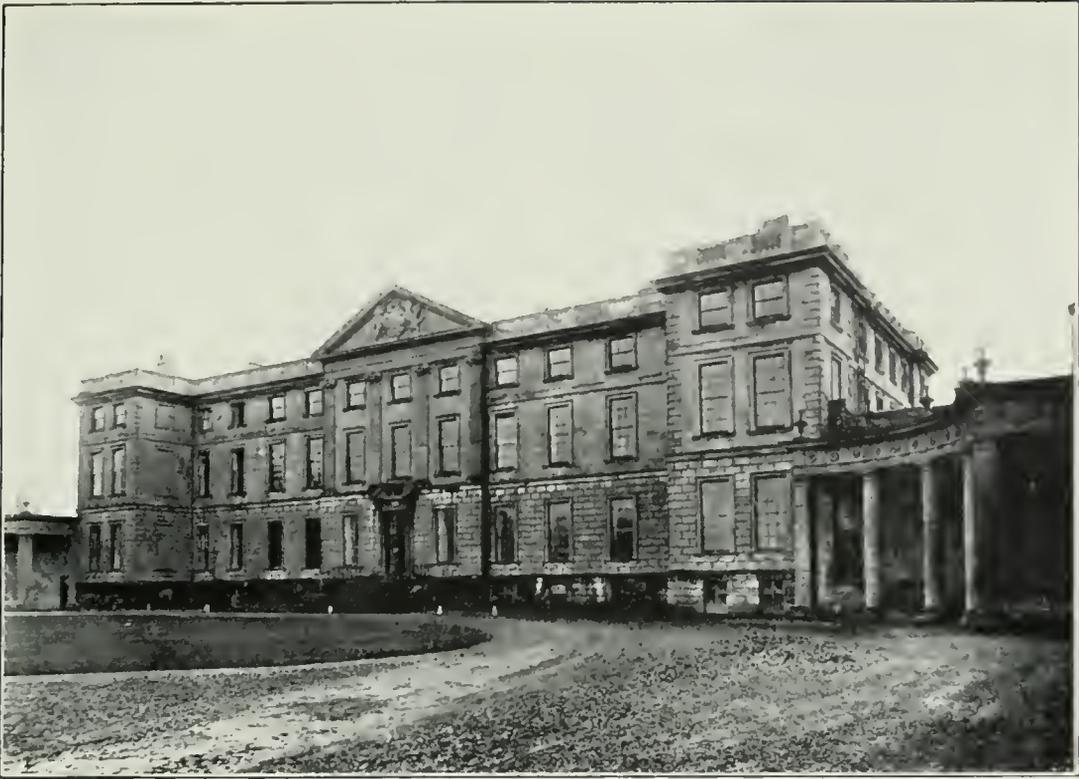
⁴ *Leic. and Rutl.* (2nd ed.).

⁵ *Cal. Chart. R.* 1341-1417, 230.

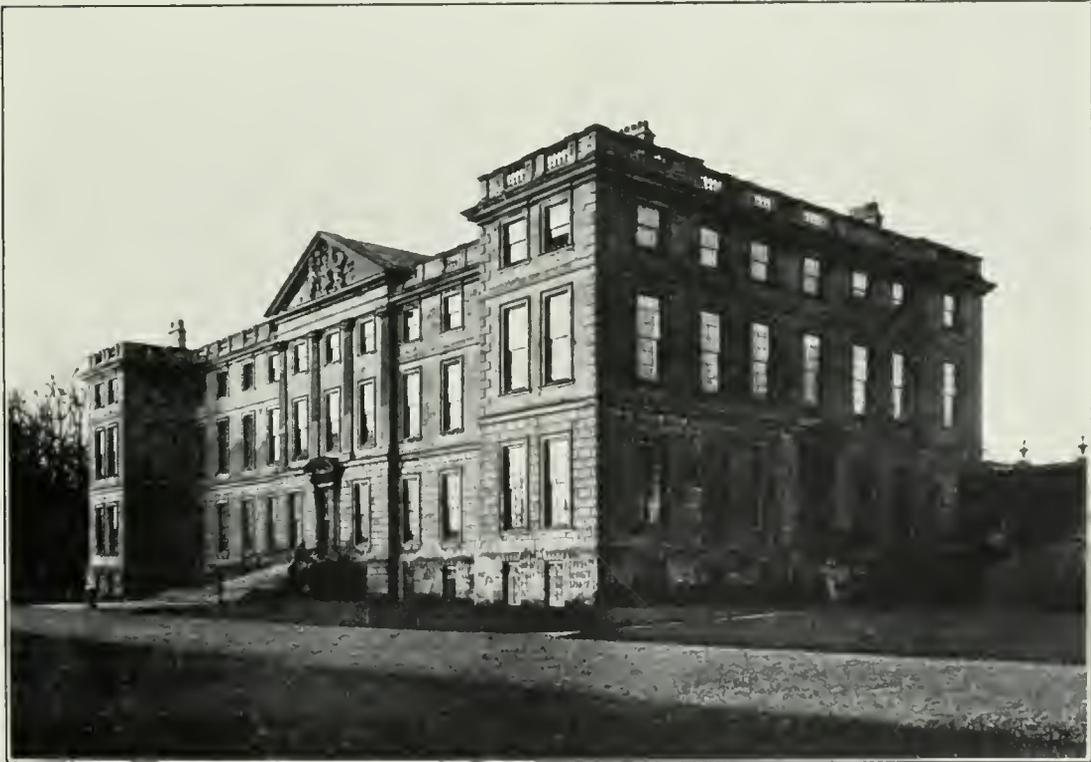
⁶ Arber, *An Engl. Garland*, viii, 485.

⁷ *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* (Buccleuch MSS.), i, 251; xiv, App. 4, 25; *Cal. S.P. Dom.* 1619-23, pp. 281, 300.

⁸ *Rutl. Mag.* v, 21.



BURLEY-ON-THE-HILL: NORTH FRONT



BURLEY-ON-THE-HILL FROM THE SOUTH-EAST

Buckingham bought the estate from the Haringtons of Exton, and built a great mansion on the brow of the hill close to the church. There is not much definite information as to this structure, but Evelyn, who passed by it in August 1654, after it suffered from fire in the Civil War, remarks that it was 'worthily reckon'd among the noblest seates in England.' There is a plan of it in the John Thorpe collection at the Soane Museum⁸ entitled in pencil 'Duke of Buckingham at Burghley,' which appears to be a sketch of what was proposed for the mansion. There are no dimensions given, nor is there any scale of feet, but if, as appears probable, it is drawn at 20 ft. to the inch, the house would have been some 340 ft. long by 320 ft. wide, built round a courtyard 170 ft. square. The disposition of the rooms indicates a fairly late date in the Jacobean period, and as the masque of the 'Gipsies' was presented in 1621, that year may be taken as approximately the date of the old house, the royal visit being perhaps an august house-warming. But the house had not a long life, for in 1645, being held by the Parliamentary forces during the Civil War, and finding it necessary to abandon the place, 'they set fire to the House and Furniture, and left it. Yet the stables 'scaped the effect of their malice, which remain to this day [1684] the noblest (or at least equal to any) Building of this Kind in England.'⁹ Wright thought so highly of the building as to give an illustration of it, and his opinion was supported by Thomas Fuller, who says in his *Worthies* that Buckingham's house was 'superior to all for the Stable; where horses (if their *pabulum* so plenty as their *stabulum* stately) were the best accommodated in England.'

Little more can be learnt of the house itself, but the escape of the stables affected the lay-out of the present buildings. Buckingham's mansion stood on the brow of the hill, and the ruins must have been a conspicuous object for miles around. There is a tradition that when Daniel Finch, the 2nd Earl of Nottingham, towards the close of the 17th century, was journeying to Yorkshire with a view to purchasing an estate of the Duke of Buckingham, he passed near Burley-on-the-Hill, and was so struck by its commanding position that he bought this estate in preference to the other. Whether or not this was the reason, the fact remains that he did buy the Rutland property, and proceeded to build the present house.

Judging by a small original survey of the site published in Miss Pearl Finch's *History of Burley-on-the-Hill*, the old house, with a large outer court on its east side, stretched its length along the edge of the hill, with the stables at some considerable distance to the north. The survey shows the position and shape of the 'old house,' which it is difficult to reconcile with Thorpe's plan; but as to the actual position there cannot be much doubt, and it is practically certain that the new house was built on the site of its predecessor. Its general lay-out followed a type prevalent at the period, the principal mansion being supported on either hand by an outlying building containing respectively the kitchens and laundry, and connected with it by a colonnade. But here at Burley, in addition to the usual colonnade, there is a second one on each side extending for a length of 300 ft. up to the old

stables, and another block built to match it 500 ft. away on the opposite side of the vast entrance court. The stable block has changed somewhat in appearance owing to a fire which occurred in 1705 and to certain alterations thereby entailed; but it still retains some of its stateliness, for the ground floor is vaulted in a plain manner, and some of the vaulting is carried on columns. The inclusion of this famous building in the new lay-out accounts for the inordinate length of the connecting colonnade.

The mansion itself is a simple and dignified building of stone, strictly symmetrical in plan, but rather lacking in architectural attraction. It was built between 1694 and 1702, but there is no record as to who was the architect. There are many letters to and from Lord Nottingham about the operations, and many of the building accounts have been preserved, much of which information is printed in Miss Pearl Finch's *History*. Below the south front and extending a long distance to the west is a wide terrace, lordly in its dimensions. The view from it is of great extent, and even greater is that from the roof of the house, where vast distances can be seen on every side over the five counties of Rutland, Northampton, Huntingdon, Lincoln and Leicester. The interior of the house corresponds with the grandeur of the exterior. The rooms are all large and lofty; indeed, the absence of smaller rooms does not make for homeliness. But the effect is stately. A fire which occurred in 1908 destroyed the interior west of the central hall and saloon, but the fine staircase, of which the walls and ceiling were painted by Lanscroun after the fashion of Verrio and Laguerre, was fortunately undamaged, and many of the rooms still retain woodwork in the handsome large panels of the time of William and Mary. There are many pictures, including some interesting family portraits, and there is a large amount of good tapestry well displayed on the lofty walls; the rooms are replete with ancient furniture, among which some beds of state and a number of cabinets are particularly worthy of notice. The reinstatement of the rooms destroyed by the fire has been skilfully carried out, and the whole place is a fine example of the stately mansions of which England can at present boast the possession to a greater degree than other countries. The park is surrounded by a stone wall for nearly six miles, and is covered with oaks, elms and beech trees of great value.

In Burley Wood is a curious little house known as the Hermitage, designed and built by Lord Winchilsea in 1807 as a summer-house. It is roughly built of wood and thatched with reeds, and consists of two rooms, one of which has a primitive fireplace. Another summer-house called Simon's Hut was blown down in 1922.¹⁰

Place-names which occur in the records are Goddemade,¹¹ Eggwonge, the Shirewood, Powers Close, Boddilie meadow, Starr Close, Ladie Close, and Drie Close.¹²

In 1652 there were a wind grist mill near Langham Gapps and a malt mill at the 'Townes end.'¹³

Before the Conquest Ulf held *BUR-MANORS LEY*. In 1086 Geoffrey held it of Gilbert de Gant or Ghent. Ulf is no doubt to be identified with the Ulf who preceded

⁸ fol. 105, 106.

⁹ *Cal. S.P. Dom.* 1644, pp. 360, 361; 1644-5, p. 100.

¹⁰ Inf. kindly supplied by Miss J. Finch.

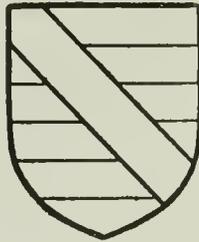
¹¹ Feet of F. Rutl. file 2, no. 18.

¹² Close R. 1652, pt. 50, no. 3.

¹³ *Ibid.*

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

Gilbert de Gant in his manor of Folkingham (co. Linc.), and with Ulf Fensic who was Gilbert's 'antecessor' in this and many other counties.¹⁴ The overlordship followed the descent of the barony of Gant. Gilbert was succeeded by his son Walter (d. 1138), and he by his son Gilbert (d. 1156), Earl of Lincoln in right of his wife. He left a daughter Alice, who married Simon de St. Liz, Earl of Huntingdon.¹⁵ On the death of Alice without issue the overlordship went to her uncle Robert de Gant (d. c. 1162). His son Gilbert (d. 1241) was followed by his son Gilbert (d. 1274), and he by another Gilbert who died without issue in 1297, and the overlordship passed to the heirs of his three sisters.¹⁶ Burley was held of the honour of Gant in 1457.¹⁷



GANT. *Barry or and azure a bend gules.*

Geoffrey, who held the subtenancy of Burley in 1086, also held Kislingbury (co. Northants) of Gilbert de Gant,¹⁸ and both these manors we find, in the 12th century, in the family of Armenters or Ermenters. It is possible therefore that Geoffrey may have been the same as or the father of Geoffrey de Armenters who gave tithes from Stow and Kislingbury to St. Andrew's Priory, Northampton. In the middle of the 12th century his son John de Armenters held Stow of the fee of Gilbert de Gant,¹⁹ and died without issue. He seems to have been succeeded by his nephew Sir David son of Henry de Armenters who gave the church of Burley to the nuns of Nuneaton (co. Warw.).²⁰ This grant was confirmed by his overlord, Simon, Earl of Huntingdon, and by Henry son and successor of David de Armenters.²¹ Henry de Armenters had succeeded David before 1196, when he held two knights' fees in the county of Rutland and paid scutage of 40s.²² In 1206 Henry paid 5 marks for having judgment against David, Earl of Huntingdon, about the boundary between his vill of Burley and the Earl's vill of Exton.²³ The dispute seems to have related to that part of the wood of Burley lying outside Henry's park.

Geoffrey son of Henry had probably succeeded by 1218, when he acquired land in Burley from Robert son of Ralph.²⁴ In 1228 Geoffrey and his heirs were exempted from serving on assizes and juries.²⁵ In 1230 he was one of the commissioners on the Assize of Arms for Rutland,²⁶ and held many other local appointments.²⁷ He paid 4 marks in 1235-6 for

2 fees of the honour of Gant in Rutland.²⁸ His son John by his first wife Juliana, daughter of Gilbert de Gant, his paramount lord,²⁹ had respite from becoming a knight in 1253.³⁰ Both this John and his brother Henry died without issue and their half-sister Alice, daughter of Geoffrey de Armenters by a second wife, daughter of Peter Picot, became heiress of the Armenters estates. Her custody was given in 1256 to her overlord, Gilbert de Gant.³¹ Alice, widow of Henry de Armenters, is mentioned in 1266.³² The heiress Alice had married Gerard de Lisle before 1275-6.³³ Gerard had quittance of general summons in the counties of Northampton, Rutland and Norfolk in 1285,³⁴ and was dead by 1288.³⁵ Alice, who survived him, married Sir Nicholas de Segrave. In 1293 another Alice, widow of John de Armenters, who was then wife of Thomas Malekake, claimed dower in Burley.³⁶ Nicholas de Segrave held half a fee there in 1305,³⁷ and in 1312-13 the manor was settled on Nicholas and Alice and their issue male, with remainder in default to John de Lisle, third son of the heiress Alice.³⁸ Nicholas de Segrave was still



LISLE. *Gules a leopard passant argent crowned or.*

in possession of the manor in 1316,³⁹ and died in 1322,⁴⁰ when John de Lisle succeeded. He and his brother Sir Warin were partisans of Thomas, Earl of Lancaster, Sir Warin being hanged at Pontefract in 1322. John forfeited his lands, and Burley was given into the custody of Edmund de Assheby.⁴¹ He appears to have regained his manors by 1327, for he then complained that Edmund and others had taken away stock and felled timber on several of his estates, including Burley.⁴² He, as Sir John de Lisle of Burley, settled land in Burley and Alsthorp in 1346 on himself and his wife Margaret and their issue, with remainder to Henry son of John de Lisle.⁴³ It would appear that this line of the Lisle family died out, for in 1363 Warin, son of Sir Gerard de Lisle, released the manor to the king in order that it might be granted to Anne, widow of Edward le Despenser.⁴⁴ This Warin was grandson of Sir Warin de Lisle, brother of John.⁴⁵ In 1364 Anne endowed a chaplain with certain rents from Burley, to pray daily in the church of Burley for the souls of the king, Queen Philippa, and Anne, and for John de Lisle and Henry de Lisle. In the following year she settled half the manor of Burley on herself for life, with remainder to

¹⁴ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 131, 139b.

¹⁵ Dugdale, *Mon. Angl.* i, 630-1; Assize R. 341, m. 2; G.E.C. *Complete Peerage*, v, 88.

¹⁶ Dugdale, *Baronage*, i, 400; Bridges, *Hist. Northants*, i, 88.

¹⁷ Chan. Inq. p.m. 36 Hen. VI, no. 34.

¹⁸ *V.C.H. Northants*, i, 346.

¹⁹ *Ibid.* 371; Baker, *Northants*, i, 443; cf. Dr. Round in *Ancestor*, i, 191-3.

²⁰ Add. Chart. (B.M.) 47789. David's mother's name was Isabel (Wrottesley, *Ped. from Plea R.* 473). No coat of arms for this family seems to be recorded. There are, however, seals of three members of this house in the British Museum collection, all bearing awards. David de Armenters' of Hundigton or Honington, co. Linc.' seals *circa* 1150 with a device

of three swords, that in the middle hilt downwards, the others hilt upwards—'perhaps,' comments the author of the catalogue, 'in allusion to a shield of arms.' The seal of Henry 'of Whitfield, co. Northant,' shows a single sword, point downwards; while that of Walter de Armenters, 'also called W. filius Emma de Insula,' has two swords, one pointing upwards, the other downwards.

²¹ Add. Chart. 47802.

²² *Red Bk. of Excheq.* (Rolls Ser.), 103; *Pipe R. Soc.* (New Ser.), vii, 229.

²³ *Curia Regis R.* iv, 110, 111; Feet of F. Rutl. 9 John, no. 1⁸.

²⁴ *Ibid.* Trin. 3 Hen. III, no. 3.

²⁵ *Cal. Close R.* 1227-31, 53.

²⁶ *Ibid.* 401.

²⁷ *Ibid.* 1231-4, 586; 1234-7, 191, 553.

²⁸ *Bk. of Fees* (P.R.O.), i, 506.

²⁹ Baker, loc. cit.

³⁰ *Cal. Close R.* 1251-3, 444.

³¹ *Excerpt. e Rot. Fin.* ii, 225, 444.

³² *Ibid.*

³³ *Rot. Hund.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 54.

³⁴ *Cal. Close R.* 1279-88, 364, 406, 407.

³⁵ *Ibid.* p. 554.

³⁶ *Abbrev. Plac.* (Rec. Com.), 232.

³⁷ *Feud. Aids*, iv, 204.

³⁸ Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 6 Edw. II, no. 8.

³⁹ *Feud. Aids*, iv, 208; Inq. a.q.d. cxii, 1.

⁴⁰ G.E.C. *Complete Peerage*, vii, 104.

⁴¹ *Rolls of Parl.* ii, 383 a.

⁴² *Cal. Pat. R.* 1327-30, p. 79.

⁴³ Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 19 Edw. III, no. 39.

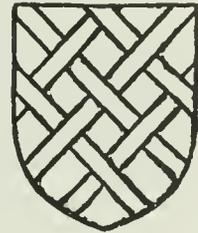
⁴⁴ *Cal. Close R.* 1360-4, p. 551.

⁴⁵ Baker, loc. cit.

her second son Sir Thomas le Despenser.⁴⁶ In 1369 Sir Thomas, the king's kinsman, was in possession of the whole manor,⁴⁷ and in 1375 he had a grant of a court leet and view of frankpledge and a fair at Burley, and quittance of suit of counties and hundreds for his men of the manor. The reason for this grant was that the vill of Burley having been destroyed by fire, and the inhabitants being so impoverished by excessive ameracements for suits of hundreds and other demands by the sheriff, they threatened to abandon their holdings unless some assistance was given them.⁴⁸

In 1379 Sir Thomas granted Burley manor to trustees, two of whom were his brother Henry, Bishop of Norwich, and his nephew Hugh le Despenser.⁴⁹ Thomas died without issue in 1381,⁵⁰ when at the outbreak of the Peasants' Revolt Henry, Bishop of Norwich, was at Burley.⁵¹ It has been stated that Burley manor belonged to him,⁵² but he probably held it only as a trustee for Sir Thomas, and the manor actually passed to Hugh le Despenser, younger son of Edward, brother of Sir Thomas. Hugh sold it in 1383 to Sir Robert de Plessington,⁵³ chief baron of the Exchequer.⁵⁴ He died in 1394, and Burley manor passed to his son Sir Robert,⁵⁵ who was succeeded in 1405 by a son Robert, then a child of eleven.⁵⁶ Wardship of his lands was granted to Queen Joan and dower was assigned to his widow Isabel.⁵⁷ Robert de Plessington died in 1407 while still a minor, and his brother Henry succeeded.⁵⁸ Isabel died in 1411 holding a third of the manor.⁵⁹ Henry died in 1452, his son William being a minor.⁶⁰ The custody was granted to Edmund, Duke of Somerset, and a third of the manor was granted as dower to Henry's widow Isabel. William de Plessington died without issue in 1457, when Burley passed to his cousin Isabel, wife of John Fraunceys, daughter of John de Plessington, brother of Sir Henry.⁶¹ In 1461 Isabel and her husband granted an annual rent of 20 marks from the manor to Fulk Stafford and his wife Margaret.⁶² By Sir John Fraunceys Isabel had three daughters, Joan, Alice and Joan.⁶³ The elder Joan married firstly — Palmer, and secondly William Nevill of Rolleston (co. Notts). Alice married firstly John Worseley, and secondly William Staveley of Bynnell (co. Oxon), and the younger Joan married Thomas Sapcote. After the death of Sir John Fraunceys, Isabel married Sir Richard Sapcote, who died in 1543 and was buried in the College of Fotheringhay.⁶⁴ She died 26 October 1492,⁶⁵ and her lands were divided among her three daughters.⁶⁶ By partition Burley manor was assigned to Thomas Sapcote and Joan, except the Great Wood,

which was to be divided equally between the three sisters.⁶⁷ Thomas and Joan spent £300 and more on building and repairs at Burley, but they seem to have had some difficulty in getting their estate in the manor confirmed by the arbitrators who made the partition.⁶⁸ Sir Edward Sapcote, son and successor of Thomas and Joan, died in 1547, having settled Burley manor in 1527 on his wife Joan, who survived him. He had no children and his heirs were his sister Dorothy, wife of John Durant of Cottesmore, and his nephews, Thomas Wake son of another sister Isabel, and Robert son of Anne Brooksby, a third sister.⁶⁹ John Durant and Dorothy settled Dorothy's share of the manor upon themselves and John's heirs in 1548.⁷⁰ Robert Brooksby obtained licence in 1550 to enter on his share of the manor, and he settled it on himself and his wife Dorothy and their children.⁷¹ Thomas Wake sold his third in 1549 to Sir John Harington,⁷² who died seized of it in 1553. Sir John was succeeded by his son James,⁷³ who obtained a further conveyance of this third of the manor from Thomas Wake in 1554.⁷⁴ Dorothy Durant survived both her husband, who died in 1558, and her son William, who died in the following year.⁷⁵ In 1573 John Durant, son of William, sold his third to Sir James Harington,⁷⁶ who had already acquired the other third from Robert Brooksby and Dorothy in 1561-2.⁷⁷ Sir James made a settlement of Burley and other manors in 1572 on the occasion of the marriage of his son John with Anne, daughter and heir of Robert Kelway, of Shellingford (co. Berks).⁷⁸ Sir James died in 1592, when his son Sir John succeeded. Sir John had been knighted in 1584 and was M.P. for Rutland in 1571, 1593, 1597-8 and 1601. He served as High Sheriff of Rutland in 1594-5, 1598-9 and 1602-3, and at the Coronation in that year was created Baron Harington of Exton. He was entrusted with the care and upbringing of the Princess Elizabeth. Having accompanied her to Heidelberg on her marriage to the Elector Palatine Frederick V, he died of fever at Worms in August, 1613.⁷⁹ Anne, his widow, survived until May 1620, but his son and successor John survived him less than a year, being buried at Exton in February 1614. His heirs were his sisters Lucy, wife of Edward, Earl of Bedford, and Frances,



HARINGTON. Sable fretty argent.

⁴⁶ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1364-7, pp. 45, 57. Among the Ancient Deeds is an appointment by the king (1363-4) of an attorney to receive seisin from Anne widow of Sir Edward le Despenser of the manor of Burley (Anct. D. A, s. 56).

⁴⁷ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1367-70, p. 219.

⁴⁸ *Abbrev. Rot. Orig.* ii, 338; *Cal. Chant. R.* 1341-1417, p. 230; *Inq. a.q.d. cccxxxviii*, 7.

⁴⁹ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1377-81, p. 453.

⁵⁰ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 4 Ric. II, no. 21.

⁵¹ *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

⁵² *Ibid.*

⁵³ *Cal. Close R.* 1381-5, p. 597

⁵⁴ *Ibid.* 211, 444, 550.

⁵⁵ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 17 Ric. II, 43.

⁵⁶ *Ibid.* 7 Hen. IV, 37.

⁵⁷ *Cal. Close R.* 1405-9, 9.

⁵⁸ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 7 Hen. V, no. 29.

⁵⁹ *Ibid.*

⁶⁰ *Ibid.* 31 Hen. VI, no. 3.

⁶¹ *Ibid.* 36 Hen. VI, no. 34.

⁶² Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 1 Edw. IV.

⁶³ *Cal. Inq.* Hen. VII, i, nos. 418, 1172.

⁶⁴ Will of his grandson, Sir Richard Sapcote of Elton (Ilunts), P.C.C. 23 Spert.

⁶⁵ March 1494 according to one inquisition, and 27 Oct. 1494 according to another.

⁶⁶ *Cal. Inq.* Hen. VII, i, nos. 1062, 1172, 1257.

⁶⁷ *Early Chan. Proc. bde.* 245, no. 30. George Staveley died seized of a third of Burley Wood in 1525, and in 1539 John Staveley his son conveyed it to Edward Sapcote and Joan his wife: *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), xlv, 88; *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xiv (ii), g. 435 (57).

⁶⁸ *Early Chan. Proc. bde.* 255, no. 25.

⁶⁹ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), lxxxix, 121.

⁷⁰ Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 2 Edw. VI; *Cal. Pat. R.* 1547-8, p. 373.

⁷¹ *Ibid.* 1548-9, 170; 1549-51, 169; Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 3 Edw. VI.

⁷² *Cal. Pat. R.* 1548-9, 170.

⁷³ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), ci, 101.

⁷⁴ Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 1 & 2 Phil. & M.

⁷⁵ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), cxv, 35; cxxvii, 41.

⁷⁶ Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 15 & 16 Eliz.

⁷⁷ *Ibid.* Trin. 4 Eliz.

⁷⁸ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), ccxxxii, 81; Feet of F. Div. Cos. Hil. 15 Eliz.

⁷⁹ *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), vi, 321; *Dict. Nat. Biog.*; *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), cclliii, 116.

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

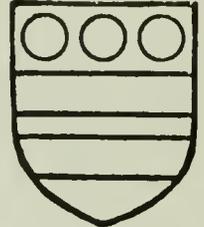
wife of Sir Robert Chichester. Burley appears to have been assigned to Lucy, and she and her husband conveyed it in 1620 and 1621 to George Villiers, Marquess of Buckingham,⁸⁰ the favourite of James I. Villiers was created Earl of Coventry and Duke of Buckingham on 18 May 1623, and was assassinated at Portsmouth in 1628. His second but first surviving son, George Villiers, succeeded to Burley. During the Commonwealth his lands were confiscated and granted in 1650 to Thomas, Lord Fairfax. In 1652 Burley was sold by the trustees for forfeited estates to Oliver Cromwell.⁸¹ The Duke of Buckingham married Mary daughter of Lord Fairfax in 1657, and at the Restoration his lands were restored.⁸² He died in April 1687, and in 1689 a bill was passed for the sale of his estates for payment of his debts.⁸³ Burley was sold to Heneage Finch, first Earl of Nottingham, a noted constitutional lawyer, who was successively Solicitor-General, Lord Keeper and Lord Chancellor. He was one of the prosecuting counsel in the trial of the regicides in October 1660 and he was councillor to Queen Catherine. He died in December 1682, when his eldest son, Daniel, succeeded.⁸⁴

Daniel was a steady supporter of James II and was one of the last of the English statesmen to accept the Revolution Settlement. Having done so, he became a trusted servant and minister of the new sovereigns. He held office under Queen Anne and George I, but retired from politics soon after the accession of George I, and from that time lived principally at Burley. He died in January 1730, shortly after succeeding to the Earldom of Winchelsea, on the death of John, fifth Earl, in September 1729.⁸⁵ The Earl had a numerous family and there is still extant a letter written from Burley by him to Lord Bruce in 1705 requesting him that he will 'christen' his little girl, his twenty-fifth child.⁸⁶

Daniel, second but first surviving son, succeeded. He held various public offices and was First Lord of the Admiralty in 1742-4 and again in 1757, and one of the Regents of the Realm in 1743. He died in his 81st year in 1769.⁸⁷ His nephew George, son of William Finch, succeeded. He died unmarried in 1826, when the titles went to his cousin George William Finch Hatton, but Burley passed to George Finch. By his second wife, Lady Louisa Elizabeth Somerset, daughter of the sixth Duke of Beaufort, George had a son George Henry, who succeeded him at Burley in 1870. He was a Privy Councillor, County Councillor and M.P. for Rutland. On his death in May 1907 he was succeeded by his son by his first wife, Alan George Finch. He died in 1914 and Burley then passed to its present owner, his half-brother, Mr. Wilfred Henry Montgomery Finch.⁸⁸



FINCH. *Argent a chevron between three griffons passant sable.*



WAKE. *Or two bars gules with three roundels gules in the chief.*

Before the Conquest Lewric held a carucate of land in *ALSTHORPE* (Alestanstorp, xi cent.; Alstantorp, Alesthorp, xiii cent.; Asthorp, Alsthorp, xiv cent.; Aylesthorpe, xvi cent.; Awsthorp, Ostroppe, Awlestrop, Aulestropp, xvii cent.; Austroppe, Alstroppe, Alsthorpe, xviii and xix cent.). In 1086 Oger, son of Ungemar, held of the king 2 ploughs and 16 acres of meadow.⁸⁹ From the subsequent connexion of this estate with the Wake family it is possible to identify Oger, son of Ungemar, who does not occur elsewhere in the survey under this name, with the well-known Oger the Breton, lord of Bourne (co. Lincs), whose lands after the death or forfeiture of his son Roger were granted to Baldwin Fitz Gilbert de Clare, from whom they subsequently came to the Wakes.⁹⁰ Alsthorpe evidently passed with the rest of Oger's land, for the demesne pasture there was granted by Emma, daughter of Baldwin Fitz Gilbert, and her husband Hugh Wake to the monastery of Bourne, which had been founded in 1138 by her father.⁹¹ The abbot's estate at Alsthorpe was returned in 1275 as one carucate of land.⁹² In 1327 the land was leased by the abbot to Richard Hudde of Kilpsham, who was accused of wasting and destroying the land to the disinheritation of the abbot.⁹³ It is not known when the abbot sold this estate, but no land in Alsthorpe was held by the abbey at the Dissolution.⁹⁴

Other land in Alsthorpe was held under the Wakes by the Danesys. Peter Danesy held half a fee of the barony of Hugh Wake in 1235,⁹⁵ and in 1257 Simon Danesy granted land in Alsthorpe, for the health of his soul and that of Mary his wife and his children, ancestors and successors, to the priory of Nuneaton in Warwickshire. This gift comprised 3 messuages with crofts and 3 virgates of land formerly held by Ralph Malet, Robert Sharp and Thomas son of Gunhilda.⁹⁶ The grant was confirmed by Baldwin Wake and witnessed by Anketin de Martivall, sheriff of Rutland, so that the date may be placed as 1257.⁹⁷ This estate was returned as a carucate of land in 1275-6.⁹⁸

The nuns of Nuneaton held the rectory and advowson of Burley, and their land at Alsthorpe, called Alsthorpeland, was often farmed out with the tithes. In 1425 the nuns acquired of William Dawson, vicar of Burley, a messuage and garden in Burley and a carucate of arable land in the field of Alnesford containing 60 acres, without licence of the king.⁹⁹ They leased their estate in Alsthorpe in 1486 to Thomas Sapcote and Lady Isabel Sapcote, widow, for 20 years at a rent of 6s. 8d., 8 measures of oats and one carucate of good dry hay. In 1486 the prioress sued Thomas for the rent and arrears amounting to

⁸⁰ *Visit. Rutl.* 1618-19 (Harl. Soc.), 38-9; Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 18 Jas. I; Mich. 19 Jas. I.

⁸¹ *Cal. of Com. for Comp.* 333; Add. Chart. 180c; Close R. 1652, pt. 50, no. 3.

⁸² *Recov. R. Mich.* 12 Chas. II, ro. 134.

⁸³ *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xii, App. vi, pp. 218, 219.

⁸⁴ *Dict. Nat. Biog.*; G.E.C. *Complete Peerage*, vi, 106.

⁸⁵ *Ibid.* 107; *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

⁸⁶ *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xv, App. vii, p. 192. He had 31 in all.

⁸⁷ G.E.C. op. cit. viii, 179-80.

⁸⁸ Burke, *Landed Gentry*.

⁸⁹ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 139.

⁹⁰ *Ibid.* 131; Round, *Feud. Engl.* 165.

⁹¹ Dugdale, *Mon. Angl.* vi, 371.

⁹² *Rot. Hund.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 54.

⁹³ De Banco R. 260, m. 8.

⁹⁴ Unless it was Elsthorpe (co. Lincs) (Dugdale, op. cit. 372).

⁹⁵ *Bk. of Fees* (P.R.O.), i, 506.

⁹⁶ Add. Chart. 47790, 47791, 47792.

⁹⁷ *List of Sheriffs* (P.R.O.), 112. Later Anketin is stated to have been a joint donor with Simon (Add. Chart. 47797).

⁹⁸ *Rot. Hund.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 54.

⁹⁹ Add. Chart. 47800.



BURLEY CHURCH: MONUMENT BY CHANTRELY
TO LADY CHARLOTTE FINCH



BURLEY CHURCH FROM THE NORTH-WEST

£12.¹ The lease appears to have been renewed to the Sapcotes, for Edward Sapcote was tenant in 1551.²

The nuns' estates at Alsthorpe and in Burley were granted in 1551 to Sir Thomas and George Tresham,³ who sold it with the rectory and advowson to Sir John Harington. Alsthorpe and from that time descended with Burley manor. It is mentioned for the last time as a separate estate in 1616.⁴

The land given by Simon Danesy to the nuns of Nuneaton did not apparently include the whole of the estate held in Alsthorpe by that family, for in 1305 William Danesy, Adam de Jernemuth (Yarmouth) and J. de Boroughlee (Burley) were returned as holding half a knight's fee there.⁵ In 1355-6 William son of Ralph de Alsthorpe, perpetual vicar of Burley, and his sister Agnes were lords of Alsthorpe as successors to Simon Danesy and Anketin de Martivall, and they confirmed to the house of Nuneaton the gifts made by Simon for the health of their souls and the soul of William de Barrowden, late vicar of Burley.⁶ Later Alsthorpe was held by Thomas de Jernemuth, Thomas Piers and John de Lisle, and by their heirs in 1428.⁷

The estate held by John de Lisle had been held with the manor at least as early as 1313, when Nicholas de Segrave held land and rent in Alsthorpe of Thomas de Wake for $\frac{1}{2}$ of a knight's fee.⁸ It was included in the settlement of the manor in 1345 on John de Lisle and his wife Margaret,⁹ and Thomas le Despenser held the hamlet of Alsthorpe with Burley manor in 1375.¹⁰ It passed with Burley to the Plessingtons and later owners of Burley manor (q.v.). In 1620 and later it is called the manor of Alsthorpe.¹¹

The estate held in 1305 by Adam de Jernemuth (Yarmouth) probably remained in this family till 1362. Walter de Jernemuth and his wife Isabel acquired a bovate and 23 acres in Cottesmore and Alsthorpe in 1320 from Robert Oldeware and Agnes his wife, and 12 acres in Alsthorpe at the same time from the same grantors.¹² In 1324 Robert and Agnes conveyed the reversion of another holding in Alsthorpe to John de Cottesmore and Christine his wife.¹³ In 1343 Walter de Jernemuth gave two messuages and land in Alsthorpe to Katherine de Jernemuth in tail, with remainder in default to her brother Edmund.¹⁴ Probably Katherine became the wife of Edmund de Brus, for in 1345 Edmund and his wife Katherine conveyed 2 messuages and land in Alsthorpe held in right of Katherine to Thomas, son of Walter de Jernemuth of Cottesmore, and Elizabeth his wife.¹⁵ In 1362 Thomas de Jernemuth of Cottesmore and Joan his wife sold 'the manor of Allesthorp for 100 marks to Thomas son of Lawrence de Flete.'¹⁶

Other land in Alsthorpe, including a plot or toft and two virgates, was held until a year before his death in 1353 by John de Segrave. He gave it to William son of Ralph de Boroughlee (Burley), chaplain, for his life, with reversion to the heirs of John. This land was held of the heir of Sir Thomas Wake of Liddell by service of doing suit at his court of Bourne and at the

county and hundred courts. It is mentioned in the inquisition taken on John de Segrave's death that the land had greatly depreciated in value, owing to the pestilence.¹⁷ John's heir was his daughter Elizabeth, wife of John son of John de Mowbray of Axholme. Elizabeth died in 1375 and her eldest son John died without issue in February 1381-2. Thomas, the second son, was created Duke of Norfolk in 1397 and died in 1400. His widow Elizabeth married as a fourth husband Sir Robert Goushill of Haveringham, and in 1403 she, as widow of Sir Robert, obtained livery of a toft and two virgates in Alsthorpe, as dower of the lands of Thomas, Duke of Norfolk, her late husband.¹⁸

It may have been the same estate which was conveyed in 1480 by John Durant of Cottesmore to trustees as land in Alsthorpe, which he held of the manor of Bourne. On his death in 1497 the land passed to his son Thomas.¹⁹ In 1531 the estate is called the manor of Alsthorpe in a conveyance by Thomas Durant to Sir Richard Sacheverell, Sir John Villiers and others.²⁰ John Durant of Cottesmore, son of Thomas²¹ by his marriage with Dorothy daughter of Thomas Sapcote, acquired a third of the manor of Burley (q.v.) and land in Alsthorpe, to which no doubt the other land in Alsthorpe held by the Durants ultimately became annexed.

The church of the *HOLY CROSS CHURCH* consists of chancel 39 ft. by 13 ft. 6 in., with north and south aisles respectively 10 ft. 6 in. and 11 ft. 3 in. wide, clearstoried nave 44 ft. 9 in. by 17 ft., north and south aisles respectively 8 ft. and 7 ft. wide, north porch, and west tower 8 ft. 6 in. square, all these measurements being internal. The width across chancel and aisles is 40 ft. and across nave and aisles 37 ft. There is a covered passage from the east end of the south chancel aisle to Burley House.

Though much restored and in part rebuilt, the church retains a considerable amount of old work, the two eastern bays of the nave and the west end of the chancel representing the extent of the original 12th-century building. Towards the end of the same century (c. 1190) a north aisle was thrown out and an extra bay added at the west end, increasing the nave to its present length. This is shown by a break in the north arcade between the second and third bays from the east, where there is a masonry pier with a respond on each side, representing the position of the early west wall, which probably was not interfered with till the work was completed. In the 13th century a south aisle was added, the new arcade being spaced without regard to that opposite, and the chancel seems to have been rebuilt and aisles added at the same time. Modern alterations, however, have destroyed definite evidence of the nature of the early changes east of the nave, but the arches dividing the aisles of the nave from the chancel aisles are of 13th-century date, and before the last restoration the two westernmost arches on either side of the chancel are said to have been of the

¹ Add. R. 49343.

² *Cal. Pat. R.* 1550-53, p. 202.

³ *Ibid.* 200-203.

⁴ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), cccliii, 116.

⁵ *Feud. Aids*, iv, 204.

⁶ *Add. Chart.* 47797.

⁷ *Feud. Aids*, iv, 213.

⁸ *Inq. a.q.d.* xcvi, 15.

⁹ Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 19 Edw. III.

¹⁰ *Abbrev. Rot. Orig.* ii, 338; *Cal. Chbart. R.* 1341-1417, p. 230.

¹¹ Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 18 Jas. I;

12 *Cbas.* II.

¹³ *Ibid.* 14 Edw. II, file 5, nos. 30, 32.

¹⁴ *Ibid.* no. 46.

¹⁵ *Ibid.* no. 31.

¹⁶ *Ibid.* no. 37.

¹⁷ *Ibid.* file 6, no. 55.

¹⁸ *Cal. Inq.* x, no. 116.

¹⁹ *Cal. Close R.* 1402-5, p. 210; G.E.C. *Complete Peerage*, vi, 41; vii, 103-4.

²⁰ *Cal. Inq.* Hen. VII, ii, no. 206.

²¹ Feet of F. Rutl. East. 23 Hen. VIII.

²² *Visit. Rutl.* 1618-19 (Hart. Soc.), 42.

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

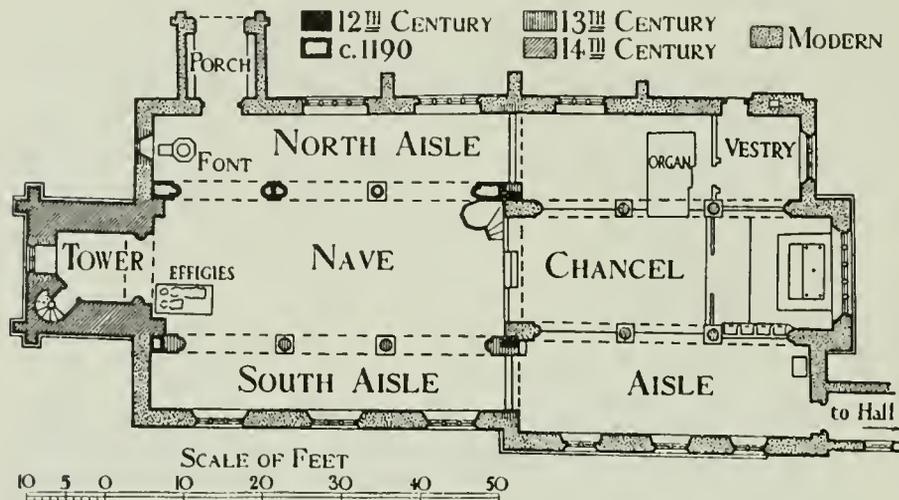
same period.²² The tower was added in the 14th century.

The church was extensively restored or altered about 1796,²³ when square-headed windows were inserted and changes and additions made to the fabric in the classic style of the day.²⁴ The interior was filled with box pews and there was a large family pew in the chancel; with the exception of that of the nave all the roofs were ceiled. The building remained in this condition²⁵ till 1869-70, when it was very thoroughly restored by J. L. Pearson, the east end being almost entirely rebuilt, new windows inserted throughout, the walling in parts recon-

structed, and a new porch built. Externally, with the exception of the tower, the church has the appearance of a modern building, a lancet at the west end of the north aisle being the only original window remaining.

The chancel and its aisles are under a single wide-spreading eaved roof. The roof of the nave is behind plain parapets, but those of the aisles are eaved. All the roofs are covered with modern red tiles. The walls generally are of grey ashlar, or where modern²⁶ of coursed yellow stone: they are plastered internally.

The east end of the chancel stands in front of the aisles about 4 ft. and the lower part of the wall appears to be old. The east window is of five lights with geometrical tracery. The chancel arcades consist of three pointed arches of two chamfered orders on cylindrical piers with moulded capitals and bases in the style of the 13th century, and the arch to the nave, which is moulded, springs from corbelled wall shafts. The 13th-century arch dividing the south aisle from that of the nave is of two chamfered orders, springing from half-octagonal moulded corbels with nail-head enrichment, and the corresponding arch on the north side is probably of the same date, but the corbels are much restored and are without nail-head.



PLAN OF BURLEY CHURCH

The tower is of three stages marked by strings, with moulded plinth, and pairs of buttresses of six stages at the angles.²⁹ There is a vice in the south-

with leaf patterns, and between the volutes of the capital of the pier are spandrels carved with foliage. The hood-moulds rest on the abaci. The capitals in the western bay differ in some respects from the others, the abaci having bevelled angles.

The 13th-century south arcade is of three pointed arches of two chamfered orders on cylindrical piers and half-round responds with well-defined water-holding bases and moulded capitals, in two of which²⁸ the nail-head ornament occurs. The hood-moulds have head-stops, but are on the nave side only.

²² T. Paradise in *Stamford Mercury*, July 4, 1862. Isabel widow of Sir Richard Sapcote by her will (P.C.C. 12 Vox) in 1493 desired to be buried in the Lady Chapel, and left 20 marks towards the building of the church (*Rutl. Mag.* v, 101). In 1547 the chancel was in ruin. (Irons' Notes, Archd. Visit.)

²³ Extensive repairs were carried out in 1700 of which details are given by Miss Pearl Finch, *Hist. of Burley-on-the-Hill*, pp. 16, 17.

²⁴ Paradise, in 1862, described the two westernmost arches on either side of the chancel as Early English supported by Grecian (Doric) pillars, and the easternmost arch as Italian. There was no

chancel arch. The east window had been probably inserted when the classic portions were added to the Gothic building. The Italian element could be detected in the style of the porch.

²⁵ The church had 'more of the appearance of a domestic building of a very poor type than a place of religious worship.' The windows were 'probably made by the village carpenter, apparently at the cheapest cost' (Paradise, loc. cit.).

²⁶ The wall of the south aisle of the chancel appears to be old and is of grey ashlar, with moulded sill string and hollow chamfered plinth.

²⁷ The bases are much restored; they

have slight indications of a water-holding character.

²⁸ The east respond and the first pier from the east. The piers are less in diameter than those of the north arcade.

^{28a} The church was in bad condition in 1632. It wanted whitening; 'the King's Arms are not done as they ought to be, and the sentences of scripture are defaced.' The chancel also was 'very foul' (Irons' Notes, Archd. Visit.).

²⁹ There is a scratch dial, rather roughly wrought, on the western arm of the south-west pair of buttresses, facing west, suggesting that in the construction of the tower some of the quoins of the older building were used.

west angle. Except for a modern two-light window with Decorated tracery the two lower stages are blank, but the lofty bell-chamber stage has tall, pointed transomed windows of two cinquefoiled lights, the openings below the transoms having quatrefoil cusping. The hood-moulds have head-stops. The tower terminates with a battlemented parapet, below which is a hollow moulding enriched with flowers and animals' heads. There are gargoyles at the angles. The arch to the nave consists of a widely chamfered inner order on half-round responds with moulded capitals and bases, and three outer chamfered orders³⁰ on moulded imposts, below which the jambs are square. The tower was restored in 1913.

The font consists of a beautiful 15th-century octagonal bowl, carved on seven sides with elaborate Perpendicular tracery, and having a hollow moulding below the rim enriched with four-leaved flowers and with heads at the angles, on a modern stem and base. The oak pulpit, fittings, and all the roofs are modern.

On the floor at the west end of the nave are the mutilated alabaster effigies of an unidentified man and wife, apparently of late 15th or early 16th century date.³¹

At the east end of the south aisle of the chancel is a monument to Lady Charlotte Finch,³² with kneeling figure by Chantrey, and in the south nave aisle a memorial to six men of the parish who fell in the war 1914-19.³³ The tower contains one bell, cast by Alexander Rigby of Stamford in 1705.³⁴

The plate consists of two cups, a salver-shaped paten, a flagon, and an almsdish, all by John Bodington of London, 1697-8, the three latter pieces inscribed 'Burley in Rutland.'³⁵

The earlier registers have been bound together in two volumes; the first volume contains entries from October 1577 to November 1803, and the second from July 1804 to November 1812.³⁶

The church of Burley was given *ADVOWSON* to the monastery of Nuneaton by David de Armenters, lord of Burley, at the request of Richard, Bishop of Winchester (1174-1188), and Herbert, Archdeacon of Canterbury, and the gift was confirmed by Earl Simon, David's overlord, by Henry de Armenters son of David,³⁷ and by Geoffrey de Armenters, in 1246.³⁸ Later confirmations were made by the bishops of Lincoln, and in 1283 the bishop confirmed the appropriation of the church to the nuns, reserving the right to make provision for a vicar.³⁹ Pope Boniface VIII also confirmed the appropriation.⁴⁰

The nuns leased the tithes, tithe barn and their land in Alsthorpe from time to time, frequently to

the vicars of Burley.⁴¹ In 1451 Thomas Hudde, the vicar, had a lease of the tithes, undertaking to entertain the council of the house of Nuneaton with their servants when they came to Burley at the feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross to receive oblations. Thomas also became responsible for repairs of the tithe barn.⁴² In other leases made to the vicars of Burley the repairs of the house, chancel and chapel of the Holy Cross were part of the lessees' liability.⁴³

In 1389 some disagreement arose between William Daweson, the vicar, and the convent as to the oblations presented by the faithful at the Image of the Crucifix on the north side of the church, and about the houses in the rectory. It was then agreed that the nuns, as rectors of the church, should receive all oblations at the feasts of the Invention and Exaltation of the Holy Cross, and for 7½ days before and 6½ days following each of these feasts, while the vicar should have the oblations during the remainder of the year. The nuns were to have the site of the rectory and barn with free ingress and egress.⁴⁴

In 1551 the rectory, advowson, tithes and tithe barn were granted to Sir Thomas Tresham and George Tresham,⁴⁵ but they must have been sold very shortly afterwards to Sir John Harington, for at his death in 1553 they are returned among his possessions,⁴⁶ and the advowson and rectory subsequently descended with the manor.

As mentioned above, Anne widow of Edward le Despenser founded a chantry for one priest in the church of Burley to pray daily for the souls of the king and queen, of Anne and other owners of the manor. The estate of John Rageley as chaplain of this chantry was ratified by the king in 1399 and 1400.⁴⁷ When the chantries were suppressed by Edward VI this chantry was returned by the commissioners sent to survey the chantry property, as having been founded by Lady Elizabeth Sapcote for the maintenance of a priest to sing mass. This may refer to a refoundation of Anne le Despenser's chantry, but there does not appear to have been any Lady Elizabeth Sapcote connected with Burley. The chantry priest had a pension of 110s. yearly out of the lands of the monastery of Pipewell (co. Northants), from which 3s. 4d. was distributed in alms to the poor on the obit of Lady Sapcote.⁴⁸

In 1313-14 Nicholas de Segrave obtained licence to grant land in Alsthorpe, Burley and Cottesmore to a chaplain in the chapel of Alsthorpe.⁴⁹ This is the only reference to this chapel which has been found.

This parish receives a sum of £10 per annum from Lady Ann Harington's charity, which is distributed among 23 poor inhabitants in gifts of coal.

CHARITY

³⁰ On the west side the outer orders die out.

³¹ The legs of the male figure are missing. The effigies were formerly in the south aisle of the chancel. They may represent Thomas Sapcote and Joan his wife, who apparently lived at Burley House.

³² She was daughter of Thomas, 1st Earl of Pomfret, and relict of the Right Hon. William Finch, second son of Daniel, Earl of Nottingham. She died 11 July 1813, aged 88 years, and was interred at Ravenstone, Bucks.

³³ There are three 18th-century memorial tablets in the tower, and in the south

aisle of the chancel wall memorials to several members of the Finch family, 1865-1924.

³⁴ It is a large bell, 43 in. diam. There is a tradition that it was cast from a former ring of smaller bells, but there is not room in the bell-chamber for more (North, *Cb. Bells of Rutl.* 124).

³⁵ Hope, *Cb. Plate in Rutl.* p. 3.

³⁶ In the second volume are notes on matters of local interest, the last of which records a storm in November 1810. The vicar resumed the custom of recording events of parochial interest from 1924.

³⁷ Add. Chart. 47789, 47802.

³⁸ Feet of F. Rutl. file 3, no. 27.

³⁹ Add. Chart. 47801, 47802.

⁴⁰ Dugdale, *Warwick*, ii, 1066.

⁴¹ Add. Chart. 47793, 47794, 47795, 47796, 47804-47808.

⁴² *Ibid.* 47804.

⁴³ *Ibid.* 47795, 47796.

⁴⁴ *Ibid.* 47798, 47799.

⁴⁵ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1550-53, pp. 200-203.

⁴⁶ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), ci, 101.

⁴⁷ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1396-9, 528; 1399-1401, 279.

⁴⁸ *Chant. Cert.* (P.R.O.) 39, no. 4.

⁴⁹ *Inq. a.g.d.*, xcvi, 15.

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

COTTESMORE

Cottesmore, Codesmore, Godesmore, Katemore (xiii cent.).

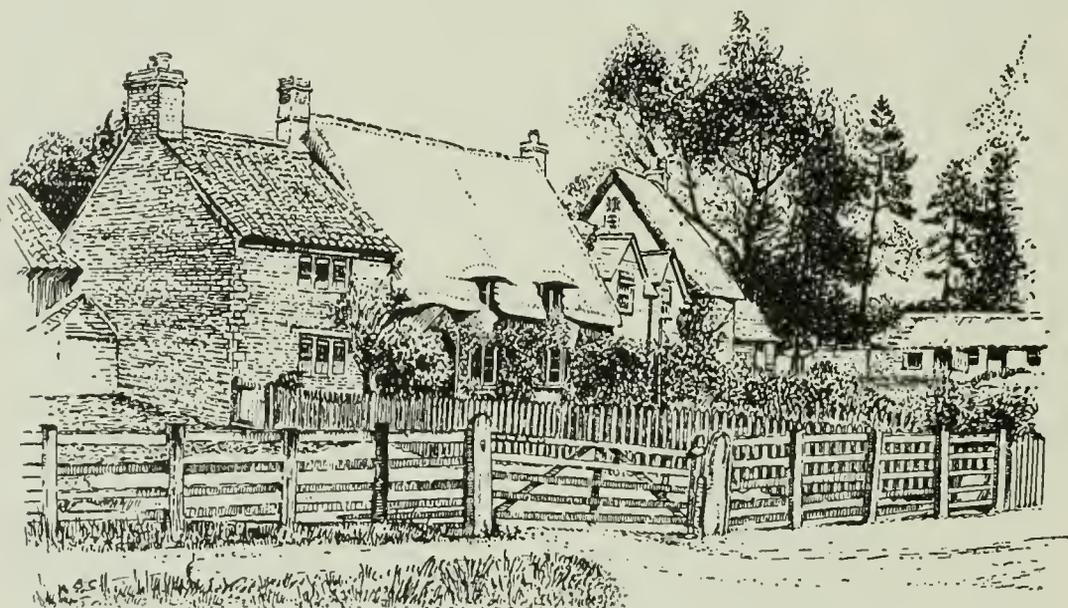
The parish of Cottesmore includes the chapelry of Barrow and field-names commemorate the hamlet of Wenton.

The land is undulating, being about 300 ft. above Ordnance datum along the line of the old disused Oakham Canal on the west, and rising to 480 ft. at Barrow on the north and to the south of the village. A small tributary of the Gwash has its source on the east side of the parish. The total acreage is 3,535 (Cottesmore 2,504 acres, and Barrow 1,031 acres) of which about half is arable and half permanent grass. The subsoil is Inferior Oolite, with Upper Lias at Barrow; the surface soil varies and produces wheat, barley, hay, oats and roots. There has been extensive

brief period they were kennelled at Stocken Hall,⁶ Stretton (q.v.). Sir Richard Sutton (second bart.) removed his hunting establishment to Cottesmore Park in 1844, on Lord Lonsdale's death.⁷

The village of Cottesmore is situated on high land 4 miles from Oakham, along both sides of the road from Oakham to Stretton, where it joins the Ermine Street. The abundance of trees gives a picturesque setting to the stone cottages with thatched roofs. The church is on the north side of the road in about the middle of the village.

Cottesmore Hall, which stood at the east end on the north side of the road, was sold by the late Earl of Gainsborough to his cousin Lady Bute in 1927. It was burnt down in 1928.⁸ Cottesmore Grange is on the south side. There is a reference to the hospital



COTTESMORE: THE VILLAGE

quarrying for hardstone,¹ and the Northampton Sand here has yielded a considerable quantity of iron ore.²

The population is mainly agricultural, and has been declining. In 1921 it was 489.³

A windmill stood at Barrow in 1316;⁴ that mentioned at Cottesmore in 1620⁵ was probably on the site of the old windmill still standing on the high land near the tramway, south-west of the village. The nearest railway station is at Ashwell, on the London Midland and Scottish Railway, 2½ miles from Cottesmore.

The Cottesmore hounds were established at Exton in 1732 by Thomas Noel, a grandson of the 3rd Viscount Campden, and his cousin Baptist, Earl of Gainsborough. They were moved to Cottesmore in 1740, when they were purchased by Sir William Lowther (created Earl of Lonsdale in 1807). For a

of St. Giles here in 1266,⁹ but no remains of it now exist.

The hamlet of Barrow, consisting of one or two farms and some cottages, is on high land about a mile and a half north-west of Cottesmore village. At the north end of the hamlet is the chapel, and in the middle is the mutilated shaft of a cross 9 in. square and 2 ft. 6 in. high, standing on a base consisting of a square socket stone upon a plinth 6 ft. by 4 ft. The barrow from which the hamlet took its name is on the hill beside the chapel, and is clearly visible from the valley.

There was an Inclosure award for Exton (q.v.) and Cottesmore in 1800.

In the time of Edward the Confessor *MANORS COTTESMORE* was held with Greet-ham by Goda, whose identity is not known.¹⁰ It was seized by William I, and was held by

¹ Harvey and Crowther-Beynon, *Leic. and Rutl.* 1912, p. 167.

² *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 234.

³ *Pop. Ret.*

⁴ *Cal. Inq.* ii, no. 592.

⁵ Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 18 Jas. I.

⁶ *V.C.H.* op. cit. 301-2.

⁷ *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

⁸ Inf. kindly supplied by Mrs. Cecil Noel.

⁹ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1258-66, p. 572.

¹⁰ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 133-4, 138.

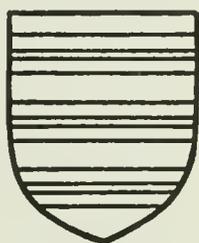
the Crown, probably until half the manor was granted with Greetham by William II about 1090 to Roger Newburgh when he was created Earl of Warwick. The overlordship of the half-manor continued in the earldom of Warwick, and followed the descent of Greetham (q.v.) till the 16th century. The manor is usually said to be held of the earl's manor of Greetham,¹¹ but occasionally Preston is given as the superior lordship.¹²

The Earls of Warwick seem to have subinfeudated some of their Rutland manors to the Montforts at an early date, and Cottesmore followed the descent of Uppingham (q.v.) until the forfeiture of Peter de Montfort after the Battle of Evesham in 1265. Peter's eldest son Peter held Preston and Uppingham, while Cottesmore was held by a younger son Robert, also a rebel.¹³

The descent of the half-manor of Cottesmore, which became a separate manor, is not clear at this date. Peter de Montfort, who was killed at Evesham, and his son Robert, forfeited Cottesmore with other lands which were granted to Thomas de Clare.¹⁴ In 1269 Thomas made a grant of the manor to Nicholas de Sifrewast for life to which Peter de Montfort and his brother Robert were witnesses.¹⁵ It is evident the Montforts expected to redeem Cottesmore under the Dictum of Kenilworth, but Thomas de Clare granted it in fee to Nicholas de Sifrewast in 1281.¹⁶ It was later claimed that William de Sifrewast, possibly son of Nicholas, in the time of Edward I gave the manor to Peter de Montfort.¹⁷ In the meantime the Earls of Warwick, as overlords, claimed the manor as an escheat, and in 1270 leased it for three years to Humphrey or Osbert de Bereford.¹⁸ In 1285 Edmund Duke of York surrendered to the Earl of Warwick his right in the manor under a grant of Henry III, which he did at the instance of Peter de Montfort, who was to do homage to the earl for the manor.¹⁹ Warwick complained that by the grant to Thomas de Clare he had lost the services due to him,²⁰ and the matter was apparently compromised by Warwick taking all that was due to him as overlord from the Sifrewasts.

The manor passed from William de Sifrewast to Walter de Windsor, who in 1290 conveyed it to his son Adam, son of Walter de Lincoln of Great Yarmouth.²¹ Adam's son Walter, son of Adam de Yarmouth or de Lincoln, with Isabel his wife, in 1316 obtained messuages and lands in Cottesmore from John de Bures and Hawise his wife, and were dealing

with lands here in 1321.²² In 1348 Peter son of John de Montfort sued this Walter de Yarmouth for the manor of Cottesmore, alleging that William de Sifrewast had given it to Peter's great-grandfather Peter de Montfort.²³ The last Lord Montfort died in 1367 without surviving legitimate issue; but left a son by Lora, daughter of Richard Astley, who may perhaps be Lora the wife of William Morewood of Stoke Dry, and related to John de Havering, who seems to have held Cottesmore in her own right.²⁴ William Morewood died seized of the manor in 1386, and left a son and heir William aged 18 years.²⁵ His widow Lora, however, seems to have married Richard Salynge, and they (with warranty by the heirs of Lora) granted the manor to Sir John Bozon and others in 1391.²⁶ Possibly Bozon is a scribal mistake for Busshy, for we find that the manor was forfeited by Sir John Busshy, the Speaker of the House of Commons, who was executed in 1399. In the same year it was granted by Henry IV to Sir John Dabridgecourt,^{26a} who was holding it in 1402 and 1407,²⁷ and died in 1415.^{27a} By 1427 he had been succeeded by his son Robert Dabridgecourt,²⁸ who, with Elizabeth his wife in 1432, conveyed the manor to Thomas Langley, Bishop of Durham, and others apparently for John Clipsham.²⁹ This conveyance was confirmed in the following year by John son of John Wakefield and Elizabeth his wife, Elizabeth being probably formerly the wife of Robert Dabridgecourt.³⁰ In 1436 John Brauncepeith and Juliana his wife granted to John Clipsham and Richard Aldenham, vicar of Oakham, a messuage and 160½ acres of land and 123 acres of meadow in Cottesmore and Greetham,³¹ and in 1438 John Clipsham and Agnes his wife conveyed the manor and these lands to William Stanlowe, John Stanlowe, Hugh Stanlowe and others, and the heirs of William Stanlowe.³² The grantee was probably Sir William Stanlowe of Silk Willoughby (co. Linc.) who died in 1476 leaving a son and heir John.³³ In 1477, however, John Markham was holding the manor and died seized of it in 1479 leaving a son Thomas aged 32 years.³⁴ Richard son and heir of John Markham was holding in 1515-18,³⁵ but by 1533 the manor had come into the possession of the Durants of Cottesmore, living here in the 14th century.³⁶ Thomas son of John Durant³⁷ died seized in 1533, leaving a son and heir John³⁸ who was escheator for Rutland and Northants.³⁹ His son William succeeded to two parts of the manor in 1558,⁴⁰ and died the next year leaving a child John,⁴¹



SIFREWAST. *Argent three gimel bars azure.*



DABRIDGECOURT. *Ermine three bars gules cut off at the ends.*

¹¹ Chan. Inq. p.m. 19 Edw. IV, no. 60.

¹² Ibid. 10 Rich. II, no. 28.

¹³ *Cal. Inq. Misc.* i, no. 856.

¹⁴ *Abbrev. Plac.* (Rec. Com.), 208.

¹⁵ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1266-72, p. 474; Feet

of F. Div. Cos. East. 54 Hen. III.

¹⁶ Ibid. Rutl. Mich. 9 Edw. I.

¹⁷ Wrottesley, *Ped. from Plea R.* 27, 67.

¹⁸ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1266-72, 441.

¹⁹ Add. MS. 28024, fol. 53.

²⁰ *Abbrev. Plac.* (Rec. Com.), 208.

²¹ Feet of F. Div. Cos. Hil. 18 Edw. I.

²² For Yarmouth pedigree see Wrottesley, op. cit. 27, 67.

²³ Ibid. Walter de Yarmouth had a son

Thomas, described as of Cottesmore. See Burley.

²⁴ See *Cal. Pat. R.* 1377-81, p. 503; *Feud. Aids*, ii, 169. She held Upminster for life.

²⁵ Chan. Inq. p.m. 10 Ric. II, no. 28.

²⁶ Feet of F. Hil. 14 Ric. II, no. 11.

^{26a} *Cal. Pat. R.* 1399-1401, pp. 15, 201; Jones, *Index to Records*, i.

²⁷ Chan. Inq. p.m. 2 Hen. IV, no. 58, m. 54; 8 Hen. IV, no. 68.

^{27a} Gibbon, *Early Linc. Wills*, 116-117.

²⁸ Wrottesley, op. cit. 330; Gibbon, loc. cit.

²⁹ Feet of F. Rutl. 10 Hen. VI, no. 6.

³⁰ Close R. 11 Hen. VI, m. 13.

³¹ Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 14 Hen. VI, no. 9.

³² Ibid. Mich. 17 Hen. VI, no. 11.

³³ *Cal. Inq.* Hen. VII, i, no. 1149.

³⁴ Chan. Inq. p.m. 19 Edw. IV, no. 60.

³⁵ Early Chan. Proc. bdle. 427, no. 11.

³⁶ Cf. Wright, *Hist. Rutl.* 40.

³⁷ *Cal. Inq.* Hen. VII, ii, 206. His mother was Elizabeth Sherard (Wright, loc. cit.).

³⁸ Exch. Inq. p.m. dxcvi, 6.

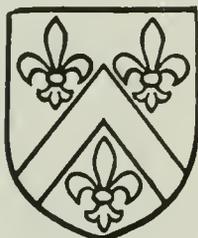
³⁹ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xii (ii), 1167.

⁴⁰ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), cxv, 35.

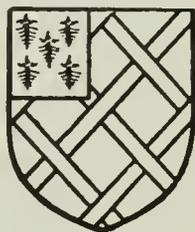
⁴¹ Ibid. cxxvii, 41.

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

who in 1573 conveyed the manor to Sir James Harington, kt.⁴² The manors of Cottesmore and Barrow, Wenton Grange and the advowson of Cottesmore church were assigned to his sister and co-heir Lucy Countess of Bedford,⁴³ who with her husband and others conveyed them in 1620 to Paul Ambrose Croke,⁴⁴ who died seised in 1631, leaving a daughter and heir Lucy, wife of Edward Heath,⁴⁵ son of Sir Robert Heath the Lord Chief Justice. In 1657 and 1669 Sir Thomas Fanshawe and Margaret his wife, only daughter of Sir Edward Heath,⁴⁶ made a conveyance, of all the above estates,⁴⁷ and were living at Cottesmore in 1682-5, when Bridget Noel wrote to her sister the Countess of Rutland: 'I bleve we shall have a great weden at Cotchmore for Sir Tomes Fansher is laying in a grat dell of wine and bruina a bundane of strong drink.'⁴⁸ Susanna, only daughter and heir, married the Hon. Baptist Noel, son of



FANSHAWE. Or a cheveron between thre fleurs de lis sable.



NOEL. Or fretty gules and a quarter ermine.

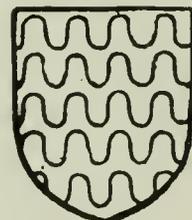
Viscount Campden, at this time,⁴⁹ and apparently received this property as a marriage settlement.^{49a}

It has since descended with the manor of Exton⁵⁰ (q.v.).

One Gerard Croft was summoned in 1555 to state his claim to a court baron, sheriff's tourn and view of frankpledge here.⁵¹

In 1086 one Geoffrey held half a carucate of land in Cottesmore;⁵² this was possibly the half of the manor held as half a knight's fee by Guérin de Glapion, seneschal of Normandy, in 1200.⁵³ He was deprived of his English and Norman lands⁵⁴ for taking part with the King of France against John in 1203, and in 1206 King John took tallage from Cottesmore.⁵⁵ Guérin went to the Holy Land in 1208 and died there without issue.⁵⁶ In 1210-12 William de Gamages held Guérin's half-manor of Cottesmore.⁵⁷ In 1222 Robert de Coudray (or del Coudrey) made a fine with the king for seisin of Guérin's lands here, which 'belonged to him by hereditary right,'⁵⁸ but he died in the same

year, when the king granted the custody until the majority of Robert's heir to Henry de Aldithel (Aldilegha or Audley).⁵⁹ Three years later William de Gamages sued Henry de Audley for the half-manor, which was thereupon restored to him.⁶⁰ Henry de Coudray claimed it from William de Gamages in 1228-9,⁶¹ but in 1244 Godfrey son of William de Gamages was in possession.⁶² Godfrey, who held lands in Gloucestershire, died in 1252, but was not seised of Cottesmore,⁶³ and left three daughters,⁶⁴ of whom we find no trace here. We lose sight of this half of the manor, but it would seem probable that it was represented by the holding in Cottesmore of the Blounts of Belton, which was held of the castle of Oakham. In 1305 Isabel Blount held half a fee in Cottesmore with Adam de Yarmouth and Agnes de Mucegros.⁶⁵ This holding followed the descent of Belton (q.v.). John Blount held it in 1428,⁶⁶ and in 1480 Sir John Blount, Lord Mountjoy, and Lora his wife settled it on the heirs male of their bodies. Sir John died in 1485, leaving William Blount his son and heir.⁶⁷ This half of the manor loses its identity at this time and was probably acquired by the owners of the Warwick half.



BLOUNT. Barry wavy or and sable.

A freehold in Cottesmore and Greetham called *BRUS' LAND* was granted by William Mauduit, Earl of Warwick (1263-7), to Bernard de Brus of Exton and Alice de Beauchamp, his wife, and the heirs of their bodies.⁶⁸ These lands followed the descent of Exton (q.v.). In 1321, Bernard, son of John de Brus of Thrapston, conveyed lands here to Bernard, son of Bernard de Brus of Exton,⁶⁹ and in the same year Bernard de Brus conveyed lands to Walter de Yarmouth and Isabel his wife.⁷⁰ In 1427, the heirs of Bernard de Brus of Exton sued Robert Dabridgecourt of Cottesmore and Elizabeth his wife for these lands.⁷¹ The result of the suit is not shown, but this land seems eventually to have been included in the Warwick manor and William Morewood died seised of it in 1386.⁷²

Another freehold in the Warwick half-manor was called *MUCEGROS'S LAND*. It seems that the ransom of Peter, son of the Peter de Montfort who was killed at the Battle of Evesham (1265), was granted to Sir Thomas de Clare, and Peter gave towards it 8½ virgates of land in Cottesmore.⁷³ This

⁴² Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 15 and 16 Eliz.; Recov. R. Hil. 15 Eliz. ro. 147.

⁴³ *Visit. Rutl.* (Harl. Soc.), 1618-19, p. 39; Feet of F. Div. Cos. Hil. 15 Eliz.; Recov. R. Hil. 33 Eliz. ro. 76; Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), cccxxiii, 81. See Exton.

⁴⁴ Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 18 Jas. I.

⁴⁵ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), cccclxxvii, 130. A conveyance was made in 1637 (Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 13 Chas. I) and in 1640 (*ibid.* East. 16 Chas. I; Add. Chart. 46292-3). Croke's son Samuel had died in his father's lifetime (*Rutl. Mag.* iv, 200).

⁴⁶ Wright, op. cit. 40.

⁴⁷ Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 1657, Mich. 21 Chas. II; Roger Heath presented to the church in 1660, the Crown in 1669. Inst. Bks. (P.R.O.).

⁴⁸ *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xii, App. v, 73, 88, 94.

⁴⁹ Wright, op. cit. 41.

^{49a} Feet of F. Rutl. East. 34 Chas. II; Recov. R. East. 34 Chas. II, ro. 153.

⁵⁰ *Ibid.* Hil. 5 Anne, ro. 14; Trin. 35 Geo. III, ro. 154; Hil. 57 Geo. III, ro. 161; Inst. Bks. (P.R.O.).

⁵¹ Jones, *Index to Records*, i.

⁵² *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 138.

⁵³ *Red Bk. of Exch.* (Rolls Ser.), 535.

⁵⁴ Stapleton, *Rot. Scacc. Norm.* ii, p. ccxx.

⁵⁵ Pipe R. 8 John, m. 13d.

⁵⁶ Stapleton, op. cit. p. ccxxi.

⁵⁷ *Red Bk. of Exch.* (Rolls Ser.), 535, 805.

⁵⁸ *Excerpt. e Rot. Fin.* (Rec. Com.), i, 80.

⁵⁹ *Ibid.* 94-5; *Rot. Litt. Claus.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 111.

⁶⁰ Maitland, *Bracton's Note Bk.* 1059.

⁶¹ *Cal. Close R.* 1227-31, pp. 42, 386.

⁶² *Bk. of Fees* (P.R.O.), p. 1151. For Gamages' pedigree see Wrottesley, *Ped. from Plea R.* 518.

⁶³ *Cal. Inq.* Hen. III, 260.

⁶⁴ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1247-58, p. 374.

⁶⁵ *Feud. Aids*, iv, 204.

⁶⁶ *Ibid.* 214.

⁶⁷ *Cal. Inq.* Hen. VII, i, no. 240.

⁶⁸ Wrottesley, op. cit. 330.

⁶⁹ Feet of F. Rutl. East. 14 Edw. II, no. 35.

⁷⁰ *Ibid.* Mich. 15 Edw. II, no. 38.

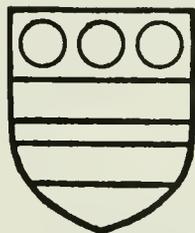
⁷¹ Wrottesley, loc. cit.

⁷² Chan. Inq. p.m. 10 Ric. II, no. 28; *Cal. Close R.* 1385-9, pp. 229, 240.

⁷³ *Cal. Inq.* ii, no. 404.

land was apparently represented by £15 7s. 6d. worth of rents which Sir Thomas de Clare in 1276 surrendered to King Edward I.⁷⁴ The property was immediately granted with certain manors to Robert de Mucegros in exchange for lands in Wales.⁷⁵ Robert died in 1280 seised of 8½ virgates in Cottesmore, leaving a daughter Hawise aged 4 years,⁷⁶ and a widow Agnes,⁷⁷ who was holding in 1305.⁷⁸ In 1316, Walter de Yarmouth was acquiring properties from John de Bures and Hawise his wife, daughter of Robert and Agnes Mucegros, which probably included these rents.⁷⁹ Robert de Stoke and Margaret his wife, who was granddaughter and heir of Arnulph Gernoun, sued John de Bures and Hawise in 1337 for these rents, pleading that John and Hawise had no right to them except under a lease from Arnulph then expired. John and Hawise pleaded their title as above.⁸⁰ The result is not given, but Mucegros lands had become incorporated in the Warwick half-manor by 1386, when William Morewood died seised of them.⁸¹

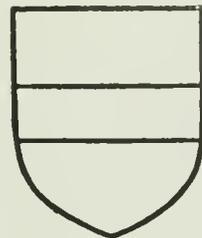
Two carucates of land in *BARROW* (Berc, Berk, xiii cent.; Berk, Bergh, Berugh, Berew, Berow, Burgh, xiv cent.) were held of Baldwin, Lord Wake, by the service of half a knight's fee in 1277.⁸² Baldwin died in 1282, his son John in 1300,⁸³ when John's son Thomas, Lord Wake, succeeded to this fee.⁸⁴ Probably on account of his adherence to Henry, Earl of Lancaster, Barrow was in the hands of the Crown in 1322.⁸⁵ Thomas was overlord at his death in 1349,⁸⁶ and the overlordship descended with the Wake manor of Whissendine (q.v.).⁸⁷



WAKE. *Or two bars gules with three roundels gules in the chief.*

In the 12th century the family of Barrow or Berc is found in Rutland. We have mention of Hugh de Berc in 1176 and 1180.⁸⁸ In 1197 Hugh de Berc acknowledged that he had given to Roger de Colville all his lands in Barrow (Berc) which he held of William Colville, which lands were to be held of Hugh by the service of a sixth part of a knight's fee. The grant was confirmed by Thomas, son of Hugh de Berc.⁸⁹ The family made various grants in Cottesmore and Wenton to St. Michael's Priory, Stamford.⁹⁰ Hawise as widow of Hugh de Berc in 1206, and as Hawise de St. Germain in 1207-8, conveyed 4 virgates here, her dower third, to Roger de Colville.⁹¹ Peter Danesy held half a knight's fee in Rutland of the barony of

Hugh Wake in 1235-6.⁹² Walter de Colville of Weston Colville (co. Camb.), and Ralph Basset of Sapcote (co. Leic.) were lords in 1253,⁹³ and in 1276 the above 4 virgates were held of Walter de Colville.⁹⁴ He died seised of 2 carucates in 1277, leaving a son and heir Roger,⁹⁵ who died 1287-8 leaving an infant son Edmund,⁹⁶ who was succeeded in 1316 by his son Robert, aged 10.⁹⁷ Robert Lord Colville made a settlement in 1358⁹⁸ and died 1368, when Robert, son of his son Walter, succeeded, but died in the following year. In 1369-70 his two cousins, Ralph Basset of Sapcote (son of Simon, son of Ralph by Elizabeth, daughter of Roger de Colville) and Sir John Gernoun (son of John Gernoun by Alice, widow of Guy Gobaud, daughter of Roger de Colville) were his heirs. The



COLVILLE. *Or a fesse gules.*

latter died without male issue in 1384.⁹⁹ In 1376 the manor seems to have been conveyed by Guy de Rouclif, clerk, to Lawrence, son of Robert Hauberk.¹ It passed with Wenton to Robert's daughter Agnes,² who with her husband Robert Sherard was holding it in 1402³ and 1407.⁴ Their son Lawrence Sherard was tenant in 1442,⁵ and his grandson Thomas married Margaret, daughter of John Helliwell.⁶ From this date until at least 1538⁷ this manor descended with the Sherards' manor of Whissendine (q.v.). In 1571-2 Edward Watson granted the advowson of Whissendine to the Sherards, possibly in exchange, as in 1584 Edward Watson died seised of the manor of Barrow,⁸ and his son and heir Edward four years later conveyed it to Sir James Harington.⁹ From this time it descended with the chief manor of Cottesmore.

In 1276 the Abbey of Vaudey held 4 virgates here by gift of Richard son of William de Berc, of Walter de Colville.¹⁰ After the Dissolution the grange of Barrow and other possessions of Vaudey in the parish were sold to John Wiseman, auditor of the Court of Augmentations.¹¹ These seem to have come to Edward Watson, and in 1592 were descending with the manor.

WENTON vill was, with Cottesmore and Barrow, Warwick and Colville property in 1316, and descended with Barrow. The land granted to St. Michael's, Stamford, was here, and the Priory held Wenton jointly with the Sherards in 1402 and 1407, and until the Dissolution.¹² In 1537-8 the grange was leased

⁷⁴ *Cal. Fine R.* 1272-1307, p. 66; *Abbrev. Rot. Orig.* (Rec. Com.), i, 25.

⁷⁵ Wrottesley, op. cit. 32-3.

⁷⁶ *Cal. Inq.* ii, 404.

⁷⁷ *Ibid.* 836.

⁷⁸ *Feud. Aids*, iv, 204.

⁷⁹ Feet of F. Hil. 9 Edw. II, no. 17.

⁸⁰ Wrottesley, op. cit. 32-3.

⁸¹ Chan. Inq. p.m. 10 Ric. II, no. 28;

Cal. Close R. 1385-9, pp. 229, 240.

⁸² *Cal. Inq.* ii, nos. 227, 439.

⁸³ G.E.C. *Complete Peerage*, viii, 35-6.

⁸⁴ *Cal. Inq.* v, no. 592. William de

Herford was returned 1305 (*Feud. Aids*,

iv, 204) probably because of Thomas's

minority. The return of 1428 gives the

heirs of William de Herford (*ibid.* 213).

⁸⁵ Mins. Accts. (Gen. Ser.) bdle. 1090,

nos. 13-14.

⁸⁶ *Cal. Inq.* ix, no. 219.

⁸⁷ Chan. Inq. p.m. 21 Hen. VI, no. 36.

⁸⁸ *Pipe R. Soc.* xxv, 185; xxix, 88.

⁸⁹ *Ibid.* (N.S.) viii, 93.

⁹⁰ Anct. D. (P.R.O.), B. 1202, 1214;

D. 172, 194, 165.

⁹¹ *Cur. Reg. R.* iv, 232, 283; cf. *ibid.*

306; Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 9 John.

⁹² *Bk. of Fees* (P.R.O.), i, 506.

⁹³ Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 37 Hen. III.

⁹⁴ *Rot. Hund.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 54.

⁹⁵ *Cal. Inq.* ii, no. 227.

⁹⁶ *Ibid.* no. 688.

⁹⁷ *Ibid.* v, no. 592; Wrottesley, *Ped.*

from *Plea R.* 31.

⁹⁸ Feet of F. Div. Cos. East. 32 Edw. III.

⁹⁹ *Complete Peerage* (new ed.), iv, 374-5.

For pedigree see Wrottesley, *Ped.* from

Plea R. 136.

¹ *Cal. Close R.* 1374-7, pp. 361, 364.

² Wright, op. cit. 121.

³ Chan. Inq. p.m. 2 Hen. IV, 58, m. 54.

⁴ *Ibid.* 8 Hen. IV, no. 68; Feet of F.

Rutl. Hil. 7 Hen. IV.

⁵ Wright, loc. cit.; Chan. Inq. p.m.

21 Hen. VI, no. 36.

⁶ Wright, loc. cit.

⁷ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1441-6, p. 346; Chan.

Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), lix, 114; Exch. Inq.

p.m. (Ser. ii), dcc, 9.

⁸ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), cciv, 105.

⁹ Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 30 Eliz.; *Recov.*

R. Trin. 30 Eliz. ro. 14.

¹⁰ *Rot. Hund.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 54.

¹¹ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xiv (ii), g. 113

(12).

¹² See above, Anct. D. (P.R.O.), B. 1203;

Valor Eccles. (Rec. Com.), iv, 141.

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

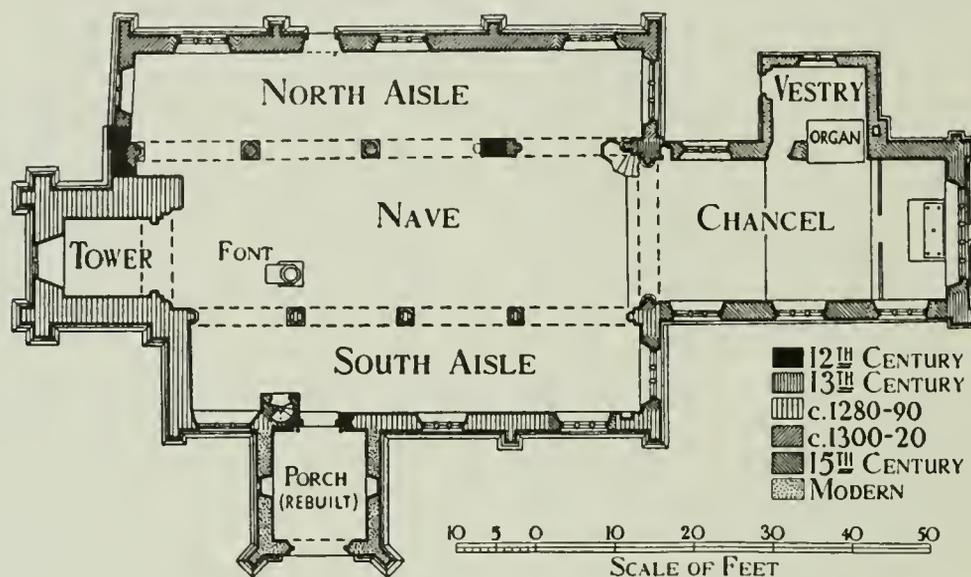
to Roger Radclyff.¹³ Subsequently it descended with the manor of Barrow.

The church of *ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH* consists of chancel 36 ft. 8 in. by 18 ft., clearstoried nave 59 ft. by 19 ft., north and south aisles about 11 ft. wide, south porch, and west tower 9 ft. 8 in. square, all these measurements being internal. The tower is surmounted by a broach spire. The porch was rebuilt in 1851, and a vestry was added on the north side of the chancel in 1855. There was a general restoration of the interior in 1866.¹⁴

The roofs are all of flat pitch and leaded, and there are plain moulded parapets to the chancel: elsewhere the lead overhangs. Internally the plaster has been stripped from the walls.

The earliest part of the building is the south door-

marks the position of the chancel arch, the original chancel being within the east bay of the present nave. In the 13th century, a new chancel was built further east, with a north chapel at its west end, the existence of which is shown by a moulded corbel, enriched with nail-head, now exposed in the wall at the internal north-west angle, just east of the existing chancel arch. The east wall of the chancel, which is of rubble, is still substantially of 13th-century date, with chamfered plinth, short buttress below the window and clasping buttress at the south-east angle. The north-east buttress, originally of the same character, was altered at a later period.¹⁵ Assuming that a north aisle already existed, it seems likely that the intention was now to extend it eastward so as to join it up to the chancel chapel, the old north chancel wall having no doubt been set back in line with the arcade, but this



PLAN OF COTTESMORE CHURCH

way, which is of 12th-century date, with semicircular arch of two chevron-moulded orders on plain chamfered impost, and octagonal angle shafts with cushion capitals and moulded bases to the outer order. On the inner order the chevron, which is enriched with pellets, is on the face of the arch only and is continued below the impost to the ground, but on the outer order, where it is without enrichment, the chevron covers both the soffit and wall planes. The doorway is not in its original position, but belonged to an earlier structure from which the present building has developed.

The architectural history of the church is not very clear, but the pilaster buttress north of the tower, which seems originally to have been a clasping buttress, probably marked the north-west angle of the 12th-century nave, originally aisleless, but to which a north aisle of three bays may have been added before the close of the century. The extent of the nave eastward is indicated by the piece of wall, about 5 ft. in length, left standing in the present north arcade, which

may not have been done until later. About 1280-90 an entire rebuilding of the nave seems to have been contemplated, including a west tower: the old chancel arch had probably been taken down earlier and the south wall of the former chancel set back on the line of the unpierced south wall of the 12th-century nave, and from the south-east angle of the thus extended nave a new south aisle was set out in four regular bays. The aisle determined the position of the tower, which thus encroached on the west end of the original nave,¹⁶ but the whole design, for some reason or other, was modified, and though the north arcade and aisle were reconstructed somewhat later, c. 1300-10, the spacing of the old arcade was not interfered with, the north wall of the tower being allowed to stand clear of the west bay. The extension eastward of the north aisle may have been carried out at this time, forming a connecting bay between the original aisle and the chancel chapel; the springing of an arch opening to the chapel still remains visible externally in the east wall of the present aisle. The

¹³ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xiii (i), p. 588.

¹⁴ The windows had been restored one by one between 1831 and 1860 (*Stamford Mercury*, May 8, 1863, cited in *Rutl. Mag.* iv, 199).

¹⁵ Other remains of 13th-century work in the chancel are referred to below. In 1617 the chancel was out of repair (Irons' Notes, Archd. Visit.).

¹⁶ There seems to have been no reason for the building of the tower on an inde-

pendent axis except the desire to leave the north side of the nave untouched, the reason for which, perhaps, was that services were held in a north aisle while the south aisle and tower were being built.



COTTESMORE CHURCH FROM THE SOUTH



COTTESMORE CHURCH: THE INTERIOR, LOOKING EAST

chancel arch was also rebuilt at this time and the clear-story added. The porch seems to have been erected towards the end of the 14th or early in the 15th century and had an upper chamber, but when rebuilt the floor was omitted. In the 15th century the chancel was remodelled, the lateral walls apparently being rebuilt in their present form with large windows, and new windows were inserted in the north aisle and at the east end of the south aisle.

The chancel has a large five-light transomed window with depressed four-centred head, and hood-mould with head-stops. The upper lights are cinquefoiled, but below the transom the cusping has been removed. The outer part of the moulded jambs and the lower part of the sill apparently belong to a late 13th-century window which was altered to its present form in the 15th century, and the three traceried windows in the south wall and that at the west end of the north wall are of the same period. The windows are much restored and differ in design, but range in height and are of three lights, the middle one on the south side having a transom and four-centred head.¹⁷ The others have two-centred heads with vertical tracery. Except in the easternmost window, which is wholly restored,¹⁸ the cusps of the main lights have been removed. The whole of the south wall and the upper part of the north wall are faced with ashlar in wide courses, but there are no lateral buttresses. At either end of the east wall internally is a fragment¹⁹ of early 13th-century chamfered string-course, about 5 ft. above the sanctuary floor, and inserted in the wall above are two small carved heads.²⁰ The roof is old and of three bays, with moulded beams, but otherwise plain. The walls of the sanctuary are wainscotted and no ancient ritual arrangements are visible. The wide 14th-century arch to the nave is of two chamfered orders, with hood-mould on each side, springing from half-octagonal responds with moulded capitals and bases. There is no screen.

The nave arcades have much in common, but the south arcade, as already stated, is slightly the earlier. The arches are of two chamfered orders springing from octagonal piers with moulded capitals and bases, and from responds of like character; the hood-moulds have head-stops and the bases stand on square plinths. The north arcade partly engages the tower at its west end, and the easternmost arch, which is of less height than the others, springs from responds, the western one attached to the east face of the straight piece of wall already referred to; the capital of the east respond ranges with those of the chancel arch and of the south arcade, but on the west side the springing is slightly higher. The next arch westward springs from a moulded corbel attached to the piece of wall, between which, and the west respond, the arches are equally spaced. The clearstory has three pointed windows on each side, those on the north and the westernmost on the south side, of two trefoiled lights

with quatrefoil in the head, the others with traceried heads.²¹

The south aisle has a much-restored 15th-century east window of three cinquefoiled lights, with four-centred head, transom and vertical tracery, and the two windows in the south wall east of the porch are also much restored.²² Of these the easternmost has vertical tracery, but the other is of 14th-century date, as is also the well-preserved square-headed three-light window west of the porch, the hollow chamfered jambs of which are enriched with ball-flower. The west wall is blank. The 14th-century piscina of the south aisle altar, with trefoil-headed recess and circular bowl, remains, but in the north aisle no ancient ritual arrangements have survived.²³

Externally the north aisle is divided by buttresses into three wide bays in each of which is a four-centred traceried²⁴ window of three cinquefoiled lights, and at the east end a window of similar character but larger and with two-centred head; the two-light west window is modern, or wholly restored. The 14th-century north doorway has a plain single chamfered arch on moulded imposts, and hood with notch stops. Along the upper part of the walls of aisles and clear-story is a hollow string or tabling enriched with heads, four-leaved flowers²⁵ and ball-flower²⁶ ornaments.

In rebuilding the porch the old stones were used externally, but the walls are faced inside with new ashlar. The porch has a flat pitched gable, moulded plinth, diagonal buttresses, and continuous moulded doorway. The upper chamber was lighted at its south end by a pointed window of two trefoil lights with quatrefoil in the head, and on the west and east by square-headed two-light windows, all of which remain in the upper part of the walls, and there are small rectangular lateral windows in the porch. The entrance to the chamber was from the south aisle by a still-existing newel stair, the upper doorway being now blocked.

The tower is of three stages, faced with ashlar, with moulded plinth and pairs of buttresses at the angles. There is no vice. The pointed west window is of two lights with a cusped circle in the head, and in the middle stage is a single-light trefoiled window on the south, and on the north a small square-headed opening. The deeply recessed bell-chamber windows are of two trefoiled lights with quatrefoil in the head, and midshaft with moulded capital and base; the hollow tabling, or cornice above, is enriched with ball-flowers and masks. The spire has very high broaches, plain angles, and two tiers of gabled two-light openings on its cardinal faces. The lofty tower arch is of three chamfered orders, the innermost on half-octagonal responds with moulded capitals and bases, the outer continued to the ground.²⁷ Above the arch is a plain square-headed opening, now blocked, and part of the tabling of the former nave roof.

The present roof is of six bays with long wall pieces

¹⁷ Internally this window has continuous moulded jambs and head; the other windows have plain jambs and rear arches.

¹⁸ This was the last window to be restored in 1860. The mullions and tracery had been knocked out and the space filled with rough masonry, on removing which fragments of the original window were found. From these the present window was copied (*Stamford Mercury*, May 8, 1863).

¹⁹ About 2 ft. in length on the south side, and 1 ft. 9 in. on the north.

²⁰ The wall on either side of the modern oak reredos is newly faced with ashlar, below which is panelling in memory of Charles Edward Ellwood, for 33 years rector (d. 1927).

²¹ The middle window on the south side is of two cinquefoiled lights.

²² The jambs and lower part of the window beneath the transom alone are old in these three windows.

²³ There is a large 14th-century moulded capital enriched with ball-flower inserted

in the north wall of the aisle inside, about 7 ft. west of the doorway.

²⁴ The tracery and mullions are much restored.

²⁵ There is an oak leaf at the east end on the south side.

²⁶ The ball-flower is confined to the clearstory.

²⁷ Before 1866 the tower arch was blocked by a singing gallery, which also contained the organ.

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and struts to the principals. It is of oak and is substantially of 14th-century date, but was remodelled in the 17th century. The north aisle roof is also old, with long wall pieces and curved struts, but that of the south aisle was wholly renewed in 1930.

The font has a late 14th-century octagonal panelled²⁸ bowl mounted on a base apparently of early 13th-century date, which is said to have been long used as a mounting block at Cottesmore Hall before its restoration to the church. It is a heavy square block, with the upper part of each angle chamfered and carved with a human head, and on the sides rudely executed carvings within trefoil-arched panels; a bishop or abbot in the act of benediction on the north, a crucifixion on the east, and on the south and west a double rose, or eight-leaved flower with four-lobed centre.

The 17th-century carved oak pulpit has oval strap-work panels, but one of its six sides is open; it stands on a modern stone base. The other furniture of the church is modern.²⁹

At the east end of the south aisle is a floor slab dated 1597 inscribed 'Roberte Chamberline bowght this stone and caused it to be layde, I.C., I.W., W.C., March 6, done by the charges of W.C.'³⁰

There is no ancient glass, and no monument older than the 19th century.³¹

There are five bells, the first and third by Thomas Norris of Stamford, 1660; the second by Henry Oldfield of Nottingham, 1598, and the tenor by Tobie Norris (II) of Stamford, 1699.³²

The plate consists of a silver-gilt cup, paten, flagon and alms-dish of 1711-12, all inscribed 'For Cottesmore Church from Dr. Ontey, 1712.'³³

The registers before 1812 are as follows: (i) all entries 1655-1704; (ii) 1705-52; (iii) baptisms and burials 1753-1812; (iv) marriages 1754-1812.³⁴ In the first volume is a list of briefs 1665-97.

In the churchyard is a memorial cross to the men of the parish who fell in the War 1914-19.

BARROW CHAPEL stands on an unenclosed site and is a rectangular building of three bays, measuring internally 50 ft. by 20 ft. It was consecrated on 13 July 1831,³⁵ and is in the early Gothic style of the day, with slated eaved roof and coped east gable. At the west end the wall is thickened in the middle to support a double-gabled bell-cote,³⁶ and contains two blind lancets, one above the other, the upper one richly ornamented with dog-tooth. The walling is of rubble, plastered internally, with moulded plinth and ashlar dressings. The east window consists of

three grouped lancets, and the building is lighted on the north and south by tall pointed windows of two lights with a cusped circle in the head. The roof is ceiled and the floor flagged. The buttresses have triangular heads. At the west end a wood and plaster screen has been erected to form a vestry on the north side, and inner porch on the south, the entrance being at the west end of the south wall.

There is a small circular baluster font, and handsome panelled oak pulpit, both apparently of 18th-century date. The pulpit is said to have come from Cottesmore Church at the time of the restoration (1866).³⁷

The plate consists of a paten of 1817-18, a cup of 1831-32, and an almsdish of 1835-6, all inscribed 'Barrow Chapel 1835.'

There were considerable irregularities during the time of John Barry, rector from 1616 to 1660. He would not wear a surplice; he allowed unlicensed preachers; there were only two communions in the year; some of the congregation would not stand while reciting the Creed and Gospel and wore their hats in church.³⁸

In spite of a claim by the Priory **ADVOWSON** of St. Sepulchre, Warwick,³⁹ to whom the Earls of Warwick had granted Greetham advowson, the advowson of Cottesmore descended from at least 1228-9 with the Warwick manor of Greetham (q.v.) until 1545, when it was granted by Henry VIII to John Bellow and Edward Bales.⁴⁰ They sold it before 1558 to Andrew Noel of Brooke, who died seised in 1563, leaving a son and heir John.⁴¹ Sir James Harington of Exton died seised in 1591-2,⁴² and it subsequently descended with the manor. The living is a rectory. A vicar is mentioned in the 13th century.⁴³

Barrow Chapel, dedicated to St. Mary Magdalene,⁴⁴ is mentioned in 1553,⁴⁵ but it was destroyed by 1660.⁴⁶ It was attached to Cottesmore rectory.⁴⁷

Stamford House Charity is comprised in indentures of lease and release, the release dated 29 September 1743, and is now regulated by a scheme of the Charity Commissioners dated 19 December 1893. The endowment consists of a sum of £1,376 2s. 11d. 2½ per cent. Consols and the annual income, amounting to £34 8s., is applied by the trustees for the general benefit of the poor of Cottesmore by way of grants to Rutland Nursing Association, Stamford Infirmary, Oakham Cottage Hospital, Leicester Royal Infirmary, and in gifts of coal and cash.

²⁸ Except on the west side, which is blank, each face has two trefoiled panels and tracery above. In 1637 it was said that 'the holy font was allowed to go to decay and out of repair' (Irons' Notes, Archd. Visit.).

²⁹ The nave is seated with chairs. Before the restoration of 1866 the church was filled with high pews and the walls were wainscotted.

³⁰ In some work done in 1860 this slab was moved and found to cover a vault which contained several coffin plates inscribed with the names of members of the Croke family from 1630 to 1647, but no coffins were found (*Rutl. Mag.* iv, 199).

³¹ The earliest is a mural tablet in the chancel to Rev. Richard Brereton, rector (d. 1812). The monumental inscriptions are given in *Rutl. Mag.* iv, 200.

³² North, *Cb. Bells of Rutl.* 127, where the inscriptions are given.

³³ Hope, *Cb. Plate in Rutl.* 4. Nicholas Ontey was rector, 1669-1724.

³⁴ The first entry in the fourth volume is in 1755. Many years without marriages occur.

³⁵ The petition for consecration states that the chapel 'had been lately built on the site of the old chapel formerly standing there,' but the precise date of the building is not given.

³⁶ The single bell is hung in the south opening. It is described by North as 'one small modern bell' (*Cb. Bells of Rutl.* 120).

³⁷ The pulpit is six-sided on plan, but one of the sides is open. The panels have beaded astragal mouldings.

³⁸ Irons' Notes, Archd. Visit.

³⁹ *Rot. Robert Grosseteste* (Cant. and York Soc.), 181.

⁴⁰ *Ibid.* 181, 203; *Rot. Ric. Gravesend* (Cant. and York Soc.), p. 118; Wright, *op. cit.* 41; *Cal. Pat. R.* 1485-94, p. 422; 1494-1509, p. 370; *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, iii, 2648, xx (i), g. 465 (22); *Pat. R.* 27 Hen. VIII, pt. ii; *Valor Eccles.* (Rec. Com.), iii, 86.

⁴¹ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), cxxxvii, 44.

⁴² *Ibid.* cxxxii, 81.

⁴³ Anct. D. (P.R.O.), B.1202.

⁴⁴ Irons' Notes, loc. cit.

⁴⁵ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1553, 390. A bequest had been made without licence to the chaplain to find a priest.

⁴⁶ Irons' Notes, loc. cit.

⁴⁷ Bacon, *Liber Regis*, 843.

Thomas Birch's or Burch's Charity derives its origin from a devise or bequest c. 1580 for the poor of Cottesmore, Barrow, Market Overton and Greetham. The endowment now consists of a piece of arable land containing five acres let on an annual rent of £7 and a sum of £351 8s. 5 per cent. War Stock held by the Official Trustees, producing £17 11s. annually in

dividends. The income is apportioned equally amongst the several parishes and distributed in money payments.

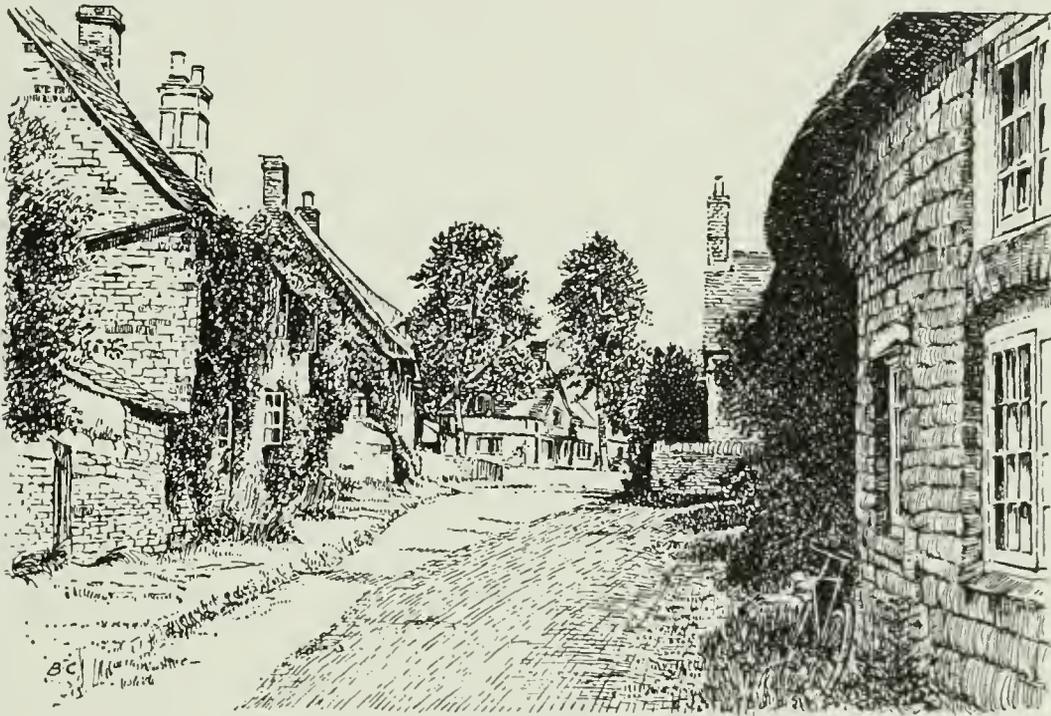
Lady Ann Harington's Charity.—A sum of £16 per annum received for poor people of Cottesmore and Barrow is applied in clothing to 65 beneficiaries of Cottesmore and 25 beneficiaries of Barrow.

EXTON

Exentune (xi cent.); Exton (xiii cent.); Extune (xiv cent.); Egeston, Exston (xv. cent.).

Exton covers an area of 4,072 acres, of which the soil is sand and limestone on a subsoil of Inferior Oolite. More than three-quarters of the parish is grass and woodland, the well-wooded park occupying most of the area; the remaining quarter of the parish is arable land on which wheat, barley, oats, hay and roots are grown. The land rises from about 300 ft.

village green, on which are a number of trees, is at the east or lower end of this square. The cottages are stone built and mostly thatched. To the north-west of the main group of houses there is a small street comprised entirely of thatched cottages; the views down this street, with a background of trees through which can be seen the spire of the church, are very pleasing. In the village are a Wesleyan Chapel, schools, post office and hotel. A parish hall has



EXTON : THE VILLAGE

above the Ordnance datum in the south to a little over 400 ft. in the north-west.

The parish is watered by a stream called the North Brook which flows from Greetham southward through Exton Park, where it forms a lake, to Empingham, where it joins the Gwash, a tributary of the Welland. For some distance it forms the eastern boundary of the parish. Another brook flows across the parish from west to east through the village into the North Brook. The population in 1921 was 550 persons.

The village is approached from Oakham and Barnsdale by Barnsdale Avenue and adjoins Exton Park, within which is the church. As in many instances in the county, and indeed in other forest areas, the main village is built on a slope, around and within a rough square. What remains of the

been built on land given by the Earl of Gainsborough, the foundation stone of which was laid in 1930 by the Earl, then aged seven years.

The ruins of Exton Old Hall stand near the church. It was built probably by Sir James Harington in the time of Elizabeth. Judging by certain differences of detail in the mouldings of the window-jamb, it appears to have been subsequently enlarged, but whether by Lord Harington when he had charge of Princess Elizabeth, daughter of James I, in the early part of the 17th century, or by Sir Baptist Hicks, who purchased the estate immediately after the death of Lord Harington in 1614, it is difficult to say. In any case it was a fine house, with a frontage of some 150 ft.¹ It had many gables, some curved and some straight, and they were connected by an arched stone

¹ There is an engraving of the south elevation in Wright, *Hist. Rutl.* 49.

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parapet, similar in detail to that at Hambleton Old Hall, and that in the outer courtyard of Kirby Hall in Northamptonshire. The great hall, which lay to the right of the entrance, has the older detail. This fine house was so nearly destroyed by fire in 1810, that a new house was begun at some little distance from it, apparently as a temporary residence during the renovation of the Old Hall. But additions were made to it from time to time, and eventually, after a further and considerable enlargement, it assumed its present dimensions and appearance in 1851-52. The remains of the Old Hall were then utilised for such purposes as a carpenter's shop, and for supplementary cooking on great occasions. The roofs were removed as occasion arose in order to save the walls. But another fire which occurred in June 1915 brought about further destruction, and much of the work which still remained in 1880 has fallen into hopeless ruin. Ivy has covered much of such detail as is left, and so many of the internal walls have been cleared away that it is only possible for those who knew the building before the last fire to form an idea of the disposition of the rooms. In spite of all this, however, enough of the house remains to show what a fine residence it must once have been.

The chapel attached to the modern house, Exton Hall, and dedicated to St. Thomas of Canterbury, serves the village as a Roman Catholic church. It is a cruciform building with an eastern apse, a north aisle and north porch and a crypt furnished with a stone altar. It was built from designs by Charles Alban Buckler in the 13th-century style. The south transept forms the Lady Chapel, and in the north transept is the baptistery. The modern Hall adjoining is at present occupied by Sir Victor Warrender, bt., Vice-Chamberlain of the Royal Household.

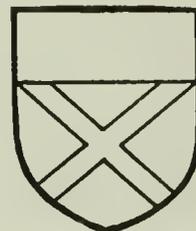
An avenue in the park, called 'The Queen of Bohemia's Drive,' bears the later title of the Princess Elizabeth, eldest daughter of James I. Tunneley Wood, in the middle of the park, may represent 'Todyngley Park' of the 15th century.

The common lands of Exton were inclosed and the tithes extinguished in 1800.^{1a}

EXTON, which was amongst the **MANORS** possessions of Earl Waltheof before the Norman Conquest, was held by his widow Judith in 1086.² Maud, their eldest daughter, brought it, together with the earldom of Huntingdon, in marriage, first to Simon de St. Liz, Earl of Northampton, and after his death in 1111 to David, King of Scotland. From this date it followed the descent of the Earldom and Honour of Huntingdon, passing from King David of Scotland to his son Henry (d. 1152), then to Simon de St. Liz (d. 1153) son of Maud by her first husband, and to his son Simon (d. 1184). From him it reverted to David, brother of William King of Scotland (d. 1219),³ who was engaged in litigation with Henry de Armenters in 1207 as to the boundaries of their parks at Exton and Burley.⁴ He was succeeded

by his son John le Scot, at whose death in 1237 Exton, subject to the dower of his widow Ellen, who married Robert de Quency,⁵ went to his sister Isabel, wife of Robert de Brus of Annandale. Isabel granted Exton to her younger son Bernard, but the overlordship passed to his elder brother Robert de Brus 'the competitor,' and from him to his son Robert, whose widow, then the wife of Richard de Waleys, claimed dower in it. The overlordship was forfeited to the Crown in 1305 when Robert de Brus, great-grandson of Isabel, became King of Scotland. It continued in the Crown as part of the Honour of Huntingdon.⁶

Bernard de Brus, enfeoffed by his mother, Isabel, of the manor of Exton, forfeited it by taking part against the king in the Barons' War.⁷ It was, however, given to his elder brother, Robert de Brus, and redeemed by Bernard de Brus (I). In 1280, Robert quitclaimed his right to his nephew, another Bernard (II), son and heir of Bernard (I).⁸ Bernard de Brus (II), known later as Bernard de Brus the elder,⁹ who defended his claim to view of frankpledge and waif against the Crown in 1286,¹⁰ died in 1301 and about eighteen years later it was found that he had held Exton manor with his wife Agatha by the enfeoffment of his mother, Constance de Morteyn. His son and heir Bernard (III), aged 26¹¹ in 1301, was returned as one of the lords of Exton in 1305 and 1316.¹² In 1320 Bernard (III) made a settlement with his cousin Bernard de Brus of Thrapston, son of his father's younger brother John¹³ as to the manor of Exton,¹⁴ two thirds of which he settled five years later on himself with remainder to his son and heir Bernard (IV) and his wife Maud, at the same time granting the remaining third to them and their issue in fee tail.¹⁵ Bernard (III), the father, died in 1330 and was succeeded by his son Bernard (IV), his widow Agnes obtaining a licence to marry again in the same year.¹⁶ Bernard (IV) left no surviving issue and Maud his widow, who afterwards married Benedict de Fulsham, enjoyed her life interest in the manor until her death in 1350. Exton descended to John de Brus of Conington, brother of Bernard (IV) whose only and posthumous son Bernard was not a year old when he died in 1347. The wardship of his four young sisters was granted to John Grey de Ruthin in that year and was sold by him to John de Verdon, who sold it to Master Simon de Islip, later Archbishop of Canterbury. It was purchased from Islip by John de Wessenham,¹⁷ a wealthy merchant, who married Agnes, the eldest of the co-heirs, to his son Hugh de Wessenham about 1353.¹⁸ In order that his son might take the whole inheritance he placed Joan, when about eleven years of age, in Nuneaton Priory and



BRUS. Azure a saltire and a chief or.

^{1a} Priv. Acta, 40 Geo. III, cap. 59.

² V.C.H. Rutl. i, 139a.

³ Complete Peerage (2nd ed.) vi, 638-47.

⁴ Cur. Reg. R. ii, 67; iv, 110.

⁵ Cal. Close R. 1237-42, p. 10.

⁶ Cal. Inq. iv, p. 360; vi, no. 172; Inq. a.q.d. lxxv, 5; Cal. Pat. R. 1324-27, p. 117; Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 19 Edw. II, no. 49; Div. Cos. Mich. 35 Edw. III, no. 598; Chan. Inq. p.m. 4 Edw. III (1st nos.), 9; 24 Edw. III (1st nos.), 76;

33 Edw. III (1st nos.), 46; Cal. Close R. 1330-33, p. 46.

⁷ Cal. Inq. Misc. i, 262; Hunter, Rot. Select. p. 253.

⁸ Her. and Gen. viii, 336-37; Cal. Close R. 1279-88, p. 61.

⁹ Her. and Gen. loc. cit.

¹⁰ Plac. de Quo Warr. (Rec. Com), 672.

¹¹ Chan. Inq. p.m. 12 Edw. II, no. 38.

¹² Feud. Aids, iv, 204, 208.

¹³ Her. and Gen. loc. cit.

¹⁴ Cal. Close R. 1318-23, p. 328.

¹⁵ List of Inq. a.q.d. i, 244; Cal. Pat. R. 1324-27, p. 117; Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 19 Edw. II, nos. 49 and 50.

¹⁶ Chan. Inq. p.m. 4 Edw. III (1st nos.), 9; Cal. Close R. 1330-33, p. 46; Cal. Pat. R. 1330-34, p. 12.

¹⁷ Cal. Close R. 1349-54, pp. 170-1.

¹⁸ Cal. Inq. x, nos. 47, 484.

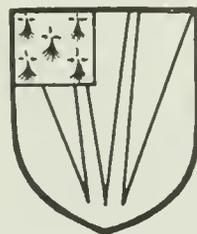
Elizabeth and Helen, aged about seven and five, in Bullington Priory (co. Linc.). Joan, about 1358, escaped from Nuneaton Priory and married Nicholas Green, whereupon she and her husband claimed their share of the Brus estates.¹⁹ Much litigation followed between the Wessenhams and the Greens as to whether Joan was a professed nun, and the matter was eventually referred to the Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield. The bishop decided that she had not been professed, and a partition was made of the estates in 1359. By this date the two other children are said to have become professed nuns.²⁰ Joan and Nicholas Green made a settlement of their moiety in 1361,²¹ and the dual ownership still existed in 1368 when Athelina or Alana, daughter of Bernard de Brus of Thrapston quitclaimed her right in the manor.²² Within five years Nicholas and Joan had acquired the whole manor, and they settled it on their daughter Elizabeth, the wife of Sir John de Holand, in 1373.²³ Nicholas died in or before 1379, when his widow held a knight's fee in Exton of the late Prince of Wales. Joan 'lady of Exton' died in 1421. Sir John de Holand and Elizabeth having died without issue, Exton descended to John Culpeper son of Eleanor, the younger daughter of Nicholas and Joan, by Sir Thomas Culpeper.²⁴ John Culpeper was knighted in or before 1432, when with his wife Juliana he settled the manor upon their only child Katherine,

father's widow, for dower.²⁷ This younger John Harington, who was knighted in 1536, died in 1553 seised of two-thirds of the manor of Exton.²⁸ His son Sir James Harington and his wife Lucy settled the manor in 1573 on the marriage of their son John with Anne, daughter of Sir Robert Kelway, Surveyor of the Court of Wards and Liveries.²⁹ Sir John Harington, who had been member for the county, was upwards of fifty-two years old when he succeeded his father in 1592.

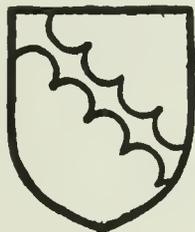
It is said that his descent from the Brus family brought him into favour with James I,³⁰ who in 1603 raised him to the peerage as Lord Harington of Exton.³¹ The charge of the Princess Elizabeth, with which the king next honoured him, involved him in financial embarrassment. At his death in 1613 he was deeply in debt,³² and within six months his son and heir, John, second and last

Baron Harington of Exton, died without issue, having sold the manor to Sir Baptist Hicks.³³ In 1629 Baptist Hicks, then Viscount Campden, settled the manor on the elder of his two daughters, Juliana, wife of Edward Noel, Lord Noel of Ridlington, who succeeded to his father-in-law's title on his death a few days later.³⁴ From Edward Noel, Exton descended to his son Baptist Noel, third Viscount Campden, and to his son Edward Noel, created Earl of Gainsborough in 1682. His son and heir Wriothsley Baptist, the second earl, died in 1690, and as he left no son his title and estates passed to his cousin Baptist Noel³⁵ lord of Exton 1706-7. From this date the descent of the manor has followed that of the earldom of Gainsborough.³⁶ Charles George Noel, eighth Earl of Gainsborough, died in 1881,³⁷ and the trustees of his great-grandson, a minor, are now lords of the manor of Exton.

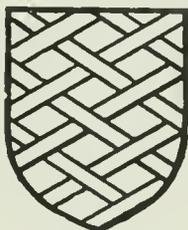
An early grant from an Earl of Huntingdon was probably the origin of the *BASSET FEE*. Richard Basset, who married Maud daughter of Geoffrey Ridel and Geva illegitimate daughter of Hugh de Avranches Earl of Chester, was holding lands of the Honour of Huntingdon in the 12th century.³⁸ He was followed by a succession of Ralf Bassets, the fourth of whom granted 9 virgates of land in Exton to Richard de Thanay and Amice his wife in 1225.³⁹ His son, another Ralf, was killed at the Battle of Evesham



BASSET. Or three piles gules and a quarter ermine.



CULPEPER. Argent a bend engrailed gules.



HARINGTON. Sable fretty argent.

wife of John Harington. Katherine married as her second husband Brian Talbot, and they dealt with lands in Exton in 1464 and 1481.²⁵

Richard III granted the manor in 1484 to Sir Henry Grey, lord of Codnor,²⁶ but the grant must have been annulled, as the inheritance of Katherine Culpeper passed to Robert Harington her son. Robert died in 1501, and was succeeded by his son John (d. 1523), whose son of the same name was sued by Alice, his

¹⁸ *Cal. Close R.* 1354-60, pp. 549-50.

¹⁹ Details of the story with authorities will be found in *V.C.H. Hunts*, vol. iii, under 'Conington.' See particularly *Cal. Close R.* 1354-60, pp. 667-70.

²⁰ Feet of F. Div. Cos. Mich. 35 Edw. III, no. 598.

²¹ *Cal. Close R.* 1354-60, pp. 549, 667-70; 1364-8, pp. 366, 464. Agnes was then the wife of Rob. Lovetot.

²² Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 47 Edw. III, no. 63.

²³ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 2 Ric. II, no. 57; 9 Hen. V, no. 55. In 1390 Thomas Edesdale of Isham and his wife Joan had quitclaimed to Joan late wife of Nicholas Green the right of Joan Edesdale in Exton manor (Feet of F. Rutl. East. 14 Ric. II, no. 13). Some right in the same seems also to have belonged nearly 30 years later

to Robert Wessenham, son of Joan's elder sister Agnes (*Cal. Close R.* 1413-19, p. 455).

²⁴ Feet of F. Div. Cos. Trin. 11 Hen. VI, no. 140; Rutl. Hil. 4 Edw. IV, no. 4; Mich. 21 Edw. IV, no. 6; *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), xli, 11; *Early Chan. Proc. bdl.* 526, no. 44.

²⁵ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1476-85, p. 433.

²⁶ *Cal. Inq. Hen. VII*, ii, no. 202; *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), xli, 11; *Early Chan. Proc. bdl.* 526, no. 44; *Her. and Gen. loc. cit.*; *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, x, 532. The date of John's death on the M.I. in church is 1524.

²⁷ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), ci, 101.

²⁸ Feet of F. Div. Cos. Hil. 15 Eliz.; *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

²⁹ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), cccxxii, 81; *Dict. Nat. Biog.*; M.I.

³⁰ *Cal. S.P. Dom.* 1603-10, p. 23.

³¹ *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

³² *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), cccclvi, 116, 117; Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 11 Jas. I; *Recov. R. Mich.* 11 Jas. I, ro. 77; *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), vi, 321-22. The whole transaction as to the sale of the manor to Sir Baptist Hicks is given in a very full history of the parish in *Rutl. Mag.* iii, 97, 130, 193.

³³ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), cccclv, 55; *Complete Peerage*, loc. cit.

³⁴ *Ibid.* ii, 515-16; v, 599-603.

³⁵ *Recov. R. Hil.* 5 Anne, ro. 14; Trin. 5 Geo. II, ro. 241; 35 Geo. III, ro. 154; 57 Geo. III, ro. 161.

³⁶ *Complete Peerage*, loc. cit.

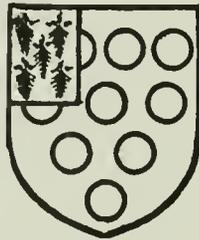
³⁷ *Farrer, Honors and Knights' Fees*, ii, 310.

³⁸ Feet of F. Rutl. East. 9 Hen. III, no. to.

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in 1265 fighting against the king, and his land in Exton, valued at £4,⁴⁰ was seized by the Crown. His widow Margaret, daughter of Roger de Somery, however, obtained restitution for the laudable service of her father.⁴¹ Ralf, son of this last Ralf and Margaret, was summoned to parliament in 1299 and is considered the first Lord Basset of Drayton. He died in that year, and his son Ralf was holding half a knight's fee in Exton in 1305 and 1316.⁴² This half-fee, a year and a half later, was held of Robert de Brus presumably of the Honour of Huntingdon, but the overlordship had been seized by the Crown on the forfeiture of Robert de Brus the younger.⁴³ Basset's property in Exton was raided during his absence on the king's service in Gascony in 1326.⁴⁴ He died in 1343⁴⁵ and his son Ralf, the last of the Bassets of Drayton, quitclaimed his lands at Exton to Richard, Earl of Arundel, in 1360 before his journey into France.⁴⁶ It is not clear what happened at this time; possibly the Earl of Arundel conveyed the manor to the Bruses, the lords of the chief manor, but some nineteen years later Joan, one of the Brus co-heirs, late the wife of Nicholas Green, held a knight's fee in Exton,⁴⁷ and her grandson John Culpeper was holding the Basset half-fee in 1428, and thereafter the property became merged in the chief manor. Certain lands and tenements in Exton, however, belonged to the Sir Ralf Basset who was seised of their reversion after the death of Thomas Wyldebore at his death in 1390. The reversion of these lands descended to William, brother and heir of the late Thomas Earl of Stafford and kinsman and heir of Sir Ralf. In 1398 they were held of Joan, lady of Exton, the Brus co-heir.⁴⁸

Some manorial rights seem also to have been attached to lands in this parish forming the *ZOUCH FEE* sold by Bernard de Brus in 1345 to Thomas younger son of William first Lord Zouche of Harringworth, on whom with his wife Christine other tenements in Exton were settled a few months later.⁴⁹ Part, if not all, of these lands descended to William second Lord Zouche of Harringworth, son of Eudo, younger brother of Thomas, who died seised in 1382 of a messuage and carucate of land in Exton of the inheritance of Bernard de Brus.⁵⁰ The property passed to William third Lord Zouche (d. 1396)⁵¹ and William fourth lord, who settled them to the uses of his will and with his brother John further settled them on Sir John Lovell and other trustees.⁵² In 1415 shortly before



ZOUCHE. Gules bezanty with a quarter ermine.

his death William granted an annuity from lands in Exton, held of the lady of Exton to Roger Flete of Oakham.⁵³

The *MORTIMER FEE* was held by Waleran de Mortimer as a quarter of a knight's fee in 1305 and 1317 of Robert de Brus and, after the Brus forfeiture, of the king.⁵⁴ Waleran was succeeded by his son Ralf and he by another Ralf de Mortimer in 1325.⁵⁵ More than a century later unnamed heirs of Waleran de Mortimer held this quarter fee.⁵⁶

There were two mills in Exton in 1086. From one of them Simon de St. Liz made a grant of 20s. to the abbess and nuns of St. Mary, Northampton, for a light in their church, which was confirmed by his son Simon de St. Liz. The third Simon granted 'the mill of Exton' to the monks of St. Andrew of Northampton.⁵⁷ A watermill with the holm belonged to the manor in 1421.⁵⁸ Sixty years later Katherine Culpeper owned three mills, and a windmill is mentioned in 1559-60.⁵⁹ In the 13th century the Brus lords of Exton claimed free warren by virtue of a charter from Henry III and view of frankpledge and waif from time immemorial.⁶⁰ The right to hold view of frankpledge continued as late as 1817.⁶¹ In 1225 there was a capital messuage in Exton belonging to Ralf Basset.⁶² The park of Exton which David, Earl of Huntingdon owned, and later went to Bernard de Brus, is mentioned in 1185⁶³ and may possibly be identified with the wood called 'Bernardeshul' in 1329 and the 'Barnardeshilpark' of 1421.⁶⁴ The name of Bernardshill appears as early as 1207,⁶⁵ and 40 acres of woodland belonged to the Culpeper manor in the reign of Henry VIII.⁶⁶

The church of *ST. PETER AND CHURCH ST. PAUL* consists of chancel 31 ft. 6 in.

by 17 ft., with north vestry and organ-chamber, north and south transeptal chapels each 16 ft. by 14 ft., clearstoried nave of four bays 64 ft. 6 in. by 24 ft., north aisle 11 ft. wide and south aisle 9 ft. 6 in. wide, the width across the nave and aisles being 50 ft. 6 in., south porch and west tower 13 ft. square, all these measurements being internal. The tower is surmounted by a spire.

No part of the building is older than the 13th century, in the early part of which period the church appears to have been rebuilt on its present symmetrical plan, the tower being added in the 14th century, and the clearstory erected. In this latter period, too, the chancel and aisles appear to have been remodelled, the north aisle being then perhaps widened. The building may thus be said to be mainly of 13th and 14th century date, but a restoration carried out about 1850, following the destruction of the spire by lightning,⁶⁷ was so wide in its extent and so drastic in its

⁴⁰ *Cal. Inq. Misc.* i, no. 856.

⁴¹ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1258-66, p. 498.

⁴² *Feud. Aids*, iv, 204, 208.

⁴³ *Cal. Inq.* v, p. 360.

⁴⁴ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1324-7, pp. 291-2.

⁴⁵ *Cal. Inq.* viii, no. 473.

⁴⁶ *Cal. Close R.* 1360-4, p. 127.

⁴⁷ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 2 Ric. II, no. 57.

⁴⁸ *Feud. Aids*, iv, 204, 213. The Brus holding is described as one-eighth and one twelfth of a knight's fee (*ibid.* 204; *Cal. Inq.* v, no. 548; vii, no. 271; *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 14 Ric. II, no. 9; 18 Ric. II, no. 43; 22 Ric. II, no. 46; 9 Hen. V, no. 55).

⁴⁹ Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 19 Edw. III, no. 40; Mich. 19 Edw. III, no. 38.

⁵⁰ G.E.C. *Complete Peerage*, viii, 223;

Chan. Inq. p.m. 5 Ric. II, no. 62.

⁵¹ *Ibid.* 19 Ric. II, no. 90.

⁵² *Cal. Close R.* 1396-99, pp. 66, 120, 404.

⁵³ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 3 Henry V, no. 46.

⁵⁴ *Feud. Aids*, iv, 204; *Cal. Inq.* v, no.

548.

⁵⁵ *Ibid.* vi, no. 623; *Cal. Fine R.* iii, 360.

⁵⁶ *Feud. Aids*, iv, 213.

⁵⁷ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 139a; *Cal. Cbart. R.* 1327-41, 86; *Cott. MSS. Vesp.* xvii, fol. 7 b, 263 b; *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), vi, 638-39.

⁵⁸ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 9 Hen. V, no. 55.

⁵⁹ Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 21 Edw. IV, no. 6; Mich. 2-3 Eliz.

⁶⁰ *Rot. Hund.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 54; *Plac. de Quo Warr.* (Rec. Com.), 672.

⁶¹ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), ci, 101;

Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 11 Jas. I; *Div.*

Cos. Trin. 8 Chas. I; *Recov. R. Trin.*

1 Will. & M. ro. 98; *Hil.* 5 Anne, ro. 14;

Hil. 57 Geo. III, ro. 161.

⁶² Feet of F. Rutl. East. 9 Henry III, no. 10.

⁶³ *Pipe R. Soc.* xxxiv, 54.

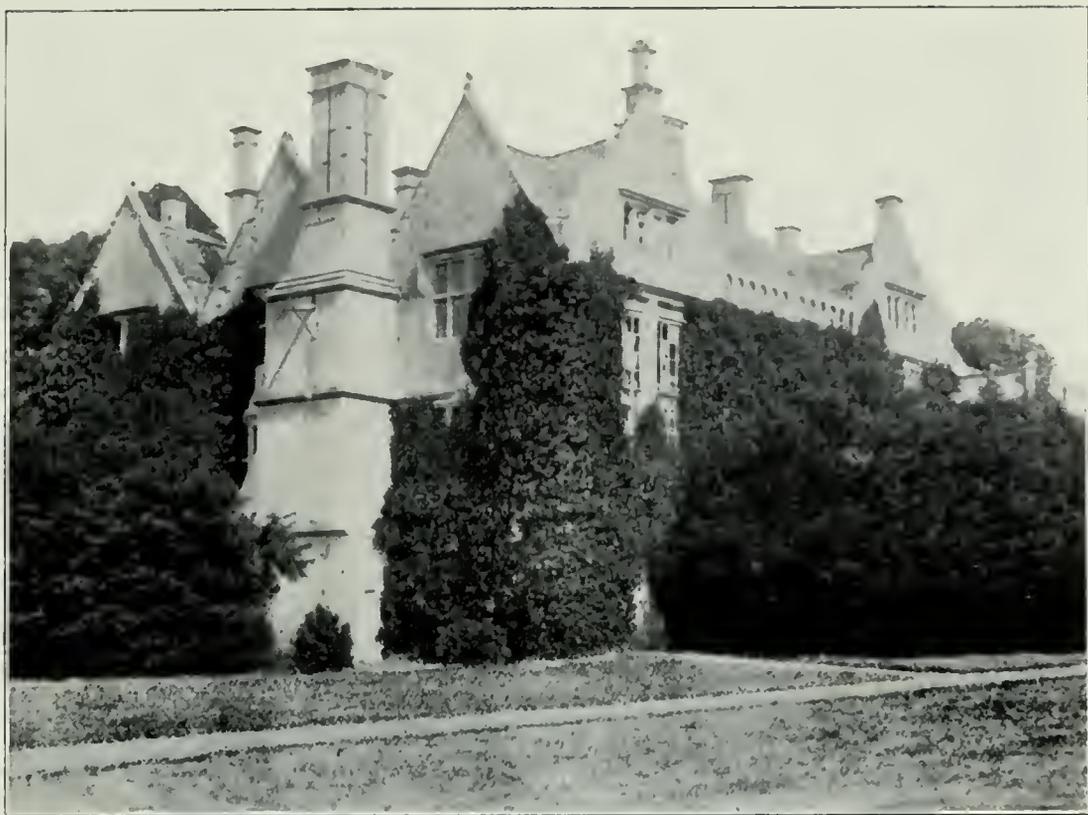
⁶⁴ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 4 Edw. III (1st nos.),

no. 9; 9 Hen. V, no. 55.

⁶⁵ Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 9 John, no. 18.

⁶⁶ *Early Chan. Proc. bdle.* 526, no. 44.

⁶⁷ The church was struck by lightning and the top part of the spire destroyed, falling upon the roof and shattering many of the windows (*Rutl. Mag.* iii, 193).



EXTON : THE OLD HALL IN 1880
(From a photograph kindly lent by the Rt. Hon. the Dowager Countess of Gainsborough)



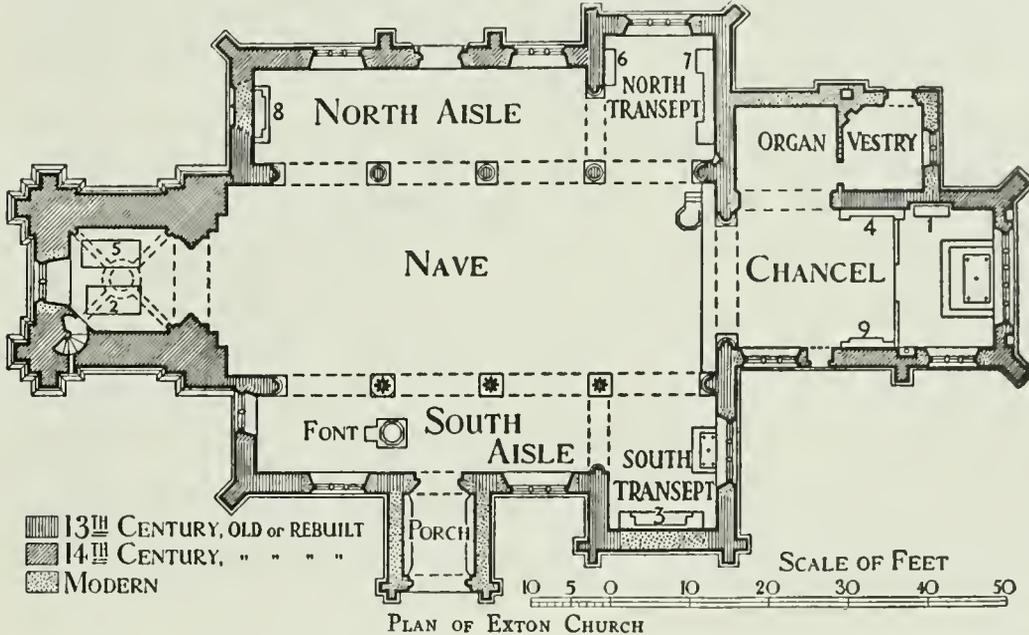
EXTON HALL, AND CHAPEL OF ST. THOMAS OF CANTERBURY



EXTON CHURCH FROM THE SOUTH-EAST

manner as to amount almost to a complete rebuilding, and much apparently sound material was discarded and replaced by new work.⁶⁸ Externally the church has in a large degree the appearance of a new building, though in the main the fabric retains its original character and the beautiful tower and spire have lost little or nothing by restoration.⁶⁹ With the exception of the west window of the south aisle, which is of 14th-century date, and one now blocked in the corresponding position in the north aisle, all the windows

chamfered arch, in the south wall.⁷³ In the north wall is a tomb recess with plain two-centred chamfered arch, within which a later tomb described below is set, and in the south wall two modern three-light windows and a priests' doorway. At its west end the north wall is open to the organ-chamber by a modern pointed arch.⁷⁴ Externally the chancel has diagonal angle buttresses, and on each side of the east window is a large trefoil-headed niche; a smaller niche in the gable is an original feature restored. The



are modern. The restoration included the removal of galleries, the reduction in height of the aisle walls,⁷⁰ and the renewal of the roofs. The old porch was taken down⁷¹ and a new one built, and the vestry and organ chamber were added.

The tower is faced with ashlar, but elsewhere the walling is of coursed dressed stone. The roofs of the chancel and vestry are covered with stone slates, but the other roofs are leaded; there are parapets⁷² to the nave only. Internally, with the exception of the tower, all the walls are plastered.

The chancel has a modern east window of five lights, but internally the shafted jambs are of 13th-century date, as is apparently the single sedile, under a plain

13th-century chancel arch is of two moulded orders,⁷⁵ with chamfered hood-mould, springing from half-round responds with moulded bases,⁷⁶ and capitals carved with stiff-leaf foliage.

The nave arcades are of four pointed arches, the three easternmost on each side moulded,⁷⁷ and the westernmost arch of two chamfered orders, all with hood-moulds.⁷⁸ On the north side the arches spring from cylindrical piers and half-round responds, the responds and the easternmost pier having capitals with stiff-leaf foliage, that of the pier enriched with human heads below the leaves. The other piers have circular moulded capitals, and all the bases are moulded, but differ in design.⁷⁹ In the south arcade

⁶⁸ Ex inform. Mr. V. B. Crowther-Beynon, F.S.A.; the new materials were worked up in such a close imitation of existing features that discrimination is difficult. Many portions of tracery windows were preserved by Mr. Browning, architect, Stamford, while a considerable number of architectural fragments at the home farm may have come from the church.

⁶⁹ The restoration included, among other things, the taking down and rebuilding of the following parts of the church: the east end of the chancel to the underside of the window-sill, the upper part of the side walls of the chancel, the walls of the aisles, the clearstory, the arches of the nave arcades, and the two easternmost piers on the south side. The other piers were to be set straight where required. The angle buttresses of the chancel were to remain, and the east wall below the window was to be recessed in Ketton stone: *Rutl. Mag.* iii, 195, where an abstract of the specification is given.

⁷⁰ The specification states: 'Take about 3 ft. off the side walls to aisles and rebuild to reduced height.'

⁷¹ Even the foundations of the old porch were removed. In 1640 the porch was ruinous and in decay in the leads and walls and the church was in a neglected condition (*Rutl. Mag.* iv, 222).

⁷² When the clearstory was rebuilt the battlements of the parapet were omitted.

⁷³ It is west of the easternmost window, and may be a later adaptation of an earlier feature. There are no other ancient ritual arrangements.

⁷⁴ This arch takes the place of a former window: *Rutl. Mag.* iii, 195.

⁷⁵ There are two moulded orders towards the nave, but on the east side the outer order is chamfered.

⁷⁶ The bases were raised about 6 in. at the restoration; the mouldings are water-holding.

⁷⁷ In the south arcade these arches are

of two moulded orders towards the nave, the outer order being chamfered towards the aisle. The corresponding arches of the north arcade are of two orders, the inner order of two rather big hollow chamfers and the outer of two small hollow chamfers towards the nave; towards the aisle the outer order has a single plain chamfer.

⁷⁸ On the nave side the hood-moulds have foliated stops, except at the west end, where there is a head; towards the aisle the stops are varied, one in the south arcade being a cross above a serpent.

⁷⁹ That of the east respond is water-holding, on a double plinth, of which the upper part is octagonal and the lower square; the bases of the two easternmost piers have swelled mouldings on double plinths, and that of the third pier is again water-holding on a chamfered square plinth; the west respond has a moulded base of different character on a square plinth.

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the responds are again half-rounds, but the piers consist of eight attached shafts, with moulded capitals following the same plan, and water-holding bases on low, square-chamfered plinths.⁸⁰ The capital of the eastern respond has stiff-leaf foliage similar in character to that of the chancel arch, but that of the west respond is moulded and enriched with nail-head. All the arches and the two easternmost piers of the south arcade, as already stated, were rebuilt at the restoration,⁸¹ but though no doubt much of the stonework was re-used there is a great deal that is entirely new and the work seems to have been done in a somewhat haphazard manner.⁸²

The chapels were built in conformity with the design of the nave and aisles, the width of each chapel being the same as that of the easternmost bay of the arcades; the chapels are under separate gabled roofs and are divided from the aisles by transverse arches of two chamfered orders⁸³ springing from half-round responds with moulded capitals enriched with nail-head, and from the adjacent piers of the nave arcades. The south transept has pairs of buttresses at the angles, and a modern three-light window in the east wall; the remains of a window in the south wall were removed at the restoration,⁸⁴ and the wall built solid. No ancient ritual arrangements remain in this part of the church, but in the north transept there is a piscina in the south-east angle, with plain moulded recess and fluted bowl. This transept has a modern three-light window in the north wall, but its east window was removed at the restoration when the organ chamber was built.⁸⁵ The diagonal north-east buttress, which was a 14th-century addition, has a triangular head with cinquefoil cusping and fleur-de-lys cresting.⁸⁶

The restored 14th-century window at the west end of the south aisle is of two trefoiled lights with a quatrefoil in the head, but the corresponding blocked window of the north aisle is apparently rather earlier in date, of two uncusped lights with forked mullion. The modern windows of the aisles are of three lights with geometrical tracery; the north and south doorways are also modern. The clearstory windows are square headed and of two trefoiled lights.

The tower is of three stages marked by strings, and has a chamfered plinth and high moulded base, with pairs of buttresses set well back from the angles. The buttresses have triangular heads in the two lower stages, but slope back at the top. There is a vice in the south-west angle, lighted by a series of small cusped circular openings. In the lower stage is a west window of two trefoiled lights and quatrefoil in the head, the north and south sides being blank,

and the middle stage has an uncusped circular opening on each side in its lower part, the north and south sides having in addition a lozenge-shaped quatrefoil opening higher up. The tall and deeply recessed double bell-chamber windows are of two trefoiled lights with quatrefoil in the head and embattled transom at half height, the openings below which are again trefoiled. Each face of the tower is slightly recessed, the plain buttressed angles supporting four large octagonal turrets, between which the tower proper terminates with a battlemented parapet. Behind this rises a somewhat lofty octagon, forming the base of a short but well-proportioned spire. The octagon has shafted angles and a battlemented parapet, and each of its faces is pierced by a transomed window of two trefoiled lights with quatrefoil in the head. The spire has plain angles and two tiers of gabled lights. Internally the tower opens into the nave by a pointed arch of three moulded orders, the innermost order springing from responds composed of three engaged columns⁸⁷ with moulded capitals and bases. The lower stage has a restored quadripartite vaulted roof with circular well-hole.

The octagonal 14th-century tub font has shafted angles with moulded bases and capitals from which spring trefoiled ogee arches terminating in rich finials, between which, in the spandrels, are heads, alternately male and female. Within the niches the sides have trefoiled panels.⁸⁸ The flat cover of oak and bronze dates from 1905.

The pulpit and other fittings are modern.⁸⁹ There is no chancel screen. A Jacobean altar table,⁹⁰ long removed, was restored to the church in 1908, and is now used in the south transept, which is fitted up as a War Memorial chapel. In the nave, above the arcades, is a great display of the funeral banners and armour of the Harington and Noel families.

It remains to notice the fine series of monuments in different parts of the church.⁹¹ The earliest of these is a table tomb on the north side of the chancel commemorating Nicholas Green (ob. c. 1379) with marble slab and panelled sides⁹² of freestone. The slab has a floriated calvary cross in slight relief, with a blank shield on the stem and one on either side; round the verge is an inscription in Norman French.⁹³

The fine marble table tomb of John Harington (d. 1524) and his wife Alice, with recumbent alabaster effigies,⁹⁴ is now under the tower, but formerly stood on the south side of the body of the church.⁹⁵ Each of the long sides has three panels with the arms of Harington and Culpeper and round the verge is a Latin inscription.⁹⁶

⁸⁰ Except the westernmost pier, where the base is swelled and rests on a double plinth, the upper part of which is octagonal and the lower square.

⁸¹ The specification states that the piers were to be rebuilt with 'copied mouldings.'

⁸² The capital of the north-west respond has the appearance of having been fashioned for a pier of larger diameter.

⁸³ On the north side the outer order is of two small hollow chamfers continued to the ground. The altar in the south chapel was apparently dedicated to Our Lady of Pity (*Cal. Pat. R.* 1553, p. 101). John Rowe in 1532 directed that his body should be buried 'besyde the ymage of St. Anthony' in the church of Exton.

⁸⁴ *Ruil. Mag.* iii, 195.

⁸⁵ *Ibid.*

⁸⁶ The buttress was rebuilt at the restoration, but all the old stones were re-used.

⁸⁷ More strictly the responds are half of a square pier with a semicircular column on each face.

⁸⁸ The font is described and figured in Paley's *Baptismal Fonts* (1844).

⁸⁹ In 1640 the seats in the church were '100 high' (*Ruil. Mag.* v, 222).

⁹⁰ In 1640 the rails about the Communion table were '100 wide if a dog may creep into the table' (*ibid.*).

⁹¹ The monuments were rearranged at the restoration.

⁹² The long south side has six small trefoiled niches for weepers, crocketed arches with finials, and blank shields. At the east end is a large blank shield within

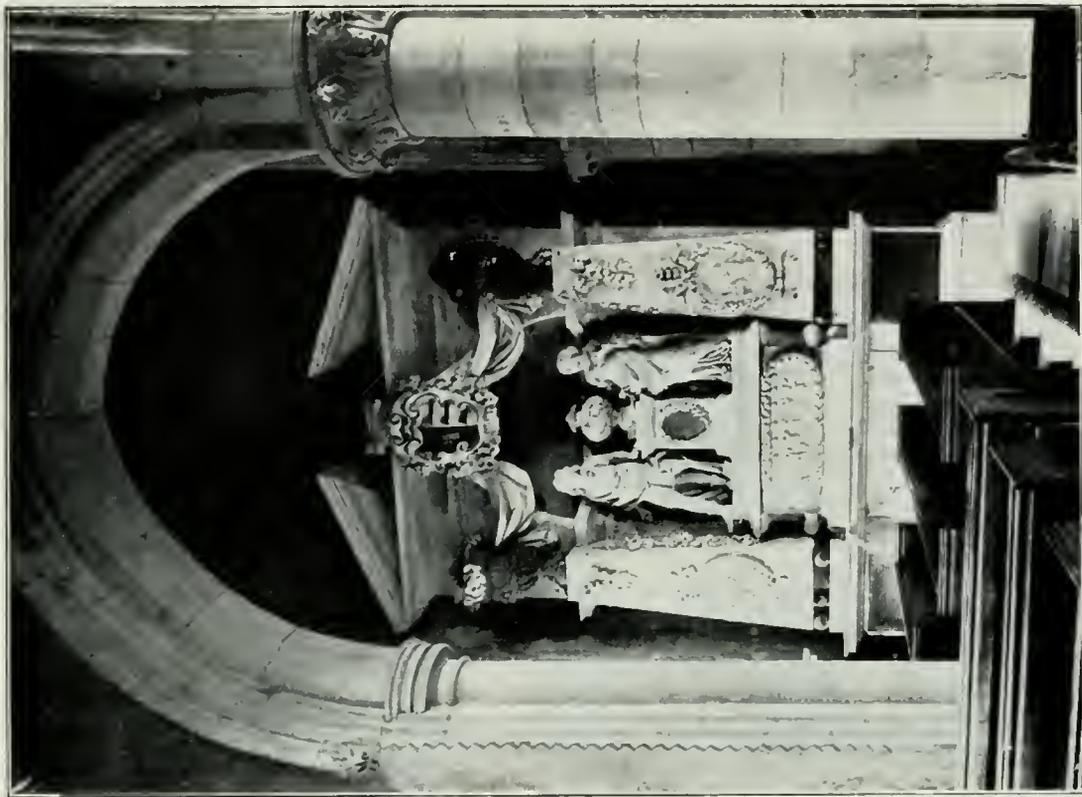
a quatrefoil, and at the west a niche and two blank shields. The tomb stands against the wall.

⁹³ It reads 'Vous qe par ycy passez, pur l alme Nichol Grene priez, son corps gist dessous cete pere, par la Mort qe taunt est fere, en la cynkauntisme an mort luy prist. Mercy luy fate Jesu Christ Amen' (Wright, *Hist. Rul.* (1684), 53).

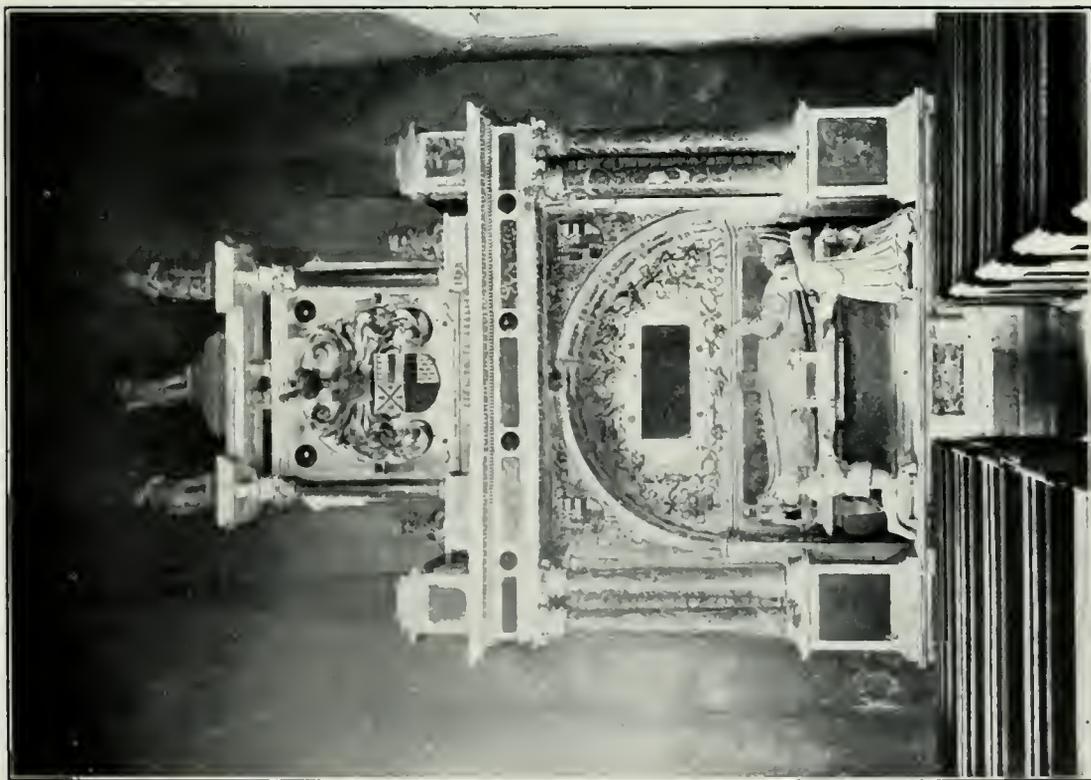
⁹⁴ The male figure is a replica of that of the Earl of Wiltshire (d. 1498-9) at Lowick, Northants, and that of the lady is similar to female figures at Llandaff and elsewhere (Prior and Gardner, *Med. Figure Sculpture in Engl.* 707).

⁹⁵ Wright, *op. cit.* 54.

⁹⁶ *Ibid.* where the tomb is figured. The date of the lady's death is left blank.



EXTON CHURCH: MONUMENT BY GRINLING GIBBONS
TO BAPTIST NOEL, VISCOUNT CAMPDEN



EXTON CHURCH: MONUMENT TO ROBERT KILWAY



EXTON CHURCH: THE INTERIOR, LOOKING EAST

Against the south wall of the south transept is a large coloured marble monument with recumbent effigy of Robert Kelway, lawyer (d. 1580), erected by his daughter Ann and her husband John, Lord Harington, who are represented kneeling on either side of a small altar tomb on which is a child's recumbent figure: behind the lady is a young daughter. The monument bears a long Latin inscription.⁸⁷

The monument to Sir James Harington (d. 1591) and his wife Lucy Sydney stands against the north wall of the chancel and is of coloured marble with alabaster figures kneeling before a faldstool, in separate round arched recesses; over the figures are respectively the arms of Harington and Sydney, and the entablature, which is supported by black marble columns, is surmounted by tall obelisks, flanking a large strapwork armorial panel. A long Latin inscription⁸⁸ occupies two panels in the base.

Another monument, now in the tower but formerly in the north transept,⁸⁹ is the black-and-white marble table tomb with recumbent figure of Anne, wife of Lord Bruce of Kinlosse and daughter of Sir Robert Chichester and his wife Frances, one of the daughters and co-heirs of John Lord Harington, Baron of Exton; she died in childbirth in 1627 in her 22nd year. The tomb bears an inscription in Latin and English.¹

Against the west wall of the north transept is the white marble effigy of James Noel, second Viscount Campden, who died at the age of eighteen in 1681. He is represented standing, with his right elbow on a pedestal on which are two infants on a cushion. The inscription includes Latin and English verses.²

Occupying the whole of the east wall of the same transept is an elaborate marble monument with standing figures of Baptist Noel, third Viscount Campden (d. 29 Oct. 1683)³ and his fourth wife Elizabeth Bertie who in her own lifetime gave moneys and left orders for the monument's erection, 'which by her third son and executor, the Hon. John Noel, was punctually performed, 1686.' The monument is the work of Grinling Gibbons,⁴ and comprises several sculptured white marble panels of great beauty. Lord Campden is represented in Roman dress; by his four wives he had nineteen children.

The two remaining monuments belong to the latter half of the 18th century, and are by Nollekens. The earlier, which stands against the west wall of the north aisle, commemorates Lieut.-General Bennett Noel⁵ (d. 1766), and consists of a round arched canopied recess in which is a female figure with extin-

guished torch leaning upon a large urn on which is carved a bust of the deceased. The arch is carried on fluted pilasters and has an armorial keystone and cherubs in the spandrels. The monument was erected in 1787 in conformity with the bequest of General Noel's widow, Elizabeth Adams (d. 1784), who is buried with her husband.

The later monument, which stands against the south wall of the chancel, was erected in 1790 in memory of Elizabeth (Chapman), Countess of Gainsborough (d. 1771) and her two husbands, Baptist fourth Earl of Gainsborough (d. 1751) and Thomas Noel, Esquire, of Wilcot Hall, Northants (d. 1788).⁶ The Countess is represented reclining upon a sarcophagus, her right arm resting on a cornucopia and her left hand pointing to medallion busts of herself and her husbands: below the medallions is a weeping cherub with extinguished torch.⁷

There are also memorials to Frances, Countess of Gainsborough (d. 1885), the Hon. Henry Lewis Noel (d. 1898), George, second Baron Penrhyn (d. 1907), Tom Cecil Noel (killed in action 1918), and to fifteen men of the parish who fell in the war of 1914-19.

There are six bells, five of which were cast in 1675 by Tobie Norris (II) of Stamford, and the tenor by Joseph Eayre of St. Neots in 1763.⁸

The plate consists of a cup and cover paten of 1581-2, a cup and paten of 1630-1, a paten of 1637-8, an alms dish of 1630-1, a cup of 1850-1, and a modern flagon.⁹

The registers before 1812 are as follows: (i) all entries 1598-1700; (ii) 1708-52; (iii) baptisms and burials 1753-95; (iv) baptisms and burials 1795-1812; (v) marriages 1754-1812.

The church of Exton was given *ADVOUWSON* 'with the whole tithe and whatsoever Walter the chaplain held in the same' by Henry I to the monks of La Charité serving God in the church of St. Andrew of Northampton, a grant confirmed by his grandson Henry II, by Hugh de Wells, Bishop of Lincoln, and in 1329 by Edward III.¹⁰ To the same religious house Bernard de Brus in 1283 granted this church in frankalmoigne, together with the tithes of hay in his park of Bernards-hill and elsewhere and all service and suit at his court and confirmed the gift of his grandmother Isabel, of pasture for eight animals in the woods and meadows of the manor of Exton.¹¹ From 1381 to 1397 presentations to the vicarage were made by the King,

⁸⁷ Wright, *Hist. Rutl.* (1684), 56, where the monument is figured.

⁸⁸ *Ibid.* 54, where the monument is figured. Sir James had eighteen children, 'of whom three sons and eight daughters entered into marriage.'

⁸⁹ *Ibid.* 58, 'in the north ile near the pulpit.'

¹ *Ibid.* 58-9, where the tomb is figured.

² *Ibid.* 60, where the monument is described as 'lately erected.'

³ This date is apparently a mistake, as his will was proved 5 Nov. 1682 (*Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), ii, 516).

⁴ H. Walpole, *Anecdotes of Painting*, ed. 1763, iii, 85. The cost of the monument was £1,000.

⁵ He was the third son of the Hon. John Noel, who was the fourth son of Viscount Campden.

⁶ The inscription records that Thomas

Noel 'by his last will requested that a monument might be placed in this church to the memory of himself and Elizabeth, Countess of Gainsborough, who some time after the death of Baptist, Earl of Gainsborough, became his wife.' The monument was erected by Henry, sixth Earl of Gainsborough.

⁷ *Rutl. Mag.* iii, 276-7, where the monument is figured and the inscription given. All the other monuments, with the exception of that of Nicholas Green, are also figured (*ibid.* 193, 197, 200, 225-8, and the inscriptions given).

⁸ North, *Cb. Bells of Rutl.* 130, where the inscriptions are given. The treble was the gift of Elizabeth, fourth wife of the third Viscount Campden. In 1618 it was presented that the church clock did not go right but made a great rumbling when it did go (Irons' Notes, Archd. Visit.).

⁹ Hope, *Cb. Plate in Rutl.* 15. A memorandum in the register, signed by the vicar, December 1690, records the plate as then consisting of a little silver chalice together with its cover (1582), a plain silver plate for bread, and five pieces doubly gilt each engraved with the arms of Noel and Hicks, 'all of which were of late dedicated to the honour and service of God and given for the use of the parish by the Hon. John Noel Esq.' These were a chalice, a large plate for bread, two flagons and a charger. Between the years 1805 and 1821 the plate given by Mr. Noel, together with the earlier breadholder, was refashioned into its present state (*Rutl. Mag.* iii, 229).

¹⁰ Dugdale, *Mon. Angl.* v, 191; Bacon, *Lib. Reg.* 844; *Cal. Cart. R.* 1327-41, 118-19.

¹¹ Cott. MSS. Vesp. xvii, fol. 264b, 265.

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the alien priory of St. Andrew, Northampton, being then in his hands on account of the war with France.¹² In March 1538-39 Francis, Prior of St. Andrew in Northampton, surrendered the possessions of his house including the rectory and advowson of Exton.¹³

The rectory and advowson were granted in 1543 to Richard Andrewes of Hayles (co. Glouc.), who immediately sold them to Sir John Harington, lord of the manor,¹⁴ the descent afterwards following that of the manor (q.v.).

In 1539 it was stated that a pension of £6 was due from the Priory of St. Andrew in Northampton to the chaplain of the chapel of Exton.¹⁵ Sir John Harington claimed this chantry in 1548.¹⁶ In 1553, however, he bought from the Crown a rent of £6 from lands of the Priory in Sywell, Northamptonshire, given to a priest to celebrate in the parish church of Exton, and also lands in Exton, Sywell and elsewhere also given to a priest for celebration in the south side of the same church at the Altar of St. Mary of Pity.¹⁷

In 1282-83 Bernard de Brus is said to have presented his chaplain Robert de Tisho to the free chapel built in his manor at Exton, and about thirty-four years later his son Bernard made a similar presentation.¹⁸ In 1320 the latter Bernard acknowledged himself bound to warrant to his cousin Bernard, son of John de Brus of Thrapston, the advowson of the chapel of Exton, presumably to be identified with the chapel of St. John the Apostle and Evangelist of Exton, mentioned in 1308 and 1318.¹⁹ In 1382, two or three years after the death of her husband, Joan, widow of Nicholas Green, one of the Brus co-heirs, gave a messuage and lands in Exton towards

the maintenance of Thomas Hodgekyn, then chaplain of the chantry in the chapel of St. John the Evangelist in Exton manor.²⁰ At Joan's death in 1421 it was found that Henry Durant, of Cottesmore, held land of her in that parish by the service of finding oil for the lamp of the chapel within Exton manor.²¹ The chantry in the manor of Exton is referred to in the second half of the 15th century and in 1539.²² In 1553 Sir John Harington bought of the Crown lands in Exton and elsewhere, some of which belonged to the late chantry in Exton.²³ The chantry itself was granted, twenty years later, by Queen Elizabeth to Percival Gunson.²⁴

Ryall Estate (now known as CHARITIES Church Estate).—The origin of this charity is unknown. The rents of a small cottage and land were received by the vicar of Exton and appropriated as to one-half for his own use and the remainder to repairs of the church. The endowment now consists of a sum of £708 7s. 1d. 2½ per cent. Consols, held by the Official Trustees, producing £17 14s. per annum.

Lady Ann Harington's Charity.—A sum of £25 per annum is received by the vicar of Exton, and is distributed by him and his co-trustees in coal to 60 poor inhabitants.

The Bread Charity or the Rathby Dole²⁵ consists of a sum of £5 per annum issuing out of an estate at Ridlington, supposed to have been given many years ago by Nicholas Green (ob. c. 1379), to provide a penny loaf on Sundays for the benefit of 24 specified houses in Exton. Loaves are distributed among about 50 poor inhabitants.

GREETHAM

Gretham (xi-xviii cent.); Greteham (xii-xvi cent.); Greatham (xiv cent.); Gretam (xvi cent.).

The parish of Greetham covers an area of 3,081 acres. The land falls gradually about 100 ft. from west to the eastern boundary, where it is about 300 ft. above Ordnance datum. The soil is Inferior Oolite. There are about 325 acres of woodland, including Greetham Wood, Woolfax Wood, and Ash Wood, all in the eastern half of the parish, and the Domesday Survey (1086) showed a considerable quantity of woodland here.¹ The rest of the land is about half pasture and half arable growing cereals and roots. Under the award of 1763 some 2,200 acres were inclosed, and shortly afterwards a system of cottage holding was introduced. In 1901 there were forty-three smallholders, each having from five to forty acres of grass land.² The census of 1921, giving 505 inhabitants, shows a declining population. The stream called the North Brook flows through the village in a south-westerly direction into the River Gwash, a tributary of the Welland. On it, near the

boundary of Horn parish, are the remains of an old water mill, and a little to the south is an old wind-mill.

The village stands on high ground along the road from Oakham, which joins the Ermine Street near Stretton, and forms the High Street of the village. Lanes branch off on the north side of the High Street to the North Brook, and join a lane leading to the church, which stands to the north-west of the village. Most of the cottages have stone or tile roofs, a few only being thatched; several are in ruins. Greetham House is modern, the site of the old manor house is to the north-west of the church; to it in 1446 was attached a park. A public elementary school was built by Mr. G. H. Finch in 1847-8, and there are Wesleyan and Primitive Methodist chapels. The ancient Greetham Inn is now a farm house. The Ram Jam Inn, a noted house of call on the west side of the Great North Road, opposite Stretton village, was formerly the Winchilsea Arms,³ but appears to have been known by its present name since the latter half

¹² *Cal. Pat. R.* 1377-81, p. 610; 1381-85, pp. 46, 175, 334; 1391-96, p. 13; 1396-99, p. 62.

¹³ Feet of F. Div. Cos. Hil. 29 Hen. VIII; Close R. 29 Hen. VIII, pt. 2, no. 7; *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xiii (i), 404. In 1517 a tithe farm and barn were leased to Edward Sapcote by Nuneaton Convent, Warwickshire, for 70 years. (Irons' Notes, Archd. Visit.).

¹⁴ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xviii (i), g. 981 (56); (ii) g. 107 (56, xii).

¹⁵ *Valor Eccles.* (Rec. Com.), iv, 315.

¹⁶ Chant. Cert. Rutl. 39.

¹⁷ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1553, p. 101.

¹⁸ Wright, *Hist. of Rutl.* 54.

¹⁹ Linc. Episc. Reg. (Dalderby Instit.); *Cal. Close R.* 1318-23, p. 328.

²⁰ Inq. a. q. d. cecci, 3; *Cal. Pat. R.* 1381-85, p. 174.

²¹ Chan. Inq. p. m. 9 Hen. V, no. 55.

²² Linc. Episc. Reg. (Chadworth Instit.), f. 63, etc.; *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 145; *Valor Eccles.* (Rec. Com.), iv, 344.

²³ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1553, 101.

²⁴ Pat. R. 15 Eliz. pt. 3, m. t.

²⁵ A note in the parish register states that 25 loaves were the gift of John Rathby vicar of the parish under his will dated 14 Jan. 1591.

¹ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 138.

² Slater, *Engl. Peasantry*, 138-9, 298.

³ Cuthbert Bede in *N. and Q.* (6th Ser.), ii, 49. The house was formerly on the estate of the Earl of Winchilsea, of Burley-on-the-Hill, and passed to his successors, but is now the property of Major C. H. Fleetwood-Hesketh, of Stocken Hall Stretton.



GREETHAM · THE RAM JAM INN BEFORE RECONSTRUCTION



GREETHAM : THE RAM JAM INN AFTER RECONSTRUCTION

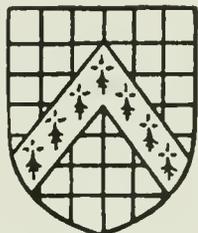
of the 18th century.⁴ In 1929 additions were made to the building, which was altered and modernised. A Saxon sundial, found in excavating the new foundations, is inserted in the walling, and above the doorway is a carved stone, formerly on a house in Stretton, depicting the fight between Cribb and Molyneux at Thistleton Gap in 1811.⁵

Edward I was at Greetham in September 1290.⁶

In 1066 one Goda held the manor *MANORS* of *GREETHAM* with that of Cottesmore (q.v.), having three carucates of

land in each. The Conqueror kept these manors until at least 1086;⁷ and it was probably from William II, in 1090, that the family of Newburgh received them with the earldom of Warwick. Unlike the other Warwick lands in Rutland, but like the grant of the earldom of Warwick,⁸ the grant of Greetham and Cottesmore cannot be traced. Henry de Newburgh, the first earl, died in 1123. His son and successor Roger, chiefly known for his endowments of religious houses,⁹ gave the Templars 11s. rent out of his

mill at Greetham and 4 bovates of land there.¹⁰ This is the first mention of the Warwicks in connection with Greetham and Cottesmore, but the fact that until the 16th century Cottesmore was said to be held 'of the earldom of Warwick' points to its grant with the earldom. Roger, second earl, died in 1153; his son William, leaving no issue, was succeeded by his brother, the 4th earl, Walran, bearer of the right-hand sword, as Chamberlain of the Exchequer, at the coronation of John.¹¹ This Walran gave 'the vill of Greetham and the half of Cottesmore that he held and the advowson of the church of the said vill' to his younger son Walran, King John twice confirming, and stating that the 'manor of Greetham and Cottesmore' was to be held by the service of one knight's fee.¹² Walran's second confirmation was in 1208, four years after the father's death;¹³ but the manor was taken into the king's hands in 1217, because the elder son Henry, the 5th earl, claimed it.¹⁴ Henry obtained seisin,¹⁵ but it was again taken into the king's hands because of Walran's claim in 1218.¹⁶ Whether Walran recovered it is not recorded; in any case, he died childless before 1263,¹⁷ and it descended to the elder line. Henry died in 1229, and his son Thomas in 1242. Margaret or Margery, sister and heir of Thomas, married firstly John

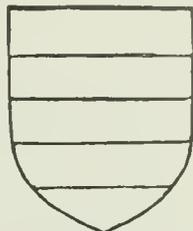


NEWBURGH. *Cbecky*
or and azure a cheveron
ermine.

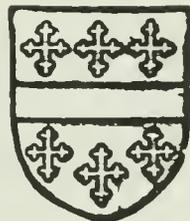
Marshal, who died in 1242, and secondly John de Plessetis, who died in 1263. Both her husbands are considered to have been Earls of Warwick.¹⁸ Margaret and John de Plessetis claimed the manor of Greetham and half the manor of Cottesmore, by right of Margaret, against William Mauduit (of Hanslope, Bucks), and Alice his wife in 1248.¹⁹ This Alice was paternal

aunt of Margaret, and her son, Sir William Mauduit, was heir on Margaret's death, in 1253. The Mauduits had held Barrowden (q.v.) for over a century; and the Warwick lands in Rutland seem to have been settled on the above Alice on her marriage, for in 1236 William Mauduit was holding in Rutland with Peter de Montfort 5½ fees of the honor of Warwick.²⁰ William Mauduit, son of Alice, succeeded his father as hereditary chamberlain of the exchequer, and on the death of John de Plessetis he became Earl of Warwick.²¹ He died seised of this estate in 1268, when his heir was his nephew William de Beauchamp, son of his sister Isabel.²² William, ninth earl, was succeeded in 1298 by his son Guy,²³ bearer of the third sword at the coronation of Edward II. He died seised in 1315, leaving an infant son, Thomas.²⁴ Thomas, who made a settlement of the manor in 1344,²⁵ distinguished himself at Crécy, and died in 1369. His son Thomas, bearer of the third sword at the coronation of Richard II, was one of the Lords Appellant, and was imprisoned and lost his lands in 1396.²⁶ His Rutland lands were granted in 1397 in tail male to the earl marshal,²⁷ but were restored immediately after the accession of Henry IV.²⁸ He took part as above in the coronation,²⁹ and died seised in 1401, leaving a son and heir Richard,³⁰ who made a settlement in 1425.³¹

Richard died in 1439, leaving a son Henry, a minor,³² who was created Duke of Warwick in 1445, and died in 1446. His only child Anne was an infant,³³ and the king appointed a bailiff here during her minority.³⁴ On her death in 1449, the earldom lapsed to the Crown, and the estates devolved on her four aunts, daughters of her grandfather, Richard. One of them, Anne, was wife of



MAUDUIT. *Argent*
two bars gules.



BEAUCHAMP. *Gules*
a fesse between six
crosslets or.

⁴ Cuthbert Bede in *N. and Q.* (6th Ser.), ii, 49. The title 'Ram Jam' was a nickname derived from a spirit, or liqueur, sold by the landlord, Charles Blake (d. 1791), to passengers while the coaches changed horses. The old signboard, painted with the full coat of arms of the Earls of Winchilsea, remained on the house till 1879, after which a sign with the title 'Ram Jam Inn' was first used. There are other more fanciful versions of the origin of the name: see *N. and Q.* (6th Ser.), i, 414; (7th Ser.) vii, 243; clxx, 214, 321, 374; clxx, 157.

⁵ The stone is said to have been carved by a spectator of the fight. It bears the date Sept. 28, 1811.

⁶ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 177. ⁷ *Ibid.* 138.

⁸ G.E.C. *Complete Peerage*, viii, 52.

⁹ *Ibid.* 53.

¹⁰ Dugdale, *Baronage*, i, 69.

¹¹ G.E.C. loc. cit. et seq.

¹² Add. MS. 28024, ff. 49, 49d; *Rot. Chart.* (Rec. Com.), 183b.

¹³ G.E.C. loc. cit.

¹⁴ *Rot. Litt. Claus.* (Rec. Com.), i, 321b.

¹⁵ *Ibid.* 299.

¹⁶ *Ibid.* 354b.

¹⁷ G.E.C. loc. cit.

¹⁸ *Ibid.* 54.

¹⁹ Assize R. 871, m. 4.

²⁰ *Bk. of Fees* (P.R.O.), 506.

²¹ G.E.C. op. cit. 56.

²² *Ibid.*; *Cal. Inq.* i, nos. 387, 679; *Excerpt. e Rot. Fin.* ii, 466.

²³ *Cal. Inq.* iii, no. 477, p. 377.

²⁴ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1301-7, p. 130; 1313-17, p. 263; *Cal. Inq.* v, no. 615, pp. 400, 407; *Cal. Close R.* 1313-18, pp. 245, 255; *Feud. Aids*, iv, 208.

²⁵ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1343-5, p. 251; Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 18 Edw. III, no. 36.

²⁶ G.E.C. op. cit. 57-58; *Mins. Accts.* (Gen. Ser.), bde. 1123, no. 5.

²⁷ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1396-9, 220.

²⁸ *Close R.* 1 Hen. IV, pt. i, m. 18.

²⁹ G.E.C. op. cit. 58.

³⁰ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 2 Hen. IV, no. 58, m. 10.

³¹ Feet of F. Div. Cos. Mich. 4 Hen. VI, no. 45.

³² *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 17 Hen. VI, no. 54.

³³ G.E.C. op. cit. 59-60.

³⁴ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1441-6, p. 433.

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

Richard Nevill, the 'King-Maker,' created earl of Warwick, and slain at Barnet 1471. His and his wife's estates were divided between their two daughters. Isabel, the elder, married George, Duke of Clarence (attainted in 1478). She died in 1476, and their son Edward, Earl of Warwick, who was unmarried, was executed in 1499. Anne, the younger daughter, married firstly Edward Prince of Wales, and secondly Richard III, and died childless in 1485.³⁵ Greetham was taken into the king's hands on account of the attainder of Clarence.³⁶ The right of Anne, Countess of Warwick, was disregarded, and her lands were only restored in order that she might settle them on the Crown in 1491-2.³⁷

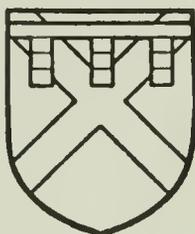
The Crown retained the manor until 1550, appointing as stewards, among others, Sir Everard and Kenelm Digby.³⁸ In 1550 it was granted to John, Earl of Bedford, in fee.³⁹ He was succeeded in 1555 by his son Francis,⁴⁰ who in 1561 had licence to alienate the manor to Sir John Harington, kt.⁴¹ From this time the manor followed the descent of the manor of Exton⁴² (q.v.) until in 1623 Edward Lord Noel (grandson of Sir James Harington of Exton) conveyed the manor and advowson of Greetham to George, Marquess of Buckingham,⁴³ from this time the manor follows the same descent as that of Burley⁴⁴ (q.v.), Mr. Wilfrid H. M. Finch being now owner.

Free warren in his demesne lands here was granted to the Earl of Warwick in 1291,⁴⁵ and during the minority of the duke's heir in 1446 the king appointed a bailiff here and a master forester of Rutland forest and Greetham park.⁴⁶ In 1293-7 the suitors attended the court at Burley,⁴⁷ and from at least 1300 the township was in the soke of Oakham (q.v.). There was a mill in 1086,⁴⁸ in the possession of the Earl of Warwick before 1153,⁴⁹ and from 1315 to 1651 a watermill and windmill are mentioned as descending with the manor, while the site of the capital messuage is mentioned in 1315.⁵⁰

Seven virgates in **WOOLFOX** (Wlfhous, Wulfhus

xiii cent.; Wolfhous xv-xvii cent.; Wolfox xviii cent.) were held in the time of Henry II by Nigel de Mundevill.⁵¹ The lands descended to Ranulf son of Nigel, whose son Richard claimed them in 1224 from his uncle John, who stated that he was his brother's heir,⁵² and obtained from his nephew tenure for life.⁵³ Jordan Lurty (de Urtiaco) was summoned to answer the executors of the will of Thomas de Nevill in 1304-5, as to a claim by the executors to the manor of Woolfox under a grant to Thomas for life and for ten years after his death; whereupon Jordan had to surrender the manor for the remainder of the said term.⁵⁴ The next reference is in 1495, when Henry Wykes, clerk, trustee of her father, settled it on Elizabeth Elmes, widow, and William Elmes, together with some Northamptonshire manors⁵⁵ that had belonged to Elizabeth's father, William Brown of Stamford, merchant.⁵⁶ Elizabeth's son William died in 1504, leaving a son John, who died in 1545, leaving a son Edmund. He was succeeded in 1602 by his son John,⁵⁷ who died seised of this manor in 1624, when his brother Thomas, aged 70, was his heir.⁵⁸ Thomas in 1632 left a son and heir William,⁵⁹ who settled the manor in the following year.⁶⁰ George Nevill and Oliver Slater were concerned with it in 1663.⁶¹ The last reference found is a grant of the tithes to the vicar and his successors by the Earl of Nottingham and Henry Foster of Thistleton.⁶²

The church of **ST. MARY** consists **CHURCH** of chancel, 22 ft. 6 in. by 15 ft., with north vestry, clearstoried nave 46 ft. by 24 ft. 6 in., north and south aisles, south transept, 15 ft. 6 in. by 13 ft. 6 in., south porch and west tower, 10 ft. square, surmounted by a broach spire. The width of the north aisle is 11 ft. 6 in. and of the south aisle 8 ft. 9 in., the total width across nave and aisles being 48 ft. 6 in. All these measurements are internal. The vestry dates from 1858, in which year the church was reseated, a west gallery removed, the arcades cleaned of whitewash and the chancel restored.⁶³ There was a further restoration in 1897, when the south arcade⁶⁴ and the west wall of the south aisle were taken down and rebuilt, a certain amount of new material being introduced. In the rebuilt west wall of the aisle inside were inserted a number of 12th-century fragments⁶⁵ and two of pre-Conquest date,⁶⁶ found during the restoration. No



NEVILL. Gules a saltire argent and a label gobony argent and azure.

³⁵ G.E.C. op. cit. 62.

³⁶ Mins. Accts. (Duchy of Lanc.), bdle. 645, no. 10, 464; *Cal. Pat. R.* 1485-94, pp. 8, 91, 206.

³⁷ G.E.C. op. cit. 63; Feet of F. Div. Cos. Hil. 3 Hen. VII.

³⁸ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, viii, g. 149 (10); xii (1), g. 1330 (53); xiii (i) g. 646 (59); xx (1), g. 621 (13); (ii) g. 1068 (48).

³⁹ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1549-51, p. 43.

⁴⁰ *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), ii, 75.

⁴¹ *Pat. R.* 3 Eliz. pt. 5; cf. Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 26 Eliz.

⁴² *Ibid.* Div. Cos. Hil. 15 Eliz.; Hil. 34 Eliz.; Rutl. Mich. 11 Jas. I; East. 21 Jas. I; *Recov. R. Hil.* 33 Eliz. ro. 86; Trin. 44 Eliz. ro. 86; Mich. 11 Jas. II, ro. 77; Mich. 12 Chas. II, ro. 134; Trin. 1 Will. & M. ro. 98; Mich. 15 Geo. III, ro. 289; Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), cccvi, 117; cccvi, 116; *Cal. of Com. for Comp.* 496.

⁴³ Feet of F. Rutl. East. 21 Jas. I.

⁴⁴ *Recov. R. Rutl. Mich.* 12 Chas. II,

ro. 134; Mich. 15 Geo. III, ro. 289; Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 45 Geo. III.

⁴⁵ *Cal. Chancery R.* 1257-1300, p. 383.

⁴⁶ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1441-6, p. 433.

⁴⁷ *Ct. R. (Gen. Ser.)*, bdle. 197, no. 80.

⁴⁸ *V.C.H.* loc. cit.

⁴⁹ See above.

⁵⁰ *Cal. Inq.* v, no. 615, p. 400; *Cal. of Com. for Comp.* 496.

⁵¹ Maitland, *Bracton's Note Bk.* 230.

⁵² *Ibid.*

⁵³ Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 8 Hen. III, no. 9.

⁵⁴ *De Banco R. Mich.* 33 Edw. I, m. 77.

⁵⁵ Feet of F. Div. Cos. Trin. 10 Hen. VII.

⁵⁶ *V.C.H. Northants*, iii, 229.

⁵⁷ *Ibid.* 118.

⁵⁸ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), cccviii, 120.

⁵⁹ *Ibid.* cccclxviii, 87.

⁶⁰ Feet of F. Div. Cos. Trin. 9 Chas. I.

⁶¹ *Recov. R. Trin.* 15 Chas. II, ro. 52.

⁶² Bacon, *Liber Regis*, 843-4.

⁶³ *Paradise, Stamford Mercury*, April 24, 1863. The chancel roof, which had been hidden by a flat ceiling, and the arch to the

nave, which had been blocked, were opened out, and open seating was substituted for high box pews. The tower arch was also opened out.

⁶⁴ In 1863 the arches of the south arcade were nearly 2 ft. out of the perpendicular (*Paradise*, loc. cit.).

⁶⁵ They comprise three fragments of billet moulding, and part of what appears to have been a tympanum with rude carving and zigzag lines. There is also a stone with incised lozenge-shaped ornament in the east wall of the nave, south of the chancel arch.

⁶⁶ One of these, above the window, is a large stone with plait work and double round-edge moulding, probably part of a cross shaft; the other is carved with an interlacing pattern. The two projections at the west end of the nave, against the east side of the tower, possibly represent the walls of the 12th-century nave, but as they are entirely covered with plaster, it is impossible to come to any conclusion about them.



GREETHAM CHURCH FROM THE SOUTH-EAST



GREETHAM CHURCH : THE INTERIOR, LOOKING EAST

part of the existing fabric, however, appears to be earlier than c. 1200, at which period, or shortly after, the church seems to have been rebuilt. To this early 13th century building the south arcade and the greater part of the chancel and south aisle belong, but at some subsequent time the chancel was reduced to its present dimensions. This may have occurred in the first half of the 14th century, when the fabric underwent many changes. The north arcade and aisle, the clearstory, and the tower and spire are of this period and probably represent additions to the building. The chancel arch was also rebuilt and made of greater width than the chancel itself, the south wall of which at its west end, where there appears to have been a chapel,⁶⁷ was reconstructed in its present form, inclining outwards so as to clear the arch. The transept may represent a chapel at the east end of the south aisle, but it appears to have been rebuilt at some comparatively recent time, and is perhaps contemporary with the wooden-framed windows of the aisle, which took the place of the original lancets.⁶⁸

The porch appears to have been rebuilt in 1673,⁶⁹ and it is not unlikely that other work was done at this time.

The tower is faced with ashlar, but the rest of the building is of rubble, plastered internally, with plain parapets to the nave and north aisle. The chancel has a high-pitched, stone-slatted, eaved roof, but the other roofs are leaded.⁷⁰ The clearstory and the spire were restored in 1897.

The chancel has a modern pointed east window of three lights with reticulated tracery,⁷¹ and in the south wall are two widely splayed lancets, the easternmost close to the end wall.⁷² The shortening of the chancel accounts for the absence of the usual ritual arrangements, and a single buttress remains on the south side, near the east end. The north wall is pierced by a modern doorway to the vestry, but is otherwise blank. A lancet in the inclined western portion of the south wall was inserted in 1858, in place of a square wooden-framed window.⁷³ The

⁶⁷ Some 8 ft. east of the chancel arch, at a height of 8 ft. 9 in. above the floor, is the springing of a 13th-century chamfered arch with part of a moulded capital. At Twywell, Northants, there was a late 13th century chapel in this position.

⁶⁸ The transept, unlike the chancel, has a chamfered plinth, and this is continued along the aisle as far as the porch, this portion of the wall having apparently been rebuilt or refaced at the same time as the transept. There is much disturbance of the masonry hereabouts.

⁶⁹ This date, with the initials i.w., is on the finial of the gable. The former porch had a roof of flatter pitch, the table of

which remains, and it extended slightly further west.

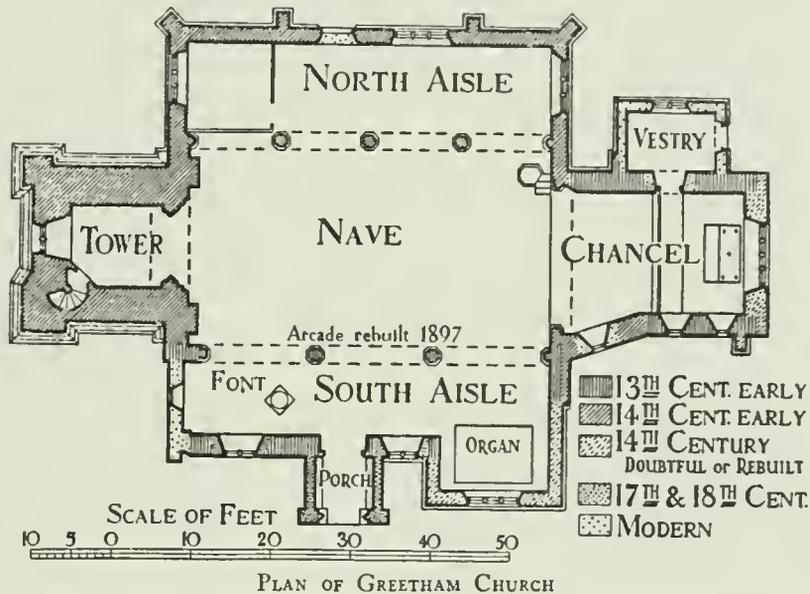
⁷⁰ The south aisle and transept are under a continuous lean-to eaved roof, with coped raking end walls. The nave roof is of very flat pitch, but the tabling of the older high-pitched roof remains on the east wall of the tower. In 1539 the chancel was in ruins owing to the suppression of the priory of St. Sepulchre (Irons' Notes, Archd. Visit.).

⁷¹ It takes the place of a four-light square-headed window.

⁷² The chamfered inside sill of these windows is modern, and below is a cre-

wide and lofty 14th-century chancel arch, which is of the same build as the north arcade, is of two hollow chamfered orders, springing from half-octagonal responds with moulded capitals and bases: it has a hood-mould on the nave side only.

The 13th-century south arcade consists of three pointed arches of two orders, the outer with a straight and the inner with a hollow chamfer, on octagonal piers with moulded capitals and bases, and responds of generally similar character, but the capitals of the



responds are enriched with nail-head ornament and the bases are chamfered. The arches are without hood-moulds. Cut in the face of the east respond is a small trefoiled niche.⁷⁴ As rebuilt the arcade is in part modern.⁷⁵ The south aisle is lighted by two rectangular wooden framed windows in the south aisle and at the west end by a modern lancet.⁷⁶ The transept⁷⁷ projects nearly 7 ft. beyond the aisle, but is structurally part of it, there being no dividing arch. It is lighted at the end by a modern square-headed three-light window, but it has no ancient ritual arrangements. The east wall is blank. The 13th-century south doorway has a single chamfered pointed arch, with moulded imposts, and hood-mould with head-stops.⁷⁸

The 14th-century north arcade consists of four pointed arches of two hollow chamfered orders, with hood-mould on both sides, on tall, slender, octagonal piers, and similar responds all with moulded capitals

dence bracket supported by a carved head.

⁷³ Paradise, loc. cit.

⁷⁴ It is 6 in. high.

⁷⁵ The capital of the second pier from the east and the pier bases appear to be wholly modern. The easternmost pier is 20½ in. diameter, and the other only 18½ in. The arches spring at a height above the floor of 7 ft. 6 in.

⁷⁶ It takes the place of an original one in the same position.

⁷⁷ It is now occupied by the organ.

⁷⁸ The stop on the west side is covered by the wall of the porch.

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and bases, the latter on square plinths.⁷⁹ The north aisle has diagonal angle buttresses and moulded string-course at sill level: it is lighted by a large pointed 14th-century window of three trefoiled lights with reticulated tracery in the north wall and by a similar window of two lights at the west end. The east window was originally of the same character, but the tracery has been removed, the head blocked, and a new four-centred arch with Perpendicular tracery introduced below.

The clearstory has three original circular windows with quatrefoil cusping on the north side, but on the south the windows are square-headed and modern of two trefoiled lights.⁸⁰ Below the nave parapets, on each side, is a hollow moulding enriched with heads and ball-flowers. The roof is modern.

The tower is of three stages, divided by plain strings, and has clasping angle buttresses and a massive moulded base and chamfered plinth. There is a vice in the south-west angle, and a pointed west window of two trefoiled lights⁸¹ in the lower stage: the middle stage has a single trefoil-headed window north and south. The deeply recessed bell-chamber windows are of two lights with moulded jambs and banded mid-shafts with moulded capitals and bases: on the north and south the lights are trefoiled, with a quatrefoil in the head, but east and west they are lancet shaped. The spire is of the same build as the tower, with plain angles and three tiers of lights⁸² in the cardinal faces. It rises from a corbel table of heads between the buttresses, and there is a small head at the top of the broaches. The arch to the nave is of four orders, of alternate hollow and wave mouldings, the two inner springing from moulded imposts and responds consisting of attached triple shafts.⁸³

The font is shaped in the form of an early 13th century circular capital, with square top and moulded edge, below which is a line of dog-tooth, and at each angle is a carved head,⁸⁴ or mask, with a line of nail-

head below. It is set angle-wise on a drum-shaped modern base and square plinth.

The Jacobean panelled oak pulpit is much restored. In the north aisle are the royal arms of one of the Hanover sovereigns on a painted wood panel, with supporters and garter and the words 'Fear God, honour the King.' Some carved oak panels, said to have come out of a church in Sussex, have been placed in the chancel.⁸⁵

The four bells formerly in the tower were recast into a ring of five in 1923 by Gillett and Johnson of Croydon.⁸⁶

The plate consists of a silver gilt paten of 1681-2 inscribed 'Ex dono Booth Wright vicar de Greetham A.D. 1681,' a cup and paten inscribed 'Ecclesia de Greetham ex voto Henriettae Henrici de Foe Baker A.D. 1828,' and a modern flagon given in 1862.⁸⁷

The registers before 1812 are as follows: (i) all entries 1576-1709; (ii) baptisms and burials⁸⁸ 1729-1812, marriages 1729-54; (iii) marriages 1754-84; (iv) marriages 1784-1813. There are churchwardens' accounts from 1788.

Walran Earl of Warwick, 1184-
ADVOWSON 1204, granted the advowson to his younger son Walran.⁸⁹ The latter and his elder brother Henry may both have granted it to St. Sepulchre's Priory, Warwick, which had appropriated it before 1235, when a vicar and manse had been provided and a stipend fixed by agreement with the Earl of Warwick.⁹⁰ The priory remained in possession until the Dissolution of the Monasteries.⁹¹ In 1551-52 the rectory and advowson were granted to Edward Lord Clinton;⁹² but in 1553 Sir John Harington, kt., died seised.⁹³ In 1601-2 his successor received a grant of the rectory from the Crown,⁹⁴ and the advowson then descended with the manor⁹⁵ until about 1915, when it had passed to the Bishop of Peterborough, the present patron.

This parish participates in Thomas
CHARITY Birch's or Byrch's Charity—see under Cottesmore with Barrow.

HORN

Horne (xi cent.); Horn (xiii cent.); Thorn (xiv cent.); HERNSELD *als* Hornseld, Hornefeld (xvi cent.); Hornfield (xvii cent.).

The area of this small parish is 946 acres, of which about half is arable land and the remainder permanent grass. The soil is sand and limestone on a subsoil of

Inferior Oolite. The average height of the parish is about 300 ft. above the Ordnance datum. The Great North Road, leading south-east from Grantham to Stamford, enters Horn at its extreme north-east corner, where an outer fringe of Exton Park, Horn Lane Spinney, ends, and forms the boundary between

⁷⁹ The width of the arches is about 9 ft. 6 in.; in the south arcade the span is about 13 ft.

⁸⁰ These windows date from 1897, but the hood-moulds appear to be old. In 1863 they were described as filled with 'wooden sashes.'

⁸¹ The mullion and tracery are modern.

⁸² The two lower tiers have double trefoiled lights with quatrefoil above and mid-shafts with moulded capitals and bases; the upper openings are uncusped with pierced spandrels, and all are under straight-sided gables.

⁸³ The two outer orders are continued to the ground on the east side and die out on the west.

⁸⁴ The head at the west angle is said to have been carved by the Rev. H. de Foe

Baker, vicar (great-grandson of Daniel Defoe), who also designed the base.

⁸⁵ They were given by Mrs. George Finch. Some of the pieces represent beads of Apostles, animal beads, etc., and others Old Testament subjects.

⁸⁶ The new bells form a memorial to the men of the parish killed in the Great War. Two of the old bells, dated respectively 1650 and 1658, were by Thomas Norris, of Stamford, another was by Alexander Rigby, of Stamford, 1703, and the treble by Joseph Eayre, of St. Neots, 1741 (North, *Cb. Bells of Rutl.* 133, where the inscriptions are given).

⁸⁷ Hope, *Cb. Plate in Rutl.* 5. The marks on the cup and paten given in 1828 are obliterated. The flagon is a handsome tankard inscribed: 'This flagon given to

T. Henry Jones in remembrance of friendship he dedicated to the honour of God's service A.D. 1862.' T. H. Jones was vicar.

⁸⁸ There is a gap 1709-29.

⁸⁹ See above.

⁹⁰ *Rot. Hug. de Welles* (Cant. and York Soc.), pt. ii, 208; *Valor Eccles.* (Rec. Com.), iii, 86.

⁹¹ *Ibid.*; *Rot. Rob. Grosseteste* (Cant. and York Soc.), 167; *Rot. Ric. Gravesend* (Cant. and York Soc.), 109; Archd. Rec.

⁹² *Cal. Pat. R.* 1550-3, pp. 209, 211.

⁹³ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), ci, 101.

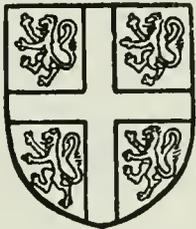
⁹⁴ Pat. R. 44 Eliz. pt. 23.

⁹⁵ Irons' Notes, Linc. Episc. Reg. (Instit.). The advowson seems to have been in the hands of trustees during most of the 17th century.

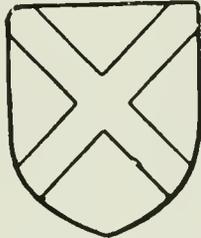
this parish and Empingham for some distance. From the 16th to the early 19th century Redbroke was a place-name in this parish.¹

There is now no village of Horn, but in 1287 Richard son of Richard de Seyton had a manor-house and in 1378 Sir John Seyton had his capital messuage here;² there is little doubt, therefore, that there was a village with, as we know, its church. In 1376 the principal manor was found to be almost valueless,³ and the place was declared waste and uninhabitable before the middle of the next century.⁴ Probably the parish fell a victim to the desire at this date to turn arable land into pasture, with the consequent depopulation of the district. A great part of the western side of the parish with the site of the church was included in Exton Park. In 1649 it is said there was no church or chapel nor inhabitant but a shepherd.⁵ Blore, writing in 1809, described the parish as almost depopulated,⁶ and in the census of 1921 its population of 26 souls was reckoned in the ecclesiastical parish of Exton.

Two hides in Horn of which Langfer had *MANORS* been tenant under Edward the Confessor were held of the king by the Bishop of Durham in 1086,⁷ and may perhaps be identified with



BISHOPRIC of DURHAM. Azure a cross or between four lions argent.



NEVILL of Raby. Gules a saltire argent.

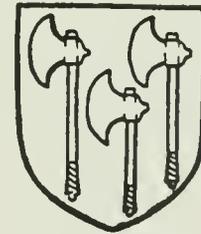
the third of a knight's fee in Rutland which formed part of the Bishop's barony in 1235-36⁸ and became known as *SEYTON'S MANOR*. According to Blore, the manor of Horn was held of Ralph de Nevill, Baron of Raby, in the first half of the 14th century,⁹ and this overlordship had not altogether lapsed in 1445, when some lands in the parish were found to be under the suzerainty of his descendant the Earl of Westmorland.¹⁰ Horn was held in chief in 1509 and 1524,¹¹ but was afterwards regarded as part of the Honour of Huntingdon and descended with the manor of Exton (q.v.).

A priest was returned in the Domesday Survey with the Bishop's manor of Horn,¹² which may indicate that this was the manor to which the church was attached. In 1235 John de Amby or Hamby held a third of a knight's fee in Rutland of the barony of

the Bishop of Durham, which presumably was at Horn, that being, in 1086, the only land held by the bishop in what was later the county.¹³ Blore adds that John de Amby was patron of the church of Horn. In 1256 the manor, as the inheritance of Alice the wife of William de Curzun, and possibly heiress of John de Amby, was conveyed to William de Frankton and his wife Aline,¹⁴ who in 1271 granted two messuages, one apparently the capital messuage of the manor, and lands and the advowson of the church to Richard de Seyton.¹⁵ Later they conveyed the manor to Nicholas de Frankton.¹⁶ An action was brought about 1287 for the ownership of the manor by Nicholas de Frankton against Richard son of Richard de Seyton,¹⁷ and in 1304 Richard son of Richard de Seyton claimed the right of presentation to the church against Alan son of Nicholas de Frankton. It was decided that the advowson had been detached from the manor and conveyed to the Seytons, but that the manor belonged to the Franktons.¹⁸ In 1305 Alan de Frankton was returned as owner of one-sixth of a knight's fee in Horn,¹⁹ and in 1315-16 a settlement of the manor was made on him with remainder to Roger de Tolthorp de Deneford, his wife Elizabeth and the heirs of their bodies.²⁰ Thomas, son and heir of Roger de Deneford, quitclaimed in 1361 the manor of Horn to Sir Roland Daneys, presumably the son of Brice Daneys of Tickencote²¹ and his wife Elizabeth.²² It was held by Sir Roland's widow until she died in 1377, when his nephew and heir, John son of his brother Oliver, succeeded.²³ Another John, son and heir of the last, followed his father. Robert his son died without issue, and Horn descended through his younger daughter Elizabeth, wife of William Hasilden, to their son John,²⁴ whose son Francis Hasilden in 1509 obtained licence to enter without proof of age on the 'manor of Henseld alias Hornseld,'²⁵ the Hornfield of the 17th and two following centuries. In 1517 he sold the manor to Sir John Harington,²⁶ who died in 1523 seised of the manor of Horn, formerly belonging to Francis Hasilden.²⁷ Horn has since descended with the manor of Exton (q.v.).



SEYTON. Gules a bend between six martlets argent.



DANEYS. Sable three battle-axes argent.

¹ Blore, *Hist. and Antiq. of Rutl.* 146.

² *Cal. Fine R.* 1272-1307, 236; Blore, *op. cit.* 145.

³ Chan. Inq. p.m. 49 Edw. III, pt. i, no. 34.

⁴ *Ibid.* 24 Hen. VI, no. 41.

⁵ Irons' Notes.

⁶ Blore, *op. cit.* 144.

⁷ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 141.

⁸ *Bk. of Fees* (P.R.O.), p. 506.

⁹ Blore, *op. cit.* 145, citing private documents.

¹⁰ Chan. Inq. p.m. 24 Hen. VI, no. 41; G.E.C. *Complete Peerage*, vi, 12, 13; viii, 110-111.

¹¹ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1494-1509, p. 596; Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), xli, 11.

¹² *V.C.H.* loc. cit.

¹³ *Bk. of Fees*, loc. cit.

¹⁴ Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 40 Hen. III, no. 49.

¹⁵ *Ibid.* 55 Hen. III, no. 71.

¹⁶ De Banco R. 152, m. 16 d; *Cal. Fine R.* 1272-1307, p. 236.

¹⁷ *Ibid.*

¹⁸ De Banco R. loc. cit.

¹⁹ *Feud. Aids*, iv, 205.

²⁰ Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 9 Edw. II, no. 15. According to Blore (*Hist. Rutl.* 145), this must have been the Roger de

Deneford whom John de Seyton sued in the Court of Common Pleas for the manor of Horn. He was knight of the shire for Rutland in the 6th and 14th years of Edward III.

²¹ Blore, *op. cit.* 61.

²² *Cal. Close R.* 1360-64, p. 243.

²³ Chan. Inq. p.m. 49 Edw. III, pt. i, no. 34; *Cal. Close R.* 1374-77, p. 505.

²⁴ Blore, *op. cit.* 145-6.

²⁵ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1494-1509, p. 596.

²⁶ Blore, loc. cit.

²⁷ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), xli, 11.

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A third hide in Horn was found amongst the lands of the Countess Judith in 1086²⁸ and formed part of the Honour of Huntingdon. In 1241, on the partition of the inheritance of John le Scot, the overlordship of this hide, which became known as *GRIMBALD'S MANOR*, went to Ada, fourth daughter of Judith's great-grandson, David Earl of Huntingdon, and wife of Sir Henry Hastings, from whom it descended to their grandson Sir John de Hastings. He died seised in 1313²⁹ and was succeeded by his son of the same name, overlord of six bovates in Horn in 1315.³⁰

The tenant under the Lady Judith in 1086 was Grimbald, and the descent of this mesne lordship followed that of Tickencote (q.v.) until the 13th century, when in 1241 Robert Grimbald held two knights' fees in Horn, Thistleton and Tickencote. There was much subinfeudation during the Barons' Wars of the 13th century, and the Grimbalds seem to have granted their manor of Horn to the family of Dive or Dyve. John de Dive in 1242-3 held lands in Lincolnshire of Ernald de Boys, who held of Robert Grimbald, and Robert held of the Honour of Huntingdon.³¹ William de Dive died in 1262, leaving a son and heir John,³² who died in 1293. John's heirs were his sisters, Joan, wife of Ralph de Trehampton, and Elizabeth, then the wife of John Daubeney.³³ The purparty of Joan, as would appear from a later lawsuit, included two-thirds of the manor of Horn³⁴ which before 1295 must have passed to the Normans. Thomas de Normanville died seised of 5 bovates of land in demesne and 7 bovates in villeinage in Horn, in that year held of Margaret de Normanville, daughter of Thomas de Normanville of Empingham (q.v.), who married William de Basing.³⁵ Thomas was succeeded by his son Edmund, a minor, who held a sixth part of a knight's fee in Horn in 1305.³⁶ He died before 1316, when Margaret and her husband had succeeded to the property. William died in that year seised of 6 bovates of land in Horn held of Sir John de Hastings, and left a son and heir Thomas, aged 15 years.³⁷ The other purparty of John de Dive's property, which went to his sister Elizabeth, then the wife of John Daubeney, had been settled on her daughter Maud, by her first husband Lambert Bussey (Bussi, Busshy), on her marriage with William de Holland. William and Maud died without issue,³⁸ and on Elizabeth's death in 1293 her share in the manor of Horn went to her son Hugh de Bussey.³⁹ Hugh died in 1306, leaving a son John,⁴⁰ who in 1330 brought an action against Margaret, widow of William de Basing, for the manor of Horn, when it was decided by the court that John de Bussey was entitled to a third of the manor.⁴¹ It seems probable that as a result of this decision Margaret bought out John's

interest, as we have no further reference to the Busseys in connection with Horn.

The manor continued to be the property of the Basings and passed with Empingham (q.v.) until George Mackworth seems to have sold it to Everard Digby, who in 1510 conveyed it to Sir John Harington,⁴² when, like the other manor in this parish, it followed the descent of Exton.

In 1086 there were four mills in Horn, three being on the land of the Bishop of Durham, the fourth on the Countess Judith's hide.⁴³

The church of Horn dedicated to *ALL CHURCH SAINTS*⁴⁴ fell into ruin probably in the 15th century. It was taxed in 1428,⁴⁵ but in 1539 it was described as once a church, but now devastated and only valued at 2 marks.⁴⁶ Its site is uncertain, but it is believed to be in Exton Park, where, near a thorn tree, the rector was inducted in 1809. Blore, writing in 1811, states that 'not a single fragment now remains of the edifice.'⁴⁷

A priest was returned with the *ADVOWSON* demesne land of the Bishop of Durham at Horn in 1086.⁴⁸ The patronage apparently followed the descent of this fee. Sir John de Amby was patron in 1234-35,⁴⁹ and the advowson afterwards came to John de Curzun and his wife Alice, in right of Alice, who presented their clerk to the church before enfeofing William de Frankton of the whole property in 1256.⁵⁰ William granted the advowson to Richard de Seyton in 1271,⁵¹ and it remained with his son Richard until the death, in or before 1304, of his clerk, Roger de Maydenewell, when Alan de Frankton, lord of the manor, claimed the next presentation. In the suit which followed Richard produced the charter whereby William de Frankton had enfeofed the elder Richard de Seyton of the advowson with one messuage and 7½ acres of land in Horn. The right of presentation was thereupon restored to Richard, on the ground that the advowson had been separated from the manor long before it had belonged to Alan's father, Nicholas de Frankton.⁵² A later member of the Seyton family, Sir John de Seyton of Maidwell, was patron in 1352 and reckoned the advowson amongst his possessions in this parish twenty-six years later.⁵³ In 1539 it was the property of Sir John Harington, who had bought it from Everard Digby in 1510, since which year it has followed the descent of the manor of Exton (q.v.).

The rectory of Horn is said to have belonged from time immemorial to the owners of the manor which was of the fee of the Bishop of Durham.⁵⁴ There was a rector here as late as 1578, when the parish was united to Greetham.⁵⁵

There are no charities in this parish.

²⁸ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 142.

²⁹ *Cal. Close R.* 1237-42, pp. 369-70; *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), vi, 345-46, 638-47; *Cal. Inq.* iv, no. 235.

³⁰ *Ibid.* no. 566.

³¹ *Bk. of Fees* (P.R.O.), p. 1050.

³² *Cal. Inq. Hen. III*, no. 876; *Excerpta e Rot. Fin.* ii, 364, 366.

³³ *Cal. Inq.* iii, no. 112.

³⁴ *De Banco R. Mich.* 4 Edw. III, m. 474.

³⁵ *Cal. Inq.* iii, no. 253.

³⁶ *Feud. Aids*, iv, 205.

³⁷ *Cal. Inq.* v, no. 566.

³⁸ *De Banco R. Mich.* 4 Edw. III, m. 474.

³⁹ *Cal. Inq.* iii, no. 141. In the suit of 1330 Hugh is stated to be son of John, brother of Lambert (*De Banco R. loc. cit.*).

⁴⁰ *Cal. Inq.* iv, no. 380.

⁴¹ *De Banco R. loc. cit.*

⁴² *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), xli, 11; Blore, *loc. cit.* Blore has apparently confused the two manors.

⁴³ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 141, 142.

⁴⁴ *Bacon, Lib. Reg.* 845.

⁴⁵ *Feud. Aids*, iv, 210.

⁴⁶ *Valor Eccles.* (Rec. Com.), iv, 344.

⁴⁷ Blore, *op. cit.* 147.

⁴⁸ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 141a.

⁴⁹ Blore, *op. cit.* 144, 147.

⁵⁰ Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 40 Hen. III, no. 49; *De Banco R. Trin.* 32 Edw. I, m. 16 d.

⁵¹ Feet of F. Trin. 55 Hen. III, no. 71.

⁵² *De Banco R. loc. cit.*

⁵³ *Bridges, Hist. Northants.* ii, 45-47; Blore, *op. cit.* 145.

⁵⁴ *Ibid.*

⁵⁵ *Irons' Notes, Linc. Episc. Reg. (Instit.)*.

MARKET OVERTON

Overtune (xi cent.); Markedesoverton (xiii cent.); Marcat Overton, Marketishoverton, Marcateshoverton (xiv cent.); Market Orton (xvi-xix cent.); Margat, Margret, Horton (xvi-xvii cent.).

The parish of Market Overton occupies high ground to the north-west of the county between Edmondthorpe and Thistleton. Its area comprises 1,806 acres. The subsoil is Upper Lias and Inferior Oolite. It was stated in 1671 that in 1636 half the lordship of Market Overton was converted from tillage into pasture and inclosed by consent of the parson and inhabitants.¹ At the present day more than half the area is pasture, the arable land yielding cereals, peas and root crops. Iron is worked to a small extent by the Stanton Ironworks Co. and gives employment to a certain number of men, but the district is mainly agricultural and the population, which was 319 in 1921, is decreasing.

Old field-names are 'the Wong,' Black Holmes, Kirk Hole (a stone pit), and Barrowflats.²

Sir Isaac Newton was connected with the parish, and William Kitchen Parker (1823-90), the comparative anatomist, as druggist's assistant, was articled to a surgeon at Market Overton in 1842.³ Thomas Waite, the regicide, governor of Oakham and Uppingham Schools (living 1634-68), is said to have been the son of an alehouse keeper here.⁴ He was a member of the Rump Parliament and lived here in 1653.⁵ His forfeited estate at Market Overton was rented at £140 a year in 1660.⁶

An old custom, dying out in 1895, was to give 'Plum Shuttles' or 'Valentine buns' to all the children of the parish on 14th February.⁷

Edward I was here 1 March 1276,⁸ and Edward II 23 August 1315.⁹

The village stands on the highest point in the parish about 475 ft. above the Ordnance datum, and has wide views over the surrounding country. It is built mainly along a street leading southward from the road from Teigh to Thistleton and Stretton, and in the 14th century served as the market town for a rich agricultural area. It evidently had a market as early as 1200,¹⁰ and 'Markedes Ouerton' appears in 1238,¹¹ but the earliest grant of a market that has been found was on 22 June 1267, when the lord of the manor was empowered to hold a weekly market on Thursdays and a yearly fair on 28, 29 and 30 June. The market day was apparently changed from Thursday to Wednesday by grant of 2 September in the same year.¹² The Wednesday market and yearly fairs on 5, 6 and 7 June and 17, 18 and 19 October were granted to Bartholomew de Badlesmere in 1315.¹³ The market was still held in 1338,¹⁴ but no further mention of either market or fair has been found. The market was

probably held in the open space at the east end of the churchyard.

The church with a well-timbered churchyard is at the west end of the village within the earthworks of a Roman camp, and to the west of it is the Rectory, which has recently undergone alterations. The cottages are almost entirely of stone with thatched, stone or slate roofs, except a group of modern brick cottages at the east end of the village. The stocks and whipping post, in a good state of preservation, stand under some trees on the Green in the middle of the village. The stocks have four holes with cross pieces of iron between wooden posts, the taller of which forms the whipping post.

There was a manor house here as early as 1337, when Giles de Badlesmere dated his will from it,¹⁵ and the manorial garden and dovecote are mentioned in the following year.¹⁶ The present Manor House was rebuilt in 1866; it has an old wall and a small square summer house with a stone roof. The Old Hall with Lavender Farm makes a pleasing group of buildings at the south-west corner of the village. About 2½ miles west of the village is the Oakham Canal, now disused; the Wharf here is modern but marks the place where barges were loaded with barley and malt.

The nearest railway stations are at Ashwell, 3 miles to the south-west of the village, and at South Wytham, 3 miles north.

The manor was entered in both Lincolnshire and Rutland in 1086, and once in the 15th century was assigned to Leicestershire.¹⁷

Before the Conquest *MARKET MANORS OVERTON* and its berewick Stretton belonged to Waltheof, Earl of Huntingdon, who had 3½ carucates of land at geld in the two places. After his death in 1076 they were retained by his widow Judith, who had 3 ploughs in demesne in 1086.¹⁸ From Judith the overlordship descended with the Honour of Huntingdon.¹⁹ On the death of John le Scot the overlordship was attached to the purparty which passed to the Hastings, Earls of Pembroke,²⁰ at least until the death in 1401 of Philippa widow of John Hastings, who held a third of a knight's fee here as dower.²¹ Later the manor was said to be held of Edmund Earl of Kent,²² as representative of the Wake share of Judith's lands.²³

The Umfravilles were probably undertenants from the 12th century. Odinell de Umfraville held Normanton and other lands in Rutland, and was succeeded by his son Robin or Robert in 1182.²⁴ Robin's nephew Gilbert, son of Richard de Umfraville, presented to the church in 1238 and held a knight's fee here in 1241.²⁵ From this date the manor

¹ Exch. Dep. East. 23 Chas. II, no. 15.

² Ibid. ³ *Dict. Nat. Biog.* ⁴ Ibid.

⁵ *Cal. S.P. Dom.* 1653-4, p. 330.

⁶ Ibid. 1660-1, p. 345; cf. Exch. Spec. Com. 6406.

⁷ *Leic. and Rutl. N. and Q.* iii, 159.

⁸ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 176.

⁹ Ibid. 177.

¹⁰ *Cur. Reg. R.* i, 160.

¹¹ *Rot. Rob. Grosseteste* (Cant. and York Soc.), 179.

¹² *Cal. Cbart. R.* 1257-1300, pp. 77, 80.

¹³ Ibid. 1300-26, p. 283.

¹⁴ Chan. Inq. p.m. 12 Edw. III (2nd nos.), 543, file 35.

¹⁵ Gibbons, *Early Linc. Wills*, 6 ('Gadlesmere').

¹⁶ Chan. Inq. p.m. loc. cit.

¹⁷ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1446-52, p. 534.

¹⁸ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 130, 138-9.

¹⁹ Ibid. *Hunts*, ii, 5-9.

²⁰ *Cal. Close R.* 1313-18, p. 27; 1374-7,

pp. 191-2; *Cal. Inq.* v, no. 412 (p. 235); viii, p. 128; x, no. 638 (p. 514); Chan. Inq. p.m. 45 Edw. III (1st nos.), no. 45. See Stretton.

²¹ *Cal. Close R.* 1396-9, p. 179; G.E.C. *Complete Peerage*, vi, 210-11.

²² Chan. Inq. p.m. 13 Edw. IV, no. 43.

²³ See Whissendine.

²⁴ *Pipe R. Soc.* xxxii, 45.

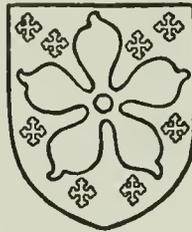
²⁵ *Cal. Close R.* 1237-42, p. 370.

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

followed the descent of Hambleton (q.v.)²⁶ until the death of Giles de Badlesmere in 1338.²⁷ His lands were divided among his four sisters and their husbands. Maud, wife of John de Vere, Earl of Oxford, the second sister, had the manor and advowson of Market Overton,²⁸ and Margaret, wife of John Tiptoft,

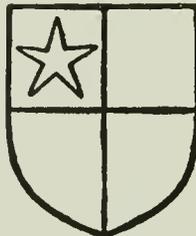


HASTINGS. Or a sleeve gules.



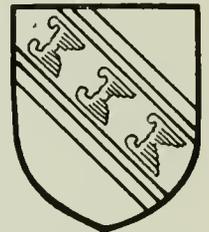
UMFRAVILLE. Gules crusilly and a cinqfoil or.

the fourth sister, had tenements here; while Hambleton, falling to the third sister, henceforth descended separately. John Earl of Oxford died in 1360 seised of the Market Overton estate²⁹ by right of his wife, who survived him,³⁰ leaving a son and heir Thomas,³¹ who in 1369 mortgaged the manor to Sir John de Sutton³² and later granted it for life to William de Wingfield, kt. and Joan his wife. Thomas died seised of the reversion in 1371, and his son and heir Robert,³³ the favourite of Richard II, was created Duke of Ireland in 1386 and attainted by the Merciless Parliament in 1388. The reversion of this property fell to his mother, Maud, widow of Earl Thomas.³⁴ On the deaths of William de Wingfield and Joan, Maud entered into possession,³⁵ but in 1406 Philippa, widow of the attainted duke, obtained a grant of the reversion.³⁶ Philippa and Maud³⁷ both surrendered their rights to Richard. The manor, however, was still in the king's hands in 1409-10,³⁸ but Richard made a settlement in 1412.³⁹ He died seised of it in February 1417, leaving a son and heir John,⁴⁰ a Lancastrian, whose lands were in the king's hands in 1462, when he and his eldest son were beheaded.⁴¹ The same year Market Overton was granted by Edward IV to



VERE. Quarterly gules and/or with a moleat argent in the quarter.

his brother Richard, Duke of Gloucester,⁴² but John, younger son of the last earl, was restored in blood.⁴³ In 1469 John, thirteenth Earl of Oxford, joined in a conveyance of the manor and advowson to Sir John Say, kt.⁴⁴ who died seised in 1478, leaving a son and heir William,⁴⁵ by whom it was settled in 1506.⁴⁶ His daughters and co-heirs were Mary wife of Henry, Earl of Essex, and Elizabeth, married to William, Lord Mountjoy. After some litigation the property was allotted to Mary, but later passed to her sister Elizabeth,⁴⁷ whose daughter Gertrude married Henry Courtenay, Marquess of Exeter, who was holding it in 1535.⁴⁸ He was tried for complicity in the rising in Devon and Cornwall, and was beheaded for treason Jan. 1538-9.⁴⁹ His widow Gertrude was at the same time attainted. A bailiff was appointed in 1540;⁵⁰ and in 1544 the site was leased to Richard, the king's footman, as belonging to Gertrude late Marchioness of Exeter, attainted.⁵¹ It was sold to John Harington in 1553⁵² and the Haringtons of Exton (q.v.) held the manor and advowson until 1623, when they were conveyed to John Huggeford of Henwood (co. Warwick). In 1629 they were sold to John Wingfield of Tickencote (q.v.),⁵³ descendant of Sir Anthony Wingfield of Tickencote,⁵⁴ by Elizabeth sister and co-heir of John Earl of Oxford, who died in 1526.⁵⁵ They have since descended with Tickencote Manor⁵⁶ (q.v.). They are now held by Mr. John Llewellyn Parry, who took the name of Wingfield.



WINGFIELD. Argent a bend gules cotised sable with three pairs of wings argent on the bend.

Woodland one league by half a league belonged to the manor in 1086.⁵⁷ Free warren was granted to Bartholomew de Badlesmere in 1315,⁵⁸ and his son Giles received confirmation in 1337. It is mentioned as appurtenant to the manor until 1811.⁶⁰ In 1276 the lord claimed waif and view of frankpledge twice a year, without the king's officer, by prescription.⁶¹

An estate here held of the manor of MARKET OVERTON was, in 1341, assigned to John de Tiptoft and Margaret, one of the sisters and co-heirs of Giles de Badlesmere, after the death of Giles's widow.⁶² In 1369 Robert Tiptoft mortgaged his right to Roger Beler, kt.,⁶³ who enfeoffed William Slotheby, parson,⁶⁴

²⁶ *Abbrev. Rot. Orig.* (Rec. Com.), i, 8.

²⁷ *Cal. Inq.* viii, no. 185.

²⁸ *Cal. Fine R.* 1337-47, p. 103; *Cal. Close R.* 1339-41, p. 281-2; *Abbrev. Rot. Orig.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 125.

²⁹ For some reason his lands here appear in Mins. Accts. (Gen. Ser.), bde. 964, no. 11, from 1344-71.

³⁰ He was Lord Badlesmere in right of his wife (*Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), i, 372, et seq.).

³¹ *Cal. Inq.* x, no. 638 (p. 514).

³² *Close R.* 43 Edw. III, m. 10.

³³ *Chan. Inq.* p.m. 45 Edw. III (1st nos.), no. 45.

³⁴ *Ibid.* 11 Ric. II, no. 23; 12 Ric. II, no. 179; 16 Ric. II, pt. 2, no. 34; *Cal. Pat. R.* 1385-9, p. 549; 1391-6, p. 167.

³⁵ *Ibid.* 1385-9, p. 549; *Chan. Inq.* p.m. 14 Hen. IV, no. 17.

³⁶ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1401-5, p. 512; 1405-8, p. 214.

³⁷ *Chan. Inq.* p.m. 14 Hen. IV, no. 17.

³⁸ *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* (MSS. of Lord Middleton), 293.

³⁹ Feet of F. Div. Cos. Mich. 14 Hen. IV, no. 89.

⁴⁰ *Chan. Inq.* p.m. 4 Hen. V, no. 53.

⁴¹ G.E.C. op. cit. 167.

⁴² *Cal. Pat. R.* 1461-7, p. 197; *Rolls of Parl.* (Rec. Com.), vi, 228a.

⁴³ G.E.C. loc. cit.

⁴⁴ *Cal. Bodleian Chbnt.* 635. In 1467-8 one John Fulthorp, possibly a feoffee to uses, released all right in the manor to John Bernard (*Close R.* 7 Edw. IV, m. 31).

⁴⁵ *Chan. Inq.* p.m. 18 Edw. IV, no. 43.

⁴⁶ *Anct. D.* (P.R.O.), B. 419.

⁴⁷ *Early Chan. Proc.* bde. 281, no. 74; bde. 335, no. 92.

⁴⁸ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, ix, 481.

⁴⁹ G.E.C. op. cit. iii, 298.

⁵⁰ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xv, g. 613 (25).

⁵¹ *Ibid.* xix (i), g. 442 (3).

⁵² *Cal. Pat. R.* 1553, pp. 101-2.

⁵³ *Rutl. Mag.* iv, 70; Jones, *Index to Records*; *Chan. Inq.* p.m. (Ser. ii), cccxvi, 116.

⁵⁴ *Ibid.* cccclxx, 178.

⁵⁵ G.E.C. op. cit. vi, 169 n.

⁵⁶ *Exch. Dep. East.* 23 Chas. II, no. 15; *Recov. R. East.* 17 Chas. I, ro. 25; *East. 8 Chas. II*, ro. 161; *Trin. 6 & 7 Geo. II*, ro. 285; *Hil. 29 Geo. II*, ro. 246; *East. 9 Geo. III*, ro. 20; *Trin. 27 Geo. III*, ro. 128; *Trin. 51 Geo. III*, ro. 333; Feet of F. Rutl. *Trin. 6 & 7 Geo. II*; *Hil. 29 Geo. II*; *East. 11 Geo. III*; *Trin. 51 Geo. III*.

⁵⁷ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 130, 138-9.

⁵⁸ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1334-8, p. 554.

⁵⁹ *Ibid.* 1324-7, p. 291; *Recov. R. Hil. 29 Geo. II*, ro. 246; Feet of F. *Trin. 51 Geo. III*.

⁶⁰ *Plac. de Quo Warr.* (Rec. Com.), 672.

⁶¹ *Cal. Close R.* 1341-3, pp. 147-8.

⁶² *Ibid.* 1369-74, p. 73.

⁶³ *Ibid.* 397, 446.

and died seised leaving three daughters and co-heirs, whose wardship was granted to Richard Le Scrope in 1372.⁶⁵ The Scropes of Bolton (co. York) held lands here in 1444,⁶⁶ and John Scrope of Bolton died seised of two messuages and 4 bovates of land in 1499, held of St. Agatha's Abbey, Richmond.⁶⁷ The earliest owner in fee of this property was Simon de Bereford, a rebel whose lands here were leased in 1332 at a rent of 16*s.* 4*d.* to Robert de Sussex, who seems to have held of the Crown other lands here.⁶⁸ This rent was granted with the Manor of Wendover (co. Bucks) to John de Molyns in fee,⁶⁹ who released his right to Robert de Sussex.⁷⁰ In 1367 Maud, widow of Robert, had the custody of Robert his grandson and heir for lands held in chief here;⁷¹ and the king made a grant of Robert's marriage in 1370.⁷² Maud died about 1382.⁷³ Robert, son of Thomas son of Robert de Sussex her grandson, came of age in 1383 and died in 1421, leaving a son Robert,⁷⁴ who was one of the collectors of the subsidy in 1428.⁷⁵ He died seised of tenements here held respectively of the king and the Countess of Oxford in 1443, when his brother Thomas was his heir.⁷⁶ These tenements were settled on the Warren family in 1505,⁷⁷ and Francis Warren died seised in 1510.⁷⁸ They then passed to John Stubbs or Snokstubby, yeoman,⁷⁹ from whose family they passed in 1610 to Henry Waite,⁸⁰ possibly progenitor of the regicide. A windmill is mentioned in this fee in 1591 and 1610.

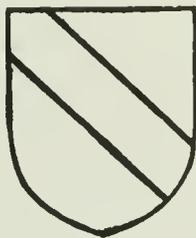
The church of ST. CHURCH PETER AND ST. PAUL

consists of chancel 24 ft. 9 in. by 14 ft. 9 in. with north organ-chamber and vestry, clearstoried nave 37 ft. 9 in. by 14 ft. 9 in., north and south aisles respectively 12 ft. 6 in. and 9 ft. wide, south transeptal chapel 23 ft. by 19 ft., south porch and west tower 10 ft. 6 in. by 12 ft., all these measurements being internal. The width across nave and aisles is 40 ft. 6 in.

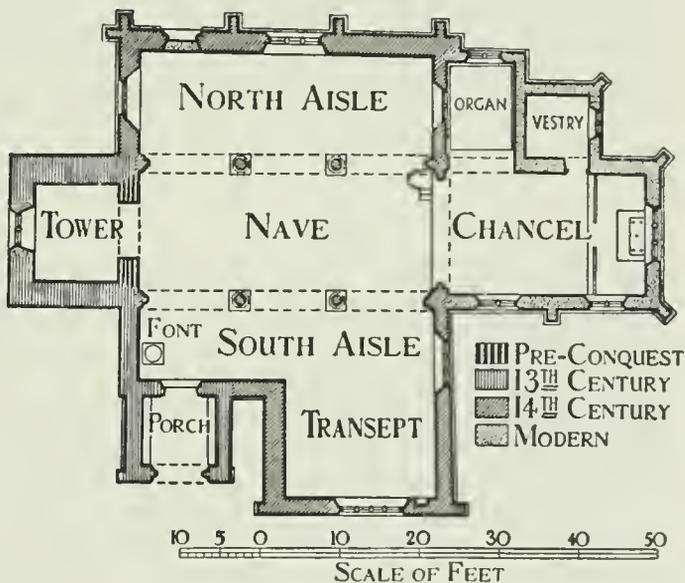
The whole of the building is faced with coursed dressed stones, and has plain parapets to the chancel, transept and nave. The roofs of the chancel and

porch are covered with modern blue slates, but elsewhere the roofs, which are of low pitch, are leaded.

The church stands on the site of a Roman camp, in the south-west portion of the rectangle,⁸¹ and at the west end there survives a fine Saxon arch, which was preserved when the pre-Conquest church of which it formed part was rebuilt.⁸² The first rebuilding appears to have taken place in the 13th century, when a south aisle at least was added, a porch erected, and the chancel rebuilt with a chapel on its north side. The evidence of a north aisle to the nave at this time is wanting, but in the 14th century the church again underwent a somewhat extensive rebuilding, the north aisle being then added, or a former one widened, a large transeptal chapel added at the east end of the south aisle, the arcade of which was rebuilt, a clearstory erected, and the chancel remodelled. The existing tower was probably erected in the 13th century on the foundations of an earlier structure the proportions of which suggest a fore-building or porch.⁸³ Two pre-Conquest sculptured stones⁸⁴ are incorporated in the walling near the base. The tower, however, appears to have been remodelled in the 14th century, when the top stage was either



SCROPE. Azure a bend or.



PLAN OF MARKET OVERTON CHURCH

wholly rebuilt or new windows inserted. No further material changes were made in the fabric until 1861, when the chancel was rebuilt, the vestry and organ-chamber added and the transept restored. There was a further restoration in 1889.^{84a}

⁶⁵ Chan. Inq. p.m. 46 Edw. III (1st nos.), no. 64; *Cal. Fine R.* 1369-77, p. 179.

⁶⁶ Chan. Inq. p.m. 37 Hen. VI, no. 31.

⁶⁷ *Cal. Inq.* Hen. VII, ii, no. 220.

⁶⁸ *Cal. Fine R.* 1327-37, p. 295; *Cal. Inq.* viii, pp. 128, 141.

⁶⁹ *Abbrev. Rot. Orig.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 140.

⁷⁰ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1338-40, pp. 402, 435, 469, 476.

⁷¹ *Cal. Fine R.* 1356-68, p. 351; *Abbrev. Rot. Orig.* op. cit. 291b; Chan. Inq. p.m. 41 Edw. III (1st nos.), no. 53.

⁷² *Cal. Pat. R.* 1367-70, p. 411.

⁷³ Chan. Inq. p.m. 6 Ric. II, no. 65.

⁷⁴ *Ibid.* 9 Hen. V, no. 19.

⁷⁵ *Feud. Aids*, iv, 209.

⁷⁶ Chan. Inq. p.m. 22 Hen. VI, no. 9.

⁷⁷ Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 21 Hen. VII,

no. 10.

⁷⁸ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), xxv, 58.

⁷⁹ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xxi (ii), g. 332 (91).

⁸⁰ Chan. Inq. p.m. (V.O.) (Ser. ii), cclxxiv, 117; ccliv, 7; Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 8 Jas. I.

⁸¹ See plan of entrenchments in *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 91. The Roman settlement was further to the north-east (*ibid.* 89).

⁸² Baldwin Brown, *Arts in Early Engl.* ii (2nd ed.), 469.

⁸³ The west porch at Brixworth, upon

which a tower was afterwards erected, measures 12 ft. 4 in. from east to west by 14 ft. 9 in. north to south: at Market Overton also the greater dimension is from north to south.

⁸⁴ One on the north side, near the north-west angle, is about 3 ft. long by 8 in. wide, and another on the south side about 4 ft. long, tapering from 10 in. to 8 in.; both have plaitwork panels.

^{84a} In 1619 there was said to be a great crack in the south wall of the church, and in 1641 it needed repairs in part. In 1696 an order was issued for a rate to repair the steeple (Irons' Notes, Archd. Visit.).

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

The pre-Conquest tower arch, which probably dates from the latter part of the 10th or first half of the 11th century, is in a wall 2 ft. 8 in. thick, and is 6 ft. 8 in. wide. The jambs are constructed of upright and flat stones, or stone slabs set up on edge and laid flat alternately, with three flat stones at the top, and the lower upright stones standing on boldly projecting square plinths. The semicircular arch springs from sloping impost blocks, the height to the underside of which is 9 ft. 6 in., and, like the jambs, is built with stones running through the whole thickness of the wall. For about 3 ft. on either side of the opening the walling is apparently contemporary with the arch, but no other work of pre-Conquest date remains.

The chancel is built more or less on the old lines, of two bays, with diagonal angle buttresses and a pointed⁸⁵ east window of three lights and Decorated tracery. There are two windows of similar character, but of two lights, in the south wall. The north side is covered for about two-thirds of its length by the vestry and organ-chamber, to the latter of which it is open by an arch supported on corbels. Internally the walls are faced with ashlar. The 14th-century chancel arch is of two orders, the outer plainly chamfered and the inner with a wide hollow chamfer, on half-octagonal responds with moulded capitals and plain bases.⁸⁶ Just within the arch on the north side, about 6 ft. 6 in. above the chancel floor, is a plain chamfered corbel, apparently of 13th-century date, from which the arch to the former chapel sprang.⁸⁷ There is no chancel screen, and no ancient ritual arrangements have been preserved.⁸⁸

The 14th-century nave arcades are of three bays, with pointed arches of two chamfered orders and hoods with head-stops, springing⁸⁹ from octagonal piers and responds with moulded capitals and bases. The width of the transept is nearly equal to half the length of the nave, and it projects 14 ft. 8 in. beyond the aisle, from which internally it is not structurally separated, though the roof runs through to the clear-story wall. The transept has a pointed window of four trefoiled lights and Decorated tracery in the south wall, but the hood-mould alone appears to be original, and at the north end of the east wall there is a 14th-century three-light window with uncusped reticulated tracery, but without hood-mould.⁹⁰ At the east end of the south wall is a 14th-century trefoil-headed piscina with fluted bowl and hood with notch-stops.

There are no windows in the short south aisle, and the doorway⁹¹ is little if any earlier than the arcades, but the 13th-century walling probably remains unaltered at the west end and the porch is of that period,

the arch of the outer doorway resting on filleted keel-shaped responds with moulded capitals and bases; the capital of the east respond is enriched with nail-head.

The three bays of the 14th-century north aisle are marked externally by buttresses, and in the west bay is a pointed north doorway, now blocked, of two continuous chamfered orders. The middle bay has an original square-headed traceried window of three lights, and in the end walls are pointed two-light windows, that at the east (from which the cusping has been removed) now opening to the organ-chamber.

The clearstory has four windows on each side, those on the north square-headed and of two trefoiled lights with Decorated tracery, and on the south three pointed two-light windows with 14th-century tracery varying in design, and the fourth, or easternmost, a later square-headed window of three uncusped lights, apparently of 16th-century date. A sanctus bell-cote stands on the east gable.

Externally the hollow moulding below the parapets of the transept and south side of the clearstory, and along the north and south walls of the aisles, is enriched with ball-flowers, heads, four-leaved flowers and other devices.⁹²

The tower is of three stages marked by strings, but is without buttresses or vice, and terminates in a battlemented parapet and pyramidal roof with vane. The pointed two-light west window is much restored, the mullion and tracery being new. Above it, in the middle stage, is a lozenge-shaped uncusped moulded opening, and the pointed bell-chamber windows are of two trefoiled lights with quatrefoil in the head. In the middle stage on the south side is a small rectangular opening, and near the south-west angle a sundial⁹³ said to have been given by Sir Isaac Newton, whose grandmother lived in the village.⁹⁴

West of the chancel all the walls are plastered internally.

The font is of composite character, being made up of three portions, the uppermost square at the top, with moulded edge, and shaped to circular form with chamfered angles and a device of diagonal lines; it may be the upper part of a 12th-century capital. The plain circular middle portion rests on a later moulded circular base enriched with a well-carved inverted strawberry-leaf pattern.⁹⁵

The pulpit, seating, and other fittings are modern.⁹⁶ There are a number of mural monuments⁹⁷ ranging in date from 1700 to 1917, and a lych-gate has been erected in memory of the men of the parish killed in the war of 1914-19. In the south aisle is a small stone coffin.

There are five bells, a treble and tenor by J. Taylor and Co. of Loughborough having been added in 1888

⁸⁵ In an engraved view of the church by J. P. Neale, dated August 1813, the east window is shown square-headed and of three lights, and one window only is shown on the south side of the chancel (Laird, *Topog. and Hist. Desc. Rutl.* 79).

⁸⁶ The base on the north side is covered by the pulpit steps.

⁸⁷ It is below the west corbel of the modern arch of the organ-chamber.

⁸⁸ In 1605 the chancel was unpaved towards the east end (Irons' Notes, Archd. Visit.).

⁸⁹ The springing of the nave arches is about 2 ft. 3 in. lower than that of the chancel arch, or about 9 ft. 6 in. above the floor.

⁹⁰ Above this window is inserted a stone inscribed 'John Christian, Churchwar. 1792.'

⁹¹ The framed and panelled door bears a small metal plate on which is engraved 'The gift of Will^m Scott Esq. 1756.' There is a tablet in the north aisle to William Scott (d. 1762).

⁹² On the transept the ball-flower only is used; on the north aisle there are various devices, one being the head of a muzzled bear. A reproduction of this enriched parapet moulding, or cornice, is taken round the modern chancel.

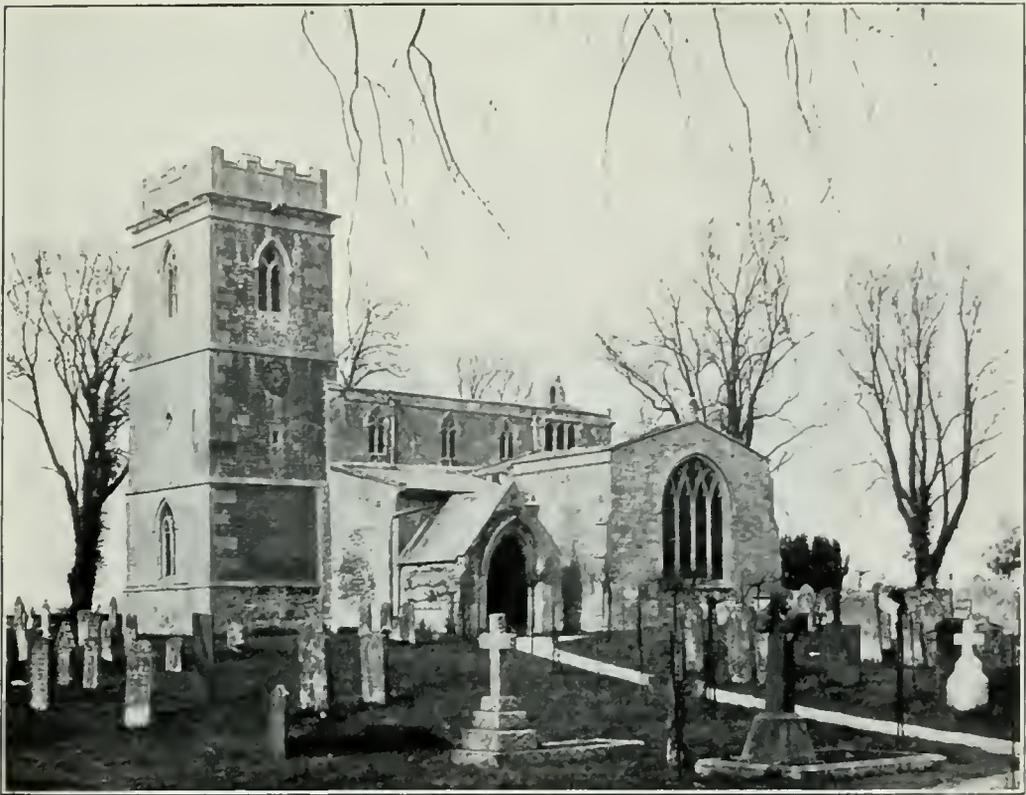
⁹³ The gnomon is in position, but the markings are nearly obliterated.

⁹⁴ *Rutl. Mag.* iv, 98.

⁹⁵ The total height of the font above the modern square plinth is 28 in. made up as follows: top 8 in., middle 10 in., base 10 in. The top is 2 ft. 6 in. square, the base 2 ft. 7½ in. diam.

⁹⁶ In 1681 'the seats and pews' were ordered to be 'floored and repaired.' (Irons' Notes, Archd. Visit.)

⁹⁷ In the chancel are memorials to 7 rectors—Thomas Cox (d. 1700), Henry Temperon (1724), William Foden (1748), John Hopkinson (1834), Edward Oldfield Wingfield (1856), George Folliot Wingfield (1903), and Folliot Lynch Salusbury (1917).



MARKET OVERTON CHURCH FROM THE SOUTH-WEST



MARKET OVERTON CHURCH: THE INTERIOR, LOOKING EAST



MARKET OVERTON CHURCH: THE TOWER ARCH

to a former ring of three. The second and fourth are by Thomas Eayre of Kettering, 1737, and the third is a recasting by Taylor in 1885 of a bell dated 1658.⁹⁸

The plate consists of a cup and cover paten of 1569-70, a paten with the maker's initials R.I., a flagon of 1651, and a flagon of 1740-41.⁹⁹

The registers before 1812 are as follows: (i) baptisms and burials 1573-1812, marriages 1573-1754; (ii) marriages 1755-1804; (iii) baptisms 1783-88; (iv) marriages 1804-12.

The advowson is first mentioned *ADVOWSON* in 1238, when Gilbert de Umfraville was the patron,¹⁰⁰ and it has ever since descended with the manor. William Wingfield, kt., as lessee seems to have presented in 1391.¹⁰¹ The living is a rectory, united to Thistleton in 1926, and in the alternate gift of Mr. John Llewellyn Parry Wingfield and the bishop of Peterborough.

Earl Simon de St. Liz I gave to St. Andrew's Priory, Northampton, a third part of the tithes of his demesne at Market Overton, and their portion in the church existed in the time of Henry I and was confirmed by Henry II and in 1329.¹⁰²

A grant was made by Edward VI of tenements and 2 acres of arable land called le Lampe and Serge (i.e.,

cièrge) land in the west field, given to the lamp and lights by William Walker.¹⁰³

A quarter of the net income of *CHARITIES* Thomas Birch's or Byrch's Charity (see under Cottesmore with Barrow) is distributed in cash payments to about 20 poor of this parish.

Lady Ann Harington's Charity.—A sum of £5 per annum is received by this parish. The income is applied, together with the income from Green's and Pick's Charities, in the distribution of coal among about 24 recipients.

John Green, by his will dated 7 October 1679, charged his lands with a rentcharge of £4 per annum to the minister and overseers of Market Overton for the use of the poor there.

Thomas Edward Pick, by his will proved at the principal registry on the 29 November 1907, gave the sum of £400 to the parish council for the time being of Market Overton to be invested and the interest to be applied in distribution of coal among the poor of the parish. The endowment of the charity now consists of a sum of £407 13s. 7d. 4½ per cent. London County Consolidated stock held by the Official Trustees, producing £18 6s. 10d. annually in dividends.

STRETTON

Stratone, Stratune (xi cent.); Stratton (xiii-xvi cent.); Strattun (xiii cent.); Strathon, Stretton bithe Strete (xiv cent.); Stretton in the Strete (xv cent.); Stretton in le Strete (xvi-xvii cent.).

The parish of Stretton, which lies in the north of the county, on the Lincolnshire border, contains 1,976 acres. The subsoil is composed of the Inferior and Great Oolite series and the surface soil varies. The land has a gradual fall from about 400 ft. above the Ordnance datum in the west to 300 ft. in the east of the parish. Only about a third of the parish is arable, growing cereals and roots, the remainder being generally pasture. About 70 acres of woodland, including Stretton Wood and Lady Wood, remain from the extensive forest area which once covered most of the parish. In 1086 there was woodland for pannage, one league by half a league; while a park is mentioned in 1291¹ and references to woodland are frequent in medieval times.²

The village lies on the east side of the Ermine Street, the Roman road which here forms the Great North Road and is known as Horn Lane between Tickencote and Greetham.³ The church stands on high ground to the south and the village of tiled and thatched cottages is grouped around a rough square. The rectory lies to the south-west of the church; the rector in 1811 obtained a faculty to rebuild it⁴ as it was ruinous and dilapidated. Stocken Hall, the

residence of Major C. H. Fleetwood-Hesketh, lies about 1½ miles north-east of Stretton village, close to the Lincolnshire border. The house dates from the first half of the 17th century and was probably built by John Brown,⁵ who is described as of Stocken Hall at that time. Wright wrote in 1684 that 'the fair seat called Stockin Hall' was the habitation of Samuel Brown, who was M.P. in 1660 and sheriff of Rutland in 1677. The house was twice greatly altered and enlarged, on the first occasion about 1774,⁶ probably when Sir Gilbert Heathcote, bart., acquired possession, and again in 1877 when, after it had been for a long time unoccupied, it was let to Lord and Lady Francis Cecil. After the death of Lord Francis in 1889 his widow in 1892 married Admiral Tillard, who occupied the house until 1907, when it was bought from Lord Ancaster by Major Charles Hesketh Fleetwood-Hesketh, D.L., J.P., the present owner. Of the original house considerable portions remain on the north side, including a gable with a three-light mullioned window, and there are other mullioned windows of two lights in the two stories below. The 18th-century south front is a well-balanced design of two stories with entablature and plain parapet, the middle portion slightly advanced and flanked by Tuscan pilasters. There are three windows on each side of and one above the central doorway, all with blocked architraves, and barred

⁹⁸ North, *Cb. Bells of Rutl.* 143, where the inscriptions on the old bells are given.

⁹⁹ Hope, *Cb. Plate in Rutl.* 7. The cup is inscribed '1570' and the cover '1570. L.H.', probably for John Hope, donor. The older flagon is inscribed 'Given for y^e use of the parish of Markett Overton in y^e County of Rutland by the late will of M^o Mary Greene dec^d Widd. of Mr. John Greene, dec. late Rector thereof'; the second flagon is inscribed 'The gift of M^o Julian, widow of William

Julian Esq^r, Councillor-at-law, to the church of Market Overton, Rutlandshire, 1740.'

¹⁰⁰ *Rot. Rob. Grosseteste* (Cant. & York Soc.), 179.

¹⁰¹ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1388-92, pp. 324, 400, 405, 492, 495.

¹⁰² *Cal. Chart. R.* 1327-41, p. 119; cf. *Pope Nich. Tax.* (Rec. Com.), 65b.

¹⁰³ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1549-51, p. 380.

¹ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1281-92, p. 443.

² *Cal. Close R.* 1272-9, p. 479; Chan.

Inq. p.m. 42 Edw. III (1st nos.), no. 10; Star Chamb. Proc. Edw. VI, bde. 3, no. 77.

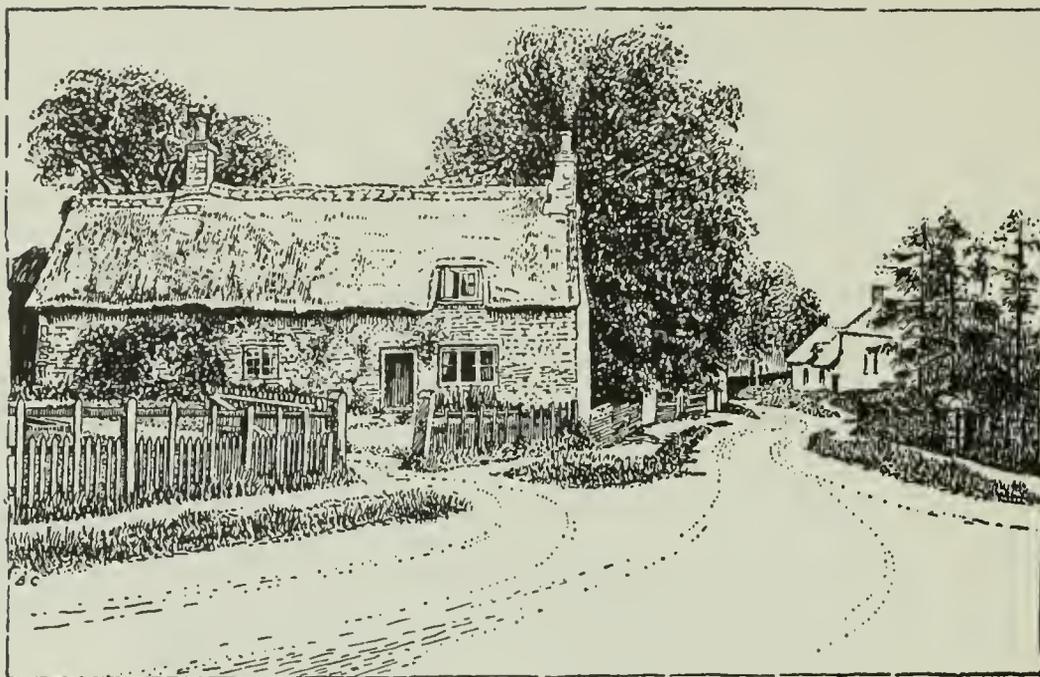
³ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 87.

⁴ He exchanged Wood Close for a close called Cart Run, belonging to Sir Gilbert Heathcote, for the purpose (Irons' Notes).

⁵ It is said to have been built in the reign of Charles I.

⁶ This date is on a spout-head on the return of the south-west angle of the principal, or south front.

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND



STRETTON: THE VILLAGE

sashes: the doorway has a segmental pediment and large keystones. The modern additions are in the earlier style, with mullioned windows and curved gables, but in part are of one story only. In a wood near the house is a tombstone to 'Black Butcher,' a favourite horse belonging to General Grosvenor, who was a lessee in the 18th century.⁷

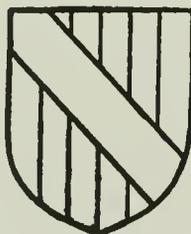
The population has for a long time been decreasing, being only 141 in 1921.⁸ As early as 1636 there was a suit brought against the lords of the manor, stating that 'out of covetousness and malignity,' since the beginning of Charles's reign, they had destroyed twelve ancient farms, with land that had been arable time out of mind, and depopulated them, thrusting out all the ancient tenantry and farmers, their wives, children and servants, enclosed the common ground and turned the farm lands from tillage to pasture.⁹ A similar tale was told in most of the neighbouring parishes.

On his return journey from Scotland on 11 Jan. 1299,¹⁰ and again on his way there, 12 July 1306,¹¹ Edward I stopped at Stretton; and Edward II was here 2-3 August 1316.¹² A Stretton clergyman offered the stoutest resistance to Laudian innovations in 1640.¹³ This was Jeremiah Whitaker (1599-1654), rector of Stretton 1630-44.¹⁴ Another notable incumbent was Edward Bradley (1827-89), author of *Verdant Green*, a celebrated story of Oxford life. He was rector 1871-83 and carried out a restoration of the church.¹⁵

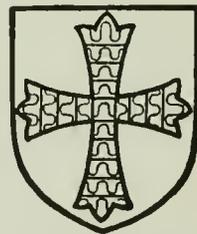
The nearest railway station is South Witham, 3 miles east on the London and North Eastern and London Midland and Scottish Railways. Five and a half miles east is Little Bytham station on the London and

North Eastern Railway and, 6½ miles west, Ashwell Station on the London Midland and Scottish Railway.

The berewick of *STRETTON* was *MANORS* parcel of the manor of Market Overton (q.v.) in 1066 and 1086, although, unlike that manor, it is only returned under Rutland, and not under Lincolnshire. It is further recorded that Alfred (Alwred) de Lincoln claimed a quarter of Stretton.¹⁶ As with Overton, Stretton was subse-



St. Liz. *Paly or and gules a bend sable.*



Forz. Earl of Albemarle. *Gules a cross paty vair.*

quently held of the Honour of Huntingdon, and followed the descent of the Hastings purparty.¹⁷

The overlordship was somewhat overshadowed by the under-tenancy being in the Honour of Albemarle, which escheated to the Crown at the end of the 13th century. In 1224 Simon de St. Liz, who held the Honour of Huntingdon,¹⁸ claimed the manor from William Earl of Albemarle, who essoined himself as ill.¹⁹ Some hundred years later Andrew de St. Liz in 1328 petitioned parliament for restoration of this manor, which had been leased, he affirmed, by Simon his great-grandfather to William Earl of Albemarle for

⁷ Inf. kindly supplied by Major C. H. Fleetwood-Hesketh.

⁸ *Pop. Ret.*

⁹ Cott. MS. ii, 25 (1).

¹⁰ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1292-1301, p. 396.

¹¹ *Cal. Close R.* 1302-7, pp. 404, 453.

¹² *Ibid.* 1313-18, pp. 356, 425.

¹³ *Cal. S. P. Dom.* 1640, p. 638.

¹⁴ *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

¹⁵ *Ibid.* Suppl.

¹⁶ *V.C.H.* op. cit. pp. 130, 138-9.

¹⁷ *Cal. Close R.* 1237-42, p. 370;

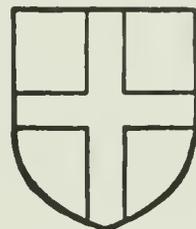
1374-7, pp. 191-2; *Cal. Inq. Hen. III*, no. 471; v, no. 412, p. 235; *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), vi, p. 345, et seq.; *Cal. Pat. R.* 1377-81, p. 595.

¹⁸ See Whissendine.

¹⁹ Maitland, *Bracton's Note Bk.* no. 926.

life, with reversion to himself and his heirs. Simon died leaving an heir who was a minor, and on the death of Earl William (in 1241)²⁰ the manor was seized by the Crown. The petitioner showed the charter of 'King Henry of that time' in support of his claim; but, though order was given that right should be done him,²¹ the manor continued to be held of the Honour of Albemarle. In 1235 Simon de St. Liz seems to have granted 2 carucates of land here with their appurtenances to the above mentioned William, Earl of Albemarle,²² whose son William had either married or was just about to marry one of the co-heiresses of the Honour of Huntingdon, just as his overlord had done. With the assignment of their share, the Hastings received in 1241 the services of William for one knight's fee here.²³ William, who married Christine, the Huntingdon co-heiress, granddaughter of David of Scotland, before April 1236,²⁴ played a prominent part in the Mad Parliament and died in 1260, leaving a son Thomas aged 7, heir to Stretton.²⁵ He died in 1269, when his sister Aveline was his heir. She married the King's son Edmund, Earl of Lancaster, and died childless in 1274. The only claimant to the Honour of Albemarle then released his right to the Crown.²⁶ The Crown retained this manor from 1260²⁷ until 1324, either leasing it for rent or granting it for life for good service. It formed part of the dower of the queen mother Eleanor in 1280;²⁸ and in 1291, as a reward for his long service to her, Ralph de Rede received custody of the park for life.²⁹ The queen mother was still in possession of the manor in 1305-6;³⁰ and on 1 March 1323 it was granted with the contiguous manor of Holywell, in South Bytham (co. Linc.), to Roger Beler, one of the barons of the Exchequer.³¹ Both manors were regranted to him in tail male in 1324 by the service of a pair of gilt spurs.³² He died seised in 1326, leaving a son Roger,³³ whose mother Alice had Stretton as dower during his minority.³⁴ She died, however, in 1368, and Roger succeeded, when the manor was said to be held of the king in chief.³⁵ He died in 1380, leaving daughters, Margaret, wife of Sir Robert de Swillington, kt., and a child Thomasine, whose custody was granted to John de Pole.³⁶ The manors of Stretton and Holywell, however, being held in tail male, reverted to the Crown and were granted in Feb. 1380-1 to the king's esquire William de Harpele for life.³⁷ In 1393 Stretton was leased, for their lives, to the king's

servants John Wakerley and Joan, his wife, and in 1406 John Wakerley was holding the manor of Holywell and village of Stretton, with all rents, woods and advowsons, by grant from the king, for life; and the reversion was granted to the king's son Humphrey in fee.³⁸ Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester, with his brother's licence,³⁹ made a settlement of the vill in 1415.⁴⁰ John Wakerley seems to have been still living in 1428,⁴¹ but the Duke of Gloucester was in possession in 1439.⁴² On his death it was granted in Feb. 1446-7 to Thomas Pulford, yeoman of the Crown, for life;⁴³ but the manors of Holywell and Stretton had been granted by the Duke of Gloucester to John Hemingburgh, the king's chief cook, for life, and in 1461 Hemingburgh received a similar grant from the king, while William, Lord Hastings, was appointed steward of these manors.⁴⁴ An annuity from the manor was granted to the king's servant, John Rogers, in 1468;⁴⁵ and various grants were made of the custody,⁴⁶ John Hussey, esquire of the king's body, receiving in 1494, first a grant of the custody, and then in 1495 a grant in fee in tail male, with all advowsons and courts.⁴⁷ The new owner, as John Hussey, kt., made a settlement in 1501.⁴⁸ He was created a baron in 1529 and attainted and beheaded in 1537 for complicity in the Pilgrimage of Grace. His son, Sir William, restored in blood,⁴⁹ in 1538-9 confirmed to the king all his father's forfeited lands except the manors of Stretton and Holywell.⁵⁰ William held Stretton⁵¹ until his death in Jan. 1555-6, when he left two daughters—Margaret, wife of Richard Disney of Norton Disney (co. Linc.), and Ann, who married Francis Columbelle of Darley (co. Derby).⁵² Francis and Ann made a conveyance of half the manor in 1558,⁵³ probably in favour of the Disneys. Richard Disney and his son and heir, Daniel, dealt with the manor in 1562.⁵⁴ Daniel succeeded his father and was holding until 1570, when Sir James Harington of Exton seems to have obtained possession.⁵⁵ As concealed lands it was granted in 1591-2 to the fishing grantees, William Typper and others.⁵⁶ Probably Harington compounded for his title, as we find that this manor and that of Stocken⁵⁷ appear among the



HUSSEY. Or a cross vert.

²⁰ *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), i, 355.

²¹ *Rolls of Parl.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 14a.

²² *Cal. Close R.* 1234-7, p. 327. The 1224 record seems to prove that the Albemarle fee here was not due to marriage with Christine, as Farrer suggested (*Honors and Knights' Fees*, ii, 364).

²³ *Cal. Close R.* 1237-42, p. 370.

²⁴ *Complete Peerage*, loc. cit. See Whissendine.

²⁵ *Cal. Inq. Hen. III*, loc. cit.

²⁶ *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), i, pp. 356-7.

²⁷ *Mins. Accts.* (Gen. Ser.), bdle. 1089, nos. 6, 7, 18; 1090, no. 3; 1118, no. 15; *Feud. Aids*, iv, pp. 204, 208; *Rolls of Parl.* op. cit. i, 390a. Yet the Earl was returned as the Hastings tenant Feb. 1312-13. (See above.)

²⁸ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1272-81, pp. 386, 419, 439.

²⁹ *Ibid.* 1281-92, p. 443.

³⁰ *Rolls of Parl.* op. cit. 187 b.

³¹ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1321-4, p. 247.

³² *Cal. Chanc. R.* 1300-26, p. 475; cf. *Inq. a.q.d.* clxxiii, 5.

³³ *Cal. Inq.* vi, no. 708.

³⁴ *Cal. Fine R.* 1319-27, p. 379; *Abbrev. Rot. Orig.* (Rec. Com.), i, 297.

³⁵ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 42 Edw. III (1st nos.), no. 10; *Cal. Close R.* 1369-74, p. 2.

³⁶ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 4 Ric. II, no. 14; *Cal. Close R.* 1377-81, p. 428.

³⁷ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1377-81, p. 595.

³⁸ *Ibid.* 1405-8, p. 191; 1422-29, p. 57.

³⁹ *Ibid.* 1413-16, p. 338.

⁴⁰ *Feet of F. Div. Cos. Trin.* 3 Hen. V, no. 32; *Cal. Pat. R.* 1429-36, p. 503.

⁴¹ *Feud. Aids*, iv, 213.

⁴² See below.

⁴³ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1446-52, p. 43.

⁴⁴ *Ibid.* 1461-7, pp. 80, 540. He belonged to a branch collateral to the above

overlords (*Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), vi, 370).

⁴⁵ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1467-77, p. 93.

⁴⁶ *Fine R.* 1 Ric. III, m. 17; 5 Hen. VII, m. 19.

⁴⁷ *Ibid.* 9 Hen. VII, m. 3; *Cal. Pat. R.* 1485-94, p. 460; 1494-1509, p. 58.

⁴⁸ *Feet of F. Div. Cos. Trin.* 16 Hen. VII.

⁴⁹ *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), vii, 15 et seq. Holywell and Stratton appear in the rent books of the attainted lord (*L. and P. Hen. VIII*, vii (ii), 187 (4)).

⁵⁰ *Close R.* 30 Hen. VIII, pt. 3, no. 10.

⁵¹ *Star Chamb. Proc.* loc. cit.

⁵² *Complete Peerage*, loc. cit.

⁵³ *Feet of F. Div. Cos. Mich.* 5 & 6 Phil. & M.

⁵⁴ *Ibid.* East. 4 Eliz.

⁵⁵ *Exch. Spec. Com. Rutl.* 27 Eliz. no. 1847.

⁵⁶ *Pat. R.* 34 Eliz. pt. 2, no. 7 a, m. 3.

⁵⁷ See below.

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possessions of John late Lord Harington in 1613,⁵⁸ but Robert Horsman and John Pickering and the heirs of Robert received a quitclaim from Michael Ovys and Prudence his wife in 1616;⁵⁹ and Sir John Pickering, kt., and Robert Horsman presented to the church in 1622.⁶⁰ Sir Henry Disney, kt., son of Daniel,⁶¹ vouched the manor and advowson to Pickering and Horsman in 1627,⁶² when Robert Horsman alone presented to the church.⁶³ Charles I made a further grant of the manor;⁶⁴ but a jury of 1636 affirmed that Robert Horsman, Roger Stacie and [Samuel] Wentworth had been in possession for many years and were inclosing the common land.⁶⁵ Samuel Wentworth died seised of tenements here in Jan. 1638,⁶⁶ and Robert Horsman was living here in 1647 and 1651,⁶⁷ while Edward Horsman's house here was licensed as a Congregational chapel in 1672.⁶⁸ Another Edward Horsman, born in 1677, presented to the church in 1699 and 1719. He died in 1720, leaving six daughters—namely, Margaret, wife of Edward Smith, Dulcebella, wife of John Bedford, and Alice, Anne (died an infant), Anne and Jane.⁶⁹ In 1741 Edward Smith and Margaret his wife and her sisters presented, and in 1743 they and Samuel Horsman, M.D., conveyed the manor to Edward Lloyd.⁷⁰ From Edward Lloyd the advowson passed before 1785 to Sir Gilbert Heathcote, bart., of Normanton⁷¹ (q.v.), who died in that year. His son, Sir Gilbert, held both manor and advowson in 1795⁷² and died in 1851. Sir Gilbert's son, Gilbert John Heathcote, married Clementina, Lady Willoughby de Eresby, and in 1856 was created Lord Aveland. His son Gilbert, second baron, presented to the church in 1871 and 1883, but in 1907, as Lord Ancaster, he sold the manor and advowson to Major Charles Hesketh Fleetwood-Hesketh, the present owner.



HEATHCOTE. *Ermine three roundels vert each charged with a cross or.*

In 1326 the manor had a capital message, windmill, common oven, and customs called landware, maltselver and fenfother.⁷³ In 1439, at the request of the Duke of Gloucester, exemption from the payment of the tenths was granted to the Duke's men of Stretton, their heirs and successors. Also they were thereafter to be taxed for fifteenths with the men of the geldable and not with the boroughs or towns of ancient demesne as was their wont.⁷⁴ This grant was annulled by Act of Parliament. By a grant in 1452 the men, tenants, residents, inhabitants and commonalty of Stretton were not to pay tenths, but with their men and geldable were to contribute to fifteenths.⁷⁵

In 1308 lands here were granted with the manor of Holywell to Nicholas de Segrave for life,⁷⁶ and later he acquired a messuage and land in fee and granted them to his son Nicholas by the service of a clove gillyflower. The son died seised, leaving a daughter and heir Maud, wife of Edmund de Bohun.⁷⁷ Thomas, Baron Segrave and first Duke of Norfolk, enfeoffed Henry, Earl of Derby, who, as Henry IV, granted them as dower to Elizabeth, the Duke's widow.⁷⁸ His son's widow also had these lands in dower.⁷⁹ All the Mowbray property reverted to the Crown in 1481,⁸⁰ and these lands thereafter seem to have followed the descent of the chief manor.



HESKETH. *Argent a bend sable with three beaves or thereon and a chief azure charged with a double-headed eagle proper all within a border or ermined sable.*

Tenements in *STOCKEN* are once called a manor. The meadow called *Stokkyng* is mentioned in 1326 among the lands of Roger Beler,⁸¹ but there are signs that the Stoke family, who also seem to have given their name to Stoke Doyly, Northants,⁸² were enfeoffed here. In the latter half of the 12th century Richard and Hugh de Stokes or Stoke are referred to on the Pipe Rolls for Rutland.⁸³ In Northants the Stokes were followed by the Browns of Stamford, and a branch of that family appears here. Margaret Stoke, sister and one of the heirs of Thomas Stoke, married William Brown of Stamford. Thomas Stoke as his executor⁸⁴ had licence in 1494 to assign tenements in Stretton to endow an almshouse in Stamford.⁸⁵ The Hospital of All Saints, Stamford, had 37s. 8d. rents of assize in Stretton in 1535, and paid 5s. 6d. rent to Lord Hussey.⁸⁶ Stocken Hall was probably built and the estate formed by John Brown in the early part of the 17th century. In 1684 it was held by Samuel Brown, the son of John Brown by Mary daughter of Walter Wentworth and sister and heir of Samuel Wentworth of Lillingstone Lovel (co. Oxon).⁸⁷ This may explain the Wentworth share of the manor of Stretton mentioned above. Samuel Brown had a son John living in 1684, who is described as of Stocken Hall on the monumental inscription to Elizabeth his wife in 1714. Samuel their son died in 1707.⁸⁸ The property seems to have passed with the chief manor to Sir Gilbert Heathcote before 1785 and has since descended with that manor (q.v.).

The church of *ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH* consists of chancel 22 ft. 6 in. by 13 ft., north and south transeptal chapels, nave 38 ft. by 18 ft. with bell-cote over the west gable, north aisle 9 ft. 9 in. wide, and south porch 9 ft. 6 in. by 10 ft., all these measurements being

⁵⁸ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), ccdvii, 116.
⁵⁹ Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 14 Jas. I. Robert Horsman's wife was John Pickering's sister (Metcalfe, *Visit. Northants*, 127).

⁶⁰ Inst. Bks. (P.R.O.).

⁶¹ *Genealogist*, iv, 18.

⁶² Recov. R. Trin. 3 Chas. I, ro. 80.

⁶³ Inst. Bks. (P.R.O.).

⁶⁴ Pat. R. 7 Chas. I, pt. 4.

⁶⁵ See above.

⁶⁶ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), dlxvi, 8. See Stocken below.

⁶⁷ *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* v, 397, 403; *Cal. of Com. for Comp.* 1149. The Crown

presented to the church in 1660 (Inst. Bks. (P.R.O.)).

⁶⁸ *Cal. S.P. Dom.* 1672, pp. 200, 202.

⁶⁹ *Rutl. Mag.* iv, 232.

⁷⁰ Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 16 & 17 Geo. II.

⁷¹ Inst. Bks. (P.R.O.).

⁷² Recov. R. Hil. 35 Geo. III, ro. 182.

⁷³ *Cal. Inq.* vi, no. 708.

⁷⁴ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1436-41, pp. 296-7.

⁷⁵ *Ibid.* 1452-61, p. 51.

⁷⁶ *Ibid.* 1307-13, p. 76.

⁷⁷ *Cal. Inq.* vi, no. 322 (p. 187).

⁷⁸ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1399-1401, p. 294; 1401-5, p. 110.

⁷⁹ Chan. Inq. p.m. 16 Hen. VI, no. 60.

⁸⁰ G.E.C. *Complete Peerage*, vii, 104.

⁸¹ See above.

⁸² *V.C.H. Northants*, iii, 116.

⁸³ *Pipe R. Soc.* xxv, 55; xxvi, 104; xxvii, 63; xxix, 88.

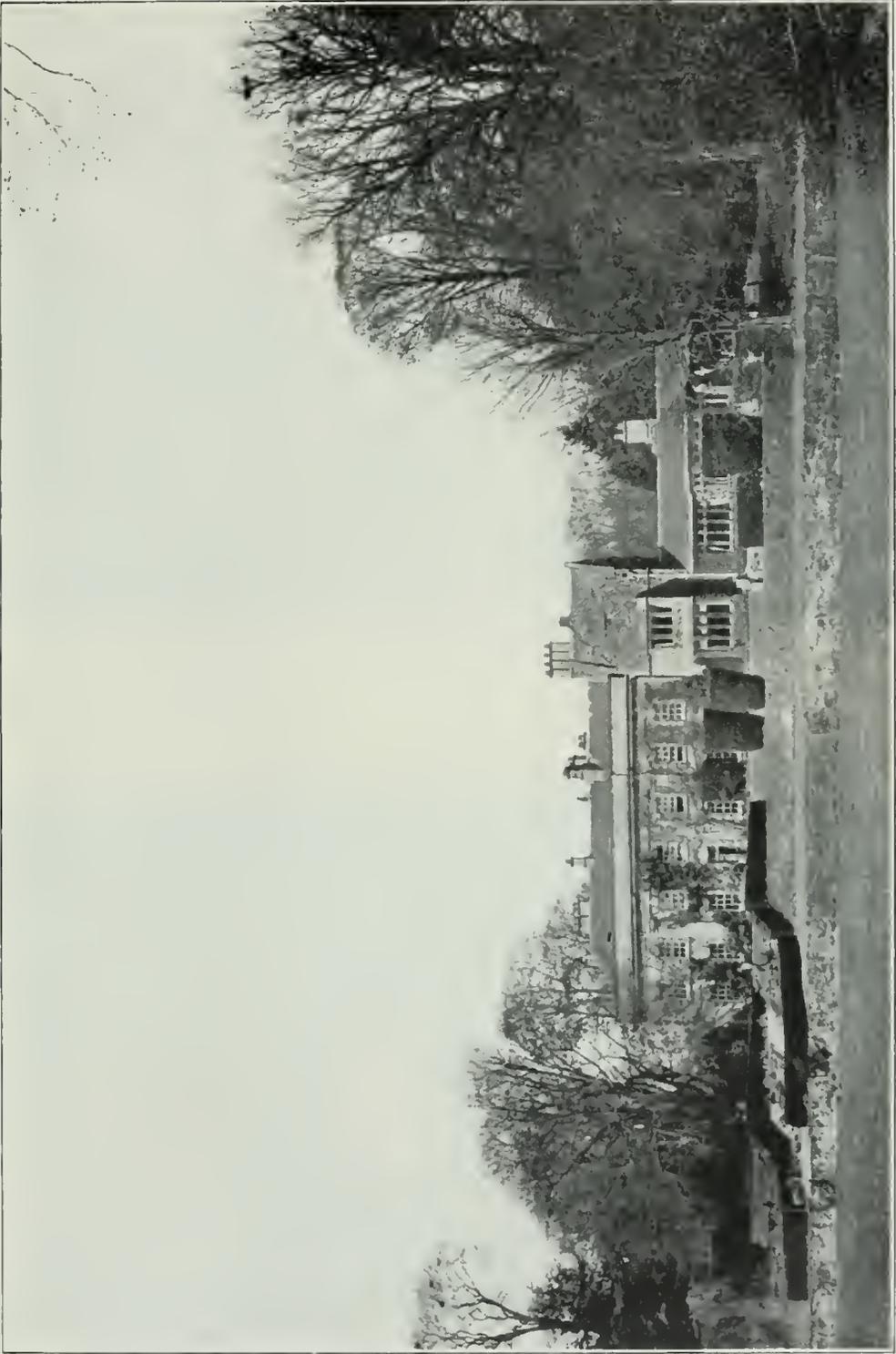
⁸⁴ *Blore, Public Schools, etc., of Stamford*, 122. For deeds of the Hospital relating to Stretton see *Rutl. Mag.* iv, 229.

⁸⁵ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1485-94, p. 457.

⁸⁶ *Valor Eccles.* (Rec. Com.), iv, 142.

⁸⁷ Wright, *Hist. of Rutl.* 117-18. They belonged to the same family as William Brown of Stamford (*ibid.* 129).

⁸⁸ M.I.; Wright, op. cit. 117, 118.



STRETTON : STOCKIN HALL



STRETTON CHURCH FROM THE WEST



STRETTON CHURCH: THE INTERIOR, LOOKING EAST

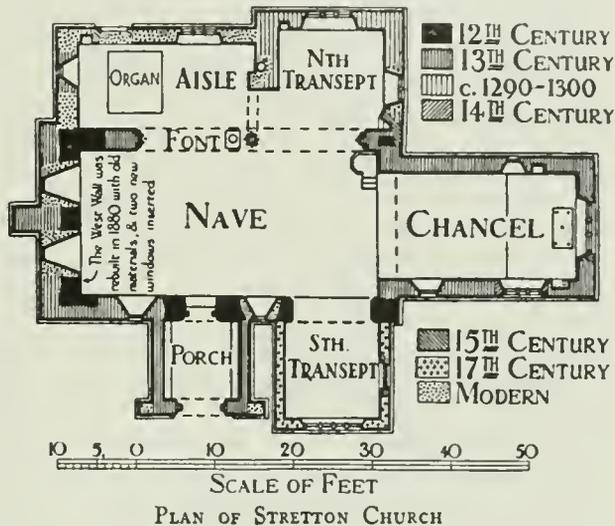
internal. The south transept is 12 ft. square, and that on the north 12 ft. 6 in. by 13 ft., the width across transepts and nave being 48 ft. 3 in.

With the exception of the south transept, which is faced with dressed stone, the building is of rubble throughout and all the roofs are covered with stone slates. There are no parapets. All the walls are plastered internally. There was an extensive restoration in 1881.

Of the original aisleless 12th-century church only the south doorway and some portion of the walling remain. The doorway has a moulded semicircular arch on nook shafts with simple cushion capitals and moulded bases. The capitals have chamfered abaci (that on the east side enriched with double billet) and cabled neck mouldings, but the shafts are without ornament. The tympanum⁸⁹ is quite plain: on its upper part is a scratch dial.⁹⁰ Early in the 13th century a north aisle was added to the nave, the wall being pierced for an arcade of two bays, and at the same time, or shortly after, the chancel was rebuilt in its present form, and the porch and bell-cote erected. If the round arch opening into the south transept is the old chancel arch re-used, which is not unlikely, it follows that a transeptal chapel was constructed on this side when the chancel was rebuilt, the width of the arch determining the width of the chapel, but when, probably c. 1290, a chapel was added on the north side it was formed simply by returning the wall of the aisle northwards and throwing a transverse arch across the aisle from the wall above the arcade. Its width corresponds roughly with that of the south chapel, but has no correspondence with that of the adjoining bay of the arcade.⁹¹ Later changes were the insertion of new windows in the chancel in the 14th and 15th centuries, and the south chapel appears to have been rebuilt in its present form probably early in the 17th century. Before the restoration,⁹² the church had fallen into a state of utter disrepair and the work then done involved a considerable amount of rebuilding, including the whole of the west wall from within a few feet of the ground, the bell-turret, the nave arcade, and the north and west walls of the aisle, the width of which was slightly increased. New roofs were erected throughout and new windows inserted in the nave⁹³ and aisle.

The chancel is without buttresses and has a string-course chamfered on each edge at sill level: it retains

two widely splayed lancet windows, one on the north side⁹⁴ and the other at the west end of the south wall, the sill of which is dropped and a transom inserted so as to form a low-side window.⁹⁵ The 15th-century east window is of three cinquefoiled lights and Perpendicular tracery containing a short battlemented transom, and near the east end of the south wall is a square-headed 14th-century window of three trefoiled lights, the hood-mould of which has head-stops. The 13th-century double-arched piscina⁹⁶ recess has chamfered jambs and an octagonal mid-shaft with moulded capital and base: the bowl is rectangular in shape, with a single orifice. There is a plain rectangular aumbry in the north wall. Below the 14th-century



window is a contemporary pointed wall recess, with richly moulded arch and hood-mould with head-stops.⁹⁷ The 13th-century chancel arch is of two chamfered orders, the inner order⁹⁸ springing from large half-octagonal moulded corbels enriched with nail-head and supported by heads: there is a hood-mould towards the nave. North of the arch, in the angle of the north transept, are the remains of the rood-loft stair⁹⁹ and upper doorway.

The early 13th-century nave arcade consists of two semicircular arches of two moulded orders¹ springing from a pier consisting of a central shaft moulded at the angles, in the hollow faces of which are four slender shafts with foliated capitals and moulded bases. The responds follow the same plan and design, though the stiff-stalk foliage of the capitals is of an earlier

⁸⁹ On the back of the tympanum is what appears to be part of the shaft of a cross in relief, suggesting that a grave slab or coffin lid had been re-used.

⁹⁰ Scratch dials on tympana occur at Cherrington, Gloucestershire, and at Marsh Baldon, Oxfordshire: Keyser, *Norm. Tymp.* (2nd ed.), Figs. 52a, 52f.

⁹¹ Hamilton Thompson, *Ground Plan of Engl. Par. Ch.* 104.

⁹² Early in the 19th century an inner wall was built at the west end 3 ft. from the old wall, apparently intended to support the bell-turret, but in 1873 the old wall was 7 in. out of the perpendicular, leaning to the east. In rebuilding the west wall and bell-turret and the arcade all the old stones were numbered and

replaced in their original positions, new stones being used only to replace those which were unsound. The arcade before rebuilding had 'assumed a ruinous shape.' A portion of the east wall of the north transept was also rebuilt (*Rull. Mag.* iv, 232). The faculty, which is dated 12 March 1881, mentions the 'present ruinous condition' of the church. In restoring it there was to be no interference with the architectural features of the building. The church was reopened 19 January 1882.

⁹³ The two lancets in the west wall and a round-headed single-light window in the south wall between the porch and transept were first made at this time. The west wall was previously blank.

⁹⁴ About 10 ft. from the east end.

⁹⁵ The lower portion is now blocked: the transom is seen only from within.

⁹⁶ It is not a double piscina, as sometimes described. The single bowl is under the easternmost arch.

⁹⁷ The recess is 6 ft. 2 in. wide by 3 ft. 6 in. high: the arch mouldings are continued to the sill.

⁹⁸ The inner order has a hollow chamfer. On the east side the outer order dies out.

⁹⁹ Two steps are in position, the lower one 2 ft. 6 in. above the floor: the upper doorway is blocked.

¹ The inner order has a plain edge-roll, with hollow above and two round soffit mouldings; the outer order has a roll and fillet.

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

character than that of the pier, which is naturalistic and outcurved;² the whole of the arcade, however, is of one period and, though very much restored³ at the time of rebuilding, preserves all its original characteristics.

The nave retains a single lancet window in the south wall, west of the porch, and a much-restored lancet was re-used at the west end of the aisle. The north doorway is also the old one re-used, but it appears to have been a 15th-century insertion.⁴ The semicircular arch to the south transept is of a single order with flat soffit and chamfer on each edge; it springs from large square impost, below which the chamfer is continued down the jambs, stopping above the floor.⁵ The transept is lighted at the end by a late square-headed window of four lights,⁶ and in the east wall is a small single-light pointed window which is apparently an old one re-used. The north transept has at the end a much-restored pointed window of three uncusped lancet lights under a hood-mould with foliated stops: the east window is square-headed and of two rounded lights. In the south-east angle, near the rood-loft stair, is a small pointed piscina recess, the bowl of which is missing, and above it an image bracket. There is a small rectangular recess⁷ at the north end of the west wall.

The porch has a pointed outer doorway of two chamfered orders, the inner on half-octagonal responds with moulded bases, and capitals enriched with nail-heads. There are two steps down from the porch to the nave.⁸

The bell-turret⁹ has two openings with arches of three chamfered orders, covered by a ridged roof running north and south, ending in gables with crosses facing east and west, and surmounted by a small spire and weather vane. The great west buttress is of four main stages and is carried up nearly the full height of the turret, ending in a gable. Two grotesque heads have been built into the west wall of the nave near the angles.

The late 12th-century font has a rectangular bowl with slightly curved sides and a round moulding at each angle;¹⁰ it stands on a modern stone base and has a flat cover.

During the restoration traces of red colouring were found on the walls, but no pattern except in the north transept, the walls of which had been decorated with a conventional design of foliage and tracery in two shades.¹¹

The former Jacobean altar rails are now in the

vestry at the west end of the aisle;¹² there is also an oak chest dated 1662. The vestry is inclosed by an oak screen made up from the former 17th-century pulpit.¹³

The present pulpit and fittings are modern, but there are two old benches, one in each transept, with shaped ends and poppy heads. In the south transept are tablets to Elizabeth, relict of John Brown of Stocken Hall, who died in 1714, and her son Samuel (d. 1707), and to Elizabeth Hunt (d. 1727), and in the chancel to Edward Horsman (d. 1720) and the Rev. John Lamb, rector (d. 1842); the glass in the west windows of the nave is in memory of the Rev. Edward Bradley (Cuthbert Bede), rector 1871-84, 'through whose efforts this church was restored.' There is a memorial tablet in the nave to three men of the parish who lost their lives in the war of 1914-19.

The smaller of the two bells is by Henry Penn of Peterborough, 1710, and the larger by Thomas Norris of Stamford, 1663.¹⁴

The plate consists of a cup on which only the maker's mark 'R.B.' is visible, and a paten of 1682-3. There is also a pewter plate.¹⁵

The registers before 1812 are as follows: (i) baptisms and burials 1631-1758, marriages 1631-1754; (ii) baptisms and burials 1759-1812; (iii) marriages 1754¹⁶-1812. The first volume contains memoranda of payments under the provisions of the Edward Horsman charity, 1693-1725.

In an inquisition of the lands of the *ADVOWSON* Templars in 1185, the church of Stretton appears under Lincolnshire as the gift of Robert de Brus (de Bruis).¹⁷ In 1280 the charter of Robert de Brus was confirmed to the Templars by the king.¹⁸ The grantor was probably Robert de Brus IV, who died before 1191, for he married in 1183 Isabel, daughter of William the Lion,¹⁹ who for a time held the lands of the Honour of Huntingdon. It was said in 1276 that the church had belonged to Henry I; and Queen Maud gave the advowson to a certain chaplain, Albin, and he gave it to the Templars' preceptory at Wytham to find him in necessities for life; the Templars had ever since remained in possession, but had no other title.²⁰ Nevertheless they appropriated the church²¹ and appointed a vicar.²² After the dissolution of the order it was not included in the grant of Wytham²³ to the Hospitallers, who, however, held tenements here until the Dissolution of the Monasteries. These were granted in 1543 to Thomas Gray, the king's servant, in fee as attached

¹ The upper moulded portion of the capital follows the plan of the shafts, but the foliation follows the outline of the entire pier.

² Some of the shafts are new.

³ It has a depressed arch; the jambs are wave-moulded and may belong to a 14th-century opening. The doorway was blocked about the middle of the 19th century, the chief entrance being till then from the north, where the village is.

⁴ The opening is 10 ft. wide and the arch springs at a height of 7 ft. 3 in. above the transept floor, which is one step above that of the nave. The arch is composed of fifteen voussoirs, ten of which are through stones. There is no hood-mould. The impost is 6 in. high and project 4 in.

⁵ The lights also are square-headed.

⁶ The recess is 14 in. by 13 in. high.

⁷ The porch was in decay in 1591 (Irons' Notes, Archd. Visit.).

⁸ In consequence of damage done by a storm the bell-turret was again taken down and rebuilt in 1885 (*Rutl. Mag.* iv, 232).

⁹ The bowl is an oblong measuring 2 ft. 6 in. by a ft. and is 2 ft. in height. In 1618 the font wanted a cover and would not hold any water, so they had to set a basin or bowl in it. The glass windows were out of repair (Irons' Notes, Archd. Visit.).

¹⁰ The decoration was almost obliterated and could not be preserved, but a drawing of the largest portion was made and now hangs in the church; it is signed 'Edward Bradley July 1881.' A few small fragments of ancient glass were also found.

¹¹ They are shown in position in a drawing of the interior made by the Rev. E. Bradley, dated April 1871.

¹² The upper part of the screen is modern.

¹³ North, *Cb. Bells of Rutl.* 152. The bells were out of repair in 1607, and some of them were broken. In 1618 there were three bells and but one rope (Irons' Notes, loc. cit.).

¹⁴ Hope, *Cb. Plate in Rutl.* 9. In 1681 there is an order to the rector to buy a new silver paten and change the chalice for a bigger. In 1605 the communion table was 'naughte' (Irons' Notes, loc. cit.).

¹⁵ The first entry is in 1757.

¹⁶ Dugdale, *Mon. Angl.* vii, 825.

¹⁷ *Abbrev. Plac.* (Rec. Com.), 199 b.

¹⁸ *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

¹⁹ *Rot. Hund.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 54 b.

²⁰ *Cal. Ing. Hen.* III, no. 471.

²¹ *Rot. Rob. Grosseteste* (Cant. & York Soc.), 245.

²² Dugdale, *op. cit.* 817.

to Dingley preceptory.²⁴ There is no record of the Hospitallers holding the advowson, which subsequently seems to have descended with the manor to the present day. The living is now a rectory in the gift of Major Fleetwood-Hesketh of Stocken Hall.

In 1619 Mr. Watkin taught a school in the chancel and in 1640 a school was still held in the church.²⁵ There is now a mixed public elementary school in the parish.

TEIGH

Tie (xi cent.); Thy, Tye (xiii cent.); Thye, Teye, Ty (xiv cent.); Tyghe (xv cent.); Tygh, Teigh (xvi cent.).

Teigh is on the Leicestershire border of the county; Edmondthorpe Mere marks the northern limit of the county and parish and with the exception of a short distance on the south-west a stream forms the parish boundary on all other sides. The parish comprises 1,288½ acres of loam soil, about two-thirds of which are laid down in grass. The land falls from north to south and good views of open country can be obtained from the village. Remains of a disused canal pass through the parish from Whissendine to Ashwell. It was intended to serve Oakham, but, taking advantage of the levels, it passed under Market Overton Hill towards Ashwell. Tradition says that only one barge with coal passed up to Ashwell, for the canal was finished about 1849, at the time the Midland Railway was built, and was bought up by the railway company. The nearest railway station is at Ashwell.

Teigh village lies to the west of and adjacent to the road from Oakham to Wymondham. Three lanes lead into the village street, which runs parallel to the Oakham road. The village forms the shape of the letter E with the centre arm prolonged into the high road. The church and rectory are in the southern lane. The cottages and farm houses are mostly of stone with slate or tiled roofs. Teigh Lodge lies some distance to the west in an isolated situation.

Lewis mentions a strong petrifying spring, and states that fossil fish have been found in the blue rock which is quarried for the roads.¹ Place-names which occur in the records are Sowyt Flet, Southleche, Rotemor and Tyflet.²

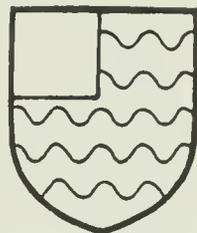
John Banton, a poet, who was buried in 1848 in Teigh churchyard, was son of a labourer of Teigh. He was schoolmaster there for many years, and his verses indicate the possession of a vivid imagination and an excellent knowledge of the classics.³

Before the Conquest Godwin held *MANOR* Teigh. He was succeeded here, as in all his Lincolnshire manors, by Robert Malet.⁴ Teigh manor was afterwards held as three-quarters of a knight's fee of the Honour of Leicester.⁵

Edward Horsman's charity for the *CHARITY* poor was founded in the year 1693. It appears that the only record of the charity is a tablet in the church. The endowment consists of a sum of £17 14s. 11d. 2½ per cent. Consols held by the Official Trustees, producing in dividends 8s. 8d. per annum. The charity is administered by the rector of Stretton and one trustee appointed by the parish meeting of Stretton.

The date at which the Folevilles of Ashby Foleville (co. Leic.) became possessed of Teigh is not definitely known, but there are two charters in the Woodford Chartulary showing William de Foleville acquiring land in Teigh. Neither charter is dated. By one William obtained a virgate of land in the vill of Teigh from Roger son of Hardechyn, and by the other 3 acres of meadow in Teigh near the field of Ashwell from Henry son of Herbert.⁶ This was probably the William de Foleville who in 1210-12 held three-quarters of a fee in Rutland and three-quarters of a fee in Leicestershire of the Honour of Leicester.⁷

William sided with the rebellious barons in 1216, forfeiting his lands, which were granted to William de Cantilupe.⁸ He was imprisoned, but restored by Henry III in 1217 on condition that he should render faithful service in future and marry the daughter of Eustace de Es.⁹ He served the king after this time in various capacities in Leicestershire, such as justice of assize, collector of aids, etc.¹⁰ Sir William as patron of Teigh in 1239 presented his son John de Foleville to the church.¹¹ The date of Sir William's death is not known. Wright states that he presented to the church of Teigh in 1248-9.¹² His son and successor, Eustace de Foleville, was in 1248 concerned in the death of William le Venur, and it was ordered that he should be taken and detained in the king's prison at Warwick.¹³ In 1258 he was one of the knights of Leicestershire commissioned to inquire as to trespasses and excesses in the county, in pursuance of an ordinance made in the Parliament at Oxford.¹⁴ Later he sided with Simon de Montfort, and was among the 'disinherited' in 1265, when his land in Teigh was valued at 100s.¹⁵ He was in the Isle of Axholme with Simon de Montfort the younger, but was in 1266 bound to Edward the king's son, to appear before the king and answer for his misdeeds,¹⁶ and was pardoned on 28 June 1267 on condition that he would stand by



FOLEVILLE. *Barry wavy argent and sable a quarter gules.*

²⁴ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xviii (i), g. 981 (18).

²⁵ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 153; Irons' Notes, loc. cit.

¹ *Topog. Dict.*

² Cott. MS. Claud. A xiii, fols. 240, 241, 242, 243.

³ *Rutl. Mag.* ii, 219.

⁴ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 134, 139.

⁵ *Red Bk. of Exch.* (Rolls Ser.), 535; *Bk. of Fees* (P.R.O.), i, 506; Chao.

Inq. p.m. 25 Edw. I, no. 51 b; *Feud. Aids*, iv, 204.

⁶ Cott. MS. Claud. A xiii, fols. 241d, 242. We have reference to Fulk (1163), William (1185), Walter (1194), William (1195), Walter (1201), de Foleville of Ashby (Farrer, *Honors and Knights' Fees*, ii, 320).

⁷ *Red Bk. of Exch.* 535, 553.

⁸ Nichols, *Hist. of Leic.* iii, 23; Farrer, loc. cit.

⁹ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1216-25, p. 49.

¹⁰ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1216-25, pp. 214, 392, 568; 1225-32, pp. 207, 280, 285, 289, 302; *Cal. Close R.* 1231-4, pp. 130, 158; 1234-7, p. 552.

¹¹ *Rot. Rob. Grosseteste* (Cant. & York Soc.), ii, 187.

¹² Wright, *Hist. of Rutl.* 123.

¹³ *Cal. Close R.* 1247-51, p. 28.

¹⁴ The Provisions of Oxford; *Cal. Pat. R.* 1247-58, p. 645; Farrer, op. cit. 321.

¹⁵ *Cal. Inq. Misc.* i, no. 856.

¹⁶ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1258-66, p. 538.

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

the award of Kenilworth.¹⁷ Eustace was murdered in his house at Ashby about 1274.¹⁸ He was succeeded by William de Foleville, who was dead before 1282, when his widow Lady Joan de Foleville was in controversy with Edmund, Earl of Lancaster, the king's brother, as to the presentation to Teigh, which she claimed as guardian of Alice, daughter and heir of William de Foleville.¹⁹ It would seem that Alice died without issue, for by 1297-8 John son of Eustace de Foleville her uncle was lord of Teigh.²⁰ He was engaged in 1299 in the defence of Edinburgh Castle,²¹ and served as M.P. for the counties of Leicester and Rutland in several Parliaments between 1299 and 1306.²² In 1302-3 John, who was afterwards knighted, acquired of his niece Joan, daughter of Alexander Lucas, burgess of Stamford, a messuage and land in Teigh which Eustace de Foleville had given to his daughter Amice, late the wife of Geoffrey de Milton and mother of Joan.²³ Alice, daughter of Robert Burstall, also gave to John a meadow in the fields of Teigh in Rotemore, called Burstall Meadow, which she had of the gift of Robert de Burstall, her brother.²⁴ John was accused in 1304 by two of his neighbours of assaulting them in their houses and carrying away or destroying their charters.²⁵ He served as a justice in 1309,²⁶ but died before June 1310.²⁷ His son John did homage and obtained livery of his lands in the following month, dower being reserved to Alice, widow of the elder John.²⁸ John de Foleville settled the manor of Ashby Foleville in 1315 on himself and his wife Mabel in tail, but Teigh was excepted from the settlement, being then held in dower by John's mother Alice.²⁹ In 1326 Thomas le Blount was appointed by the king to pursue and arrest John de Foleville, Roger la Zouche, and Robert Lovet, parson of Ashwell, and to imprison them.³⁰ John's crime is not known, but it probably had something to do with the murder of Roger Beler, the king's chief justice, in that year.³¹ This crime was perpetrated by Ralph son of Roger la Zouche of Lubbesthorpe (co. Leic.), Eustace de Foleville, Robert and Walter de Foleville, his brothers, Richard de Foleville, parson of Teigh, and others, who, irritated by some threat made by Beler, waylaid and murdered him in a valley near Reresby.³² These brothers were sons of John de Foleville, and Richard, the parson, appears to have been their uncle. They all fled and were outlawed, but in 1328 the sheriff of Lincoln was ordered to supersede the outlawry as the king willed that the indictment should be determined before him.³³ They were all pardoned,³⁴ but this does not seem to have been the end of the matter, for in 1328 Robert de Foleville was complaining that he had been assaulted at Newbold-by-Ashby by Ralph Beler of Kettleby, who had carried away his goods.³⁵ In

1329 the four brothers Robert, Walter, Eustace and Lawrence de Foleville were in rebellion,³⁶ and in 1330 Roger de Wendesley was ordered to arrest them and Richard de Foleville.³⁷ The brothers seem to have terrorised the country round Ashby, though their brother was on the commission of the peace. In 1331 Robert de Colville, lord of Castle Bytham, with others, came to Eustace's house at Teigh and attempted to take him, and several lives were lost in the ensuing affray.³⁸ Again, in 1333 and 1334 Eustace was accused of abduction and murder,³⁹ and in 1340 Thomas Wake of Lydell and Robert de Colville were appointed to take Richard de Foleville, 'a person notoriously suspected,' and to imprison him in the Tower of London.⁴⁰ Richard's fate is revealed in a penance imposed in 1343 upon Sir Robert de Colville, formerly on the commission of peace, 'who in discharge of his office laid hands on Richard de Foleville, rector of Ty, a man guilty of homicide, and other crimes, who when the under-sheriff came to take him, shot at the people in the churchyard, killing a man and wounding many, on which the said knight coming to the help of the under-sheriff, duly required Richard and his accomplices to leave the church, and, on their refusal, broke open the door, seized the said priest and cut off his head in the public street.'⁴¹ Eustace still continued his evil practices, and in 1346, 'emboldened by the King's passing to parts beyond seas,' broke into the manor of Joan, widow of Ralph Bassett of Drayton, at Gouteby (co. Leic.).⁴²

Sir John was on a commission of the peace in 1329,⁴³ and in 1336 he was exempted from being put on assizes, etc., or appointed to public office against his will.⁴⁴ He presented to the church in 1341.⁴⁵ In 1342-3 John de Foleville, lord of Ashby, conveyed to William de Kaythorp, parson of Ashby, his manor of Teigh, with the advowson and all the lands which Lady Alice de Foleville, his mother, held as dower.⁴⁶ John de Foleville served on a commission of oyer and terminer in 1343⁴⁷ and may have been the John de Foleville who in 1347, in consideration of his good service, obtained exemption from service in public offices against his will.⁴⁸ He had three sons: John, who paid relief to Henry, Earl of Leicester, for his land in Teigh in 1349,⁴⁹ Geoffrey and Christopher. John had a son John, Geoffrey had a daughter Mabel, who married John de Woodford, and Christopher had a daughter Elizabeth, wife of Sir Hugh Browe. John succeeded his father as the eldest son. According to the Woodford chronicler, he married 'an old ancient lady of Yorkshire that was the wife of the Lord Marmion,⁵⁰ and he might dispend yearly by her 700 marks, and they kept a worthy household and a great at Ashby Foleville.'⁵¹ The conveyance of Teigh made in 1343 by John de Foleville,

¹⁷ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1266-72, p. 149.

¹⁸ *Ibid.* 1272-81, p. 115. Nichols says that Eustace's wife Alice was a widow in 1269, but mention is made of Eustace in 1271 (*ibid.* 1266-72, p. 521).

¹⁹ Nichols, *loc. cit.*; Wright, *loc. cit.*

²⁰ Chan. Inq. p.m. 25 Edw. I, no. 51 b; Cott. MS. Claud. A xiii, fol. 241; *Feud. Aids*, iv, p. 204.

²¹ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1292-1301, p. 421.

²² *Ret. of M.P.s.*

²³ Cott. MS. Claud. A xiii, fols. 240, 242. Alexander was probably second husband of Amice.

²⁴ *Ibid.* 241.

²⁵ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1301-7, pp. 285, 289.

²⁶ *Ibid.* 1307-13, p. 250.

²⁷ *Cal. Fine R.* 1307-19, p. 63; *Cal. Inq.* v, no. 190.

²⁸ *Cal. Fine R.* 1307-19, p. 65.

²⁹ *Inq. a.q.d. civ.* 5.

³⁰ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1324-7, p. 245.

³¹ *Ibid.* pp. 284, 250.

³² Nichols, *op. cit.* 21.

³³ *Cal. Close R.* 1327-30, pp. 343, 416.

³⁴ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1327-30, p. 10.

³⁵ *Ibid.* p. 279.

³⁶ *Ibid.* p. 374.

³⁷ *Ibid.* 1330-4, p. 61.

³⁸ *Cal. Inq. Misc.* ii, no. 1270.

³⁹ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1330-4, pp. 125, 505, 561. See also *ibid.* 1340-3, p. 100.

⁴⁰ *Ibid.* 1338-40, p. 481.

⁴¹ *Cal. Pap. Lett.* iii, 142.

⁴² *Cal. Pat. R.* 1345-8, p. 179.

⁴³ *Ibid.* 1327-30, p. 430.

⁴⁴ *Ibid.* 1334-8, p. 262.

⁴⁵ Irons' Notes, Linc. Episc. Reg. (Instit.).

⁴⁶ Cott. MS. Claud. A xiii, fol. 243.

⁴⁷ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1343-5, p. 88.

⁴⁸ *Ibid.* 1345-8, p. 543.

⁴⁹ Cott. MS. Claud. A xiii, fol. 245 d.

⁵⁰ I.e. Mand, widow of John Lord Marmion (G.E.C. *Complete Peerage*, v, 259; *Cal. Close R.* 1360-4, p. 225).

⁵¹ Nichols, *op. cit.* 22; Cott. MS. Claud. A xiii, fol. 246, etc.

the father, appears to have been for the purpose of entailing it upon his sons in succession, for in 1363 the trustee, William de Kaythorpe, granted it to Geoffrey de Foleville, the second son, and Isabel his wife and their issue.⁶² The eldest son, Sir John, was probably still alive at this date,⁶³ and was possibly still living when in 1368 John, son of Sir John de Foleville of Ashby, obtained protection while on the king's service in Ireland.⁶⁴ This John probably predeceased his father. The Woodford chronicler gives a long account of the way in which Mabel daughter of Geoffrey was defrauded of the manor of Teigh by her uncles, Sir John and Christopher, and Margaret wife of the latter. In spite of the entail, Sir John gave the manor of Teigh for their lives to Christopher and Margaret, who had been a servant to Sir John and 'well beloved with him.'⁶⁵ 'The same Dame Margaret, after the decease of Sir Christopher her husband, was in household with Sir John de Foleville . . . and was mickel cherished with him in household at Ashby till he was dead, and there she imagined false deeds and let write them and ensealed them with his hand when he was dead, for she had the seal of his arms and all his deeds and evidences that belonged to all the lordships that Foleville were ever enheryte in England. And the said Dame Margaret . . . made a false deed and said how Sir John Foleville . . . should let make a state by his feoffees to his brother, Sir Christopher, and to his heirs between him and Margaret begotten : . . . and all that was false that she said, and yet she occupied such a false estate by maintenance of one called Lawrence Hawberk that wedded her after . . . and therefore I suppose verily that she be in Hell. Nevertheless she delivered and made confession ere she died that she had made false deeds and disinherited the right heirs of Sir Geoffrey Foleville . . . and she delivered these deeds to the good Abbot of Croxton . . . who made the said deeds be delivered . . . to Mabel of Woodford and to Sir Robert of Woodford, true heirs lineal to the manors of Ashby Foleville and . . . Teigh Foleville . . . and the abbot said in faith that Dame Margaret . . . said these words kneeling on both her knees asking her mercy and forgiveness of the wrongs and disherisons that lay on her.'⁶⁶

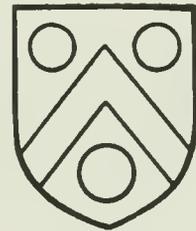
It is doubtful whether there was any truth in this story beyond the fact that Sir John granted the manor for life to Christopher and Margaret, and in 1362 Lawrence Hawberk of Claxton released the reversion of the manor and advowson of Teigh after Margaret's death to Geoffrey de Foleville.⁶⁷ In 1363 two settlements were made on Geoffrey and Isabel and their issue, one, as mentioned above, by his father's trustee.⁶⁸ Geoffrey died before 1374, when his widow Isabel obtained from John, King of Castile and Duke of Lancaster, the lands in Teigh and the marriage of her

daughter Mabel.⁶⁹ In 1375 Isabel leased to Lawrence Hawberk and Margaret all lands in Teigh which she held during the nonage of Mabel.⁶⁰ The manor appears to have passed to Elizabeth, daughter of Margaret by her first husband, Sir Christopher Foleville, in 1390 in a perfectly legitimate fashion, when Mabel, then wife of John de Woodford, conveyed it and the advowson to Elizabeth and her husband, Sir Hugh Browe, to be held at a rent of a rose by Sir Hugh and Elizabeth and the issue of Elizabeth, with reversion in default to John and Mabel and Mabel's heirs.⁶¹ Sir Hugh Browe came from Cheshire and was knight of the shire for Rutland in 1388 and 1390,⁶² and justice of the peace 1389 and 1390,⁶³ though he had been exempted in 1386 from such services against his will.⁶⁴

He was succeeded before 1428 by his son Robert Browe of Woodhead, 'cousin and heir of Sir Christopher Foleville.'⁶⁵ John Browe of Teigh who appears with Robert in the list of 1434 of persons who should take the oath not to maintain peace-breakers⁶⁶ is said by the Woodford chronicler to have been the son of Robert, and was living at the time of the writing of the chronicle.⁶⁷ Teigh passed to Robert's daughter Anne, wife of John Heliwell, lord of Whissendine (q.v.).⁶⁸ By his marriage with Margaret, daughter and heir of John Heliwell, apparently son of the abovenamed John, the manor of Teigh passed to Thomas Sherard of Stapleford,⁶⁹ who died seised of it in 1538.⁷⁰

In 1498 Thomas Morton and Margaret his wife, the heiress of the Woodfords, revived the claim to the manor which had been set out at such length by her uncle Robert, son of Ralph Woodford.⁷¹ Her claim, which was partly founded on the allegation that Hugh and Elizabeth Browe died without issue,⁷² was unsuccessful, and Teigh descended in the Sherard family, afterwards Earls of Harborough,⁷³ following the descent of the manor of Heliwell in Whissendine (q.v.). The manor house at Teigh was probably usually leased during the Sherard ownership of the manor. After the death of Francis Sherard in 1595 his widow Anne wished to occupy the manor house. John Manhood, the tenant, who had a lease of the manor house for 40 years, objected to being turned out, to the extent of threatening to damage the house, windows, etc., if he were disturbed.⁷⁴

Robert Sherard, fourth Earl of Harborough, was rector of Teigh from 1743 to 1773. His son Philip, the fifth Earl, was born at Teigh 10 October 1767.⁷⁵ Robert, the sixth and last Earl of Harborough, died without issue in 1859.



SHERARD. *Argent a chevron between three roundels gules.*

⁶¹ Cott. MS. Claud. A xiii, fol. 243 d.

⁶² *Cal. Close R.* 1364-8, p. 43.

⁶³ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1367-70, p. 183.

⁶⁴ Cott. MS. Claud. A xiii, fol. 246.

⁶⁵ *Ibid.* fols. 247-8.

⁶⁶ *Ibid.* fols. 248 d, 249.

⁶⁷ *Ibid.* fols. 243 d, 245 d.

⁶⁸ *Ibid.* fol. 244 d.

⁶⁹ *Ibid.* fol. 252.

⁷⁰ Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 13 Ric. II, no. 10.

⁶² *Cal. Close R.* 1385-89, p. 495; 1389-92, p. 306.

⁶³ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1388-92, pp. 136, 139, 343.

⁶⁴ *Ibid.* 1385-89, p. 225.

⁶⁵ Nichols, op. cit. iii, 352; *Feud. Aids*, iv, 213.

⁶⁶ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1429-36, p. 370.

⁶⁷ Nichols, op. cit. iii, 22.

⁶⁸ *Ibid.* ii, 345.

⁶⁹ *Ibid.* 343.

⁷⁰ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), lix, 114.

⁷¹ Early Chan. Proc. bdle. 339, no. 55.

⁷² De Banco R. 950, m. 486.

⁷³ Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 16 & 17 Eliz.; Hil. 3 & 4 Geo. IV; Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), clxxi, 65; cxxlii, 97; cccciv, 128; Recov. R. Hil. 2 Jas. I, ro. 11; Trin. 24 Chas. I, ro. 36; Mich. 11 Will. III, ro. 198; Mich. 30 Geo. III, ro. 352; Mich. 59 Geo. III, ro. 56.

⁷⁴ Chan. Proc. temp. Eliz. m. bdle. 2, no. 30.

⁷⁵ G.E.C. *Complete Peerage*, iv, 160.

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

In accordance with his will, the manor was settled in 1861 on his relatives, Edward Sherard Calcraft Kennedy and Emma Sarah Calcraft Kennedy, who sold the manor and advowson to Richard Thompson of Stamford. Richard Thompson conveyed the advowson to Rev. Alfred Ryle Newby, and died in 1882, leaving the manor to his two sons William Thompson and Richard Phillips Thompson, Daniel John Evans and his nephew James Eastwick, in trust for sale. In 1888 the trustees sold the manor to Daniel John Evans, who died in 1902, having appointed his three sons, Frank Gwynne Evans, Richard Gwynne Evans and Arthur Evans, trustees for sale. They sold it in 1903 to Harry Simpson Gee (d. 1924), who left it to his son, Mr. George Cecil Gorham Gee, the present owner, in tail.⁷⁶

The church of the *HOLY TRINITY CHURCH* was rebuilt in 1782 in the Gothic style of the day⁷⁷ by the fourth Earl of Harborough (rector 1743-73), the west tower, which is of 14th-century date, being alone retained. On plan the building is a rectangle measuring internally 45 ft. by 24 ft., and is faced with ashlar, with chamfered plinth and low-pitched leaded roof behind battlemented parapets. The east end is gabled and there are pairs of two-stage buttresses at the angles, and a band of geometrical ornament below the parapets. The entrance is at the west end through the tower, the bottom stage of which forms a porch. The east window is of four lights with Decorated tracery, and the three pointed windows on each side of the nave are of three lights, but the mullions and tracery date only from 1911.⁷⁸ With this exception the 18th-century interior remains substantially unchanged and affords a curious and interesting example of both ritual and seating arrangements. The walls and ceiling are plastered, the latter slightly curved, with moulded ribs and three circular panels, the middle one containing the royal arms and the others the Harborough arms (west) and crest (east), the latter dated 1782. The pews are in three ascending tiers, facing north and south, as in a college chapel, but stop 9 ft. from the east end. The west wall is occupied by three blind pointed arches, the middle one painted to represent a window with trees and plants visible beyond. At a considerable elevation above the west doorway, in the middle arch, is a wooden canopied pulpit projecting balconywise, and on either side, at a lower level, are the reading-desk and clerk's desk. The latter are approached by stone

steps in the wall, on either side the entrance, and access to the pulpit is by wooden steps from the reading-desk, on the north side. The whole forms a pseudo-Gothic composition of more interest than beauty. The Lord's Prayer and the Creed are painted on the wall on either side.

The flagged floor is raised one step at the east end, where a small communion table is enclosed by an iron railing.

The tower is of four stages with pairs of angle buttresses, but the lower portion only is ancient; it is of ironstone rubble with moulded plinth. The upper part was rebuilt in 1792⁷⁹ in two stages, the bell-chamber windows being re-used and new windows introduced below.⁸⁰ The old windows are of two trefoiled lights with quatrefoil in the head, and the tower terminates in an 18th-century battlemented parapet with angle pinnacles surmounted by vanes. Immediately below the parapet is a band of ornament similar to that of the nave. The buttresses stop at the third stage. There is a vice at the south-west angle. The pointed west doorway belongs to the 18th-century alterations, when the lower stage was lined internally with ashlar to form a circular vestibule, with domed plaster ceiling. The upper part of the 14th-century arch to the nave, of three chamfered orders, is visible in the ringing chamber.

A stone font of nondescript character, which stands on the north side of the altar, was carved in 1845⁸¹ by the rector.⁸² There is also a portable ewer-shaped font of mahogany, lined with lead and ornamented with brass, which rests on a brass arm fitted into a socket attached to the communion rail. The altarpiece, a painting of the Lord's Supper, is attributed to Otto van Veen (1556-1634).⁸³

At the west end is an armorial slab to the Rev. John Smith, rector (d. 1737). Two medieval grave slabs with undated inscriptions, mentioned by Wright,⁸⁴ have disappeared, as has also a brass plate to James Adamson, rector (1630-61).⁸⁵

There are three bells, the first and second by Thomas Eayre of Kettering, 1746, and the tenor, a medieval bell inscribed 'In noiē ihs Maria.'⁸⁶

The plate consists of a cup and cover paten of 1661-2, given in 1662 by Richard Moudie, rector, and a paten of 1826-7 given in 1828 by Thomas Wingfield, rector. There are also two pewter plates.⁸⁷

The registers before 1812 are as follows: (i) all entries 1572-1738; (ii) 1739-65; (iii) 1777-1812; (iv) marriages 1789-1812.⁸⁸

⁷⁶ Inf. kindly supplied by Mr. Cecil Gee.

⁷⁷ There is no drawing of the old church known to exist. It is said to have consisted of chancel, nave, north and south aisles and west tower and spire (T. Paradise in *Stamford Mercury*, 9 Nov. 1860). In 1584 the church porch was in decay (Irons' Notes, Archd. Visit.).

⁷⁸ In 1860 the windows were described as 'all without tracery, mullions and hoodmoulds' (Paradise, loc. cit.).

⁷⁹ E. Basil Redlich, *Hist. of Teigb*, 50. The tower was covered with cement, but this is now gradually falling away.

⁸⁰ That is, in the present third stage.

⁸¹ The old font is said to have been turned out of the church at this time and placed in a stackyard at Barrow (Paradise, loc. cit.).

⁸² The Rev. A. S. Atcheson, rector 1830-76; there is a brass tablet to him in the church. The font is carved with various emblems—a heart, a triangle, an anchor and a globe: *Trans. Rutl. Arch. Soc.* (1913), 55.

⁸³ Redlich, op. cit. 52.

⁸⁴ *Hist. of Rutl.* (1684), 122, where the inscriptions are given. Wright also mentions heraldic glass in the east window (azure 3 mascles or), and in a window in the nave (or 3 roundels gules and a canton ermioe): this also has disappeared.

⁸⁵ In 1605 the rector removed and defaced an ancient monument in the chancel and used the stone to repair the chancel floor. He was ordered to replace it in its original position (Irons' Notes, loc. cit.).

⁸⁶ North, *Ch. Bells of Rutl.* 152. The

marks on the tenor are the shield of a Nottingham founder and two Royal heads. The bells are hung in the third stage above which there is no floor. The date 1794 is in the bell-frame. There is a tradition that two bells were removed from this church to that of Stapleford.

⁸⁷ Hope, *Ch. Plate in Rutl.* 10; Redlich, op. cit. 91. The cup is inscribed 'Ecclesiaz parochial de Tighe Rutland Jacobus Adamson ejusdem per 31 annos Rector, D.L.C.R. 1661.' The letters D.L.C.R. are variously interpreted.

⁸⁸ Redlich, op. cit. 57, 61-63. In vol. i all entries to 1599 are copied from an older book. There is a gap between 1765 and 1777 said to have been occasioned by a portion being taken to Stapleford and not returned.



TIGH CHURCH FROM THE SOUTH-EAST



TEIGH CHURCH: THE INTERIOR, LOOKING WEST, SHOWING PULPIT

ALSTOE HUNDRED

THISTLETON

The earliest recorded presentation *ADVOWSON* to the church of Teigh was made in 1239 by Sir William de Foleville.⁸⁹

The advowson descended with the manor until the death of the last Earl of Harborough in 1859. It was then in 1861 sold by his legatees to Richard Thompson,

who granted it to the Rev. Alfred Ryle Newby, who was incumbent until his death in 1913. In the following year his widow presented, but sold the advowson to Col. Rt. Hon. John Gretton, M.P., who is now patron.

There are no charities in this parish.

THISTLETON

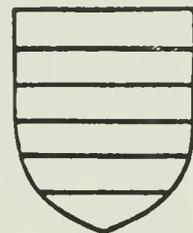
Tistertune, Tisteltune (xi cent.); Tystelton, Thystelton, Thistilton (xiii cent.); Tylystineton (xiv cent.); Thissleton (xvii cent.).

The parish of Thistleton, which stands to the north of the county, is bounded on the north partly by the Leicester and partly by the Lincoln county boundaries, and on the east by the Lincoln county boundary. It comprises 1,379 acres of land, which has a general slope from west to east. The subsoil is Inferior Oolite; more than half of the land is arable and the remainder grass land. The decreasing population, which was only 105 in 1921,¹ is indicated by the number of cottages in the village falling into decay. The church stands in the centre of the small village, which is built along the by-road from Market Overton to the Great North Road that skirts the eastern boundary of the parish. The farm houses and cottages are chiefly of stone with stone or thatched roofs. The nearest railway stations are at South Wytham, 1½ miles north-east, on the London Midland and Scottish and London and North Eastern Railways, and at Ashwell, 5 miles south-west, on the London Midland and Scottish Railway.

There was in 1576 a dispute about the boundaries between the manors of South Wytham and Thistleton; and the Thistleton localities of Woodleyes, Redhill Furlong and Stonegravehill are mentioned.² There was an Inclosure Act for the parish in 1759.³

At the time of the Domesday Survey *MANORS* there appear to have been two holdings in *THISTLETON*. One was held of the Conqueror's niece, the Countess Judith, and later of the Honour of Huntingdon, and the other was apparently held of the Crown. The former comprising half a carucate was held in the time of Edward the Confessor by Erich. In 1086 Hugh held one plough and 6 villeins with one plough of the Countess,⁴ and it has been thought that this Hugh was ancestor of the family of Bussey (Busey, Bushey, Bucy) who later held the manor. The Busseys were a Lincolnshire family; Hugh de Bussey presented to the church of Merston (co. Linc.) in 1173, and was apparently living in 1203.⁵ His son Lambert was living in the reign of King John,⁶ and presented to the church of Thistleton in 1226.⁷ Hugh de Bussey who in 1242-3 was holding the manor of Hougham

(co. Linc.) which Lambert had held in 1212⁸ may have been his son. Hugh presented to the church of Thistleton in 1249, and he possibly was the Hugh de Bussey who presented in 1261.⁹ Lambert de Bussey was dealing with the manor of Horn (q.v.) in the latter part of the reign of Henry III,¹⁰ and Hugh, son of Lambert de Bussey, settled two parts of the manor of Thistleton in 1290. The other third part, which was held as dower by Elizabeth, then wife of John Daubeny, mother of Hugh by her former husband Lambert de Bussey,¹¹ which ought to have reverted to Hugh on the death of Elizabeth, was to remain to Robert Cofyn.¹² Hugh presented to the church in 1276, was assessed for half a fee in Thistleton in 1305, and died in 1306.¹³ His son¹⁴ Sir John was lord in 1306-16,¹⁵ and was succeeded by a son John, and he by a son Walter. The celebrated Sir John 'Bussey,' sheriff of Lincoln, Speaker of the House of Commons, mentioned in Shakespeare's *Richard II*, was son and heir of Walter. He was executed by Henry IV in 1399.¹⁶ His son, John de Bussey,¹⁷ was tenant of this half fee in 1428.¹⁸ John, son of the last-named John, was father of Hugh, father of Sir Miles,¹⁹ whose son John was in litigation about lands in Rutland in 1515-18.²⁰ He made a settlement of the manor and advowson in 1536,²¹ and died within the year.²² His daughter and heir Agnes and her husband, Edmund Brudenell, afterwards knighted, received livery of the manor in 1542.²³ Thus the manor passed from the Busseys after it had been some 400 years in the male line of the Bussey family. Jane Bussey, aunt of Agnes, had married Thomas Meres (Meares), and her son Francis left a son Anthony Meres, who was heir to Agnes Brudenell at her death in Jan. 1583.²⁴ Anthony at once conveyed the manor and advowson to Sir Edmund Brudenell²⁵ of Deane (co. Northant.). Just before his death in 1585 Sir Edmund settled this manor and advowson on his brothers Thomas, John, Robert, William, his cousins Edmund, George (and his son Paul), Thomas and



BUSSEY. *Barry argent and sable.*

⁸⁹ *Rot. Rob. Grosseteste* (Cant. & York Soc.), ii, 187.

¹ *Pop. Ret.*

² Exch. Dep. Linc. Rutl. East. 18 Eliz. no. 6; Mich. 18 & 19 Eliz. no. 13.

³ Slater, *Engl. Peasantry*, 297.

⁴ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 129, 130, 134, 139.

⁵ *Abbrev. Plac.* (Rec. Com.), p. 77. Merston was a manor belonging to the Busseys of Thistleton (*Cur. Reg. R.* i, 32, 452; ii, 215).

⁶ *Abbrev. Plac.* loc. cit.

⁷ Irons' Notes, Linc. Episc. Reg. (Instit.).

⁸ *Bk. of Fees* (P.R.O.), 186, 1041, 1075. Hougham was a manor belonging to the Busseys of Thistleton.

⁹ Irons' Notes, loc. cit.

¹⁰ Wrottesley, *Ped. from Plea R.* 4; De Banco R. Mich. 4 Edw. III, m. 474. Here Hugh is given as son of John brother of Lambert.

¹¹ *Cal. Inq.* iii, no. 141.

¹² Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 18 Edw. I, no. 26.

¹³ *Feud. Aids*, iv, 204; *Cal. Inq.* iv, no. 380.

¹⁴ Metcalfe, *Visit. of Linc.* 25-7.

¹⁵ *Feud. Aids*, iv, 208; Wright, *Hist. of Rutl.* p. 118, citing Bodenham MSS.

¹⁶ *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

¹⁷ Metcalfe, loc. cit. All these are said to be knights.

¹⁸ *Feud. Aids*, iv, 210.

¹⁹ Metcalfe, loc. cit.

²⁰ Early Chan. Proc. hdlc. 385, no. 33.

²¹ Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 28 Hen. VIII.

²² Wright, loc. cit.

²³ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xvii, g. 556 (14).

²⁴ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), cciii, 9.

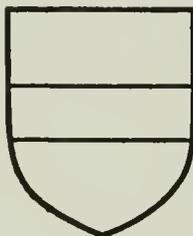
²⁵ Feet of F. Div. Cos. Hil. 25 Eliz.

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

William, sons of his uncle Anthony Brudenell, successively, in tail male, bequeathing an annuity to his only child, a daughter, Etheldreda.²⁶ John, Edmund and Christopher Bussey and Thomas Austyn quit-claimed the estate in 1589-90 to John, William and Robert Brudenell, three of the above brothers, and Thomas, William and John, sons of Robert;²⁷ and Thomas son of Robert, as Sir Thomas Brudenell, bart.,²⁸ made a settlement in 1614.²⁹ From this date the manor followed the descent of Austyn until the death of George Brydges Brudenell in 1801. It then passed to his sister Caroline, who married Sir Samuel Fludyer, first baronet. He was succeeded by his son Sir Samuel (d. 1818), and he by his son Sir Samuel, who died unmarried in 1876. The manor then passed to his cousin, the Rev. Sir John Henry Fludyer (d. 1896), whose son, Sir Arthur John Fludyer (d. 1922), sold the property about 1920 to Lt.-Col. John Maurice Wingfield of Tickencote, D.S.O., O.B.E. Col. Wingfield died in 1931, and was succeeded by his nephew, Mr. John Llewellyn Parry, who took the name of Wingfield and is the present owner.³⁰

In 1286 Hugh de Bussey claimed view of frank-pledge time out of mind,³¹ though the lords of Oakham (q.v.) had the view here.

The *SOUTH WYTHAM LANDS* in Thistleton appear in the 13th century in the possession of the Colvilles of Castle Bytham (co. Linc.) and Weston Coleville (co. Camb.).³² In 1252 Simon de Capella and Maud his wife conveyed to Hugh de Bussey (lord of the manor of Thistleton) a messuage, 14 bovates of land, and 20s. 8d. rent here, with the services of Nicholas de Weston and William de Wyme (Wytham) and their heirs.³³ Sir Walter de Colville's lands in Barrow and Thistleton were seized in 1265,³⁴ but they were restored, and he died holding 2 virgates here of Sir Richard de Seyton by the service of 1 lb. pepper yearly.³⁵



COLVILLE of Bytham. Or a fesse gules.

In the returns of 1316 Master Robert Bernard appears as the overlord.³⁶ From the Colvilles this land descended to Ralf Basset, kt.,³⁷ whose will was dated at Castle Bytham in 1377.³⁸ Of the two daughters he mentions, Elizabeth, who died in 1451, married Richard, Lord de Grey, and had a daughter Elizabeth married to John la Zouche. Elizabeth de Grey gave these lands in 1443-4 to John and Elizabeth la Zouche, although she left a grandson Henry Grey.³⁹ No further reference to these lands has been found.

The Berkeleys and Husseys had lands in Thistleton in 1524;⁴⁰ and in 1639 John Lambert died seized of

tenements 'in South Wytham in Thistleton,' held in chief of the king.⁴¹

The church of *ST. NICHOLAS*⁴² *CHURCH* consists of an apsidal chancel 21 ft. by 15 ft., with north organ-chamber and vestry, nave 41 ft. by 18 ft., south porch, and west tower 8 ft. square, all these measurements being internal. With the exception of the tower, which is of 14th-century date, the whole of the church was rebuilt in 1879-80 at the charges of the Rev. Sir J. Henry Fludyer, bt., rector.⁴³ The chancel and the south side of the nave are faced with ashlar, the tower and the north wall of the nave being of rubble; the roofs are covered with Collyweston slates. The building is in the style of the 14th century, and the chancel is of a somewhat elaborate design. On plan it terminates externally as a half-octagon, with a circular window in the east wall, and a single-light cinquefoiled window in each of the canted sides. Internally, the end of the chancel is semicircular, and is lined with ashlar; in the reredos is a terracotta panel of the entombment of Christ, and on the wall of the apse, supported on brackets, terracotta statues of the four Evangelists. The chancel arch is of two chamfered orders, the inner order on moulded corbels. The nave is lighted on the south side by three pointed windows of two trefoiled lights and on the north by a single-light window near the east end; the walls are plastered. The open-timbered porch has a stone base and angle piers, with outer oak doors.

The tower is of three stages with large clasping buttresses, battlemented parapets, angle pinnacles, and gargoyles. In the bottom stage is a pointed west window of two cinquefoiled lights, below which a modern doorway has been cut through the moulded plinth. The two lower stages are blank on the north and south sides, but on the west there is a pierced quatrefoil opening. The pointed bell-chamber windows are of two trefoiled lights with quatrefoil in the head. There is a vice in the south-west angle. The arch to the nave is of two orders, the inner with a broad chamfer on half-round responds with moulded capitals and bases, and the outer order with a continuous hollow chamfer.

The font and pulpit are modern. There is a brass tablet to William Towell 'for 56 years parish clerk and 34 years schoolmaster in this village,' who died in 1915, aged 92 years.

There is one bell in the tower cast by George Hedderley, of Nottingham, in 1793.⁴⁴ A clock was erected in 1887.⁴⁵

The plate consists of a cup of 1757, and a paten probably of the same date.⁴⁶ There is also a pewter plate.

The registers before 1812 are as follows: (i) all

records the rebuilding of the church by Sir Henry Fludyer and Augusta his wife in memory of their three elder children who died of scarlet fever, December 1841-January 1842. There is also a memorial tablet to the children in the tower.

⁴⁰ North, *Cb. Bells of Rutl.* 153. There were formerly two bells, but both being cracked they were cast into one at the cost of Mrs. Fludyer.

⁴¹ It has a skeleton dial on the south side of the tower only.

⁴² The marks are indistinct (Hope, *Cb. Plate in Rutl.* 11).

²⁶ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), ccvi, 27; Wards and Liv. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), xxi, 121.

²⁷ Feet of F. Div. Cos. Hil. 32 Eliz.

²⁸ Wright, op. cit. 119. He was created a baronet in 1611 (*Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), iii, 13).

²⁹ Feet of F. Div. Cos. East. 11 Jas. I. Inf. kindly supplied by Miss J. Finch and Mr. G. Brudenell.

³⁰ *Plac. de Quo Warr.* (Rec. Com.), 671.

³¹ See Barrow Manor, Cottesmore.

³² Feet of F. Rutl. East. 36 Hen. III, no. 39.

³³ *Cal. Inq. Misc.* i, no. 856.

³⁴ *Cal. Inq.* ii, no. 227.

³⁵ *Ibid.* v, no. 592; *Cal. Close R.* 1313-1318, p. 299.

³⁶ See Barrow.

³⁷ Gibbons, *Early Linc. Wills*, 27-8.

³⁸ *Ibid.* 110; Chan. Inq. p.m. 29 Hen. VI, no. 34.

³⁹ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, iv, 799.

⁴⁰ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), 15 Chas. I, pt. 25; Misc. no. 39.

⁴¹ In 1320 an indulgence was granted for the church of St. Laurence the Martyr of Thistleton (Linc. Episc. Reg. Bp. Burgbersh, 30).

⁴² A tablet below the chancel arch



THISTLETON CHURCH FROM THE SOUTH-EAST

entries 1574-1698; (ii) baptisms and burials 1717-87, marriages 1717-54; (iii) baptisms and burials 1788-1812; (iv) marriages 1754-92; (v) marriages 1792-1812. There is a gap 1698-1717.

The first mention of the advowson *ADVOWSON* is in 1226, when Lambert de Bussey presented John de Bussey;⁴⁷ again in 1250 it was in the possession of the lord of the manor (q.v.), with which it descended until 1920,⁴⁸ when Sir Arthur John Fludyer sold the manor but retained the advowson. On the death of Sir Arthur in 1922 the advowson passed to his nephew, Mr. Vere Finch, who in 1926 gave it to the Bishop of Peterborough,

when the benefice was united to Market Overton. The living is a rectory in the alternate gift of Mr. John L. Parry-Wingfield and the Bishop of Peterborough.

Henry Forster, gent., of Thistleton, who died aged 91 in 1702, bequeathed lands in Lincolnshire to the 'vicarages' of Whissendine, Stretton and Greetham, and £10 a year to every schoolmaster of Thistleton and other places to teach poor children 'to read in the English bible, and to learn them the catechism used in the Church of England.' He further settled an estate of £6 per annum in Thistleton for the above purposes.⁴⁹

There are no charities in this parish.

WHISSENDINE

Wichingedene (xi cent.); Wissenden (xii-xviii cent.); Wixenden; Wicsinden; Wessinden (xiii cent.).

The parish of Whissendine is on the Leicestershire border, and the land lies between 300 ft. and 600 ft. above the Ordnance datum. The area covers 4,033 acres, nearly the whole of which is pasture land. The subsoil is Middle, Upper and Lower Lias, the surface soil being strong and heavy, upon which the chief crops are wheat, oats, barley and roots. There was an award in 1763 for inclosing the open fields¹ under an Act of Parliament of 1762.² The population was 566 in 1921.

The village is divided into two parts by the meadow land in the valley formed by the Whissendine Brook and its tributary, which rise in the parish. The older settlement on the high land to the east is grouped around the church and the Manor House, while on the high land on the west is the larger group of houses along a series of by-roads. Here the disused windmill is a conspicuous object, below which a number of 'council houses' have been built. Most of the cottages in the village are of red brick with slate roofs.

The Manor House near the church was formerly the residence of the Sherards, but is now a farm house. In its grounds are some ancient earthworks already described.³ Edward III was at Whissendine on 26 and 27 April 1327.⁴ Sir Henry Mynn, lord of the manor of Wittlebury, and his family were recusants, and in 1592 Henry Browne, who was presented for not attending church, said that 'half the town was papist.' In 1614 Thomas White, clerk and sexton, was presented for not ringing the curfew 'as it hath been rung.' An ancient custom still exists for letting the pasture land called the Banks. At a parish meeting a candle is lighted into which a pin is stuck, and the last bidder before the pin falls is entitled to rent the Banks for the ensuing year.⁵

Whissendine Station is 1½ miles north-east of the

village. The public mixed elementary (Church) school dates from 1866.

Except for intervals of forfeiture, *MANORS* Walthoof, Earl of Northumberland and Huntingdon, held 4 carucates of land in *WHISSENDINE*⁶ until 1076; and two of the manors continued to be held of the Honour of Huntingdon, following the descent of the overlordship of Exton (q.v.) until the 15th and 16th centuries.⁷ John le Scot, Earl of Huntingdon and Chester, died in 1237 leaving co-heiresses, the two daughters of his eldest sister Margaret, who married Alan Galloway, and his three surviving sisters, Isabel wife of Robert de Brus, Maud, who died unmarried, and Ada wife of Henry de Hastings.⁸

The tenant under Countess Judith in 1086 was Hugh de Hotot,⁹ whose lands here, which became known as *WAKE MANOR* and later as *POWIS MANOR*, seem to have reverted to the overlord. Lands in Rutland, apparently at Whissendine, were granted before 1130 by David, King of Scotland and Earl of Huntingdon, to Hugh de Moreville, who became constable of Scotland and died in 1162.¹⁰ In 1173 Richard, son of Hugh de Moreville, constable of Scotland, was seised of lands in Whissendine, but forfeited them for joining the young King Henry against his father Henry II.¹¹ The lands were restored to the King of Scotland, as overlord, who gave them to Earl David. Richard de Moreville died in 1189 leaving a son William, who died without issue in 1196, and a daughter Helen, who brought the constableness of Scotland to her husband, Roland son of Ughtred de Galloway. Their son, Alan de Galloway, with his mother Helen, obtained a charter for these lands in or about 1212, when Alan was holding Whissendine as a knight's fee.¹² He died in 1233, leaving by his second wife Margaret, daughter of David, Earl of Huntingdon, two daughters, Christiana wife of John, Earl of Albemarle, who died childless, and Divorgilla, the wife firstly of Nicholas de Stuteville and secondly of John de

⁴⁷ Irons' Notes, Linc. Episc. Reg. (Instit.).

⁴⁸ Richard Langham, clerk, evidently a lessee, presented 1622 and the Crown by lapse 1704; Inst. Bks. (P.R.O.).

⁴⁹ Lansd. MS. 989, fol. 56.

¹ King's Bench Plea R. Trin. 3 Geo. III, m. 159.

² Slater, *Eng. Peasantry*, 297.

³ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 111, 117, 119. The sites of four manor houses are traditionally said to exist—namely, (1) at the

present manor house; (2) on the north side of the churchyard, where foundations of a large building were found in 1906-7 extending northward; (3) on the north side of Teigh Lane in the second field from the railway, where there are mounds covering foundations; and (4) on high ground towards Langham, overlooking Whissendine Brook (ex inf. Col. John Gretton).

⁴ *Cal. Clote R.* 1327-30, p. 82; *Cal. Fine R.* 1327-37, p. 38.

⁶ *Stamford Mercury*, 13 Mar. 1931; *N. and Q.* clx, 242.

⁷ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 121, 129, 139.

⁸ *Chan. Inq.* p.m. 8 Hen. IV, no. 48; (Ser. ii), xxxix, 93.

⁹ *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), iii, 169; *Cal. Pat. R.* 1232-47, p. 234.

¹⁰ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 139.

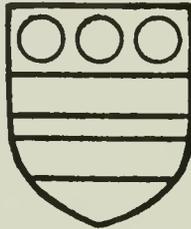
¹¹ Farrer, *Honors and Knights' Fees*, ii, 356.

¹² *Cal. Doc. Scot.* i, 294, 500, 513, 519,

718.
¹³ *Ibid.*; Farrer, *op. cit.* 357-8.

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

Balliol.¹³ By her first husband, Divorgilla had two daughters, Joan, who married Hugh Wake (d. 1241), and Margaret, who died unmarried in 1235. Lady Joan de Stuteville, for so the widow of Hugh Wake continued to be known,¹⁴ had alienated a quarter of the vill by 1286,¹⁵ apparently retaining a quarter. In 1297 Donus de Podio was holding the manor for life by demise of John, first Baron Wake, grandson of Joan, with remainder to Lord Wake.¹⁶ Lord Wake died in 1300 leaving a son Thomas, aged two years,¹⁷ who was assessed for half a fee here in 1305¹⁸ and in 1316 was given as one of the four lords of Whissendine.¹⁹ This half fee was held of the Brus's purparty of the Honour of Huntingdon.²⁰ Thomas died seised of the manor and half a fee in 1349, when his sister Margaret, Countess of Kent, was his heir.²¹ Her son John, Earl of Kent and Lord Wake,²² died seised in 1352 leaving a sister and heir Joan, wife of Thomas de Holand, Earl of Kent,²³ and afterwards the wife of the Black Prince, who held the fee here at his death.²⁴ Joan died seised of the manor in 1385, when her son Thomas de Holand, Lord Wake, was her heir.²⁵ He had licence in 1392 to entail it on his son Thomas and his wife Joan.²⁶ Thomas, the father, died in 1397 and the son was beheaded on the accession of Henry IV.²⁷



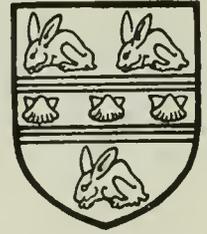
WAKE. Or two bars gules with three roundels gules in the chief.

The manor, which had been forfeited,²⁸ was later delivered to Alice widow of Thomas the father,²⁹ and then claimed by Joan widow of the younger Thomas.³⁰ After Joan's death in 1442 it reverted to the sisters and heirs of her husband's brother Edmund, Earl of Kent, who had died childless in 1408. Whissendine fell to the share of his eldest sister Eleanor, wife of Sir Edward Cherleton of Powis, and their eldest daughter and co-heir Joan, married to Sir John Grey. Joan died in 1425 and her son Henry in 1449-50; while Henry's son Richard sat in the Parliament of 1455 as 'Dominus de Powis' and is held thereby to have become Lord Grey of Powis. He forfeited in 1459, but was later pardoned.³¹ He died seised in 1466 leaving a son John, aged 6 years,³² who was succeeded in 1494 by his son John.³³ The latter John died in 1504 while in the king's wardship, leaving a son Edward, aged one year.³⁴ Edward conveyed the manor in 1544 to Richard Coney of Bassingthorpe (co. Linc.),³⁵ who died seised in the following year leaving a son

and heir Thomas,³⁶ who became a merchant of the Staple of Calais ten years later, when he purchased half the manor of Moorhall. He had boundary disputes here with Maurice Berkeley, George Sherard and Henry Savile.³⁷ Sir Richard Coney, kt., made a settlement in 1621,³⁸ and died seised of Powis Manor



GREY. Gules a lion in a border engrailed argent.



CONEY of Bassingthorpe. Sable a fesse cotised between three conies argent with three scallops sable on the fesse.

and half Moorhall in Feb. 1626-7, leaving a son John,³⁹ who had livery in 1630.⁴⁰ John had a son Edward,⁴¹ who was sheriff for the county in 1683, but no further mention has been found of this family. By 1684 the manor was in the hands of the Sherards, and from this date⁴² followed the descent of Hellewell in this parish (q.v.).

The manorial dovecote is mentioned in 1349,⁴³ the capital message in 1352 (when rents had been reduced by the Black Death),⁴⁴ and a windmill in the 17th and 18th centuries.⁴⁵ Earl Simon III in the 12th century had given the mill and a bovate of land to Burton Lazars Abbey,⁴⁶ but no further reference to the lands of that abbey here has been found. Earl David took from Richard de Morville 123 acres of land outside the park, which Richard had apparently given to the Templars.⁴⁷

The part of a knight's fee also held by the Wakes constituted a manor known as *HELLEWELL MANOR*. Possibly its origin was the 15 librates of land warranted by Earl David in 1212 to Robert son of Roger.⁴⁸ In 1286 Patrick le Fleming and Isabel his wife were holding the quarter of the vill by a grant from Lady Joan de Stuteville to Isabel.⁴⁹ In 1316 Robert de Hellewell and Thomas Wake held half the vill between them,⁵⁰ and in 1324-5 Robert de Hellewell made a settlement of the manor of Whissendine on his son Robert.⁵¹ Robert held half a fee here in 1350, and died in 1362 leaving a widow Joan and his heir, a minor.⁵² John Hellewell held half a fee in 1442,⁵³

¹³ Farrer, op. cit. 357-8.

¹⁴ *V.C.H. Yorks, North Riding*, i, 513.

¹⁵ *Plac. de Quo Warr.* (Rec. Com.), 672.

¹⁶ *Cal. Close R.* 1296-1302, p. 125.

¹⁷ G.E.C. *Complete Peerage*, viii, 35-6.

¹⁸ *Feud. Aids*, iv, 204.

¹⁹ *Ibid.* 208.

²⁰ *Cal. Inq.* v, no. 548.

²¹ *Ibid.* ix, no. 219 (pp. 202, 209).

²² G.E.C. op. cit. 36.

²³ *Cal. Inq.* x, no. 46 (p. 43).

²⁴ *Chan. Inq.* p.m. 2 Ric. II, no. 57.

²⁵ *Ibid.* 9 Ric. II, no. 54.

²⁶ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1391-6, pp. 196, 211; *Cal. Close R.* 1392-6, p. 111; *Feet of F. Div. Cos. East.* 16 Ric. II, no. 71.

²⁷ G.E.C. loc. cit.

²⁸ *Chan. Inq.* p.m. 1 Hen. IV (pt. 2), no. 26, m. 5.

²⁹ *Close R.* 1 Hen. IV, pt. 2, m. 5.

³⁰ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1399-1401, p. 346.

³¹ *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), vi, 136, et seq.

³² *Chan. Inq.* p.m. 6 Edw. IV, no. 35.

³³ *Cal. Inq. Hen. VII*, i, no. 981.

³⁴ *Ibid.* ii, no. 751.

³⁵ *Close R.* 35 Hen. VIII, pt. 2, no. 38; *Feet of F. Rutl. East. & Trin.* 36 Hen. VIII.

³⁶ *Chan. Inq.* p.m. (Ser. ii), lxxii, 70.

³⁷ *Chan. Proc.* (Ser. ii), bdle. 20, no. 27; bdle. 28, no. 8.

³⁸ *Feet of F. Rutl. Trin.* 19 Jas. I; *Recov. R. Trin.* 19 Jas. I, ro. 67. Cf.

Chan. Proc. (Ser. ii), bdle. 332, no. 55.

³⁹ *Chan. Inq.* p.m. (Ser. ii), cccclvii, 37.

⁴⁰ *Fine R.* 6 Chas. I, pt. 1, no. 48.

⁴¹ Metcalfe, *Visit. of Linc.* 32.

⁴² Wright, op. cit. p. 134.

⁴³ *Chan. Inq.* p.m. 23 Edw. III (1st nos.), no. 75.

⁴⁴ *Ibid.* 26 Edw. III (1st nos.), no. 54.

⁴⁵ *Feet of F. Rutl. Trin.* 19 Jas. I; *Recov. R. Hil.* 2 Anne, ro. 28.

⁴⁶ Farrer, op. cit. 357.

⁴⁷ *Cal. Doc. Scotl.* i, 576.

⁴⁸ *Ibid.* 519. Nigel de Brooke (Broc) was holding lands in Whissendine in 1176 which may have been at Hellewell (*Pipe R. Soc.* xxv, 54).

⁴⁹ *Plac. de Quo Warr.* (Rec. Com.), 672.

⁵⁰ *Feud. Aids*, iv, 208.

⁵¹ *Feet of F. Rutl. Trin.* 18 Edw. II, no. 48.

⁵² *Cal. Inq.* ix, no. 219 (p. 209); *Black Prince's Reg.* iv, 421, 437, 451.

⁵³ *Chan. Inq.* p.m. 21 Hen. VI, no. 36.

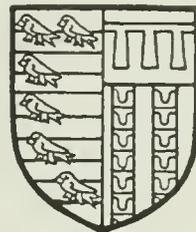
and John son of John Hellewell, kt., after a dispute with Margaret wife of William Wykes, kt., daughter of Nicholas Tye⁶⁴ (Teigh), released all right in the manor in 1466-7.⁶⁵ The Sherard pedigree shows that the manor remained with the Hellewells till about the reign of Henry VII and then passed by the marriage of Margaret Hellewell with Thomas Sherard of Stapleford.⁶⁶ The manor of Hellewell was in 1574 in the possession of Margaret's son George Sherard,⁶⁷ who died seised in the following year, leaving a son Francis.⁶⁸ In 1594 Francis was succeeded by his younger son Philip,⁶⁹ who died childless in 1624, the remainder having been settled on his younger brother William,⁶⁰ created in 1627 Lord Sherard of Leitrim.⁶¹ He died in 1640, leaving two sons, Bennet and Philip,⁶² and a widow, Lady Abigail Sherard, a strong royalist and most benevolent lady. Philip had Whissendine and died in 1695, leaving a son Bennet, who settled the manor in 1699,⁶³ probably on his son Philip, who was concerned with the manor of Powis and half the manor of Moorhall in 1703-4⁶⁴ and succeeded his father in 1711. By special remainder he succeeded his cousin Bennet as second Earl of Harborough in 1732. He was Lord Lieutenant of Rutland from 1733 till his death in 1750, when he was buried at Whissendine. His son Bennet⁶⁵ was succeeded by a son Robert, Canon of Salisbury, from whom the manor passed in 1799 to his son Philip,⁶⁶ who died in 1807. Philip's son Robert, 6th Earl,⁶⁷ died childless in 1859, when the earldom and barony became extinct.⁶⁸ In 1861 the manor of Whissendine, comprising 3,350 acres, was offered for sale by auction in 39 lots. The principal purchasers were the Earl of Gainsborough, who seems to have acquired the manorial rights, and Lord Aveland, afterwards Earl of Ancaster. In 1899 the Earl of Gainsborough sold his interest in the manor to Mr. John Gretton of Burton-on-Trent, whose son, Col. the Rt. Hon. John Gretton, M.P., is the present lord of the manor.⁶⁹

In 1286 Patrick le Fleming and Isabel claimed view of frankpledge twice a year without the king's officer, as Lady Joan de Stuteville and her ancestors had had by immemorial right.⁷⁰

The **MOORHALL** (le Morhalle, 1344) or **BRUDENELL MANOR** developed out of the Balliol fee. In 1306, at first at will,⁷¹ and later in 1308 in fee,⁷² £4 rent from the manor of Whissendine was granted by Edward I to his nephew John de Britannia with the other lands late of John Balliol (including the farm of 50 acres in Sondersoken, Rutland). John de Britannia had licence in Feb. 1331-3⁷³ to grant this rent to his niece Mary de St. Pol, widow of Aymer de Valence,

Earl of Pembroke, for life. In March 1345-6 the king released all right in the £4 rent to the Countess,⁷⁴ and in 1349 she received licence to grant it to the warden and scholars of her New Hall in the University of Cambridge,⁷⁵ to whom she conveyed it in 1360-4.⁷⁶ Moorhall manor was held of Pembroke Hall until at least 1627.⁷⁷

The tenants of the lands from which this rent was drawn in the 13th century seem to have been the Pantons, lords of Panton (co. Linc.). In 1240-1 William son of Gilbert and Elizabeth his wife quitclaimed lands here to Baldwin de Panton;⁷⁸ and in 1285 a messuage, 16½ virgates of land, 160 acres of meadow, 20 acres of pasture and 18s. 4d. rent were settled on Philip de Panton,⁷⁹ apparently the son and heir of Philip de Panton, kt., lord of Panton. He died childless, and his sister and heir Maud married Sir John Harington, kt., and had a son Richard,⁸⁰ who held a quarter of the vill of Whissendine in 1316.⁸¹ He died in 1324-5, in his father's lifetime, seised of Moorhall manor, which he held by the rent of £4 payable at Fotheringay Castle (formerly the seat of John Balliol and afterwards of the Countess of Pembroke). He left a son and heir, John Harington, who also held 60 acres of the Wake fee by the rent of 1½ stones of wax.⁸² The homage and services of John were granted to Pembroke Hall with the £4 rent in 1360-4. He died in 1376, leaving three daughters and co-heirs—Anne (or Amy) wife of John Carnell, Isabel wife of Hugh Fairfax, and Alice, an infant.⁸³ From this time the manor became divided. William Fairfax made a settlement in 1442 and died leaving a son William, who was succeeded in Feb. 1497-8 by a son William.⁸⁴ Like Deepyng Gate (co. Northant.),⁸⁵ this half-manor passed from an heiress, Margaret, daughter of William Fairfax, to her husband Miles Worsley, who died in 1515,⁸⁶ and then to Robert Brudenell by right of Margaret his wife, together with the ancestral manor of Panton (co. Linc.).⁸⁷ As Margaret Brudenell, widow, she conveyed the half-manor to Hugh Grantham in 1543-4,⁸⁸ and in 1554-5 Thomas Grantham conveyed the same to Thomas Coney.⁸⁹ Henceforth it descended with the Powis manor (q.v.).



PEMBROKE HALL, CAMBRIDGE. *Barruly argent and azure with martlets gules in the border, for VALENCY, dimidiating Gules three pales vair with a chief or and a label azure, for CHATILLON.*

⁶⁴ Early Chan. Proc. bdl. 17, no. 178.

⁶⁵ Close R. 6 Edw. IV, m. 29.

⁶⁶ Wright, op. cit. 120, 134. In *Rutl. Mag.* iv, 4, 6, it is stated that Thomas Sherard married Margaret daughter and heir of John Hellewell in 1430.

⁶⁷ Feet of F. Mich. 16 & 17 Eliz.

⁶⁸ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), clxxi, 65.

⁶⁹ Ibid. cclxiii, 97.

⁷⁰ Ibid. cccciv, 128.

⁷¹ *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), vi, 295, et seq.

⁷² Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), cccxciii, 91.

⁷³ Recov. R. Mich. 11 Will. III, ro. 198.

⁷⁴ Ibid. Hil. 2 Anne, ro. 28.

⁷⁵ Concerned with the three manors in 1748 (ibid. East. 21 Geo. II, ro. 34).

⁷⁶ Concerned with the manors, rectory,

and advowson in 1789 (ibid. Mich. 30 Geo. III, ro. 352).

⁷⁷ Concerned as above 1818 (ibid. Mich. 59 Geo. III, ro. 56) and 1823 (Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 3 & 4 Geo. IV).

⁷⁸ *Complete Peerage*, loc. cit.

⁷⁹ *Rutl. Mag.* iv, 8.

⁸⁰ *Plac. de Quo Warr.* loc. cit.

⁸¹ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1301-7, p. 470; *Cal. Close R.* 1302-7, p. 293.

⁸² *Cal. Cbart. R.* 1300-26, p. 122.

⁸³ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1330-4, pp. 125, 404; *Cal. Close R.* 1333-7, p. 240.

⁸⁴ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1345-8, pp. 61, 65.

⁸⁵ Ibid. 1348-50, p. 349.

⁸⁶ Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 34 Edw. III, no. 53; East. 36 Edw. III, no. 56; Mich. 38 Edw. III; cf. *Abbrev. Rot. Orig.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 350.

⁷⁷ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), cccclvii, 37.

⁷⁸ Feet of F. Div. Cos. 25 Hen. III, no. 45.

⁷⁹ Ibid. Rutl. Mich. 13 Edw. I, no. 10.

⁸⁰ Metcalfe, *Visit. of Northants*, 5.

⁸¹ *Feud. Aids*, iv, 208. His father left a son Oliver by his second wife Margery (Chan. Inq. p.m. 20 Edw. II, no. 22).

⁸² *Cal. Inq.* vi, no. 605. It was probably his younger son Richard who murdered John de Wittlebury (see below).

⁸³ *Cal. Fine R.* 1369-77, p. 400; Chan. Inq. p.m. 51 Edw. III, no. 18.

⁸⁴ *Cal. Inq. Hen. VII*, ii, no. 77.

⁸⁵ *F.C.H. Northants*, ii, 504.

⁸⁶ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), xxx, 96.

⁸⁷ Early Chan. Proc. bdl. 468, no. 1.

⁸⁸ Feet of F. Rutl. East. 34 & 35 Hen. VIII.

⁸⁹ Ibid. Hil. 1 & 2 Phil. & M.

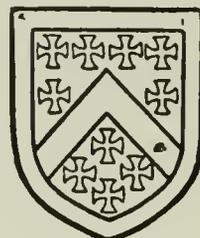
A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

The other moiety was conveyed in 1409-10 by Robert Gryme of Langtoft and Isabel his wife, by right of Isabel, to Sir John Berkeley, kt.,⁹⁰ and this may have been the 'manor of Whissendine' that John Neubald and Margaret his wife quitclaimed in 1409 to Sir John Berkeley, kt., John Clerk of Whissendine, Roger Hore, the heirs of Roger, and others.⁹¹ Margaret, daughter and heir of Francis Clarke of Whissendine, married Bartholomew Villiers, second son of William Villiers of Brooksby.⁹² The Villiers were concerned with a 'manor of Whissendine' until 1575.⁹³ Arthur Warren, a delinquent in 1656,⁹⁴ also had a manor here, possibly this moiety.⁹⁵

The capital messuage, dovecote, empty fishpond, windmill, profits of court with two views are mentioned in an extent of Moorhall manor in 1325.⁹⁶

WITTLEBURY manor was held of the Brus purparty of the Honour of Huntingdon,⁹⁷ and so in 1460 of Lord Grey of Powis.⁹⁸ It developed before 1237,⁹⁹ by a grant of John, Earl of Chester, to Geoffrey de Appleby.¹ James de Appleby had lands here when he lost his life in the Montfort rebellion in 1265,² and his widow Isabel was granted the manor during pleasure,³ but only received dower third. Geoffrey de Appleby in 1285 quitclaimed to Aubrey de Wittlebury in fee a messuage, mill, one carucate, 13½ virgates land and the rent of 1 lb. of cummin, formerly held by Aubrey and his wife Margery of Geoffrey, for life only;⁴ by lease from Isabel they held one third of this property, and Geoffrey also quitclaimed this in 1288.⁵ Margery de Wittlebury held ½ fee here in 1305⁶ and John de Wittlebury was one of the four lords in 1316.⁷ John de Wittlebury, kt., as chief keeper of the peace for Rutland, made attachments in 1336 on notorious offenders, exciting the rancour of John Harington and his brothers, Richard and Walter, and John, the vicar's brother, of Whissendine, who went with an armed force to his manor of Whissendine and wounded his son Thomas.⁸ In August John de Wittlebury was murdered by Richard Harington and Robert Crowe of Whissendine, who left the country.⁹ Aubrey, son of John de Wittlebury, succeeded¹⁰ and died in 1349, leaving Thomas his eldest son,¹¹ William about to become a monk, and John. Thomas died childless in 1353, and John succeeded to a manor decreased in value, partly through inundations, partly from the results of the Black Death.¹² He made a settlement in 1373¹³ and died in 1400, leaving two sons, Alfred¹⁴

and Richard. Alfred died in 1407, leaving a daughter Isabel aged four. It was said that he granted a quarter of the manor of Whissendine (i.e. probably the whole of Wittlebury manor) to Sir John Berkeley, kt., and others to defraud the King of the marriage of the heir.¹⁵ Isabel married Sir Henry Plessington, kt., of Burley, whose brother John lived at Whissendine,¹⁶ but on her death in Jan. 1460-1 the manor remained to Robert son of John, son of her uncle Richard Wittlebury.¹⁷ The next reference to the manor is in 1522, when Sir Maurice Berkeley, kt., of Wymondham (co. Leic.) died seised of this manor and half of Moorhall manor, leaving a grandson and heir Maurice.¹⁸ It was probably as guardian of his kinsman¹⁹ that John, Lord Hussey, held these manors.²⁰ The custody during the minority of Maurice, son of Maurice, heir male of John Berkeley, was granted to Richard Tresham in 1541.²¹ Maurice, under licence,²² alienated the manor to



BERKELEY of Wymondham. •Gules a chevron between ten crosses formy within a border argent.

Sir William Cecil and others in 1561,²³ probably for a settlement. He was again dealing with the manor in 1597,²⁴ as were Henry and Nicholas Berkeley in 1600.²⁵ Maurice died seised in 1600, leaving a son and heir Henry,²⁶ who in 1615 conveyed it to Sir Henry Mynn, kt.²⁷ Sir Henry, Lady Mary his wife, Katherine their daughter, and their household were from 1614 to 1641 presented for not attending their parish church at Whissendine.²⁸ Possibly about 1684²⁹ the manor passed to the Sherard family, when Philip Sherard acquired the manors of Powis and Moorhall, and has since descended with them.

In 1336 the capital messuage is mentioned which was said to be in ruins in 1353.³⁰ The windmill, referred to in 1288, had no suitors after the Black Death in 1349.³¹

The church of **ST. ANDREW**, one **CHURCH** of the finest in the county, consists of a chancel 40 ft. 6 in. by 18 ft. with north and south transeptal chapels respectively 24 ft. by 16 ft. and 30 ft. 6 in. by 19 ft., clearstoried nave of five bays 67 ft. 9 in. by 19 ft. 3 in., north aisle 13 ft. wide, south aisle 19 ft. 3 in. wide, south porch, and west tower 13 ft. square, all these measurements

⁹⁰ Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 11 Hen. IV, no. 10.

⁹¹ Ibid. Mich. 11 Hen. IV, no. 7.

⁹² Tomb in Whissendine church (Wright, op. cit. 135); Nichols, *Hist. of Leics.* iii, 198.

⁹³ Recov. R. Mich. 23 Hen. VIII, ro. 127; East. 12 Eliz. ro. 635; *Cal. Pat. R.* 1547-8, p. 63; Feet of F. Rutl. East. 17 Eliz.

⁹⁴ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 199 n.

⁹⁵ Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 1652.

⁹⁶ Chan. Inq. p.m. 18 Edw. II, no. 75.

⁹⁷ *Cal. Inq.* viii, no. 31; x, no. 245.

⁹⁸ Chan. Inq. p.m. 9 & 10 Edw. IV, no. 43.

⁹⁹ i.e. the date of death of this earl.

¹ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), cclxiv, 137. This document says 'before 18 Edw. II,' apparently confusing John Balliol with the earlier 'John le Scot.'

² *Cal. Inq. Misc.* i, no. 856.

³ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1258-66, p. 467.

⁴ Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 13 Edw. I, no. 11.

⁵ Ibid. Mich. 16 Edw. I, no. 22.

⁶ *Feud. Aids*, iv, 204.

⁷ Ibid. 208.

⁸ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1334-8, p. 353. The following year trespassers arrested at Whissendine, then within the verge of the forest, were rescued from the king's bailiffs at Stamford (ibid. 509).

⁹ *Cal. Inq. Misc.* ii, no. 1508.

¹⁰ *Cal. Inq.* viii, no. 31.

¹¹ Ibid. ix, no. 411.

¹² Ibid. x, nos. 112, 201. His grandmother Katherine had a third part as dower and died 1354-5 (ibid. 245; *Cal. Fine R.* 1347-56, p. 421). He had livery 1355-6 (*Abbrev. Rot. Orig.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 235) and in 1369 of ½ of ⅔ held by Aubrey's widow (*Cal. Close R.* 1369-74, p. 19).

¹³ Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 47 Edw. III, no. 64.

¹⁴ Chan. Inq. p.m. 1 Hen. IV, pt. i, no. 41.

¹⁵ Ibid. 8 Hen. IV, no. 48.

¹⁶ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 178.

¹⁷ Chan. Inq. p.m. 9 & 10 Edw. IV, no. 43; *Feud. Aids*, iv, 214, gives past history.

¹⁸ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), xxxix, 93.

¹⁹ Metcalfe, op. cit. 68.

²⁰ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xii (ii), 187 (4).

²¹ Ibid. xvi, g. 947 (6).

²² Pat. R. 3 Eliz. pt. 8, m. 21.

²³ Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 3 & 4 Eliz.

²⁴ Ibid. Div. Cos. Mich. 39 & 40 Eliz.

²⁵ Ibid. Rutl. Mich. 42 & 43 Eliz.

²⁶ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), cclxiv, 137.

²⁷ Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 13 Jas. I.

²⁸ Irons' Notes, Archd. Visit.

²⁹ Wright, op. cit. p. 134.

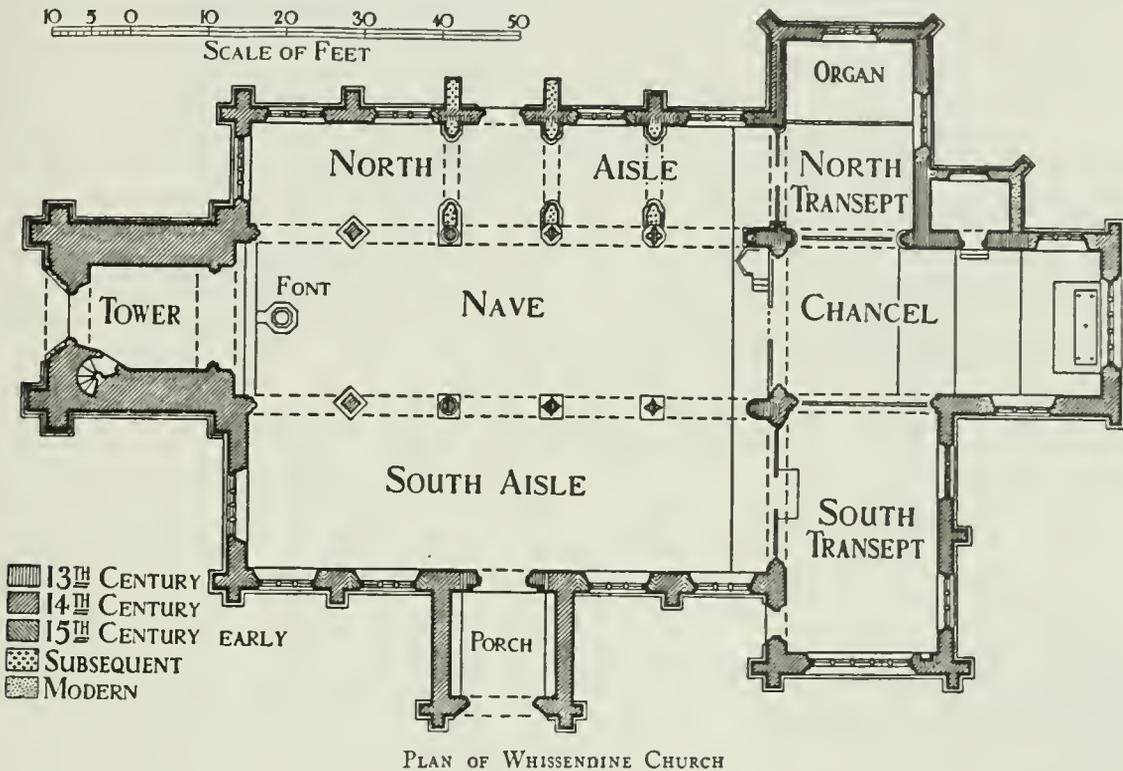
³⁰ Chan. Inq. p.m. 10 Edw. III (1st nos.), no. 33; 27 Edw. III (1st nos.), no. 65.

³¹ Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 16 Edw. I, no. 22; Chan. Inq. p.m. 23 Edw. III, pt. 2 (1st nos.), no. 153.

being internal. The width across nave and aisles is 56 ft. 6 in. There is a small vestry on the north side of the chancel.

The south side of the chancel, the aisles, clear-story and tower are faced with ashlar, but elsewhere the walling is of rubble, or coursed dressed stones; the roofs are all of low pitch and leaded, except that of the porch, which is covered with stone slates. There are plain parapets to the chancel, but those of the aisles and clearstory are battlemented; the lead of the transept roofs overhangs. Internally, except

which separate the north transept from the chancel and from the north aisle of the nave. In the 14th century, after its appropriation in 1311, a general reconstruction and enlargement of the church took place, when a transeptal chapel was added on the south side, or a former one enlarged, the chancel remodelled, the south aisle widened and a porch built, the nave extended westward by a bay, and the tower added. The north transept also was either reconstructed or remodelled at its north end, and the outer wall of the north aisle apparently rebuilt on the old



PLAN OF WHISSENDINE CHURCH

in the chancel, the plaster has been stripped from the walls.

No part of the present building is older than the 13th century. A church is known to have existed in the 12th century, and though evidence of its plan is wanting, it is not unlikely that it was an aisleless building with a tower between the nave and chancel and a transeptal chapel on the north side of the tower in the position of the present north transept. It is, however, possible that, instead of its developing normally from an earlier plan, the 13th-century building was set out afresh with aisled nave of four bays, chancel, and north transeptal chapel as at present. The existing four eastern bays of the nave, with three piers on each side, are of this period, together with the south doorway and the arches

foundations. In widening the south aisle the old doorway was re-used, but no other external feature of 13th-century date has survived. During the 15th century new windows were inserted in the aisles and the clearstory erected. Repairs of a minor nature are recorded in the 17th century,³² but no extensive scheme of restoration appears to have been carried out until 1865-70,³³ when the chancel, being in a ruinous state, had most of its details renewed; the chancel arch and the wall over the south transept were also rebuilt. The north transept, then separated from the church and used as a Sunday-school room,³⁴ was opened out, a west gallery and the old high pews removed,³⁵ and the fabric generally put into a state of repair. The tower and porch were restored and the whole of the church repointed in 1920.

³² Visitations in 1605, 1619 and 1681 give some indication of the state of the fabric in those years. In 1605 the west end of the church and the north aisle were unpaved and the south aisle 'not yet paved but in the doing,' the north door and minister's seat were in some decay, and the porch was 'not all paved.' In 1619 all the nether windows, two windows in the north aisle, and four southwards towards the top of the church were part dawked up, and three others wholly;

the church wanted pargetting and whitening with lime, and there was a muck-hill at the west end of the steeple. In 1681 it was ordered to new pave the chancel and the church alley, to underpin and repave the porch, to new whitewash the chancel and amend the leads, to new whitewash and paint the church and to repair the steeple (*Ruil. Mag.* iv, 42-43).

³³ Under the direction of Sir G. G. Scott and Mr. J. Goddard, architects. When instituted in 1864 the Rev. E. L.

Horne found the church in a deplorable condition.

³⁴ Its use as a day school had been discontinued since the death of the last Earl of Harborough, 1859.

³⁵ In 1862 the whole of the furniture was described as 'very poor, especially the altar and rails.' The custom of colour-washing the pillars, arches, and walls was then well attended to (*T. Paradise in Stamford Mercury*, 29 Aug. 1862).

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

The chancel is covered for about half its length by the transepts, and also on the north side by a small modern vestry, which is said to occupy the site of a former sacristy. The five-light east window dates from the restoration, but its tracery was altered in 1912³⁶ and is now Perpendicular in character. The three-light lateral windows, one on each side, are also modern, in the style of the 14th century, and the lower part of the walls is panelled. The fittings are all modern.³⁷ No ancient ritual arrangements survive, but the original altar slab, found in the floor at the restoration, has been set up.³⁸ The 13th-century arch between the chancel and north transept is of two chamfered orders on half-round responds with moulded capitals and bases and hood-mould with head-stops on the side towards the chancel. The capitals are enriched with nail-head (east) and dog-tooth (west). The wider 14th-century arch to the south transept is of two orders, each with two hollow chamfers, on half-round responds with fillets, and moulded capitals and bases. The arch between the chancel and the nave is of the same character, but modern, the inner order on clustered responds and the outer continued to the ground. There is a modern low stone screen, or dwarf wall.

The north transept is now used as an organ-chamber. It has diagonal buttresses of two stages with cusped triangular heads, and a good three-light pointed window with curvilinear tracery in the north wall, the hollow moulding of which is enriched with ball-flower; the east window is modern. The 13th-century arch between the transept and nave aisle is of two chamfered orders, the outer dying into the wall, the inner on half-round responds with moulded capitals and bases; the capital on the north side is enriched with nail-head.³⁹

The south transept, or chapel, is of two bays, with pairs of three-stage angle buttresses and two much-restored windows of three lights in the east wall, with plain intersecting tracery and hood-moulds with notch-stops. In the south wall is a large transomed window of five lights with shafted jambs, the top of which was cut away when the transept roof was lowered in the 17th century.⁴⁰ The sill and jambs of the window apparently belong to the 14th-century opening, but otherwise the window is of 15th-century date, with moulded mullions and elaborate transom with strawberry-leaf enrichment. The upper lights have sevenfoil cusping, but below the transom the openings are quatrefoiled. A 13th-century piscina at the east end of the south wall suggests that the 14th-century transept replaced

an older chapel, though the piscina may have belonged to some other part of the church; it has a moulded trefoiled head on shafted jambs with moulded capitals and bases, groove for wooden shelf and fluted bowl. At the north end of the east wall is an image bracket supported by a head. The transept stands in front of the aisle about 10 ft. and has a pointed doorway in the west wall, of three double hollow chamfered orders with moulded imposts. The 14th-century arch between the transept and the aisle is of two double hollow chamfered orders on clustered and filleted responds with moulded capitals and bases.

There are modern Gothic screens of the time of the restoration between the chancel and transepts, and one of later date (1925)⁴¹ between the north transept and aisle. The screen between the south transept and aisle was originally the screen between the chapel and ante-chapel of St. John's College, Cambridge, and was acquired for Whissendine church in 1869, when the old college chapel was pulled down.⁴² It is of early 16th-century date, with three openings on each side of the doorway, traceried upper openings and coved top with carved rail. The doors are of Renaissance design, with strapwork panels, Ionic pilaster covering the meeting stiles and dented cornice.⁴³

Of the 13th-century nave arcades that on the north is somewhat the earlier; the four arches are of two moulded orders with hood-mould on the side towards the nave, the outer order and soffit of the two middle arches being enriched with nail-head. The hoods have small head-stops over the first and second piers and a larger head over the third. In the piers there is great variety of treatment. The east respond is very slightly keeled and has a capital of stiff foliage through which shows a face, and a much restored moulded base. The first pier from the east consists of a cylinder with four attached columns slightly keeled, with moulded bases and capitals carved with stiff leaf foliage and a face on the south side; the bases stand on a diagonal plinth. The second pier is square on plan with attached filleted columns, the capitals and bases as before, but the third pier is a plain cylinder with moulded base and stiff leaf capital in which are two faces. All the bases are waterholding. These three piers, owing to the settlement of the foundations, have a considerable list to the north, necessitating the erection at a later period⁴⁴ of strongly buttressed transverse arches across the aisle, the two westernmost being further strengthened by large supporting buttresses on the outside.

In the south arcade the arches are of two moulded

³⁶ The window was filled with stained glass at this time.

³⁷ In 1912 a carved and gilded reredos, by C. E. Kempe, was erected, the walls panelled, and the floor of the sanctuary paved with marble as a memorial to Cecil Chaplin.

³⁸ Stones composing a 14th-century reredos were also found, but were deposited in the north transept, where the paint peeled off. The reredos was 9 ft. 2 in. long and had a Crucifixion in the centre, with paintings of St. Peter and St. John on either side. There were also representations of St. Andrew and St. Margaret and the emblems of the four Evangelists. In 1906 the authorities of the church made use of them in repairing the bench tables of the porch (*Trans. Rutl. Arch. Soc.* (1923), 53).

³⁹ The south respond is covered by a square buttress to the height of and including the lower portion of the capital.

⁴⁰ An inscription formerly existing inside recorded that 'The Right Honourable Lady Abigail Sherard new roofed this chancel A.D. 1640' (*Stamford Mercury*, 29 Aug. 1862).

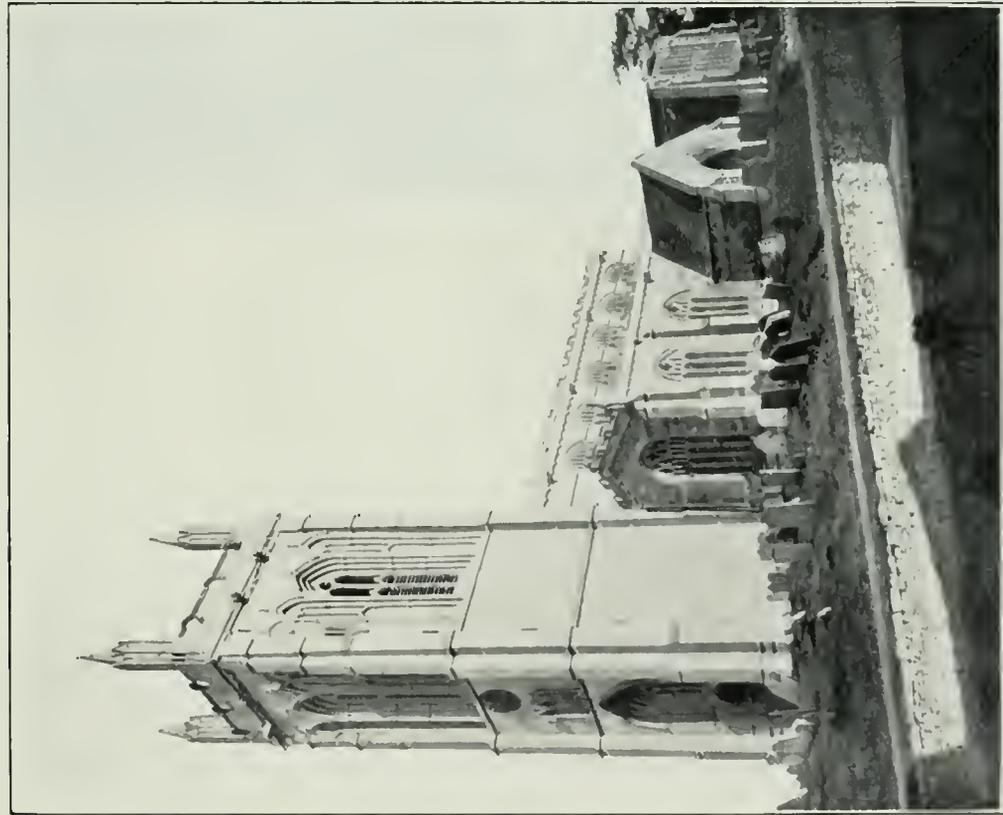
⁴¹ In memory of Emily Cecilia Chaplin, who bore the cost of the reredos and improvements in the chancel in 1912.

⁴² As no place could be found for it by Sir Gilbert Scott in the new chapel, the screen was acquired by Mr. B. W. Horne, brother of the Rev. E. L. Horne, vicar (1864-1906), and erected in Whissendine Church.

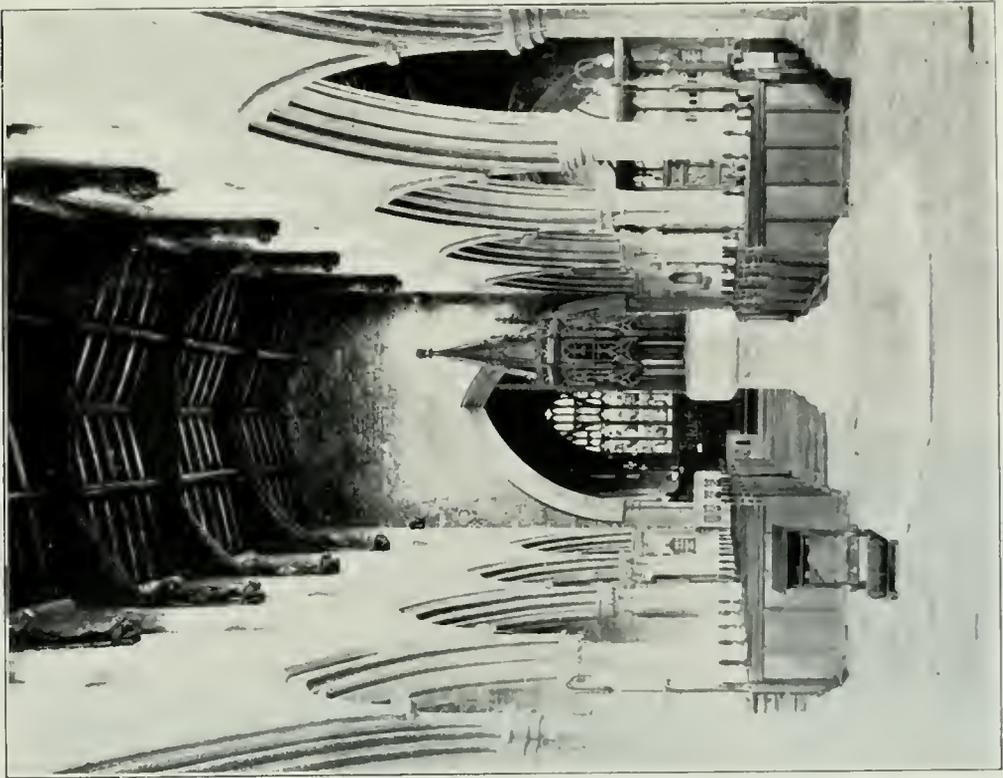
⁴³ The screen must have been made

between 1511 and 1516, but it was probably somewhat altered during the mastership of William Beale (1638-44), when a big organ screen and gallery were apparently made in this position. There is a rose carved on the meeting pilaster of the doors, and above it a shield charged with a fleur-de-lys.

⁴⁴ The date is not recorded, but from its appearance the work would seem to be of the 17th century or later. The arches are pointed and spring from heavy rounded jambs with moulded imposts and bases, built against the piers and the north wall of the aisle. Above the arches the wall is carried up to the aisle roof. A similar treatment has had to be applied to the north arcades of Garthorpe and Wyfordby churches (co. Leic.).



WHISSENDINE CHURCH FROM THE SOUTH-WEST



WHISSENDINE CHURCH: THE INTERIOR, LOOKING EAST



WHITWELL CHURCH FROM THE SOUTH-EAST

orders with hood-moulds on both sides stopped with large heads, on piers more or less corresponding with those opposite, but differing in detail. The east respond is a half-round with plain bell capital and restored moulded base, and the first pier is a cylinder with four attached keel-shaped columns with moulded⁴⁵ capitals and bases on a square plinth. The second pier is like that opposite, but the capitals of the columns are moulded, and the third is a cylinder with moulded capital ornamented with a trail of six-leaved flowers, and moulded base on a long square plinth. In the south arcade the base mouldings are only slightly hollowed.

The 14th-century westernmost pier of each arcade is square on plan, with hollowed angles and four attached filleted columns with moulded capitals and bases, on a diagonally placed plinth, and the responds are similar in character; the arches are moulded. Cut in the face of the south-east respond is a 14th-century trefoil-headed niche,⁴⁶ flanked by small brackets, and in the north wall of the north aisle, immediately west of the easternmost window, a plain pointed niche with chamfered hood-mould, but no ancient ritual arrangements in connection with either of the aisle altars remain.⁴⁷

The south doorway is in the middle bay, with two windows on each side, and the north doorway is directly opposite. The 13th-century south doorway has a pointed arch of two orders, the inner order consisting of a wide hollow enriched with large dog-tooth ornament, now cut away, on moulded⁴⁸ jambs and imposts; the outer moulded order rests on disengaged banded shafts with moulded bases and capitals enriched with nail-head. The hood-mould has head-stops. The arch of the 14th-century north doorway is of a single chamfered order on moulded imposts.

The west window of the south aisle is of four cinquefoiled lights with vertical and curvilinear tracery, double hollow chamfered jambs, and hood-mould continued along the wall as a string; the tracery is earlier in character than that of the other aisle windows, which are all 15th-century insertions, and this window is perhaps contemporary with the rebuilding of the aisle. The corresponding window in the north aisle is also of four cinquefoiled lights divided into two groups by a master mullion, with plain double chamfered jambs, and elaborate tracery with three battlemented transoms. The lateral windows of the aisles fall into two groups, the two windows east and west of the doorways being similar in design on north and south. All the windows are of three cinquefoiled lights with hoods continued as a string along the walls, but stopping at the buttresses, and differ only as regards the character of the tracery. In the easternmost pair of windows on each side this includes a transom and large sexfoil opening in the head, whilst in the other pair there is no transom and the head of the middle light has a quatrefoiled circle. In both aisles the hollow string below the

parapet is enriched with heads and four-leaved flowers, and there is an animal at the north-west angle above the buttress.

The porch is 13 ft. square internally, with stone bench tables and a pointed doorway of three continuous double hollow chamfered orders, with moulded imposts, and hood with head-stops; the high-pitched gable has a plain coping.

The clearstory has six pointed, transomed windows on each side, of three cinquefoiled lights with vertical tracery, the openings below the transoms being trefoiled. The hoods are continued as a string along the walls. The nave roof is of seven bays⁴⁹ and is mainly 15th-century work, but some earlier material is said to have been re-used.⁵⁰ The tie-beams, struts, ridge and purlins are moulded and the wall-pieces are carved with a series of full-length figures, some playing musical instruments, supported on corbels in the form of crouching figures. There are also carved foliated bosses. The line of the 14th-century roof remains on the east face of the tower at the level of the clearstory windows. The lean-to roof of the north aisle is also in the main original, with moulded middle purlin and two good moulded principals at the west end, with curved struts resting on carved corbels. The roof of the south aisle is modern.

The magnificent west tower, 100 ft. high, has much in common with that of Oakham,⁵¹ especially in the treatment of the west window and doorway and of the angle turrets and parapet; it is of three stages, the upper stage being very lofty, but is without a spire.⁵² The tower is built of Barnack stone and has a boldly moulded plinth, pairs of buttresses its full height but diminishing at each stage, massive octagonal pinnacles or angle turrets and parapet with three round-headed openings on each side. The vice is in the south-west angle.⁵³ The west doorway and window are contained within a lofty pointed arch of three moulded orders, on jambs composed of three engaged and thrice banded shafts, with moulded capitals.⁵⁴ The window is of three lights⁵⁵ with reticulated tracery, and the doorway has a pointed arch of two moulded orders on moulded imposts. Above, in the middle stage, as at Oakham, are three slightly ogee niches, formerly containing statues, but now empty. On the north and south the two lower stages are blank. In the bell-chamber are pairs of tall and deeply recessed windows of two trefoiled lights on the north and east sides, with quatrefoils in the heads, divided horizontally by trefoiled ogee transoms; the arches are of three moulded orders on twice banded shafts with moulded capitals and bases, and the wall space on either side is filled with blind tracery of the same character in single narrow arches. On the south and west sides, where the position of the openings is affected by the vice, one of the windows is omitted and the remaining wall space is filled with blind tracery. Below the parapet is a cornice of ball-

⁴⁵ The keel does not appear in the capitals, and only in the upper part of the bases.

⁴⁶ It now contains a modern figure of St. Andrew.

⁴⁷ Before the restoration there is said to have been evidence of an altar at the base of the south-east respond.

⁴⁸ The moulding is a bold filleted bowtell.

⁴⁹ There is no clearstory window in the westernmost bay.

⁵⁰ *Rutl. Mag.* v, 37. But there appears to have been some reconstruction in the 18th century. On the westernmost is painted 'This roof erected Ano. Dni. 1728.' The pitch of the 13th-century roof appears over the chancel arch and on the tower wall.

⁵¹ The tower at Oakham is larger, being 16 ft. square internally. Whissendine

tower was by tradition built by Margaret, Countess of Kent.

⁵² Internally there are indications that a spire was intended, but evidence of its being built is wanting.

⁵³ It terminates with a pyramidal stone roof inside the parapet.

⁵⁴ The bases are gone.

⁵⁵ Much of the cusping of the lights has been broken away.

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

flower and heads and a fine series of grotesque gargoyles, two on each side. Internally the tower is lined with ashlar and opens into the nave by a lofty arch of three richly moulded orders,⁶⁴ on jambs composed of three engaged columns or shafts with moulded capitals and bases.⁶⁷

The 14th-century font has a small octagonal bowl, four sides of which have sunk quatrefoil panels, the designs on the other sides being merely set out. The stem, base and cover are modern. The Ketton stone pulpit was erected in 1888.

In the north aisle are two broken 13th-century coffin lids,⁶⁸ the crosses on which have stems with 'omega' ornament, and in the south transept is a small Jacobean altar table with baluster legs.

The alabaster tomb of Bartholomew Villers and his wife, recorded by Wright,⁶⁹ has disappeared. The south transept contains mural monuments to Bennet Sherard⁶⁰ (d. 1711) and his wife Dorothy (d. 1744), daughter of Lord Fairfax, and of Lieut.-General the Hon. Philip Sherard (d. 1790). In the north aisle is a memorial to nineteen men of the parish who fell in the war of 1914-19.

There are six bells, two trebles having been added to a former ring of four. The first is by Taylor of Loughborough 1906, the second by Warner of London 1897, the third by Edward Arnold of Leicester 1785, the fifth a recasting by Taylor 1872, and the fourth and tenor by Henry Oldfield of Nottingham 1609.⁶¹ The bells were rehung in 1919.

The plate consists of a cup and cover paten of 1627-8, two patens of 1721-2, made by Edward York, and a flagon of 1705-6.⁶²

The registers before 1812 are as follows: (i) all entries 1577-1640;⁶³ (ii) 1637-48, 1655-70; (iii) 1670-1718; (iv) 1718-39; (v) baptisms and burials 1740-86, marriages 1740-54; (vi) baptisms and burials 1787-1812; (vii) marriages 1754-October 1787; (viii) marriages 1787-1812.

The iron entrance gates to the churchyard, on the south side, were erected in 1927 in memory of Seymour Pleydell Bouverie.

The church of Whissendine was *ADVOWSON* given by Earl Simon de St. Liz III to St. Andrew's, Northampton, between 1174 and 1184. It must, however, have reverted to the donor, as Earl David, between 1195 and 1198, granted it in free alms to the abbey

he had founded in 1178 at Lindores, Fife.⁶⁴ Helen de Moreville and Alan her son claimed the advowson in 1213,⁶⁵ and Alan's granddaughter Divorgilla de Balliol in 1289;⁶⁶ but Lindores Abbey remained in possession.⁶⁷ To Master Roland, the Pope's chaplain, who became rector in 1245, they gave a pension of 10 marks out of the church.⁶⁸ From 1275 the pension and tithes were collected by Sempringham Priory;⁶⁹ and in 1309 Lindores Abbey had licence to alienate the advowson to Sempringham,⁷⁰ which in February 1310-11 received leave to appropriate the church,⁷¹ and in 1319 and 1327 the Archbishop of Canterbury received papal mandates for the purpose.⁷² Edward III ratified the appropriation in 1343,⁷³ a vicarage having been ordained in 1321.⁷⁴ In 1356 the prior complained that Sir John Harington, kt., and others would not let his servants carry goods to his manse here.⁷⁵ The priory remained in the possession of Sempringham until the Dissolution of the Monasteries,⁷⁶ and in 1552-3 the rectory, church and advowson of the vicarage were granted by Edward VI to John Whiteing of Garthorpe (co. Leic.) and Thomas Freman,⁷⁷ who conveyed them to Edward Watson in the same year.⁷⁸ In 1571-2 Edward Watson, senior, and his son and heir Edward alienated them to George Sherard,⁷⁹ who, however, seems to have presented to the church in 1561 and 1566.⁸⁰ The advowson remained in the Sherard family, lords of the manor, until the death of Philip Sherard, the sixth and last Earl of Harborough. It was sold with the manor in 1861, when it was purchased by the Earl of Gainsborough. He sold it in 1864 to the father of the then vicar, who left it to his son, Rev. E. L. Horne. The Rev. E. L. Horne sold it in 1901 to Mr. John Gretton of Burton-on-Trent,⁸¹ whose son, Col. the Rt. Hon. John Gretton, M.P., is patron.

Rev. Thomas Potter Hurst, by his *CHARITIES* will dated 1 August 1799, bequeathed the sum of £50 3 per cent. consolidated bank annuities to the vicar of Whissendine, the income to be distributed among the poor on Christmas Day. The endowment now consists of a sum of £50 2½ per cent. Consols held by the Official Trustees and producing in dividends £1 5s. per annum, which sum is distributed by the vicar and churchwardens among many recipients.

Poor's Land (or Clawson's Gift).—There are no deeds or writings in the parish relating to this charity.⁶² The endowment consists of 16 acres 2 roods of land

⁶⁴ On the west side the orders are plainly chamfered. The two outer orders on either side die out.

⁶⁷ The larger middle half-round shaft, and that facing east, are filleted, and the latter is slightly keeled.

⁶⁸ Each is in three pieces.

⁶⁹ *Hist. of Rutl.* (1684), 135, where the inscription is given. The date of death is not stated. Bartholomew Villers was the second son of William Villers of Brokesby, Leicestershire. Laird says that the tomb was much defaced even in the early part of the 18th century.

⁶⁰ He was Member of Parliament for Rutland 1689-98, and was father of the second Earl of Harborough, who was also buried at Whissendine (1750).

⁶¹ North, *Cb. Bells of Rutl.* 163, where the inscriptions on the old bells are given. The fifth is a recasting of a bell dated 1709.

⁶² Hope, *Cb. Plate in Rutl.* 11. The cup is inscribed with the names of the churchwardens 1627; the two patens and the flagon were given by the Hon. Philip Sherard, who was Member of Parliament for Rutland in 1708-20 and became second Earl of Harborough in 1732.

⁶³ The first volume, lost about 1699, was found in the parish chest at Saxby, Leicestershire, in 1913, and returned to Whissendine. It has been restored and rebound.

⁶⁴ *Cbartul. of the Abbey of Lindores* (Scot. Hist. Soc.), 15, 109, 239.

⁶⁵ *Rot. Litt. Claus.* (Rec. Com.), i, 139.

⁶⁶ *Cal. Doc. Scotl.* ii, 380.

⁶⁷ *Rot. Rob. Grosseteste* (Cant. & York Soc.), 172; *Linc. Episc. Reg. Bp. Sutton* (Visit.); *Cal. Pat. R.* 1292-1301, p. 596.

⁶⁸ *Cbartul.* op. cit. 120-1.

⁶⁹ *Pope Nich. Tax.* (Rec. Com.), 65b.

⁷⁰ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1307-13, p. 195.

⁷¹ *Ibid.* p. 320; *Inq. a.q.d.* lxxxiv, 16.

⁷² *Cal. Pap. Lett.* ii, 185, 273.

⁷³ *Cal. Close R.* 1343-6, p. 76.

⁷⁴ *Linc. Episc. Reg. Instit. Bp. Burghersh.* The return of 1428 still mentions Lindores Abbey (*Feud. Aids*, iv, 211).

⁷⁵ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1354-8, p. 390.

⁷⁶ *Valor Eccles.* (Rec. Com.), iv, 102.

⁷⁷ *Pat. R.* 6 Edw. VI, pt. 3, m. 19.

⁷⁸ *Com. Pleas, Deeds Enr. Hil. 6 & 7 Edw. VI, m. 7 d.*

⁷⁹ *Feet of F. Rutl. Hil.* 14 Eliz.

⁸⁰ *Rutl. Mag.* iv, 10.

⁸¹ *Ibid.* iv, 9; *Inst. Bks.* (P.R.O.). Settlements were made by *Recov. R. Hil.* 8 Jas. I, ro. 82; *Feet of F. Rutl. Hil.* 8 Jas. I, and in 1753 Sir Jos. Danvers and Thomas Noel presented: *Inst. Bks.* (P.R.O.).

⁸² This charity is said to have been given by Rev. Thomas Hurst, vicar (1778 to 1802).

situated at Long Clawson, known as the 'Whissendine Poor's Land.' The land is let at £40 per annum and the income is distributed by the parish council among 85 families by way of vouchers redeemable for groceries, bread, meat, coal, etc.

Henry Jackson's Charity, founded by will proved

3 May 1910, consists of a sum of £241 11s. 7d. India 3 per cent. stock held by the Official Trustees and producing in dividends £7 4s. 8d. per annum. The income is distributed by the vicar and churchwardens annually at Christmas in coals, meat or money to about 24 recipients.

WHITWELL

Witewell (xi cent.); Wytewell, Whitewelle, Whitewell (xiii cent.); Wittwell, Whightwell, Whitwell (xvi cent.).

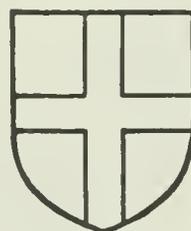
The little parish of Whitwell, of which the population is only 84 persons, covers an area of 629 acres, chiefly grassland. The land falls from about 400 ft. above the Ordnance datum in the north-west to about 200 ft. along the stream which forms the boundary between Whitwell and Hambleton on the south-east, and is crossed at Bull Bridge. The soil is clay and limestone on a subsoil of Inferior Oolite.

The pretty little village lies in a hollow along the road from Oakham to Stamford, which is crossed at the west end of the village by a road from Edith Weston to Exton. On the north side of the road are the cottages, mostly of stone with thatched, tiled or stone roofs, while on the south, at the bottom of the hollow, are a large stone-built farm and the Rectory. Through the garden of the latter runs a small stream having its source probably from the 'White Well,' flowing from the side of the hill on which the church stands.

In the time of Edward the Confessor *MANOR WHITWELL* belonged to Besy, but by 1086 it had passed to the Countess Judith,¹ and, with her other lands, followed the descent of the Earldom and Honour of Huntingdon. It was granted with Whissendine (q.v.) by David, Earl of Huntingdon, to Richard son of Hugh de Moreville, constable of Scotland.² Richard (d. 1189) was succeeded by his son William (d. 1196), and he by his sister Helen, wife of Roland, son of Ughtred de Galloway. Richard granted lands in Whissendine to the Templars, which were confirmed to them by Helen in 1213,³ and it seems probable that the overlordship of Whitwell passed about the same time to the Prior of St. John of Jerusalem, who presented to the living in 1227⁴ and in whose hands the overlordship appears in 1286.⁵ The rectory and advowson were held by the prior with the overlordship of the manor and probably with them a manor of the rectory. The prior's possessions here were attached to the Preceptory of Dingley, the prior of which held his courts with view of frankpledge at Whitwell.⁶ The overlordship and the rectory with the other possessions here of the Hospitallers were confiscated by Henry VIII in 1540.⁷ In 1543 they were granted

to Thomas Grey, who within six weeks sold them to Sir John Harington.⁸ From that date they followed the descent of Exton (q.v.).

In 1086 a certain Herbert was sub-tenant of the Countess Judith in Whitwell.⁹ We do not know his descendants, but in 1317 we have a reference to John son of Henry Byron of Whitwell,¹⁰ and to John Byron of Whitwell in 1333.¹¹ Joan widow of John Byron and Sir William Burton were holding lands in 1348 in Little Hambleton (q.v.), which for a long time passed with Whitwell,¹² and in 1382 Sir Thomas, son of Sir William Burton, died seised jointly with his wife Margery of the manors of Whitwell and Little Hambleton, held of the Prior of St. John of Jerusalem by the service of 6s. and a pound of pepper. Sir Thomas left a widow Margery and



THE KNIGHTS HOSPITALLERS. *Gules a cross argent.*

a son and heir Thomas, aged fourteen,¹³ who in 1412 conveyed both manors to Roger Flower (Flore) and Cecily, his second wife.¹⁴ Roger, son of Thomas Flower, and grandson of Roger and Catherine, daughter of William Dalby of Exton, Roger's first wife, had a son Richard, who in 1523 died seised of lands and a watermill in Whitwell which he held of the Prior of St. John of Jerusalem.¹⁵ His son and heir, Roger, settled the property in the same year on the marriage of his son Richard with Alice, daughter of John Harington of Exton.¹⁶ Roger was sued by Elizabeth, his father's widow, for a capital messuage, lands and a watermill here,¹⁷ and was succeeded in 1527 by his son Richard. Richard died in 1540,¹⁸ leaving a son John, aged five years at the time of his father's death. John married Margery, daughter of Anthony Colley of Glaston,¹⁹ and by her he had two sons, Roger and John. Roger died young. John son of Richard settled the manors of Little Hambleton and Whitwell in 1588.²⁰ He died in 1612 according to his inquisition taken in 1621, when his son John was 50 years of age.²¹ This John married Jane, daughter of Ralph Sheldon, and they were both returned as recusants.²² He conveyed the manor in 1618 to Edward and William Sheldon,²³

¹ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 139a; for the descent of the Earldom and Honour of Huntingdon see under Exton.

² *Cal. Doc. Scotl.* i, 294. Hugh de Moreville was living in 1130 (*Pipe R.* 31 Hen. I (Rec. Com.), 134).

³ *Cal. Doc. Scotl.* i, 576.

⁴ Irons' Notes, Linc. Episc. Reg. (Instit.).

⁵ *Plac. de Quo Warr.* (Rec. Com.), 672.

⁶ Ct. R. pt. 197, no. 90; Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), xl, 23.

⁷ *V.C.H. Northants*, ii, 143.

⁸ Pat. R. 35 Hen. VIII, pt. 8, m. 1; pt. 6, m. 24; *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xviii (1), g. 981 (18); (ii), g. 107 (35).

⁹ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 139a.

¹⁰ Feet of F. Mich. 11 Edw. II, no. 18.

¹¹ *Ibid.* 7 Edw. III, no. 18.

¹² Add. Chart. 33603.

¹³ Chan. Inq. p.m. 6 Ric. II, no. 24; *Cal. Close R.* 1381-85, p. 502.

¹⁴ Feet of F. Hil. 13 Hen. IV, no. 11.

¹⁵ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), xl, 23.

¹⁶ *Ibid.* xlvi, 6.

¹⁷ Early Chan. Proc. bdle. 384, no. 20.

¹⁸ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), xviii, 71.

¹⁹ *Visit. Rutl.* (Harl. Soc.), 1618-19, 30.

²⁰ Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 30 & 31 Eliz.

²¹ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), dclxvi, 80.

²² Irons' Notes, Archd. Visit.

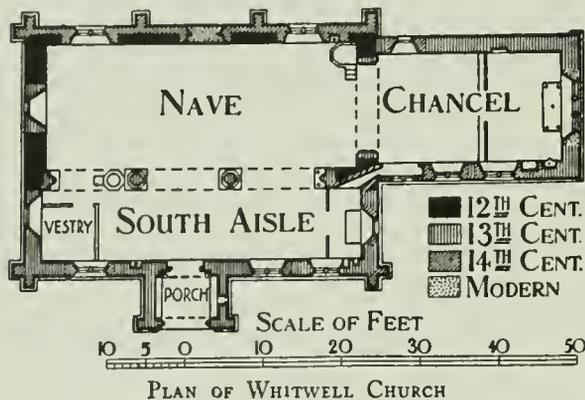
²³ Feet of F. Rutl. East. 16 Jas. I.

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

probably on behalf of Sir Baptist Hicks, to whom it was conveyed in 1620.²⁴ From this date the descent has followed that of Exton (q.v.), and the trustees of the ninth Earl of Gainsborough, a minor, are lords of the manor.

The church of *ST. MICHAEL* stands *CHURCH* on an elevated site at the west end of the village, and consists of chancel 23 ft. 6 in. by 14 ft., nave 40 ft. 3 in. by 15 ft. 9 in., with double bell-cote over the west gable, south aisle 9 ft. wide, and south porch. These measurements are all internal. The width across nave and aisle is 27 ft. 4 in.

The building is of rubble throughout, with high-pitched roofs to the chancel, nave and porch, covered



with modern red tiles. The aisle has a leaded lean-to roof. The walls are plastered internally and all the roofs are modern.

Although a church existed here at the time of the Domesday Survey (1086), the evidence of a Saxon origin for the present building, in the long-and-short work in the quoins at the south-east angle of the nave, is far from certain;²⁵ the south-west angle is of normal construction. The nave probably represents an aisleless 12th-century church. About the middle of the 13th century the south wall was pierced by an arcade of three bays, and an aisle added on that side. The bell-cote is also of this period and the chancel may have been rebuilt on its present plan at this time, though it was considerably altered in the 14th century, when new windows were inserted and a new roof erected. New windows were also made in the aisle, and the north wall of the nave was heightened and provided with new windows, doorway and buttresses. There was a general restoration of the church in 1881, and in 1930 the

chapel of Our Lady²⁶ at the east end of the aisle was restored to its proper use.²⁷

The chancel is without buttresses, and at the west end the lower part of the north and south walls for a length of about 6 ft. appears to belong to the first building. The east window is modern, of three lights with reticulated tracery. In the south wall are two pointed 14th-century windows of two trefoiled lights, the easternmost being rather earlier in character; its hood-mould has notch-stops, while those of the other window are carved heads. Further west is a smaller much-restored pointed window of two trefoiled lights and large quatrefoil in the head, which, though its sill ranges with those of the other openings,²⁸ may have served the purpose of a low-side window. Internally the opening has a wide rear arch, the moulding of which is carried down the jambs, and a hood-mould with head-stops. A squint from the chapel in the aisle, directed towards the high altar, cuts through the western jamb of this window. At the west end of the north wall is a widely splayed single-light trefoil-headed low-side window²⁹ with rebated sill and chamfered rear arch, but the rest of the wall is blank. In the usual position on the south side is a trefoil-headed piscina recess with fluted bowl, and adjoining it a single sedile with rounded trefoiled head and wave-moulded jambs. In the wall above are indications of a blocked window.³⁰ On the north side of the chancel, level with the floor of the sanctuary,

is a small plain rectangular recess.³¹ Along the top of the side walls inside are moulded stone cornices, the upper member of which is enriched on the north side with alternate ball-flower and large dog-tooth, and on the south with ball-flower and other ornament, including heads, four-leaved flowers, and a single dog-tooth. The pointed chancel arch is of two chamfered orders, the inner continuous and the outer dying out, with hood-mould on the nave side only. The mortice holes for the lower rails of a screen, two on each side, remain in the inner faces of the jambs.³²

The nave arcade consists of three pointed arches of two chamfered orders, without hood-moulds, springing from octagonal pillars with moulded capitals and bases and from filleted keel-shaped responds. At the foot of the eastern respond is a floor drain with two large holes, apparently communicating with a stream from the well which gives its name to the village.³³ The nave is lighted at the west end by a widely splayed uncusped lancet window, and on the

²⁴ Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 18 Jas. I.

²⁵ Three stones in the upper part of the wall have somewhat the appearance of the long-and-short work of the Saxon builders, but immediately below these the masonry has been disturbed and the quoins removed. Lower down again, where the quoins still remain, they have none of the characteristics of long-and-short work. It is not unlikely that the south-east angle was reconstructed when the squint was made through the wall from the aisle to the chancel. The proportions of the nave, the side walls of which are about 23 ft. in height, are not specially remarkable.

²⁶ Founded in the 14th century.

²⁷ The east end of the aisle had long been used as a vestry. The vestry is now transferred to the west end. At the

Visitation in 1570 it was said the seats in the church were foully broken 'and there standeth a great holy water stock.' In 1605 there was no pulpit, the Communion Table was in decay, and the King's Arms were not in the church; while in 1619 the stonework of the chancel northward was in decay, and there were certain ruins at the west end of the church. In 1632 the church and chancel are said to have wanted whitening and painting. The churchyard was enlarged in 1864. (Irons' Notes, Archd. Visit.)

²⁸ The sills are 4 ft. above the chamfered plinth of the chancel.

²⁹ Its sill is 3 ft. 6 in. above the ground outside: one of the hooks for the shutter remains inside.

³⁰ There are no traces of it outside;

its splayed jamb is about 13 in. from the east wall.

³¹ The recess is 21 in. wide and 5 in. deep, but the head, or liotel, is only 2 in. thick: the space behind is blocked about 4 in. above the head, but may have contained a flue, possibly for an altar-bread oven.

³² The lower is about 18 in. above the floor, the other about 5 ft.

³³ The holes are about 5 in. in diameter. It is said that in heavy rains the water can be heard running below, and has even been known to rise through the openings after an exceptional rainfall. The water comes from a well in a farmyard to the west of the church and afterwards emerges in the rectory garden: ex inform. Mr. V. B. Crowther-Beynon.

north side by two 14th-century pointed windows of two trefoiled lights and quatrefoil in the head, one in each end bay. The blocked doorway has a continuous moulding. Above the easternmost window, high in the wall, is a blocked rectangular opening.

The aisle has pairs of angle buttresses with triangular mould heads and is lighted on the south side by three pointed windows, each of two trefoiled lights, two of which are east of the porch. Of these the easternmost has plate tracery and soffit cusping and the next is very little later in style, but that west of the porch is of more fully developed 14th-century type. The 14th-century east window is a single-light cinquefoiled opening set high in the wall above the aisle altar, the piscina of which has a trefoil-headed recess and sexfoil bowl.³⁴ Adjoining it is a small pointed aumbry, and on either side of the window is an image bracket.³⁵ There was also an altar at the east end of the nave north of the chancel arch, the piscina of which, with trefoiled head, fluted bowl and wooden shelf, remains in the north wall. Another piscina, about 4 ft. west of the south doorway, with plain pointed recess and mutilated bowl, if in its original position, would indicate a former chapel at the west end of the aisle.³⁶

The south doorway is apparently of early 13th-century date, with semicircular arch of two orders, the inner with a roll and fillet continued down the jambs as attached shafts below moulded impost, and the outer widely chamfered on banded shafts with moulded bases and capitals enriched with nail-head. The doorway may have been originally an insertion in the 12th-century nave and moved outward when the aisle was added, but it is possible that, notwithstanding its earlier appearance, it is not chronologically anterior to the arcade. This is rendered the less unlikely from the fact that nail-head ornament also occurs in the outer doorway of the porch, which has a pointed arch of two chamfered orders, the outer continuous and the inner on half-round responds. On the western capital the nail-head is carried all round, but on the east side the capital proper is carved with small leaves, the nail-head ornament being confined to the outer portion of the same stone above the jambs. In the east wall of the porch is a roughly shaped loop cut in a single stone, and on the west side of the doorway two scratch dials.³⁷ Over the east gable of the nave is a well preserved wheel-cross. The bell-cote is of simple design with separate coped gables and pointed openings of two chamfered orders with plain impost, the whole on a square unbuttressed base. There are smaller arched openings facing north and south. Of the two bells the smaller is by Joseph Eayre of St. Neots, 1749, and the second is a medieval bell, probably of the

early 15th century, inscribed *In honore Sancti Eiidii*.³⁸

The bowl of the late 12th-century font was originally square, the sides ornamented with rudely incised patterns (crosses, arches, etc.), but the angles have been cut away, reducing the bowl to an irregular octagon. It stands on a modern circular stem and base and has a flat 17th-century cover.

The Jacobean oak pulpit has been restored and stands on a modern stone base; four of its six sides are panelled, but the cornice is new. The altar rails are also of the 17th century, but the contemporary altar table is now in the restored chapel.

On the north wall of the nave, to the east of the doorway, a small portion of old plaster with coloured decoration³⁹ has been retained.

The quatrefoil of the south-west window of the chancel is filled with 14th-century glass depicting a Crucifixion beneath a canopy, upon a grisaille background of fruited oak,⁴⁰ and there is also some old glass in the easternmost window of the south wall of the aisle.⁴¹ In the vestry is a dug-out chest, with modern lid.

The medieval altar slab is now in the floor of the chancel, used as a gravestone for Daniel Nailer, rector (d. March 1689-90),⁴² and in the nave are three large floor slabs, one apparently that of Richard Whitwell, the founder of the chantry,⁴³ another with incised cross and bold Gothic lettering to one of the Flore family,⁴⁴ and the third with a fragment of a 15th-century inscription. There is also a smaller slab with the indent of a half-length brass figure. In the chancel, before the altar, are the gravestones of Thomas Frere, rector (d. 1667), and two of his wives, and of John Isaac, rector (d. 1743), and, west of the rails, of Alexander Noel, esquire (d. 1667), and his wife. There is a wall tablet to Charles Spencer Ellicott, rector for sixty years (d. 1880), placed by his son, the Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol.

The plate consists of a cup and cover paten, the cup with only the maker's mark l.g., the paten with the London date-letter for 1570-71, and a breadholder of 1718-19.⁴⁵ There are also a pewter paten and flagon.

The registers before 1812 are as follows: (i) baptisms and burials 1716-84;⁴⁶ marriages 1716-54; (ii) baptisms and burials 1786-1812; (iii) marriages 1754-1812.

There were a priest and church *ADVOWSON* at Whitwell in 1086, which then belonged to the Countess Judith.⁴⁷ With the overlordship of the manor (q.v.) the rectory and advowson were conveyed to the Prior of St. John of Jerusalem before 1227.⁴⁸ From this date until the seizure of the lands of the Hospitallers in 1540

³⁴ The jambs of both window and piscina are wave moulded. The piscina is only 18 in. above the floor.

³⁵ Since the restoration of the chapel in 1930 the brackets have been occupied by figures of St. Michael and St. Gabriel.

³⁶ The front of the bowl is cut away, but the drain hole remains.

³⁷ One on a jambstone of the doorway, the other on the porch buttress.

³⁸ North, *Cb. Bells of Rutland*, 164. The cross on the second bell is one found elsewhere c. 1405-20. The name of St. Giles (Egidius) is seldom found on

church bells. It occurs at Dickleburgh, Norfolk, and at St. Lawrence, Ipswich.

³⁹ A flowing scroll in red.

⁴⁰ Nelson, *Anc. Painted Glass in Engl.* 174.

⁴¹ Chiefly tabernacle work in the lower part of the lights, and in the quatrefoil of the tracery. These fragments were found within the squint when it was opened out in 1881.

⁴² It is broken into two pieces; the crosses are distinct.

⁴³ Round the verge is a fragmentary inscription in 14th-century characters: '✠ Hic jacet . . . de Whitwell . . . deus . . .'

⁴⁴ Inscription: '[Thomas?] filius Rogeri Flore qui obiit xix . . . m.cccc . . .' The date appears to be 1455.

⁴⁵ Hope, *Cb. Plate in Rutl.* 20. The breadholder is engraved with a coat of arms—a lion passant between three fleurs-de-lys.

⁴⁶ Several leaves are cut out at the end of the first volume. An inscription in the book records that the leaves had been removed before June 1818.

⁴⁷ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 139a.

⁴⁸ Institution on presentation of prior. Irons' Notes, Linc. Episc. Reg. (Instit.).

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the rectory and advowson were in their hands.⁴⁹ Henry VIII presented to the church in June 1543,⁵⁰ but the rectory and advowson seem to have passed with the grant of the possessions of the preceptory of Dingley in Whitwell in that year to Thomas Grey, who conveyed them to Sir John Harington two months later.⁵¹ Sir James Harington, son of Sir John, presented in 1555; and in 1560 presentation was made by John Flower,⁵² possibly as farmer, as the Haringtons again presented at the next vacancy. The advowson passed to Sir Baptist Hicks, who had acquired the manor,⁵³ and since that date the patronage has descended with the manor (q.v.).

In 1345 Richard de Whitwell, prebendary of the prebend of Empyngnam in the cathedral church of Lincoln, obtained licence to alienate two messuages and lands in Great and Little Hambleton and Whitwell to a chaplain to celebrate divine service daily in the church of Whitwell on behalf of Richard, his parents and all faithful dead.⁵⁴ The chantry thus

founded almost equalled the rectory in value at the Dissolution.⁵⁵ Its existence was ended by the Chantry Act of 1547, when the Commissioners found Sir Robert Suckling, a priest 'of honest conversation and good report,' singing daily 'within Our Lady Chapel in the parish church' of Whitwell for the souls of Richard de Whitwell and other faithful departed.⁵⁶ Within five years the capital messuage, land and other tenements in Whitwell which had belonged to this chantry were acquired by John and William Dodyngton of London.⁵⁷ Its possessions in other parishes included a messuage called 'le Chanterie House of Whightwell' and lands in Hambleton and a messuage and lands in Owersby (co. Linc.).⁵⁸

From the 14th to the 16th century the hospital of Burton St. Lazarus owned lands in Whitwell with, in 1345, a messuage held of the master by Richard de Whitwell.⁵⁹ Another religious house, St. Mary of Broke, once possessed land in this parish.⁶⁰

There are no charities in this parish.

⁴⁹ *Valor Eccles.* (Rec. Com.), iv, 344.

⁵⁰ Irons' Notes, loc. cit. ⁵¹ See Manor.

⁵² Irons' Notes, loc. cit. ⁵³ *Ibid.*

⁵⁴ Inq. a.q.d. cclxxiii, 11; *Cal. Pat. R.* 1343-45, p. 431.

⁵⁵ *Valor Eccles.* loc. cit.

⁵⁶ Chant. Cert. Rutl. 39.

⁵⁷ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1550-53, pp. 313-15.

⁵⁸ *Ibid.* 1548-49, pp. 215-16; 1553, pp. 160-61.

⁵⁹ *Ibid.* 1550-53, p. 315; Inq. a.q.d. cclxxiii, 11; *Valor Eccles.* (Rec. Com.), iv, 152.

⁶⁰ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xi, g. 519 (13); Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 8 Ann.

THE HUNDRED OF WRANDIKE

CONTAINING THE PARISHES OF

BARROWDEN	LIDDINGTON	PILTON
BISBROOKE	LUFFENHAM, NORTH	SEATON WITH THORPE-BY-WATER
CALDECOTT	LUFFENHAM, SOUTH	STOKE DRY
GLASTON	MORCOTT	TIXOVER

The parishes of which Wrandike, or, as it is sometimes called, Barrowden Hundred, is composed formed the Hundred of Hwicceslea West referred to in the Northamptonshire Geld Roll of about 1075, and the southern portion of the Wapentake of Wiceslea in the county of Northampton of the Domesday Survey of 1086.¹ The Wapentake of Witchley (Wiceslea) had become part of Rutland by 1129 and probably some years earlier (see account of the County), but the earliest reference to the hundred under the name of Wrandike is in 1166.² In 1287 the lords of some five manors in this hundred claimed view of frankpledge, which would detract from the importance of the hundred court—namely, Isabel de Paunton in Glaston, the Bishop of Lincoln in Liddington, Stoke Dry, Snelleston and Caldecott.³ Wrandike, where probably the court was held, may be 'Wrongedich' in North Luffenham.⁴ Barrowden became the head of the hundred. The hundred was probably the soke which Michael de Hanslope held at Barrowden, and was undoubtedly the hundred which Henry II confirmed to William Mauduit, his chamberlain, grandson of Michael, in 1163.⁵ William Mauduit, his grandson, died seised of Wrandike Hundred in 1256, leaving a son William,⁶ who became Earl of Warwick and died in 1268 without issue, leaving as his heir his nephew, William de Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick. Edmund, Earl of Cornwall, who held the county, apparently claimed the hundred as an escheat, and in 1294 Warwick brought an action for its recovery.⁷ The case seems to have been left undecided, as Cornwall died in 1300 seised of Martinsley, Alstoe and East Hundreds, but from Wrandike he received nothing because it was in the hands of the Earl of Warwick.⁸ From this time the hundred passed with the manor of Barrowden (q.v.) and now belongs to the Marquess of Exeter.

¹ *V.C.H. Northants*, i, 259, 296, 297.

² *Plac. de Quo Warr.* (Rec. Com.), 671.

⁴ Feet of F. Rutl. 31 Hen. III, file 3, no. 35. Cf. *Plac. de Quo Warr.* loc. cit.

⁵ Add. MS. 28024, fol. 22; *Plac. de Quo Warr.* (Rec. Com.), 673.

⁷ *Abbrev. Plac.* (Rec. Com.), 234, 285.

² *Pipe R. Soc.* ix, 65.

⁶ *Cal. Inq. Hen. III*, no. 387.

⁸ *Cal. Inq.* iii, no. 604 (p. 462).

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BARROWDEN

Berchedon (xi cent.); Bergeduna, Bergendona, Bereweydun (xii cent.); Berewedone, Berwedon, Berudon (xiii cent.); Beroughden, Bergdon, Berughdon (xiv cent.); Barowdon, Barowghdon (xv cent.); Baroughden, Barrowdon (xvi cent.).

Barrowden is a parish of 1,813 acres on the Northamptonshire border of Rutland. The river Welland forms its southern and part of its eastern border, separating it from Wakerley in Northants. The village lies about a quarter of a mile south of the main road from Uppingham to Peterborough. A branch road, called the Drift, leads north to South Luffenham, crossing the main road near the northern boundary of Barrowden. Just beyond the southern boundary, in Wakerley parish, is Wakerley and Barrowden station on the London Midland and Scottish Railway.

The somewhat straggling village is now small, though in 1349 it was of sufficient importance to have a market and fair.¹ In 1489 the stalls in the market place were standing vacant, and no markets were held.² Before 1526 the stalls had been destroyed and the fair was no longer held.³

The cottages are mostly of stone with thatch or stone roofs, and several have become derelict. On a house to the north-east of the church is a panel

1588

inscribed R.O.C. and an extension of the same house s.w.

bears the date and initials 'z.c., 1648.' A house at the north end of the village has a panel inscribed 'F^rs 1724,' and inserted in the wall of a modern building known as Church Cottage, near the entrance to the churchyard, is a stone with the following inscription, in reference, apparently, to the passing of funerals: WHY LOOKS THOU | ON MY DUST IN | PASSING BY THOU SE[E] | ST NOE WONDER THO[V] | THYSELF MUST D[IE].

A windmill, first mentioned in 1315, which no doubt stood near the present Windmill Inn, had been completely levelled to the ground by 1526.⁴ Another windmill had been built apparently by 1680, when a windmill and land in Barrowden were conveyed by John Blake and William Woodcocke and their wives to John Browne.⁵ The watermill, which still stands on the Welland, is mentioned in 1259, when William Mauduit, the king's chamberlain, leased it to Richard Gubiun at a rent of 40s.⁶ It is mentioned in a survey of the manor in 1315,⁷ and was let at the same rent in 1526.⁸ The mills in Barrowden belonged in 1654 to John, Earl of Exeter.⁹

A dovecote is mentioned in the various surveys, and in 1297 there were two fishponds. The smithy was leased in 1526 at a rent of 12d.

Little now remains of the woods of Barrowden. In 1086 the King's manor contained 6 acres of spinney,

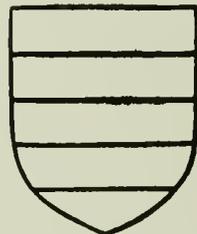
and free warren was granted to its later lords in 1284 and 1352. A wood called Conyngber is mentioned in 1315.¹⁰ The custody of the woods of Barrowden was granted in 1479 to John Digby,¹¹ but after this date they are not specifically mentioned. The woodland was probably in the north of the parish, and the present Coppice Leys, Shire Oaks and Welland Spinney may have formed part of it.

The parish was inclosed in 1880-2. Place-names found in the records are Lanercocks Thing¹² (xvi cent.), Schapwellefeld, Stonfield, and Thurkelbrigge (xiii cent.),¹³ now Turtle Bridge.

Robert Ward was rector of Barrowden in the time of the Civil War. He was ejected from the living in 1646, 'being forced to fly in the midst of Divine Service for fear of some soldiers that pursued him.'¹⁴ He had £15 allowed him out of the living, but his rectory was restored to him in 1660.¹⁵

At the time of the Domesday Survey *MANOR* the king held *BARROWDEN* with its members, Seaton, Thorpe, Morcott, Bisbrooke, Glaston and Luffenham.¹⁶ Henry I farmed the manor of Barrowden for £20 to William de Albini.¹⁷ Barrowden seems to have been granted

to Maud, queen of Henry I (1100-1118), who gave Barrowden, Luffenham, Seaton and Thorpe to Michael de Hanslope, and they then became part of the Barony of Hanslope (co. Bucks).¹⁸ Michael left a daughter Maud, who was given in marriage by the king to William Mauduit, son of William Mauduit of the Domesday Survey.¹⁹ Barrowden was confirmed to William



MAUDUIT. *Argent two bars gules.*

Mauduit, son of William Mauduit and Maud Hanslope his wife, about 1141,²⁰ with the soke which Michael de Hanslope had there, and he paid 100 marks of gold as relief.²¹ He received releases from William the chaplain, son of Robert de Hanslope, and Roger son of William de Albini, for all claims which they had by inheritance from their fathers.²² He married Isabel daughter of Simon de St. Liz, Earl of Northampton,²³ and was succeeded about 1196 by his son Robert,²⁴ who held Barrowden in 1210-12 by the service of being chamberlain.²⁵ Robert and his son William Mauduit both took arms against King John and forfeited their lands. In 1217 both returned to fealty to Henry III, and their lands were restored.²⁶ William married Alice daughter of Waleran de Newburgh, Earl of Warwick, and died holding Barrowden in 1256.²⁷ He was succeeded by his son William, who became Earl of Warwick in 1263. He

¹ *Cal. Chart. R.* 1341-1417, p. 109.

² *Mins. Accts. Hen. VII.* 1337.

³ *Rents. & Surv. (Gen. Ser.)*, ptf. 14, no. 14.

⁴ *Chan. Inq. p.m. 9 Edw. II*, no. 71; *Rents. and Surv. loc. cit.*

⁵ *Feet of F. Rutl. Trin.* 32 Chas. II.

⁶ *Add. MSS.* 28024, fol. 50.

⁷ *Chan. Inq. p.m. 9 Edw. II*, no. 71.

⁸ *Rents. and Surv. loc. cit.*

⁹ *Recov. R. Trin.* 1654, ro. 90.

¹⁰ *Chan. Inq. p.m. 9 Edw. II*, no. 71.

¹¹ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1476-85, p. 138.

¹² *Rents. and Surv. loc. cit.*

¹³ *Chan. Inq. p.m. Edw. I*, file 86 (1).

¹⁴ *Magna Brit.* iv, 544.

¹⁵ *Ibid.*

¹⁶ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 140.

¹⁷ *Add. MSS.* 28024, fol. 49.

¹⁸ For descent of Barony of Hanslope see *V.C.H. Bucks.* iv, 349.

¹⁹ Dugdale, *Baronage*, i, 398.

²⁰ *Add. MSS. loc. cit.*

²¹ *Ibid.*

²² *Ibid.* 49 d, 50.

²³ *Ancestor*, v, 210.

²⁴ *Red Bk. of Exch. (Rolls Ser.)*, pp. xxxviii, 90, 109.

²⁵ *Ibid.* 535.

²⁶ *Rot. Litt. Claus. (Rec. Com.)* i, 237, 241, 270, 304, 325, 328; *Cal. Pat. R.* 1216-25, pp. 36, 43.

²⁷ *Cal. Inq. Hen. III*, no. 387

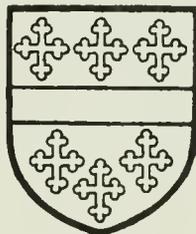
married Alice daughter of Gilbert de Segrave, but died without issue in January 1268.²⁸ Barrowden then passed to William de Beauchamp the younger, son of his late sister Isabel. He became Earl of Warwick and in 1284 obtained a grant of free warren in Barrowden, Morcott and South Luffenham.²⁹ He was succeeded in 1298 by his son Guy. A dovecote and two fishponds were, at that date, attached to Barrowden Manor, and a number of free tenants held one or more bovates of land.³⁰

In 1303 Guy, Earl of Warwick, obtained licence to demise the manor for four years to the executors of Edmund, late Earl of Cornwall.³¹ By an undated charter, Robert de Clyve granted to Guy, Earl of Warwick, a tenement called 'Huphall' in Barrowden, which had belonged to William de Clyve, his brother,³² parson of Barrowden in 1313.³³ William had bought an estate in Barrowden in 1311 from Benedict de Cokefield and Amice his wife.³⁴ Guy died seised of the messuage called Uphall in 1315, as well as the capital messuage of the manor.³⁵ Just before his death, his son Thomas being then an infant, Guy had obtained from the king a promise that his executors should have wardship of all his land 'citra Trentam'.³⁶ In 1317, however, the custody of the manors of Barrowden and Luffenham was granted to Hugh le Dispenser the elder.³⁷ Hugh le Dispenser, Earl of Winchester, still held the manor in 1322.³⁸

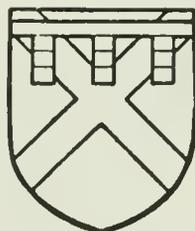
Thomas, the young Earl of Warwick, was knighted in January 1330, having livery of his lands in February 1329, though he was not yet of age.³⁹ He was marshal of the army in France in 1346, and distinguished himself at Crécy (1346) and at Poitiers in 1356. He settled Barrowden manor in tail on his son Guy and Philippa his wife in 1342,⁴⁰ and two years later he settled it on his sons Reynburn, Guy and Thomas in tail male successively, with remainder in default to John, the Earl's brother.⁴¹ In 1349 Thomas obtained a grant of a market every week on Saturday in his manor of Barrowden, and a yearly fair, lasting four days, on the eve and feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist and the two following days.⁴² In 1352 he had a grant of free warren in this manor.⁴³ He died of the pestilence at Calais in November 1369,⁴⁴ and was succeeded by his second but eldest surviving son Thomas, to whom, Guy and Reynburn both being dead, livery of the manor of Barrowden was made in 1370.⁴⁵ In June 1397 Thomas mortgaged Barrowden, Greetham, Preston and Uppingham manors to Thomas, Earl of Nottingham, for £5,333 6s. 8d.⁴⁶ In July following the king, with the aid of the Earls of

Nottingham and Rutland, suddenly arrested the Earl of Warwick,⁴⁷ whose manors were granted in September to Thomas, Earl of Nottingham, Earl Marshal, in tail male.⁴⁸ Warwick was sentenced to perpetual imprisonment and was banished to the Isle of Man. On the deposition of Richard II in 1399, Warwick was restored. He died in 1401, when his son Richard succeeded.⁴⁹ Richard was tutor and governor of the young King Henry VI, in accordance with the wish of Henry V. He was made Lieutenant-General and Governor of France and Normandy in 1437, and he died at Rouen while holding the office in 1439. His estates passed to his young son Henry, who was created the premier earl of England in 1444, in consideration of his father's services, and was advanced to the dignity of Duke of Warwick in the following year. He died on 11 June 1446, when the dukedom expired, but his other honours devolved on his only child Anne, then aged three years. She died, while still an infant, in January 1448-9, when the estates passed to her aunt Anne, wife of Richard Neville, Earl of Salisbury and Warwick. After his death at the battle of Barnet in 1471 the Warwick estates were settled on his elder daughter Isabel, wife of George, Duke of Clarence, the rights of his widow Anne being ignored. Isabel died in 1476 and the Duke in 1478.⁵⁰ Their son Edward being a minor, the lands passed into the king's hand. The office of bailiff of the lordship of Barrowden and the custody of the woods was granted in 1479, during Edward's minority, to John Digby, one of the esquires of the king's household.⁵¹ In 1487, however, Anne, Countess of Warwick, obtained an Act of Parliament for her restoration to the Warwick estates, but this seems only to have been done to enable her to convey them to the Crown, for in the same year she surrendered them, including Barrowden manor, to Henry VII.⁵²

In 1486 the office of steward of the manor was granted to Simon Digby, probably the second son of Sir Everard Digby who was killed at the battle of Towton in 1461, but he surrendered it in 1515 in favour of Everard Digby, his brother.⁵³ In 1519 Sir John Digby, third son of Sir Everard (d. 1461), and Simon his son were appointed bailiffs of the lordship in survivorship,⁵⁴ with a fee of 4d. a day. In a similar grant made in 1529 it was stated that Sir John had held the office of bailiff from 1500 to 1519 without fees, for which he was then to receive payment.⁵⁵ The reversion of the office of steward after Sir Everard Digby's tenure was granted in 1535 to Roger



BEAUCHAMP. *Gules a fesse between six crosslets or.*



NEVILLE. *Gules a saltire argent and a label gobony argent and azure.*

²⁸ *Cal. Inq. Hen. III*, no. 679; G.E.C. *Complete Peerage*, viii, 55-6.

²⁹ *Cal. Chert. R.* 1257-1300, p. 271.

³⁰ *Chan. Inq. p.m. Edw. I*, file 86, no. 1.

³¹ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1301-7, p. 130.

³² *Add. MSS.* 28024, fol. 50.

³³ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1313-17, p. 17.

³⁴ *Feet of F. Rutl. Trin.* 5 Edw. II, no. 6.

³⁵ *Cal. Inq.* v, no. 615.

³⁶ *Cal. Fine R.* ii, pp. 255, 265.

³⁷ *Ibid.* p. 336; *Cal. Pat. R.* 1317-21, p. 124; *Cal. Close R.* 1313-18, p. 491.

³⁸ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1321-24, p. 168.

³⁹ *Cal. Close R.* 1327-30, p. 429.

⁴⁰ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1340-3, p. 516.

⁴¹ *Ibid.* 1343-5, p. 251; *Feet of F.*

Rutl. Trin. 18 Edw. III, no. 36.

⁴² *Cal. Chert. R.* 1341-1417, 109.

⁴³ *Ibid.* 126.

⁴⁴ G.E.C. *Complete Peerage*, viii, 57.

⁴⁵ *Cal. Close R.* 1369-74, p. 127.

⁴⁶ *Ibid.* 1396-99, pp. 123, 125.

⁴⁷ *Ibid.* 197.

⁴⁸ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1396-9, p. 220; *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 21 Ric. II, no. 137, m. 6 c.

⁴⁹ G.E.C. *Complete Peerage*, viii, 58 et seq.; *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 2 Hen. IV, no. 58.

⁵⁰ G.E.C. *loc. cit.*

⁵¹ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1476-85, p. 138.

⁵² *Mins. Accts. Hen. VII*, 1337; G.E.C. *loc. cit.*; *Feet of F. Div. Cos. Hil.* 3 Hen. VII.

⁵³ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1485-94, p. 91. Cf. Stoke Dry parish.

⁵⁴ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, iii, 442.

⁵⁵ *Ibid.* iv (iii), g. 5510 (26).

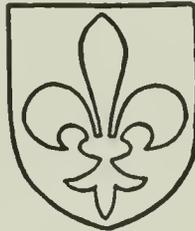
A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

Ratclyff, Usher of the Privy Chamber,⁶⁶ and in 1537 Kenelm Digby, son of Sir Everard (d. 1540), obtained a grant of the reversion.⁶⁷ In 1545 Kenelm Digby, grandson of Sir Everard (d. 1461), was holding the office with an annuity of 20 marks, and was exempted from attending the king in war.⁶⁸ Five years later the manor of Barrowden was granted to the Princess Elizabeth, in fulfilment of the will of Henry VIII, until she should be provided with a suitable marriage.⁶⁹ She surrendered the patent in 1551,⁶⁰ and the manor was granted in that year to the king's councillor, Sir William Cecil,⁶¹ and Mildred his wife. He was created Baron of Burghley in 1571 and died in 1598.⁶² His son and successor, Sir Thomas Cecil (d. 1623),⁶³ was created Earl of Exeter in 1605. He settled Barrowden manor with other estates in 1611 on his son William and grandson William, Lord Roos, in tail male with remainder to Sir Richard Cecil, younger son of Thomas, and his sons David and Edward Cecil. William, son of Thomas, succeeded, but died in 1640 without issue male, and William, Lord Roos, having predeceased him without leaving a son, and Sir Richard Cecil being dead, Barrowden manor with the title passed to David, under the entail. David died 18 April 1643, his only son John, Lord Burghley, being then fourteen years of age.⁶⁴ Frances, daughter of William, Lord Chandos, and widow of Thomas, first Earl of Exeter, was still alive at this time, having been 38 years younger than her husband, and was holding dower in Barrowden manor.⁶⁵

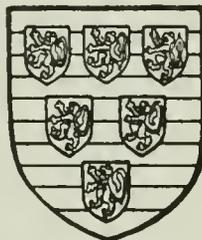
John, Earl of Exeter, and his son John Cecil settled the manor in 1670,⁶⁶ and from this date it has passed with the title of Earl or Marquess of Exeter.⁶⁷ William Thomas Brownlow, fifth Marquess of Exeter, is the present owner of Barrowden manor.

In 1086 Robert de Toeni, lord of Belvoir, held land here appurtenant to Seaton, and probably gave it to Belvoir Priory, as there are leases of an estate at Barrowden recorded in the Belvoir Chartulary.⁶⁸ The possessions of the priory were granted after the Dissolution to the Earl of Rutland, a descendant of Robert de Toeni the founder.

Thomas de Hotot of Clopton (co. Northants)



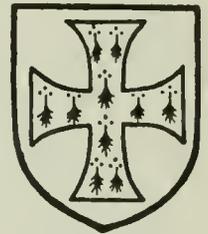
DIGBY. Azure a fleur de lis argent.



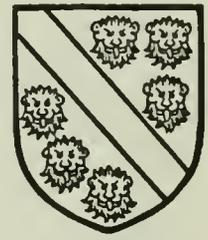
CECIL. Barry of ten argent and azure six scutcheons sable each charged with a lion argent.

gave to the Canons of St. Mary of Fineshade a small estate at Barrowden, which Richard his brother (living 1220) held of him, Robert de Hotot, another brother, being a witness to the gift.⁶⁹ At the Dissolution the property granted to Fineshade included one acre called Incroft, a rent of 5s. from the Chantry House, and a rent of 20s. from a messuage and land called Slawsons Thing⁷⁰ held by John Durant, in succession to his father John;⁷¹ for which rent they each had an exhibition in the priory for five years.⁷² John Durant died in 1552, holding of Sir William Cecil, as of the manor of Barrowden, a capital messuage in Barrowden which he had bought from Henry Lawrence alias Bothe.⁷³ John's son Rowland died in 1588, and his monument is still to be seen in the church. George Durant, son of Rowland, died in 1594, when the messuage passed to his sisters Dorothy, wife of Francis Hunt, and Anne Durant.⁷⁴ Francis Hunt lived at Barrowden, and the land of his son John Hunt⁷⁵ in Barrowden was sequestered in 1648.⁷⁶ John died in 1662, and his son William, who married Anne daughter of Charles Dale of Tixover, died about 1678, leaving two young daughters.⁷⁷ David Hunt, a younger son of John, also held a small estate in Barrowden.⁷⁸

A messuage and an acre of land had been given by William Mauduit, Earl of Warwick (d. 1267), to Peter de Wakerly.⁷⁹ In 1270 Walter de Lasseburne and others robbed and burned Peter's houses,⁸⁰ but Peter was still holding a messuage and lands in Barrowden of the Earl of Warwick in 1297.⁸¹ In 1333 Master William de Wakerly, parson of Kilworth (co. Leic.), granted lands to a chaplain at the altar of the Blessed Virgin in the parish church of Barrowden.⁸² In 1548 it was said that part of the endowment had been given by Edward II, by deed of 8 October 7 Edward II (sic), evidently referring to Wakerly's gift, the licence for which was dated 8 October 7 Edward III, and that the other part had been given by Richard Smyth and Thomas Nycholls, 'whereof no deeds are to be seen.'⁸³ The Chantry lands were granted by Edward VI to Thomas Cecil of London and Philip Bolde of London in 1552. The Ferme Place in the High Street of Barrowden opposite the Cross⁸⁴ and other lands belonging to David Philip's



DURANT. Sable a cross formy ermine.



HUNT. Azure a bend between six leopards' beads or.

⁶⁶ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, viii, 149 (10).
⁶⁷ *Ibid.* xii (i), g. 1330 (53); xiii (i), g. 646 (59).
⁶⁸ *Ibid.* xx (i), g. 621 (13).
⁶⁹ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1549-51, pp. 240-1.
⁷⁰ *Ibid.* 1550-53, pp. 88, 90.
⁷¹ *Ibid.* 198.
⁷² *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), ii, 428-30; *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), cclvii, 91.
⁷³ *Ibid.* cccxxiv, 84; *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), v, 216-18.
⁷⁴ *Chan. Inq. p.m. Misc.* dxxvii, 18.
⁷⁵ *Ibid.* dxxiv, 4.

⁷⁶ *Recov. R. East.* 22 Chas. II, ro. 23.
⁶⁷ *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), v, 219-24.
⁶⁸ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 141; *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* (Rutland MSS.), iv, 124, 125, 153.
⁶⁹ *Add. Chart.* 21532; *Feet of F. Rutl. Trin.* 4 Hen. III, no. 4.
⁷⁰ In 1353 Peter de Slauston of Barrowden was indicted for trespass of vert and venison in the forest of Rockingham (*Cal. Close R.* 1349-54, 577).
⁷¹ *Harl. R. Y.* i, 1; *Exch. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), dxcii, 11.
⁷² *Harl. R. Y.* i, 1; *Exch. Spec. Com.* 5027 (not now to be found).

⁷³ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), cxiv, no. 20.
⁷⁴ *Ibid.* cxlii, 55.
⁷⁵ *Visit. Rutl.* (Harl. Soc.), 1618-19, 16.
⁷⁶ *Cal. of Com. for Comp.* 88, 1944.
⁷⁷ *Visit. Rutl.* (Harl. Soc.), 1681-2, 26, 27.
⁷⁸ *Ibid.*
⁷⁹ *Cal. Inq. Hen. III*, no. 679.
⁸⁰ *Cal. Inq. Misc.* i, 1006.
⁸¹ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 26 Edw. I, file 86 (1).
⁸² *Cal. Pat. R.* 1330-34, 472; *Inq. a.q.d.* cxxvi, 6.
⁸³ *Chant. Certif.* 39, no. 2.
⁸⁴ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1550-3, pp. 443, 444.

chantry in Stamford (co. Linc.) were included in the grant. Sir William Cecil was still holding these lands in 1561.⁸⁵

The church of *ST. PETER* stands at *CHURCH* the western extremity of the village, and consists of chancel 31 ft. by 16 ft. 3 in. with north aisle or chapel 22 ft. by 11 ft. 9 in.,⁸⁶ clearstoried nave of two bays 36 ft. 6 in. by 17 ft. 6 in., north and south aisles 10 ft. 6 in. wide, south porch, and west tower 10 ft. 3 in. square, all these measurements being internal. The tower is surmounted by a lofty spire. The chapel is a continuation eastward of the north aisle of the nave and covers the chancel nearly its full length; it is now used as a vestry and organ-chamber.

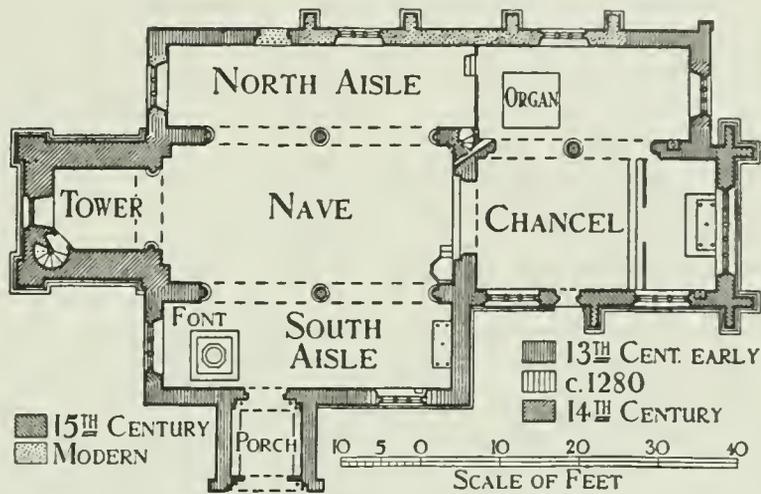
The building was restored in 1843-4, and on a more extensive scale in 1875, when the roofs were entirely renewed and blue slates substituted for lead, the greater part of the north wall of the north aisle rebuilt, a west gallery removed, and the chancel renovated. There was a further restoration in 1896.

The chancel and tower are faced with ashlar, but elsewhere the building is of rubble, and all the walls are plastered internally. The chancel and nave have plain parapets, continued in each case along the low-pitched east gable, but the roofs of the aisles and porch are eaved. The porch is covered with stone slates.⁸⁷

No part of the church as now existing is older than c. 1210, to which period the chancel arch and the dividing arcade between the chancel and former north chapel belong, but the plan has probably developed in the normal way from an aisleless 12th-century building, the nave of which covered the same area as at present. Little later in date come the nave arcades, and the south doorway and porch are also of the 13th century, the plan of the building, save for the tower, assuming its present form probably before the middle of the century, though a window in the south aisle is as late as c. 1280. In 1364 the church was said to be ruinous and a papal indulgence was granted to those who should assist in its repair.⁸⁸ With the money thus obtained the tower was probably erected towards the end of the 14th century, and the clearstory very soon after. The east and south walls of the chancel appear to have been wholly rebuilt in the 15th century.

The arcade between the chancel and chapel has two semicircular arches⁸⁹ of two chamfered orders,⁹⁰ springing from responds which below the moulded imposts are simple continuations of the arch, and from a dividing cylindrical pillar with circular moulded

capital and fully developed water-holding base. The arches are without hood-moulds and the responds have chamfered plinths. The pointed chancel arch is of two chamfered orders towards the nave,⁹¹ and springs from moulded imposts of the same character as those of the arcade. The chancel retains no other 13th-century features. It is divided externally into two bays and has pairs of buttresses at the eastern angles, moulded plinth, and string at sill level. The four-centred east window is of five cinquefoiled lights with vertical tracery, and stilted hood-mould with head-stops. In the south wall are two pointed windows of three lights with similar tracery, and a



PLAN OF BARROWDEN CHURCH

continuous moulded priest's doorway. The piscina recess has a pointed cinquefoiled head, but the bowl is gone; adjoining it, below the easternmost window, are two sedilia, with uncusped pointed arches within a rectangular frame. There is no screen, but the lower part⁹² of a late 15th-century rood stair, probably contemporary with the rebuilding of the chancel, remains on the north side of the chancel arch, with four-centred doorway in the north aisle. The stair is crossed by a squint directed to the chapel altar, the opening of which, on the nave side, is a quatrefoil within a square frame. The principals of the modern roof of the chancel are supported by six carved oak figures from the old roof, three of which are angels with musical instruments, and the others St. Michael, the Blessed Virgin, and St. Peter.

The nave arcades have wide pointed arches of two chamfered orders⁹³ springing from half-round responds and dividing cylindrical pillars. The south arcade is slightly the older, the pillar having a circular stiff-stalk capital with rather sparse foliage, the necking of which, towards the aisle, is raised and a small head inserted, perhaps to allow for a screen. In the north arcade the pillar⁹⁴ has a circular moulded capital, and the capitals of all four responds are also moulded, but differ in section on the north and south.

⁸⁵ *Leic. and Rutl. N. and Q.* ii, 85.

⁸⁶ Apparently the Lady Chapel, in which a chantry was founded in 1333.

⁸⁷ There was a custom of strewing the church with long grass rushes, which still survives, but is confined to the porch only (Inf. Mr. Crowther Beynon).

⁸⁸ *Cal. Pap. Lett.* iv, 38; *Cal. Pap. Pet.* i, 499.

⁸⁹ Before 1875 one of the arches had been blocked.

⁹⁰ Two orders towards the chancel, a single order towards the chapel.

⁹¹ It has a single square order on the east side.

⁹² Six steps remain. The sill of the doorway is 2 ft. above the floor. There is no trace of the upper doorway, but the wall is plastered.

⁹³ On the nave side only.

⁹⁴ The diameter of the north pillar is 18½ in., that of the south pillar 20½ in.

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

The bases are all water-holding. Both arcades are much restored,⁹⁵ and the hood-moulds are new. At the west end of each arcade is a length of wall of about 4 ft. 6 in.

The north chapel has a good 14th-century pointed east window⁹⁶ of three lights with reticulated tracery, and in the usual position a round-headed piscina with fluted bowl. The north window, and that of the nave aisle further west, are modern.

The south aisle is without buttresses, and has a pointed three-light window east of the porch with early geometrical tracery consisting of a quatrefoil and two cinquefoiled circles, c. 1280. The three-light west window is a mid-15th-century insertion, and at the east end is a rectangular recess high up in the blank wall. The piscina of the aisle altar has a rectangular trough below a rather flat ogee arch. The south doorway⁹⁷ is of early 13th-century date, with semicircular arch of three orders, the two outer chamfered, on angle shafts with moulded capitals and bases, but the shafts of the middle order have gone.⁹⁸ The rounded inner order is continued down the jambs below moulded imposts. The outer doorway of the porch is rather later in date, with semicircular arch of three moulded orders and hood-mould, the innermost order continuous and the others originally on angle shafts, the capitals of which alone remain.⁹⁹ The porch has a plain coped gable and short buttresses.

No ancient features remain in the north aisle with the exception of a blocked pointed doorway, above which, however, the walling is modern. The clearstory has three pointed windows on each side, of two cinquefoiled lights with a quatrefoil of irregular shape in the head.

The tower¹ is of three stages marked by strings, with moulded plinth and wide clasping buttresses. There is a vice in the south-west angle. The lofty bell-chamber stage has a pair of tall two-light pointed transomed windows in each face, with a band of sunk quatrefoils above. The west window in the bottom stage is of two lights with quatrefoil in the head and hood-mould with grotesque stops, and in the middle stage on each side is a sunk quatrefoil window. There is no corbel table, the spire rising from a simply moulded cornice: it has very low broaches and ribbed angles. The broach ridges are also ribbed, and the spire has gabled two-light openings on the cardinal sides, and single lights above on the alternate faces; near the top it is pierced with small quatrefoils.² Internally the tower opens into the nave by a pointed

arch of two chamfered orders,³ the outer continuous, the inner springing from half-round responds with octagonal moulded capitals and high circular moulded bases on octagonal chamfered plinths.

The font is ancient,⁴ and has a plain octagonal bowl on a small cylindrical banded stem and four octagonal⁵ legs with moulded capitals and bases. The pulpit is modern: it takes the place of an early 17th-century pulpit which was removed to Haringworth (Northants) in 1875. Three round-headed panels, with the date 1605 and initials of Richard Johnson, rector (1602-38), are worked up into a stand or receptacle⁶ for two early printed books, which formerly were chained to the desk.

On the north wall of the chancel, near the east end, is a small brass inscription from the tomb⁷ of Rowland Digby, rector, who died in 1546,⁸ and there is also a bench-end with two carved panels bearing respectively the Digby fleur-de-lys and the inscription 'Rowlandus Digbi Rector de Ba.'

The beautiful Renaissance freestone monument to Rowland Durant (d. 1588) is now on the north wall of the north aisle, opposite the entrance: its chief motive is a large coat-of-arms with helm and mantling, and the entablature is supported by Ionic pilasters.⁹ There is a floor slab to Edward Fawcner, gent., 1696, in the north aisle.

At the east end of the south aisle is a shrine erected to the memory of fourteen men of the parish who fell in the war of 1914-19.

During the restoration of 1875 traces of scroll wall painting were found under the colour wash on the north side of the chancel.

There are five bells, the treble, second and tenor recast by Taylor of Loughborough in 1916; the third by Francis Watts of Leicester, 1595; and the fourth an undated alphabet bell probably by Newcombe of Leicester.¹⁰

The plate consists of a cup and cover paten of 1569-70, kept in the original leather case, and a breadholder of 1842-3.¹¹

The registers before 1812 are as follows: (i) all entries 1603-1700; (ii) baptisms and burials 1701-1812, marriages 1701-54; (iii) marriages 1755-1812.

The advowson of Barrowden has *ADVOWSON* always followed the descent of the manor, the present patron being the Marquess of Exeter.

Tithes in kind were paid in the 16th century. In 1566 Robert Cave had 50 ewes and 40 lambs 'of which he paid 2 lambs of the tithe of 20 of them';

⁹⁵ The north arcade is said to have been rebuilt in 1875.

⁹⁶ Perhaps inserted c. 1333, when the chantry was founded.

⁹⁷ The door is not ancient, but the medieval scroll hinges and other ornamental ironwork have been retained.

⁹⁸ The outer bases are covered by the bench tables of the porch.

⁹⁹ The tops of the capitals are now only 4 ft. 6 in. above the ground. The arch has spread and pushed the jambs outward.

¹ The stone of the tower is said to have been quarried in a portion of the lordship known as Steeple Pits.

² The spire has several times been struck by lightning, the last time in August 1915, and the upper part rebuilt.

³ On the west side there are three orders, of which the two outer die into the wall.

⁴ It is perhaps contemporary with the early 13th-century work in the chancel.

⁵ More properly square, with chamfered angles.

⁶ It stands in the north-east angle of the nave, opposite the pulpit. The books are Erasmus' 'Paraphrase upon the Gospels' (1522), and 'The Newes out of Heaven' and eleven other treatises, printed in 1561.

⁷ The tomb, which stood on the north side of the chancel, was re-erected on the north side of the churchyard in 1875. It has the indent of the figure of a priest, as well as that of the inscription.

⁸ The inscription reads: 'Hic jacet Rowlandus Digbi clericus quōdam rector de Baradon qui obiit xviii die Aprilis Anno dni M^occccxvi cui aie ppietur

de.' The brass measures 17 in. by 3½ in.

⁹ Before 1875 the monument was on the east wall of the north aisle, partly hidden by a monument to Edmund Munton, 1831. The Munton tomb was restored to its original position in the churchyard in 1875, and the Durant monument placed where it now is.

¹⁰ North, *Cb. Bells of Rutl.* 120, where the inscriptions on the old bells are given. The old treble was by Alexander Rigby of Stamford, 1706, the second was by Watts, 1595, and the tenor by Alexander Rigby, 1704. The third is inscribed 'God save the Queene.'

¹¹ Hope, *Cb. Plate in Rutl.* 21. The date '1569' is on the foot of the paten. The breadholder is inscribed 'Barrowden 1842.'



BARROWDEN CHURCH FROM THE SOUTH-EAST



BARROWDEN CHURCH: THE INTERIOR, LOOKING EAST, SHOWING NAVE STREWS WITH RUSHES
ACCORDING TO ANCIENT CUSTOM

he also had 10 fleece of which for tithe wool he paid one fleece.

In 1797 the rector, Richard Carey, was allowed to take down a large barn called the great tithe barn, with a cowhouse, stabling and a thatched barn, in order to 'open a view towards the Rectory House, making it more airy and pleasant.'^{11a}

The Church Lands consist of about
CHARITIES 11 acres of land supposed to have been given by the inhabitants for the repairs of the church. The land is let at an annual rent of £20 9s., which is received by the rector and churchwardens and applied in the upkeep of the parish church.

The following charities are regulated by a scheme of the Charity Commissioners of 10 November 1908, under the title of the United Charities :—

Peter Brown's Charity, comprised in an indenture dated 24 March 1834, consists of a moiety, amounting to £90 per annum, of the clear yearly income derived from 146 King Street, Hammersmith.

Mary Carey's Charity, comprised in a deed poll dated 18 September 1861, consists of a sum of £500 2½ per cent. Consols.

Margaret Hewlett's Charity, founded by will proved at Bristol 9 June 1868, consists of a sum of £476 3s. 10d. 2½ per cent. Consols.

The income, amounting to £114 8s. per annum, is distributed amongst the poor in groceries, milk, coal and meat, and in donations to local hospitals, Hunstanton Convalescent Home, and to a nursing association.

The sums of stock are with the Official Trustees.

BISBROOKE

Bitlesbroch (xi cent.); Butlesbrok, Bitlesbrok (xiii cent.); Bissebrok, Bytlesbrok, Butlisbroke, Bisbrok (xiv cent.); Pysbroke (xv cent.).

The parish of Bisbrooke, containing a little more than 1,144 acres, lies near the borders of Northamptonshire on the ridge of a hill between two brooks. The village, which is sheltered from the north by this ridge, is situated about half a mile south of the Uppingham and Peterborough road, a mile east from Uppingham station and two and a half north-west from Seaton station on the London Midland and Scottish Railway. The ground rises again to the south-west of the village, but the height varies very little, nearly the whole of the parish being between 300 and 400 ft. above the Ordnance datum. The highest point, about 419 ft., is reached on the Uppingham and Peterborough road, rather more than half a mile west of Bisbrooke Hall, which stands in the northern part of the parish, closer to Glaston than Bisbrooke. The Manor House stands at the western end of the village of Bisbrooke. The church is on the eastern side. The soil, on the whole, is light, the subsoil being for the most part Upper Lias, Lower Oolite occurring in the north and west. The land is mostly pasture. The population in 1921 was 137.

Two hides and one virgate in Bisbrooke **MANOR** were held by Robert of the Countess Judith in 1086, and had been held by Edward with sac and soc in the reign of the Confessor.¹ The overlordship followed throughout the descent of the Honour of Huntingdon.²

Robert, the tenant at the time of the Domesday Survey, was probably Robert de Bucy, whose lands in Northamptonshire and Leicestershire were afterwards given (presumably by the first Simon de St. Liz, Earl of Huntingdon) to Robert the son of Viel Palfrey.³ Robert was tenant of Bisbrooke early in the reign of Henry I, and was still living in 1144, when he granted a charter to the Prior of Daventry. This charter was afterwards confirmed by his son Simon

and witnessed by another son Jordan, together with Simon's wife Julian and their sons Richard, Henry and Simon.⁴ In 1159 Simon, called Simon de Foxton, from his manor in Leicestershire, accounted for his debt of 100s. in Lincolnshire.⁵ Richard de Foxton succeeded Simon between 1180 and 1186,⁶ and about 1189 he confirmed to Daventry the grants of his father Simon and his grandfather Robert.⁷ He was succeeded by his son, another Richard, who confirmed to Daventry the gifts of Robert son of Viel his great-grandfather, Simon his grandfather and Richard his father. He died before 1224, leaving a widow Amabel, and two daughters, Amis or Amy, and Beatrice. Amis married Alan Basset of Luffenham, and they appear to have had two daughters, Agnes and Joan; but, according to the Pipewell Cartulary, Agnes was sole heir of her grandfather. Agnes was first married to William de Meynell;⁸ in 1251 she and her husband granted lands and a mill in Bisbrooke to Richard, son of Ernis de Seaton, in return for a grant for the life of Agnes of two messuages which Alan Basset had formerly held. They were again dealing with lands here in 1254.⁹ Agnes married as her second husband Ralf de St. Lo, but she seems to have died childless. Her interest in Bisbrooke passed to her sister Joan, who married William de Gumley, and the representatives of Beatrice de Foxton, mentioned above, who married, firstly, Henry, son of Fulk de Oiry, and, secondly, Richard, son of Hubert de Middleton.¹⁰

In 1261–2 the Prior of Daventry called on Ralf de St. Lo and Agnes his wife, William de Gumley (co. Leic.) and Joan his wife, and John de Middleton, to acquit him of the services demanded by Balliol, the chief lord, for lands in Foxton.¹¹ John de Middleton (Midlington), son of Richard and Beatrice de Middleton, was succeeded before 1305 by William de Middleton,¹² presumably his brother, who may possibly be identified with the William, son of Richard de Middleton, who settled certain rents in Foxton and a mill in Bisbrooke on himself and his wife Rose

^{11a} Irons' Notes, Archd. Visit.

¹ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 142.

² *Ibid. Hunts*, ii, 130; Chan. Inq. p.m. 3 Ric. II, no. 45. When the lands late of John de Balliol were granted in 1299 to John de Britannia, the king's nephew, the grant included a rent from the town of Bisbrooke for suit at court

of Huntingdon (*Cal. Pat. R.* 1301–7, p. 470).

³ Farrer, *Honors and Knights' Fees*, ii, 365.

⁴ Dugdale, *Mon. Angl.* v, 179, 180;

Farrer, loc. cit.

⁵ Farrer, op. cit. 366.

⁶ Dugdale, op. cit. 180; *Cal. Cart. R.*

1226–57, pp. 206–7.

⁷ Farrer, op. cit. 366–7. Alan Basset seems to have had families by two wives (see North Luffenham).

⁸ Feet of F. Rutl. East. 35 Hen. III, no. 38; Mich. 39 Hen. III, no. 48.

⁹ Farrer, op. cit. 367–8.

¹⁰ *Ibid.*

¹¹ *Feud. Aids*, iv, 205.

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

in 1307.¹⁸ Thomas de Middleton, probably the son of William, was in possession of Bisbrooke in 1316;¹⁴ he died before 1325, leaving as his heir a son Thomas, then under age and in the wardship of John of Brittany, Earl of Richmond.¹⁵ This Thomas died before 1343, and the wardship of his son and heir William belonged in that year to the Countess of Pembroke.¹⁶ It is probable that William died during his minority; he was succeeded by his brother John, described as 'son and heir of Thomas de Middleton,' who granted the manor of Bisbrooke in fee to John de Wempton, who enfeoffed Sir William Burton of Tolthorpe. Sir William granted it in 1362 to Sir Richard de Bayeux and Robert his son, in exchange for certain lands in Arkesden, Essex.¹⁷ Robert afterwards regranted it to Sir William Burton and John de Wempton, apparently for the purpose of a marriage settlement on his son Robert and Alice sister of John de Middleton previously mentioned. Alice survived her husband, and on her death in 1380 the manor was taken into the king's hands; but it was afterwards restored, the inquisition finding that it ought to belong to John de Wempton, the surviving trustee, of whom Alice had held it by rent of a rose.¹⁸ Her heir was her son John, then aged fourteen; he died in 1397, leaving a son John aged seven.¹⁹ The wardship was granted on 4 October 1397 to Henry Mulsho and Thomas Englysshe.²⁰

John Bayeux proved his age in 1413.²¹ Margaret, widow of John Bayeux, died in 1468, leaving a daughter Margaret aged 22 years,²² who apparently married Robert Stanhope.²³ Robert Stanhope and Margaret his wife dealt with a reputed manor of Bisbrooke by fine in 1478; they quitclaimed it from themselves and the heirs of Margaret to Robert Haus and others, and the heirs of Robert Haus, presumably for the purpose of a settlement.²⁴ The manor formerly belonging to the Middletons is said, however, to have been granted shortly afterwards to the College of King Edward IV at Fotheringhay.

In July 1547 Edward VI, 'in fulfilment of his father's will . . . and in consideration of the manor of Tryng' (co. Herts), granted to Sir Richard Lee the manor of Bisbrooke and all the king's lands there 'which belonged to the late College of Fotheringhay and were granted to the King's father by deed dated 24 January 1547.'²⁵ In February 1548 Sir Richard obtained a licence to settle the property on Anthony Andrewes and Dorothy his wife and their heirs.²⁶

Anthony Andrewes died 6 December 1557, leaving as his heir his son Edward, then aged twelve and a half.²⁷ By his will he devised his lands in Bisbrooke, after the death of his wife Dorothy, who survived him, to his second son Anthony and his heirs, charged with an annuity of £10 to his youngest son Fabian to be paid by Anthony 'if Fabian should live till the land came to Anthony.'²⁸ Fabian survived his brother, who died 22 July 1589; and the question then arose whether the annuity should be payable by the heirs or

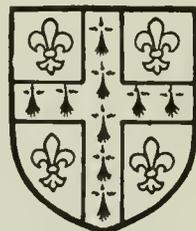
determined by the death of Anthony; the Court of Wards decided in favour of Fabian in Michaelmas term 1590.²⁹

Anthony's heir was his son, a third Anthony, aged thirteen at the time of his father's death; but the manor of Bisbrooke had been granted in April 1589 to George Sheffield and other trustees for ten years, for the payment of an annuity of £70 to Christopher, Alice and Ursula Hoddesdon.³⁰

Moreover, in 1586 the elder Anthony seems to have promised an annuity of £20 to William Gate, citizen and barber surgeon of London, who subsequently brought an action against Sheffield to recover his money, alleging that the annuity had been granted in return for a sum of £100. Sheffield replied that the original contract 'was usurious, and by reason of the corruption thereof void'; but admitted that he had advised Andrewes to enter into reasonable composition because he 'was not able to procure such suertes for his baile as the lawe doth require.' A fresh agreement was accordingly made in March 1588-9 at Sheffield's house in Seaton by which £125 was to be paid to Gate by the following Michaelmas term. In the meantime Anthony Andrewes died (1589), a prisoner for debt 'at the suit of the complaynant and one Jeffraye Willcocks'; and George Sheffield, on the plea that he was 'avoyded of the possession' of certain lands which he had agreed to buy from Andrewes in order to pay Gate, declared that he was no longer bound to pay.³¹

The third Anthony Andrewes died at Bisbrooke on 8 February 1615, leaving as his heir his daughter Margaret, then aged nearly thirteen and a half,³² who afterwards married Roger Dale.³³ By a fine levied in her lifetime, but not recorded until 1624, she, with Edward Andrewes and Judith his wife, made a settlement of the manor and advowson.³⁴ She died in 1622, 'being aged 20 years 11 months,' and was succeeded by her cousin Edward Andrewes (the son of Edward, brother of Anthony Andrewes her grandfather), who was of full age at the time of her death.³⁵

Edward Andrewes was holding Bisbrooke in 1639,³⁶ and in the following year he, and presumably his second wife, Mary, conveyed the manor and advowson to John Savage.³⁷ During the Civil War he supported the king, but left his quarters in November 1645, probably after the king's quarrel with Prince Rupert, at Newark, and took the negative oath before the Committee of Nottinghamshire, but was prevented by sickness from coming to London to compound. His composition was fixed at £283 in June 1646, and his estate was ordered to be discharged on 22 July, though apparently this order had not taken effect before the



ANDREWES. *Azure a cross ermine between four fleurs de lis or.*

¹⁴ Feet of F. Div. Cos. 35 Edw. I, no. 66.

¹⁵ *Feud. Aids*, iv, 209.

¹⁶ *Cal. Inq.* vi, no. 609 (p. 382).

¹⁷ *Ibid.* viii, no. 437.

¹⁸ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 3 Ric. II, no. 45; Wright, *Hist. of Rutl.* p. 33.

¹⁹ *Chan. Inq. loc. cit.*

²⁰ *Ibid.* 21 Ric. II, no. 7.

²¹ *Cal. Fine R.* xi, 228.

²² *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 1 Hen. V, no. 57.

²³ *Ibid.* 8 Edw. IV, no. 21.

²⁴ See Covington in *V.C.H. Hunts*, iii.

²⁵ Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 17 Edw. IV, no. 5.

²⁶ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1547-8, pp. 107, 109.

²⁷ *Ibid.* 376; Feet of F. Rutl. East.

²⁸ Edw. VI.

²⁹ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), cxv, 35.

³⁰ Wright, *loc. cit.*

³¹ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), ccxiv, 3.

³² *Chan. Proc.* (Ser. ii), bdle. 225, no. 13.

³³ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), cccli, 100.

³⁴ *Chan. Proc.* (Ser. ii), bdle. 345, no. 37.

³⁵ Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 22 Jas. I.

³⁶ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), ccxcvii, 91.

³⁷ *Recov. R. Rutl. Hil.* 15 Chas. I, no. 50.

³⁸ Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 15 Chas. I.

middle of the following November. In March 1648 his estate was again sequestered,³⁸ and it was probably owing to his losses during this period that he was forced to sell it, as it seems to have been acquired during the Commonwealth by Sir George Manners, whose heirs, including John, Earl of Rutland, were dealing with it in the summer of 1661, apparently for a settlement.³⁹ The manor and rectory have since followed the descent of the earldom and dukedom, the Duke of Rutland being now lord of the manor.⁴⁰

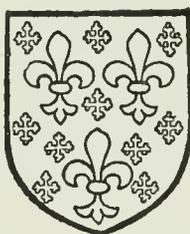
The *NEVILLE HOLDING* may perhaps be traced to a freehold worth £5, the Michaelmas rent being 12s., which was held in 1265 by Sir Stephen de Neville.⁴¹ Its origin may possibly be found in the settlement of two messuages and a carucate of land by William and Agnes de Meynell on Alice de Keneton and the heirs of her body;⁴² but the evidence is insufficient

to establish this identification. During the Barons' War, Sir Stephen's land was seized by his brother Sir Peter, but it was restored in 1265.⁴³ Sir Stephen was still living in 1280, when he was a coroner in Leicestershire,⁴⁴ but he appears to have died before April 1303, when his son John was named as one of the heirs of Thomas de Neville in case Theobald, son of Peter, was barred by his father's outlawry.⁴⁵

John de Neville, described as of Wimeswold, held in Bisbrooke in 1305 and in 1316.⁴⁶ His son Stephen was still living in 1328, when he settled two messuages, two and a half bovates of land and three acres of pasture with 14s. yearly rent in Bisbrooke on his son, another William, William's wife Julian and their issue, with remainder to the right heirs of William.⁴⁷ Three messuages, two and a half virgates of land and one acre were held at this time by Richard, vicar of Bisbrooke, for life, and the reversion of this property was settled in the same way.⁴⁸ Richard Neville, who held in Bisbrooke in 1379, was presumably the heir of William, though his land was extended at no more than 40s. yearly.⁴⁹ He died before Trinity term 1396, when his executor, Richard Middleton, brought an action of debt



MANNERS. Or two bars azure and a chief quartered azure and gules with two fleurs de lis in the azure and a leopard or in the gules quarters.



NEVILLE. Gules crucilly with three fleurs de lis argent.

against Sir Henry de Neville.^{49a} After this date the descent of the freehold becomes obscure.

In 1433 John Oudeby and Agnes his wife dealt by fine with three messuages and 40 acres of land in Bisbrooke,⁵⁰ and, according to Nichols, Oudeby succeeded the Nevilles in Wimeswold, which manor passed through his heirs general to co-heirs married to Bocland and Coulson.⁵¹ There seems, however, to be no trace of either of these families in Bisbrooke. On the other hand, in the pedigree which is stated by Nichols to have been compiled from the Chetwynd MSS. Sir Robert Neville, who married Joan daughter and heir of John de Nowers, was descended directly from Stephen de Neville.⁵² It seems clear, at least, that Sir Robert was seised at his death of the lands in Prestwold (co. Leic.) which had formerly belonged to the Nevilles of Wimeswold.⁵³ His heir was his son John, who was succeeded in Gayhurst (co. Bucks) by his brother Robert. Mary Neville, the great-granddaughter of this Robert, became the heir to his property in Gayhurst on the death of her brother Francis in 1581; and her granddaughter Mary Mulsho brought the estate to Sir Everard Digby in marriage in 1596.⁵⁴ The Digbys held lands in Bisbrooke in the 17th century,⁵⁵ but it is not easy to identify them with the Neville freehold; and the family certainly had an interest in the parish long before the marriage to Mary Mulsho. As early as 1493 Sir John Digby had acquired from William Lewen and Alice his wife a messuage, 40 acres of land, 4 acres of meadow and 6 acres of pasture, which may possibly have been the property of John Oudeby.⁵⁶ These tenements followed the descent of the manor of South Luffenham⁵⁷ (q.v.).

In 1536 Richard Chesilden of Great Weldon (co. Northants) died seised of a messuage with two acres of land and one of meadow in Bisbrooke, which had been settled upon his parents, Richard and Joan Chesilden, by John Bygge. His heir was his son John, then aged eight.⁵⁸ Early in the reign of Elizabeth a John Chesilden married Elizabeth Neville of Gayhurst.⁵⁹ Her son, Edward Chesilden, and his wife Bridget, dealt with tenements in Bisbrooke by fine about 1623, conveying them to Everard Falkener.⁶⁰ This was probably for the purpose of a lease, as a fresh lease for 99 years from 5 October 1632, 'if Everard Falkener, Lyon Falkener and Anthony Falkener, son of Lyon aforesaid, or a survivor should live so long,' was made early in 1633.⁶¹ These tenements subsequently followed the descent of the Chesilden property in Preston and Uppingham⁶² (q.v.).

A mill in Bisbrooke was granted, together with a bovate and 12 acres of land, 2 messuages and pasture, by William de Meynell and Agnes his wife to Richard son of Hervey [Ernis] de Seaton in 1251, in exchange

³⁸ *Cal. of Com. for Comp.* i, 88; ii, 1197.

³⁹ Feet of F. Div. Cos. Trin. 13 Chas. II. Grace, Lady Manners, presented to the church in 1644 (Irons' Notes, Linc. Episc. Reg. (Inst.)).

⁴⁰ *Recov. R. Rutl. Mich.* 9 Will. III, ro. 208; *East.* 16 Geo. II, ro. 157; *Mich.* 16 Geo. III, ro. 355; *Trin.* 40 Geo. III, ro. 341.

⁴¹ *Cal. Inq. Misc.* i, no. 856.

⁴² Feet of F. Mich. 39 Hen. III, no. 48.

⁴³ *Cal. Inq. Misc.* i, no. 856.

⁴⁴ *Ibid.* no. 2242.

⁴⁵ *Cal. Inq.* iv, no. 155. For the career

of Peter de Neville see Oakham, Leighfield Manor.

⁴⁶ *Feud. Aids*, iv, 205, 209.

⁴⁷ Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 2 Edw. III, no. 1.

⁴⁸ *Ibid.* no. 4.

⁴⁹ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 2 Ric. II, no. 57; *Wright, Hist. Rutl.* 14.

^{49a} *Com. Pleas*, 40, no. 542, m. 390 d.

⁵⁰ Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 12 Hen. VI, no. 7.

⁵¹ Nichols, *Hist. of Leic.* iii, pt. i, 501.

⁵² *Ibid.* This pedigree contains so many inaccuracies that the statement must be accepted with caution.

⁵³ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 13 Hen. VI, no. 41 a.

⁵⁴ *V.C.H. Bucks.* iv, 345-7.

⁵⁵ Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 9 Jas. I.

⁵⁶ *Ibid.* Hil. 8 Hen. VII, no. 2.

⁵⁷ *Ibid.* 23 Hen. VIII; *Mich.* 9 Jas. I.

⁵⁸ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), lx, 74.

⁵⁹ *Visit. Rutl.* 1618-19 (Harl. Soc.), 21.

⁶⁰ Feet of F. Rutl. East. 21 Jas. I.

⁶¹ *Ibid.* Hil. 9 Chas. I.

⁶² *Ibid.* Trin. 15 Chas. II; *East.* 4 Jas. II; *Trin.* 13 Will. III; *Hil.* 8 Anne; *Mich.* 12 Anne.

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

for two messuages in Bisbrooke, formerly held by Alan Basset for the life of Agnes.⁶³ In 1307 Bisbrooke mill was settled by Thomas son of Hasculf de Neville on William son of Richard de Middleton and Rose, William's wife, and their heirs.⁶⁴ Presumably the property afterwards followed the descent of the manor, but no further mention of it occurs, and the site of the mill appears to be now unknown.

The church of *ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST* was rebuilt in 1871 and, though incorporating a little old work from the structure then pulled down, is a modern building in the style of the 14th century. The old

internally with dressed stone. The chancel and nave have stone-slated eaved roofs, the aisles being leaded behind plain parapets. The tower is of four stages with pairs of buttresses at the angles, pointed bell-chamber windows of two trefoiled lights and battlemented parapet. It was designed to carry a spire.

The font and pulpit and all the fittings are modern. A few early 19th-century floor slabs from the old church are under the tower, and in the north aisle is a memorial to three men of the parish who fell in the war of 1914-19. There are two medieval coffin lids near the entrance to the churchyard.



SKETCH OF BISBROOKE OLD CHURCH, NOW DEMOLISHED

church consisted of a chancel, clearstoried nave of three bays, north aisle, and south porch, and had a bell-cote over the west gable. It appears to have been mainly of 13th-century date, but new windows had been inserted in the 14th century, and ten years before its demolition the building was described as being in a very neglected state.⁶⁵

The present church consists of chancel 19 ft. 6 in. by 15 ft., with north vestry, clearstoried nave of three bays, 36 ft. by 15 ft., north and south aisles 8 ft. wide, and tower 8 ft. square at the west end of the south aisle, all these measurements being internal. The width across nave and aisles is 35 ft. 6 in. The lower stage of the tower forms a porch, with doorway on the north side. The vestry is a continuation of the north aisle and covers the chancel half its length.

The building is of coursed ironstone rubble, lined

The tower contains one bell, cast by Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, in 1871.⁶⁶

The silver plate consists of a 17th-century cup, goblet shape, the marks on which are indistinct, and a paten of 1638-9.⁶⁷ There is also a pewter plate, or almsdish.

The registers begin in 1665.

Robert, the son of Viel Palfrey, *ADVOWSON* granted the church of Bisbrooke in 1110 to Osbert, Prior of Daventry, and the monks there,⁶⁸ and his gift was confirmed before 1113 by Simon, Earl of Huntingdon, and his wife Maud.⁶⁹ Robert, however, seems afterwards to have resumed possession of the church but, repenting, restored it finally to the priory in 1144 in the presence of Alexander, Bishop of Lincoln.⁷⁰

The advowson remained in the possession of the

⁶³ Feet of F. Rutl. 35 Hen. III, no. 38.

⁶⁴ Ibid. Div. Cos. Hil. 35 Edw. I, no. 66.

⁶⁵ T. Paradise in *Stamford Mercury*, 14 September 1860: 'The west front exhibits an interesting specimen of an Early English bell-turret. . . The furniture is old and unsightly. The painted (light blue) chancel screen has been removed from its original position and is now lying upon the chancel floor. Thick coats of white-wash have from time to time been applied to the interior. There is some rich stained glass in the tracery of

the three-light Decorated east window of the aisle.' The nave arcade was of three chamfered arches on octagonal pillars, and the east window was an 'unsightly domestic window of four lights.' A drawing of the old church from the south-west shows a comparatively short chancel with blank south wall and eaved roof. The west wall of the nave was blank; on the south side was a square-headed 14th-century window east of the porch, and two clearstory windows of the same type in the upper part of the wall. The nave roof was of very low pitch and

leaded. A lancet window is shown at the west end of the aisle. There were no buttresses. Another drawing, from the south-east, dated 1865, shows a plain square-headed east window of four lights, and round arch to the porch.

⁶⁸ North, *Cb. Bells of Rutl.* 122.

⁶⁷ Hope, *Cb. Plate in Rutl.* 22. The date-letter on the cup belongs to the cycle 1638-57. The paten is inscribed 'Bisbrooke 1638. Price 35s. 6d.'

⁶⁹ Dugdale, *Mon. Angl.* v, 179.

⁷⁰ Ibid. 180.

⁷¹ Ibid.; Farrer, op. cit. 365-6.

priory until its dissolution in 1525,⁷¹ when it was granted to Wolsey,⁷² who bestowed it upon his new college in Oxford.⁷³ After his fall, however, the Crown appears to have taken possession again, and in 1539 Lawrence Hodgeson, Henry Sapcotte and Miles Parkyns presented to the church.⁷⁴ Edward VI granted the advowson in 1549 to Edward Mountagu and others,⁷⁵ from whom it was acquired before 1552 by Anthony Andrewes.⁷⁶ It subsequently followed the same descent as the manor.⁷⁷ John Brockett, who had the wardship of Anthony Andrewes,⁷⁸ presented in 1598; John Greene, clerk, presented for one turn in 1627 and Lady Grace Manners in 1644, when the manor was still in the possession of Edward Andrewes. The living is now a discharged vicarage in the gift of the Duke of Rutland.

In 1575 the vicarage was pulled down, and it was said that 'Mr. Andrewe's Court was part of the vicarage ground, so if it continues still they think they shall not know the vicarage ground.'⁷⁹

Simon Palmer, the vicar of Bisbrooke (1575-78), seems to have been quarrelsome, and in 1578 he and 'his wife Ellen did lay in the church from Christmas until Candlemas Day last and abused that place too shamefully to be written.' It appears, however, that later vicars were non-resident for want of a house. In 1595 'Mr. John Ridgley would not receive the Communion when the minister did minister it unto him, unless they received it sitting.'⁸⁰

There are no charities in this parish.

CALDECOTT

Calcot, Calcoote, Caldecote (xvi-xvii cent.).

The parish of Caldecott covers 1,162 acres of clay and loam land given up wholly to grazing. The ground falls from the north, where it is over 300 ft. above the Ordnance datum, to 170 ft. in the south, where the parish and county boundary is formed by the Eye Brook and River Welland.

The village is about $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Uppingham on the road to Kettering. It is approached from the south over the Eye Brook by a stone bridge with brick parapets, to the west of which is the mill, now disused. In a will of 1615 mention is made of 'the milles of Caldecott.'¹ The church is on the north side of the village. Most of the houses are built of local ironstone; one in the main street, with thatched roof, has a panel inscribed 'D.H. 1646'; and another at the east end of the village, with good four-centred doorway, is dated 1647. Near the church is a house with panel inscribed 'R^CE 1684,' and a cottage adjoining the churchyard is dated 1729. Two other houses have panels inscribed respectively 'w.w. 1774' and 'I^EB 1789,' and there are several 17th- and 18th-century undated houses, some with mullioned windows, but in most cases wooden windows have been introduced. A cross formerly stood at the top of the village where the three roads meet. Another cross at one time stood on the Green, which is still known as Cross Bank. The base of this cross survived and was locally called the 'King Stone,' but it was dug up a little while ago and used for quoins for a wall in Black Horse Lane.² The stocks are said to have vanished about 1835.³

The vicarage of Liddington-cum-Caldecott is about a quarter of a mile north of the church and has a lodge on the Kettering road. The old vicarage of Caldecott is described in 1742 as a

building of three bays with a yard of half a rood, which was then divided into two tenements.⁴



CALDECOTT: AN OLD HOUSE

The nearest railway station is Rockingham, a quarter of a mile to the south.

In 1639 Robert Rudd, vicar of Liddington-cum

⁷¹ Exch. Inq. p.m. dclxxxix, 16; Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), lxxvi, 1.

⁷² Pat. R. 17 Hen. VIII, pt. i.

⁷³ Feet of F. Div. Cos. Mich. 18 Hen. VIII; Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), lxxvii, 44.

⁷⁴ Irons' Notes, Linc. Episc. Reg. (Iustit.).

⁷⁵ Pat. R. 3 Edw. VI, pt. v.

⁷⁶ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), cxv, 35.

⁷⁷ Ibid. ccxv, 3; ceeli, 100; Chan. Proc. (Ser. ii), bdle. 225, no. 13; Recov. R. Hil. 15 Chas. I, ro. 50; Mich. 9 Will. III, ro. 208; East. 16 Geo. II, ro. 157; Mich. 16 Geo. III, ro. 355; Trin. 45 Geo. III, ro. 341; Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 15 Chas. I; Trin. 13 Chas. I; Inst. Bks. (P.R.O.).

⁷⁸ Ibid.; Irons' Notes, Linc. Episc. Reg. (Iustit.).

⁷⁹ Ibid. Archd. Visit.

⁸⁰ Ibid.

¹ P.C.C. 71 Rudd.

² Rutl. Mag. v, 72; Rep. Rutl. Arch. and Nat. Hist. Soc. 1915, p. 8.

³ Rutl. Mag. loc. cit.

⁴ Ibid. 125.

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

Caldecott, was defendant in a suit promoted by Peter Woodcock, grazier, in the Court of High Commission. It is stated in the sentence that Rudd had been vicar of Caldecott 40 years and for sundry years had omitted to read divine service at Caldecott; he neglected to wear a surplice, but only a threadbare coat with four skirts; he busied himself with sordid employment and served a thatcher with straw; he preached at Caldecott that Nebuchadnezzar was a great grazier and did eat grass like an ox and died like an ass, like divers graziers then did, referring, as was thought, to Peter Woodcock, a grazier of the parish; he refused on Palm Sunday to administer the Communion to some forty parishioners, and at other times, although having sufficient wine, he used to draw away the cup from the communicants. The court ordered that he should be suspended and another minister be put in charge at a stipend to be paid out of the vicarage, and further he should pay a fine of £100 and make public submission.⁵

CALDECOTT was entered in the **MANORS** Domesday Survey as pertaining to two hides in Liddington (q.v.) held of the Bishop of Lincoln. The two manors are still held together and have shared the same history. In 1246 a grant was made to the Hospitallers of free warren in their demesne lands in Caldecott.⁶

Lands worth 18s. in Caldecott were returned in 1537 as held with lands worth 2s. in Halyoke (co. Leic.) by the monastery of Pipewell⁷ (co. Northants.). In 1553 a grant of 5 acres of meadow lying upon Welland within the fields of Caldecott in Liddington parish, late belonging to Pipewell Monastery, and in the tenure of William Conyers, was made to Anthony Williams and John Conyers.⁸

It is said that the custom of Borough English prevails in the manor.⁹

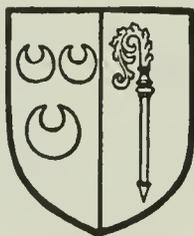
SNELSON (Smelestone, xi cent.) appears in the Domesday Survey (1086) and again in 1286 and 1316 as held with Liddington (q.v.) by the Bishops of Lincoln. It is now lost, but must have formed, with Stoke Dry and Caldecott, part of the block of episcopal property at the south end of the county, of which it was perhaps the southernmost. In a grant of the prebendal house in Liddington in 1650 there is reference to Snelson's Field among the lands in Caldecott held with that house.¹⁰ The manor of Snelston (Snelleston), held in 1243 by Emma de la Legh in dower, reverted at her death to John de Gray,¹¹ who held Whitwells Manor in Ketton (q.v.).

The church of **ST. JOHN THE CHURCH EVANGELIST** consists of chancel 27 ft. by 11 ft., with organ-chamber and vestry on the north side, clearstoried nave 43 ft. 10 in. by 17 ft., south aisle 12 ft. 3 in. wide, south porch, and west tower 10 ft. square, all these measurements being internal. The tower is surmounted by a spire. The width across nave and aisle is 32 ft.

The church was restored and the chancel rebuilt in 1865,¹² and in 1908 the organ-chamber was added. The chancel is built of coursed local ironstone and has an eaved roof of Collyweston slates, but it retains most of its ancient features. With the exception of the porch, which is of ashlar, the rest of the fabric is of ironstone rubble with modern tiled roofs; the aisle has a plain parapet, but the nave roof is eaved. The porch, which dates from 1648, is covered with stone slates. Except at the west end of the nave, all the walls are plastered internally.

The first church was an aisleless building with short square-ended chancel, the extent of which is represented by the two eastern bays of the present nave and the western part of the chancel, probably dating from the early part of the 12th century.¹³ There is a small round-headed window of this period, with wide inner splay, in the south wall of the chancel, approximately in its original position, but its jamb-stones have been misplaced.¹⁴ West of this is a tall lancet opening with transom, forming a low-side window. This belongs to alterations, amounting almost to a rebuilding, made towards the end of the 13th century, when the chancel was lengthened and remodelled and an aisle was thrown out on the south side of the nave, the length of which was increased westward by the addition of a bay. This is shown by a break in the arcade between the second and third bays from the east, where there is a masonry pier with respond on each face, representing the position of the early west wall, which probably remained standing till the new work was completed. This would be c. 1280-1300, to which period the chancel arch, the nave arcade, and the aisle belong, together with such original features of the chancel as were retained at the rebuilding.

The east window is of three lights with uncusped intersecting tracery and continuous roll moulding to the rear-arch and jambs. Below the window, at the back of the altar, is a large rectangular chamfered recess probably for a reliquary, and in the south wall a shouldered piscina the bowl of which is gone, and two stepped sedilia with chamfered arches and dividing shaft with moulded capital and base. There is a rectangular aumbry in the north wall. The low-side lancet splays internally to 5 ft. Above the piscina is a late 14th-century square-headed window of two trefoiled lights, but there are no windows on the north side. The chancel arch is of two chamfered orders and hood-mould on the east side only, the



PIPEWELL ABBEY.
Party argent three crescents gules and azure a crozier erect or.

⁵ *Leic. and Rutl. N. and Q.* iii, 137 (June 1894); *Cal. S.P. Dom.* 1639, p. 108; *Rutl. Mag.* v, 35.

⁶ *Cal. Chart. R.* 1226-57, p. 305.

⁷ *Valor Eccles.* (Rec. Com.), iv, 294.

⁸ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1553, p. 37.

⁹ *Rutl. Mag.* v, 71.

¹⁰ *Close R.* 1651, pt. 26, no. 39.

¹¹ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1232-47, p. 371.

¹² When the chancel was rebuilt several

Roman tiles are said to have been found, some broken, and when the plaster was off the walls a stone about 2 ft. square, with a border, was found over the middle of the chancel arch, having on it a rudely executed sculpture of two human figures in relief. It was plastered over again (*Rutl. Mag.* v, 67).

¹³ 'When the floor was disturbed the foundations of this early church were plainly seen' (*ibid.* 68).

¹⁴ When re-inserted in 1865 the window was 'much cut about and the stones misplaced, the middle (largest) ones being put at the bottom' (*Rutl. Mag.* loc. cit.). The head is cut from one stone and is without hood-mould. The opening is 6 in. wide, with a very small external chamfer, and splays inside to 3 ft. The sill is 7 ft. 4 in. above the ground.



CALDECOTT CHURCH FROM THE NORTH-EAST

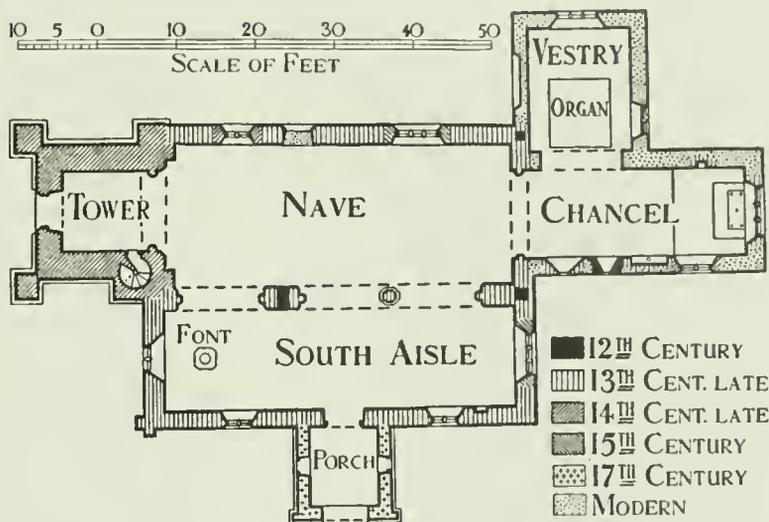
inner order on half-octagonal responds with moulded capitals and bases, and the outer continued to the ground.¹⁵ Immediately south of the arch, in the eastern part of the south wall of the nave, is the doorway to the rood-loft, with plain pointed chamfered head; it opens on to a fragment of beam, perhaps the first joist of the loft floor. Four steps of the rood-stair remain in the thickness of the wall, 5 ft. above the floor.¹⁶

The two eastern arches of the nave arcade are of two chamfered orders on half-octagonal responds and octagonal dividing pillar, all with rather heavy moulded capitals and responds. The western arch is of similar character, but is lower at the springing.¹⁷ In the south wall of the aisle are two good pointed two-light windows with quatrefoils in the heads, and a large moulded piscina,¹⁸ the bowl and hood-mould of which are mutilated. There is an image bracket in the east wall south of the window, but the window itself is a late 15th-century insertion of three cinquefoiled lights and four-centred head. The west window of the aisle appears originally to have been like those in the south wall, but was altered in the 17th century and has now a plain square head. The pointed south doorway is of two continuous hollow chamfered orders, with hood-mould, and the blocked north doorway is of similar character but with three hollow chamfers. The north wall of the nave is pierced by two later openings, that at the west a two-light pointed window of late 14th-century date, the other a late 15th-century three-light window with four-centred head.

Towards the end of the 14th century the tower and spire were erected, and the clearstory was added in the 15th century, the north wall of the nave being then heightened. The tower is of three stages, marked by strings, with moulded plinth and large clasping buttresses to the lower stage, above which they are taken up to about a third of the height of the bell-chamber in diagonal form. There is a projecting vice in the south-east angle. The pointed west window is of two trefoiled lights similar to the contemporary window on the north side of the nave, but the four-centred doorway is a late 15th-century insertion, with continuous hollow moulded jambs and head. The pointed bell-chamber windows are of

two trefoiled lights with quatrefoil in the head, and the tower terminates in an embattled parapet with a grotesque gargoyle at each angle. The arch opening to the nave is of two continuous chamfered orders without hood-mould. The spire was struck by lightning on 30 July 1797,¹⁹ and was afterwards rebuilt in Weldon stone.²⁰ It is twice banded and has plain angles and two tiers of gabled lights on the cardinal faces. On the south side, halfway between the lights, is the date 1638,²¹ and on the top portion 1797.

The clearstory has three four-centred windows of two trefoiled lights on the south side, but the easternmost only is ancient; on the north side there are



PLAN OF CALDECOTT CHURCH

two windows, placed immediately over those in the wall below, the easternmost old and of three lights, the other a copy of those on the south side, inserted in 1865.²² The tabling of the former low-pitched nave roof remains on the west wall, the present high-pitched roof and its gable being modern. A 15th-century sanctus bell-cote has been rebuilt.²³

The porch has a round-arched outer doorway of two chamfered orders on moulded imposts, wooden benches, and small square-headed side windows. In the gable is a panel with the date '1648.'²⁴

The late 13th-century font has a rectangular bowl with slightly sloping sides, each carved with a trefoiled arch, and chamfered angles on which various geometrical patterns are incised. It stands on a cylindrical stem and is on four legs, the moulded capitals and bases of which alone remain unaltered, the shafts having been turned in a lathe by a former churchwarden.²⁵ The pulpit²⁶ and all the fittings are modern.²⁷ There was formerly a painting of the

¹⁵ On the east side it dies out.

¹⁶ The steps were probably approached by a ladder from the aisle. The beam projects about 6 in. No screen now remains.

¹⁷ It springs at a height of 5 ft. 9 in. above the floor, the others at 6 ft. 6 in.

¹⁸ The recess is pointed and of two continuous hollow chamfers.

¹⁹ See engraving in *Gent. Mag.* October 1797, p. 817. About a yard and a half, and the weathercock, fell. Some of the stones, which fell through the roof, were scattered about in the interior of the church.

²⁰ Laird, *Topog. and Hist. Desc. of Rutl.* 147; *Rutl. Mag.* v, 70.

²¹ Probably recording a former rebuilding, or repairs.

²² *Rutl. Mag.* v, 68. It took the place of a little two-light window over the north doorway, which was then removed.

²³ The bell-cote is shown in the engraving of 1797 on the then low-pitched east gable of the nave. The aisle roof was then leaded.

²⁴ Laird in 1813 records the date 1648 on the roof of either the nave or chancel (Laird, loc. cit.).

²⁵ *Rutl. Mag.* v, 69. The shafts are all different, two being of baluster shape. The date when this was done is not stated, but it was before 1860.

²⁶ The old pulpit, which was of oak, was sold for making up furniture.

²⁷ In 1860 the whole of the fittings were described as 'very old,' and there was a singing gallery against the chancel arch. Some of the open benches had poppy heads, and the reading-desk had fragments of 15th-century tracery (*Stamford Mercury*, 3 August 1860).

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

Temptation in Eden on the north wall of the nave.²⁸

The only old mural monument, to Anne the wife of William Goodman (d. 1712), is now in the vestry, where is kept a chest inscribed 'R.D. 1724.' There is a War Memorial tablet (1914-19) in the nave. The Royal Arms of Queen Victoria are under the tower.

There is a ring of five bells cast in 1696 by Toby Norris (II) of Stamford.²⁹

The plate consists of a cup and cover paten of 1637-8, with the maker's mark D.C.³⁰

The registers before 1812 are as follows: (i) all entries 1605-1724; (ii) baptisms 1725-83, marriages 1725-54, burials 1725-70; (iii) baptisms and burials 1783-1812; (iv) marriages 1755-1812. There are churchwardens' accounts from 1807.

Caldecott is a chapelry annexed to *ADYOWSON* the Vicarage of Liddington (q.v.).

Under the Commonwealth an augmentation of the stipend of the minister of Caldecott of £31 a year was ordered which was approved in 1656.³¹

There are no charities in this parish.

GLASTON

Gladeston (xi cent.); Glaeston (xii cent.); Glaceton, Claston, Glaston (xiii cent.).

Glaston covers an area of 1,170 acres. The northern and southern boundaries are formed by streams, from both of which the land rises to about 400 ft. above Ordnance datum at the middle of the parish. The soil is clay and loam with sand and gravel in parts. Most of the land is under grass.

The village stands on high ground on the road from Uppingham to Stamford about 2 miles from the former town, and at the west end of the parish where the road is crossed by a by-road from Seaton to Wing. It was described in 1813 as a pleasant cheerful village.¹ The chief part is on the north side of the main road to Uppingham where, at the west end of the village, stands the church with a pleasing background of trees. To the south of the church is the Rectory, which was rebuilt in brick in 1861-2, but incorporates a small 17th-century house built of ironstone which is comprised in the area now occupied by the dining-room and hall. Additions made to this house in the 18th century were pulled down when the house was rebuilt. Glaston House stands in a small park at the east end of the village. The old Manor House, which stood on the east side of the church,² was pulled down in 1891. It consisted of a main block and two wings built of a white stone in the middle of the 17th century. The garden walls, which were still standing in 1880, are said to have been much older than the house.³

There was a windmill belonging to the manor in 1326, and a wood called Brende.⁴ In 1409 a road called Postgate and a hedge at Verynge are mentioned.⁵ Half an acre of land given for finding a lamp in the church⁶ was granted in 1550 to Thomas Reve, John Johnson and Henry Harden.⁷

The nearest railway stations are at Uppingham and Seaton, but the London Midland and Scottish Rail-

way passes through the parish in a tunnel made in 1875-80.

At the time of the Domesday Survey *MANOR GLASTON* was divided between two lords. A hide and a half formed part of the king's manor of Barrowden,⁸ and 4 hides were held by William of the Countess Judith.⁹ The land which formed part of Barrowden passed with that manor to the Earls of Warwick, whose overlordship of part of Glaston was recognised till the beginning of the 15th century.¹⁰

The overlordship of the Countess Judith passed to her daughter Maud, and the fee at Glaston became part of the Honour of Huntingdon. It went with the earldom to the kings of Scotland, and probably was included in the 20 fees which were in dispute in 1204 between David, Earl of Huntingdon, and Henry de Bohun, Earl of Hereford.¹¹ These fees were adjudged to Henry, but in 1241 two fees in Glaston were assigned to Henry de Hastings and Ada his wife, sister and one of the heirs of John, late Earl of Chester,¹² son of Earl David mentioned above. From this time, though the fee at Glaston is usually returned as held of the Earls of Hereford, of the Honour of Huntingdon, the Hastings seem to have had a superior overlordship, and in 1313 two fees in Glaston and Seyton are returned as held by the Earl of Hereford of John de Hastings, grandson of Henry and Ada.¹³ In 1397 a fee at Glaston was assigned as dower to Philippa, widow of John de Hastings and of Richard, Earl of Arundel.¹⁴

The rights of Henry de Bohun, Earl of Hereford, in the overlordship of Glaston passed with that earldom in the Bohun family till the death in 1373 of Humphrey de Bohun.¹⁵ The fee at Glaston was then assigned to his widow Joan,¹⁶ who held it till her death in 1419.¹⁷ The reversion had been assigned in 1380 to Eleanor, daughter and co-heir of Humphrey, then wife of Thomas of Woodstock, Earl of Buckingham.¹⁸ Eleanor

²⁸ Laird, loc. cit. It was then (1813) almost entirely effaced.

²⁹ North, *Cb. Bells of Rutl.* 124, where the inscriptions are given. The second and third have the date only and 'previous inscriptions are apparently chiselled off, which leads to the inference that these bells were not originally cast for this church.' The clock was restored in 1922. A panel in the east wall of the clock-chamber is inscribed 'George Woodcock 1724.'

³⁰ Hope, *Cb. Plate in Rutl.* 22. Both pieces are inscribed 'Changed this cup by mee Peter Woodcock of Caldecote in the county of Rutland this 30th of June

1637; added to it 48d,' with slight changes in the spelling.

³¹ *Cal. S.P. Dom.* 1656-7, p. 132; 1657-8, p. 39.

¹ *Beauties of Engl. and Wales*, xii (2), 151.

² North, *Cb. Bells of Rutl.* 132.

³ *Beauties of Engl. and Wales*, loc. cit.; North, loc. cit.

⁴ Chan. Inq. p.m. 20 Edw. II, no. 22.

⁵ Irons' Notes.

⁶ Chant. Certif. 39, no. 12.

⁷ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1549-51, p. 380.

⁸ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 140.

⁹ *Ibid.* 142.

¹⁰ *Cal. Inq.* v, p. 402; *Cal. Close R.*

1396-9, p. 179; Chan. Inq. p.m. 2 Hen. IV, no. 58, m. 54; 8 Hen. IV, no. 68.

¹¹ *Curia Regis R.* iii, 99. See Ryhall.

¹² *Cal. Close R.* 1237-42, p. 370.

¹³ *Cal. Inq.* v, p. 235; G.E.C. *Complete Peerage*, iv, 179.

¹⁴ *Cal. Close R.* 1396-9, p. 179. This fee was said to be held by the Earl of Warwick.

¹⁵ *Abbrev. Plac.* (Rec. Com.), 206; *Plac. de Quo Warr.* (Rec. Com.), 671; Add. Chart. 7371; *Cal. Inq.* vi, no. 719; Chan. Inq. p.m. 38 Edw. III (1st nos.), no. 50.

¹⁶ *Cal. Close R.* 1374-7, p. 24.

¹⁷ Chan. Inq. p.m. 7 Hen. V, no. 59.

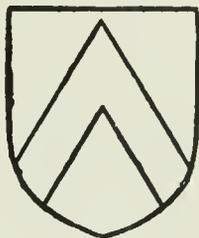
¹⁸ *Cal. Close R.* 1377-81, pp. 392, 393.

predeceased her mother, and on Joan's death the fee passed to Eleanor's daughter Anne, who married first Edmund, Earl of Stafford, and secondly Sir William Bouchier, whose wife she was in 1419.¹⁹ Anne died in 1438, and her son, Humphrey Stafford, was created Duke of Buckingham in 1444. He died in 1460, and the knight's fee at Glaston seems then to have become annexed to his castle of Oakham,²⁰ for it is returned as being held of the castle in 1519²¹ and 1593.²²

In 1276 half a knight's fee at Glaston, held by the Pauntons, was assigned to Milicent, wife of Eudo la Zouche, as part of her share of the fees belonging to her brother, George de Cantilupe.²³ In 1284 it was stated that neither Philip de Paunton nor any of his ancestors had held the manor of Glaston of Milicent, but that they held it of the Earl of Hereford.²⁴ In 1376 Milicent's descendant, William la Zouche of Haringworth, had an exemplification of the partition of George de Cantilupe's fees²⁵ and this appears to have



BOHUN, Earl of Hereford. *Azure a bend argent cotted or between six lions or.*



STAFFORD. *Or a cheveron gules.*

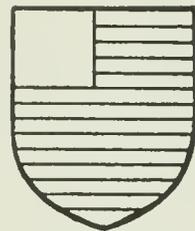
raised once more the question of the Zouche claim to the overlordship of Glaston. On the death of Margaret Wade in 1378 the manor was returned as held of William la Zouche,²⁶ though on the death of her husband, William Wade, it had been said to be held of the Earl of Hereford.²⁷ This fee is included in the property held by Sir William la Zouche in 1396.²⁸ In 1455 again the manor of Glaston is returned as held of William, Lord Zouche and Seymour, as half a knight's fee,²⁹ but after this time this claim seems to have lapsed.

Under these lords the whole of Glaston was held as one manor, for one knight's fee,³⁰ by the Paunton or Panton family, who took their name from a manor which they held in Lincolnshire. Philip de Paunton was probably owner of Glaston manor in 1204.³¹ He had been succeeded before 1241 by Baldwin de Paunton,³² who was sheriff of Nottingham and Derby in 1240, and of Warwick and Leicester in 1248.³³ In 1252 the king gave him three does from

the Forest of Rutland.³⁴ He was a justice in eyre for pleas of the forest.³⁵ He was alive in May 1254,³⁶ but probably died later in that year, for towards the close of the year James de Paunton sued the prior of La Launde as to the advowson of Glaston.³⁷ James leased a messuage and land in 1263 to Simon de Glaston for a rent of 10s. and suit at James's court of Glaston.³⁸ In 1258 he was one of the four knights of Rutland appointed to inquire touching excesses in that county in pursuance of the Provisions of Oxford,³⁹ and was one of the Commissioners for Rutland to survey the lands of the rebels after the battle of Evesham.⁴⁰ In 1267 he was sheriff of Lincolnshire.⁴¹ James was dead by 1279, when his widow Isabel held much of his property.⁴² Isabel was summoned in 1285 to show by what right she claimed view of frankpledge in Glaston. She stated that she held three-quarters of the vill in dower, of the inheritance of Philip de Paunton, without whom she could not answer.

Philip, who was said to have been son and heir of Baldwin, stated that he claimed this liberty by prescription. He did not claim pillory, tumbrel or any other *judicialia*.⁴³

Isabel was still alive and holding dower in the manor in 1306.⁴⁴ Philip was sheriff of Nottingham and Derby in 1292, and in 1293 was in disgrace because he had made return of a writ without affixing the sheriff's seal.⁴⁵ In 1298 Philip de Paunton gave the reversion of the manor of Glaston, after Isabel's death, to John de Harington.⁴⁶ John settled it in 1306 on himself and his second wife Margery and their issue.⁴⁷ John de Harington died in 1326, leaving by Margery a son Oliver then 24 and more. By his first wife Maud, daughter of Philip de Paunton, John had two sons, Richard and Baldwin.⁴⁸ John, son of Richard, was his grandfather's heir to the property at Paunton. Baldwin, the second son, was John's heir according to the custom of Stamford, where John had some property.⁴⁹ Presumably Oliver succeeded at Glaston, but no references have been found to him as lord of the manor. Thomas de Harington, who afterwards held the manor and was dead by 1344,⁵⁰ may have been Oliver's son or brother. In 1350 John, son of Thomas, a minor, held the manor, which was, however, claimed by John, son of Richard de Harington, as grandson of John de Harington and Maud, daughter of Philip de Paunton.



PAUNTON. *Barruly argent and gules with a quarter gules.*

¹⁹ Chan. Inq. p.m. 7 Hen. V, no. 59.

²⁰ Ibid. 38 & 39 Hen. VI, no. 59.

²¹ Ibid. (Ser. ii), xxxv, 89.

²² Ibid. cccxxvi, 13.

²³ Cal. Close R. 1272-9, p. 295.

Nothing is said about this fee in the inquisition taken on George's death (Cal. Inq. ii, no. 17), and it is difficult to see to which of his manors this fee could have been supposed to belong.

²⁴ Abbrev. Plac. loc. cit.

²⁵ Cal. Pat. R. 1374-7, pp. 270-1.

²⁶ Chan. Inq. p.m. 1 Ric. II, no. 40.

²⁷ Ibid. 38 Edw. III (1st nos.), no. 50.

²⁸ Ibid. 19 Ric. II, no. 52.

²⁹ Ibid. 33 Hen. VI, no. 21.

³⁰ It is sometimes returned as 2 fees.

³¹ Curia Regis R. iii, 99. It seems probable that the Paunton family had held Glaston in or before the time of Henry II (see Advowson).

³² Cal. Close R. 1237-42, p. 370.

³³ List of Sheriffs (P.R.O.).

³⁴ Cal. Close R. 1251-53, p. 39.

³⁵ Cal. Pat. R. 1247-58, p. 107.

³⁶ Ibid. p. 377.

³⁷ Cal. Close R. 1253-4, p. 164. Farrer suggests that James was brother of Baldwin, but he might well be brother of Philip, who is said to be son of Baldwin (Honors and Knights' Fees, ii, 314-5).

³⁸ Feet of F. Rutl. East. 47 Hen. III, no. 66.

³⁹ Cal. Pat. R. 1247-58, p. 649.

⁴⁰ Ibid. 1258-66, p. 491.

⁴¹ List of Sheriffs (P.R.O.).

⁴² Abbrev. Plac. (Rec. Com.), 193, 233.

⁴³ Plac. de Quo Warr. (Rec. Com.), 559, 671.

⁴⁴ Feet of F. Rutl. East. 26 Edw. I, no. 33; 34 Edw. I, no. 44; Trin. 34 Edw. I, no. 45; Feud. Aids, iv, 205.

⁴⁵ List of Sheriffs (P.R.O.); Abbrev. Plac. (Rec. Com.), 291.

⁴⁶ Feet of F. Rutl. East. 26 Edw. I, no. 33.

⁴⁷ Ibid. Trin. 34 Edw. I, no. 45.

⁴⁸ Cal. Inq. vi, no. 719; De Banco R. 436, m. 539d; Farrer, loc. cit.

⁴⁹ Cal. Inq. loc. cit.

⁵⁰ Cal. Close R. 1343-6, p. 211.

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

A stay of the suit was obtained on account of the minority of John, son of Thomas.⁵¹ John son of Thomas was evidently of age in 1354 when he granted Glaston manor to William Wade of Stokefaston and Margaret his wife for their lives.⁵² In 1358 he granted the reversion, after the deaths of William and Margaret, to Roland Daneys.⁵³ William Wade died in 1364, the heir in reversion being then John Daneys, a minor, nephew of Roland Daneys.⁵⁴

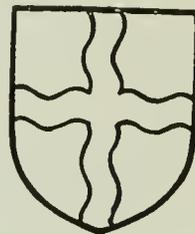
Five years later John, son of Richard de Harington, renewed his claim to the manor, suing Margaret Wade for two-thirds and Thomas de Wytresham for one-third. Margaret pleaded the minority of John Daneys without whom she could not answer, and Thomas said he held the third for the life of Maud, wife of Edward de Wytresham by grant of Edward, the reversion being to John Daneys without whom he could not answer, so the suit was postponed till John's majority.⁵⁵

Margaret Wade died in 1378, but the jurors to the inquisition taken after her death did not know who was heir to the manor.⁵⁶ A John de Harington was said to be holding Glaston as well as Great and Little Paunton in 1380.⁵⁷ John de Harington had a son Robert⁵⁸ who obtained in 1381 a quitclaim of all interest in the manor from John Daneys of Ticken-cote, cousin and heir of Sir Roland Daneys, knt.⁵⁹ Robert was knighted and died in 1399, leaving a son Robert, a minor,⁶⁰ who was holding the manor in 1407.⁶¹ The younger Robert must have been dead by 1428 when Margaret Harington, probably his mother or widow, held Glaston.⁶² She may have married a Brus, as Margaret Brus presented to the church in 1429. Robert's heir was his sister Margaret, who married William Brauncepath before 1392.⁶³ Margaret died before 1448, when her second son, Sir John Brauncepath, granted the manor of Glaston to his youngest brother Thomas⁶⁴ and others. Thomas settled it on 23 October 1454 on himself and his wife Elizabeth and their issue, but he died 5 days later leaving no children, his heir being his sister Joan ap Howell, then aged 40 and more.⁶⁵

After the death of Elizabeth Brauncepath several claimants to the manor of Glaston arose. John ap Howell, son of Joan, does not appear to have put in any claim, although he presented to the church in 1473. William Fairfax put in a claim as heir of Thomas Brauncepath 'as is openly known.'⁶⁶ He was descended from John, son of Richard de Harington, the claimant to Glaston manor, being great-grandson of Isabel, daughter of John de Harington, who married Hugh Fairfax and had a son John who had a son William, father of the said William Fairfax, the

claimant.⁶⁷ He was then the only surviving representative of Sir John Harington, as William, son of Amy, wife of John Carnelle, a second daughter of Sir John Harington, died without issue before 1458.⁶⁸ William Fairfax sued William Ashby, son of a certain Thomas Ashby, who had acted as trustee for Thomas Brauncepath in the settlement of 1454, for the manor. Thomas Ashby having died seised of the manor, William Ashby claimed it as his heir.⁶⁹ John Coly also claimed as heir of Thomas Brauncepath, tracing his descent from Jane, sister of Sir Robert Harington, father of Margaret Brauncepath. According to the pedigree which John Coly gave, he was great-grandson of Jane, being son of Walter, son of John Coly, son of Jane.⁷⁰ He also claimed the manor against William Ashby, who probably held it only as a trustee till the conflicting claims should be determined, for he allowed Coly to enter upon the manor, after having given a bond, in the penal sum of £100, to restore all profits if by a certain day he had not proved to William's satisfaction that he was the lawful heir. Coly failed to prove his case to the satisfaction of William,

and on William's suing him on the bond, Coly brought the case into court, with the result that on 24 November 1481 judgment was given in Coly's favour and Ashby was ordered to bring the bond into court for cancellation.⁷¹ By this means John Coly appears to have established his claim to the manor, for in the same year William Fairfax and William his son released their claim to him.⁷² John Coly presented to the church in 1489, 1493, 1494, 1496 and 1510, and died seised of the manor in 1519, leaving a son Anthony aged 16 years.⁷³ Anthony was assessed for £50 towards a loan in 1570, and represented himself as being unable to pay this sum.⁷⁴ He presented to the church in 1526 and 1554 and was sheriff of Rutland in 1547, 1551, 1559 and 1568.⁷⁵ He died in 1574, when his son Anthony succeeded.⁷⁶ In 1584 Anthony Coly, then sheriff of Rutland, reported to Walsingham the arrest of a Scottish priest called George Douglas at Glaston.⁷⁷ He died in 1592 leaving a son Anthony, then two years of age.⁷⁸ Anthony had livery of his father's lands in 1614,⁷⁹ and appears to have married Anne, daughter of William Turpin, in that year.⁸⁰ He was sheriff of Rutland in 1620 and 1632, and was knighted in 1621.⁸¹ He settled the manor in 1631,⁸² but before 1639 he had been succeeded by his son William.⁸³



COLY of Glaston.
Argent a cross throughout wavy sable.

⁵¹ De Banco R. 362, m. 55d.

⁵² *Cal. Close R.* 1354-60, pp. 99, 100, 304.

⁵³ Feet of F. Rutl. file 6, no. 47.

⁵⁴ Chan. Inq. p.m. 38 Edw. III (1st nos.), no. 50.

⁵⁵ De Banco R. 436, m. 539d.

⁵⁶ Chan. Inq. p.m. 1 Ric. II, no. 40. In 1374 the fee at Glaston was said to be held by Thomas de Harington, but this is probably a reference back to an earlier owner (*Cal. Close R.* 1374-7, p. 24).

⁵⁷ *Cal. Close R.* 1377-81, p. 392.

⁵⁸ Wrottesley, *Ped. from Plea R.* 437.

⁵⁹ *Cal. Close R.* 1381-5, p. 422. Robert de Harington seems in 1369 to have made some effort to recover from the Daneys family the manor of Glaston (co. Leic.)

which had formerly belonged to Thomas de Harington (*ibid.* 1369-74, p. 1).

⁶⁰ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1396-9, p. 590; Chan. Inq. p.m. 2 Hen. IV, no. 58, m. 54.

⁶¹ *Ibid.* 8 Hen. IV, no. 68.

⁶² *Feud. Aids*, iv, 212.

⁶³ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1391-6, p. 157.

⁶⁴ The eldest brother William died s.p. apparently before 1448.

⁶⁵ Wrottesley, loc. cit.; Chan. Inq. p.m. 33 Hen. VI, no. 21.

⁶⁶ Early Chan. Proc. bdle. 54, no. 376.

⁶⁷ Wrottesley, op. cit. 339.

⁶⁸ *Ibid.* 339, 398.

⁶⁹ Early Chan. Proc. loc. cit.

⁷⁰ *Ibid.* bdle. 50, no. 239; *Visit. Rudl.* (Harl. Soc.), 1618-9, 25. Jane is given as

sister of John Harington and Walter is given as William.

⁷¹ Early Chan. Proc. loc. cit.

⁷² *Close R.* 20 Edw. IV, m. 14.

⁷³ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), xxxv, 89.

⁷⁴ *Cal. S.P. Dom.* 1547-80, 338.

⁷⁵ *List of Sheriffs* (P.R.O.).

⁷⁶ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), clxxi, 67.

⁷⁷ *Cal. S.P. Dom.* 1581-90, 195.

⁷⁸ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), cccxxvi, 54.

⁷⁹ *Fine R.* 11 Jas. I, pt. 3, no. 26.

⁸⁰ Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 12 Jas. I; *Visit. Rudl.* (Harl. Soc.), 1618-9, 26.

⁸¹ *List of Sheriffs* (P.R.O.); Shaw, *Knights of Engl.* ii, 177.

⁸² Feet of F. Div. Cos. East. 7 Chas. I.

⁸³ *Recov. R.* Hil. 15 Chas. I, ro. 5; *Visit. Rudl.* loc. cit.

In 1647, being deeply involved in debt, William sold lands in Glaston, which seem to have comprised the manor, to Richard Fancourt.⁸⁴

Richard Fancourt, or probably a son of the same name, in 1672 mortgaged the manor to Sir Mark Guyon, and thereafter there were frequent dealings by various mortgagees. Richard Fancourt was sheriff of Rutland in 1674 and about the same year married Anne, daughter of George Tresham and Anne his wife, of Pilton (co. Northants). He married secondly Elizabeth Dixon and died about 1693. By his first wife he had a son Richard and two daughters, Elizabeth who married Edward Boulton of Westminster, and Anne who married Henry Cecil of Oundle (co. Northants), and by his second wife he had three children, Anne, Frances and Barthony. In 1700 all parties, including the mortgagees, combined in selling the manor of Glaston to the Rev. Everard Smith of Ayston, who died in 1704. Everard Smith bequeathed the manor to his wife Elizabeth for life and then to their daughter Elizabeth, wife of the Rev. John Yates, and to their daughter Elizabeth Yates. He also left two grand-



WATSON. *Argent a chevron engrailed azure between three marilets sable with three crescents or on the chevron.*



MONCKTON. *Sable a chevron between three marilets or with three molets sable on the chevron.*

children, Elizabeth and Mary Smith,⁸⁵ daughters of his son Everard, who had predeceased him in 1701. Anne, widow of Everard Smith, the son (who later married one Bass), disputed the will on behalf of her daughters. The will was, however, upheld and the manor passed from Elizabeth, wife of the Rev. John Yates, to her daughter Elizabeth, who married first the Rev. Thomas White, and secondly, in 1739, the Rev. George Fenwick. Elizabeth Fenwick died in 1751 leaving no issue. She bequeathed Glaston to John Laughton, who already had an interest under the will of Everard Smith, and on failure of his issue to Dorothy, wife of Major-General John Johnson. Such failure seems to have occurred, as Dorothy or Dorothea Johnson and John, her son, settled the manor on the marriage of the latter with Jane Hassel in 1765. About 1785 John Johnson took the name of John Kemeys Tynte, and in 1786 he and his wife Jane sold the manor to John Cutler, merchant of London. In 1795 John Cutler sold the manor with the manor house, or the toft where the same lately stood, for £4,850 to John Stanger of Glaston, grazier, who died

in 1820 leaving it to Hon. George Watson, youngest son of his 'much respected friend and patron the late Lewis, Lord Sondes,' and his heirs male, failing such heirs to his brother Hon. Henry Watson and his heirs male, and failing them to Lewis Richard Watson, Lord Sondes, his heirs and assigns for ever. The Watsons, Lords Sondes, held the manor until the middle of the 19th century, when it was acquired by George Monckton, grandson of the first Viscount Galway. On his death in 1858 the manor passed to Edward H. C. Monckton, his nephew, son of Philip Monckton of Fineshade Abbey (co. Northants), who died in 1878. From him it went to his son Edward Philip Monckton, sheriff of Rutland in 1883, who was succeeded by his son, Mr. George Edward Monckton of Bacton Manor (co. Heref.), the present owner.⁸⁶

The church of *ST. ANDREW* consists of chancel 31 ft. by 16 ft. 6 in., central tower 11 ft. 3 in. by 10 ft. 8 in., with short broach spire, clearstoried nave 43 ft. 6 in. by 15 ft. 6 in., north aisle 8 ft. 3 in. wide, and south porch 8 ft. 6 in. by 9 ft., all these measurements being internal. Externally the tower is about 2 ft. longer from north to south than from west to east, its north and south walls being nearly 4 ft. thick.⁸⁷ The width across nave and aisle is 26 ft. The east end of the aisle, which covers the tower on its north side, is used as a vestry.

The building throughout is of rubble, and the walls internally are stripped of plaster. There is a plain parapet to the aisle, but elsewhere the roofs are eaved and of low pitch. The chancel is covered with modern slates; the nave is leaded, and the porch has stone slates.

The earliest church on the site appears to have been a 12th-century building consisting of a small square-ended chancel and aisleless nave with intermediate axial tower, from which the plan of the existing church has developed. Of this early building the walls of the tower remain approximately to the height of the bell-chamber, together with the south-east angle of the nave, into which the walling of the tower is bonded. The nave was about 33 ft. long and the same width as at present, its extent westward being indicated by the existing masonry pier of the arcade, but few, if any, distinctly 12th-century features have survived the many subsequent alterations of the building, the architectural history of which seems to be as follows.⁸⁸

About 1200 a north aisle was added to the nave, the wall of which was pierced by the existing arcade of two bays, and at the same time, or very shortly after, a new chancel was probably built round the old one. The new chancel was of the same external width as the tower, the east⁸⁹ and west arches of which were replaced by larger pointed ones, but of these only the west arch remains unaltered. About 1220 the upper stage of the tower and the spire were added, but no other work of importance appears to have been undertaken until the 14th century, when the church

⁸⁴ Chan. Proc. (Ser. ii), bdle. 443, no. 4.
⁸⁵ Elizabeth married Charles White of Shenfield (co. Essex); Mary died a spinster.

⁸⁶ The foregoing descent of the manor from the sale by William Coly in 1647 has been obtained from the title deeds of Mr. G. E. Monckton, who has kindly permitted the Editor to examine them.

⁸⁷ The longer dimension internally is from west to east, owing to the less thickness of the inside walls. The thickness of the outer walls is reduced in the upper part at the floor levels.

⁸⁸ Use has been made in the following description of the notes on the architectural history of the church by Mr. A. B. Whittingham, contained in a MS. volume

kept among the church papers at the rectory. These notes were re-written in 1924 from a paper read before the Rutland Archaeological Society in September 1922.

⁸⁹ The fact that there are no foundations under the east arch of the tower indicates that there was always an opening there. The original arch appears to have been about 7 ft. 6 in. wide.

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

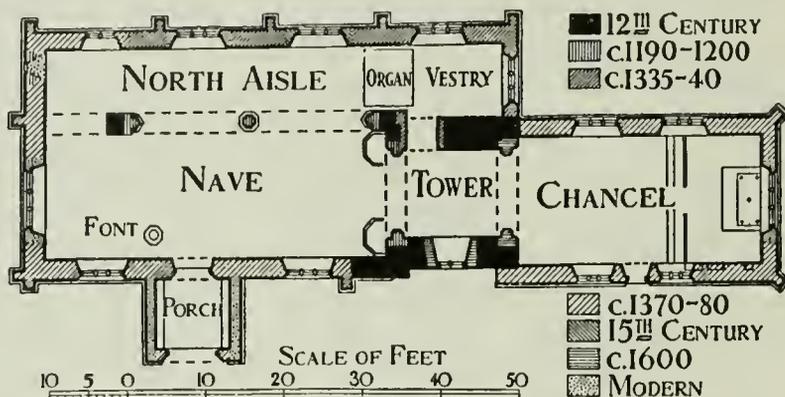
was in a great measure rebuilt and assumed more or less its present appearance. This rebuilding, or remodelling, was begun about 1340-45 by the widening and extension eastward of the aisle, which was made to overlap the tower on its north side, the intention being also to lengthen the nave westward by a bay. The work was started at the east end of the aisle and set out in four bays,⁹⁰ but when the north-west corner was reached and the westward extension thus begun the work was suddenly stopped.⁹¹ The new aisle was then probably roofed and the old west wall temporarily built up to the north wall, the rest of the work being left unfinished. At the east end the north-east corner of the nave had to be rebuilt and a new arch was cut through the north wall of the tower at its west end to give access to the extended aisle.⁹² If, as is not unlikely, the stoppage of work was due to the Black Death (1349) its beginning cannot have been very long before the middle of the century, and it was probably about 1370 before it was resumed. The original intention may have been to rebuild the arcade to correspond with the bays of the aisle, but this was not done, though the arches appear to have been altered to a pointed shape at this time. The north-west angle of the nave was left standing and the western extension made by building a plain narrow arch against it in continuation of the arcade, the old west wall being taken down after the completion of the new one, and the western portion of the south wall of the nave rebuilt. Very shortly after the remainder of the south wall also was rebuilt, a buttress having first been set out near to its east end, where probably the old wall was becoming insecure, and the porch and clearstory erected.

The chancel was also rebuilt and enlarged in the latter half of the 14th century, possibly at the same time as the nave, or shortly after. It was widened by building the new south wall outside the old one, covering the south-east angle of the tower, but the west wall was rebuilt on the old foundations. Of the former chancel nothing remains.

No structural changes of importance were made in the 15th century, though a new window appears to have been inserted in the aisle, and a rood-loft, of which traces remain,⁹³ was probably first erected. In the 16th or early 17th century,⁹⁴ new windows were inserted in the bell-chamber and in the lower stage of

the tower, and the east tower arch was remodelled. The porch is said to have been rebuilt in 1622, and in 1699 a singing gallery was erected at the west end of the nave.⁹⁵ The chancel was restored in 1863, and the nave in 1864. At a later restoration, in 1880, the porch was again rebuilt.⁹⁶

The chancel has a modern pointed east window of three lights with reticulated tracery, but the lateral windows, two on each side, are of the 14th century and square-headed. They are of three trefoiled lights, placed high in the walls⁹⁷ and without hood-moulds, those on the south side having geometrical quatrefoil tracery, the other with curved, or flowing trefoils. The hollow moulding below the eaves is enriched with ball-flower. The eastern angles have diagonal buttresses to about half the height of the walls, and along



PLAN OF GLASTON CHURCH

the east end is a sill string chamfered on both edges.⁹⁸ There is a plain pointed doorway in the south wall, and in the usual position internally an ogee-headed piscina with fluted bowl and triple sedilia with plain continuous chamfered arches. The modern open timber roof is of four bays. At the south-west angle of the chancel outside is cut the date 1707, recording some repairs done in that year.⁹⁹

The pointed east arch of the tower opening into the chancel is of two orders, the outer square and the inner chamfered, but remains as altered in post-Reformation times, with moulded imposts. The 13th-century west arch of the tower is of the same character with original chamfered imposts, and the chamfers of the inner order ending in broach stops on the east side.¹ Both arches are without hood-moulds. The later arch between the tower and the vestry is of three chamfered orders dying into the wall. Externally the tower consists of a lofty lower stage and a bell-chamber, the windows of which, as already stated, are later insertions and of two rounded lights; the lower window

⁹⁰ The two end bays are wider than the others.

⁹¹ There had apparently been a pause as soon as the new north wall had reached the old west wall, as there is a break in the coursing of the masonry inside (Whittingham MS.).

⁹² The arch was kept to the west to allow for the new aisle altar east of it. In 1605 there was a presentment that the chapel in the north aisle was unpaved and raineth in at the top in default of Mr. King of Ashby de la Laund or of Thomas

Ralt his farmer (Irons' Notes, Archd. Visit.).

⁹³ There are no stairs, access having probably been by wooden steps. The screen has left marks on the west tower arch, and the loft on the capital of the east respond of the arcade: the hole for a supporting beam is filled in with stone.

⁹⁴ In 1592 the chancel windows were out of repair (Irons' Notes, Archd. Visit.).

⁹⁵ A large upper window which existed before 1864 at the west end of the nave was probably inserted at this time. Below

it was a smaller two-light square-headed window.

⁹⁶ When the porch was pulled down two Nuremberg tokens and a shilling of Charles I were found.

⁹⁷ The sills are 6 ft. 6 in. above the ground.

⁹⁸ It goes round the buttresses, but not along the side walls.

⁹⁹ The walls of the chancel and tower were secured to one another by an iron tie.

¹ Those on the west side were cut away when the rood beam was put up.



GLASTON CHURCH FROM THE SOUTH-WEST



GLASTON CHURCH : THE INTERIOR, LOOKING EAST

in the south wall is of the same character. On the north side the 12th-century walling remains up to the bell-chamber string, but on the south it reaches not quite so far;² the quoins of the north-east angle stand free,³ while those of the south-east, though covered at the angle, are seen from the chancel. The tower is without buttresses or a vice, access to the bell-chamber being by a doorway high in the north wall, reached by a ladder from the vestry. The spire is only about 20 ft. high and rises directly from a simple moulding without the intervention of a corbel-table or cornice, and has plain angles and a round-headed gabled light in each of the cardinal faces; it terminates in a stone finial and cock vane.

The late 12th-century nave arcade is of ironstone and consists of two wide arches of two moulded orders,⁴ with hood-moulds towards the nave, springing from canted responds and a dividing octagonal pillar, all with moulded bases and water-leaf capitals.⁵ The outer order has a keel-shaped edge-roll and the inner order a deep soffit hollow between two bold keel-shaped mouldings.⁶ The narrower⁷ 14th-century western arch is of two orders, without hood-mould, the outer square and the inner chamfered, on chamfered impost.

With the exception of a re-used lancet window,⁸ now blocked, at the west end of the aisle, the nave and aisle externally are almost wholly of the 14th century. The south doorway⁹ has a pointed arch of two orders, the inner hollow chamfered and the outer moulded, the moulding being carried down the jambs in the form of attached filleted shafts with impost capitals; the hood-mould has head-stops. On either side the doorway in the south wall is a square-headed window of three lights similar in character to the north-east window of the chancel,¹⁰ with flowing trefoil tracery, but the large three-light pointed west window is modern. In the upper part of the south wall are two widely spaced¹¹ square-headed two-light clearstory windows, and the hollow moulding below the eaves is enriched with ball-flower. On the north side the same disposition of clearstory windows obtains, but the eaves moulding is plain. The low-pitched nave roof is of four bays, the two western bays, except for the tie-beam,¹² being old, with curved wind-braces.

The aisle has a keel-shaped string at sill level, and in each of the three eastern bays is a pointed window of three trefoiled lights, the first having reticulated tracery, the second, the 15th-century window already mentioned, with vertical tracery, and the third a modern copy of the first. In the westernmost bay is a restored pointed two-light window with quatrefoil

in the head. The hollow moulding below the parapet is enriched by widely spaced carved heads.

The font is modern and in the style of the 14th century.¹³ The pulpit and reading desk are also modern, but they embody portions of a 15th-century oak screen with trefoiled openings. An alabaster grave slab,¹⁴ taken from the chancel floor during the last restoration, now forms the altar slab.

In the chancel is a large 14th-century coffin lid with matrices of a cross and the head of a priest, bearing the inscription in Lombardic characters: ' . . . erd de Wileby gist ici Deu d. sa alme eyt mercy.' There is also a fragment of a second coffin lid with stem of a cross.

A mural monument in the nave records the burials in the church of a number of lords of the manor and their descendants from 1650 to 1761. There are also monuments to William Roberts (d. 1726), Edward Roberts, sometime rector of Thistleton (d. 1739), and other members of the Roberts family, and to three men of the parish who fell in the war of 1914-18.

There are five bells in the tower, two trebles, by Taylor of Loughborough, having been added in 1931 to a former ring of three. Of the old bells the first and second (now third and fourth) are by Tobie Norris I of Stamford, and are dated respectively 1622 and 1616. The tenor is from the Leicester foundry, 1598, and is inscribed 'Coelorum Christe placeat tibi Rex sonus iste.' There is also a hemispherical clock bell, hung externally from one of the spire lights.¹⁵ The clock dial, on the south side of the tower, is supported on corbels dated 1739.¹⁶

The plate consists of a cup and cover paten of 1572-3, a paten of 1637-8, a flagon of 1735-6, and a dish, with the maker's initials T.F., of about 1670.¹⁷

The registers before 1812 are as follows: (i) baptisms 1558-1684, marriages 1557-1677, burials 1556-1678; (ii) marriages 1686-1753, burials 1678-1812; (iii) baptisms 1684-1812; (iv) marriages 1754-1812. The first volume was rebound in 1884. The entries before 1599 are copies.

There is a modern lychgate at the south-east entrance to the churchyard.

The advowson of Glaston was confirmed to the priory of Launde (co. Leic.) by Henry II. The original donor is not known, but as in the charter Henry II¹⁸ confirmed the gift of the church of Glaston and the mill of Panton, it is probable that the church was given by some early member of the Paunton family.

The priors presented in 1225 and 1236,¹⁹ but in 1254 the advowson was in dispute between the prior

² It extends as far as the clock.

³ The actual angle of the tower only, to the extent of about 1 in. or 1½ in., stands free.

⁴ Towards the aisle the outer order is chamfered.

⁵ On the north side of the east respond the volutes curve outward. The abaci are octagonal. The arches spring at a height above the floor of about 7 ft. 6 in.

⁶ Compare the somewhat earlier arches at Edith Weston, where the mouldings are of round section.

⁷ It is 7 ft. 11 in. wide, the width of the older arches being about 15 ft. 6 in.

⁸ It belonged to the original aisle and was re-used at the time of the 14th-century rebuilding and extension westward. The opening is 8½ in. wide and about 2 ft. 6 in. high.

⁹ A stone sticking up in the floor just inside the doorway may be part of the west jamb of the old south doorway.

¹⁰ The chancel window was perhaps copied from these.

¹¹ The north windows were placed one on each side of the two original arches of the nave arcade, and those on the south correspond. Mr. Whittingham is of the opinion that the westernmost window on the south side was transferred from the nave, where it had been inserted early in the 14th century.

¹² The tie-beam is dated 1744, and those farther east 1750.

¹³ It takes the place of one described as 'classic' (*Stamford Mercury*, 6 Nov. 1863).

¹⁴ It is in two pieces.

¹⁵ North, *Cb. Bells of Rutl.* 132, where the inscriptions on the old bells are given. The old bells were restored in 1931, and hung in a new cast-iron frame. In 1605 it was said that 4 or 5 years before there were three bells, and then there was only one (Irons' Notes, Archd. Visit.).

¹⁶ The clock bell and a small square-headed window near the dial, with a key-stone on the lintel, are probably of this date.

¹⁷ Hope, *Cb. Plate in Rutl.* 23. The flagon is inscribed 'The gift of Mrs. Ann Ridlington to Glaston Church in Rutlandshire, 1735.'

¹⁸ Dugdale, *Mon. Angl.* vi, 189.

¹⁹ Wright, *Hist. of Rutl.* 65; *Rot. Hug. de Welles* (Cant. and York Soc.), ii, 123, 211.

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

of La Launde and James de Paunton.²⁰ Apparently the prior made good his claim, for the advowson was not subsequently held by the lords of the manor until 1409, when Robert Harington presented to the church. In 1448 it was included with the manor in a settlement on Thomas Brauncepath.²¹ The advowson was released with the manor in 1480 by William Fairfax to John Coly,²² and subsequently descended with the manor²³ until 1640, when Sir Anthony and William Coly conveyed it with certain land in Glaston to Edward Andrews.²⁴ The Bishop of Peterborough collated in 1660, probably by lapse.²⁵ In May 1661 Thomas and Tobias Holder sold the advowson to Bernard Hale, Dr. in Divinity and Master of Peterhouse College (co. Cambs.),²⁶ for £220. From Hale it passed to the College, in whose possession it was before 1680, and has so remained till the present day.

Michael Bingham in 1636 bequeathed £100 for the use of the poor. The money was laid out in the purchase of land, and the endowment consists of lands in Morcott, South Luffenham and Barrowden containing approximately 9½ acres, a house at Morcott, and a sum of £525 7s. 4d. 2½ per cent. Consols, the whole producing £32 10s. 8d. per annum. The net income is distributed by the trustees, together with Watson's and Richardson's charities, in coal, bread and money to the poor.

Poor's Money.—The sum of £35 was let out at interest, which was distributed among the poor. In 1819 the principal sum was applied towards building a tenement for parish paupers and has now been lost.

Thomas Richardson, D.D., by his will dated 20 December 1729, gave to the poor of the parish a sum of £50 to be laid out by Thomas Roberts and his heirs in the purchase of land. Thomas Roberts, by his will dated 7 November 1737, charged Harecroft Close at Glaston with a rent charge of 50s. per annum. The rent charge has since been redeemed, and the endowment consists of a sum of £100 2½ per cent. Consols producing in dividends £2 10s. per annum.

Richardson's Bread Charity, comprised in indentures of lease and release, the release dated 10 August 1722, which, reciting that a sum of £60 had been given by Thomas Richardson, D.D., rector of Glaston, for the poor, conveyed several pieces of land situate at Alford and Bainton upon trust to employ the rents in purchasing bread to be distributed among the poor every Sunday after morning service in the parish church. The land, containing approximately 7 acres, is let at an annual rental of £16.

Francis Chesilden, by will dated 14 November 1745, bequeathed £40 upon trust to apply the interest amongst the poor inhabitants of Glaston. The fund was lent to a person who became insolvent, and the money was lost in consequence. It is understood that the money has since been repaid and is now merged in Bingham's Charity.

The Hon. George Watson, by his will dated in 1824, bequeathed a sum of money for the benefit of the poor. The endowment now consists of a sum of £105 13s. 7d. 2½ per cent. Consols producing in dividends £2 12s. 8d. per annum.

The several sums of stock are with the Official Trustees.

LIDDINGTON

Lidenton (xi cent.); Lidentona, Lidington (xii cent.); Lydinton, Lydyngton (xiii cent.); Ledyngton, Luddington (xvii cent.).

Liddington covers an area of 2,127 acres of good loam and clay land mostly under grass. From the north-west part of the parish, where the land is over 500 ft. above the Ordnance datum, the ground falls towards the River Welland, which forms the south-east boundary, where it is 150 ft. above the Ordnance datum.

The long, straggling village is built on both sides of the road from Gretton to Uppingham, from which latter place it is about 2 miles distant. It contains a number of picturesque, though in many cases sadly dilapidated, stone houses chiefly of 17th and 18th century date, and for the most part built of local ironstone and covered with thatch or stone slates. Opposite the lane leading to the church, a much-modernised house, known as the Priest's House, retains an inscribed stone with the motto 'Coelum patria Christus via,' and the initials of Richard Rudd, vicar, 1626.¹ At the south end of the village is a

house with mullioned bay windows and thatched roof, and panel inscribed 'E.A. 1656,' and on the kneeler of the gable of a cottage are the initials and date 'K.W., E.W. ANO. DMN. 1619.' A good two-story gabled house farther to the north is inscribed 'L¹⁸ 1674' and other houses are severally dated 1741, 1744 and 1767.

The lower part of the shaft of the old market cross, which stood on the village green till 1837,² was re-erected near to its original site in 1930. The shaft, which is about 3 ft. 6 in. high and has vertical grooves, is apparently of 13th-century date; it now stands on a specially prepared mound.

The Bishop of Lincoln had a house here as early as the time of King John, who gave licence to the Bishop to enclose a park. The house was frequently in occupation until the 16th century. This manor house, converted into a hospital or almshouse in 1602 by Thomas Lord Burghley, stands on the north side of the church, its principal front overlooking the churchyard. It is a long rectangular two-story building of ironstone rubble with grey ashlar dressings,

²⁰ *Cal. Close R.* 1253-4, p. 164.

²¹ *Chan. Inq.* p.m. 33 Hen. VI, no. 21.

²² *Close R.* 20 Edw. IV, m. 14.

²³ The priors of Launde had a pension from the vicarage of Glaston at the Dissolution (*Dugdale*, loc. cit.).

²⁴ Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 16 Chas. I; Wright, loc. cit. In 1636 the rector was charged with suffering the church lands

to be alienated without the consent of the Ordinary of the Diocese (Irons' Notes, Archd. Visit.).

²⁵ *Inst. Bks.* (P.R.O.).

²⁶ *Alumni Cantab.* vol. ii, pt. i, p. 281.

¹ This may have been the old vicarage described in 1742 as a building of five bays with a barn, stable, dovecote, and garden containing one rood (*Rutl. Mag.* v, 125).

² In 1837 a number of navvies who were at work on the road from Uppingham to Rockingham lodged at Liddington, and on the occasion of a drunken spree they knocked down the cross. It was afterwards preserved in a builder's yard in the village, but was set up in August 1930. In 1796 it stood 'upon several greices' (*Gent. Mag.* lxxi, 187).



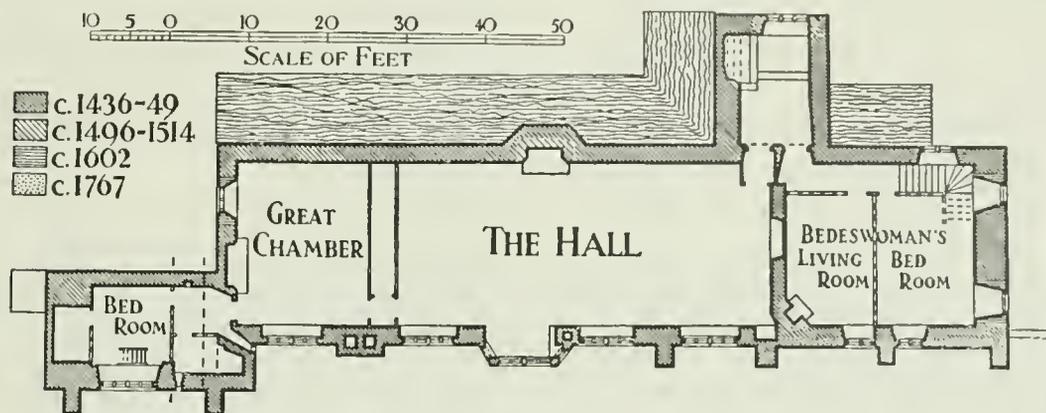
LIDDINGTON BEDE HOUSE FROM THE CHURCHYARD



LIDDINGTON: THE BEDE HOUSE AND WEST DOORWAY OF CHURCH

having its main axis from north-east to south-west,³ and consists of three separately roofed blocks, that in the middle containing the hall and great chamber on the upper floor, with kitchen and offices and rooms for servants beneath. The entrance is on the north side from a penthouse cloister. The rooms in the

sable between three roses gules) is in the glass of one of the windows of the hall,⁹ on the wooden cornice above the bay window, and also on a garden-house. Smith appears to have inserted the chevron after the founding of Brasenose College, Oxford, in 1509, and if this is so it follows that the glass and



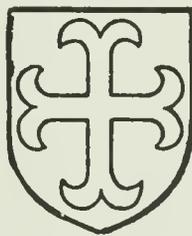
LIDDINGTON BEDE HOUSE: PLAN OF FIRST FLOOR

eastern portion, now occupied by two almswomen,⁴ were formerly used by the bishop's clerks and guests, while those in the western block, which projects about 5 ft. from the main building, were probably used by the bishop, or occupied by his chaplain. The north side of this western block, which on the ground floor is separated from the rest of the building by a passage,⁵ has been pulled down.

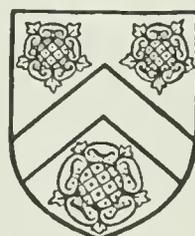
No part of the building appears to be older than the middle or latter half of the 15th century, in which period the whole house was probably rebuilt, though it is possible that some parts of the stonework may be earlier.⁶ Bishop Burglersh had licence from the Crown to extend his park in 1331, and in 1336 a further licence to crenellate his house,⁷ but there are no architectural features of this period in the present building. It seems most likely that the 15th-century rebuilding was in the main the work of Bishop William Alnwick (1436-49), whose arms and motto occur in the glass of the windows of the hall and great chamber, though from its subsequent re-arrangement it is not certain that Alnwick's glass was intended for its present position. If it were, and the conclusion is not unreasonable, the actual rebuilding must have taken place before Alnwick's death in 1449, a date with which the older architectural features of the fabric would agree. Subsequently, however, extensive alterations appear to have been made to the hall by Bishop William Smith (1496-1514), whose coat of three roses⁸ occurs on a small stone shield over the fireplace. His later coat (argent a chevron

ceiling in the hall and chamber, and the erection of the garden-house, belong to the last five years of his episcopate, the alterations to the fabric (as shown by the shield over the fireplace) having been begun between 1496 and 1509.

Many changes were made in the building in 1602, when it was converted into a hospital, the kitchen and offices on the ground floor being divided into small



ALN Wick. Argent a mitrind cross sable.



SMITH. Argent a chevron sable between three roses gules.

rooms for the inmates, and new windows and doorways inserted where necessary; the staircase also was altered. The upper part of the hall chimney as then rebuilt still bears the date 1602. There were further alterations in the 18th century, the south front of the eastern block having apparently been rebuilt or refaced in 1767.¹⁰ The building generally is in a somewhat dilapidated condition, the eastern block alone being occupied.¹¹

³ In the following description the long sides are reckoned as facing north and south, the latter overlooking the churchyard.

⁴ All other beneficiaries of the charity now live in the village.

⁵ The passage leads from the churchyard to the cloister and garden.

⁶ Prof. A. Hamilton Thompson in *Trans. Ruit. Arch. Soc.* (1914), 38. Use has here been made of this article, by permission.

⁷ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1334-8, p. 330.

⁸ William Smith's first seal (1496) as

Bishop of Lincoln shows a shield with three roses without a chevron between them, which (with the field sable and the roses silver) is the coat of Smiths (Smyths) in Hants, Warwickshire, Durham, Salop and Huntingdonshire. Possibly the later change of tinctures with the addition of the chevron implies a tacit admission that the bishop had no right to this coat of arms. The only heraldry in his second seal (1511) is a shield of the arms of his bishopric.

⁹ A large portion of the glass in the

hall and great chamber bears also Smith's motto.

¹⁰ It bears this date in Roman numerals.

¹¹ The warden formerly used the great chamber, but now lives in the village. Thomas Paradise in 1860 wrote: 'At present only two women and the warden inhabit the fabric. . . . The various chambers once used by the poor brethren are now all unfit for habitation—mere cellarage and proceeding towards decay. No repairs being attended to, devouring time tells its own tale.' (*Stamford Mercury*, September 7, 1860).

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

The long south front¹² facing the churchyard is a very good example of the domestic architecture of the 15th century, with tall chimneys, buttresses, and large square-headed transomed windows to the principal apartments on the first floor. These windows are symmetrically placed, two on each side of the bay window of the hall, the latter being corbelled out from a rectangular base. On the ground floor are four small two-light square-headed windows. Except in the west block and in the bay window there are no stringcourses, and ornament is sparingly used, being confined to the windows and to the cusped triangular heads of some of the buttresses. In the refaced eastern block, which has a chimney-gable and tall three-stage buttress breaking the roof-line, the old design appears to have been followed. The smaller size of the windows and the large wall surfaces of the end blocks are in striking contrast to the almost continuous fenestration of the hall and chamber. The roofs are covered with stone slates. The north elevation is more diversified, being well broken up with chimneys and dormer windows.

The ground-floor rooms are entered on the north side by doorways opening from a covered walk, or penthouse cloister, which covers nearly the whole length of the building,¹³ and is reached from the churchyard from the passage before mentioned. The penthouse is stone slated and supported by oak posts on a dwarf wall;¹⁴ the floor is flagged. Three of the original four-centred doorways are moulded, but most of the windows on this side appear to be 17th-century insertions. From the cloister a stone stair, remodelled in the 17th century¹⁵ and contained in a gabled rectangular wing projecting from the north wall,¹⁶ leads to a landing at first-floor level from which two pointed doorways give access to the state-rooms and the east wing respectively. The staircase is lighted by a four-centred transomed window of three cinquefoiled lights, which closely corresponds in design with the windows in the aisles of the church and was evidently made at the same time.¹⁷ The doorways at the head of the stairs are of stone set within rectangular moulded frames with blank shields in the spandrels, and the original nail-studded oak doors still remain.

The hall is 47 ft. long by 20 ft. 3 in. in width, lighted by three four-light transomed windows and a shallow bay¹⁸ in the south wall. The upper openings of the windows are cinquefoiled, but below the transoms there is no cusping. The walls are plastered and the floor is of stone cement. The fireplace, a small rectangular moulded opening, is in the middle of the north wall, and above it is the shield with three roses already mentioned. The hall is entered at its north-east angle, the doorway being protected by an oak

windscreen, apparently of 16th-century date; there is a panelled inner oak door. The beautiful flat wooden ceiling is divided into small rectangular panels by moulded ribs and has an elaborate coved cornice decorated with tracery in imitation of fan-vaulting. The small shield of Bishop Smith over the bay window in the running vine-pattern which fills the lower member of the cornice has already been mentioned; it dates the ceiling from the early part of the 16th century, when probably the hall was newly roofed and the space above the ceiling converted into attics lighted by new windows set in gables on the north side. At the east end of the hall is a recess, about 3 ft. above the floor.

The hall is separated from the great chamber at its west end by a studded partition, the doorway in which has a four-centred oak frame with carved spandrels. The chamber is approximately square,¹⁹ with a four-light window in the south wall, but a deep cupboard against the partition reduces its size. The ceiling is similar to that of the hall upon a smaller scale, and the fireplace, which is in the west wall, is of stone, with moulded four-centred opening, blank shields and cusped circles. Beyond the chamber, and above the ground-floor passage, is a small vestibule lighted by a little window set obliquely in one angle, and communicating with a garde-robe. A small room at the end of the west block, entered from the vestibule, was probably a bedroom; it has a square-headed window of four trefoiled lights in the south wall, and a panelled ceiling like that of the great chamber but without the cornice. From beyond this room a ladder stair gives access to the attics in the west block and over the hall; the great three-light dormer windows are now blocked. The curved principals and wind braces of the roof are quite plain.

The eastern end of the building has two rooms on the first floor, with a passage on the north side and stair to the attics. Each room is lighted by a square-headed two-light window in the south wall, and the end room by another window on the east. All the ground-floor rooms are now disused.

It remains to notice the beautiful quarry glass in the windows of the hall and great chamber. Some of this, as already stated, is of Alnwick's time. His motto 'Delectare in Domino' occurs on quarries in the upper lights of the first, or easternmost, window of the hall, and in the same position in the window of the great chamber,²⁰ in each case in conjunction with the bishop's coat of arms—argent, a cross moline sable—in the alternate oblong spaces of the border; the words also occur singly in one of the lower lights of the westernmost window of the hall. The upper part of the great chamber window is full of Alnwick's glass, and contains a kneeling figure of a bishop

¹² The south front (wrongly styled 'north') is figured in *Gent. Mag.* lxxvi, 457 (June 1796).

¹³ It stops 10 ft. short of the east end, and no doubt originally extended further west. It is 7 ft. in width and is probably medieval though a good deal altered.

¹⁴ The wall is about 3 ft. 6 in. high. The posts and rail are quite plain and the roof is eaved.

¹⁵ The round stone arch at the bottom of the steps is apparently of this period. In the 18th century the penthouse was continued northward along the west side

of the staircase. The date 1743 (or 5) is over the entrance at the north end: the last numeral is much weathered.

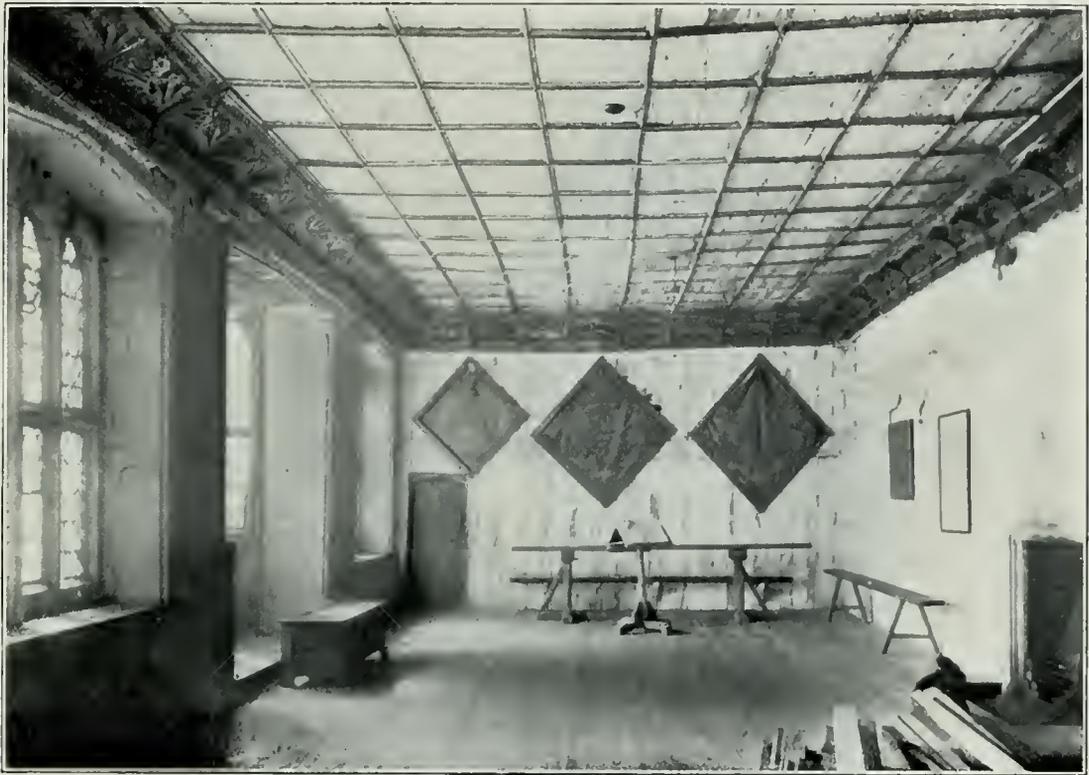
¹⁶ It projects about 18 ft. from the wall and is carried over the cloister alley.

¹⁷ The character of this window is rather later than 1450 and it differs in design from the rectangular windows of the hall. It may, therefore, be an addition of a period subsequent to Alnwick's episcopate: *Trans. Rutl. Arch. Soc.* (1914), 39.

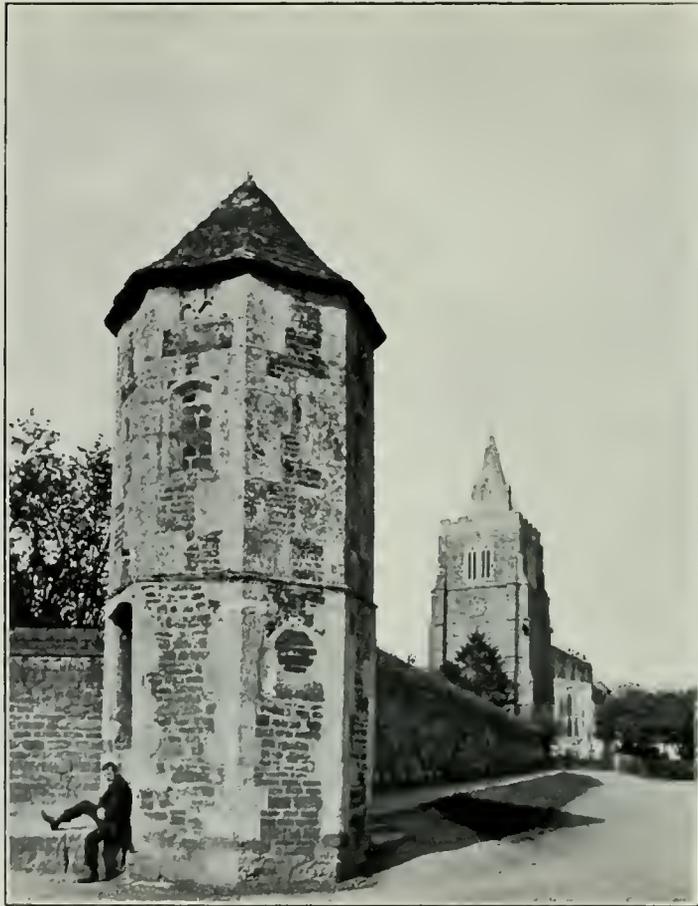
¹⁸ The bay is 8 ft. by 4 ft. deep inside; it is of four lights with a single light on each return.

¹⁹ It measures 20 ft. 3 in. square to the outside of the partition, the ceiling being 20 ft. 3 in. by 19 ft. 6 in. and the floor 20 ft. 3 in. by 16 ft. 4 in. (to front of cupboard).

²⁰ In Wright's time (1684) the words 'Delectare in Domino' occurred 'almost in every quarry': *Hist. of Rutl.* 81. See *Assoc. Arch. Soc. Rep.* xxxi, 382, for the occurrence of apparently similar glass in the now destroyed windows of the palace of Lincoln. The words 'Delectare in Domino' were on the base of Bp. Alnwick's processional cross.



LIDDINGTON BEDE HOUSE: THE HALL



LIDDINGTON BEDE HOUSE: GARDEN TOWER, AND CHURCH

(probably Alnwick himself) with remains of scrolls inscribed with Latin prayers to the Blessed Virgin.²¹

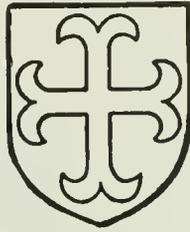
The greater, if inferior, portion of the glass, however, consists of small quarries with Bishop Smith's motto 'Dominus exaltatio mea' repeated in small letters on scrolls, or in large letters of a Roman type on diagonal bands. In one or other of these two forms the words occur on all four windows of the hall²² and in the lower lights of the great chamber window.

Bishop Smith's shield, already referred to, is in the upper part of the easternmost window of the hall, and in the westernmost window is a shield with the traditional arms of St. Hugh.²³ A crowned red rose in the bay window may safely be assigned to the reign of Henry VII.

The wall which encloses the garden west of the house and church is in great part old. At its south-west corner, at the junction of the main road and the road leading to the church, is a projecting octagonal turret with pointed roof, the upper part of which, approached by steps from a raised walk, was used as a garden-house, the lower part being pierced for the public footpath. The four single-light windows are now blocked, and the upper doorway is covered by a slightly projecting porch. The arms of Bishop Smith, already referred to, are above one of the windows on the west side within a quatrefoiled circle.²⁴

Some earthworks situated in a field north-east of the church were originally the fishponds belonging to the manor house of the Bishops of Lincoln.²⁵ There are ironstone pits in the west of the parish and building stone is abundant in the lighter land. A turf maze is said to have existed at Prestley Hill on the eastern side of the parish, but there is no reliable evidence concerning it.²⁶ About a mile north-west of the village, in the part of the parish which projects north of Stoke Dry and west of the Kettering Road, is Liddington Park Lodge. A small Wesleyan chapel was erected in 1849, to the north of the church. The town evidently diminished in importance when its connection with the bishopric ceased; in 1684 Wright says 'it was formerly much more considerable than at present,'²⁷ and about a century ago its population was nearly double its present figure of 322.

A detached portion of Thorpe-by-Water was transferred to Liddington by Local Government Board Order in 1885.



ALNWICK. *Argent a millrind cross sable.*

In 1799 an Inclosure Act was passed for Liddington-with-Caldecott and Uppingham, when tithes were extinguished and 3,200 acres were inclosed.²⁸ Rights of common in Beaumont Chase appertaining to messuages, etc., in Uppingham, Liddington, Stoke Dry, Wardley and Ayston were ascertained and compensated.

The manor of LIDDINGTON before *MANOR* the Conquest was held with soc and sac by Bardi, a Lincolnshire thegn whose chief holding was at Sleaford.²⁹ Bardi's lands were seized by William I and Liddington was given as an endowment to the new see of Lincoln founded in 1085. In the Domesday Survey (1086) it appears in Gisleburg Hundred and a Half in Northamptonshire. Walter was entered as holding 2 hides here, worth £8, of the Bishop of Lincoln, to which there pertained Stoke Dry, Snelston, and Caldecott. There was woodland 3 furlongs in length and 2 in width.³⁰ Between 1154 and 1159 Henry II had granted to Robert, Bishop of Lincoln, 20 acres of assarts at Liddington, by a charter witnessed by Richard de Humez, the Constable.³¹ In 1189 Henry, Bishop of Lincoln, was granted 25 acres more of ancient assart by Richard I. From King John he had licence to inclose his park at Liddington,³² and, in 1215, confirmation of the grants of woodland.³³ Henry III confirmed the licence to inclose the park, and in 1229 issued a mandate concerning it;³⁴ he also granted deer-leaps to Bishop Hugh.³⁵ Writs were dated at Liddington

in the opening years of the reign of Edward I.³⁶ In 1286 Oliver, Bishop of Lincoln, proved his right to view of frankpledge by prescription in Liddington, Stoke Dry, Snelston and Caldecott. His claim to market, pillory and tumbrel was challenged as they were not mentioned in the charters of the King or his ancestors.³⁷ Edward I stocked the bishop's park with deer and in 1291 the park was broken and the deer carried away.³⁸ In 1321 John Hakluyt, Keeper of the Forest, complained that he and his servants were assaulted at Liddington.³⁹

Henry, Bishop of Lincoln, obtained a grant of free warren in his demesnes of Liddington in 1329.⁴⁰

It was possibly as a reprisal against steps taken by the bishops to procure the suppression of a rival market of the Montforts at Uppingham⁴¹ that in 1366 an armed force invaded the fair held every year at



BISHOPRIC OF LINCOLN. *Gules two leopards or and a chief azure with the Blessed Virgin holding the Child or seated therein.*

²¹ Around the crozier held by the bishop is a scroll the fragmentary inscription on which reads '... regno residens o digna patrona . . . o paradisi gaudia dona.' Another fragment reads 'O lux p̄fulgens . . . envsta . . . ne sine manes . . . nem orate'; a third has 'et lune.' See *Gent. Mag.* lxxvi, 457 (June 1796), where part of the second fragment is given as 'rex sine maneris,' but the reading of both fragments is uncertain.

²² In the two western lower lights of the easternmost window, and in both upper and lower lights of the three other windows. They occur sixteen times on diagonal bands, but on scrolls in the bay window only.

²³ Azure a saltire ermine between four fleurs de lys or. Wright (op. cit. 81) wrongly assigned this coat to Bishop Longland. He also assigned Smith's coat to Bishop Russell.

²⁴ The turret is of rubble with ashlar quoins and a stringcourse at mid height. It measures 4 ft. on each face. The roof is covered with stone slates.

²⁵ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 118-9.

²⁶ Matthews, *Mazes and Labyrinths*, 75.

²⁷ *Hist. Rutl.* 80.

²⁸ *Priv. Stat.* 39 Geo. III, cap. 89.

²⁹ *V.C.H. Northants*, i, 287.

³⁰ *Ibid.* 312 b; *Rutl.* i, 141.

³¹ *Reg. Antiq.* (Linc. Rec. Soc. vol. 27), i, 113; *Cal. Pat. R.* 1422-9, p. 421; *Cal. Chart. R.* iv, p. 107.

³² *Ibid.* 146; *Reg. Antiq.* op. cit. 124; *Cal. Close R.* 1227-31, p. 265.

³³ *Chart. R.* 16 John, pt. 203, m. 55; *Reg. Antiq.* op. cit. 129. The park was part of the Forest of Rutland.

³⁴ *Cal. Close R.* 1227-31, p. 265.

³⁵ *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xii, App. 9, 556; *Reg. Antiq.* op. cit. 174-5.

³⁶ *Cal. Fine R.* i, pp. 53, 66, 67, 116.

³⁷ *Plac. de Quo Warr.* (Rec. Com.), 671.

³⁸ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1281-92, p. 455.

³⁹ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1317-31, p. 608; Wright, *Hist. of Rutl.* 76. The boundary of Rutland Forest passed through the middle of Liddington and may possibly have led to disputes.

⁴⁰ *Chart. R.* 3 Edw. III, m. 19, no. 46.

⁴¹ Wright, op. cit. 81.

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

Michaelmas in Liddington, killed William Warde, assaulted the sheriff William Beaufoy and the servants present with him according to custom to keep the peace, and drove away the merchants exhibiting wares.⁴² The Itinerary of Robert Grosseteste shows that he frequently visited Liddington, and subsequent bishops often stayed there, particularly in the days preceding the surrender of the manor to the king in 1547.⁴³ Letters patent were dated here in the close of the fifteenth century,⁴⁴ and a privy council was held here in 1541.⁴⁵

In 1548 a grant of the manor and park for their lives in survivorship was made to Gregory Lord Cromwell (son of Thomas Cromwell, Earl of Essex) and to his wife Elizabeth, the king's aunt, sister of Edward Duke of Somerset.⁴⁶ Lord Cromwell's death at Laund, in 1551, was followed by a grant⁴⁷ of the reversion in fee of the manor after the death of Lady Elizabeth to Sir William Cecil and his wife Mildred for a rent of £27 17s. 4½d. From this date the manor has followed the descent of Barrowden and belongs to the present Marquess of Exeter.⁴⁸

Two mills were mentioned in the Domesday Survey, and mills continued to be held with the manor.⁴⁹ In 1650 a water mill, a windmill and a horse mill were leased for 85 years with Liddington Park, High Park and Great Park, by George Sheffield and Mary his wife and William Cave and Andrew Burton to Robert Pelsant, John Cave, clk., Everard Falkener, jun., and Hugh Banner.⁵⁰

It is said that the custom of Borough English prevails in the manor and that the lord claims to be lord of the Hundred of Wrandike.⁵¹

Edward Watson, secretary to three Bishops of Lincoln, died in 1530 seised of messuages and lands in Liddington, and was survived by his wife Emma, three sons, Henry (his heir), Kenelm and Edward, and a daughter Margaret.⁵² In 1620 the property was held by Anthony Watson, who was succeeded by his son

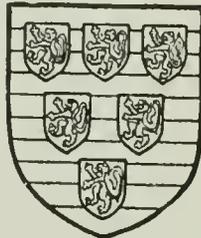
Francis. His wife Elizabeth afterwards married Sir Francis Brown.⁵³

The church of *ST. ANDREW*⁵⁴ consists of chancel 45 ft. 8 in. by 20 ft. with vestry on the north side, clearstoried nave of five bays 60 ft. by 17 ft., north and south aisles 12 ft. 3 in. wide, and west tower 12 ft. square, all these measurements being internal. The tower is surmounted by a short broach spire. The width across nave and aisles is 46 ft. There was formerly a south porch.⁵⁵

The building throughout is of ironstone rubble with ashlar dressings and low-pitched leaded roofs. There are plain parapets to the nave and aisles, but the lead of the chancel roof overhangs. The vestry was built in 1849 and has a stone-slatted roof. In 1890 the church was restored,⁵⁶ the roofs of the nave and aisles being entirely renewed and the plaster stripped from the walls of the chancel.⁵⁷ The tower was restored in 1902.

No portion of the building is earlier than the 14th century, in the first half of which the existing chancel⁵⁸ and the tower⁵⁹ and spire were erected. The nave and aisles were rebuilt during the latter part of the 15th century and are a fine example of the work of that period. The north and south doorways, in the west bay of each aisle, have been blocked, the only entrance to the nave now being by the tower doorway.

The chancel is divided externally into two bays and has a moulded base and scroll string at sill level. There are pairs of two stage buttresses at the eastern angles. The pointed east window is of four lights with reticulated tracery, and in the south wall are two three-light windows with good Decorated tracery, one in each bay. In the corresponding positions in the north wall the windows are of two lights, with a quatrefoil and triangular trefoil in their respective heads. All these windows have trefoiled lights, moulded jambs⁶⁰ and mullions and hood-moulds with head-stops; internally they have moulded rear-arches with hoods and shafted jambs with moulded capitals and bases. In the south wall is a continuous moulded doorway and at its west end a pointed single-light trefoiled window, the transom forming a low-side opening 21 in. high.⁶¹ Internally the chancel levels have been raised and the piscina⁶² and triple stepped



CECIL, Marquess of Exeter. *Barry of ten argent and azure six scutcheons sable each charged with a lion argent.*

⁴² *Cal. Pat. R.* 1364-7, pp. 360, 361, 366.

⁴³ *Ibid.* 1385-9, p. 99; *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, iv, 2378, etc.; v, 1175; xii, pt. 2, 678.

⁴⁴ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1467-77, pp. 475, 583, 595; 1476-85, p. 54, etc.

⁴⁵ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xvi, 1048, 1053, 1055, 1057.

⁴⁶ *Pat. R.* 5 Edw. VI, pt. 7; *Cal. Pat. R.* 1550-3, pp. 198-9.

⁴⁷ *Burke, Extinct Peerage*, 147; *Cal. Pat. R.* loc. cit.

⁴⁸ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), celvii, 91; *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xiii, App. 1, 658; *Chan. Inq. p.m. Misc.* dxiv, 4; dxvii, 18; *Feet of F. Div. Cos. Hil.* 9 Jas. I; *Mich.* 1649; *Hil.* 8 Will. III; *Rutl. East.* 22 Chas. II; 35 Geo. III; *Recov. R. East.* 22 Chas. II, ro. 23; *Hil.* 7 Will. III, ro. 97; *Trin.* 10 Geo. I, ro. 53; 21 and 22 Geo. II, ro. 57; *Mich.* 13 Geo. III, ro. 465; *East.* 16 Geo. III, ro. 467.

⁴⁹ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), xciv, 45.

⁵⁰ *Feet of F. Rutl. Mich.* 1650.

⁵¹ *Rutl. Mag.* v, 71.

⁵² *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), lxxxii, 12. See M.I. in church.

⁵³ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* cccxxvii, 54.

⁵⁴ Irons in his notes from the *Linc. Epis. Reg.* gives the dedication of All Hallows.

⁵⁵ It had been removed before 1860.

⁵⁶ Restoration begun November 1889, church reopened 29 August 1890. The iron spout heads of the chancel are dated 1869.

⁵⁷ The plastering of the nave walls was renewed. The old box pews were removed and the floor under the seats laid with wood blocks, the old flags being placed in the gangways (*Rutl. Mag.* v, 37).

⁵⁸ Prof. Hamilton Thompson suggests that the chancel was probably built at the expense of the canoa of Lincoln, who, as holding the prebend of Liddington, was rector of the church at that time: *Trans. Rutl. Arch. Soc.* (1914), 36.

⁵⁹ The tower may have been erected at the cost of Henry Burghersh, bishop of Lincoln 1320-40, who as lord of the manor was responsible for a large portion

of the repair of the western portion of the fabric (*ibid.*).

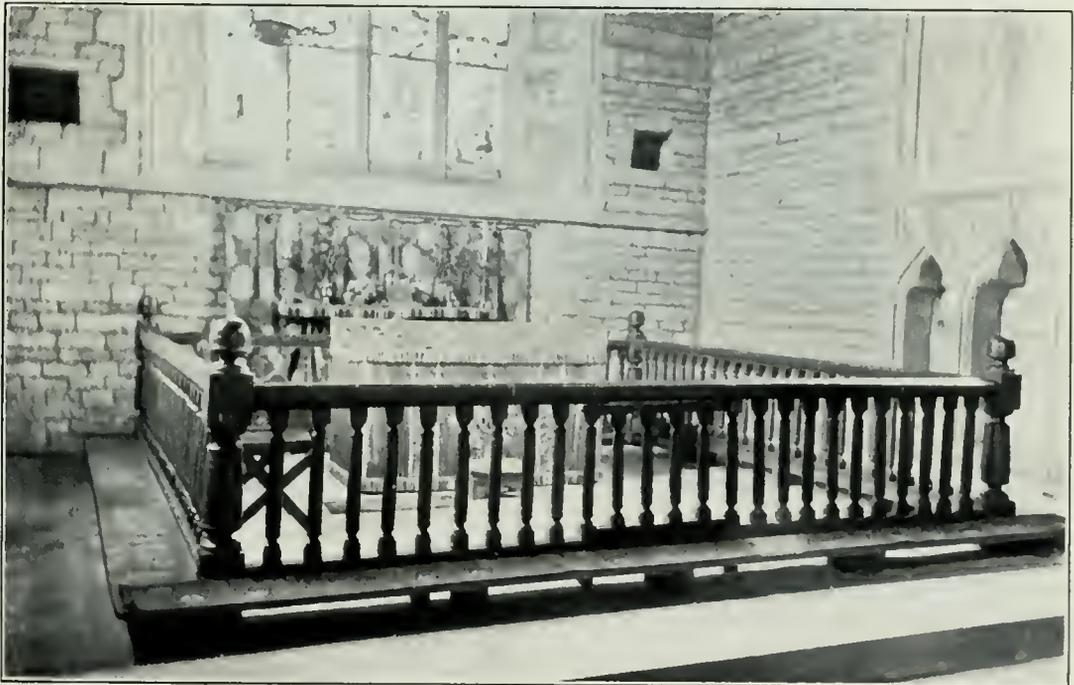
⁶⁰ There is an outer wave moulding in each case.

⁶¹ The window is 3 ft. from the east wall of the aisle and its sill 3 ft. above the chamfered plinth. The transom is level with the chancel sill-string, and the opening is 18 in. wide, splaying internally to 3 ft. 6 in. The rebated lower part of the window is now glazed. In 1860 Thomas Paradise noted that the original iron grating remained (*Stamford Mercury*, Sept. 7, 1860). It had also been noted in 1841 by Sir Henry Dryden, together with a shutter, 'but not the original one.'

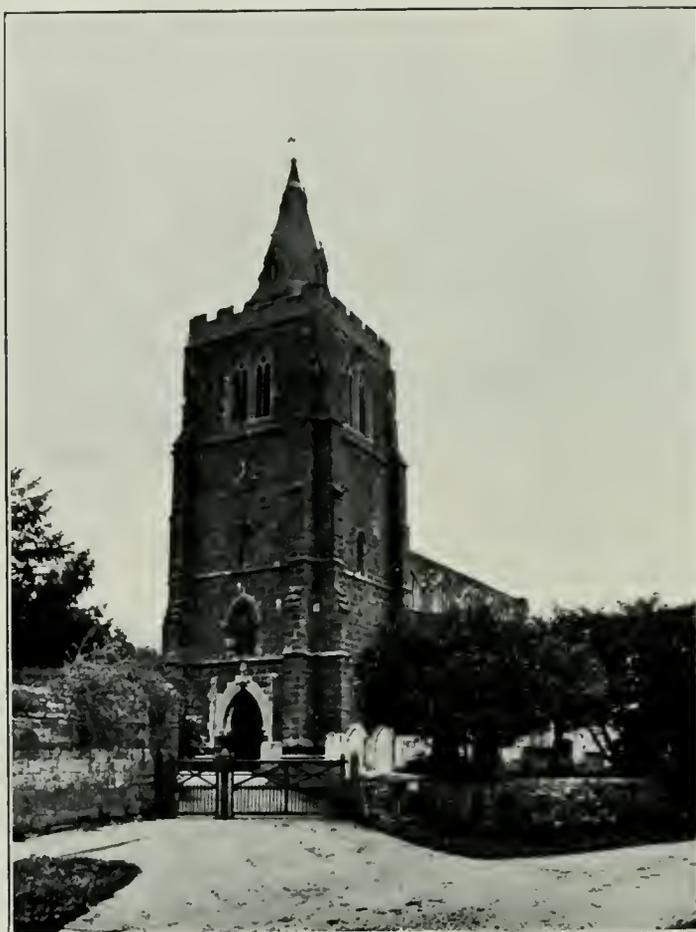
⁶² The piscina is 8 ft. from the east wall, suggesting that there may originally have been a screened-off vestry behind the altar. Indications of a chace about 7 ft. high in the north and south walls, about 5 ft. or 6 ft. from the east wall, 'as though a screen had existed there,' were found when the walls were stripped in 1890: *Assoc. Arch. Soc. Rpts.* xi, p. xxxviii.



LIDDINGTON CHURCH FROM THE SOUTH



LIDDINGTON CHURCH : ALTAR RAILS



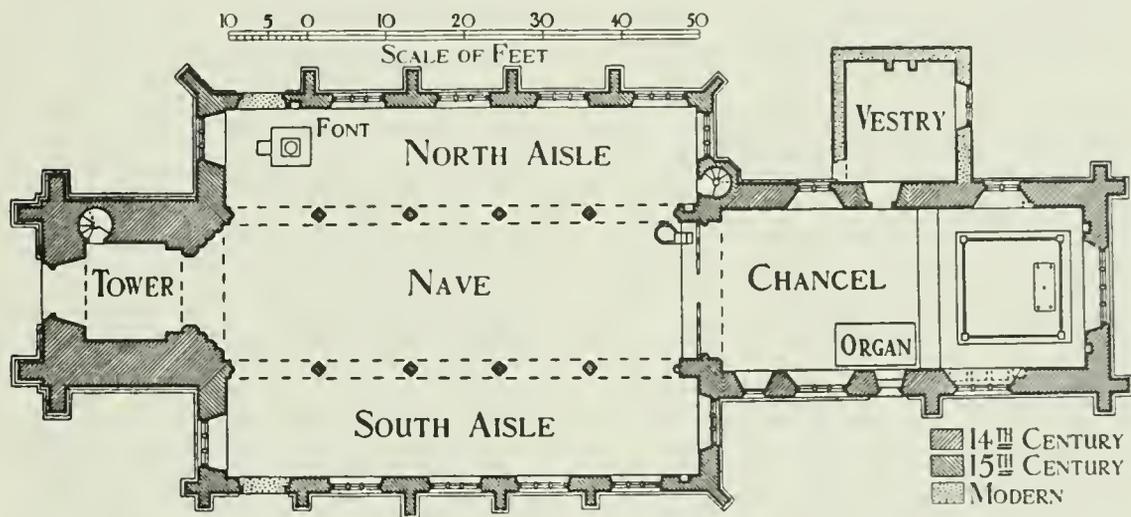
LIDDINGTON CHURCH : THE TOWER

sedilia, which form a single architectural composition of four trefoiled moulded ogee arches below the easternmost window, are now not far above the floor: the piscina has a fluted bowl. In the east wall, north and south of the altar, are two plain rectangular recesses,⁶³ and in the north wall, below the easternmost window, is an oblong aumbry, which retains its original wooden door-frame.⁶⁴ There is a scroll string at sill level along the east wall. On each side of the chancel, below the wall-plate, is a series of holes apparently made for acoustic jars.⁶⁵

The chancel arch was rebuilt with the nave and is of two moulded orders, the inner springing from tall half-round responds with half-octagonal moulded capitals,⁶⁶ the outer dying out: there is no hood-mould. The stair to the rood-loft remains in a very perfect state on the north side of the arch, contained in a projecting angle turret⁶⁷ at the east end of the north aisle: the lower doorway has a four-centred

doorway was four-centred and had a niche above on the outside.

The aisles are set out in five bays corresponding with the nave arcades, divided by two-stage buttresses, two of which on the north side and one on the south have triangular heads. There is a moulded plinth, but no sill string, and the angle buttresses are placed diagonally except at the south-west. The aisles are lighted by tall, four-centred, transomed windows, one at each end and four on either side,⁷⁰ of uniform design. They are of three cinquefoiled lights above and below the transom, with hollow-moulded jambs, returned hood-moulds and chamfered rear arches. The clearstory windows, five on each side, are of the same character but without transoms, and the hoods have head-stops. The grotesque corbels supporting the aisle roofs and some of the moulded roof timbers are ancient, but in the main the roofs are modern, though following the old pattern. The high-pitched



PLAN OF LIDDINGTON CHURCH

arch, but the upper opening is square-headed. The loft no longer exists, but the screen is a handsome piece of 15th-century work, the lower panels of which show outlines of painted figures of saints, with considerable traces of colour in the ground of each panel.⁶⁸

The symmetrical plan and the uniformity of design and detail in the 15th-century nave and aisles make the interior of the church one of much dignity and beauty. The arches of the arcades are of two moulded orders, with hood-moulds toward the nave and south aisle, springing from lofty pillars composed of four clustered columns divided by hollows, and from responds of the same character; the columns have separate octagonal moulded capitals and tall circular moulded bases on octagonal plinths. A piscina remains in the usual position at the east end of each aisle, that in the south aisle being perhaps from an older building,⁶⁹ the other of oblong shape with rectangular trough. There is also a stoup with circular bowl adjoining the pointed north doorway; the south

roof-table of the 14th century nave remains above the tower arch.

The massive west tower is of four stages, with moulded plinth, pairs of buttresses set back slightly from the angles, and battlemented parapets. There is a vice in the north-west angle. The pointed west doorway is of two moulded orders on shafted jambs with moulded capitals, and flanked by small pinnated buttresses which may be later additions: a finial and part of a crocketed hood-mould appear to be insertions. Above the doorway, in the second stage, is a pointed window of two trefoiled lights with quatrefoil in the head, and in the third stage, on all three faces, a single-light, trefoiled pointed opening. The two lower stages north and south are blank. The bell-chamber is lighted on each side by a pair of pointed two-light windows with quatrefoil in the head. The spire is very short and has plain angles and two tiers of gabled lights in the cardinal faces. Internally the tower opens into the nave by a lofty pointed arch

⁶³ They are not rebated.

⁶⁴ It is partly restored.

⁶⁵ There are five in each wall.

⁶⁶ The bases, if moulded, have been cut away.

⁶⁷ It is now roofed back with lead, but probably was originally carried above the

roof, to which there was access by steps still existing above the level of the doorway to the loft.

⁶⁸ *Trans. Rull. Arch. Soc.* (1914), 37.

The upper part is much restored; it has three traceried openings on each side of the doorway. The east side retains its

groined cove, but towards the nave there is only a plain modern cornice.

⁶⁹ It is much mutilated, the shelf, mouldings and ornamental head having been cut away.

⁷⁰ The westernmost bay being occupied by the doorway.

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

of four continuous orders, alternately chamfered and with wave moulding.⁷¹ Above the arch is a pointed chamfered opening within the line of the old roof. The stone vaulting⁷² above the second stage was restored in 1902 and a ringing chamber made above it.

The font has a plain square bowl, moulded on the underside, on a modern stem and base. Its date is uncertain, but it has a good Jacobean spire cover with ball termination. The wooden pulpit is modern.

The altar is entirely surrounded by communion rails made in 1635, but has been moved eastward from the position it occupied when the rails were set up. This very unusual arrangement is due to the puritanism of the vicar, Richard Rudd, whose initials are on the rail, backed up by Bishop Williams of Lincoln, who, it is said, bade the vicar fence in the table not as Laud intended, on three sides, but on four, thus keeping it separated from the east wall.⁷³ The rails form a square of 13 ft., with turned balusters and angle posts, on one of which is the date of erection and on another the wardens' initials.⁷⁴

The wall above the chancel arch was painted with a representation of the Doom, or Last Judgment, traces of which still remain. The painting probably extended to the tympanum, or board filling the upper part of the arch, and to the clearstory walls on each side. There are now no traces of the tympanum and portions only of the painting over the arch can be distinguished beneath a superimposed painting of post-Reformation date, but the jaws of Hell, represented by the open mouth of a great whale, or fish, are clearly visible on the south wall of the clearstory.⁷⁵ Black-letter texts painted upon the walls in the 16th or 17th century are still partly discernible in places.⁷⁶

Two fragments of 15th-century glass, with the heads of a bishop and a king, are in the tracery of the middle window of the north aisle.

A beautiful coped coffin lid with floriated cross, of the later part of the 13th century,⁷⁷ and another of early 14th-century date with the head and shoulders of a man sunk within an ogee-shaped recessed canopy are now at the west end of the south aisle.⁷⁸

In the floor of the chancel are two marble grave slabs with brasses, one a small figure of Helyn Hardy, wife of Robert Hardy, gentleman (d. 1486),⁷⁹ the other, of about the same period, with the figures of a man and woman.⁸⁰ This latter slab, of which the surrounding inscription is gone, was used in the early

part of the 16th century over the grave of Edward Watson, of Liddington (d. 1530), surveyor-general to the bishops of Lincoln and a nephew by marriage of Bishop Smith; a brass plate with a set of Latin elegiacs in his memory was fixed upon the stone.⁸¹

In the north aisle is a memorial to seven men of the parish who fell in the war of 1914-19.⁸²

There is a ring of five bells by Toby Norris (II) of Stamford 1694-5, but the third was recast in 1861 by Taylor of Loughborough.⁸³

The plate consists of a cup with baluster stem made in 1761-2, and a paten with ornamented rim made in 1803-4.⁸⁴

The registers before 1812 are as follows: (i) all entries from about 1562 to 1624; (ii) baptisms and marriages 1626-1725; (iii) burials 1678-1724; (iv) baptisms 1725-57, marriages 1725-50, burials 1725-53; (v) baptisms and burials 1757-91; (vi) baptisms and burials 1792-1812; (vii) marriages 1754-90; (viii) marriages 1791-1812.⁸⁵ There are churchwardens' accounts 1627-1725.

The church of Liddington is not *ADVOWSON* mentioned in the Domesday Survey, but it was confirmed to the Dean and Canons of Lincoln by Pope Alexander III in 1163, when it was assigned in the place of the prebend of Canwick (co. Linc.).⁸⁶ Bishop Gravesend ordained the vicarage in 1276.⁸⁷ The rectory and advowson of Liddington formed part of the endowment of the prebendal stall in Lincoln Cathedral; and the presentation to the vicarage from this date was made by the prebendary down to about 1881, when the patronage of Liddington, with the chapelry of Caldecott, passed to the Bishop of Peterborough, who is the present patron.⁸⁸

The rectory was held by the prebendary who, from time to time, leased the Prebendal House in the village and the prebendal estate consisting of several parcels of land in Liddington and Caldecott. The estate was leased to trustees in 1629 at a rent of £40 for the lives of Henry, Eusebius and Robert Pelsant,⁸⁹ sons of William Pelsant of Market Bosworth (co. Leic.), prebendary of Lincoln (d. about 1634),⁹⁰ and Judith his wife. Henry was a fellow of Trinity Hall, Cambridge; Eusebius was knighted in 1642 and was living at Liddington in 1681, and Robert, of Gray's Inn, died unmarried. To the last of these, the Parliamentary trustees under the Act for abolishing deans and chapters, etc., sold the prebendal estate in 1650

monumental inscriptions are given in *Rutl. Mag.* v, 39-40.

⁸³ North, *Cb. Bells of Rutl.* 140, where the inscriptions are given. On the tenor it is stated that 'Tobias Norris cast us all fore in 1694.' The treble, dated 1695, appears therefore to have been added a year later. The second and fourth are undated. Cut on the bell-frame is 'John Browne fecit 1677,' and the names of two churchwardens.

⁸⁴ Hope, *Cb. Plate in Rutl.* 24.

⁸⁵ The first three volumes have been bound in one. The early entries in the first volume are in a very imperfect state.

⁸⁶ *Reg. Antiq.* op. cit. 207.

⁸⁷ *Rot. Ric. Gravesend* (Cant. and York Soc.), pp. xxi, 130.

⁸⁸ Irons' Notes, Linc. Episc. Reg. (Instit.).

⁸⁹ Close R. 1651, pt. 26, no. 39.

⁹⁰ *Rutl. Visit.* (Harl. Soc.), 1681-2, p. 31.

⁷¹ On the west side there are three orders only, the two outer being chamfered.

⁷² The ribs are chamfered and there is a bell-hole. The corbels on the east side are ancient.

⁷³ Bond, *Cbancels of Eng. Churches*, 134; Bp. Williams is said to have interpreted Laud's order to mean that the Holy Table in parish churches should be placed in the middle of the chancel and railed in and gave orders to that effect. The table at Liddington 'is historically interesting as a memento of Williams, who though by no means a puritan was a man who considered it most important to conciliate Puritanism' (*Rutl. Mag.* i, 68).

⁷⁴ This arrangement of the rails continued undisturbed until 1889. At the restoration of the chancel in the following year it was done away with, but has since been replaced as before (R. P. Brereton in *Rutl. Mag.* i, 102).

⁷⁵ *Trans. Rutl. Arch. Soc.* (1914), 37.

⁷⁶ *Ibid.*

⁷⁷ Figured in Boutell's *Christian Monuments* (1854), 22.

⁷⁸ They were at one time, with others, in the churchyard wall.

⁷⁹ She is represented in a veiled headdress, mitten sleeves, belt and cordon. The inscription is given in Wright, *Hist. of Rutl.* 81.

⁸⁰ The man has long hair and a full gown with long loose furred sleeves. The woman has a veiled headdress with cape and furred cuffs to gown.

⁸¹ The verses and the inscription round the verge are given in Wright, op. cit. 81-82. There were also coats of arms 'graved on four several plates of brass fixt towards the four corners of the gravestone'; these and the Latin verses are gone.

⁸² A number of 18th- and 19th-century

WRANDIKE HUNDRED NORTH LUFFENHAM

for £599.⁹¹ At the time of the Inclosure the prebendal estate consisted of the prebendal house, a homestead and 209½ acres.⁹²

John Moore by his will gave to the CHARITIES churchwardens of Scalford and the churchwardens of Liddington 7 roods of meadowland upon trust to apply the yearly rent in the purchase of bread to be distributed equally among the poor of the parishes. The meadowland is let at a rental of £2 7s. per annum and the half of this sum is distributed in bread to the poor of Liddington.

Liddington Hospital was founded by Sir Thomas Cecil, Kt., Lord Burghley, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, by deed bearing date 6 November 1600, for the relief and setting to work of certain poor and needy people. It was directed that it should be called Jesus Hospital in Liddington and that the same should consist of one warden and twelve poor men and two women who should be called sisters of the hospital. The endowment consists of an annual charge of £116 upon the park or enclosed ground

called Cliffe Park in Northampton. For some time past the amount distributed among the inmates has been £151 3s. 4d. per annum, it being understood that the excess amount over the £116 is provided by the Marquess of Exeter, who acts as treasurer to the hospital.

Elizabeth Mary Jeyes, by her will dated 11 May 1858, bequeathed a sum of money for the poor people of the parish. The endowment now consists of a sum of £53 19s. 10d. 3½ per cent. Conversion Stock, producing in dividends £1 7s. per annum. The charity is administered by the vicar and two trustees appointed by the parish council, who distribute the income among ten poor persons.

Thomas Stevenson, by his will proved at Leicester on 10 September 1907, gave the sum of £200 to the vicar and churchwardens, the income to be applied in augmentation of the salary of the organist of the parish church. The money was invested in £219 3s. 7d. India 3 per cent. stock, producing in dividends £6 11s. 4d. per annum.

The sums of stock are with the Official Trustees.

NORTH LUFFENHAM

Luffenham (xi cent.); Norlufefham, Lufham (xii cent.); North Luffenham (xiii cent.); North Lefenham (xiv cent.).

North Luffenham covers 2,034 acres, mostly of limestone brash with a clay subsoil in places. It is mainly arable, but about a third is grass and only a few small spinneys of woodland. The parish is divided from South Luffenham by the River Chater, from which the land rises to 300 ft. above Ordnance datum. A magnificent view across the valley is obtained from the road leading from the station before entering the village, the land here rising gradually and forming a ridge towards the horizon. The geological formation indicates that water once covered the valley to a considerable extent, and in a deed of 1237 reference is made to 'magna aqua.'¹ The parish is described in 1813 as consisting mostly of open fields except a few old inclosures.

Sculthorpe, a hamlet of North Luffenham referred to in the Domesday Book (1086) and later documents, has now completely disappeared, the only survival of its name being Sculthorpe Spinney to the south of the railway line near Settings Farm.² In 1635 a close in a place called Sculthorpe belonged to James Digby,³ and Sculthorpe Close is again mentioned among his possessions in 1656.⁴ The hamlet is said to have been destroyed by the Parliamentary army in 1642 during the siege of Mr. Noel's house at North Luffenham, as it constituted a threat to the western flank of Lord Grey's army.⁵ At the brickyard between the Luffenhams and Pilton, belonging to Lord Ancaster, a well was discovered in 1881 containing

six jugs and fragments of other mediæval pottery (now preserved in the Normanton Estate works). A considerable amount of potsherds was discovered in clay pits here and it has been considered that these relics indicate the site of the lost hamlet of Sculthorpe.⁶

The extensive village is situated on the slope leading down to the River Chater. It spreads out on both sides of the road from Stamford to Lyndon. The church is on the south side of the village, and to the north-west of it formerly stood Luffenham Hall, the seat of the Noel family, which, having fallen into decay, was pulled down in 1806.⁷ After its demolition the Digby manor house, which stands on the east side of the church, was the most important house in the village and became known as North Luffenham Hall, the name it now bears.⁸ In its present form the house dates from several periods, the oldest portion being probably the work of John Harington, who acquired the estate in 1538 and died in 1553. His son James built the large barn, and in all probability the range of buildings adjacent, which now go to form the outer of the two forecourts on the north side. The barn, which stands to the north-east of the house, has been newly roofed, but its walls, with their long narrow openings and the gabled transept on which is the date 1555, remain unaltered. The adjacent building, which stands at right angles to the barn on the north-west, preserves its original roof timbers, and its upper story is of timber and plaster, a style of building rare in Rutland.⁹ Originally a road ran between these buildings and the house, but some time in the 17th century the road was diverted

⁹¹ Close R. 1651, pt. 26, no. 39.

⁹² *Ruil. Mag.* v, 33. An interesting terrier of Liddington-cum-Caldecott for 1742 is printed in *ibid.* 125.

¹ Anct. D. (P.R.O.), B. 2268.

² See 6 in. Ord. Surv. Map, xiv, N.W.

³ Pat. R. 11 Chas. I, pt. 2, no. 20.

⁴ *Cal. of Com. for Comp.* 3080.

⁵ *Ruil. Mag.* ii, 204.

⁶ *Ibid.* i, 232; notes from Mr. Crowther Beynon.

⁷ The hall figures in a coloured sketch

of 'The South View of North Luffenham, Rutland,' which is said to have been made at the end of the 18th or early in the 19th century by an old schoolmaster of North Luffenham. It was a large two-story house with attics, and the south front (shown in the sketch) had projecting gabled end wings, with a third gable further east. The layout of the grounds can be partially traced and portions of the 18th-century stable buildings still remain.

⁸ There is an illustrated account of the house, by J. A. Gotch, in *Country Life*, April 12, 1919. This has been used, with permission of Mr. Gotch, in the following description. See also *Trans. Ruil. Arch. Soc.* (1912), 55.

⁹ The timbers are exposed on the north side. It is possible that this building is older than the barn, and that it represents the remains of the homestead of an owner who lived here before the Haringtons.

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

and this portion of it became a private approach to the house, entered through a round-arched gateway, still standing.

There is no architectural detail in the earlier part of the house to enable its date to be fixed with certainty, and it may be earlier than 1555, but the great chimney which served the kitchen fireplace, the cambered beam of which is visible, is approximately of this period and the rest of the work is of the same general character. Early in the next century the house was altered, probably by James Digby, who purchased the property in 1599 and died in 1619, part of the north or entrance front being rebuilt in wrought stone, with the Digby arms over the doorway, and a wide curved gable added. Considerable extensions were also made at the back, a good oak staircase with turned balusters and flat-topped newels built to give access to the principal rooms, and minor staircases to those of less importance. Some of the rooms were newly panelled, but in others the older panelling was retained. All these changes and additions were probably made about 1616, which date occurs on some of the oak panelling. In the 18th century the south front was rebuilt in the style of the day, with sash windows, dentilled cornice and hipped wooden dormers; this was probably done either by Simon Digby, who died in 1729, or by his son Kenelm (d. 1743), and some of the rooms affected by the alterations were newly panelled. It was apparently at this time, judging by the gate-piers in front of the house on the north side, that the lay-out of the forecourts was undertaken, but after the change of ownership in 1771 no further alterations were made to the building until 1901, when a new room was added on the west side, and ten years later extensive additions were made to the house at both ends by the present owner, Mr. E. Guy Fenwick, the interior being at the same time rearranged and modernised.¹⁰ The building, therefore, as it now stands comprises work of several periods extending from the 16th to the 20th centuries, the contrast of which, both in style and materials, enhances its general attractiveness. An old kitchen garden, which lies between the house and the road on the north side, is surrounded by a high wall, at one corner of which is a small octagonal tower, or gazebo, placed so as to command the main street of the village.

On the Lyndon Road, at the west end of the village, is the Manor Farm, which bears the date 1640 and has a two-storied gabled porch and low mullioned windows. A gabled stone house at the east end of the village is dated 1628 and another house is dated 1647, much restored in 1894.

There were two mills in the manor in 1086 and one mill in 1503¹¹ and 1635,¹² and there are references to a prison at Luffenham in 1220 and 1238.¹³

John Stokesley, who succeeded his brother Richard as rector in 1527,¹⁴ was sent in 1529 on an embassy to the Pope about the King's divorce from Queen Katherine, and in 1530 he was promoted to the bishopric of London.¹⁵

Robert Johnson, founder of the schools and

hospitals of Christ in Oakham and Uppingham (1584) and archdeacon of Leicester (1591), was rector of North Luffenham from 1574 until his death in 1625. At North Luffenham, so his son relates,¹⁶ 'he was observant, and preached painfully and kept good hospitality.' Shortly after he had entered upon his cure the refusal of one of his parishioners to pay tithes led to a suit in the Court of Arches, when Johnson's claim was upheld. Disputes about tithes were not uncommon: the courts were not unfrequently occupied in settling such cases. Robert Johnson led an active and useful life. At first the founding, and afterwards the care, of his schools and hospitals occupied much of his time; he also re-founded the Hospital of St. John and St. Anne in Oakham, founded by William Dalby in 1399. Three visitation articles¹⁷ testify to his work as archdeacon. He died on 23 July 1625, and was buried at North Luffenham.

Vincent Wing, whose grandfather lived in North Luffenham in the time of Henry VIII, was the son of Vincent Wing, and was baptised at North Luffenham in 1587. Although he did not go to either university, he mastered Latin, Greek and astronomy. Wing was the author of several works; his *Harmonicon Coeleste*, or 'the Coelestial Harmony of the Visible World,' was published in 1651: *Astronomia Britannica*, his chief and most useful work, appeared in 1652. His *Astronomical Almanac*, which was in the press at the time of his death, contains a mass of information on astrology, astronomy, and mathematics, and his Almanacs continued to be published at intervals till 1805. Wing was a land surveyor by occupation, and he made a most minute survey of the parish in 1660. He died in 1668 and was buried at North Luffenham. Tycho Wing, the philosopher and astronomer, whose portrait is in the Hall of the Stationers' Company, was descended from Moses Wing, the younger brother of Vincent.¹⁸ The Rev. E. A. Irons (d. 1923), the noted antiquary, was rector here.

Place-names found in the records are Budewelleheved, Wrongedich, Hunisforlong, Wyleweholm,¹⁹ Fostersbriggeclose, Clapmilleclose, Dovecote Close, Moorbridge Close, Mygrey Helmes, Boygrene, Uppfeld²⁰ (xiii cent.), Gosholm, Portgate, Ketenemere (xiv cent.), Wrangdykmere (xv cent.).

The parish of North Luffenham possesses some interesting records, covering the period 1307 to 1690. There are documents, chiefly leases, relating to the Guild of St. Mary, and some to the Town Estate, a file of the papers in the tithe suit of 1588, written on paper, and a 15th-century terrier. The Constables' Book begins with the year 1788.

NORTH LUFFENHAM and *SCULMANORS THORPE* were held before the Conquest by Edith, Queen of Edward the Confessor, who died in 1075. They were owned by William the Conqueror in 1086 and he had let them at farm to Hugh de Port, a great Hampshire landowner.²¹ Hugh became a monk at Winchester before the end of the century, when they reverted to the

¹⁰ Old materials were used where possible and the new work was subordinated to the old. Internally the oak panelling was stripped of its coats of paint and ancient fireplaces opened out.

¹¹ Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 18 Hen. VII, no. 8.

¹² Pat. R. 11 Chas. I, pt. 2, no. 20.

¹³ *Rot. Litt. Claus.* (Rec. Com.), i, 421b; *Cal. Pat. R.* 1232-47, p. 237.

¹⁴ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, iv, g. 2839 (2).

¹⁵ *Ibid.* g. 6654 (2).

¹⁶ Abraham Johnson MSS.

¹⁷ Two were printed, and there is a copy of each in the Brit. Mus.

¹⁸ *Rutl. Mag.* ii, 90-95.

¹⁹ Feet of F. Rutl. 31 Hen. IV, file 3, no. 35.

²⁰ *Anct. D.* (P.R.O.), B. 2268.

²¹ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 140.



NORTH LUFFENHAM CHURCH FROM THE SOUTH

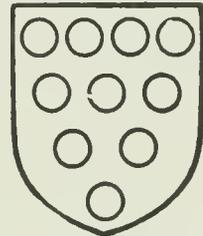


NORTH LUFFENHAM CHURCH: THE INTERIOR, LOOKING EAST

Crown. North Luffenham was granted by Henry II to his brother, William Longspee, who subinfeudated it, or a part of it, to Solomon, his dispenser (*dispensator*) or usher (*ostiarus*). William Longspee died in 1164,²² and his estate here and his household apparently passed to his nephew Henry, the young king, son of Henry II, who confirmed William's grant to Solomon, then described as his serjeant (*serviens*).²³ Solomon probably forfeited, and it is interesting to note that his land was at this time considered part of Nottinghamshire, for the sheriff of Nottingham and Derby charged himself in 1169 with 66*s.* for 36 carucates of land in Rutland pertaining to the county of Nottingham of which Simon Bassett ought to render account. This seems to refer to the lands of Solomon, later farmed by Simon Bassett.²⁴ Henry, who had been crowned King of England in 1170, during his father's lifetime rebelled against his father and probably lost his lands, for although he was reconciled in 1174 we find the lands of Solomon, the usher, in North Luffenham (then under Rutland) were in farm from the Crown to Simon Bassett in 1177, and an item of 60*s.* 6*d.* for the land of Solomon, the usher, in North Luffenham, occurs frequently in the Pipe Rolls until 1190.²⁵ In this year Almeric the dispenser paid 35*s.* 6*d.* of the old farm of North Luffenham of the land of Simon the usher. In the same year also William Mauduit, the king's chamberlain, paid for having 71 solidates of land in North Luffenham which the King had.²⁶ By this, apparently, he obtained the overlordship previously held by William Longspee and Henry the young king. Probably there were other lands in North Luffenham than those held by Solomon, which on Henry the young king's forfeiture were granted by Henry II to William Mauduit, as in 1206 Robert Mauduit, who had succeeded his father William, pleaded that William, his grandfather, was seised of certain lands in the time of Henry II.²⁷ Solomon the usher apparently died about 1194, and it would seem his property went to co-heirs. Walter de Cauz in 1195 paid 40*s.* for having 60 solidates in North Luffenham of his inheritance. In the previous year Pietencia (Pientia) widow of Walter de Cauz, possibly father of the above Walter, had sued Alonoth de Sifrewast for her dower in Oxfordshire and Berkshire.²⁸ In 1196 Walter Mauduit claimed against Walter de Cauz and Richard Papillon 60 acres in North Luffenham. Walter essoined himself on account of illness and Richard conveyed to Robert a third of his lands.²⁹ In the same year Walter de Cauz conveyed 60 solidates and 11 solidates of land to Robert Mauduit covenanting to deliver all charters relating to them.³⁰ It is clear that Robert Mauduit was acquiring all the large freeholds in order to hold the manor in demesne.³¹ Robert's grandson William Mauduit became Earl of Warwick, and

from this date the overlordship passed with Barrowden (q.v.).

Before 1273 the manor had been subinfeudated to George de Cantilupe, who died in that year. Half a fee in North Luffenham was assigned in 1276 to George's sister and co-heiress Milicent, wife of Eudo la Zouche of Haringworth, formerly married to John de Montalt.³² Milicent, then widow of Eudo, in 1280 recovered the service of half a knight's fee in North Luffenham against Isabel, widow of James de Paunton, Roger Skerehare and eighteen others and sued them for their services.³³ Milicent was still alive in 1287.³⁴ In 1345 her grandson Thomas, younger son of William la Zouche of Haringworth, settled land here upon himself and his wife Christine and their issue, with remainder in default to Edmund brother of Thomas, and William la Zouche of Haringworth.³⁵ The rents from Luffenham had reverted before 1382 to the elder line of the Zouches, for in April of that year Sir William la Zouche died holding them of the Earl of Warwick.³⁶ His son and successor William died in May 1396,³⁷ holding rents from North Luffenham, and in November of that year his son William conveyed the manor of Luffenham to trustees to fulfil his will.³⁸ Two years later John la Zouche, brother of William, conveyed the manor to the same trustees,³⁹ evidently for a similar purpose, for in 1415 William la Zouche died seised of land and tenements in North Luffenham held of the Earl of Warwick as of the manor of Barrowden.⁴⁰ This estate was assigned to his widow Elizabeth, who died in 1425, when it passed to her son Sir William la Zouche.⁴¹ John la Zouche, grandson of this William, was with Richard III at Bosworth and was attainted and forfeited his honours. He was restored, however, in 1495 and died in 1526.⁴² His heirs were still, in 1536, receiving a rent of 3½*d.* from land in North Luffenham recently held by the Hospital of All Saints in Stamford (co. Linc.),⁴³ but the manor of North Luffenham was conveyed in 1538 by Anthony Cope and Joan his wife to John Harington.⁴⁴ Harington was knighted in 1536 and died in 1553, when it passed to James, his son.⁴⁵ James was succeeded in 1592 by his son Sir John,⁴⁶ who with his wife Anne sold North Luffenham manor in 1599 to James Digby, son of Roger Digby.⁴⁷ James Digby, whose name is on the tenor bell (1619) at North Luffenham,⁴⁸ married Katherine, daughter of Kenelm Digby, of Stoke Dry, by whom he had a son John.⁴⁹ James Digby and his son John were recusants. As they did not attend any church or usual



ZOUCHE. Azure bezanty.

²² *Early Charters* (Northants Rec. Soc. iv), pp. 24, 25.
²³ *Ibid.* p. 28. See note by Prof. Stenton; Add. MS. 28024, fol. 53d.
²⁴ *Pipe R. Soc.* xiii, p. 65.
²⁵ *Ibid.* xxvii, et seq.
²⁶ *Ibid.* (N.S.), i, pp. 35, 36.
²⁷ *Curia Regis R.* iv, 64, 127, 159, 202.
²⁸ *Rot. Cur. Reg.* (Rec. Com.), i, pp. 42, 80, 89; *Abbrev. Plac.* (Rec. Com.), p. 4.
²⁹ *Curia Regis R.* i, 20.
³⁰ Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 8 Ric. I, no. 1.
³¹ *Curia Regis R.* iv, 159, 202; v, 198;

Feet of F. Rutl. East. 13 John, no. 22; *Abbrev. Plac.* (Rec. Com.), 68.
³² *Cal. Close R.* 1272-79, p. 295; *Cal. Inq.* ii, 20; *Cal. Fine R.* 1272-1307, p. 58-9.
³³ *Abbrev. Plac.* (Rec. Com.), 198.
³⁴ Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 16 Edw. I, no. 20.
³⁵ *Ibid.* Mich. 19 Edw. III, no. 38.
³⁶ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 5 Ric. II, no. 62.
³⁷ G.E.C. *Complete Peerage*, viii, 223;
Chan. Inq. p.m. 19 Ric. II, no. 52.
³⁸ *Cal. Close R.* 1396-9, pp. 66, 120.

³⁹ *Ibid.* p. 404.
⁴⁰ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 3 Hen. V, no. 46.
⁴¹ *Ibid.* 4 Hen. VI, no. 7.
⁴² G.E.C. *op. cit.* 224.
⁴³ *Valor Eccles.* (Rec. Com.), iv, 142.
⁴⁴ *Recov. R.* East. 30 Hen. VIII, ro. 133.
⁴⁵ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), ci, 101.
⁴⁶ *Ibid.* ccxxxii, 81.
⁴⁷ Feet of F. Rutl. East. 41 Eliz.; Wright, *Hist. of Rutl.* 79.
⁴⁸ North, *Cb. Bells of Rutl.* 138.
⁴⁹ *Rutl. Visit.* 1618-19 (Harl. Soc.), 17.

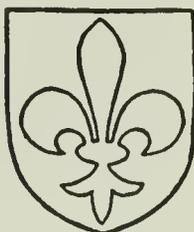
A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

place of common prayer and failed to pay the fine of £20 a month for their recusancy, two-thirds of all their lands were seized. It was found by an inquisition taken in 1627 that they had a capital messuage and 87 acres in North Luffenham in the occupation of James. In 1634 two-thirds were leased for 41 years to Sir Lewis Watson, bart.⁵⁰ An extent of John Digby's land was again made in 1640,⁵¹ no doubt on account of his continued recusancy. James Digby, son of John, who also was a recusant, settled North Luffenham manor in the early part of 1652,⁵² and died shortly afterwards. He had, before his death, arranged for portions from his estates to be paid to his daughter and to his sisters Katherine and Dorothy, and their claims were allowed by the Committee for Compounding.⁵³ James Digby, his son, begged to contract on the Recusants Act for the sequestered two-thirds of his estates.⁵⁴ James died unmarried, and his brother John settled the manor in 1686.⁵⁵ John, who was buried at North Luffenham in 1705, was succeeded by Simon Digby (d. 1729). In 1726 Kenelm Digby his son was in possession of the manor.⁵⁶ He died in August 1743, when his son John, who had been baptised at North Luffenham, succeeded to this manor and married Deborah, daughter of John Fardell. John Digby died 19 May 1758, at the age of 31, and his widow in October 1771.

Before 1802 this manor had been acquired by Sir Gilbert Heathcote,⁵⁷ and it has since descended with Bassetts manor in this parish.

There was another manor in Luffenham known as *BASSETTS MANOR*, part, apparently, of the Lovet Fee,⁵⁸ the head of which was at Elmley Lovett (co. Worc.) and was held of the Earls of Warwick.⁵⁹ A third of a knight's fee was held in 1235-6 by Robert Lovet (Luvet),⁶⁰ who with his son Simon Lovet conveyed land here to Alan Bassett. Simon, for some legal technicality, perhaps, granted his interest to William Maudit, the chamberlain, his chief lord.⁶¹ Half a knight's fee was still held in 1276 by the heirs of Philip Lovet, possibly son of Simon Lovet, and Simon le Clerk.⁶² These heirs may have been Sybil Lovet and her sister Joan, who in 1287-8 released to Milicent de Montalt their claims to land in Luffenham which had been held by Simon Lovet.⁶³

There were so many branches of the Bassett family at this time whose members bore the same Christian names that it is difficult to get a connected descent of

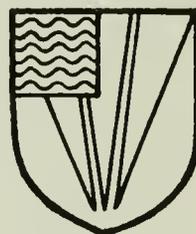


DIGBY. Azure a fleur de lis argent.

Bassetts Manor. Alan Bassett seems to have married twice and the Luffenham property went to the sons of one wife while the Bisbrooke (q.v.) estates went to his daughters by Amis de Foxton, another wife.

Alan Bassett was keeper of the king's escheats in 1232⁶⁴ and escheator for Rutland in 1246.⁶⁵ He was succeeded by a son Richard,⁶⁶ who was dead before 1263, when Alan's sons, John and Gilbert Bassett, released to William, son of Richard Bassett, two parts of a messuage and two carucates of land in North Luffenham of the inheritance of Alan their father.⁶⁷ In 1305 and 1315 John Bassett held a fortieth part of a knight's fee in North Luffenham.⁶⁸ It was probably this same John who testified to the coming of age of Giles son of Bartholomew de Badlesmere in 1335. He was then 50 years of age, and had a son of the same age as Giles.⁶⁹ He was appointed in 1307 and 1313 to collect a twentieth and a fifteenth in Rutland, and served on various commissions and offices mostly relating to Rutland.⁷⁰ In 1313 John and Peter Bassett were accused of assaulting Robert de Glaston at North Luffenham.⁷¹ These may be the John and Peter Bassett who were tenants of Thomas la Zouche at North Luffenham

in 1345 and perhaps sons of John.⁷² The fee was returned in 1402 and 1406 as held by the heir of John Bassett,⁷³ and in 1428 it is returned as late in the possession of Peter Bassett.⁷⁴ The name of John Bassett of North Luffenham occurs in the list of the gentry of Rutland in 1434, who swore not to maintain peace breakers.⁷⁵ John Bassett was lord of this manor in 1498.⁷⁶ He left a son Nicholas, who married Katherine daughter of Lawrence Awnell.⁷⁷ By an undated complaint before the Star Chamber in the time of Henry VIII Anthony Bassett of North Luffenham accused Simon Digby and others of assaulting him in the house of William Islip of North Luffenham.⁷⁸ Thomas, son of Nicholas Bassett, died in 1532 holding the manor of North Luffenham which had been settled on him and his wife Elizabeth, daughter of William Bewfo,⁷⁹ in 1525. He also held land and a water mill in South Luffenham, and a horse mill in North Luffenham. His son Edward, then aged 24, who succeeded him,⁸⁰ died childless in 1534, and John his brother succeeded to the manor.⁸¹ John married Anne, daughter of Thomas Rouse of Rowslinch (co. Worc.),⁸² and in 1545 he and his wife conveyed a water mill and land in North and South Luffenham to John Wymark.⁸³ In 1569 the manor



BASSETT of North Luffenham. Or three piles gules and a quarter argent with three bars wavy azure therein.

⁵⁰ Pat. R. 11 Chas. I, pt. 2, no. 20.

⁵¹ Chan. Proc. (Ser. ii), bdle. 422, no. 65.

⁵² Recov. R. Hil. 1652, ro. 25.

⁵³ Cal. of Com. for Comp. 3079.

⁵⁴ Ibid.

⁵⁵ Recov. R. Trin. 2 Jas. II, ro. 169.

⁵⁶ Ibid. 12 Geo. I, ro. 145.

⁵⁷ Ibid. Hil. 42 Geo. III, ro. 125.

⁵⁸ Feud. Aids, iv, 205.

⁵⁹ V.C.H. Worc. iii, 107-8.

⁶⁰ Bk. of Fees (P.R.O.), 506.

⁶¹ Add. MS. 28024, fol. 52d.

⁶² Cal. Close R. 1272-9, p. 295.

⁶³ Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 16 Edw. I, no. 20.

⁶⁴ Cal. Close R. 1231-4, pp. 131, 158.

⁶⁵ Ibid. 1242-7, p. 456.

⁶⁶ Add. MS. 28024, fol. 52d.

⁶⁷ Feet of F. Rutl. East. 47 Hen. III, no. 60.

⁶⁸ Feud. Aids, iv, 205; Chan. Inq. p.m.

9 Edw. II, no. 71.

⁶⁹ Cal. Inq. vii, no. 691.

⁷⁰ Cal. Pat. R. 1307-13, pp. 23, 186;

1313-17, pp. 50, 109, 351, 596.

⁷¹ Ibid. 1307-13, 600.

⁷² Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 19 Edw. III,

no. 38.

⁷³ Chan. Inq. p.m. 2 Hen. IV, no. 58;

8 Hen. IV, no. 68.

⁷⁴ Feud. Aids, iv, 214.

⁷⁵ Cal. Pat. R. 1429-36, p. 370.

⁷⁶ Cal. Inq. Hen. VII, ii, 202.

⁷⁷ Stowe MS. 676, fol. 13.

⁷⁸ Star Chamb. Proc. Hen. VIII, xvii,

371.

⁷⁹ Stowe MS. loc. cit.

⁸⁰ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), liv, 117.

⁸¹ Ibid. dxcvii, 12.

⁸² Rutl. Visit. op. cit. 18; Nicholas

Charles, Visit. Hunts, 1613 (Camden Soc.),

103. John Bassett had a sister Jane, wife

of Brian Stapleton (Stowe MS. loc. cit.).

⁸³ Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 37 Hen. VIII.

WRANDIKE HUNDRED NORTH LUFFENHAM

was settled on John and Anne in tail male.⁸⁴ John died in 1575,⁸⁵ and in 1585 Anne and her son John conveyed the manor for the purpose of settlement to Edmund Rouse.⁸⁶ John Bassett had a large family of children by his wife Elizabeth Lyon.⁸⁷ He was succeeded in 1626 by his eldest son John,⁸⁸ who with his wife Anne sold the manor in 1628 to John Exton,⁸⁹ and in 1636 John Exton, Thomasina his wife and Bridget Exton, widow, sold it to Edward Viscount Campden.⁹⁰

Viscount Campden gave North Luffenham to his younger son Henry Noel, who made North Luffenham Manor his residence. In February 1643 the house was besieged by Parliamentary forces under the command of Thomas Lord Grey, son of Henry Earl of Stamford. Before commencing hostilities Lord Grey twice appealed to Henry Noel to surrender, but the terms were such that he could not accept and he refused. With only 200 men, friends and neighbours, ill-armed, Noel had no chance against the 1,300 besiegers, and after holding out some twenty-four hours he surrendered. Terms were agreed upon which were not kept. Lord Grey's followers entered and pillaged the house and some ten dwelling houses of Noel's tenants and neighbours were burnt down and the inhabitants of North Luffenham village plundered of their goods and all their horses. The marauders next turned their attention to the church, where they defaced the monument to Noel's first wife and did considerable damage to the old stained-glass windows. The brass plate with the memorial inscription to Robert Johnson did not escape their notice: to-day it bears marks of their violence. Lord Grey appears to have had little control over his followers: it was only with great difficulty that he saved the lives of Henry Noel and his kinsman, Mr. Henry Skipwith, whom he took with him to Northampton. They were afterwards sent to London. In a petition⁹¹ to the House of Lords Noel set forth the circumstances of the attack upon his house and complained of the damages which he had suffered. He died in July of the same year, apparently in London. By an order of the House of Lords of 19 July a pass was granted for the carrying down of his body to Campden⁹² (co. Glouc.), where he was buried.

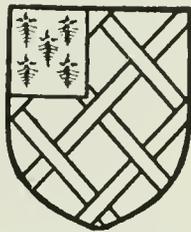
His widow Mary married Sir William Farmer of Easton Neston (co. Northants), and continued to live at Luffenham Hall.⁹³

Luffenham manor passed to a nephew and namesake of Henry Noel, son of his brother Baptist, third Viscount Campden. He was M.P. for Stamford and resided at Luffenham Hall. He left an only child,

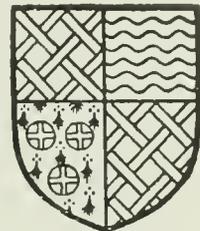
Juliana, and Luffenham manor passed to his half-brother Baptist Noel. Baptist was in residence at North Luffenham in 1688 when a letter from the Earl of Peterborough, Lord Lieutenant of the county, sounding him as to his political views, was addressed to him there.⁹⁴ Baptist, son of Baptist, succeeded as third Earl of Gainsborough in 1690. He settled the manor in 1706 and 1711,⁹⁵ and died in 1714.⁹⁶ His son Baptist the fourth earl sold North Luffenham manor in 1729 to William Burton.⁹⁷ In 1764 William Burton, Bartholomew Burton and others conveyed it to Sir Gilbert Heathcote, bart., as the manor of North Luffenham called Bassetts Manor.⁹⁸ It has since descended with the manors of Normanton and Empingham (q.v.)⁹⁹ to the Earl of Ancaster, who is the present lord.

Before 1223 the prior and convent of Fineshade (co. Northants) had acquired an estate in North Luffenham, which the Pope confirmed at that date.¹ In a 15th-century terrier the land of Fineshade priory is described as lying in Lee Estfeld and Lee Upfeld.² Shortly before the Dissolution William Pyckwell was the tenant. The prior leased the property in 1536 to John Wymarke, and the Crown granted

a similar lease probably in reversion to John Moreton or Monton.³ According to a survey of the time of Edward VI, these lands were in lease by John Wymarke, who wished to buy the estate.⁴ John Monton was lessee until 1563, when Richard Hodgson had a lease which terminated four years later and George Tyrrell appears as lessee in 1569. The Fineshade property then became annexed to the advowson and was granted with it in 1588 to Richard Braithwaite of London and Roger Bromley of Bagworth Park (co. Leic.), who conveyed them two days later to William Romney, citizen and haberdasher of London.⁵ Romney was knighted in 1603 and was Governor of the East India Company in 1606-7.⁶ His wife Rebecca, daughter of Robert Taylor and Elizabeth daughter of Hugh Hutton, was half-sister of Robert Johnson's first wife, Susanna Davers. In 1591 Romney conveyed the Fineshade lands to Robert Johnson,⁷ rector of North Luffenham. Robert's eldest grandson, Isaac Johnson, who, there is good reason to think, was brought up by his grandfather at North Luffenham, was one of the founders of Boston, Massachusetts. He and his wife, the Lady Arabella Fynes, accompanied Winthrop in the expedition to Massachusetts in April 1630. The Lady Arabella died within a few weeks of their arrival in America, and Isaac Johnson died in the following October. His name



NOEL. Or fretty gules with a quarter ermine.



HEATHCOTE-DRUMMOND - WILLOUGHBY, Earl of Ancaster. Or fretty azure, for WILLOUGHBY, quartering or three bars wavy gules, for DRUMMOND, and ermine three roundels vert each charged with a cross or, for HEATHCOTE.

⁸⁴ Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 11 Eliz.

⁸⁵ Parish Registers.

⁸⁶ Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 27 and 28 Eliz.

⁸⁷ Rutl. Visit. loc. cit.

⁸⁸ Chan. Inq. p.m. Misc. (Ser. ii), dxxxii, 67.

⁸⁹ Feet of F. Rutl. East. 4 Chas. I; Recov. R. East. 4 Chas. I, ro. 2.

⁹⁰ Feet of F. Rutl. East. 12 Chas. I.

⁹¹ Hist. MSS. Com. Rep. v, pt. 1, 76.

⁹² House of Lords Journ. v, 641 (19 July 1643).

⁹³ Rutl. Mag. ii, 208.

⁹⁴ Hist. MSS. Com. Rep. xv, pt. 2, 328.

⁹⁵ Recov. R. Hil. 5 Anne, ro. 14; Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 10 Anne.

⁹⁶ G.E.C. op. cit. iv, 3.

⁹⁷ Recov. R. Trin. 2 & 3 Geo. II, ro. 262.

⁹⁸ Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 4 Geo. III.

⁹⁹ Recov. R. Hil. 42 Geo. III, ro. 125.

¹ Cal. Papal Lett. i, 91.

² Rutl. Mag. i, 219.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Harl. R. Y, 1. John was son of Ralph Wymarke (d. 1519): Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), xxxv, 86.

⁵ Rutl. Mag. i, 220.

⁶ A. B. Beaven, Aldermen of the City of London, ii, p. 48.

⁷ Rutl. Mag. i, 220-1.

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appears as one of the donors on the tenor bell (1619) at North Luffenham. The Fineshade property was sold by Abraham, son of Robert Johnson, to Samuel Barker of South Luffenham. It passed to Jonathan, John, Bridget and Dorothy Barker, four of the children of Samuel Barker of South Luffenham, who died in 1658. The brothers and sisters lived at North Luffenham Manor House, built in 1640.¹⁶ Jonathan and John Barker died in 1668 and 1675 respectively and Bridget in 1687. Dorothy Barker married Wellesbourne Sill in 1688 and died in 1711. She left a rent from 'Fincet Lands,' to trustees for the foundation of a charity at North Luffenham after the death of her husband, which occurred in 1725.¹⁷ The charity was established by deed dated 1710.¹⁸

The priors of Brooke (co. Rutl.) held land and had a manorial court at North Luffenham as early as 1246.¹⁹ Their property here was granted to Anthony Cope in 1536 and afterwards to the Noel family, when it became merged in Bassetts manor.

The church of *ST. JOHN THE CHURCH BAPTIST* consists of chancel 47 ft. 6 in.

by 18 ft., clearstoried nave of four bays 51 ft. 4 in. by 19 ft., north and south aisles 7 ft. wide, north and south porches, and engaged west tower 11 ft. square, all these measurements being internal. The tower is surmounted by a broach spire. The width across nave and aisles is 37 ft. 9 in., and the total internal length of the church about 116 ft.

The building is of rubble throughout, with low-pitched leaded roofs to nave and aisles behind battlemented parapets. The chancel has a modern high-pitched stone-slatted roof with tabled gutters, and the south porch is also covered with stone slates. The north porch is leaded and has a straight parapet. The aisles extend to the west face of the tower, and are under continuous lean-to roofs.

There were frequent complaints of the decayed and uncared-for state of the fabric between the years 1581 and 1624 during the incumbency of Archdeacon Johnson, and the furniture was apparently in no better condition.²⁰ In 1817 the church was re-seated with box pews, which remained, together with a west gallery, until the restoration of the building more than fifty years later, under the direction of George Edmund Street. The chancel was restored and newly roofed in 1870-1,²¹ the nave in 1874-5.²² In the course of these restorations the plaster was stripped from the walls throughout.²³

The building dates in the main from the 13th and 14th centuries, but has developed from a 12th-century fabric with an aisleless nave, the north-west angle of which remains, now within the western part of the north aisle immediately adjoining the east side

of the north tower arch: this portion of walling slopes back at a considerable height above the floor and has a hatched and billet-moulded string.

The 12th-century church was enlarged about 1200-20 by the addition of a north aisle, the arcade of which, consisting of four pointed arches on cylindrical pillars and half-round responds, still remains. The arches are of two chamfered orders, with hood-moulds on each side, and the pillars and responds have circular water-holding bases of two types, on octagonal plinths, except that of the middle pillar, which is square. This pillar has a circular moulded capital, but all the other capitals have early conventional stiff-leaf foliage and octagonal abaci. The hood-moulds have head and notch stops.

In the latter half of the 13th century a south aisle was added, and the existing arcade of four pointed arches is of this period. The arches are of two orders, with hood-mould on the nave side only, the outer order chamfered and the inner order with a large half-round filleted soffit moulding.²⁴ The cylindrical pillars have moulded bases on circular plinths, and the capital of the middle pier is also moulded; the other pillars have beautiful foliated capitals in which the leaves alternately rise up and fall over. The responds are composed of clustered shafts with moulded capitals and bases.

The tower was probably erected at the same time as the south aisle or shortly after, both aisles extended westward and the north aisle apparently rebuilt its whole length, the same keel-shaped string running round the whole building west of the chancel. The buttresses have plain triangular heads with fleur-de-llys terminations. All this work, including the porches, is of late 13th-century date, but may have extended over a number of years. The most western window in the south aisle is of two lights with forked mullion and the corresponding one on the north side is like it, but modern. The north porch has been rebuilt and the doorway very much restored. The other windows of the aisles are later insertions.

The north doorway has a pointed arch of two orders, the inner continuous with two hollows, the outer with a keel-shaped edge-roll on jambshafts with moulded capitals and bases. In the south doorway the moulded outer order springs from clustered jambshafts with circular moulded capitals and bases, while the inner order is chamfered with modern trefoil head. The outer doorway of the south porch has a pointed arch of two chamfered orders, the inner on half-round responds with moulded capitals and bases. In the rebuilt north porch the outer order is moulded on jambshafts with moulded capitals and bases.

The tower is of three²⁵ stages, with a projecting

¹⁶ *Rutland Mag.* i, 220-1.

¹⁷ *Ibid.* 222-3.

¹⁸ See below: Charities.

¹⁹ Feet of F. Rutl. 31 Hen. III, file 3, no. 33.

²⁰ *Rutl. Mag.* iii, 200-201. In 1581 the windows of the chancel were in decay 'through the fault of Mr. Johnson, parson there,' two windows in the body of the church were also decayed, and the south porch was ready to fall. The complaint as to the chancel was repeated in 1583, and in 1584 the parson was presented in respect of two windows on the north side. These windows were still

unglazed in 1586, in which year the body of the church was 'in decay.' It was 'out of repair' in 1588, and again in 1593. There were surveys of the building in 1605 and 1619, which show it to have been in a very uncared-for condition, and in 1624 the rector was blamed for not having mended the chancel windows and floor, part of which was unpaved.

²¹ The restoration of the chancel was begun in May 1870 and completed in April 1871, the cost being borne by the rector (Rev. P. Dennis). Before restoration the chancel roof was ceiled, but bosses projected through the plaster from

the ridge piece. The lower part of the east window was blocked by a board containing the Decalogue, and the roof cut across the window head (*Rutl. Mag.* iii, 36).

²² The restoration of the nave was begun in March 1874 and completed in November 1875, the cost being borne by public subscription.

²³ Except in the vestry, at the west end of the south aisle.

²⁴ The fillets project with an ogee curve.

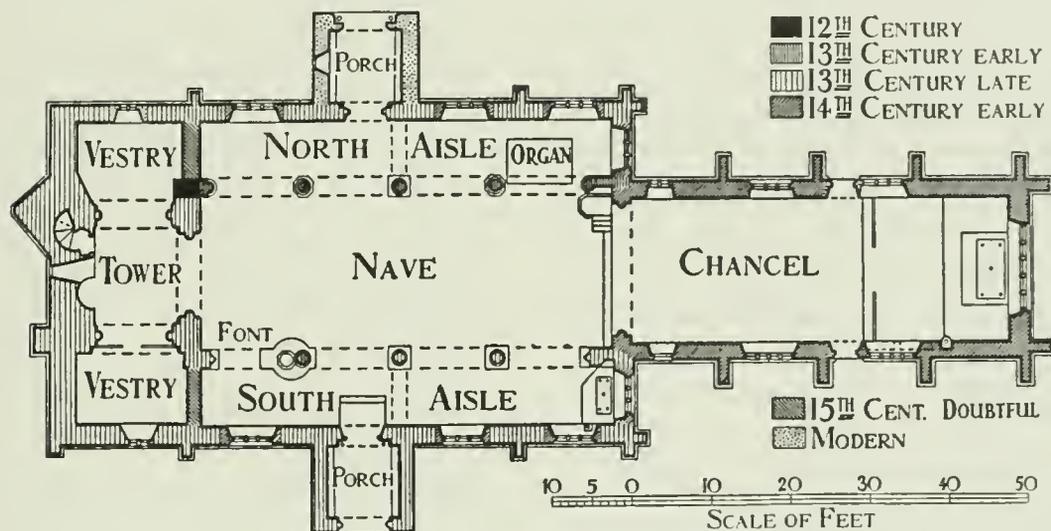
²⁵ On the west side the two lower stages are undistinguished, there being only one stringcourse, at the sill level of the bell-chamber windows.

WRANDIKE HUNDRED NORTH LUFFENHAM

vice in the north-west angle, and a tall lancet window in the west wall. At the upper part of the middle stage, on three sides, are tall loops and the bell-chamber windows are of two plain pointed lights with cusped circle²⁶ in the head. The octagonal broach spire rises from a corbel table of masks and notch heads and has three tiers of gabled openings,²⁷ the lower being of two lancet-lights with lozenge in the head and mid-shaft with moulded capitals. The angles of the spire are plain. Internally the tower opens into the nave by a sharply pointed arch of three²⁸ chamfered orders with hood-mould, the inner order on half-octagonal responds with moulded capitals and bases and into the aisles by similar but less lofty arches. On the east face of the tower is the tabling of the original high-pitched roof.²⁹

Early in the 14th century³⁰ the chancel was rebuilt

centred head and elongated quatrefoil tracery, but is almost wholly restored. The easternmost bay is blank on both sides, but the others are pierced by windows of three and four lights, varying in size and character, and in the westernmost bay on each side, near the bottom of the wall, is a small low-side window, that on the south side pointed and of a single light, the other square headed and of two plain lights.³⁴ There are also north and south doorways in the second bay from the east, both of which are wholly restored or modern. On the south wall the windows are all pointed, the two easternmost of four trefoiled lights with geometrical tracery, the smaller window in the west bay being of three cinquefoiled lights, with depressed two-centred arch and tracery of more curvilinear character. On the north wall the tall easternmost window has a segmental head and is of



PLAN OF NORTH LUFFENHAM CHURCH

on its present plan and new windows were inserted in the aisles. Of these the two east windows are pointed, that in the north aisle being of three trefoiled lights with reticulated tracery, the other of three cinquefoiled lights with curvilinear tracery.³¹ The lateral windows are square-headed and of three trefoiled lights, the hood-moulds having head-stops. At the east end of the south aisle, where the chapel of Our Lady was situate, is a 14th-century trefoil-headed piscina, the bowl of which has been restored,³² and high in the east wall an image bracket supported by a head. In the north aisle there is a modern floor drain and a bracket on each side of the east window.

The chancel is of four bays marked externally by large two-stage buttresses and with pairs of buttresses at its eastern angles. It has a moulded base and string at sill level, about 8 ft. above the ground. The hollow eaves moulding is enriched with ball-flower. The large five-light³³ east window has a flat two-

three lights, the outer cinquefoiled and the middle one uncusped with a quatrefoiled circle above. Next to it is a tall traceried window of three trefoiled lights and in the westernmost bay a taller and more sharply pointed window of four lights, the tracery of which consists of a large trefoil within a triangle. All these windows have hood-moulds with head-stops.

Internally the chancel has a keel-shaped string at sill level all round, and with one exception all the windows have chamfered rear arches; the south-west window has a moulded head and hood with small head-stops.³⁵ The piscina has a square inner recess under a pointed cinquefoiled head with blind tracery and hood-mould, but the bowl is modern. West of this are two sedilia, with wide trefoiled arches within a square frame, and big enclosing hood-mould with head-stops; the hollow mouldings of the arches, frame and hood are enriched with ball-flower and the whole is set in front of a shallow arched recess below

²⁶ On three sides a quatrefoil, on the west a trefoil.

²⁷ The top and bottom openings on the cardinal faces, the middle tier alternately.

²⁸ On the west side there is an additional continuous chamfered order. There is a hood-mould on the east side only.

²⁹ Its upper part is seen from the outside, above the present roof.

³⁰ Apparently before 1329. The glass in the east window is said to have been placed there by John de Mollesworth, rector 1284-1329. (Paper by the late Rev. E. A. Irons, rector, in *Trans. Rutl. Arch. Soc.* (1912) 53).

³¹ There is a hood-mould to the east window of the south aisle, but not to that of the north.

³² It is only about 13 in. above the present floor level.

³³ The middle light is cinquefoiled, the others trefoiled.

³⁴ The low side windows are 2 ft. 6 in. from the east walls of the aisles. That on the north side looks new, but is probably a restoration.

³⁵ It is the only window in the church with an internal hood-mould.

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the easternmost window. The lofty 14th-century arch between the chancel and nave is of two chamfered orders with hood-mould on each side, the inner order on half-round responds with octagonal moulded capitals and circular moulded bases.³⁶

In the 15th century the present nave clearstory³⁷ was erected and a roodscreen probably first introduced. The screen was removed in 1874,³⁸ but a blocked opening at the east end of the north arcade apparently led to the rood-loft stair, and there was also access to the loft from the aisle on the south side of the chancel arch. The four-centred clearstory windows, four on each side, are of two trefoiled lights with lozenge-shaped opening in the head and returned hood-mould. The 15th-century nave roof, though much restored, retains a good deal of original work, and is of four bays with moulded principals and wall pieces resting on corbels. Each bay has an intermediate piece supported by a carved oak angel, at the intersections of which with the ridge and purlins there are carved bosses. The aisle roofs are also much restored, but the bosses appear to be old.

It was perhaps at this time that the west bay of each aisle was screened off by a stone wall, flush with the east face of the tower. High up in each of these walls is a quatrefoil opening, now blocked, widely splayed on the west side. At a later period the south arch of the tower was blocked with masonry to form a vestry,³⁹ but the blocking has been removed and a wooden screen erected. The choir vestry north of the tower is also screened off.

The font has a plain octagonal bowl, moulded on the lower edge; it is probably of 14th-century date, but is mounted on a modern stem.

The 17th-century oak pulpit was altered at the time of the restoration and now stands on a modern stone base; it forms six sides of an octagon and has two tiers of arched panels. A Jacobean altar table is now in use at the east end of the south aisle.

Before the restoration the east window contained a considerable amount of early 14th-century glass, placed there by John de Mollesworth, rector (1284-1329),⁴⁰ but this is now in the middle window on the north side of the chancel and in the middle light of the easternmost window. The middle window contains nine shields placed in three tiers, and beneath the upper tier are canopied figures of St. Mary Magdalene, St. Barbara and St. Edward the Confessor.⁴¹ The other window contains heraldic glass only.⁴²

There are considerable remains of decorative painting on the arches of the south arcade, the inner and outer orders having respectively radiating bands and six-petal flowers and the soffits red scroll-work. The

plastered spandrels are painted with double masonry lines.

In the chancel is a brass chandelier of twelve branches, the gift of John Digby (d. 1758), and in the nave is a dug-out chest with three locks. A barrel-organ case converted into a cupboard, now in the vestry, is inscribed 'O sing praises, sing praises unto our God.'

The inscription on the brass plate in memory of Archdeacon Johnson (d. 1625), founder of Oakham and Uppingham Schools, which is now fixed at the back of one of the sedilia, has already been given.⁴³ There are also memorials in the chancel to Mrs. Susanna Noel⁴⁴ (d. 1640) with bust, Samuel Winter, D.D. (d. 1666); Colonel Henry Markham (d. 1672), John Digby (1758), and William Hardyman, rector (d. 1837), and in the aisles to Simon Digby (d. 1582), Jonathan and John Barker, 'two loving brothers' (d. 1668 and 1675), and to fourteen men of the parish who fell in the war of 1914-19.

There is a ring of five bells, the first by Thomas Norris, of Stamford, 1630, the second a medieval bell with imperfect inscription, the third by Tobie Norris I, of Stamford, 1618, the fourth by Thomas Eayre of Kettering, 1742, and the tenor by Henry Oldfield, of Nottingham, 1619. There is also a small clock bell without date or inscription.⁴⁵

The plate consists of a cup of 1703, a small paten of 1637, a large paten given by Bridget Barker in 1687, and a flagon of 1679, with the arms of Richard Clerk, rector 1641-76.⁴⁶

The registers before 1812 are as follows: (i) baptisms 1572-1747, marriages and burials 1565-1749; (ii) baptisms 1748-1812, marriages 1749-1832, burials 1748-1812; (iii) marriages 1754-1800; (iv) marriages Nov. 1800-1812.⁴⁷

The *CHAPEL OF OUR LADY*, which with its burial ground formerly belonged to the Guild of Our Lady of North Luffenham and in which the village school was kept, stood a short distance to the south-east of the chancel of the church. In 1335 John de Wyke, parson of North Luffenham, obtained licence in mortmain to acquire land and rent worth 5 marks a year, to find a chaplain to celebrate divine service daily in the chapel of St. Mary the Virgin in North Luffenham.⁴⁸ The property of the chantry was in 1567 granted to Robert Holmes and Thomas Boughton.⁴⁹ The chapel was later purchased by the Digby family, who used it as a burial place, but it was demolished by the Heathcotes, part of the material being used to build a small garden house, now in the grounds of North Luffenham Hall,⁵⁰ and part going to the building of a school in the village, afterwards used as a reading room.⁵¹

³⁶ The bases are wholly restored.

³⁷ There are traces of three earlier windows above the north arcade.

³⁸ It was described as consisting of 'three open panels with tracery above': *Stamford Mercury*, Jan. 18, 1861.

³⁹ The blocking was pierced by a timber-framed doorway to the vestry.

⁴⁰ *Trans. Rutl. Arch. Soc.* (1912), 53.

⁴¹ Nelson, *Anc. Painted Glass*, 173, *Rutl. Mag.* iii, 72. The shields bear the following arms: (1) Latimer, (2) Audley, (3) Roos, (4) gules three crosses paty argent within a border vair, (5) Everard, (6) same as no. 4, (7) Beauchamp, (8) De Bohun, (9) Clare. For the heraldry of the painted glass as it existed in the

east window in 1862, see *Gent's Mag. Library, Engl. Topog.* ix, 248, 253-60.

⁴² *Ibid.*: There are five shields of arms: (1) argent two bars gules each charged with a rose between two martlets or, (2) Clifford, (3) Bassett, (4) Fitzwalter, (5) the cross of St. George.

⁴³ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 264.

⁴⁴ Daughter of Sir John Howland, and first wife of Henry Noel, second son of Edward Viscount Campden.

⁴⁵ North, *Cb. Bells of Rutl.* 137, where the inscriptions are given. The inscription on the medieval bell is 'Melodie geret nomen campana.' The bell-frame, dated 1701, has two vacant pits.

⁴⁶ *Rutl. Mag.* iii, 39; Hope, *Cb. Plate*

in Rutl. 16. At the visitation of 1681 an order was made for the silver chalice to be changed; it was too old, too little and very thin. The paten was of 'undecent' fashion and flagons too little (Irons' Notes, Archd. Visit.).

⁴⁷ The registers from 1572 to 1812 were transcribed and edited for the Parish Reg. Soc. by Philip Gretton Dennis, rector, and printed in 1896. The first volume contains various memoranda and a record of briefs collected.

⁴⁸ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1334-8, p. 169.

⁴⁹ *Pat. R.* 9 Eliz. pt. 5.

⁵⁰ Originally the Digby House. See above.

⁵¹ Rev. E. A. Irons in *Trans. Rutl. Arch. Soc.* (1912), 54.

WRANDIKE HUNDRED SOUTH LUFFENHAM

The advowson of the church of *ADVOWSON* North Luffenham was held with Oakham Castle,⁵² and passed into the hands of the king on the attainder of the Duke of Buckingham in 1521.⁵³ The advowson was granted in 1588 to Richard Braithwaite and Roger Bromley and by them sold two days later to William Romney of London, together with the land belonging to Fineshade Priory.⁵⁴ In July 1591 Romney conveyed the advowson to Emmanuel College, Cambridge, having, as appears above, sold the priory land shortly before to Robert Johnson, the incumbent of North Luffenham. Johnson was under the impression that the advowson had passed to him with the land.⁵⁵ On the day of Johnson's death in 1625 Henry Mackworth and Isaac Johnson presented Jonathan Tooky to the church. The college took no action at this date, but on the next vacancy in 1640 they presented, and their right was not then or thereafter challenged.⁵⁶

In 1566 an inquiry was held as to concealed lands in North and South Luffenham for maintaining a chantry and a lamp in the parish church of Luffenham.⁵⁷

In 1821 a dwelling-house in the occupation of Robert Barfield was licensed for dissenting meetings. This is said to be the beginning of organised dissent in North Luffenham.⁵⁸

Town Lands. This charity is comprised in the following indentures of feoffment dated 3 September 30 Henry VIII, 12 August 13 Elizabeth, 26 January 1566, 13 October 1688, and indentures of lease and

release, the release dated 4 July 1789. The indenture of feoffment dated 13 October 1688 is the first deed to set out the trusts of this charity, and it directs that the several properties shall be used to and for the use of the church and poor of North Luffenham and the schoolhouse for the benefit of the town. The charity is regulated by a scheme of the Charity Commissioners dated 15 July 1890. The endowment now consists of several pieces of land, farm house, shop and tenements containing in all approximately 101 acres all of which are let at an annual rent of £140, and £143 18s. 7d. 3½ per cent. Conversion Stock and £264 9s. 6d. 5 per cent. Conversion Stock with the Official Trustees producing in dividends £36 10s. per annum. The net income is applied as to one-fourth to the churchwardens for repairs of church, one-fourth in school prizes, and one-half is paid into coal and clothing clubs.

Wellesbourn Sill and Dorothy his wife by indenture dated 9 April 1710 conveyed certain lands in Luffenham to the intent that after their decease the lands should be charged with a sum of £5 per annum to be disposed of as follows:—30s. to the rector of North Luffenham for preaching three sermons on Mondays after Christmas Day, Easter Day and Whit Sunday, 30s. to be distributed among the poor widows and maids upon those days, and 40s. to be laid out in flannel for poor widows and maids. The charge issues out of the Fincett Lands and is applied by the rector in the manner directed, about four recipients participating in the gift of money and flannel.

SOUTH LUFFENHAM

Luffenham (xii cent.); Southluffenham, Lufham (xiii cent.); South Lufnam, South Lefenham (xiv cent.).

South Luffenham covers an area of 1,442 acres of clay soil with stone and sand in places. About half of the land is arable and half pasture with about 38 acres of woodland. The River Chater forms the boundary between North and South Luffenham and a tributary of it flows in a north-easterly direction through the village. The London Midland and Scottish Railway passes through the parish with a station at the junction of the Peterborough and Leicester lines.

The village lies on the north side of the road from Uppingham to Stamford. It is divided into two parts by a tributary of the River Chater where a pleasant belt of meadow and trees adds to the picturesque of the site. The part of the village on the south-east side of the stream has the church and rectory, to the south-west of which is a good round dovecot of stone. South Luffenham Hall stands a short distance to the south-east of the church. It is a rectangular building of two principal stories above a high basement floor, with square-headed transomed windows of two lights, and stone-slatted hipped roofs with widely projecting coved eaves and small wooden dormers. The longer sides face north and south, the

latter being faced with ashlar, but elsewhere the walling is of coursed dressed stone, the angles are emphasised by quoins and the windows have moulded architraves. Externally, the building has much in common with Lyndon Hall (built 1665) and, like it, is a good example of the Jacobean-Classical overlap, dating probably from the latter part of the 17th century.

On the north-west side of the stream are cottages and the Boot and Shoe Inn, near to which there is a good view across the valley towards North Luffenham.

The old windmill south of the railway station has now only a stump remaining; a cornmill stands on the north side of the station. The mill of South Luffenham was claimed by the co-heirs of Alice de Bidun,¹ and was recovered from them by Robert Mauduit.² In 1544 John Tooky and his wife Cecily settled land, a watermill and a horse-mill in South Luffenham, with remainder to Clement Tooky, Henry Tooky and Boniface Tooky in tail.³ This mill still belonged to the Tooky family in 1709 when Noah Tooky and his wife Sarah conveyed it to Robert Meres.⁴

There are two old quarries in the south-western extremity of the parish, where it borders on Morcott village. The eastern side of the parish, where the land rises to 300 ft., is occupied by South Luffenham Heath, rough pasture land with a small wood on its

⁵² Chan. Inq. p.m. 28 Edw. I, no. 44; 14 Edw. III (2nd nos.), no. 67; *Cal. Inq. Misc.* ii, no. 1703.

⁵³ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, iii, g. 2016 (9).

⁵⁴ See above.

⁵⁵ *Rutl. Mag.* i, 221.

⁵⁶ Inst. Bks. (P.R.O.). A list of the rectors of North Luffenham is given in *Rutl. Mag.* iii, 5.

⁵⁷ Excheq. Spec. Com. 2842.

⁵⁸ Irons' Notes quoting Peterb. Dioc. Rec.

¹ Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 14 John, nos. 24 and 26.

² *Ibid.* East. 36 Hen. VIII. The name Tooky occurs at South Luffenham in 1480-3 (Early Chan. Proc. bdlc. 61, no. 23c).

⁴ Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 8 Anne.

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western edge. There is now a golf course on the heath.

Robert Scott, the lexicographer who, with Dr. Liddell, compiled the great Greek-English Lexicon, was rector of South Luffenham 1850-54. In the latter year he was elected Master of Balliol.

Place-names occurring in the records are Ashclose, Todley Close, Foleys Close, Penn Close, Dovesetts Close,⁵ and certain commons called 'Millhomes' and lands called Church Hedland are mentioned in 1633.⁶

In 1086 South Luffenham formed part *MANOR* of the king's manor of Barrowden.⁷ It was granted with that manor to Michael de Hanslope,⁸ and passed, in the same way as Barrowden, to the Earls of Warwick. There are a number of undated grants of land in South Luffenham made by various tenants there to Robert Mauduit, the Chamberlain.⁹

In 1283 William de Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick, obtained a grant of free warren in South Luffenham,¹⁰ and at the time of his death he was receiving rents from various free tenants, most of them holding one bovate of land.¹¹

An estate in South Luffenham, which afterwards became the manor, was held of the hundred of Wrاندike,¹² by the Greenham family of Ketton.

In 1254 Richard de Pilton, at the request of Roger de Suwicke and Beatrice his wife, granted to Ralph de Greenham and Mabel his wife and their issue a messuage, 2 bovates of land and a mill in Ketton and South Luffenham.¹³ This probably comprised the manor which from this date followed the descent of Ketton (q.v.) until in 1496 Thomas Greenham, son of William Greenham¹⁴ of Ketton, who was born at South Luffenham, conveyed a mill and land there and elsewhere to Sir John Digby, of Eye Kettleby (co. Leic.) and Henry Tooky.¹⁵ Sir John had been knighted by Henry VII for his services at Bosworth and in 1513 he attended King Henry VIII to Calais. He served as Sheriff of Rutland, Warwick and Leicester.¹⁶ In 1531 he settled the manor of South Luffenham on himself and his wife Sanchia with remainder to his second son Simon Digby and his wife Katherine Clapham.¹⁷ Sir John died in May 1533 at Eye Kettleby, Sanchia having died earlier in the same month,¹⁸ and Simon succeeded his parents in the manor. He died at North Luffenham in 1560 and Katherine at South Luffenham in 1558.¹⁹ Their son Roger succeeded and settled the manor in 1561 on his wife Mary Cheney and his own heirs male. Roger was buried at North Luffenham in 1568, his son James being then a child of five.²⁰ South Luffenham was from that time held with North Luffenham by the Digbys. In 1627 a capital messuage here was in the tenure of James Digby, and the land was let to tenants.²¹ This capital messuage, which was called the Hall, was in 1640 delivered by the sheriff to John Turner, in satisfaction of a debt due to him by John

Digby.²² From this time the records of South Luffenham, as a separate manor, cease, and the manor probably became attached to that of North Luffenham, and came into the possession of the Earls of Ancaster, the present Earl being lord of the manor and principal landowner.

The church of *ST. MARI* consists *CHURCH* of chancel 29 ft. 6 in. by 17 ft. 6 in. with south chapel 21 ft. 3 in. by 13 ft. 6 in., nave 37 ft. 8 in. by 18 ft., north and south aisles respectively 8 ft. 3 in. and 12 ft. wide, south porch, and west tower 9 ft. square, all these measurements being internal. The tower is surmounted by a spire. The width across nave and aisles is 43 ft. There are clearstories both to chancel and nave.

The tower is faced with ashlar, but elsewhere the building is of rubble. The chancel has a modern gabled stone-slatted roof, but the low-pitched roofs of the nave and aisles are leaded. The porch is covered with stone slates. All the roofs are eaved. The chancel was restored about 1850, and in 1861 there was an extensive restoration of the whole of the fabric, under the direction of G. E. Street, when the plaster was stripped from the walls, the tower arch opened out, the chancel floor raised, and the fittings renewed. A narrow arch²³ was at this time cut through the wall at the east end of the south arcade, in which previously there had been a rood-loft staircase.

The original church was probably an aisleless building with small chancel, and was enlarged c. 1190-1200 by the addition of a north aisle of two bays, the arcade of which remains. The semi-circular arches are of two orders with edge-rolls and flat soffits, and the hoods, which occur only on the side towards the nave, are enriched with billet moulding. The arches spring from half-round responds and a cylindrical dividing pillar, all with moulded bases on square plinths and carved capitals with divided square abaci. In the responds, the abaci are quirked and are without ornament, but that of the pillar is enriched with two lines of nail-head and the capital itself has a human head in each angle and facing east and west,²⁴ with large angle volutes terminating in incurved cones. The capital of the east respond has incurved volutes, but those of the west respond curve outwards: there is a head on one angle of the west capital only. The volutes in every case are enriched with nail-head, the use of which in the arcade marks its transitional character.

In the first half of the 13th century a south aisle was added, the existing arcade of two pointed arches being of that period. The arcade is set out approximately to correspond with that opposite, leaving about 8 ft. length of wall at the east end, which may mark an extension eastward of the nave at this time, when in all probability the chancel was rebuilt, though subsequently altered and enlarged.²⁵ The arches of the arcade are of two chamfered orders,

⁵ Chan. Proc. (Ser. ii), bdle. 422, no. 65.

⁶ Irons' Notes, Archd. Visit.

⁷ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 140.

⁸ Add. MS. 28024, fol. 49.

⁹ *Ibid.* fol. 50.

¹⁰ *Cal. Chart. R.* 1257-1300, p. 271.

¹¹ Chan. Inq. p.m. 26 Edw. I, no. 41.

¹² The tenure is so given in the 17th cent. Probably the land was originally held of the manor of Barrowden.

¹³ Feet of F. Rutl. East. 38 Hen. III, no. 46: see also 46 Hen. III, no. 55.

¹⁴ De Banco R. 922, m. 281; Blore, *Hist. of Rutl.* 161.

¹⁵ Feet of F. Rutl. East. 11 Hen. VII, no. 3.

¹⁶ *Rutl. Map.* ii. 228.

¹⁷ Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 23 Hen. VIII.

¹⁸ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), lv, 18.

¹⁹ *Ibid.* cxxxi, 168.

²⁰ Parish Reg.; Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), clii, 122.

²¹ Pat. R. 11 Chas. I, pt. 2, no. 20.

²² Chan. Proc. (Ser. ii), bdle. 422, no. 65.

²³ The width of the arch is 4 ft. 8 in.

²⁴ There has apparently been one on the south side, but it is now mutilated. There is none on the north.

²⁵ A straight joint in the walls of the chancel about 8 ft. from the present east end may indicate the extent of the 13th-century chancel. In 1619 the roof of the south alley was borne upon the supporters in two places, and was in great decay and in danger of falling (Irons' Notes, Archd. Visit.).



SOUTH LUFFENHAM CHURCH FROM THE SOUTH-EAST



SOUTH LUFFENHAM CHURCH: THE INTERIOR, LOOKING EAST

with hood-mould on the nave side only, and spring from half-round responds and a cylindrical dividing pillar, all with circular water-holding bases and moulded capitals enriched with nail-head.

In the 14th century the whole of the fabric was remodelled, and assumed in a great degree the character it has since retained. Both aisles were rebuilt, the south aisle widened and extended eastward to form a chapel covering the chancel,²⁶ the porch and tower were added, and the nave clearstory erected. The existing chancel arch of this period probably indicates a remodelling and lengthening of the chancel at the same time, but in the 15th century new windows were inserted and the walls heightened to provide a clearstory.

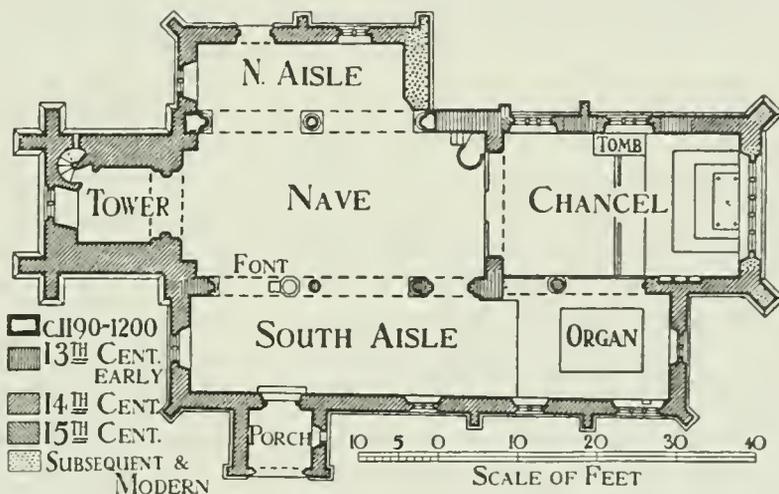
The north aisle, as rebuilt in the 14th century, appears to have extended eastward the full length of the nave, but at some subsequent time was shortened;²⁷ its east wall has been thickened on the inside and now stands in front of the arcade respond.²⁸

The chancel has a modern east window of five lights with geometrical tracery, and in the north wall are two four-centred three-light windows, the mullions of which run up to the head. The east wall has been much restored and the diagonal buttresses rebuilt. The much-

restored triple sedilia are at one level, and have cinquefoiled ogee arches and hollow chamfered jambs and divisions; the piscina has not survived. On the south side the chancel is open in its western half to the chapel by a 14th-century arcade of two double chamfered pointed arches, respectively 9 ft. and 5 ft. in width, springing from an octagonal dividing pillar with moulded capital and base, and at the east end from a small half-round respond shaft with octagonal moulded capital and circular bases. On the west side the smaller arch springs from a moulded corbel supported by a grotesque head. The arches have hood-moulds on each side. The lofty chancel arch is of two orders, the outer with a continuous hollow chamfer, the inner with a large filleted round moulding dying into square jambs. Below the arch is the lower portion of a 15th-century screen, with moulded rail and four trefoiled panels on each side of the opening. The chancel clearstory has three four-centred windows on each side, without hood-moulds; a tall four-stage buttress in the north side is contemporary with the clearstory. Internally the south wall bears evidence of considerable structural alterations in the chancel.²⁹

The aisles have chamfered plinths and keel-shaped strings at side level; the west window of the north

aisle is pointed and of two trefoiled lights with a plain lozenge in the head, but the window in the north wall and all those in the south aisle and chapel are square-headed and of one type: the easternmost window in the south wall, which lights the chapel, is of three trefoiled lights, the others of two, all having hood-moulds with head-stops. The south doorway is of two continuous moulded orders with hood-mould; the north doorway has an outer wave-moulding and an inner hollow chamfered order, and above it is a small trefoil-headed niche with hood and finial. On the north side the hollow eaves table is enriched with small grotesque heads widely spaced. All this work



PLAN OF SOUTH LUFFENHAM CHURCH

is of the 14th century. There is no structural division between the chapel and the south aisle. In the usual position in the chapel is a plain square-headed chamfered piscina, the fluted bowl of which has been cut away in front.

The porch has a pointed doorway of two continuous chamfered orders with hood-mould, and small trefoiled niche on either side of the arch: its south wall and gable are plastered, and a window in the east wall is blocked. The nave clearstory has three square-headed windows of two trefoiled lights on each side, of similar character to those in the aisles. The roof is of a very plain description and of four bays, but the rounded corbels of the older roof, five on each side, remain at the level of the sills of the clearstory windows. The roofs of the aisles are much restored.

The tower is of three stages, with moulded plinth, pairs of buttresses at the angles and battlemented parapet. There is a vice in the north-west angle. The pointed west window is of two cinquefoiled lights with curvilinear tracery and hood-mould with good head-stops. In the middle stage on three sides is a tall pointed single-light transomed window,³⁰ above which, on the north and south, is a shield charged with a cross, and on the west a small cinquefoiled

²⁶ In 1681 the south chapel wanted paving, and it was stated that the 'Payles' between the chancel and the south chapel were 'undecent.' (Irons' Notes, Archd. Visit.)

²⁷ A disturbance in the masonry in the north wall about 3 ft. west of the present north-east angle buttress probably indicates the point east of which the wall

was taken down. The top weathering-stone of a former buttress still remains in position.

²⁸ 'There is a mass of rough masonry against the inner side of the east wall of the aisle, the date and purpose of which are difficult to determine; it probably was added to strengthen the wall': *Trans. Rutl. Arch. Soc.* (1916), 34.

²⁹ In 1570 the chancel was in decay and in 1591 the chancel windows were in bad condition 'wherein fly pigeons and annoy the church so that the people are slack in their attendance' (Irons, loc. cit.).

³⁰ It has a trefoiled head, the lower part beneath the transom being cinquefoiled.

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niche. In the upper stages the face of the tower is slightly recessed, with banded shafts in the angles, but the many-staged buttresses are taken up the full height. The pointed bell-chamber windows are transomed and of two trefoiled lights with quatrefoil in the head. Above the windows is a band of blind tracery and the parapet is carried on head corbels. The spire has crocketed angles and three tiers of gabled openings, the lower and topmost in the cardinal faces, the other alternating. The bottom openings are of two trefoiled lights, the others single, and the spire terminates in a large crocketed finial and cock vanes. Internally the tower opens into the nave by an arch of two chamfered orders, the inner on half-octagonal responds with moulded capitals and bases, and hood-mould with head-stops. The four-centred doorway to the vice has a continuous wave moulding.

The 14th-century font has an octagonal bowl with quatrefoil panels on seven sides, on an octagonal stem and chamfered base. The stone pulpit dates from 1861.

On the north side of the chancel³¹ is a 14th-century table tomb with panelled sides and effigy of a man in civil costume, the head resting on cushions below a canopy. The western panel contains a shield of the arms of Culpepper with a label of three points.

At the west end of the chapel is a floor slab to Rose Boswell, daughter of Edward Boswell, 'king of the gypsies,' who died in February 1794 near Fosters Bridge.³² In the south aisle³³ are a number of mural tablets of the 18th and 19th century, and a memorial to five men of the parish who fell in the war of 1914-19. In the north aisle is an iron-bound dug-out chest with three locks.

There is a scratch dial on the south-east angle of the porch, above the buttress.

There are four bells in the tower, the first by Hugh Watts of Leicester, 1593, the second and third by Taylor of Loughborough, 1886, and the tenor a medieval bell with recurrent letter s (twice) alternately with a cross.³⁴

The plate consists of a paten of 1637-8 with the maker's mark R.M., a cup and cover paten with the maker's mark only, R.L. twice, but apparently 17th century, and a flagon of 1683-4 inscribed 'The gift of Samuel Barker, Esq^r of South Luffenham 1682' with maker's mark P.S.³⁵

The registers before 1812 are as follows: (i) burials 1678-1734; (ii) baptisms and marriages³⁶ 1682-1734; (iii) baptisms 1735-71, marriages 1735-54, burials 1735-75; (iv) baptisms 1772-1812, burials 1776-1812; (v) marriages 1754-1812.

³¹ The monument was originally in the south chapel. The effigy is of Ketton stone. The head and shoulders are in a tight-fitting hood, below which the habit falls in straight folds to the ankles: *N. and Q.* 3rd ser. ii, 271 (Oct. 4 1862), where it is stated that 'within memory, on every feast Sunday, a sickle was placed upon the neck of the effigy.' There were also formerly a mausoleum of 'a baron of Luffenham,' the arms of Tucket in a window, an old monument of oldest fashion and under a window a cross-legged monument (Harl. MS. 2129).

³² The gypsies were encamped during the winter of 1793-4 at a place called the 'Follies,' near Fosters Bridge, 1½ miles from South Luffenham.

³³ They were placed in this position in 1861, having been removed from other parts of the church. There are no mural tablets in the chancel.

³⁴ North, *Cb. Bells of Rutl.* 139. The second and third are recastings of a blank bell and a bell by Tobie Norris (I) of Stamford, 1618. In 1886 the bells were hung in a new frame designed for five. The old frame was dated 1681. In 1577 it was said that the wardens sold their bells and refused to give any account of them, but seven parishioners testified that the full number of bells was in the tower, only the great bell had been recast into the smallest bell, whereby 40s. had been saved to the parish.

³⁵ Hope, *Cb. Plate in Rutl.* 17.

The advowson of the church of

ADVOWSON South Luffenham was an appurtenance of the manor of Barrowden³⁷ and passed with that manor into the hands of Richard II on the forfeiture of Thomas, Earl of Warwick.³⁸ Subsequently the advowson followed the same descent as Barrowden³⁹ until the death of the Duke of Clarence in 1478. It then remained in the hands of the Crown until granted to Sir William Cecil, who presented in 1552. The Cecils, Lords Burghley and Earls of Exeter held the advowson until 1706, when a presentation to the church was made by Robert Meres⁴⁰ and by William Barker in 1721 and 1725. In 1726 William Barker and Charles Titley, clerk, and Eleanor his wife conveyed the advowson to Philip Dormer, Earl of Chesterfield.⁴¹ In 1731 Joshua Cox presented⁴² and in 1734 Joshua and his wife conveyed the advowson to Carteret Leathes, who presented in that year.⁴³ William Fancourt, clerk, and Arabella his wife conveyed the advowson in 1761 to Thomas Frewen, clerk.⁴⁴ John Bush presented in 1797⁴⁵ and in 1802 William Baker and Mary his wife conveyed the advowson to James Bush,⁴⁶ who presented in 1828 and 1849, while John Bush presented in 1850.⁴⁷ William Baker was rector of South Luffenham (1797-1828). He inherited the property and papers of his grandfather Henry Baker, F.R.S. (1698-1774), founder of the Bakerian oration at the Royal Society. William's grandmother was Sarah, daughter of Daniel Defoe, and his father, Henry Baker, was an author. The advowson had been acquired by the Masters and Scholars of Balliol College, Oxford, by 1854 and they are still the owners of it.⁴⁸

Barker's Dole is comprised in an *CHARITIES* indenture dated 1 October 1688, whereby a rent charge of 12s. issuing out of a cottage and lands in South Luffenham was granted to be distributed in doles among the poor. The rent charge issuing out of a field near the Half Way House is paid by the Rutland Brewery Company and is distributed among the poor by the rector and churchwardens.

Sapcote's Charity, founded by an indenture dated 6 June 1857, originally consisted of three almshouses and is now regulated by schemes of the Charity Commissioners dated 21 January 1898 and 26 April 1901. The almshouses are no longer used as such, but are let at an annual rent of about £15. The net income is distributed by two trustees appointed by the parish council in gifts of money to about twelve old people.

The Church Estate.—The origin of this charity is

³⁶ No marriage entries till 1684.

³⁷ Chan. Inq. p.m. 9 Edw. II, no. 71.

³⁸ *Ibid.* 21 Ric. II, no. 137; 2 Hen. IV, no. 58.

³⁹ *Ibid.* (Ser. ii), cclvii, 91; ccccxxiv, 84; Misc. dxxiv, 4; Feet of F. Rutl. East. 22 Chas. II; Div. Cos. Hil. 8 Will. III; Inst. Bks. (P.R.O.).

⁴⁰ *Ibid.*

⁴¹ Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 13 Geo. I.

⁴² Inst. Bks. (P.R.O.).

⁴³ Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 8 Geo. II; Bacon, *Liber Regis*, 848.

⁴⁴ Feet of F. Rutl. East. 1 Geo. III.

⁴⁵ Inst. Bks. (P.R.O.).

⁴⁶ Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 42 Geo. III.

⁴⁷ Irons' Notes, Linc. Episc. Reg. (Instit.).

⁴⁸ *Ibid.*

not known, but for many years the endowment consisted of land containing approximately 6 acres situated in South Luffenham and Barrowden. The land has been sold and the endowment is now represented by a sum of £158 14s. 1d. 5 per cent. War stock, with the Official Trustees, producing (1932) £7 18s. 8d. per annum in dividends. The income is paid over by the churchwardens to the church expenses fund.

The Bell Ringers Field Charity, which is referred to in a terrier dated 1749, is regulated by a scheme of the Charity Commissioners dated 18 October 1921. The endowment consists of a piece of land containing 1 acre and 6 poles let at an annual rent of £4. The net income is paid to the bellringer by the rector and two trustees appointed by the Parochial Church Council. There are two stories as to this charity, the one that a lady having lost her way on South Luffen-

ham Heath was guided home by the sound of the church bells. In gratitude she left an acre of land on the Morcott Road opposite Half Way House to provide a fee to the sexton to ring the bells at 5 a.m. and 8 p.m. daily from 19 October to 25 March. The custom, it was said, continued for a long time.⁴⁹ The other story is that in 1577 the rector and churchwardens were accused of selling the church bells. Their excuse was that they had the full number of bells, but that the great bell which had been cast anew had become the least, hence there was a saving of 40s. This sum was eventually applied to the purchase of a close and a house which it is thought is the origin of Bellringers Close in South Luffenham.⁵⁰ The latter story is borne out by the Archdeacon's visitation of 1577 and was testified by seven parishioners and the rector.

MORCOTT

Morcote (xi cent.); Morcot, Morkote (xiii cent.); Moricote (xiv cent.); Morcot (xv cent.); Morcote (xvi cent.).

The parish of Morcott covers an area of 1,363 acres of land which is of clay, stone and sand, and is in about equal parts arable and pasture. A stream flows from west to east through the parish, and for some distance forms the southern county boundary. The main road from Uppingham to Wansford and Stamford passes through the southern part of the parish with by-roads leading to Wing, Pilton and North Luffenham. There is a station here on the Rugby and Stamford Branch of the London Midland and Scottish Railway.

The village is on the north side of the road from Uppingham to Stamford on the northern slope rising from the stream. The church is in the middle of the village. The Manor House, which is dated 1687, stands on the north-east and has projecting end wings on the north side, with mullioned windows and hipped stone-slatted roofs. A gabled house of two stories, formerly known as the Priest's House, to the north-east of the church, has stone-slatted roofs and a good mullioned bay window and a panel inscribed 1627 w.c. On a house at the south end of the village is H.P. 1664. Many of the cottages are of stone with thatch or stone roofs. The almshouses here were founded in 1612 by George Gilson, supposed to have been a Catholic priest, for six poor unmarried men or women, each receiving £6 a year.¹

The windmill mentioned in 1489² is in the extreme eastern corner of the parish. It has now lost its sails and top. There are several old quarries and sand-pits in the north of the parish. The name Flaxlandes occurs in the 13th century³ and Dallacres, Pilton Way and Glaistonway in the 17th.⁴

The Rev. John Corrie, vicar of Morcott, was the father of three famous sons. The eldest, Daniel Corrie (1777-1837), was Bishop of Madras; Richard Corrie, the second son, was a doctor who afterwards

took orders and became rector of Kettering (co. Northants); and the youngest, George Elwes Corrie, was a theologian and historian, who in 1849 became Master of Jesus College.⁵

At the time of the Domesday Survey *MANOR* (1086) *MORCOTT* formed part of the king's manor of Barrowden,⁶ with which it passed to the Mauduits. William Mauduit gave one tenth of a knight's fee in Morcott to his daughter Alice, wife of John de Bidun. John de Bidun died in 1180 or 1181 and their son John died without issue in 1184⁷ when Alice was at the king's disposal. Her land in Morcott was worth £10 with one plough team. Alice was dead by 1209-10, when her five daughters, Amice, wife of Hugh de Clinton, Amabel, wife of Miles de Beauchamp, Sarah, wife of Richard de Beauchamp, Maud, wife of Geoffrey Fitz Geoffrey, and Ermigard, wife of Andulf de Gatesden,⁸ sued for the land from Isabel Mauduit, who claimed dower in it and called to warranty her son Robert.⁹ An agreement was made in 1212 between Robert and the co-heiresses by which each of them had lands assigned to her in exchange for a release to Robert Mauduit of her claim in the fee at Morcott and mills at Barrowden and South Luffenham.¹⁰

Morcott still remained part of Barrowden and in 1283 William de Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick, had a grant of free warren here.¹¹ On his death in 1297, he had many free tenants at Morcott.¹² Thomas, Earl of Warwick, had a grant of free warren at Morcott in 1352.¹³ Some land at Morcott, representing probably Alice de Bidun's tenth of a knight's fee, has descended with the manor of Barrowden to the present day, being now held by the Marquess of Exeter, and at the end of the 17th century the Earl of Exeter was recognised as lord paramount of Morcott.¹⁴

Other land at *MORCOTT*, eventually the manor to which the advowson of the church belonged, was apparently granted by Henry I to his crossbowman, Ernisius Balistarius, who was pardoned 4s. 4d. in

⁴⁹ *Leic. and Rutl. N. and Q.* i, 137.

⁵⁰ *Trans. Rutl. Arch. Soc.* 1916, p. 23.

¹ Wright, *Hist. Rutl.* 91; *Beauties of Engl. and Wales*, xii (2), 151. See Charities.

² Mins. Accts. Hen. VII, no. 1337.

³ Feet of F. Rutl. 4 John, file 2, no. 8.

⁴ Irons' Notes.

⁵ *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

⁶ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 140.

⁷ Farrer, *Honors and Knights' Fees*, i, 2-5.

⁸ *Rot. de Dominabus* (Pipe R. Soc.), xxxv, pp. xliii, 45.

⁹ Pipe R. 11 John, ro. 5 (from Wright, *Hist. of Rutl.* 90-1).

¹⁰ Feet of F. Rutl. 14 John, file 2, nos. 24, 26; Unknown Cos. 16 John, file 282, no. 2.

¹¹ *Cal. Chbart. R.* 1257-1300, p. 271.

¹² *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 26 Edw. I, file 86, no. 1.

¹³ *Cal. Chbart. R.* 1341-1417, p. 126.

¹⁴ Wright, *op. cit.* 91.

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1130 by Henry I.¹⁵ Richard Balistarius of Seaton died about 1198, leaving a son Ernisius, who married Bridget, daughter of William Mauduit.¹⁶ The land was seized by the king and valued at 100s. and it was held 'per ministratum.'¹⁷ It was eventually restored to Ernisius, for in 1204 he, under the name Ernald or Ernisius son of Richard, Ernisius Balistarius or Ernisius de Seiton, claimed against Isabel Mauduit and her son Robert the presentation to the church of Morcott. The case after many postponements was dismissed.¹⁸ Ernisius seems to have made good his claim, and in 1210-12 he was holding 2 carucates in Rutland by the service of being crossbowman.¹⁹

Probably Ernisius was succeeded by a son Richard who died about 1223, when Simon de St. Liz (Sancto Licio, Seintliz, or de Silvanectis) obtained a grant of the custody of the land and heir of Richard the Crossbowman (Balistarius), with the marriage of the heir, and in 1227 he had licence to marry her without disparagement.²⁰ (See Manor of Seaton.) This heir was Amy or Anne, whom Simon subsequently married. Simon was seneschal of the Bishop of Chichester²¹ and, according to the pedigree of St. Liz, was the brother of Simon, the eighth Earl of Huntingdon; from this date the manor followed the descent of the manor of Down Hall in Seaton (q.v.) until 1528, when John, son of William Sheffield, succeeded, and with his son Edward sold the manor and advowson of Morcott in that year to Sir Everard Digby, kt. of Stoke Dry (q.v.).²² In 1534 Simon Digby, apparently brother of Everard, was summoned to show by what right he held the manor,²³ but in 1587 Kenelm Digby of Stoke Dry, son of Sir Everard who died in 1540,²⁴ made a conveyance of the manor.²⁵ Kenelm died in 1590²⁶ and was succeeded by his son Everard. He died two years after his father, leaving a young son Everard, Anne, widow of Kenelm, being still alive.²⁷ Everard, together with his wife, Mary, conveyed the manor of Morcott in 1599 to Richard Broughton.²⁸

Some land in Morcott passed to James Digby of North Luffenham (d. 1619), by conveyance from Sir James Harington in 1598,²⁹ and descended with the manor of North Luffenham³⁰ (q.v.), but the advowson and manor of Morcott passed from Richard Broughton to John Lambe, who presented in 1611, and from him to Francis Harvey, who presented to the church in 1624.³¹ It subsequently went to the Herenden family. Edward Herenden married Dorothy Digby,³²

and died in 1629. In 1648 the land of Henry Herenden of Morcott was sequestered³³ and in 1652 he settled the advowson and land in Morcott.³⁴ He presented to the church in 1662³⁵ and may have been succeeded by Richard Herenden of Morcott, who married Dorothy, daughter of John Hunt of Barrowden.³⁶ In 1685 a warrant was issued to stop process against Joseph Herenden then lord of Morcott as a recusant.³⁷ He was still lord of the manor in 1727,³⁸ and in 1774 Ruth Herenden, widow, and William Herenden conveyed the manor to Thomas Grant.³⁹

Subsequently the manor passed early in the 19th century to Samuel Richard Fydell, son of Thomas Fydell of Boston. On his death it passed to his great-niece Caroline Frances Lindsay. She was the only child of Charles Lindsay, Archdeacon of Kildare, son of the Rev. the Hon. Charles Lindsay, Bishop of Kildare, by his wife Elizabeth (m. 1790) sister of



FYDELL. *Argent two gemel bars azure with an anchor sable between two martlets vers in the chief and a leopard gules in the foot.*



ROWLEY. *Argent a bend sable between two chevrons proper with three scallops argenti on the bend.*

Samuel Richard Fydell. Caroline married George Dawson Rowley of Priory Park, St. Neots (co. Hunts), and on her death in 1900 Morcott passed to their son George Fydell Rowley, whose son Owsley Vincent Fydell Rowley is now lord of the manor.⁴⁰

The church of *ST. MARY* consists of *CHURCH* chancel 29 ft. 6 in. by 17 ft. 6 in., with organ-chamber on the north side, clear-storied nave of two bays 31 ft. 8 in. by 17 ft., north aisle 13 ft. 6 in. wide, south aisle 5 ft. 6 in. wide, south porch, and west tower 12 ft. 6 in. by 12 ft. 3 in., all these measurements being internal. The tower is surmounted by a short leaded spire. The width across nave and aisles is 41 ft.

The building is of rubble throughout, with low-pitched leaded roofs except to the porch, which is covered with stone slates. There are no parapets. Internally the chancel and aisles are plastered, but elsewhere the walls have been stripped.

The tower is of the first half of the 12th century



HERENDEN. *Argent a raven sable with his beak or.*

¹⁵ *Pipe R.* 31 Hen. I (Rec. Com.), 134.

¹⁶ Bridges, *Hist. Noribants*, ii, 46.

¹⁷ *Bk. of Fees* (P.R.O.), i, 10.

¹⁸ *Curia Regis R.* iii, 179, 183, 225, 233, 276; iv, 7.

¹⁹ *Red Bk. of Exch.* (Rolls Ser.), 535.

²⁰ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1225-32, p. 117. Simon de Silvanectis presented to the church in 1225; Irons' Notes, Line. Epis. Reg. (Instit.).

²¹ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1225-32, p. 299; *Rot. Litt. Claus.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 143.

²² Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 20 Hen. VIII.

²³ Jones, *Index to Records*, ii, quoting Mem. R. Hil. 26 Hen. VIII, ro. 12.

²⁴ M.I. at Stoke Dry (see *Rutl. Mag.* ii, 229).

²⁵ Feet of F. Div. Cos. Mich. 29 and 30 Eliz.

²⁶ M.I. at Stoke Dry (see *Rutl. Mag.* loc. cit.).

²⁷ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), cxxxiii, 64. She was buried at Stoke Dry in 1602 (*Rutl. Mag.* ii, 230).

²⁸ Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 42 and 43 Eliz.

²⁹ *Ibid.* East. 41 Eliz. He obtained the manor of North Luffenham and Pilton by the same conveyance.

³⁰ *Ibid.* Mich. 9 Jas. I; *Recov. R. Hil.*

1652, ro. 25; *Trin. 12 Geo. I*, ro. 145; *Mich. 23 Geo. II*, ro. 166.

³¹ Irons' Notes, loc. cit.; *Inst. Bks.* (P.R.O.).

³² *Linc. Ped.* (Harl. Soc.), 486; *Cal. of Com. for Comp.* p. 3079.

³³ *Ibid.* pp. 88, 89.

³⁴ *Recov. R. Hil.* 1652, ro. 32.

³⁵ *Inst. Bks.* (P.R.O.).

³⁶ *Visit. Rutl.* 1681-2 (Harl. Soc.), 27.

³⁷ *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xiv, app. ix, 275; Wright, op. cit. 91.

³⁸ *Magna Brit.* iv, 550.

³⁹ Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 14 Geo. III.

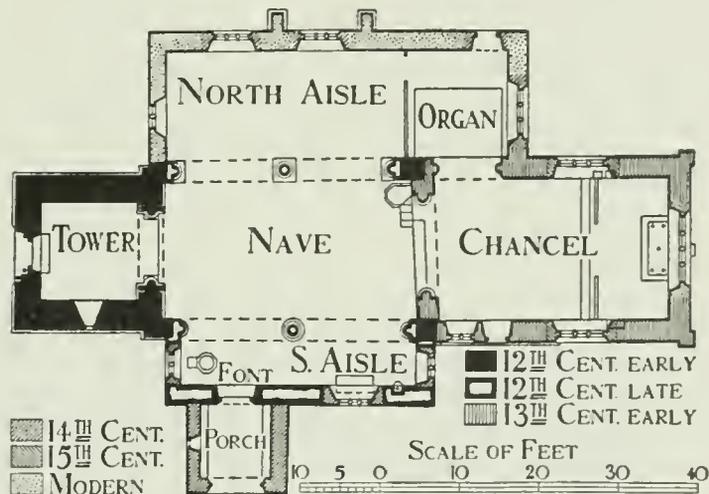
⁴⁰ Burke, *Peerage; Landed Gentry; Commoners*, ii, 260.

and belongs to a church the nave of which covered the same area as at present and whose south doorway remains, though not in its original position. To this building a north aisle was added c. 1150-60, and a south aisle some forty or fifty years later (c. 1200), the arcades of which remain unaltered. During the first half of the 13th century the chancel was lengthened, a chapel being added on the north side at the east end of the aisle, and the chancel arch rebuilt. Extensive alterations were made in the 14th century, new windows being inserted in the aisles, the north aisle probably first widened, the porch and clearstory added, and the upper part of the tower rebuilt in its present form. New windows were made in the chancel in the 15th century. A general restoration of the fabric in 1874-5 included a further widening of the north aisle 3 ft., the old windows being re-used. In its enlarged modern form the chapel is used as an organ-chamber and vestry.

On its south side the chancel has a chamfered plinth for about half its length at the west end, which probably marks the extent eastward⁴¹ of the 12th-century wall. Though subsequently altered, the walls of the chancel appear to be in the main of the 13th century, the eastern angles being covered by flat clasping buttresses,⁴² and there is a dwarf buttress of the same character in the middle of the east wall below the window. There are no lateral buttresses and no external strings, but inside there is a string at sill level, with rounded upper and chamfered lower edge. In the south wall is a priests' doorway with plain chamfered head and hood-mould, and the piscina has a wide segmental arch and plain circular bowl. In the north wall is a plain double locker, or aumbry, the eastern opening alone of which is rebated. The east window dates from 1874,⁴³ but the pointed lateral windows, one on each side, are of the 15th century, with Perpendicular tracery and hoods with head-stops. At the west end of the south wall is a late 13th-century window of two lancet lights and uncusped circle in the head, which was lengthened and a transom introduced in the 15th century, the bottom portion of two cinquefoiled lights serving as a low-side window. At its west end the north wall opens to the former chapel by a 13th-century pointed arch of two chamfered orders, the inner order on half octagonal responds with moulded capitals and bases. The arch between the chancel and the nave is of two chamfered orders, with hood-mould on each side, springing from large half-round responds with moulded capitals and bases, the former with nail-head enrichment.

The 12th-century north arcade consists of two

semicircular arches of two moulded orders, springing from massive half-round responds and cylindrical pillar, all with elaborated carved 'cruciform' or divided capitals and moulded bases on square plinths. Both orders have edge-rolls with a hollow above, and flat soffits, and the hood-moulds, which occur only on the side towards the nave, are enriched with billet moulding. The chamfered abaci are also enriched on the underside, and the capital of the pillar has on its four sides a human head (west), a ram's head (north), a grotesque human head (east), and a fir cone (south), between which are volutes terminating in fir cones. The capital of the west respond is elaborately scalloped and the abacus enriched with chevron, while the capital of the east respond is carved with stiff-leaf foliage of rather naturalistic type, below a band of nail-studded lozenge-shaped



PLAN OF MORCOTT CHURCH

trellis ornament, the abacus being enriched with studded intertwining bands.

The later south arcade has two wide semicircular arches of two chamfered orders, with chamfered hood-moulds on the nave side only, springing from half-round responds with shallow moulded bell-shaped capitals and circular moulded bases on square plinths, and from a cylindrical pillar⁴⁴ of similar character, except that the bell of its capital is carved with a series of fir-cone volutes and its base stands on a circular chamfered plinth.

The south aisle is lighted at each end by a pointed 14th-century window of two trefoiled lights with quatrefoil in the head, and in the south wall is a later square-headed three-light window. The trefoiled ogee-headed piscina of the aisle altar has a circular projecting bowl carved in front with a male head, and below the south window is a wide four-centred moulded recess, the hollow of the moulding enriched with four-leaf and other flowers, containing the table tomb of William de Overton (d. c. 1400), the slab of which has an incised cross and French inscription round the verge.⁴⁵ The plain 12th-century south

⁴¹ About 16 ft. 6 in. The plinth is carried along the wall below the threshold of the 13th-century priests' doorway. It apparently belongs to the 12th-century chancel wall, but all above it has been rebuilt.

⁴² The buttresses are of two stages and

measure 22 in. on each face, with a projection of 6 in.

⁴³ It is pointed and of four cinquefoiled lights with Perpendicular tracery. The lower part of the jambs may be old. It took the place of an 'unsightly square window': *Stamford Mercury*, 30 January 1863.

⁴⁴ Its diameter is 19 in., that of the pillar in the north arcade being 22½ in.

⁴⁵ The inscription reads: 'William de Overton gist ici Dieu de s alme eyt merci Amen.' The tomb was opened in 1874 and found to be empty.

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doorway, moved to the present position when the aisle was added, has a round arch of a single order slightly chamfered on the edge, with quirked impostes and chamfered hood-mould.⁴⁶

In 1874 the north wall of the north aisle was taken down and rebuilt about 3 ft. further out.⁴⁷ In it two square-headed windows, similar to that in the south aisle, have been re-used, and the doorway moved further east to serve as an entrance to the vestry. The west window is a modern copy of the corresponding window in the south aisle, the jambs alone, as also in the restored three-light east window,⁴⁸ being old. No ancient ritual arrangements have survived in the north aisle.

The late 14th-century clearstory windows, three on each side, one square-headed and of two trefoiled lights. On the south side the hollow moulding of the eaves table is ornamented with widely spaced heads and on the north with ball-flowers.

The porch has a high-pitched coped gable, its roof being higher than that of the aisle. The eaves table on each side has ball-flower ornament. The pointed doorway is of two chamfered orders, with hood-mould, the inner order on half-round responds with moulded capitals and bases, the inner continuous. There is no gable cross, but over the doorway there is a sundial, probably of the 17th century, the gnomon of which has gone.

The tower is of three receding stages marked by flat strings, and is without plinth or buttress. The stucco with which it is covered is falling away. There is no vice. The two lower stages, as already stated, belong to the original 12th-century building, but the west doorway was mutilated in the 14th century when a pointed window was inserted in the wall above and the round head of the doorway removed. The original arch appears to have been of three orders, the innermost continuous, and the two outer orders on jambshafts with moulded bases and carved capitals. The shafts remain on both sides: the outer ones are plain, but the inner shafts are enriched, on the north side with a spiral pattern, on the south with trellis. The capitals of the outer shafts are of cushion type, the others being covered with ornament, a rather naturalistic flat-leaf pattern on the north, and on the south an interlacing pattern, with cable neck-moulds. As altered, the doorway has a pointed arch of two chamfered orders. On the south side, in the lower stage, is a small round-headed window,⁴⁹ the head in one stone and without hood-mould, and on the west face of the middle stage an original circular window the hood of which appears to have had a hatched moulding. No other 12th-century openings remain. The 14th-century west window is of two cinquefoiled lights with quatrefoil in the head, within an inclosing arch, and above it is a trefoil-

headed niche. The later upper stage has pointed transomed windows of two trefoiled lights with quatrefoil in the head and terminates in a battlemented parapet, behind which rises the short lead-covered octagonal spire, with arrow vane surmounted by a cross. Internally the tower opens into the nave by a beautiful elliptical arch of two moulded orders, springing from half-round responds and detached jambshafts with capitals, the plain chamfered abaci of which form massive impostes. The bases stand on high chamfered plinths and their flat mouldings suggest that there has been some alteration to or possibly a rebuilding of the arch. The outer order of the arch has a double-edge roll, and the inner order a large soffit-roll with a smaller roll on the wall plane on either side. The chamfered hood-mould, which occurs on the nave side only, is enriched with lozenge ornament, and with a fluted pattern on its underside. The shafts have fluted cushion capitals with cable neck-mouldings, and the capitals of the large respond columns are of the same type with enriched angles, that on the north side having a double band of indented ornament at the top. The inner face of the other capital is carved on the cushion with two serpents swallowing each other's tails.

Above the arch in the east wall of the tower is a blocked triangular-headed opening, now hidden by a hatchment, the lower part of the jambs alone being visible.⁵⁰

The font has a plain octagonal bowl of uncertain date, on a double square base.

The oak pulpit is in plan three sides of an octagon, and has three tiers of 17th-century round-arched panels and a later embattled cornice. It stands on a modern base. The front of the reading-desk has also some 17th-century panelling. In the chancel is an old poppy-head bench-end,⁵¹ but the Jacobean communion table is now in the tower. There is an undated oak chest with three locks in the south aisle, and in the vestry a good cupboard with panelled doors. The seating dates from 1874.⁵²

In the chancel is a tablet to members of the Tyrrell family erected in 1687,⁵³ and in the churchyard a memorial cross to nine men of the parish who fell in the war of 1914-19.

There are four bells, the first by Thomas Norris, of Stamford, 1637,⁵⁴ the second an alphabet bell, the third inscribed 'S. Maria,' and the tenor by Thomas Eayre, of Kettering, 1726.⁵⁵ There is also a small clock bell placed in a bell-cote at the south-west angle of the tower, inscribed 'Cum moveo ad moneo.'⁵⁶ The old clock was replaced by a new one in 1921.

The silver plate consists of a cup and cover paten of 1633; there are also a pewter plate and flagon.⁵⁷

The registers before 1812 are as follows: (i) all entries 1539-1678, baptisms and marriages 1679-1715,⁵⁸

⁴⁶ The opening is 3 ft. 6 in. wide. Below the impostes the jambs are widely chamfered.

⁴⁷ Irons' Notes.

⁴⁸ Before the restoration it was described as 'debased window of three lights': *Stamford Mercury*, 30 January 1863.

⁴⁹ The sill is 9 ft. above the ground. The splay is carried round the head inside.

⁵⁰ It appears to be about 2 ft. wide, and is south of the axis of the tower. It is immediately above the string separating the lower and middle stages of the tower.

⁵¹ Before the restoration there were 'two carved bench-ends dated 1601, one of which bore the name Clement Barker' (*Stamford Mercury*, 30 January 1863).

⁵² Before this date there were high pews and the furniture was described as 'generally poor' (*ibid.*).

⁵³ The 19th-century tablets are now in the tower.

⁵⁴ In 1636 one bell was 'riven' and one of the bells in the steeple was broken (Irons' Notes, *Archd. Visit.*).

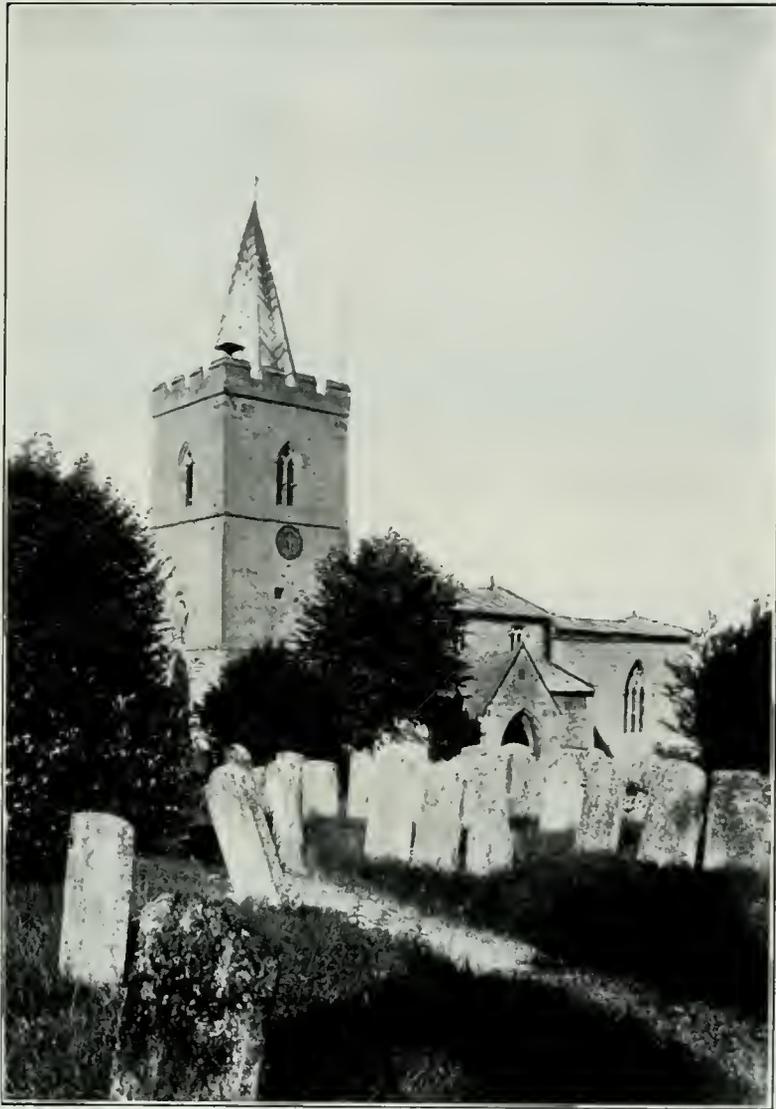
⁵⁵ North, *Cb. Bells of Rutl.* 144, where, however, the order of the third and tenor is reversed. The second and third are

probably by Francis Watts of Leicester (1564-1600); the alphabet on the second is from A to O. The bells were rehung by Taylor of Loughborough in 1930.

⁵⁶ The clock bell is probably by Richard Holdfeld of Cambridge (1599-1612). The same inscription occurs on bells at King's and Peterhouse chapels, Cambridge.

⁵⁷ Hope, *Cb. Plate in Rutl.* 25.

⁵⁸ The first volume was rebound in 1910. From 1663 to 1667 the entries were made in separate parts of the book and there is no record of marriages during these years: M. Steinman Kemmis, *The Parish Church of Morcott* (1922), 9.



MORCOTT CHURCH FROM THE SOUTH-WEST



MORCOTT CHURCH: THE INTERIOR, LOOKING NORTH-WEST



PILTON CHURCH FROM THE SOUTH-EAST

(ii) burials 1678-1721; (iii) baptisms 1716-1812, marriages 1716-54, burials 1722-1812; (iv) marriages 1754-1812.

In December 1900 a piece of ground at the south-east end of the village was consecrated as an addition to the churchyard, which is now closed for burials.

The advowson followed the same *ADVOWSON* descent as that manor of Morcott which belonged to the St. Liz and Sheffield families until about 1662, when Henry Herenden presented to the church.⁵⁹ Matthew Hutton presented in 1663⁶⁰ and in 1668 for one turn.⁶¹ Soon afterwards the advowson was purchased by William Halles, rector of Glaston, and John Green, who married Mary daughter of William Halles, and Purbeck Halles presented John Savage in 1682.⁶² William Halles devised the advowson by his will to his son William Halles, of London, citizen and merchant tailor, who conveyed it to the incumbent John Savage.⁶³ John Savage and William Savage presented in 1721⁶⁴ and in 1738 Henry Laybourne and Elizabeth his wife and John Lowth and Mary his wife conveyed the advowson to John Treadwell.⁶⁵ George Pochin and others presented in 1754 and William Pochin in 1788.⁶⁶ It was later acquired by Edward Thorold, who presented in 1825, 1829 and 1834. Mary Thorold, widow, presented in 1868 and 1873, and Sarah Scott, widow, in 1877. Brabazon Hallows was patron in 1892 and Brabazon Chambré Hallows in 1906. Before 1919 the patronage had passed to Mr. George Fyde Rowley the present owner.⁶⁷

There was a gild of St. Mary in Morcott in the 15th century, but owing to the brethren of the gild buying land without licence the endowment was granted in 1445 to John Browne, the king's serjeant, for life. The altar of the gild was possibly in the south aisle of the church.⁶⁸

Gilson's Hospital, founded by *CHARITIES* indenture dated 10 June 1612, is regulated by schemes of the Charity Commissioners of 14 July 1868 and 19 July 1904. The endowment consists of the almshouses and garden at Morcott, land and hereditaments at Scredington, let at an annual rent of £261 15s., and the following sums of stock: £537 7s. India 3 per cent. Stock, £785 14s. Local Loans 3 per cent., and £2,086 3s. 1d. 5 per cent. War Stock, producing in dividends the total sum of £143 19s. 10d. per annum. The trustees are twelve in number and are either owners of property or residents in the county of Rutland, or within the distance of ten miles from the parish church of Morcott measured in a straight line on the Ordnance map. The net annual income is distributed at the rate of 10s. per week among two alms-persons and ten pensioners.

Edward Cleypole, by his will proved at Peterborough on 27 July 1636, charged his lands at Morcott with the sum of 20s. per annum to be distributed every Good Friday to the poor of the parish. The charge is paid out of land occupied by Mr. J. T. Pridmore, of Holly House, and is distributed equally among eight persons by the rector.

William Curtis, by his will proved in the P.C.C. on 19 October 1818, gave a sum of stock and directed the dividends to be paid to the officiating minister or ministers of the General Baptists at Morcott. The endowment now consists of a sum of £669 9s. 2½ per cent. Consols, producing in dividends £16 14s. 8d. per annum, which is paid to the ministers for preaching services during the year.

The several sums of stock are with the Official Trustees.

PILTON

Pilton, Piltona, Pylton (xiii cent.); Pilton, Polton, Pulton (xiv cent.); Pilton, Piltoun (xv cent.).

Pilton is a small parish containing 347 acres of rather more pasture than arable land. The soil is clay and sand and contains a good deal of ironstone. The northern boundary is formed by the river Chater, and the Syston and Peterborough branch of the London Midland and Scottish Railway crosses the parish near the northern boundary. The land rises from the river valley from about 200 ft. above Ordnance datum to about 315 ft. in the village, which lies on a road connecting Lyndon and Morcott. The village is small and is grouped about the church of St. Nicholas. It consists of three farm houses with the appendent cottages and barns built of stone, generally with stone-tiled roofs. Opposite the church is a house rebuilt in 1823 and adjoining the church is a thatched cottage which was formerly the rectory.

PILTON is not mentioned in the *MANOR* Domesday Survey (1086), but it was probably then a part of Barrowden, as we

find it later held of the Earls of Warwick¹ as of that manor.

Eustace de Pilton and Hugh de Pilton were witnesses to a charter to Robert Mauduit, the chamberlain, made in the full hundred court of Wrangdyke early in the 13th century.² Bartholomew de Pilton, who held 1½ hides in Pilton of Robert Mauduit in 1212,³ was described as Bartholomew son of Eustace in a claim to William son of Henry as his villein tenant at Pilton in 1224, from which it may be inferred he was lord of the manor.⁴ He presented his brother Walter de Pilton to the church of Pilton in 1223, but the bishop would not institute him as he was not sufficiently literate. Bartholomew also presented in 1227 and 1238.⁵ Richard de Pilton was dealing with lands in Pilton in 1252 and presented to the church in 1262.⁶ The Sampson family were large landowners in Pilton about this time, but it is doubtful if they held the manor. John Sampson and Ellen his wife conveyed a bovate of land in 1266 to Robert le Escriveyn (the scrivener), known also as Robert Scriptor of

⁵⁹ Inst. Bks. (P.R.O.).

⁶⁰ Ibid.

⁶¹ Bacon, *Liber Regis*, 848.

⁶² Irons' Notes, Linc. Episc. Reg. (Instit.).

⁶³ *Magna Brit.* iv, 550.

⁶⁴ Inst. Bks. (P.R.O.).

⁶⁵ Feet of F. Rutl. III. 12 Geo. II.

⁵⁸ Inst. Bks. (P.R.O.).

⁶⁷ Irons, loc. cit.

⁶⁸ Ibid.

¹ *Feud. Aids*, iv, 209; Chan. Inq. p.m.

² Hen. IV, no. 58, m. 54.

³ *Facsimiles of Early Charters* (Northants Rec. Soc.), 30.

⁴ *Abbrev. Plac.* (Rec. Com.), 87.

⁶ Maitland, *Bracton's Note Bk.* 916, 1030, 1103; *Assize R.* (Northants Rec. Soc.), v, nos. 468, 751.

⁵ *Rot. Hug. de Welles* (Cant. & York Soc.), 126; Irons' Notes, Linc. Episc. Reg. (Instit.).

⁶ Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 37 Hen. III, no. 40; Irons' Notes, loc. cit.

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Sculthorpe.⁷ Master Hugh Sampson in 1313 sought to recover land he had forfeited for default in a suit against Richard, son of Simon de Bernardeshill, and Robert and John his brothers, and John son of Simon, son of Simon de Bernardeshill.⁸ Master Hugh Sampson, then parson of Hemingford, was dealing with lands in Pilton in 1330;⁹ but the patrons of the living and the undoubted owners of the manor at a little later date were the Uffingtons or Offingtons. In 1288 William de Uffington presented Robert de Pilton to the church of Pilton, and presented again in 1309.¹⁰ He was holding by knight's service in Wrandike Hundred in 1302.¹¹ Robert de Uffington was in possession of the manor from 1330 to 1342, during which time he took the rent of 10s. from a tenant who had been outlawed but pardoned at the latter date.¹² Robert de Uffington was succeeded by his son John, who with his sister Margaret presented to the church in 1349. This John de Uffington, or another of the same name, presented until 1399.¹³ John was collector of the fifteenth for Rutland in 1382¹⁴ and was holding the manor in 1402.¹⁵ He was succeeded by William Uffington, who presented to the church from 1414 to 1433, and was made a justice of the peace in 1434.¹⁶ His son John succeeded him and presented from 1439 to 1459.¹⁷ Joan, daughter of the latter John, had a daughter Anne who died about 1520 and was succeeded by John Uffington of Wakerley as kinsman and heir. The title deeds of the manor, however, seem to have got into the hands of Thomas Bassett¹⁸ of Luffenham, who presented to the church in 1497 and 1511.¹⁹ Shortly after this date the manor passed to Sir John Harington of North Luffenham, who presented to the church in 1530 and died seised of the manor, which he held of the manor of Barrowden, in 1553.²⁰ The manor has descended with North Luffenham (q.v.) and now belongs to the Earl of Ancaster.²¹

The church of *ST. NICHOLAS* consists of chancel 19 ft. 6 in. by 15 ft. 9 in., nave 27 ft. 8 in. by 14 ft. 3 in., with double bell-cote on the west gable, south aisle 7 ft. 6 in. wide, and south porch 6 ft. 10 in. by 6 ft. 6 in., all these measurements being internal. The width across the nave and aisle is 23 ft. 6 in.

The building is of rubble, plastered internally, and the roofs are covered with overhanging stone slates. The aisle is under a separate lean-to roof, above which the short portion of the nave wall is unpierced. The chancel was rebuilt in 1852,²² and in 1878 the church was restored and the porch rebuilt. There are buttresses only on the north side of the nave, dividing it externally into two bays.²³

The whole building may have been erected originally at the beginning of the 13th century, but it is not unlikely that the nave represents an aisleless 12th-century church to which, about 1200-10, an aisle was added,

the south wall being pierced by the existing arcade of two bays. The arches are pointed and of two chamfered orders, with hood-mould on the side towards the nave, and spring from a cylindrical pillar with moulded capital and water-holding base and from responds composed of small attached shafts with octagonal moulded capitals and circular bases.²⁴ If the aisle were an addition to an older building this appears to have been remodelled at the same time or shortly after, a single lancet at the west end of the nave²⁵ and the bell-cote being of the 13th century, though the latter is wholly and the window very considerably restored. In the north wall is a plain round-headed doorway, now blocked, and the aisle retains its early 13th-century pointed doorway of two chamfered orders on moulded imposts. The old chancel also appears to have been of 13th-century date, the present lancets being 'examples of the original windows.'²⁶ Against the west wall of the aisle is a stone bench, which is continued northward along the nave wall for about 5 ft. and on which the west respond of the arcade stands, but it appears to have received some modification at the time of the restoration.²⁷

In the 14th century new windows were inserted in the aisle, the porch erected, and the chancel arch rebuilt in its present form. The arch is of two chamfered orders without hood-mould, the inner order on small half-octagonal responds, with moulded capitals and bases, and the outer continuous: the capitals are wholly restored. The pointed east window of the aisle is of two trefoiled lights with quatrefoil in the head, and the 14th-century piscina of the aisle altar has an ogee arch and plain circular projecting bowl; there is a plain image bracket south of the window. The window in the south wall is square headed and of three trefoiled lights, and in the west wall is a small modern window of trefoil shape.²⁸ The outer doorway of the porch appears to be the old one re-used, and the ball-flower cornice on the side walls is also partly old.

In the 15th century a square-headed three-light window of rather unusual design was inserted in the eastern bay of the north wall, each of its trefoiled ogee lights terminating with a foliated finial within the limit of the window head, which has no hood-mould.

The bell-cote rises directly from the west wall and has two small gables connected by a short ridge, and each surmounted by a cross. The openings have segmental arches of two chamfered orders. The detail is very simple, but some of its original character may have been lost when the bell-cote was rebuilt.²⁹ A panel above the lancet window in the west wall of the nave, inscribed '1562, IW, CE,' probably refers to some repairs then carried out.

The chancel is in the style of the 13th century, with an east window of three lancet lights and two single lancets in the south wall. It has a plain coped gable,

⁷ Feet of F. Rutl. file 3, no. 68.

⁸ *Cal. Close R.* 1313-18, p. 74.

⁹ Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 4 Edw. III, no. 15.

¹⁰ Irons' Notes, Linc. Episc. Reg. (Instit.).

¹¹ Add. Chart. 7371.

¹² *Cal. Close R.* 1341-3, p. 607.

¹³ Irons' Notes, loc. cit.

¹⁴ *Cal. Fine R.* ix, p. 337.

¹⁵ Chan. Inq. p.m. 2 Hen. IV, no. 58, m. 54.

¹⁶ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1429-36, p. 370.

¹⁷ Irons' Notes, loc. cit.

¹⁸ Early Chan. Proc. bdle. 586, no. 13.

¹⁹ Irons' Notes, loc. cit.

²⁰ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), ci, 101.

²¹ Pat. R. 11 Chas. I, pt. 2, no. 20; Recov. R. Hil. 1650, ro. 25; Trin. 12 Geo. I, ro. 145; Mich. 23 Geo. II, ro. 166; Hil. 42 Geo. III, ro. 125.

²² It was rebuilt by the Rev. C. J. Elliott, rector 1843-58, afterwards Bishop of Gloucester.

²³ In 1609 a buttress northward was in decay (Irons' Notes, Archd. Visit.).

²⁴ The shafts are about 5 in. in diameter. The diameter of the pillar is 15 in.

²⁵ There is a chamfered plinth to the west wall only.

²⁶ Thos. Paradise in *Stamford Mercury*, 29 May 1863.

²⁷ The seat is 14 in. above the floor, and in its present form is 14 ft. long. Paradise (loc. cit.), writing in 1863, mentions a 'pointed recess containing a stone seat' in the wall at the west end of the nave, but the recess is no longer there.

²⁸ It lights a vestry partitioned off at the west end of the aisle.

²⁹ *Rutl. Mag.* iii, 54, where it is described as of the same general type as, but differing in some respects from, the bell-cotes at Little Casterton and Essendine, the differences being 'due to restoration.'

and the walls are without plinth, stringcourse, or buttress. No ancient features have been retained.³⁰

The font is probably contemporary with the nave arcade, and consists of a plain octagonal bowl on a large cylindrical stem and eight surrounding shafts with moulded capitals and bases, all very much restored.

The pulpit and fittings date from 1878.³¹ There is no chancel screen. On the north wall of the nave is a War Memorial tablet (1914-19).

The two bells are without date or inscription.³²

SEATON

Segentone, Seieton (xi cent.); Saeton (xii cent.); Seaton (xiii cent.); Seyton (xiii-xvi cent.).

The parish of Seaton is separated from Northamptonshire by the river Welland, which forms the southern boundary. The ground falls towards the Welland, the height being not much above 180 ft. at Thorpe-by-Water in the south of the parish; but it rises towards the east, reaching the highest point, 500 ft., at Prestley Hill on the western border. The Barrows, just south-west of Seaton, are not so high as the ridge behind the village, but stand up conspicuously out of the lower ground. The valley is crossed by a viaduct, carrying the Kettering to Manton branch of the London Midland and Scottish Railway, opened in 1878. Seaton station is about half a mile from the village and two and a half miles east-south-east from Uppingham on a different line of the same railway.

The somewhat straggling village stands on the north side of the road from Uppingham, sheltered from the north by the ridge which runs across the parish from west to east. The cottages are mostly of stone with thatched roofs, some of them being in a dilapidated condition. The church is near the eastern end of the village, with the Manor House, formerly known as Up Hall, close to it. Seaton Grange is about half a mile west. The hamlet of Thorpe-by-Water contains a few good 17th-century stone houses, one of which, with mullioned windows and thatched roof, has a panel inscribed '1M, 1654.' Another larger gabled house, with stone-slatted roofs, wind-break chimneys and mullioned windows, is inscribed 'E^HM 1691.'

The soil is good, the subsoil being chiefly Upper Lias with some Lower Oolite. The land is mostly under grass. The parish, with the hamlet of Thorpe-by-Water, contains about 2,135 acres.

Among place-names contained in local records are the following: Prestesleye;¹ the Westfield beyond Uppingham road, abutting on Sandhowes; Bottinghowes, abutting on Glaston brook (xiii cent.);² Spurre Close,³ Ivehall or Ivyehall, Milne Holme, the Lownd Close, the Berryges, Bohill leyes (xvi cent.).⁴

The plate consists of a cup and cover paten of 1570-71, and a large paten without marks, but probably of about 1660. There are also 2 pewter plates.³³

The registers before 1812 are contained in two volumes: (i) baptisms 1585-1812, marriages 1548-1754, burials 1548-1812; (ii) marriages 1754-1812.³⁴

The advowson of Pilton followed *ADVOWSON* the same descent as the manor,³⁵ and now belongs to the Earl of Ancaster.

The living is attached ecclesiastically to Wing.

There are no charities for this parish.

Robert de Toeni held one hide and *MANORS* one bovate in Seaton with one virgate in Barrowden in 1086; it was worth 20s., and had been worth twice as much in the time of Edward the Confessor.⁵ From the reference in Domesday Book to a priest on this manor, it seems that Robert's holding may be identified with the manor of *UP HALL* (xiv cent.), afterwards called *BELFAGE* or *BEWFOIS* (xvi-xvii cent.) from the family which held it. Ralf, the son of Ralf de Beaufof (Bellafago), is said to have had an estate in Seaton in the time of Henry I;⁶ but it was afterwards in the possession of Hubert de Rye, who married Agnes the daughter of Ralf. Hubert granted 'the land of Seaton where the church stands, with the advowson and all that belongs to it,' to Thomas, the son of the younger Ralf de Beaufof, who died in 1184.⁷ He left a widow Alice, the daughter of Waleran de Oiri, then aged twenty, and a son and heir Ralf, who was two and a half. This Ralf had no sooner come of age than he was involved in lawsuits concerning his inheritance,⁸ which he held of the Barony of Rye.⁹ Gilbert of Norfolk, who had married Emma, daughter and heir of Henry, son of Ralf de Beaufof, claimed his lands in Norfolk, Rutland and Lincoln in 1204,¹⁰ but afterwards quitclaimed all the right that he might have in Seaton and Aslakeby to John Marshal and Aline his wife, the daughter and heir of Fulk de Rye.¹¹ Geoffrey de Chichester (Cestre) and Isabel his wife, who is said to have been a sister of Aline, were plaintiffs with the Marshals in the plea concerning a quarter of a fee in Seaton, which came to an end by the death of Geoffrey.¹² A final agreement about land and rent in Seaton was made between Aline Marshal and Ralf de Beaufof in 1243;¹³ but this seems to refer to the Beaufofs' freehold (see below), as the manor of Up Hall was supposed in 1349 to be held of William de Ros of Hamlake,¹⁴ whose great-grandmother, Isabel de Albini, was said to be the great-great-granddaughter of Robert de Toeni.¹⁵

Ralf de Beaufof died before 11 July 1248, when the

³⁰ In 1584 the chancel and Communion table were in decay, and also the glass windows, by reason of a school kept in the church. In 1681 the chancel was ordered to be repaired (Irons, loc. cit.).

³¹ Before the restoration the furniture was 'extremely poor,' and the pulpit was 'wretched looking' and in a 'tottering state' (*Stamford Mercury*, 29 May 1863).

³² North, *Cb. Bells of Rutl.* 147.

³³ Hope, *Cb. Plate in Rutl.* 26. The larger paten is inscribed 'Pilton' in 17th-century lettering.

³⁴ There are many years without entries:

in the first volume the last marriage entry is in 1742 and the last burial in 1809; in the second volume the first marriage is 1764 and the last 1806.

³⁵ See manor and Inst. Bks. (P.R.O.); Irons' Notes, Linc. Episc. Reg. (Instit.).

¹ *Cal. Close R.* 1279-88, p. 307.

² Anct. D. (P.R.O.), B 3209.

³ Star Chamber Proc. Edw. VI, bdle. 5, no. 13.

⁴ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), cclxx, 132.

⁵ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 141.

⁶ Farrer, *Honors and Knights' Fees*, iii, 111, where there is a pedigree of the Beaufofs.

⁷ *Ibid.* 112-13; *Rot. de Dom.* (Pipe R. Soc.), 45.

⁸ Farrer, op. cit. 113-14.

⁹ *Red Bk. of Excheq.* (Rolls Ser.), i, 401.

¹⁰ *Cur. Reg. R.* iii, 106.

¹¹ Feet of F. Divs. Cos. Trin. 27 Hen. III, no. 188.

¹² *Cur. Reg. R.* iii, 106, 159; iv, 57, 83, 106, 224.

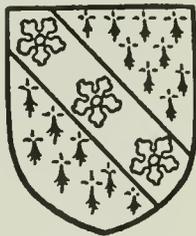
¹³ Feet of F. Div. Cos. 27 Hen. III, no. 188.

¹⁴ *Cal. Inq.* ix, no. 286.

¹⁵ G.E.C. *Complete Peerage*, i, 67; vi, 400-1; *Cal. Chart. R.* 1327-41, 294, 297.

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king took the homage of his son and heir Ralf for all his lands and tenements.¹⁶ In 1251 the younger Ralf was heavily in debt to the Jews,¹⁷ and in 1277 he was superseded in the office of a coroner for Rutland and verderer for the forest of Rutland,¹⁸ the latter office being afterwards held by Geoffrey de Beaufoy, his heir.¹⁹ Geoffrey died in 1292, leaving a widow Amice;²⁰ he was succeeded by John de Beaufoy, who held a quarter of a fee in Seaton in 1305²¹ and in 1309 granted South Creke (co. Norf.) to Peter de Croft and his wife Amice (widow of Geoffrey) for their lives.²² In the same year he received protection for three years as he was going beyond seas, and had letters nominating Richard de Beaufoy and Richard de Walesden his attorneys.²³ He had returned in 1313, when he settled a messuage and lands in Seaton on himself, Elizabeth his wife, and his heirs.²⁴ He was knight of the shire in 1328²⁵ and died about 1343,²⁶ leaving a son William, against whom John of Evesham and Alice his wife, widow of John, claimed one-third of the manor of Seaton, as dower of Alice, in 1346. William, however, claimed that two-thirds of the manor had been settled on him and his wife Alice, and that the remaining third was held by Roger de Beaufoy.²⁷ Judgment is not recorded, but no doubt William had strong reasons to resist the diminution of his estate; for shortly afterwards he was pardoned the levy of 40s. for an archer, on account of his 'urgent necessity.'²⁸



BEAUFUY. *Ermine a bend azure with three cinquefoils or thereon.*

William Beaufoy died in 1349, leaving as his heir his son John aged fifteen and more.²⁹ His property at Seaton was then described as 'a capital messuage, 40 acres of arable, 7 acres of meadow often flooded by the Welland, a tenement for which a bondman used to pay 16s. yearly, and no one will farm since his death because of the [Black] Death, and a windmill.' The wardship and marriage of John was granted to Sir Roland Daneya in 1350.³⁰ William's wife Alice, daughter of John de Boyville, also died in 1349;³¹ and Alice the widow of John Beaufoy (d. 1343) died in 1356, leaving her grandson John, son of William Beaufoy, her heir of full age.³² According to the evidence for his proof of age he was born at Stokefaston (Stockerston, co. Leic.) and baptised in the church there on St. Andrew's Day 1336.³³ In 1358 he obtained seisin of his lands as the king had taken his homage.³⁴ In the same year John Beaufoy enfeoffed William Beaufoy of two-thirds of the manor of Up Hall, granting him also the reversion of the third

which Roger Beaufoy still held.³⁵ The conveyance was not completed until 1363.³⁶

The relationship of William to John is not stated. William cannot be identified with the William de Beaufoy who succeeded to a manor in South Creek (co. Norf.), and was only 27 years of age at the time of the death of John his brother in 1424.³⁷ A William Beaufoy was knight of the shire for Rutland in 1363, 1365 and 1369.³⁸ Possibly he was a brother of John who conveyed Up Hall to him.^{38a} In 1364 William Beaufoy was superseded in the office of verderer of the Forest of Rutland 'for reasonable causes.'³⁹

William married Agnes, daughter and co-heir of Robert de Northwode of North Creke.⁴⁰ He was still living in 1373;⁴¹ but the descent of the manor after this date becomes obscure.

John Beaufoy of Seaton, who was pardoned in 1416 for the murder of Robert Nycoll and Richard Edmond in 1415,⁴² may have been a son of William. Possibly William Beaufoy who held a quarter of a fee in Seaton in 1428 was his son. Presumably the quarter fee represented the manor of Up Hall, though it is said to have been held formerly by Simon Warde,⁴³ to whom no other reference has been found in local records. William Beaufoy was knight of the shire for Rutland in the parliaments of 1433 and 1434, and was one of those who received a commission to issue a warrant to the sheriff for proclamation in the next county court that several persons, including William Sheffield of Seaton (see below), should take an oath not to maintain peacebreakers.⁴⁴ He was also a justice of the peace from 1446 to 1459.⁴⁵ In July 1448 John Chesilden received a licence to grant the stewardship of the forest of Rutland to William Beaufoy and others.⁴⁶ The remaining references to William indicate that he was a Lancastrian. In 1457 he was a commissioner for array for Rutland, and in December 1459 he was further commissioned to resist the rebellion of Richard, Duke of York.⁴⁷

He was probably succeeded by an heir of the same name. 'Phelip, late wife of William Beaufoy,' who complained of oppression by William Sheffield and William Stevens about 1493 was apparently the widow of the younger William. She declared that her husband, 'in the time of King Edward IV,' had been obliged to sell the manor of South Creke, which had been settled as her jointure; but in place thereof he gave her 'for term of her life by his last Will the manor of Seton in the county of Rutland, not above the value of £12.'⁴⁸ She had occupied the manor fifteen years after the death of her husband; but William Stevens, having married Eleanor, one of the daughters of William Beaufoy, before Christmas last, came in riotous wise with might and power and took £4 4s. od.

¹⁶ *Excerpt. e Rot. Fin.* ii, 37.

¹⁷ *Cal. Close R.* 1251-53, 24.

¹⁸ *Ibid.* 1272-9, p. 381.

¹⁹ *Ibid.* 1288-96, p. 281.

²⁰ *Ibid.* 218.

²¹ *Feud. Aids*, iv, 205.

²² G. Beaufoy, *Leaves from a Beech Tree*,

15.

²³ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1307-13, p. 177.

²⁴ Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 6 Edw. II, no. 11.

²⁵ Wright, *Hist. of Rutl.* 14.

²⁶ *Cal. Close R.* 1343-6, p. 51.

²⁷ De Banco R. 346, m. 221d.

²⁸ *Cal. Fine R.* 1337-47, 520.

²⁹ *Cal. Inq.* ix, no. 286.

³⁰ *Cal. Fine R.* 1347-56, 215.

³¹ *Ibid.* 118. ³² *Cal. Inq.* x, no. 356.

³³ *Ibid.* no. 394.

³⁴ *Cal. Close R.* 1354-60, p. 436.

³⁵ Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 32 Edw. III, no. 49.

³⁶ *Ibid.* East. 37 Edw. III, no. 49.

³⁷ Chan. Inq. p.m. 3 Hen. VI, no. 6.

³⁸ *Cal. Close R.* 1360-4, 557; 1364-8, 169, 480; 1369-70, 100.

^{38a} A William de Beaufoy who died in 1347 left a son Nicholas his heir in South Creke (*Cal. Inq.* ix, 8). Nicholas had two sons William and John (Early Chan. Proc. bdle. 16, no. 76). Possibly

it was this William (who cannot be identified with the knight of the shire) upon whom the manor was settled.

³⁹ *Cal. Close R.* 1364-8, 42.

⁴⁰ *Ibid.* 1369-74, p. 210.

⁴¹ *Ibid.* p. 459.

⁴² *Cal. Pat. R.* 1416-22, pp. 36, 260.

⁴³ *Feud. Aids*, iv, 212.

⁴⁴ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1429-36, p. 370; Wright, op. cit. 15.

⁴⁵ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1441-46, p. 477; 1446-52, p. 593; 1452-61, p. 675.

⁴⁶ *Ibid.* 1446-52, p. 179.

⁴⁷ *Ibid.* 1452-61, p. 557.

⁴⁸ Early Chan. Proc. bdle. 186, no. 82.

of the issues, contrary to all right. This was done with the assent of William Sheffield, one of the feoffees for the trust, who further threatened to put Philippa out.⁴⁹

The other daughter, or daughters, of William Beaufoy are not mentioned by name; but the whole manor of Up Hall was not long afterwards acquired, either by purchase or inheritance, by the Bassetts of North Luffenham. Edward, the son and heir of Thomas Bassett, died seised of it in 1534, leaving as his heir his brother John, then aged twenty-four.⁵⁰ John married Anne Rouse of Rouse Lench (co. Worc.),⁵¹ and died in 1575. In 1585 his widow joined her son John Bassett in making a conveyance of tenements, land and rent in Luffenham, Morcott and Seaton to Edmund Rouse.⁵² The manor of Up Hall had already been acquired from Anne and her husband by George Sheffield in 1568,⁵³ and Robert Sheffield his son died seised of it in 1602, leaving as his heir his son John.⁵⁴ It afterwards followed the descent of the manor of Down Hall (q.v.), and in 1928 was in the possession of Mr. George Edward Monckton.

A manor in Seaton, later known as *DOWN HALL*, containing land for 8 ploughs and 10 acres of meadow, was held of the Countess Judith by William in 1086, and had been held with sac and soc by Edward in the time of the Confessor.⁵⁵ To this manor belonged certain socmen in Thorpe and Luffenham.⁵⁶ The overlordship seems to have followed the descent of the Honour of Huntingdon.⁵⁷

The William who held of Countess Judith was perhaps William brother of Simon de St. Liz, Earl of Huntingdon in right of his wife Maud, daughter and heir of the Countess Judith. The property seems to have passed to Simon de St. Liz, fifth Earl of Huntingdon (d. 1153),⁵⁸ and from him to Simon, eighth Earl, who married Alice de Gant. He died in 1184⁵⁹ without surviving issue, his son, another Simon, having died in his father's lifetime.⁶⁰ The manor then appears to have gone to Simon, brother of Simon, the eighth Earl of Huntingdon. This Simon, described as brother of Earl Simon, granted land in Conington (co. Hunts), probably before 1184, to St. Mary de Pré, Northampton, for the souls of himself and his ancestors and his nephew (*nepos*) Simon (son of the eighth Earl), Alice de Gant being a witness to the charter.⁶¹ Simon de St. Liz, who claimed half a knight's fee in Conington against David, Earl of Huntingdon, in 1214, was probably a son of Simon, the brother of Simon, eighth Earl.⁶² Evidently he opposed King John, as the sheriff of Cambridge was notified that he had returned to his fealty in 1217.⁶³ In 1223, at the instance of Isabel, widow of

Richard the Crossbowman of Seaton manor (see below), he obtained the wardship and marriage of the heir.⁶⁴ This grant was renewed in 1227 to 'Simon de Seint Liz, steward of Ralph de Neville, Bishop of Chichester,'⁶⁵ who had licence to marry her without disparagement. The heir was Amy or Anne, whom he afterwards married. This Simon may perhaps be identified with Simon de St. Liz, eldest son of Simon, to whom Henry III in 1231 granted quittance of service on juries, etc.⁶⁶

In 1235 King Henry granted to Simon de St. Liz (Seyntliz) and Amy or Anne his wife relief from forest burdens in the wood of Seaton, which was of Amy's inheritance.⁶⁷ In the same year Amy claimed common rights in Seaton Wood against the Bishop of Lincoln.⁶⁸ Both she and her husband were living in 1244;⁶⁹ and in 1252 Simon gave the king 8 bezants of gold for leave to course with his hounds the hare, the fox, and the cat.⁷⁰ It was apparently he who in 1248 unsuccessfully claimed the third penny of the county of Huntingdon and the Honour of Huntingdon.⁷¹ Simon died in 1259, when his widow claimed her dower third in Great Stukeley against Ralf de St. Liz,⁷² presumably his brother. He was succeeded in Westbury (co. Buck.) by his son Simon,⁷³ and his heir in Seaton seems to have been his son John.⁷⁴ In the same year John de St. Liz received protection while accompanying the king to France.⁷⁵ He is said to have died without issue and to have been succeeded in Seaton by his brother Richard, who had already succeeded to Morcott.⁷⁶ In 1275 the jurors of Wrاندike Hundred declared that he gave 40s. to Anketin de Martival to avoid knighthood.⁷⁷ William de St. Liz, the son of Richard, presented to the church of Morcott in 1287 and 1295,⁷⁸ he was holding by knight service in the Hundred of Wrاندike in 1302,⁷⁹ and in 1304 he manumitted two of his tenants in Seaton.⁸⁰ He held Down Hall in 1316, when he was appointed one of the commissioners of array in Rutland for the expedition against the Scots.⁸¹ He was knight of the shire in 1312⁸² and died before Trinity term 1321, when his younger son Richard de St. Liz made a settlement of 2 messuages and lands in Seaton, on himself, his wife, Joan Gernoun, and their issue, with contingent remainder to his own right heirs.⁸³ Richard de St. Liz was knight of the shire in 1328, 1330, 1335 and 1336.⁸⁴ He and Joan are said to have had four sons, William, Thomas, Simon and John; and two daughters, Elizabeth and Margaret. All these except Margaret died without issue. Margaret married Robert Poynton and had a son Robert Poynton and a grandson William, who also died without issue.⁸⁵ In 1398 the sheriff of Rutland

⁴⁹ Early Chan. Proc. bde. 186, no. 82.

⁵⁰ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), lvii, 70; Exch. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), dxxvii, 12.

⁵¹ *Visit. Rud.* 1618-9 (Harl. Soc.), 18.

⁵² Feet of F. Rudl. Mich. 27-28 Eliz.

⁵³ *Ibid.* 10 & 11 Eliz.

⁵⁴ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), cclxx, 132.

⁵⁵ *V.C.H. Rudl.* i, 142.

⁵⁶ *Ibid.*

⁵⁷ See above, Exton.

⁵⁸ *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), vi, 645.

⁵⁹ Simon gave the mill of Thorpe to the Priory of St. Andrew of Northampton (Cott. MS. Vesp. E xvii, fol. 6 d).

⁶⁰ *Complete Peerage*, op. cit. 645 n. citing St. Andrew's Cartulary.

⁶¹ Farrer, *Feud. Camb.* p. 102; Blore's notes on Wright, *Hist. of Rudl.* 114 f.

⁶² *Cal. Doc. Scoll.* i, 109.

⁶³ *Rot. Litt. Claus.* (Rec. Com.), i, 303.

⁶⁴ *Excerpt. e Rot. Fin.* ii, 102.

⁶⁵ *Cal. Chert. R.* 1226-57, 61; *Cal. Pat. R.* 1225-32, p. 117.

⁶⁶ *Ibid.* p. 451.

⁶⁷ *Visit. Rudl.* 1618-19 (Harl. Soc.), 41; *Cal. Chert. R.* 1226-57, p. 212.

⁶⁸ Close R. 19 Hen. III, m. 2 d.

⁶⁹ *Cal. Close R.* 1292-7, p. 241. Simon's wife is here called Anne, not Amy; but it is practically impossible to distinguish between these names in 13th-century script.

⁷⁰ *Cal. Doc. Scoll.* i, no. 1893, p. 354.

⁷¹ *V.C.H. Hunts.* ii, p. 9.

⁷² *Cal. Doc. Scoll.* i, no. 2149, p. 420. For Ralf see *Visit. Rudl.* loc. cit.; *V.C.H.* op. cit. 232.

⁷³ Blore's notes, loc. cit.; *V.C.H. Bucks.* iv, 265.

⁷⁴ Blore's notes, loc. cit.

⁷⁵ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1248-66, p. 54.

⁷⁶ Blore's notes, loc. cit.; Burke, *Commoners*, i, 651.

⁷⁷ *Rot. Hund.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 54.

⁷⁸ Irons' Notes, Linc. Episc. Reg. (Instit.).

⁷⁹ Add. Chart. no. 7371.

⁸⁰ *Abbrev. Plac.* (Rec. Com.), 753.

⁸¹ Blore's notes, loc. cit.; *Feud. Aids*, iv, 209; *Cal. Pat. R.* 1313-17, p. 460; *Cal. Fine R.* 1307-19, 296.

⁸² Wright, op. cit. 14.

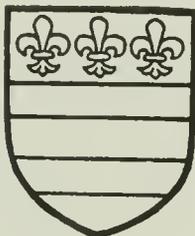
⁸³ Feet of F. Trin. 14 Edw. II, no. 36.

⁸⁴ Wright, loc. cit.

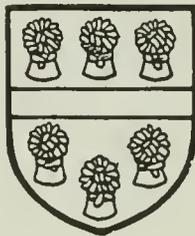
⁸⁵ *Visit. Rudl.* op. cit. 42; Blore's notes, loc. cit.

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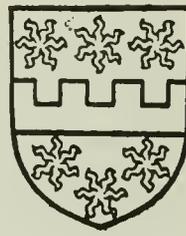
was ordered to give Roland de St. Liz, kinsman and heir of Richard de St. Liz, seisin of a third part of a cottage and 3 acres in Morcott, the lands of an outlaw.⁸⁶ This Roland was the son of Roland the brother of Richard de St. Liz and Agnes de Empingham.⁸⁷ Roland the son married Alice Pinchbeck and had two daughters Isabel and Margaret.⁸⁸ Isabel married William Sheffield, and Margaret married first Henry Durant of Cottesmore and secondly John Burgh; and in 1429 they divided the inheritance between them, each sister settling her portion on herself, her



ST. LIZ of Seaton.
*Argent two bars gules
with three fleurs de lis
gules in the chief.*



SHEFFIELD of Seaton.
*Or a fesse between six
sheaves gules.*



TRYON of Bulwick.
*Azure a battled fesse
between six stars or.*

husband and their issue, with contingent remainder to her sister, her brother-in-law, and her sister's heirs.⁸⁹

Isabel inherited the manor of Seaton and the manor and advowson of Morcott. Although Margaret left heirs by her first husband, she apparently had none by her second on whom the settlement was made, and the whole manor of Down Hall with the manor and advowson of Morcott passed to the Sheffields. William Sheffield and Isabel left a son and heir John. His son William had a son John who with his son Edward sold Morcott in 1528. John was holding Down Hall in 1533⁹⁰ in which year he died, leaving Edward his heir.⁹¹ George Sheffield, the son of Edward, settled the manor in 1556;⁹² and Robert, his son, died seised of it in 1602.⁹³ His wife Dorothy survived him with two children, John and Dorothy, both of whom died young;⁹⁴ on John's death in 1607, at the age of eight, his uncle Sampson Sheffield was found to be his heir.⁹⁵ Sampson Sheffield and his wife Elizabeth (Woodruffe) made a settlement of the manor in 1610;⁹⁶ and Sampson died seised of it in 1619, leaving as his heir his son Sampson then aged thirteen.⁹⁷ The manor at this time was given the name of St. Lucy's or 'Sainte Luce,' evidently a corruption of St. Liz, and was said to be held in soccage⁹⁸ of the Bishop of Chichester.⁹⁹

In 1634 Sampson Sheffield and Jane his wife sold this manor, with the manors of Up Hall and Seaton, to Sir John Hanbury, Robert Tanfield and Edward Palmer;¹ and twelve years later all three were bought from Edward Hanbury, Geoffrey Palmer, William Montague and Edward Lord Montague by Peter Tryon² of Bulwick (co. Northants) who died in 1660.³ Peter was succeeded by his son James who was holding the manor in 1684,⁴ and he by Charles Tryon, who died in 1705, leaving a son Charles.⁵ The manor was sold by Charles Tryon about 1771 to Lord Galway for his son, the Hon. John Monckton.⁶ Sir George Pigott, bart., and Dame Mary Anne his wife, Monckton's daughter and co-heir, were parties to a settlement in 1830.⁷ The present owner is Mr. George Edward Monckton, descendant of the Hon. Edward Monckton, and Sophia, daughter of Sir George Pigott, bart.

The King's manor of Barrowden had three outlying members, at Seaton, Thorpe, and Bisbrooke with Glaston.⁸ The whole was worth £3 in King Edward's time, and in 1086 was valued at £7. As the later manor of SEATON had appurtenances in Thorpe, Bisbrooke and Glaston, it may perhaps be conjectured that all these members of Barrowden were afterwards held as one manor by serjeanty probably by Ernisius the Crossbowman who paid danegelt in Rutland in 1130⁹ and by Richard the Crossbowman whose land in Seaton was valued at 100s. at the time of his death in 1198.¹⁰ Richard left a son and heir Ernisius, who married Bridget, daughter of William Mauduit,¹¹ and in 1204 claimed the church at Morcott against Isabel Mauduit and her son Robert, but withdrew his plea.¹² He seems to have died about 1223, when Isabel the widow of Richard his father persuaded Simon de St. Liz to buy the wardship and marriage of the heirs from the king.¹³ On 14 April 1232 Henry III granted in frankalmoin to Ralf de Nevill, Bishop of Chichester, and his successors, the homage and service of Richard the Crossbowman and his heirs, 'who held of the king in chief in Morcote and Seaton (co. Rutl.), by serjeanty as crossbowmen: to hold quit of all suits of counties and hundreds.'¹⁴ Notwithstanding this grant, the manor was said in the 17th century to be held 'as of the Hundred of Wrandike by suit at court and a pair of gold spurs,' but this was clearly a mistake; the manor of Down Hall being supposed, at the same time, to be held of the Bishop of Chichester.¹⁵

⁸⁶ *Cal. Close R.* 1396-99, p. 363.

⁸⁷ *Visit. Rutl.* loc. cit.

⁸⁸ *Ibid.* 41-2 (Isabel's name is here given as Elizabeth); *Blore's notes*, loc. cit.

⁸⁹ Feet of F. East. 7 Hen. VI, no. 3.

⁹⁰ *Visit. Rutl.* op. cit. 19.

⁹¹ *Exch. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), dcxvii, 4.

⁹² *Recov. R. East.* 2 & 3 Phil. & M. ro. 423.

⁹³ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), cclxx, 132.

⁹⁴ *Visit. Rutl.* loc. cit.

⁹⁵ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), ccci, 79.

⁹⁶ Feet of F. Rutl. East. 8 Jas. I.

⁹⁷ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), cccclxix, 150.

⁹⁸ *Ibid.* The earliest occurrence of this name for the manor seems to be in

1602 (*ibid.* cclxx, 132); the family name appears in the Latinised form of 'de Sancto Lucio' as early as 1268 (*Cal. Chbart. R.* 1257-1300, 88), but this is unusual, the common forms being Sancto Licio, Seyn Lyz, Senlis, Seintliz, or St. Lys.

⁹⁹ *Chan. Inq. p.m. Misc.* (Ser. ii), dxxvi, 48; *Ct. of Wards, Feodaries Surv. Rutl.* bdlc. 34.

¹ Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 10 Chas. I.

² *Ibid.* 22 Chas. I.

³ *V.C.H. Northants*, ii, 553.

⁴ *Bridges, Northants*, ii, 319; Wright,

op. cit. 114.

⁵ *Bridges*, loc. cit.

⁶ *Recov. R. Mich.* 1 Geo. III, ro. 211;

Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 11 Geo. III.

⁷ *Recov. R. East.* 11 Geo. IV, ro. 252.

⁸ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 140.

⁹ *Pipe R.* 31 Hen. I (Rec. Com.), 134.

¹⁰ *Bk. of Fees* (P.R.O.), i, 10. It should, however, be noted that Richard, son of Ernisius de Seyton, acquired land in Bisbrooke from the Meynills in 1251 (Feet of F. Rutl. East. 35 Hen. III, no. 38).

¹¹ *Bridges, Northants*, ii, 46.

¹² *Curia Regis R.* iii, 225, 276, 301, 317.

¹³ See above in Down Hall manor.

¹⁴ *Cal. Chbart. R.* 1226-57, 151, 179;

Close R. 16 Hen. III, m. 12.

¹⁵ *Chan. Inq. p.m. Misc.* (Ser. ii),

dxvii, 48. The inquest on Robert Sheffield in 1602 gives the variant 'rent of 18d. or a pair of spurs' (*Chan. Inq. p.m.*

[Ser. ii], cclxx, 132).

Ernisius was succeeded by his son Richard, usually called Richard de Seyton,¹⁶ the serjeanty having been altered into military service. In 1253 the king granted him exemption for life from being put on juries, etc.,¹⁷ and in 1265 he had a safe-conduct to go to the king.¹⁸ Presumably he had been one of Montfort's supporters, though his kinsman, Master Roger de Seyton, afterwards Chief Justice, appears to have been a royalist and received protection from 13 April 1264 until Ascensiontide following.¹⁹ In 1268 an inquiry was ordered as to those who came to Kettering churchyard and there took Richard de Seyton and kept him in prison until they had extorted from him £200 for his ransom; and who burned his manors of Seaton (co. Rutl.) and Maidwell (co. Northants) and his mills at Seaton and maltreated his miller there; and plundered his goods in divers places to the value of 500 marks.²⁰ The date of Richard's death is uncertain; he seems to have been succeeded by another Richard, probably his son,²¹ who with his wife Alice received seisin of lands in Oxfordshire in 1275.²² He was afterwards knighted,²³ and died about 1282, leaving as his heir his son John, a minor, whose wardship was granted to Anthony Bek, in respect of his lands in Buckinghamshire.²⁴

In May 1303 John de Seyton, being in Scotland in the king's service, had letters of respite for debts due to the king in Northamptonshire and Buckinghamshire,²⁵ and in 1314 his heir, Nicholas de Seyton, being also in Scotland on the king's service, received letters of protection.²⁶ In 1316 Nicholas was still said to be holding the manor of Maidwell;²⁷ probably he died about that time, since his son and heir John, a minor, was returned as holding in Seaton and Thorpe.²⁸ John de Seyton was knight of the shire for Rutland in 1337;²⁹ he was succeeded by another John, who was knighted and served as knight of the shire for Northampton in 1378.³⁰ In 1383 he settled his land preparatory to going abroad.³¹ In 1393 Sir John Seyton, kt., by virtue of the king's commission, arrested certain men for rebellions.³² He and his wife Joan were living in 1395.³³ He died in Jerusalem in 1396 and was succeeded by his son John. Thomas, son of John, was succeeded by John, whose son Thomas Seyton³⁴ disposed of his lands in Hallaton (co. Leic.) in 1464.³⁵ He was succeeded by his son Everard, who died in 1476, leaving as his heirs his daughters—Anne, aged four, and Joan, aged three.³⁶



SEYTON. *Gules a bend argent between six martlets or.*

Joan Seyton married Francis Metcalfe, and in 1517 they conveyed their moieties of Maidwell, Seaton and Barford St. Michael to James Metcalfe and others and the heirs of James Metcalfe, and gave warranty against the heirs of Joan.³⁷ In 1526 James Metcalfe sold the property to Edward Catesby,³⁸ son of Euseby Catesby and Anne Seyton.³⁹

Michael Catesby, the son of Edward, dealt with the manor in 1577.⁴⁰ He seems to have been succeeded here by his son Erasmus, who conveyed it in 1589 to his brother Kenelm for the purpose of a settlement on himself and his heirs, discharged from all incumbrances.⁴¹ In 1597 he sold it to Robert Sheffield, and it afterwards followed the descent of Down Hall (q.v.) and Up Hall.⁴²

A reputed manor of *THORPE BY THE WATER* was probably parcel of the manor of Down Hall (q.v.), as the St. Liz dealt with lands and the mill of Thorpe. It is first mentioned in 1615, when it was conveyed to John Osborne by Edmund Clipsham and Dorothy his wife, who warranted against the heirs of Edmund and Michael Clipsham, the father of Edmund.⁴³ From this it appears possible that the 'manor' was the freehold belonging in the 16th century to Richard Marler and leased in 1588 by Robert Clerke and Thomas Allen and their wives, the sisters and co-heirs of George Marler, to William Clipsham for 21 years for 20 marks yearly.⁴⁴ Clerke seems afterwards to have quitclaimed his interest to Clipsham; and he subsequently complained that though William Clipsham and Anthony (his adopted son) knew that Clerke and his wife could only grant a moiety, and that Anne, wife of Edward Andrewes and widow of Richard Marler, had a life interest, and that the children of Anne Newport, another sister of George Marler, claimed a third part, yet Anthony Clipsham caused a lease to be drawn containing a covenant that the lessee should enjoy the premises discharged of incumbrances.⁴⁵

The descent of the so-called manor is obscure. John Osborne conveyed it in 1626 to Philip Holman and his heirs.⁴⁶ In 1690 it was conveyed to Richard Peach by William Scarlett and Mary his wife, Samuel Archer and Theodosia his wife, William Cole and Mary his wife and Nathaniel Scarlett;⁴⁷ and later in the same year by John Symonds and Dorothy his wife.⁴⁸ Warranties were granted against the heirs of Mary and Nathaniel Scarlett, Theodosia Archer, and Mary Cole: possibly the heirs of Philip Holman. In 1701 Mary



CATESBY. *Argent two leopards sable crowned or.*

¹⁶ Close R. 16 Hen. III, m. 12; Feet of F. Rutl. East. 35 Hen. III, no. 38.

¹⁷ Cal. Pat. R. 1247-58, p. 184.

¹⁸ Ibid. 1258-66, p. 417.

¹⁹ Ibid. 311; *Liber de Bernewelle*, 129.

²⁰ Cal. Pat. R. 1266-72, p. 289.

²¹ Roger de Seyton had a son Richard who held land in Seaton (*Cal. Close R.* 1307-13, p. 136; *Anct. D.* [P.R.O.] B3209), but the fact that he was living as late as 1309 makes it certain that he was not the lord of the manor.

²² Cal. Close R. 1272-79, p. 250.

²³ Ibid. 541.

²⁴ Cal. Fine R. 1272-1307, 174, 177; *Feud. Aids*, i, 86; Bridges, op. cit. 47, only

shows one Richard here, but the dates would infer two generations.

³⁵ *Chancery R.* 1277-1326, 95.

³⁶ Cal. Pat. R. 1313-17, p. 175.

³⁷ *Feud. Aids*, iv, 24.

³⁸ Ibid. 209.

³⁹ Wright, op. cit. 14.

⁴⁰ Cal. Close R. 1377-81, p. 221.

⁴¹ Add. Chart. 22213, 22214.

⁴² Cal. Close R. 1392-6, p. 243.

⁴³ Ibid. pp. 241, 402.

⁴⁴ See pedigree in Bridges, loc. cit.

⁴⁵ Chan. Inq. p.m. 16 Edw. IV, no. 63.

⁴⁶ Ibid.

⁴⁷ Feet of F. Div. Cos. Trin. 9 Hen.

VIII, no. 21 (57).

⁴⁸ Ibid. East. 18 Hen. VIII, no. 2 (56).

³⁹ *Visit. Rutl.* op. cit. 33. She is here described as 'daughter and heir of John Seaton of Seaton,' but this must be a mistake.

⁴⁰ MS. Cal. Fines, Rutl. Mich. 19 & 20 Eliz.

⁴¹ *Recov. R. Rutl.* Hil. 31 Eliz. ro. 36; *Com. Pleas, Recov. R. Rutl.* Hil. 32 Eliz. m. 9.

⁴² Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 39 Eliz.

⁴³ Ibid. Mich. 13 Jas. I.

⁴⁴ Chan. Proc. (Ser. ii), bdle. 262, no. 69.

⁴⁵ Ibid.

⁴⁶ Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 2 Chas. I.

⁴⁷ Ibid. East. 2 Will. & M.

⁴⁸ Ibid. Trin. 2 Will. & M. View of frankpledge is mentioned in this fine.

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Scarlett widow, Thomas Martyn and Theodosia, Lionel Denton and Mary, John Symonds and Dorothy, Vincent Simpson and Elizabeth, and James Ostler and Margaret quitclaimed their interest in the manor to William Clewe and Hugh Ashton and the heirs of William, with warranty against the heirs of both Marys, Theodosia, Dorothy, Elizabeth and Margaret.⁴⁹ Nine years later Richard Shuttleworth and his wife Emma quitclaimed their interest to William Potterall and Henry Oliver and the heirs of William.⁵⁰ Dorothy Roberts, spinster, in 1772 settled it on herself and her heirs and assigns for ever.⁵¹

In 1243 Aline Marshal acknowledged the right of Ralf de Beaufoy (represented by his son Ralf) to 9 oxgangs of land and 13s. rent in Seaton which had previously been held by Thomas de Beaufoy, Ralf's father, of her father Fulk de Rye.⁵² This freehold, which (though assessed as a whole knight's fee) never seems to have been regarded as a manor, was evidently settled upon the younger Ralf. The overlordship remained with the Marshals until Hawise, sister and heir of the last John Marshal, brought it to the family of Morley by her marriage to Robert de Morley: it subsequently followed the descent of his barony.⁵³

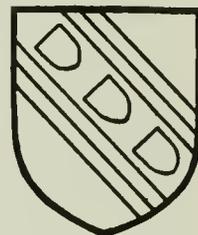
In 1295 complaint was made by Ralf de Beaufoy that John de Seyton and Richard his brother, with others, had pulled down his houses at Seaton and cut down and carried away his trees, and when Ralf appealed them of robbery they accused him of the death of Stephen Stute, so that he might be imprisoned and prevented from his prosecution.⁵⁴ Ralf was succeeded by another Ralf de Beaufoy, probably his son, who was collector in Huntingdonshire of the subsidy in 1306 and 1307, and knight of the shire for Rutland in 1310.⁵⁵ This Ralf died before 8 July 1326, leaving a widow named Sara,⁵⁶ and a son Ralph, who had been indicted with others in the summer of 1321 for assaulting John Hakluyt, keeper of the forest of Rutland.⁵⁷ Ralph married Isabel de Shipton before 12 November 1338, and died before 18 March 1360, when his lands were held by Richard de Beaufoy, who was still in possession ten years later.⁵⁸ The descent of the freehold after this date becomes obscure. According to the pedigree given in the Visitation of Rutland in 1618, the last-mentioned Ralph Beaufoy died without issue, and was succeeded either by his brother or his nephew William.⁵⁹ If his heir may be identified with the William Beaufoy who was enfeoffed by John Beaufoy in Up Hall, it is possible that the freehold followed the descent of that manor until the death of the last John Beaufoy in 1427. The Visitation pedigree of 1618 shows that this John had a brother Ralph who succeeded to the freehold, and left as his heir a son and namesake, whose daughter

and heir Jane married Ralph Wymarke of North Luffenham.⁶⁰ Jane Wymarke died seised in 1533, leaving as her heir her son John, then over thirty-six.⁶¹ Edward, the grandson of John Wymarke, died in 1634, leaving as his heir his sister Frances the wife of John Greene⁶² of Market Overton.

A mill is first mentioned as an appurtenance of the manor of Up Hall in 1349.⁶³ This was a windmill; it followed throughout the descent of the manor, and presumably stood on the same site as the windmill still in use in 1928. A watermill rendering 36*d.* yearly was an appurtenance of the king's manor of Barrowden in 1086: this was situated in Seaton,⁶⁴ and was afterwards attached to Seaton manor.⁶⁵ Possibly it stood on the site of the watermill still in use in 1928; but two more watermills were attached to the united manors during the 17th and 18th centuries and remained in use as late as 1830.⁶⁶

The church of *ALLHALLOWS* consists *CHURCH* of chancel 41 ft. 2 in. by 18 ft. 6 in., with organ-chamber (former vestry) on the north side, clearstoried nave of three bays 51 ft. 8 in. by 17 ft. 10 in., north and south aisles 8 ft. 3 in. wide, south porch and west tower 11 ft. by 12 ft., all these measurements being internal. The tower is surmounted by a spire. The width across nave and aisles is 39 ft. 6 in.

The building is of rubble, with straight parapets and slated roofs, except that of the porch, which is leaded. The walls are plastered internally. There was an extensive restoration of the fabric in 1874-5,⁶⁷ when many of the windows were wholly renewed, new roofs erected, and the present small circular clearstory windows inserted.⁶⁸ The oldest parts of the building are the responds of the chancel arch and the south doorway, which date from the first half of the 12th century, and formed part of a church consisting of an aisleless nave which covered the space occupied by the two eastern bays of the present nave,⁶⁹ and a short chancel. To this early building a north aisle was added c. 1180-90, the wall being pierced by an arcade of two bays, and early in the 13th century a south aisle of three bays was thrown out, increasing the nave to its present length, and the north arcade and aisle were extended a bay westward, the old respond being re-used and a new pillar and arch similar to those on the south side erected. The old south doorway was



WYMARKE. *Argent a bend cotised azure with three scutcheons argent on the bend.*

⁴⁹ Feet of F. Rutl. East. 13 Will. III.
⁵⁰ *Ibid.* Hil. 8 Anne.
⁵¹ Com. Pleas, Recov. R. Rutl. East. 12 Geo. III, m. 51.

⁵² Feet of F. Div. Coa. Trin. 27 Hen. III, no. 188.

⁵³ *Cal. Inq.* vi, no. 61; x, no. 634; G.E.C. *Complete Peerage*, v, 371.

⁵⁴ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1292-1301, p. 163.

⁵⁵ *Ibid.* 1301-7, p. 457; 1307-13, p. 23; Wright, loc. cit.

⁵⁶ *Cal. Close R.* 1323-27, p. 632.

⁵⁷ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1317-21, p. 608.

⁵⁸ G. Beaufoy, op. cit. 18, 20; *Cal. Inq.* x, no. 634.

⁵⁹ *Visit. Rutl.* op. cit. 46. This pedigree, however, is incomplete if

not incorrect, as it omits Richard Beaufoy.

⁶⁰ *Ibid.*

⁶¹ Exch. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), dcxcvi, 5.

⁶² *Visit. Rutl.* loc. cit.

⁶³ *Cal. Inq.* ix, no. 286.

⁶⁴ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 140.

⁶⁵ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1266-72, p. 289.

⁶⁶ Recov. R. Rutl. Hil. 12 Will. III, ro. 96; Mich. 10 Geo. I, ro. 40; East. 11 Geo. IV, ro. 252.

⁶⁷ Faculty decreed 7 July 1874; work begun 20 September 1874; church reopened 8 August 1875.

⁶⁸ *Trans. Rutl. Arch. Soc.* (1915), 59.

The clearstory windows are copied from the smaller windows of the tower. The

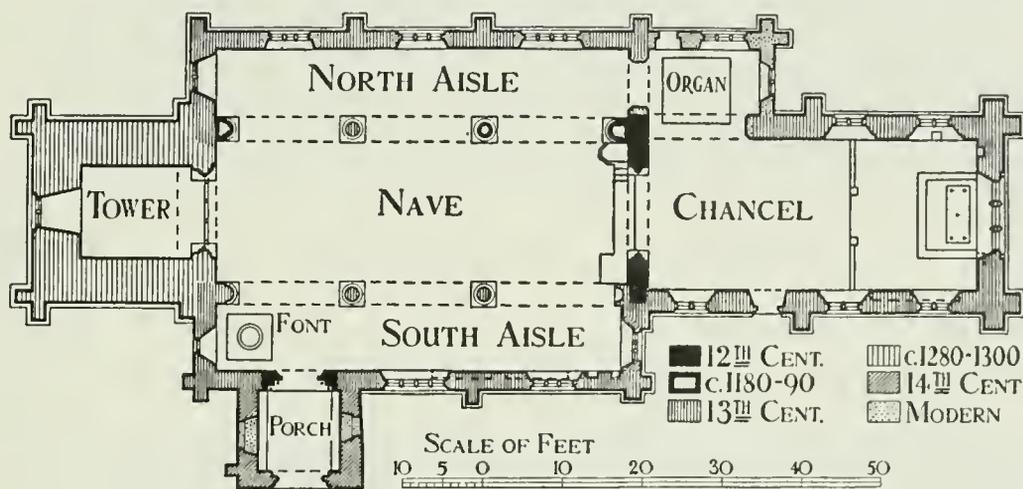
floor level was lowered 4 in. The north wall of the vestry (now organ-chamber) was at this time taken down to the ground and rebuilt and the upper part of the east wall rebuilt. A north doorway to the vestry was made, but the entrance to the Monckton vault, below the east window, was not touched. There have been several alterations made in this part of the building by the Rev. Hugh Monckton when forming the family vault. See note 86.

⁶⁹ *Ibid.* 58. When the floors were taken up in 1874 the foundations of the old south wall were revealed in the line of the present south arcade for two bays and there turned northwards.

at the same time moved outward to its present position. Later in the 13th century the chancel was rebuilt on its present plan, and about 1280-1300 the tower and spire were added. The east window of the south aisle is also of this latter period, and other windows, afterwards altered, appear then to have been inserted in the aisles. The porch was probably first built late in the 14th century. Evidence is wanting of the existence of a clearstory before the 17th century, but sometime after 1660 the roof of the nave was removed and one of lower pitch substituted, the aisle walls heightened, and a clearstory made.⁷⁰ The tracery is said to have been removed at this time from most of the aisle windows, converting them to plain square-headed openings.⁷¹

The lofty chancel arch is of a depressed semicircular form, and is probably contemporary with the older part of the north arcade. It is of two moulded orders, with large half-round soffit moulding, and has a

all its 13th-century features. It is divided externally into two bays by buttresses, and there are pairs of buttresses at the angles, all of two stages with triangular head at each slope. Externally there is a keel-shaped string at sill level, the corresponding string inside being moulded. In the south wall is a plain chamfered doorway with moulded imposts and hood with head-stops. The windows are of one type, consisting of grouped lancet lights with wide chamfered mullions under a single pointed arch, but they differ slightly in detail. The east window is of three graded lights, and its hollow-chamfered containing arch springs from twice-banded jambshafts with foliated capitals and moulded bases. The east wall is faced with alternate courses of ironstone and free-stone. The lateral windows, two in the east bay on each side, and one in the west bay on the south side,⁷² are of two lights, under an arch with double chamfered jambs, the spandrels being left plain,



PLAN OF SEATON CHURCH

hood-mould on the side towards the nave only. The 12th-century responds have been much restored and some of the carving is new or wholly recut,⁷² but they still retain a great deal of very beautiful original work. The inner order of the arch rests on half-round columns, and the outer order on the angle shafts, facing east and west, all with richly carved capitals and moulded bases on high square chamfered plinths. The enriched abaci are carried through to the adjoining walls on the nave side and for a short distance facing the chancel, the carving consisting chiefly of scrolls and hatching. The capitals have early volutes and a variety of sculptured ornament.

The south doorway has a segmental arch with billet hood-mould and two outer orders with edge-rolls, on jambshafts with carved capitals and moulded bases; the plain chamfered inner order is continued to the ground. The capitals have small volutes and abaci enriched with studs, scrolls and fret ornament.

The chancel is very much restored, but preserves

except in the easternmost window on the south side, which has a sunk quatrefoil. The hoods of the east and south-west windows have head-stops, but on the south side the others are continued along the wall. Internally all the chancel windows have shafted jambs and mullions and hood-moulds with head-stops. Except in the east window, where the capitals are foliated, the shafts have moulded capitals and bases. The piscina and triple sedilia form a single architectural composition consisting of four moulded trefoil arches, springing from detached shafts and shafted jambs with moulded bases and moulded and foliated capitals.⁷⁴ The sedilia are stepped, and the stops of the hood-moulds are carved with heads and foliage; the piscina occupies the easternmost recess and has an octofoil fluted bowl. At the east end of the north wall is a pointed aumbry, and there are two trefoiled aumbries in the east wall, north and south of the altar.⁷⁵ At its west end the north wall is open to the organ-chamber by a modern arch. A tall round-headed opening over the chancel arch was formerly

⁷⁰ *Trans. Ruit. Arch. Soc.* (1915), 58.

⁷¹ *Ibid.* 59.

⁷² The abacus of the north respond had been mutilated before the restoration and made up in mortar and an imitation of carving traced upon it. Originally this

stone was not carved, but it was restored and newly carved in 1875, the date being cut on the east side.

⁷³ Before the erection of the organ-chamber there was a similar window on the north side.

⁷⁴ The capitals of the west jamb and westernmost detached shaft are foliated, the others moulded.

⁷⁵ That on the south side has a narrow trefoiled opening, widening out inside; the other is larger and has two shelves.

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

square-headed and had an oak lintel.⁷⁶ An alabaster reredos was erected in 1889.⁷⁷

The nave arcades have semicircular arches of two orders, on cylindrical pillars and half-round responds. The two late 12th-century arches of the north arcade are moulded, with hoods on the side towards the nave, and the soffits have a hollow between two round mouldings; towards the aisle the outer order is chamfered. The pillar and responds⁷⁸ have circular moulded bases, with octagonal lower member, on square plinths and the capitals have inverted volutes and divided abaci. In the south arcade both orders of the arches have edge-rolls,⁷⁹ and there are hoods on the nave side; the pillars and west respond have circular moulded capitals and bases, the former enriched with nail-head and the latter on square plinths. The contemporary west arch and pillar of the north arcade are of the same character. At the east end of the south arcade the arch springs from a chamfered impost and square respond⁸⁰ in which is a round-headed rebated recess or aumbry, and in the aisle adjoining, below the east window, is a tall square-headed recess without rebate. The window is of three tall trefoiled lights with cusped intersecting tracery, and in the usual position in the south wall is an original round-headed piscina with plain circular bowl. About 2 ft. further west there is a later moulded piscina with square trough and elaborate ogee cinquefoiled head, the canopy of which has been cut away, probably inserted late in the 14th century, when the chapel may have been remodelled. The west window of the south aisle is a trefoil-headed lancet with wide internal splay and hood with notch-stops, but the corresponding window in the north aisle is a pointed opening of two uncusped lights with quatrefoil in the head. The jambs of a former north doorway are visible below the present north-west window of the aisle. The square-headed lateral windows of both aisles are modern, of three and four lights, with tracery copied from that of the east window of the south aisle. The porch has a coped gable, pointed continuous moulded outer doorway and small flanking panelled buttresses; the side windows are blocked.

In the south wall of the south aisle are two wide pointed tomb recesses, with arches of three chamfered orders and hood-moulds, in the easternmost of which a mutilated 13th-century effigy was placed at the restoration.⁸¹

The tower is of three stages, marked by strings, and has a moulded plinth and pairs of buttresses at the angles reaching to the top of the second stage, above which they are continued as flat buttresses

about two-thirds of the height of the bell-chamber. There is no vice. The pointed west window is of two uncusped lights with a quatrefoiled circle in the head, and in the middle stage, north and south, are small circular windows from which the cusping has been removed. The pointed bell-chamber windows are of two lights with circle in the head, but they differ somewhat in design, those north and south having jamb and mid-shafts with foliated capitals and moulded bases, the lights being trefoiled on the south side and plain lancets on the north. On the west side the windows have hollow chamfered jambs, the outer hollow being continued to form the inclosing arch, and the circle in the head is blocked; the east window is of similar type, but restored, and with a quatrefoil in the head. Internally the tower opens into the nave by a pointed arch⁸² of three hollow chamfered orders,⁸³ the two outer continuous, the innermost on triple clustered shafts with moulded capitals and bases; the hood-mould has head-stops, one of which is that of a king. The spire rises directly from the tower by a series of weatherings, above which it becomes octagonal, with short broaches. There are three tiers of gabled spire-lights in the cardinal faces, each of two openings.

The font and pulpit are modern. The old font had an octagonal bowl, each face carved with a plain cross, but it was discarded and sawn up at the restoration, and its eight sides, stem, and four legs now form the back and supports of a stone seat at the west end of the south aisle.

Wright in 1684 mentions an ancient monument without any epitaph in an arch in the south wall of the body of the church on which were 'two coats of arms cut in the stone uncoloured.'⁸⁴ Of this monument only the two shields remain, built into the wall of the south aisle near the doorway.⁸⁵ In the chancel is a tablet to the Hon. John Monckton of Fineshade Abbey (d. 1830) and other members of the Monckton family,⁸⁶ and in the north aisle a memorial to seven men of the parish killed in the war of 1914-19.

There are said to have been numerous remains of wall paintings before the restoration, but they were 'too dilapidated to be preserved.'⁸⁷ There was a St. Christopher on the north wall opposite the entrance. In the porch is an old iron-bound oak chest.

There are five bells in the tower: the first by Henry Bagley of Chacombe, 1684, the second and fourth dated 1597, the third by Richard Benetlye of Leicester (c. 1585), and the tenor by Tobie Norris (II) of Stamford, 1669.⁸⁸ The bells were rehung in a metal frame in 1914.

The silver plate consists of a cup and cover paten

⁷⁶ *Trans. Ruit. Arch. Soc.* (1915), 59. The whole had been plastered over, but was opened out at the restoration.

⁷⁷ In 1640 the Communion table, which was 'old and insufficient,' was railed in and stood in the middle of the chancel. The rood loft was still standing, but it was 'in decay and very undecent' (Irons' Notes, Archd. Visit.).

⁷⁸ The west respond is not in its original position.

⁷⁹ Towards the aisle the outer order is chamfered.

⁸⁰ The edges are chamfered.

⁸¹ It was formerly on the north side of the chancel inside the altar rails. Before the restoration the tomb recesses in the south aisle were covered by pews.

⁸² Before the restoration the arch was blocked by a singing gallery. The ground floor of the tower is now used as a vestry.

⁸³ On the west side there are four chamfered orders, the three outer dying out.

⁸⁴ Wright, *op. cit.* 114. The monument was in the recess now occupied by the effigy. It is said to have been in 'the Italian style' (*Stamford Mercury*, June 15, 1860).

⁸⁵ The first shield is, Quarterly (1 and 4) two lioncels passant, (2) bendy of ten pieces, (3) two bars surmounted by a bend; the second is a lion passant crowned. The quarterly shield has helm, crest and mantling.

⁸⁶ The inscription is given in *Leic. and Ruit. N. and Q.* ii, 57. The tablet records the names of those members of the family whose bodies were deposited in a vault made early in the 19th century below the vestry, or north quire aisle (now the organ-chamber), the first being in 1803. Some alterations are said to have been made in this part of the church in the 17th century (*Trans. Ruit. Arch. Soc.* (1915), 59).

⁸⁷ *Ibid.* 59. The whole of the old plaster was stripped off the walls at the restoration and replaced by new.

⁸⁸ North, *Cb. Bells of Ruit.* 150, where the inscriptions are given. The 1597 bells are probably by Henry Oldfield of Nottingham.



SEATON CHURCH FROM THE SOUTH



SEATON CHURCH: THE INTERIOR, LOOKING EAST

of 1570-71. There are also a pewter flagon dated 1670 and a pewter plate.⁸⁹

The registers before 1812 are as follows: (i) all entries 1538-53, 1561-1678; (ii) burials 1678-1724; (iii) baptisms 1680-1757, marriages 1683-1747; (iv) burials 1725-1812; (v) marriages 1748-76; (vi) baptisms 1758-1806; (vii) marriages 1777-1812; (viii) baptisms 1807-1812.

Built into the wall of the organ-chamber are portions of three coffin lids and another mediæval fragment.

A priest is mentioned as living *ADVOWSON* on Robert de Toeni's manor in 1086.⁹⁰ The advowson was afterwards granted by Hubert de Rye to Thomas de Beaufoy, and was claimed in 1204 by John Marshal and Aline and Geoffrey de Chichester and Isabel against the Prior of Salford and Thomas de Hotot. Thomas claimed it as dower of his wife Alice, evidently the widow of Thomas de Beaufoy; and the prior apparently claimed it of the gift of Thomas de Beaufoy, for he called Ralf son and heir of the said Thomas to warrant.⁹¹ The suit was stopped by the death of Geoffrey de Chichester.⁹² Apparently the parties afterwards arrived at an agreement, for in 1239 Roger de Chichester and Ralf de Beaufoy presented to the church;⁹³ but later the advowson remained entirely with the Beaufoys, John Beaufoy presenting William Beaufoy to the church 'vacant by the removal of Thomas Beaufoy infected with leprosy' in 1298.⁹⁴

In 1349 and 1350 Sir John de Boyvill, the elder, father of Alice, widow of William de Beaufoy, presented to the church, probably as trustee.⁹⁵ In 1361 Sir Rowland Daneys, guardian of John son of William Beaufoy, enfeoffed certain trustees of the Glebe acre in Seaton with the advowson of the church on trust to reconvey them to him, or in the event of his death to the Prince, to be appropriated to a chapel which Sir Rowland had begun to found in honour of the Trinity in Tickencote churchyard.⁹⁶ The trustees seem to have presented to the church, but the grant presumably did not take effect, as the advowson appears to have remained in the possession of the lords of Up Hall manor, the descent of which it followed until 1816.⁹⁷ though John Dryden presented for one turn in 1627, Lord Montague in 1674, and Edward Cony in 1682.⁹⁸ In the early part of the 19th century the advowson was acquired by Philip, fifth Earl of Harborough, who married Eleanor, daughter and co-heir of Col. the Hon. John Monckton, and presented in 1842 and 1849. Thomas Heycock presented in 1866, and the Heycock family in 1894 presented Rev. Charles William Cartwright, who purchased the

advowson shortly afterwards. The living is a rectory, net yearly value £682, including 45 acres of glebe, and is now in the gift of the Rev. Charles Johnson Cartwright.

Tryon's Charity, comprised in *CHARITIES* dentures of lease and release, the release dated 28 October 1707, whereby in consideration of a legacy bequeathed by Charles Tryon for the use and benefit of Seaton and the poor thereof, and also of a sum of money paid by Wellesbourn Sill and others and belonging to the poor of Seaton, certain lands situate in Blaston (co. Leic.) were conveyed upon trust for the use of the poor. The lands, containing about 6 acres, are let at an annual rent of £8, and the income is paid by the rector and churchwardens to widows and poor in the parish.

Poor's Land.—The origin of this charity is not known, but it is understood in the parish that the land was left by a lady for the benefit of the poor of Seaton and Thorpe in the proportions of two-thirds and one-third, and it appears from an entry in an ancient parish account book under date 18 January 1689, which records the receipt of two years' rent, that one-third was considered at that time to belong to the poor of Thorpe. The land has since been sold, and the endowment is represented by a sum of £76 16s. 6d. 2½ per cent. Consols with the Official Trustees, producing £1 18s. 4d. yearly in dividends, which sum is paid by the churchwardens and one trustee appointed by the vestry to the poor of Seaton and Thorpe.

Poor's Land.—The origin of this charity is not known, but for many years the rent of about 1 rood of land was applied for the poor of Thorpe.

Manton's Charity is supposed to have been given many years ago by a person named Manton, but no will or other document relating to it can be found. The land, containing about a rood in Thorpe Meadow, was let, and the rent applied among poor widows of Thorpe.

For many years the rents of these charities were received and added to the rents of the Poor's Land at Seaton, and it is believed that they are now represented in the stock held for that charity.

Charity for benefit of Parish Clerk of Seaton.—No particulars of appropriation are known in the parish, nor are there any writings to be found respecting it, but for many years six small pieces of land in the open field of Seaton, containing about 1½ acres, have been enjoyed by the parish clerk of Seaton for the time being, and are considered as attached to the office of clerk.

STOKE DRY

Stok (xi cent.); Stokes, Dristok, Drie Stok, Stoke-dreye (xiii cent.).

Stoke Dry borders on Leicestershire, and though mainly in Wrاندike Hundred, a small portion known as Holy Oaks Liberty extends into Stockerston parish in Gartree Hundred (co. Leic.). The parish

covers an area of 992 acres of rich loam and is nearly all under pasture. The land rises from the Eye Brook, which forms the county and parish boundary on the west, to over 500 ft. above the Ordnance datum in the north of the parish at Stoke Great Wood.

The small village lies on the west side of the road

⁸⁹ Hope, *Cb. Plate in Rutl.* 28.

⁹⁰ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 141.

⁹¹ *Curia Regis R.* iii, 106, 159.

⁹² *Ibid.* iv, 57, 83, 106, 224.

⁹³ Irons' Notes, Linc. Episc. Reg. (Instit.).

⁹⁴ Wright, loc. cit.

⁹⁵ Irons' Notes, Linc. Episc. Reg. (Instit.); *Cal. Pat. R.* 1348-50, p. 465.

⁹⁶ Anct. D. (P.R.O.) A 8016.

⁹⁷ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), lvii, 70; ccci, 79; Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 8 & 9

Eliz.; 10 & 11 Eliz.; East. 8 Jas. 1; Mich. 8 Chas. I; 10 Chas. I; 22 Chas. I; Hil. 11 Geo. III; Recov. R. East. 12 Jas. I, ro. 68; Hil. 7 Chas. I, ro. 6; Inst. Bks. (P.R.O.).

⁹⁸ *Ibid.*

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

from Uppingham to Kettering, and is prettily situated on the western slope of a ridge with a fringe of trees on its south side. The church is on the east side of the village street, with the rectory to the south of it. On the opposite side of the road is the Grange, which probably belonged to the Knights Hospitallers.

Camden claimed notoriety for Stoke Dry as 'the ancient residence of the famous and ancient family of Digbys,'¹ but nothing now exists of the house they formerly occupied. There remained until about 1871, behind some farm buildings south-east of the church, what appears to have been part of the stabling, or other outbuildings, of the Digby manor house. This consisted of an oblong stone building measuring internally about 48 ft. 6 in. by 16 ft. 6 in., and apparently of late 16th or early 17th century date. It had been long used as a farm store, and the internal partitions and dividing walls removed.²

The tenants of Stoke Dry formerly had common rights in Beaumont Chase, which lies to the north-west of the parish, and they received compensation in lieu of them under the Inclosure Act for Liddington in 1798.³

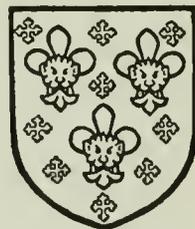
STOKE (DRY) was entered in the MANOR Domesday Survey as pertaining, with Snelson and Caldecote, to the Bishop of Lincoln's 2 hides in Liddington (q.v.). The bishops of Lincoln had as tenants at Stoke Dry in the 13th century a branch of the family of Neville.

Gilbert de Neville, who held five knights' fees of the Bishop of Lincoln in 1156 and 1166, was holding lands in Rutland in 1158.⁴ He died before 1169, leaving a son Geoffrey who died in 1193 and was succeeded by his son Henry. At the death of Henry in 1227 without issue, his property went to his sister Isabel, wife of Robert Fitz

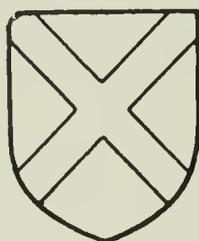
Meldred, and so to the Nevilles of Raby.⁵ Hasculf de Neville with Christine his wife, who held lands in Rutland in 1250,⁶ probably belonged to a cadet branch of these Nevilles. Hasculf de Neville had four sons: Robert, Thomas, Peter and Stephen.⁷ Robert sided with the Baronial party, and after the battle of Evesham in 1265 his lands in Stoke Dry were seized but restored to him in the same year.⁸ He settled his lands on his son Thomas and his heirs, with remainder to his brother Thomas.⁹ His son Thomas was dealing with lands in Stoke Dry in 1297¹⁰ and died in 1303.¹¹ One part of his property in Stoke Dry went to Theobald, son of Peter de Neville

(d. c. 1276), brother of Thomas's father Robert, and the other to John son of Stephen de Neville, another brother of Robert.¹² The Bishop of Lincoln claimed the land as an escheat on account of the outlawry of Peter, but Peter, before his outlawry in 1272, had enfeoffed his son Theobald, who was in the king's service in Scotland. The Nevilles seem to have maintained their right to the property¹³ and, probably for assurance of title, conveyed the two estates in 1304 to Walter de Langton, Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield.¹⁴ In 1313 John de Neville granted the manor of Stoke Dry to Roger de Morwode and his wife Joan (probably John's daughter) and their issue, with remainder to his own heirs.¹⁵ John de Neville of Stoke appears, however, in a commission of oyer and terminer in 1316.¹⁶ The Bishop of Lincoln and Roger de Morwode were in 1316 assessed to an Aid for Liddington, Stoke Dry, Snelson and Caldecote.¹⁷

Roger de Morwode was succeeded by his son another Roger,¹⁸ and in 1368 William, son of the latter Roger, recovered seisin against Thomas de Stanes, parson of the church of Upminster, and John le Rous of Howes,¹⁹ to whom William de Burton and Eleanor his wife, probably the mother of William de Morwode, had previously conveyed the manor.²⁰ In 1379 William de Morwode and Lora his wife were dealing with lands here,²¹ and in 1383 Nicholas de Morwode of Stoke Dry was killed by Richard, son of Richard, son of Robert of Stoke Dry.²² William de Morwode, who had settled the manor on his wife Lora, died seised of it in 1386, leaving a son and heir William aged 18.²³ In 1391 Richard Salyng and Lora his wife, evidently the widow of the elder William de Morwode, levied a fine of the manor with John, Edmund, and Robert Morwode and others.²⁴ William Morwode of Stoke Dry appeared in a plea of debt in May 1398,²⁵ though in 1395 John Wakefield of London held the manor,²⁶ possibly as mortgagee. In 1419 it was held by Roger Flore of Oakham, several times Speaker of the House of Commons, and John Clarke of Whissendine, both of whom were executors of the will of William Dalby, founder of the hospital of St. John and St. Anne at Oakham.²⁷ Roger died in 1428, when John Clarke had sole possession.^{27a} His son Francis married Agnes, daughter of Roger Flore. Francis died in 1435 in his father's lifetime,²⁸ leaving a



NEVILLE of Stoke Dry. *Azure crusily with three fleurs de lis coming out of leopard's beads argent.*



NEVILLE of Raby. *Gules a saltire argent.*

¹ *Britannia* (ed. Gough), ii, 325.

² Drawings of this structure by Sir Henry Dryden, made in June 1871, are in the Northampton Public Library. The plan shows the structure to have been originally attached at its south-east end to a then destroyed building. On its long north-east front were five plain four-centred doorways (three of which were blocked), and on the south-west front three square-headed windows. The building was then described 'as soon to be demolished.'

³ *Priv. Act*, 39 Geo. III, cap. 89.
⁴ Farrer, *Honors and Knights' Fees*, ii, 165-6; *Pipe R. Soc.* i, 65.
⁵ Farrer, loc. cit.
⁶ *Excerpt. e Rot. Fin.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 75.

⁷ *Cal. Inq.* iv, no. 155.

⁸ *Cal. Inq. Misc.* i, no. 856.

⁹ *Cal. Inq.* iv, no. 155.

¹⁰ Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 25 Edw. I, no. 30.

¹¹ *Cal. Inq.* loc. cit.

¹² *Ibid.*

¹³ Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 31 Edw. I, no. 38.

¹⁴ *Ibid.* Mich. 32 Edw. I, no. 40; East. 33 Edw. I, nos. 42, 43.

¹⁵ *Ibid.* Mich. 6 Edw. II, no. 7.

¹⁶ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1313-17, p. 591.

¹⁷ *Feud. Aids*, iv, 209.

¹⁸ Henry, another son of Roger, was presented Vicar of Dounebrigge in 1349 (*Cal. Pat. R.* 1348-50, p. 368).

¹⁹ De Banco R. Mich. 41 Edw. III,

m. 595. Robert de Morwode was attorney for Thomas.

²⁰ Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 41 Edw. III, no. 58.

²¹ *Ibid.* East. 2 Ric. II, no. 1.

²² *Cal. Pat. R.* 1381-5, p. 549.

²³ *Chan. Inq.* p.m. 10 Ric. II, no. 28.

²⁴ Feet of F. Rutl. East. 14 Ric. II, no. 12.

²⁵ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1396-9, p. 304.

²⁶ Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 18 Ric. II, no. 22.

²⁷ *Linc. Episc. Reg.* Cal. no. 1 (1320-1547), 6 Rep. (A° 1405).

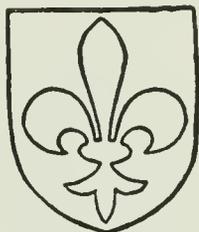
^{27a} *Feud. Aids*, iv, 212.

²⁸ *Will, Linc. Episc. Reg.* 181 Gray. A° 1435.

son Francis who died in the following year, and a daughter Agnes who became his sole heir and married Simon, alias Everard Digby of Tilton;^{28a} thus the Digbys came to Stoke Dry, which they made their chief seat. Everard was killed at the battle of Towton in 1461 and was succeeded by his son Everard, who married Jacquetta Ellis (d. 1496).²⁹ They had a son Everard, who succeeded to the property on his father's death in 1509.³⁰ He married Margery, daughter of Sir John Heyton,³¹ kt., of Norfolk, and died in 1540, when his son Kenelm succeeded.³² Kenelm was dealing with the manor in 1553³³ and conveyed it in 1574 to his son Everard, charged with payments after his own death to Katherine, Elizabeth, Ursula and Bridget his daughters.³⁴ He settled the manor in 1588.³⁵ He died in 1590. His wife Anne, daughter of Sir Anthony Cope,³⁶ was still living at Stoke Dry at the death of their son Everard in 1592, who had settled on his wife Mary, daughter of Francis Neale of Keythorpe (co. Leic.), his manor of Tilton in that county.³⁷ Mary, too, survived Everard, who left a son and heir Everard, then in his fourteenth year.³⁸ The younger Everard's wardship was bought by Roger Manners, lessee of the manor and of Holy Oaks,³⁹ who transferred it to Mary, Everard's widow. Everard, who was knighted in 1603, married Mary, daughter of William Mulsho of Gayhurst or Gothurst (co. Bucks),⁴⁰ and was a prominent person at the court of James I, where he came under the influence of the Jesuit Gerrard. He settled the manor on his son Kenelm in 1604.⁴¹ Being attainted and hanged for high treason for his share in the Gunpowder Plot in 1606, his lands were taken into the king's hand.⁴² Sir Everard's wife survived him for a widowhood of nearly fifty years, and Holy Oaks in Stoke Dry, demised by her in 1645, was still under sequestration for her recusancy in 1653, by which date she was dead.⁴³

The manor passed under the above entail to Sir Everard's son and heir Kenelm, aged two at his father's death. He was dealing with it in 1624,⁴⁴ but his mother's Gayhurst property, where he was born, became his principal seat. He was knighted in 1623, married a wife of extraordinary beauty, Venetia, daughter of Sir Edward Stanley of Shropshire, and was made Gentleman of the Bedchamber, Commissioner of the Navy, and Governor of Trinity House

by Charles I. In 1628 he defeated the Venetians with a squadron equipped at his own expense.⁴⁵ His philosophical and scientific work brought him fame on the Continent and at home, and even, later, the friendship of Oliver Cromwell, though he was imprisoned and banished and his estates sequestered for his Royalist activities. In 1639 he mortgaged the manors of Stoke Dry and Tilton to Daniel Harvey, Elias (or Eliab), Michael, and Matthew Harvey.⁴⁶ The transaction was allowed by the sequestrators in 1645, but after his banishment in 1649 it was the subject of petitions from 1650-1653 by claimants on his estate.⁴⁷ These petitioners included his mother, his father's brother George Digby of Standon (co. Staffs), Eliab Harvey, who was guardian of the late mortgagee's son Daniel, and his own son John Digby, who became his heir after the death of his eldest son Kenelm in 1649.⁴⁸ In 1655, with Daniel Harvey and his wife Elizabeth and Elias Harvey and his wife Mary, he conveyed the manor to John Morris for purposes of settlement.⁴⁹ Kenelm Digby died in 1665. His son John, who was buried at Gayhurst in 1673, left two daughters as co-heirs, Mary (or Margaret Maria), who married Sir John Conway, second and last bart. of Bodyrddan (co. Flint), and Charlotte, who married the Conways' kinsman, Richard Mostyn. Mary died in 1690, Charlotte in 1693-4. In 1704 Sir John Conway and Richard Mostyn obtained an Act of Parliament for the sale of the Digby estates.⁵⁰ Henry, the only son of Sir John Conway and Mary Digby, married Honora, daughter and co-heir of Thomas Ravenscroft of Broadlane House in Hawarden (co. Flint), whose other daughter and co-heir, Catherine Ravenscroft, married Thomas Powys of Lilford (co. Northants).⁵¹ Honora, the only child of Henry Conway and Honora his wife, was born after her father's death in 1717.⁵² Sir John Conway, father of Henry, died in 1721,⁵³ and Honora married Sir John Glynn, bart. of Bicester (co. Oxon), in 1731.⁵⁴ In 1722 Charlotte Mostyn, spinster, daughter of Richard Mostyn and Charlotte [Digby], was dealing with a moiety of the manor and advowson;⁵⁵ the other moiety was conveyed by Sir John Glynn, bart., and Honora his wife to Joseph Ashton⁵⁶ apparently as trustee for sale. The manor and advowson then seem to have passed to John Conduit, who presented to the church and died in 1736. His only daughter, Catherine, married John Wallop, Viscount Lymington, who with his wife was holding the manor and advowson in 1742.⁵⁷ The manor was again settled for purposes of sale on Joseph Ashton,⁵⁸ and in 1748-9 an Act of Parliament was procured for selling the settled estates of Catherine. The manor



DIGBY of Stoke Dry.
Azure a fleur de lis argent.

^{28a} Harl. MSS. 1364. fol. 110; *Visit. Rutl.* (Harl. Soc.), 1618-19, p. 17, gives Agnes as the daughter of John Clarke.

²⁹ *Ibid.*; *Visit. Leics.* (Harl. Soc.), 40-1; M.I.

³⁰ P.C.C. 11 Bennett.

³¹ *Visit. Rutl.* op. cit. 20.

³² P.C.C. 22 Alenger; M.I. (see Church); *Cal. Pat. R.* 1543-9, p. 165.

³³ *Recov. R. Trin.* 7 Edw. VI, ro. 349.

³⁴ Feet of F. Rutl. East. 16 Eliz.

³⁵ *Ibid.* Div. Cos. Mich. 29 & 30 Eliz.

³⁶ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), cccxxvii, 64; M.I. (see Church); P.C.C. 73 Drurie.

³⁷ *Chan. Inq.* loc. cit.

³⁸ *Ibid.*

³⁹ *Dict. Nat. Biog.* (under Everard

Digby); *Cal. of Com. for Comp.* p. 2044.

⁴⁰ *V.C.H. Bucks*, iv, 346.

⁴¹ *Recov. R. East.* 2 Jas. I, ro. 74; *Chan. Inq. p.m. Misc.* (Ser. ii), dxvii, 19.

⁴² *Ibid.*

⁴³ *Cal. of Com. for Comp.* 3171.

⁴⁴ *Recov. R. Hil.* 22 Jas. I, ro. 78.

⁴⁵ *Dict. Nat. Biog.* For the recusancy of the Digby family see *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, p. 150. Educated as a Protestant by his guardians, said to have joined the Church of Rome, he claimed to have been cleared from being either Papist or delinquent when petitioning in 1653 for a pass to return to England after his mother's death (*Cal. of Com. for Comp.* 2172-4).

After the Restoration he was one of the first members of the Royal Society.

⁴⁶ Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 15 Chas. I.

⁴⁷ *Cal. of Com. for Comp.* 2172-4.

⁴⁸ *Ibid.* 2173, 3170-1.

⁴⁹ Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 1655.

⁵⁰ *V.C.H. Bucks*, iv, 346; *Priv. Act.* 2 & 3 Anne, cap. 47.

⁵¹ Burke, *Peerage*, under Lilford.

⁵² G.E.C. *Baronetage*, iii, 200.

⁵³ *Ibid.* 96. ⁵⁴ *Ibid.* 200.

⁵⁵ *Recov. R. Trin.* 8 Geo. I, ro. 20.

⁵⁶ Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 13 Geo. II.

⁵⁷ Irons' *Notes*, Line. *Episc. Reg.* (Instit.); *V.C.H. Hants*, iii, 12; *Recov. R. East.* 15 Geo. II, ro. 424.

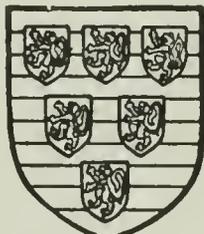
⁵⁸ Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 16 Geo. II.

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and advowson were sold to Thomas Powys, son of Thomas Powys and Catherine Ravenscroft. He presented to the church in 1755. His son Thomas Powys, created Lord Lilford, was dealing with the manor in 1771.⁶⁹ Between 1773 and 1776 the manor and advowson had passed to Henry Cecil⁶⁰ (d. 1793), brother of Brownlow, second Marquess of Exeter, and it still remains the property of the Marquess of Exeter.



POWYS, Lord Lilford. Or a lion's leg raised set bendwise between two crosslets fitchy gules.



CECIL, Marquess of Exeter. Barry of ten argent and azure with six scutcheons sable each charged with a lion argent.

In 1305 Oliver la Zouche held a knight's fee in Stoke Dry⁶¹ afterwards held by John Clarke in succession to William Wade (Warde).⁶² In 1352 and 1355 William Wade granted land in Manton to a chaplain there, retaining his lands in Stockerston and Stoke Dry.⁶³ In 1354 Sir John de Seyton, kt., granted lands in Stoke Dry to William Wade in exchange for lands in Hallaton (co. Leic.).⁶⁴ William Wade who was killed in 1366 at the Bishop of Lincoln's fair at Liddington may have been this person or one of this family. In 1377 a messuage and lands in Stoke Dry were held by Thomas Wade of Stoke Dry, outlaw.⁶⁵ Roger Flore of Oakham and John Clarke of Whissendine granted a messuage and lands in Oakham and Egleton in 1421 to the warden of the Hospital of St. John the Evangelist and St. Anne at Oakham, retaining the manor of Stoke Dry,⁶⁶ of which John Clarke was in sole possession in 1428.⁶⁷ Francis Clarke of Stoke Dry was summoned to take the oath against peace-breakers in 1434,⁶⁸ and he was dead by the following year.

It was probably as tenants in this fee that the Caldecotes held lands in Stoke Dry, where in 1303 Thomas de Neville held 4 acres of John de Caldecote⁶⁹ with the fee he held of the bishop (q.v.). Richard Caldecote of Stoke Dry and his wife Joan were dealing with a messuage, 50 acres of land and 10 acres of meadow here in 1385.⁷⁰ This seems to have been included in the lands later acquired by the Digby owners of the manor.⁷¹

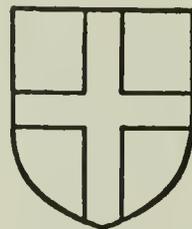
A property in the outlying part of Stoke Dry known as *HOLY OAKS* (Halllocks, Halyoke) with other lands was held of the king in chief by the Hospitallers as

early as 1206.⁷² In 1220 Gilbert de Hauville (Hamull) granted the advowson of the church to the prior of the order,⁷³ who in the same year presented to the church, after proving his right of patronage against Gilbert de Hauville and Ralph de Wickham.⁷⁴ In 1286 the prior held a view of frankpledge for his 12 tenants here,⁷⁵ whose lands were held by the Hospitallers until the dissolution of the order in England in 1539. All the possessions of the Hospitallers in Stoke Dry, including the advowson of the church, were in 1543 granted to Richard Hayles of Gloucester and Nicholas Temple;⁷⁶ before 1547 they were conveyed to Kenelm Digby, together with rents from the rectory of Stoke Dry and lands called Dingley Leas, lately belonging to the preceptory of Dingley (co. Northants), and lands of Sir Everard Digby in Holy Oaks, and the possessions of the monastery of Pipewell in Stoke Dry and Holy Oaks.⁷⁷ From this date this property became merged in the chief manor. Holy Oaks, the outlying part of the parish in Stockerston (co. Leic.), is described as a liberty, probably on account of the privileges held by the Hospitallers.

Geoffrey de Hauville, presumably a descendant of Gilbert de Hauville, died in 1306 seised of an assart of 20 acres called Ashelonde held of the king in chief, for a rent of 7s. every third year, with a messuage and lands in Holy Oaks held of Robert Dormer; he was succeeded by his son and heir John.⁷⁸ In 1330 John de Hauville granted 44 acres of assart held in chief in Stoke Dry to John Hakluyt,⁷⁹ who was Keeper of the Forest of Rutland, and husband of Alice, daughter and co-heir of Theobald de Neville.⁸⁰ Alice survived her husband John Hakluyt, who died in 1358, leaving a son and heir, William.⁸¹ From William de Hakluyt this property had passed before 1386 to William Morwode, who was probably heir of the Nevilles, and who died seised of Ashelonde in that year, as also of the principal manor, with which this property evidently continued to be held.⁸²

The church of *ST. ANDREW* consists *CHURCH* of chancel 21 ft. by 16 ft. 2 in., south chapel 23 ft. by 13 ft. 3 in., clearstoried nave of three bays 39 ft. 9 in. by 17 ft. 3 in., north aisle 6 ft. wide, south aisle 11 ft. 6 in. wide, north and south porches, and small west tower 4 ft. 6 in. square, all these measurements being internal. The width across nave and aisles is 39 ft. 6 in.

With the exception of the north porch, which is faced with ashlar, the building is of rubble, plastered internally. The chancel and chapel, which are flush at the east end, are under separate stone-slatted eaved roofs, and the south porch is also covered with



THE KNIGHTS HOSPITALLERS. Gules a cross argent.

⁶⁹ Irons, loc. cit.; Recov. R. Hil.

⁷⁰ Geo. III, ro. 20.

⁷¹ Ibid. East. 16 Geo. III, ro. 467.

⁷² Feud. Aids, iv, 205.

⁷³ Ibid. 212.

⁷⁴ Inq. a.q.d. ccciv, 3; cccxii, 8.

⁷⁵ Add. MS. 20744.

⁷⁶ Chan. Inq. p.m. 1 Ric. II, no. 68.

⁷⁷ Pat. R. 9 Hen. V, pt. i; Inq. a.q.d. ccccxlvi, 17. John Clarke seems to have acquired the manor held of the bishops of Lincoln as well.

⁷⁸ Feud. Aids, iv, 212.

⁷⁹ Cal. Pat. R. 1429-36, p. 370; Linc.

Episc. Reg. Cal. no. 1, 1320-1547, 181 Gray.

⁸⁰ Cal. Inq. iv, no. 155 (p. 97).

⁸¹ Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 8 Ric. II, no. 6.

⁸² Com. Pleas, D. Enr. Rutl. Hil. 8 Eliz.

⁸³ Cur. Reg. R. iv, 311.

⁸⁴ Feet of F. Rutl. East. 4 Hen. III, no. 6. Gilbert may have been Gilbert de Hauville, the King's falconer.

⁸⁵ Rot. Hug. de Welles (Cant. and York Soc.), ii, 100.

⁸⁶ Plac. de Quo Warr. (Rec. Com.), 672.

⁸⁷ L. and P. Hen. VIII, xviii (i), g. 981 (56).

⁸⁸ Ibid. xxi (ii), g. 771 (37).

⁸⁹ Chan. Inq. p.m. 34 Edw. I, no. 19.

⁹⁰ Cal. Pat. R. 1327-30, p. 545.

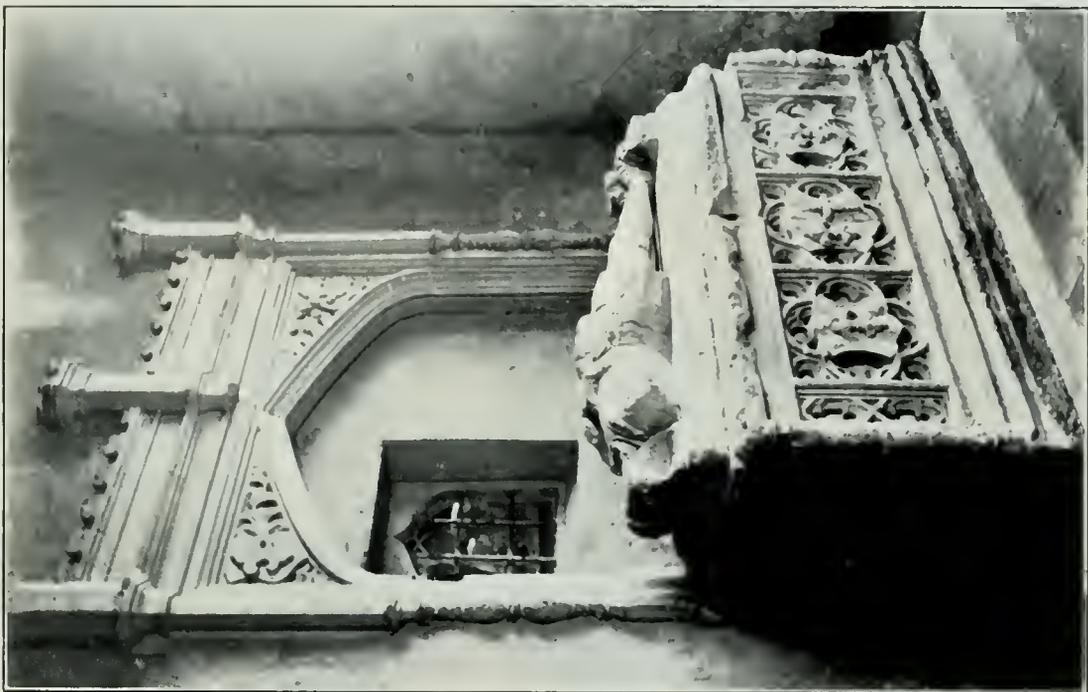
⁹¹ Wright, Hist. of Rutl. 76.

⁹² Chan. Inq. p.m. 36 Edw. III (pt. i), no. 98.

⁹³ See Grants of 1543 and 1547.



STOKE DRY CHURCH : THE NORTH COLUMN
OF CHANCEL



STOKE DRY CHURCH : MONUMENT TO SIR EWYARD DIGBY
IN THE DIGBY CHAPEL



STOKE DRY CHURCH : THE SOUTH COLUMN
OF CHANCEL



STOKE DRY CHURCH FROM THE NORTH-EAST



STOKE DRY CHURCH : THE INTERIOR, LOOKING EAST

stone slates. Elsewhere the roofs are leaded and of low pitch. There are plain parapets to the north porch and on the south side of the nave.⁸³ In 1813 the interior was described as in a very bad condition.⁸⁴ There was an extensive restoration in 1898, when the chancel and south aisle were newly roofed.

The original church appears to have been an aisleless 12th-century building covering the area of the present nave, with a square-ended chancel probably represented by the chancel still existing. The only remaining architectural features belonging to this early building, however, are two portions of stringcourse in the chancel (the longer in the north wall inside, the other on the exterior of the south wall, near the west end), and the responds of the chancel arch, the shafts and one of the capitals of which are richly carved and apparently of late 12th-century date.⁸⁵ The short length of external stringcourse on the south side of the chancel⁸⁶ is almost certainly in its original position, but later alterations make it uncertain whether the same can be said of the respond shafts and the internal stringcourse. The string is chamfered on its lower and upper edges and extends at sill level nearly the whole length of the north side of the chancel, to within 2 ft. 3 in. of the east wall. For about two-thirds of its length the string is hatched with indentations, a portion at each end being left plain. The chancel arch, rebuilt in the 14th century, is supported on either side by slender attached Norman soffit shafts or columns, that on the south side being in a perfect state, with original moulded base, but its capital is contemporary with the arch; the other shaft retains its sculptured Norman capital, but the shaft itself is imperfect, its upper portion alone being old.⁸⁷ The whole surface of both shafts is richly carved with foliage and human and animal figures, the most noteworthy of which is a man tolling a bell⁸⁸ on the upper part of the south shaft. On the sculptured capital of the north shaft is a vested and winged figure holding a book.

This first building was enlarged in the early part of the 13th century by the addition of a south aisle, the arcade of which, consisting of three pointed arches on cylindrical pillars and clustered responds, still remains. The arches are of two chamfered orders, with hood-moulds on each side, and the pillars and responds have moulded capitals and bases; three of the capitals are enriched with nail-head, and over the westernmost pier there is a notch-head at the junction of the hoods, which elsewhere are without stops. Other work of the 13th century is found only in the lancet window in the tower, which probably was an insertion in the original west wall of the nave.⁸⁹

⁸³ On the north side the lead overhangs.
⁸⁴ Laird, *Topog. and Hist. Desc. Rutl.* 143. The whole appearance of the church was 'highly discreditable to those concerned.'

⁸⁵ A few 12th-century fragments are preserved in the south aisle, including an archstone, the moulded bases of two shafts and part of a plain shaft, the latter perhaps belonging to a Norman font.

⁸⁶ Now within the chapel. It is quite plain and chamfered on both edges, in

length about 18 in. It is 4 ft. 3 in. above the plinth and 2 ft. from the west wall.

⁸⁷ The modern lower part is left plain. The shafts are 6 ft. 8 in. high, but of this on the north side only 3 ft. 2 in. is original. The Norman capital has a 14th-century octagonal moulded abacus.

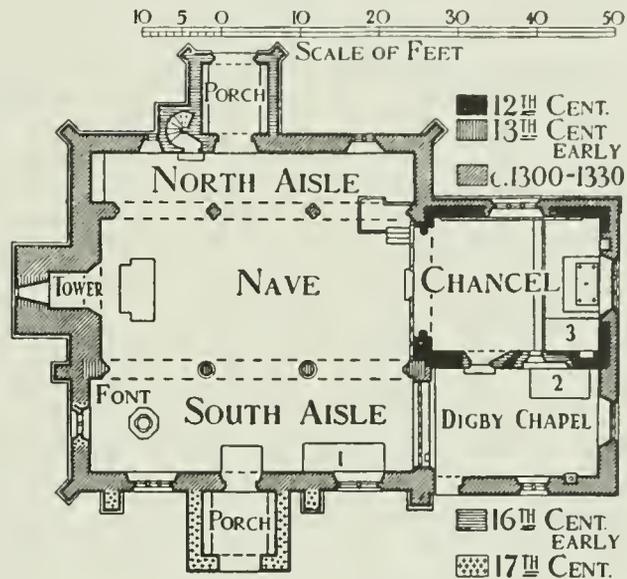
⁸⁸ Figured in Romilly Allen, *Early Christian Symbolism*, 325. The man is 11 in. high, diameter of bell at mouth 3 in.

⁸⁹ A bell-cote may have been added to the nave at this time.

⁹⁰ The fact that the north aisle is only 6 ft. wide has been held to point to its being a rebuilding of a Norman aisle. The existence of a 12th-century aisle is possible, but it seems unlikely that an arcade of that period, if standing, would have been pulled down and a new one built.

⁹¹ Its date is uncertain: it may belong to the 12th-century chancel.

Early in the 14th century, probably soon after 1300, a north aisle was added, or an older one rebuilt,⁹⁰ the arcade of which consists of three pointed arches of two chamfered orders on half-round responds, and piers composed of four attached columns with intervening hollows, all with moulded capitals and bases. The erection of the north arcade seems to have been the beginning of an extensive remodelling of the whole fabric, which probably was not completed until about 1330. During this period a chapel was built on the south side of the chancel (the wall of



PLAN OF STOKE DRY CHURCH

which, however, was not pierced), the chancel itself remodelled, the south aisle widened and connected with the chapel by an arch, and the tower probably added. Nearly all of this work still exists, more or less unchanged.

The chancel has a pointed east window of three trefoiled lights with angular geometrical tracery and chamfered reararch; below the sill externally is a scroll stringcourse extending only a short distance on either side of the opening. There are no buttresses. North of the altar, in the east wall, is a rectangular aumbry, which retains its hinge pivots. A three-light window in the north wall, altered probably in the 17th century, has now a square head with wooden lintel on the inside, but the jambs and mullions are old. On the south side, in the usual position, but now hidden by a tomb, is a bluntly pointed piscina niche with moulded arch, the bowl of which is missing,⁹¹ and farther west a small ogee-headed opening, apparently serving as a squint from the chapel. For a similar purpose the east jamb of the four-centred doorway now opening into the chapel is

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

widely splayed. The chancel arch is of two chamfered orders, with hood-mould towards the nave, the inner order springing from the Norman shafts already described, that on the south side having a 14th-century bell-shaped capital with octagonal abacus.

There is a 14th-century scroll stringcourse below the windows of each aisle, that on the south side being much broken. The north and south doorways are alike in design, with continuous moulding and chamfered hoods, and the doorway of the chapel is of the same character. The windows of the south aisle have been altered,⁹² apparently in the 17th century, but those in the south wall retain their original wave-moulded jambs; the smaller square-headed window in the west wall appears to have been wholly renewed, or to be an insertion. In the north aisle, east of the doorway, is an unaltered square-headed window of two trefoiled lights, but a similar one farther west is now partly blocked by the stair to the later porch-chamber. The arch between the south aisle and chapel is of two chamfered orders, but its lower part seems from the beginning to have been filled with a breast-high wall, and at a later time, perhaps in the 16th century, when the present roof of the chapel was erected,⁹³ the whole arch was filled in with a studded partition entirely cutting off the chapel from the rest of the building. Both the low wall and the partition still exist. The chapel⁹⁴ has a pointed east window of three trefoiled lights, with beautiful angular geometrical tracery and chamfered hood-mould, and in the south wall a smaller two-light window with quatrefoil in the head. At sill level is an external scroll stringcourse, and internally, in the usual position, a pointed piscina, the circular bowl of which is formed from a 12th-century stone with cable moulding on its lower edge. There is a round-headed stoup near the outer doorway in the low west wall, along the full length of which is a stone bench. The roofs of the nave and north aisle are for the most part old, but are very plain in character, with modern rafters and boarding.

The tower is internally little more than a recess at the west end of the nave, to which it opens by a lofty pointed arch of two chamfered orders, the inner order on half-round moulded corbels supported on carved heads. The arch is apparently of early 14th-century date, and the whole tower may be of that period, but it has been much restored and the upper part probably rebuilt; the pointed two-light bell-chamber windows and the battlemented parapet have a modern appearance, but the band of blind tracery above the windows is less restored. The unsculpted lancet window in the lower stage has already been mentioned; above it is a narrow pointed loop and clock dial.

The clearstory is probably only little later than the tower, and has three square-headed windows on each side, except the easternmost on the south side,

which is of three lights, no doubt in order to throw increased light on to the rood and rood-loft.

The north porch, which has an upper room approached by a projecting stair⁹⁵ from the aisle, appears to be an early 16th-century addition. It has a moulded plinth, short diagonal buttresses, and a hollow moulding below the parapet. The straight-sided four-centred arch of the doorway is of two chamfered orders, with hood-mould, the inner order on half-round responds with circular moulded bases and octagonal battlemented capitals. The chamber⁹⁶ is lighted at its north end by a small oriel window of three trefoiled lights and one on each return, corbelled out over the doorway and finishing in a high embattled moulding. Above the window, in the face of the parapet, is a large canopied niche.

The south porch is of very plain character, the gable being without coping and the doorway having a wooden lintel; it is probably of 17th-century date, perhaps added at the time the aisle windows were altered.

The fine 15th-century oak rood-screen extends the full width of the nave in front of the chancel arch, and has two single openings on the north side of the doorway and two double openings on the south, this irregularity being due to the centre of the chancel arch being north of the axis of the nave. The screen has been a good deal damaged, and save for a small portion in one of the openings all the tracery in the upper part has gone. The lower panels, however, with one exception, retain their traceried heads. Towards the nave is a groined hang-over, the carved cornice of which is badly mutilated, and at each end, in the angles, are small octagonal projections, probably for the figures of the Blessed Virgin and St. John.⁹⁷ There is no trace of a rood-loft stair.

The font in use is modern, but the plain octagonal bowl of an old font is preserved.

There are some shaped bench-ends, five of which have carved poppy-heads, but the pulpit and the seating generally are modern. The 17th-century baluster altar-rails have been retained.

In the tracery of the east window of the chancel are some fragments of white and yellow glass.⁹⁸

Considerable remains of wall-paintings were uncovered during the last century in the chancel and chapel.⁹⁹ On the east wall of the chancel, north of the altar, is a crucifixion of St. Andrew, and on the south wall an ecclesiastic before an altar,¹ while on the south wall of the chapel are representations of St. Christopher and the martyrdom of St. Edmund, and on the north wall two small figures of ecclesiastics. Over the arches of the nave arcades are remains of post-Reformation texts and a series of emblems of the Patriarchs.

It remains to notice the three Digby monuments, which stand respectively in the chancel, chapel and south aisle. Of these the earliest is a plain freestone

⁹² That east of the porch, of two lights, has been heightened and is now square-headed, but a portion of the original hood-mould remains on each side. The tracery of the pointed three-light window west of the porch has been removed, the mullions now running straight up to the head.

⁹³ On one of the principals is inscribed 'x 1574 B,' for Kenelm Digby.

⁹⁴ Laird (*Topog. and Hist. Desc. of Rutl.*

144), writing about 1813, says that the chapel 'seemed turned into a coal cellar, and had also a quantity of brick-bats and mortar lying in it.'

⁹⁵ The staircase blocks the easternmost light of the aisle window.

⁹⁶ The chamber measures internally 9 ft. by 7 ft. 9 in., the greater length being from north to south.

⁹⁷ *Rutl. Mag.* ii, 198.

⁹⁸ A roundel and half a roundel, probably of the 16th century.

⁹⁹ It was stated in 1860 that a painting was uncovered on the south wall of the chapel 'a few years ago,' and traces of colour found on other walls (*Stamford Mercury*, 1 June 1860). Further discoveries were made during the restoration of 1898.

¹ Perhaps the Mass of St. Gregory. It is much obliterated; one candle only is visible on the altar.

table-tomb at the east end of the aisle, with alabaster slab² bearing an incised figure of Jaqueta Digby (d. 1496), relict of the Everard Digby killed at the battle of Towton. She wears a girdle from which is suspended a pomander box, and her head rests on a cushion, beneath a triple canopy and flanked by a shield with the arms of Digby and Elles.³ The inscription is round the verge,⁴ and on either side of the figure are five sons and eight daughters. The next in date is a fine 16th-century freestone table-tomb against the north wall of the chapel, with a much mutilated and headless effigy of Sir Everard Digby (d. 1540), who is represented in plate armour; the inscription round the verge of the slab has perished.⁵ The tomb has late Gothic panelling and small Renaissance baluster columns at the angles, the panels containing shields with the Digby fleur-de-lys. Behind, on the wall, is a canopy with four-centred arch within a rectangular embattled frame, supported by enriched baluster pilasters, the wall within the arch being pierced by the ogee-headed squint of which mention has already been made.

The fine alabaster table-tomb with recumbent effigies of Kenelm Digby (d. 1590) and his wife Anne Cope (d. 1602) stands against the wall in the south-east corner of the chancel within the altar rails. The man is represented in plate armour with head supported on helmet, and the woman holds a book in clasped hands. On the exposed north side of the tomb are the figures of two sons, five daughters and two infants, the eldest son in armour supporting a shield,⁶ and at the west end is another shield with the arms of Digby impaling Cope and motto 'Nul que ung, None but one,' supported by two female figures. The inscription round the verge is unfinished, the date of the lady's death being left blank.⁷

Wright records also in the chapel an 'alabaster gravestone' with an inscription⁸ about the verge in memory of Richard Digby and Agnes his wife, a fragment of which alone remains.⁹

In the floor of the chancel is a slab inscribed 'Here lyeth the body of Dorothee Stevens Virgin age xi waiting for a joyful resurrection Novemb. x, 1637.'¹⁰

A bier, dated 1694, is kept in the chapel.

The tower contains one bell, cast by Thomas Eayre of Kettering, 1761.¹¹

The plate consists of a cup inscribed 'Conyers Peach Churchwarden 1708 Stoke Dry in the county of Rutland,' and a paten the marks on which are obliterated.¹²

The first volume of the registers contains entries from 1559 to 1783, and the second from 1783 to 1812.¹³

On the south wall of the chapel and the adjoining buttress are three scratch dials.¹⁴

From the 17th-century visitations it appears that in 1605 many of the windows of the church were 'daubed up with mortar and stone'; there was no 'pewter pot' for the communion; the King's arms were not there; the pulpit was 'very undecent'; and the chapel on the south side of the church was unpaved in default of Sir Everard Digby. In 1607 the walls were out of repair and some of them broken. In 1619 a buttress on the north side of the church was in great decay and the ivy growing on the south side of the church was 'annoying the same.' In 1640 it was said that the paten was insufficient and must be changed; an aisle on the south side of the church was ruinous and in decay. In 1682 a monition was issued to George Oliver servant to Lord Essex to repair the chapel adjoining the chancel.¹⁵

The advowson of the church was *ADVOWSON* granted in 1220 by Gilbert de Hauville to the Hospitallers. It followed the descent of the Hospitallers' manor of Holy Oaks (q.v.), and when that manor became merged in the chief manor it passed with the latter. The Marquess of Exeter is the present patron. The living is a rectory with tithes commuted for a rent charge of £385.¹⁶

There are no charities for this parish.

TIXOVER

Tixouer, Tichesovre (xi cent.); Ticesoure, Tichesora (xii cent.); Tykesore, Tykesovere, Tykeshovre, Tykessore (xiii cent.); Tekyssovere, Tyxover (xiv cent.); Tekesore, Tyxore (xvi cent.).

Tixover is a small parish containing 842 acres on the Northamptonshire border of Rutland. The river Welland divides it on the south from Wakerley and

on the east from Duddington. The village is small and stands very low on the left bank of the Welland, just off the main road from Uppingham to Peterborough. The church of St. Luke stands at some distance from the village on the bank of the Welland in the south of the parish and is approached by a footpath through the fields. The cottages are of stone with stone roofs.

² It is much scratched with initials and dates from 1723 to 1774.

³ She was daughter of Sir John Elles of Devonshire.

⁴ It is given in Wright, *Hist. of Rutl.* 116. It reads: 'Hic jacet Jaqueta Digbi quondam uxor Everdi Digbi armiger que quide obiit vicesimo nono die mensis Junii anno dñi M^occcc^olxxxvi cuius aie ppietetur deus Amen.'

⁵ It is recorded by Wright, loc. cit.: 'Hic jacet Everardus Digbi miles qui obiit undecimo die Aprilis Anno Domini M^occcc^oxl, cujus anime propicietur Deus Amen.'

⁶ Digby with crescent for difference impaling an obliterated coat.

⁷ The inscription is recorded by Wright. It reads: 'Here lyeth the Bodies of Kenelme Digby Esquire which Kenelme

deceased the 21 of April 1590 and of Anne his wife which Anne deceased the . . . Her burial is recorded on 23 May 1602. She was the daughter of Sir Anthony Cope, of Hanwell, Oxon, vice-chancellor of Queen Katharine, wife of Henry VIII.

⁸ It read: 'Hic jacet Ricardus Digbi & Agnes uxor ejus qui quidem Ricardus obiit xvii^o die mensis Octobris & Agnes obiit penultimo die mensis Octobris A^o Domini m . . . ccc . . . septuagesimo nono, quorum animabus propicietur Deus Amen' (Wright, loc. cit.).

⁹ The fragment, which is 26 in. by 23 in., stands on the sill of the east window of the chapel. It bears the incised head and shoulders of the woman, with hands in prayer, and the right shoulder of the man in armour. A

portion of the inscription also remains.

¹⁰ She was the daughter of Humfrey Stevens, rector, who died in 1641, and is buried in the chancel.

¹¹ North, *Cb. Bells of Rutl.* 152. It is inscribed 'Omnia fiant ad gloriam Dei, Laudate illum cymbalis sonoris.'

¹² Hope, *Cb. Plate in Rutl.* 29. Only one of the marks is distinguishable on the cup.

¹³ Ex inform. Rev. J. D. W. Dawson, rector.

¹⁴ One at the south-east angle, one on a west jamb stone of the window, and the other (apparently an old stone re-used) on the buttress, about 7 ft. 6 in. above the ground.

¹⁵ Irons' Notes, Archd. Visit.

¹⁶ Lewes, *Topog. Dict.* 1849; *Cal. of Com. for Comp.* 2174.

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The Manor Farm is in the village, and Tixover Hall is on the main road to the east of the village. Tixover Grange and Tixover Lodge are in the north of the parish in isolated situations. The parish was inclosed in 1802.

Remains of a Roman villa were discovered many years ago near the Grange, and on levelling a hill near the church a stone coffin was found.

At the time of the Domesday Survey *MANOR TIXOVER* was part of the king's manor of Ketton.¹ Henry I, between 1104 and 1106, granted it to Robert, Bishop of Lincoln² (d. 1123), probably for life, as he afterwards gave it with half the manor of Manton to the Abbey of Cluny by a charter dated between 1130 and 1133,³ and, like Manton, Tixover remained in the possession of the abbey till the lands of the alien abbeys were seized by Henry V.

In 1205 it was granted with other manors of the Abbey of Cluny to the Abbot of Chertsey during the king's pleasure,⁴ and in 1268 the abbot leased it to Imbert de Montferrant, for life. Imbert was still holding it in 1275.⁵ Otherwise its history is the same as that of Manton, the two manors passing from time to time into the king's hands and being farmed together till restored to the abbey.⁶

In 1323 a question arose as to the king's right to custody of the manor during a voidance of the abbey. The escheator had seized the manor till the new abbot should do fealty, but the abbot claimed that the manor had always previously remained in the keeping of the house during a voidance, and Edward II ordered that the issues should be restored until the records of Chancery could be examined on this point.⁷

Tixover manor followed the same descent as Manton (q.v.) to Charles Dale.⁸ It was sold by his trustees in 1679 to Henry Stafford of Blatherwick (co. Northants).⁹ William Stafford, son of William Stafford, of Blatherwick died in 1687, leaving as heirs his sisters Susan, wife of Henry O'Brien, and Anne, wife of George Evans, afterwards Lord Carbery.¹⁰ Tixover manor and Blatherwick were assigned to Susan, and she, then a widow, and her son, Henry O'Brien, made a conveyance of the manor in 1728.¹¹ This was probably a settlement on Susan's second marriage in that year with Arthur Geoghegan of Castletown in West Meath.¹² Arthur assumed the name of Stafford, and he and his wife were holding the manor in 1737.¹³ Henry O'Brien, son of Susan, died in 1757, leaving an only child Susannah, wife of Edward O'Brien of Inistimon (co. Clare). Susannah and Edward made a conveyance of the manor in 1764,¹⁴ but in 1758 Donatus O'Brien, brother of Henry, and third son of Susan [Stafford], with his wife Mary and son Donatus were holding it,¹⁵ and in 1779 it belonged to Henry O'Brien, second son of the elder

Donatus.¹⁶ Henry died in 1811, when his son Stafford succeeded. Stafford, who was sheriff of Rutland in 1809, married Emma, daughter of Sir Gerald Noel, bart., in June 1808. Their son Stafford Augustus O'Brien held the manor in 1832.¹⁷ In 1847 he assumed the additional name of Stafford. He died without issue in 1857, when his brother Henry Stafford O'Brien, who also assumed the surname Stafford, succeeded. His son Horace Stafford O'Brien succeeded him in 1880 and is the present owner of the manor. Tixover Hall is the residence of his second son, Major Horace Henry Stafford O'Brien.

The church of *ST. LUKE* consists of *CHURCH* chancel 28 ft. by 13 ft., nave of two bays 26 ft. by 13 ft., north and south aisles respectively 9 ft. and 6 ft. wide, south porch, and west tower 12 ft. 6 in. square, all these measurements being internal. The width across nave and aisles is 32 ft.

The building is of rubble throughout with ashlar quoins and dressings and externally is very plain in character. The roofs are all modern and are covered with overhanging stone slates. There is a clearstory on the south side only, the roof of the wider north aisle covering the nave wall almost its full height. The gables are without coping, and there is a complete absence of buttresses. Internally, except in the tower, all the walls are plastered.

The tower belongs to a 12th-century church the rest of which was rebuilt early in the 13th century. The porch was added in the 15th century. The south arcade is c. 1200 and the north arcade slightly later, but when the body of the church was rebuilt and aisles added no increase in the size of the nave was made, the length of which is less than that of the chancel. The north aisle was apparently widened subsequently,¹⁸ the old materials being re-used, but the position of its west window was altered. In the main, therefore, the whole of the building, with the exception of the tower and porch, is of the early part of the 13th century.

The massive Norman tower is of three stages marked by bold stringcourses and has a chamfered plinth and a small round-headed window in the west side of the otherwise blank lower stage. The middle stage is blank on the north and west sides, but on the south there is a round-headed window of two orders, the outer with edge-roll on jambshafts with cushion capitals and moulded bases, the inner with a continuous roll and cheveron on the wall plane. Both windows are without hood-moulds. The bell-chamber windows consist of three tall round-headed openings of a single square order, the arches springing from chamfered imposts; the middle opening on each side is now blocked.¹⁹ The tower terminates in a later roughly constructed battlemented parapet, below which, in the middle of each wall,

¹ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 140.

² *Reg. Antiq.* (Linc. Rec. Soc. vol. 27), i, 18, 19.

³ *Cal. of Doc. France*, 507.

⁴ *Rot. de Oblat. et Fin.* 328.

⁵ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1266-72, pp. 314, 374; *Rot. Hund.* ii, 54.

⁶ *Bk. of Fees*, ii, 1151; *Cal. Pat. R.* 1340-3, p. 366; 1354-8, pp. 221, 283; 1361-4, p. 3; 1391-6, p. 48; 1396-9, p. 58; 1399-1401, pp. 64, 338, 525; 1408-13, p. 369; 1413-16, pp. 24, 161, 354; 1422-9, p. 77; 1476-85, p. 107; *Cal. Fine R.* v, 177, viii, 50; Feet of F. Div. Cos. Trin. 3 Edw. IV, no. 15.

⁷ *Cal. Fine R.* iii, 204.

⁸ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xx (1), g. 465 (38); *Pat. R.* 4 Eliz. pt. 10; 21 Eliz. pt. 7; Feet of F. Div. Cos. Mich. 4 & 5 Eliz.; *Chan. Inq.* p.m. (Ser. ii), ccvii, 56; cccclxii, 106; *Recov. R. D. Enr. Mich.* 1656, m. 21.

⁹ *Magna Brit.* iv, 552.

¹⁰ *Bridges, Northants*, ii, pp. 278, 280; Feet of F. Div. Cos. Mich. 3 Anne; *Rutl. Mich.* 4 Anne; *East.* 7 Anne.

¹¹ *Ibid.* Div. Cos. Hil. 2 Geo. II.

¹² *Burke, Commoners*, iii, 110.

¹³ Feet of F. Div. Cos. Trin. 10 & 11 Geo. II.

¹⁴ *Ibid.* *Rutl. Mich.* 5 Geo. III; *Recov. R. Hil.* 4 Geo. III, ro. 170.

¹⁵ *Ibid.* *East.* 31 Geo. II, ro. 186.

¹⁶ *Ibid.* *East.* 19 Geo. III, ro. 223.

¹⁷ *Ibid.* 2 Will. IV, ro. 334.

¹⁸ This may have been done when the rood-loft was erected and the stair built north of the chancel arch, probably in the 15th century.

¹⁹ On the east side the lower part of the window is covered by the nave roof, the ridge of which reaches almost to the spring of the arches.



TIXOVER CHURCH FROM THE SOUTH-EAST



TIXOVER CHURCH: THE TOWER ARCH

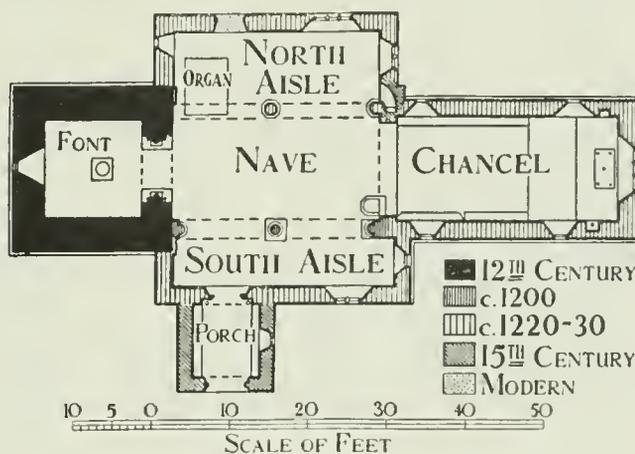
is a gargoyle. There is no vice. The string between the first and second stages is enriched with hatching²⁰ and with star ornament; the upper string is chamfered on both edges. Internally the tower opens into the nave by a beautiful semicircular arch of three moulded orders, the inner order on half-round responds and the two outer on detached jambshafts on both sides, all with enriched cushion capitals and moulded bases on high chamfered plinths.²¹ On the north side the capitals have ornament only at the angles, the cushion surfaces being plain, and the bases are fluted, but on the south the bases have a series of round mouldings and the capitals are enriched on the flat surfaces as well as at the angles, the lozenge pattern occurring on the upper part. The chamfered abaci on both sides are quite plain, as are also the hood-moulds. The arch has a large soffit roll, with a series of smaller round mouldings on each side. Above it the lower stringcourse of the tower extends along the whole of the wall, between which and the line of the original nave roof²² is a tall round-headed opening,^{22a} slightly to the south of the axis of the tower.

The 13th-century chancel has a square-headed east window of three lights the sill of which is 8 ft. above the ground. The window has single-chamfered jambs and mullions and the lights are long and narrow like the usual lancet windows of the period, but the tops are square and quite plain. All the windows, both in chancel and aisles, are of this character, but only the east window has a hood-mould. Though the claim that these are unaltered 13th-century windows has been questioned,²³ there seems to be no sufficient reason for stating that they are not contemporary with the building, though their character is unusual.²⁴ There are two single-light widely splayed windows on each side of the chancel,²⁵ set somewhat far apart near the east and west ends, and in the usual position in the south wall a plain pointed piscina recess with circular bowl.²⁶ In the north wall is a rectangular aumbry and along its western portion, extending as far as the altar rails, a stone bench table. A similar bench on the south side has been shortened at its east end for the erection of a monument.²⁷ The chancel arch is of two chamfered orders, without hood-mould, springing from rather roughly fashioned octagonal chamfered capitals, or imposts, below which the square jambs are plastered. The arch may have been altered at the time of the erection of the rood-loft, the stairs to which remain on the north side, with entrance from the east end of the aisle, as well as the square-headed upper doorway.

The south arcade of the nave consists of two semi-circular arches of two chamfered orders, with hood-

mould on both sides, springing from half-round responds and a cylindrical dividing pillar, all with circular capitals and bases. The west respond has a plain bell capital, but the capital of the pillar is carved with a very simple water-leaf, while that of the east respond has more naturalistic stiff-leaf foliage. In the later north arcade the arches are pointed and of two chamfered orders, springing from an octagonal pillar the capital of which has boldly carved natural foliage, and at the east end from a half-octagonal respond with moulded capital. At the west end the arch rises from a moulded corbel supported by a mutilated figure, or draped torso, partly restored.²⁸ There are hood-moulds on both sides of the arches, with stops on the nave side only. The bases in both arcades are moulded.

The south doorway has an inner chamfered trefoil



PLAN OF TIXOVER CHURCH

arch with plain chamfered jambs, set within a round arch with keel-shaped edge-mould and chevron hood with an outer line of nail-head. The round arch springs from moulded imposts and jambshafts, with moulded bases and carved capitals, that on the east side having water-leaf and the other stiff-leaf foliage. The blocked north doorway has a pointed moulded arch apparently of 13th-century date.²⁹

The south aisle has a single-light window at its east end and one of two lights in the south wall, but in the north aisle the east window is of two lights and that in the north wall of three; there is also a single-light window at the west end. All these windows, as before stated, are of one type, with square heads, and are widely splayed, with dropped sills.

There is an image bracket above the east window of the south aisle, but the piscina, if still existing, is covered by a large pew. On the east side of the doorway is a portion of a stone wall bench.³⁰

The three circular quatrefoiled clearstory windows on the south side are modern.

²⁰ The hatched pattern on the upper surface is badly weathered outside, but on the east side, towards the nave, it is in a fairly perfect state. The star pattern is on the underside of the string.

²¹ The bases are 2 ft. 6 in. above the floor.

²² Its ridge was slightly to the north of that of the present roof.

^{22a} The arch, which is of a single square order, rests on chamfered imposts, its extrados being close to the old roof table.

²³ Their resemblance to windows of

17th-century date is sometimes remarked.

²⁴ Rickman, *Gothic Archt.* 7th ed. (1881), Parker's additions, 119.

²⁵ Single-light square-topped 13th-century windows occur in the chancel of Cowley church, Oxford (*Arch. Antiq. Neighb. Oxford*, 393).

²⁶ The stone forming the back of the piscina recess has a pattern of incised lines.

²⁷ On the north side the bench is 16 ft. 4 in. long; on the south side a length of only 6 ft. 4 in. remains.

²⁸ A headless figure, slightly restored at the neck, with drapery round the body and without arms. Mr. Crowther-Beynon states that 'it has been suggested from the attitude of the arm stumps that the figure may have represented St. Christopher.'

²⁹ It has no hood-mould. Owing to the blocking a portion only of the moulding is visible.

³⁰ It is 3 ft. 4 in. long, but originally extended farther eastward.

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

The late 15th-century porch has a four-centred doorway of two continuous chamfered orders, without hood-mould, and a single-light square-headed window in the east wall.

The font, now under the tower, has a plain square bowl with chamfered angles, standing on a slender modern shaft and four legs with moulded bases.³¹

The stone pulpit dates from 1859.

Against the south wall of the chancel, between the windows, is an imposing marble monument with effigies of Roger Dale (d. 1623) and his wife, who are represented kneeling on either side of a prayer-desk under separate rounded canopies and entablature supported by composite columns, with arms and inscription above. On the base are the kneeling figures of two daughters.

Inserted in the two-light window of the south aisle is some foreign glass, including a panel with a figure of St. Katharine of Alexandria, and another with coat of arms and Latin inscription recording Iodocus Knab, provost of the church of Lucerne, 1646.³²

There is a tablet in the south aisle to Richard Merveilleux (d. 1832).

In the tower is a single medieval bell inscribed 'Sancta Fides ora pro nobis.'³³

The plate consists of a paten of 1767-7, and a cup of 1770-1 by Jacob Marshe.³⁴

The registers begin in 1754.

In the churchyard are four coped coffin lids.

Tixover was a chapelry of Ketton, *ADVOWSON* and the advowson belonged to a prebend of Lincoln. The advowson was probably given to the Bishop of Lincoln at the

instance of Maud, queen of Henry I (d. 1118), at the same time as the manor, for there is an insepimus dated 1329 of her charter granting to Robert, Bishop of Lincoln (d. 1123), 'Ticesoure and all that pertains to that manor.'³⁵ The king presented in 1267, the manor being then in his hands,³⁶ but in 1275 the advowson was said to belong to a prebend of Lincoln.³⁷ Ten years later the king sued Oliver, Bishop of Lincoln, and the Dean and Chapter for the advowson of Tixover, stating that King John had presented his clerk Albinus, who was admitted and instituted and took the profits of the living, and from King John the right of patronage descended to the succeeding Kings of England. Bishop Oliver denied the seisin of King John,³⁸ and appears to have made good his claim. The advowson was held by prebendaries of Lincoln to 1855, but by 1888 it was in the hands of the Bishop of Peterborough,³⁹ who is the present patron. Tixover was attached to Ketton until 1900, but it is now a vicarage annexed to Duddington (co. Northants).

The Poor's Land is comprised in *CHARITIES* indentures of lease and release dated 23 February 1802, and is regulated by a scheme of the Charity Commissioners dated 1 June 1927. The endowment of the charity now consists of land at Tixover containing about 3 acres let at an annual rent of £5, and a sum of £78 13s. 1d. 3½ per cent. Conversion Stock held by the Official Trustees and producing in dividends the sum of £2 15s. per annum. The net income is distributed by the rector and two trustees appointed by the parish meeting among about seven poor people of Tixover.

³¹ The font formerly stood against the west respond of the south arcade and rested on a brick base; a small fragment of one of the original feet, apparently of 13th-century date, was in use as a doorstep. This has now been replaced at the south-east angle, and the remaining feet copied from it. The bowl is wider at the top than at the bottom.

³² This panel is also of a pictorial nature: the heraldic portion includes

helm, mantling and peacock tail crest, and a black ecclesiastical hat with six tassels. The inscription reads: 'Iodocus Knab s's. Th.D. Prothon. Apostol. Colleg[i]i Ecclesiae Lvcern Praepositus Illustrissimi Princip Constant Commiss General 1646.' There are also two small roundels, one apparently English of the 16th century, with a king's head, the other foreign of the 17th century, with civilian man's head.

³³ North, *Cb. Bells of Rutl.* 43. It has

three stamps, two of them crosses not found elsewhere in Rutland, and a 'cross and ring shield' which is on many bells in Kent. All three stamps are on two bells at Ufford (Northants).

³⁴ Hope, *Cb. Plate in Rutl.* 20.

³⁵ *Cal. Chbart. R.* iv, 102.

³⁶ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1266-72, p. 51.

³⁷ *Rot. Hund.* ii, 54.

³⁸ *Plac. de Quo Warr.* (Rec. Com.), 671.

³⁹ Irons' Notes.

EAST HUNDRED

CONTAINING THE PARISHES OF

CASTERTON, GREAT	ESSENDINE	RYHALL
CASTERTON, LITTLE	KETTON	TICKENCOTE
EMPINGHAM	PICKWORTH	TINWELL WITH INGTHORPE

This hundred was the hundred of Witchley (Hwicceslea) East of the Northamptonshire Geld Roll of about 1075, and formed the northern part of the Domesday hundred of Witchley (Wiceslea) then in Northamptonshire.¹ It is mentioned as East Hundred in 1166.² The court, it would seem, was held at Witchley Heath or Warren in Edith Weston and Ketton parishes. Pickworth was not included in the hundred³ until the 18th century, but Horn was in the hundred in the 14th and 15th centuries.⁴ East Hundred followed the descent of Alstoe Hundred, and now apparently belongs to the Crown.

The hundred of Little Casterton in this hundred has been dealt with under Little Casterton parish (q.v.).

¹ See above in the account of the county.

³ *Feud. Aids*, iv, 205, 207, 212.

² *Pipe R. Soc.* ix, 65.

⁴ *Ibid.* 205, 208, 214.

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

GREAT CASTERTON

Castreton (xi cent.); Brigcasturton, Brygg Castreton, Briggecasterton (xiii, xiv cent.); Magna Casterton (xv cent.); Bridgecasterton (xvi cent.).

Great Casterton is a parish situated about 2½ miles north-west of Stamford, on the borders of Lincolnshire. The soil is inferior Oolite, producing cereals and roots. There is also some pasture. The village lies on the east and west sides of Ermine Street just above the Gwash. A line of thatched cottages nearly opposite the church, and just north of the Crown Inn, presents a picturesque view when approached from Stamford. Directly to the north-east of the church are the earthworks which mark the site of the Roman camp from which the parish derives its name,¹ and a stone bridge of two arches, which carries Ermine Street over the river, may have been the origin of the name Bridge Casterton. A group of cottages towards the north of the village and opposite the present post office is known as Little Gate. Stamford is the nearest station, on the Stamford and Essendine branch of the London and North Eastern Railway. About a mile and a half to the north is the moated site of the ancient manor house or castle of Woodhead,² which was probably visited by Edward I in 1290.³ No remains of the house exist and it was stated in 1543 to be in ruins: 'The manor there hath heretofore been a proper house standing upon high ground and wholesome soil, moated round about . . . and the said manor house or place is now in great ruin and decay.'⁴

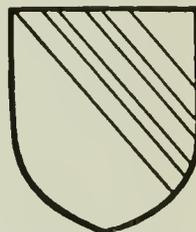
GREAT or BRIDGE CASTERTON MANORS belonged to Earl Morcar before the Conquest, but in 1086 Hugh Fitz Baldric held it of the king at farm. It comprised 3½ hides and included a mill, 16 acres of meadow and a spinney. Immediately after this entry the Survey mentions Portland, where the king held two carucates and two-thirds in demesne. It would, therefore, seem that this place had some connection with Casterton, but in what way is not apparent, nor has the location of Portland been identified.⁵ Great Casterton was afterwards held of the Crown in ancient demesne as of the Honour of Lancaster, which was granted by Henry III to his son, Edmund Crouchback, in 1267.⁶ Henry, Earl of Lancaster, Edmund's grandson, was created Duke of Lancaster in 1351, and the Honour descended with the Duchy until Henry Bolingbroke, Duke of Lancaster, ascended the throne as Henry IV, when it became vested in the Crown.⁷

The vill of Great Casterton and manor of **WOODHEAD** (Wodehead, Wodeheved, xiii, xiv cent.; Wodehed, xv cent.) belonged to William Fitzwilliam, Constable of Chester, whose sister and co-heir Maud married Albert de Gresle or Grelley before the death of his father, Robert de Grelley, in 1154. Their son Albert

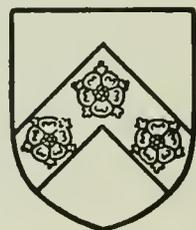
succeeded and married Isabel Bassett. He died in 1180, leaving a son Robert, who came of age in 1194. Robert was one of the rebellious Northern barons and his estates were confiscated, but were eventually restored by Henry III in 1217. He married Margaret, daughter of Henry de Longchamp, and died in 1230, leaving a son Thomas, who saw much military service and was twice summoned to Parliament. Thomas married as his second wife Christine Ledet, widow of Gerald de Furnival. His eldest son Robert predeceased him in 1261, and he was succeeded by his grandson Robert, whose wardship went to Edmund, Duke of Lancaster.⁸ Edmund alienated it to friends

(familiares), whose neglect of the ward was the subject of an inquiry in 1272.⁹ Robert had livery of his lands in 1275,¹⁰ and before 1278 married Hawise, younger daughter and co-heir of John de Burgh, who, after her husband's death in 1282, held Great Casterton in dower,¹¹ together with 11s. yearly called 'streyeld' for half a knight's fee, rendering 10s. for the ward of Lancaster Castle.¹² She died in 1299, when Thomas, her son, was aged 20. He died without issue, after settling the manor on his sister Joan and her husband John, son of Roger de la Warre, for life, with remainder to John, son of John, son of John, son of Roger de la Warre.¹³ John, the husband of Joan, died in 1347, and was succeeded by his grandson Roger, aged 18,¹⁴ whose brother John, on whom the manor had been settled, was presumably dead. Roger was succeeded in 1370 by his eldest son John,¹⁵ but Great Casterton or Woodhead was inherited by his daughter Joan,¹⁶ and in 1392 she, with her husband Thomas West,

granted the manor and advowson to Hugh Browe of Cheshire.¹⁷ In 1394 the manor was settled on Sir Hugh Browe and Blanche his wife, with remainder to Robert, son of Hugh, and his heirs.¹⁸ John Browe the elder, son of Hugh Browe, was acquiring lands in Bridge Casterton early in the 15th century.¹⁹ Robert seems to have been in possession in 1415, when he had lately conveyed the manor of Woodhead and Bridge Casterton to his brother, John Browe the elder and Robert Baylly, evidently for the purpose



GRELLEY. Gules three bends enbanced or.



BROWE. Gules a cheveron argent with three roses gules thereon.

¹ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 88, 103-9.

² *Ibid.* 114-115.

³ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1281-92, p. 409.

⁴ *Fee Farm Rents*, 16 July, 35 Hen. VIII.

⁵ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 140-1; *Northants*, i, 273, 277-8.

⁶ *Blore, Hist. of Rutl.* 97.

⁷ *Ibid.*

⁸ This account of the Grelleys is taken from *V.C.H. Lancs.* i, 327 et seq.

⁹ *Cal. Inq.* Hen. III, no. 786 (Robert is here given as Thomas's nephew).

¹⁰ *Cal. Close R.* 1272-9, 166, 171.

¹¹ *Cal. Inq.* ii, no. 420.

¹² *Ibid.* iii, no. 533.

¹³ Feet of F. Div. Cos. Mich. 5 Edw. III, no. 103.

¹⁴ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 21 Edw. III (1st nos.), 56.

¹⁵ *Blore, Hist. of Rutl.* 100.

¹⁶ *Wrottesley, Ped. from the Plea R.* 348; *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 44 Edw. III (1st nos.), 63; *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), iv, 141 et seq.

¹⁷ Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 16 Ric. II, no. 17; *Anct. D. B.* 705, 706; *Blore, op. cit.* 191.

¹⁸ *Anct. D. B.* 5409.

¹⁹ *Ibid.* B 716, 718.

of a settlement on himself and his wife Margaret and his heirs male.²⁰ Robert Browe of Woodhead was living in 1449,²¹ and John Browe, probably his son, settled Woodhead on his son and heir Thomas in 1457, on his marriage with Isabel, daughter of Robert Clifton.²² Thomas died without heirs and Isabel married Thomas Blount, to whom John Browe sold the manor about 1460.²³ It was granted in 1486 to Sir William Hussey, Chief Justice.²⁴ He died seised in 1495, leaving it to his widow Elizabeth for life, with remainder to his three sons John, William and Robert, and two daughters, Mary, wife of William Willoughby, and Elizabeth.²⁵ In 1502 Sir Thomas West, Lord de la Warre, confirmed the title of Dame Elizabeth Hussey.²⁶ Sir John Hussey was attainted in 1536 for sharing in the rebellion in Lincolnshire, and was executed in 1537, when the manor reverted to the Crown.²⁷ In 1594 the manor was leased to Sir Thomas Cecil, William his son, and William Cecil, Lord Roos, for their lives,²⁸ and in 1605 the reversion in fee was granted to Thomas Lord Burleigh. It has remained in the possession of his descendants, Earls and Marquesses of Exeter, down to the present day.²⁹

Richard de Casterton was holding lands in Bridge Casterton in 1265 and Richard, son of Geoffrey de Casterton, a minor, held one-twentieth of a knight's fee of Robert de Grelley in 1282 and 1305.³⁰

The MAUVESYN MANOR was held by the Mauvesyns of Ridware (co. Staff.) as a sub-manor. In 1258 Robert Mauvesyn leased lands in Great Casterton, except the dowries of his mother Maud and his sister-in-law Alice, to Roger Crane for 9 years.³¹ In the reign of Edward II, Henry, son of Robert Mauvesyn, granted a messuage and croft of 2 acres in the vill of Casterton to William, son of Peter de Casterton, and his wife Mabel for their homage and service and 6s. rent, saving suit in the Mauvesyns' court at Casterton twice yearly.³² In 1314 Henry settled all his lands and apparently died soon after, as Robert Mauvesyn was dealing with the property in 1316.³³ Robert made various leases in which the lessees were protected against the ward of Lancaster, referred to as the 'Lancaster Penny.'³⁴ He settled lands in Bridge Casterton on his son Hugh and Felicia his wife, about 1335, with reversion to his other sons, William, Thomas, John, Rees and Henry, and his daughters Hilary and Isabel.³⁵ From 1338 to 1342 Hugh was dealing with various tenants.³⁶ He died before 1366, when his widow Felicia granted land for the term of her life to Henry Tokeby.³⁷

In 1372 she acknowledged payment of a rent of 21s. 7d. from the parson of the church of Bridge Casterton.³⁸ Rees Mauvesyn granted the manor to Stephen Mackeseye of Stamford in 1394,³⁹ but after this date no further reference has been found, and it may have reverted to the mesne lords.

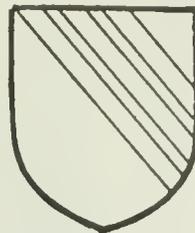
Two views of frankpledge were held by Henry Duke of Lancaster (d. 1361) in Great Casterton.⁴⁰

There was a mill attached to the manor in 1086, worth 16s., and it was afterwards granted by Robert Grelley to the monastery of Swineshead.⁴¹ A water mill is mentioned in 1540 and again in 1598.⁴²

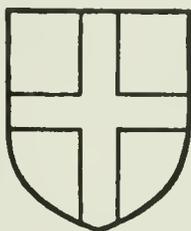
The church of ST. PETER AND CHURCH ST. PAUL stands at the south end of the village on the west side of the Great North Road and consists of chancel 27 ft. by 15 ft., clearstoried nave 33 ft. 6 in. by 20 ft., north and south aisles 8 ft. wide, south porch, and engaged west tower 10 ft. 3 in. square, all these measurements being internal. The width across nave and aisles is 41 ft. 6 in.

The east end and upper part of the side walls of the chancel are faced with ashlar, but elsewhere the building is of rubble,⁴³ plastered internally. All the roofs are leaved and of low pitch, behind battlemented parapets: the parapets are continued along the east gables of nave and chancel and the ends of the aisles.

The greater part of the church as it exists to-day belongs to the 13th century, but it has apparently developed from a 12th-century building consisting of an aisleless nave the same size as the present one, the eastern angles of which still exist,⁴⁴ and a small chancel. To this early building a north aisle of two bays was added about 1250, and a little later a corresponding south aisle was thrown out, the nave extended westward about 14 ft. beyond the aisles, and a clearstory added its full length. The chancel was also rebuilt on its present plan, the old north and south walls perhaps being retained at the west end, and the porch added. All this work probably extended over a number of years, the character of the work in the south arcade and porch pointing to c. 1280-90, while that of the north arcade would appear to be some thirty or forty years earlier. There is, however, a mingling of earlier and later forms in arches, windows, and other features, which perhaps indicates the use of the earlier forms late in the century rather than a modification of the older work. As completed at the end of the 13th century the nave terminated with a bell-cote over the west gable,



MAUVESYN. *Gules three bends enhanced argent.*



HUSSEY. *Or a cross vert.*

²⁰ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1476-85, p. 8.

²¹ *Ibid.* 1446-52, p. 288.

²² *Anct. D. B.* 5444; *Close R.* 7 Edw. IV, m. 28; *Early Chan. Proc. bdle.* 39, no. 34.

²³ *Ibid.*

²⁴ *Anct. D. B.* 11780.

²⁵ *Cal. Inq. Hen. VII,* i, p. 538.

²⁶ *Anct. D. B.* 5667, 5675, 6033.

²⁷ *Blore, op. cit.* 108-9.

²⁸ *Pat. R.* 36 Eliz. pt. 17; *Cal. S.P.*

Dom. 1591-94, p. 523.

²⁹ *Ibid.* 1603-10, p. 211; *Chan. Inq.*

p.m. (Ser. ii), cccxxiv, 84; *Feet of F. East.* 35 Geo. III.

³⁰ *Cal. Inq.* ii, no. 420; *ibid. Misc.* i, no. 856; *Cal. Close R.* 1279-88, p. 251; *Feud. Aids*, iv, 205.

³¹ *Add. Ch. (B.M.)* 57737.

³² *Ibid.* 57736.

³³ *Ibid.* 57739, 57740, 57741.

³⁴ *Ibid.* 57742, 57743, 57744.

³⁵ *Ibid.* 57746 (i).

³⁶ *Ibid.* 57747, 57748, 57749, 57750.

³⁷ *Ibid.* 57751.

³⁸ *Ibid.* 57752.

³⁹ *Anct. D. B.* 693.

⁴⁰ *Chan. Inq.* p.m. 35 Edw. III (pt. i), no. 122.

⁴¹ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 140; *Dugdale, Mon. Angl.* v, 337.

⁴² *L. and P. Hen. VIII,* xv, p. 557; *Chan. Inq.* p.m. (Ser. ii), cclvii, 91.

⁴³ The stone is Barnack rag.

⁴⁴ The quoins are seen on the outside. There is also a short length of external stringcourse high up at the east end of the south wall, now inside the church and seen from the aisle.

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

slight indications of which remain, but in the 15th century this was taken down and the present tower erected within the western bay, carried on three sides by new arches and reducing the nave to its present length. At the same time, or shortly after, the church was newly roofed, the walls of the chancel and porch heightened, and the present battlemented parapets erected, the building then assuming the aspect it has since retained.

In the 18th or early years of the 19th century the church was filled with box pews of deal and a west gallery erected. The gallery was removed about 1894 and the pews in 1927. The chancel was restored in 1930 when the floor was lowered to its original level.

The chancel is without buttresses and has a chamfered plinth along its east end and the eastern half

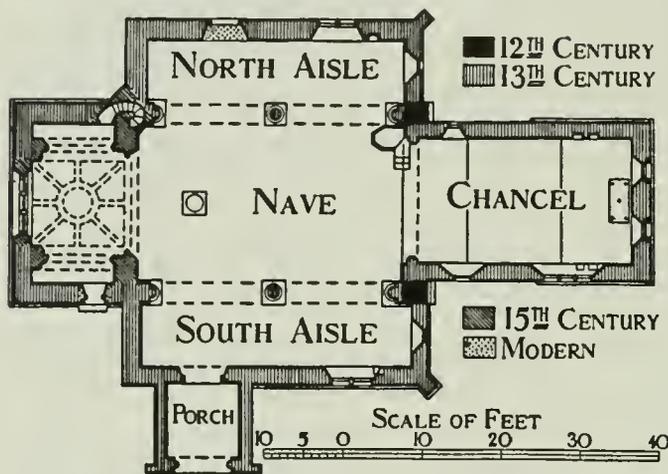
chamfered jambs, flat internal sills and chamfered rear arches.⁴⁸ There are two plain aumbries on each side of the chancel,⁴⁹ and under those in the south wall traces of a piscina. The chancel arch is pointed and of two chamfered orders with hood-mould, the inner order springing from half-octagonal responds with moulded capitals and bases. There are marks of a screen and the bases and capitals are much mutilated. The floor is flagged and the roof is of four bays.

The nave arcades are of two bays with wide semi-circular arches of two chamfered orders, with hood-moulds on both sides, springing from half-round responds and dividing cylindrical pillar, all with carved capitals and circular moulded bases on square plinths. In the north arcade the capitals have stiff-stalk foliage and the bases are water-holding, that of the pillar

having a double hollow, but in the later south arcade the foliage is more naturalistic,⁵⁰ the scroll moulding is used in the abaci, and in the bases the hollow is omitted. There is a head-stop to the hood-mould on the south side only, over the pillar.

Each aisle is lighted at the east end by a lancet window,⁵¹ the sills of which are extended inside, and by a larger pointed window in the north and south walls, originally of three lights, the mullions of which have been removed and a single one reaching to the head inserted. These windows, which probably had plain intersecting tracery, have hollow-chamfered jambs and hood-moulds with good head-stops. They were placed near the east end of the walls to give increased light to the aisle altars, the piscinae of which remain, that on the south aisle being

square headed with fluted bowl, the other (which is in the north wall) trefoiled and its bowl mutilated. There are also image brackets on either side of the east windows, those in the south aisle being carved, the others rounded. The blocked north doorway is pointed and apparently of a single chamfered order, with imposts formed by the stringcourse which runs round the north aisle at sill level. This string is chamfered on both edges, but the corresponding one of the south aisle is of later character and is continued round the porch. In both aisles there is a diagonal buttress at the east end. The pointed south doorway is of a single chamfered order, with hood-mould, on moulded imposts: the oak door has good 13th-century hinges.⁵² The porch doorway is of two chamfered orders, on large half-round responds with carved capitals, that on the east similar in character to the capital of the south-east nave respond, the other with a mingling of stiff-stalk and natural fructed oak foliage. The porch has single-stage buttresses, and the original eaves table now forms a string along the side walls about



PLAN OF GREAT CASTERTON CHURCH

of the side walls;⁴⁵ there is also a string chamfered on both edges along the eastern portion of the north wall, the east end, and the whole length of the south wall. In the east wall are two recessed and widely spaced lancet windows, the moulded outer arches of which spring from jambshafts with moulded bases and foliated capitals whose abaci are continued as a string along the wall, dying out at the angles. Above the windows, filling the original gable, is a lancet-shaped niche containing a figure probably intended for St. Paul,⁴⁶ the outer moulded arch of which appears to have been altered in the 15th century, when the old high-pitched roof of the chancel was taken down. In the south wall is a window of three graded lancet lights with individual hood-moulds and farther west a widely splayed single trefoiled lancet, the lower part of which is blocked with plaster. There is a similar though less widely splayed⁴⁷ lancet at the west end of the north wall, the sill of which is only 3 ft. above the ground; the rest of the north wall is blank. The lateral windows have single

⁴⁵ The length of the 12th-century chancel, about 13 ft., is probably indicated by the bottom of the western portion of the walls, where there is no plinth.

⁴⁶ The figure holds a book in its left hand and in its right a round object generally interpreted as the hilt of a sword, the blade of which has been broken away. It has also been thought to be a money bag and the figure to repre-

sent St. Matthew. There is no indication of there having been a sword blade.

⁴⁷ It splays inside to 3 ft. 9 in., that on the south side to 7 ft. 6 in.

⁴⁸ In the east windows the splay is carried round the heads.

⁴⁹ The aumbries were exposed in 1930 on the removal of some comparatively modern deal panelling.

⁵⁰ In the capitals of the pillar and west respond the stalks emerge from the bell at about half its height; in the east respond they rise directly from the neck mould.

⁵¹ The lower part of each window is now blocked.

⁵² The lower one is partly gone; there is also an ornamental intermediate strengthening piece.



GREAT CASERTON CHURCH : THE FONT



GREAT CASTERTON CHURCH FROM THE SOUTH-EAST



GREAT CASTERTON CHURCH: THE INTERIOR, LOOKING EAST

8 ft. from the ground. Above this the later walling is of ashlar, contemporary with the parapet.⁵³

The 13th-century clearstory has three circular windows on each side, two of which light the nave, the westernmost window, on either side of the tower, being now blocked. Originally the windows had trefoiled cusping, but this now remains only in the window north of the tower. The stone corbels of the earlier nave roof remain in position at the level of the sills of the clearstory windows. In the outlying western portion of the nave, which covers the tower, is a single lancet window⁵⁴ on the south side, the internal splay of which is taken round the head in semicircular form. The north side is blank, save for the clearstory window already mentioned. A pointed window of three lights with vertical tracery was inserted in the west wall when the tower was erected, but this is now blocked, the blocking being pierced at the bottom by a small square-headed opening.

The tower is carried on lofty arches on the north, south and east sides and has a staircase on the north formed in the nave wall at its junction with the aisle. The inner chamfered order of the arches rests on half-octagonal responds with battlemented capitals and moulded bases, the outer hollow chamfered order being continued to the ground. Above the arches is a ribbed vault with large circular well-hole and a shield in each of the four angles, one of which (south-east) is blank; the others have the arms of Browe (north-east), Quarterly, 1 and 4 Browe, 2 Warren, 3 Folville, with crest (north-west), and Browe impaling Warren (south-west).⁵⁵ The lower part of the east arch, towards the nave, is closed by an 18th-century partition, with doorway, the upper part being plastered and containing the Royal Arms of George II.⁵⁶ The lateral arches remain open.⁵⁷ The pointed bell-chamber windows are of two trefoiled lights with quatrefoil in the head, and the tower finishes with a battlemented parapet with a small gargoyle at each angle, and tall crocketed pinnacles.⁵⁸

The rectangular unmounted font stands on a chamfered plinth and may be of late 12th- or early 13th-century date. Each of its sides is covered with an incised pattern of diagonal lines in four panels. It has a modern flat oak cover.⁵⁹

The 18th-century pulpit is of painted deal, with fluted pilasters and canopy with dentilled cornice. A stone altar was erected in 1931 and the balustraded altar rails moved westward to the entrance of the chancel.

In the south aisle wall is a 13th-century tomb recess with moulded two-centred arch on short jambshafts with foliated capitals and moulded bases, below which is the freestone effigy of a priest in eucharistic vestments. On the outside of the same wall, but a little farther east, there is another recess of the same character, with projecting canopy, containing a blocked effigy, the head and feet alone being represented.⁶⁰

There are remains of painted wall decorations at the east end of the north aisle, the window splays being covered with masonry lines and red five-lobed flowers.

In the chancel is a tablet to Richard Lucas (d. 1827), rector for 42 years, who built and endowed the church at Pickworth. The glass in the east windows was inserted in 1905 to the memory of James Atlay, Bishop of Hereford (1868-95), and of his parents, his father Henry Atlay having been rector of Great Casterton 1827-61. On the exterior of the chancel is a tablet to Vincent Wing (d. 1776). The stone entrance gateway to the churchyard is a memorial to those men of the parish who fell in the war of 1914-19.

There is a ring of five bells by Henry Penn of Peterborough, 1718.⁶¹

The silver plate consists of an 18th-century cup without date letter, and a paten of 1723-4, both given by the Rev. Richard Lucas in 1802. There are also two pewter plates and two pewter flagons.

The registers before 1812 are as follows: (i) all entries 1665-1753; (ii) baptisms and burials 1754-1812; (iii) marriages 1754-1812.

There was probably a church in *ADVOWSON* Great Casterton in the 11th century, as a priest is recorded in the Domesday Survey (1086). Thomas de Grelley presented to the rectory in 1235,⁶² and the advowson has always followed the descent of the manor of Woodhead (q.v.).

A free chapel at Woodhead is recorded in 1286-7, when John de Casterton was presented to the chapel by Hawise, widow of Sir Robert Grelley, who held it in dower.⁶³ The endowment consisted of two parts of the tithe of the demesne of Woodhead Manor, with a bovat of land, a toft and a croft. A pension of one mark was paid to the Abbot and Convent of Sées in Normandy, certainly up to 1428,⁶⁴ when probably it ceased as a payment to an alien priory during the war with France. The free chapel of the manor of Woodhead is included in the conveyance of the manor by Robert Browe to his brother John in 1415,⁶⁵ but there is no mention of the chapel in the 16th century, and no remains are now in existence. The leper hospital of St. Margaret without the town is mentioned in the 14th century.⁶⁶

Church Lands.—By decree of a *CHARITIES* commission of the Court of Chancery in 1688 it was adjudged that several pieces of arable land containing approximately 12 acres had been anciently given for the repairs of the parish church and for providing the necessary utensils thereof. The land is now let at an annual rent of £20 and the net income is paid to the church restoration fund by the rector and churchwardens.

Sussanna Woods, by her will dated 5 January 1818, gave to the minister and churchwardens £100 to apply the income as to three-fifths to be laid out in bread and given yearly in the church on St. Thomas's day to the poor, and the remaining two-fifths to be

⁵³ The battlemented parapet is taken at one height round the porch, with sundial over the doorway.

⁵⁴ The sill is about 9 ft. 6 in. above the ground. Below it a modern doorway has been cut through the wall.

⁵⁵ Blore, *Hist. of Rutland*, 111. The ribs of the vault are chamfered.

⁵⁶ The arms are on a painted board,

with the words 'Fear God—Honour Ye King' on the plaster on either side.

⁵⁷ There is a space of 20 in. between the tower arches and the outer walls.

⁵⁸ The present pinnacles date only from 1792.

⁵⁹ The cover is in memory of Joseph Place, rector 1861-78.

⁶⁰ It is figured in Boutell's *Christian Monuments*, 145.

⁶¹ North, *Cb. Bells of Rutl.* 126.

⁶² Irons' Notes, Linc. Episc. Reg. (Inst.).

⁶³ Blore, op. cit. 192, citing Linc. Episc. Reg.

⁶⁴ Irons' Notes.

⁶⁵ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1476-85, p. 8.

⁶⁶ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 162.

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paid yearly on the same day to the choir of singers belonging to the church with a proviso that in case there shall be no singers the whole of the income to be laid out in bread. By an order of the Charity Commissioners dated 2 March 1897, it was directed that so long as there shall be a choir of singers the two-fifths part shall constitute the endowment of the Ecclesiastical Charity of Sussanna Woods, the trustees of which shall be the rector and churchwardens, and that the remainder shall constitute the endowment of the Eleemosynary Charity of Sussanna Woods, the trustees of which shall be the rector and two trustees to be appointed by the Parish Council. The endow-

ment of the two charities consists of a sum of £100 2½ per cent. Consols standing in private names, and the income is distributed in accordance with the original trusts.

William Hollis, by his will proved at Leicester on 12 March 1868, bequeathed to the rector and churchwardens £30 upon trust to apply the income annually upon Christmas Day unto and amongst the most deserving poor of the parish. The endowment now consists of £28 15s. 6d. 2½ per cent. Consols held by the Official Trustees and producing in dividends 14s. 4d. per annum. The income is distributed in gifts of bread and coal.

LITTLE CASTERTON

Castreton (xi cent.); Parva Castreton (xiii cent.).

The parish of Little Casterton lies on the east of the county, Lincolnshire being on its southern border, while the River Gwash and the Great North Road form the south-west boundary. The River Gwash runs through the middle of the parish from west to east, and the ground rises gradually on each side. The parish comprises 1227 acres of land, mostly arable. On the higher land to the south are numerous quarries.

The small village is on the right bank of the River Gwash, built along a by-road from Stamford. It consists mainly of two farms and a few cottages of stone with stone-tiled roofs. The Rectory stands to the west of the church and to the south-west is the old school house built in 1840, now a dwelling.

Tolethorpe Hall is about a third of a mile lower down the river, and is beautifully situated on a slope and surrounded by trees. The house, of which practically nothing is recorded, is of ancient foundation, but has undergone vicissitudes. It is attractively approached through a Gothic gatehouse, which leads into an irregular court, on the opposite side of which stands the house, of a considerably later date than the gatehouse. Indeed, of the original house not a trace is left. So much has been done in the way of enlargement and alteration that it is impossible to say with certainty what is its precise history, although a general idea may be gained. The gatehouse, for instance, is not a distinct structure, but has been lengthened in later years, and now forms the end of a range of out-buildings. It has a flat-pointed main archway, with a small pointed archway on one side, which originally was balanced by another on the other side. From the scanty detail which survives the work appears to be of the latter half of the 14th century. The place was held for many generations by the family of Burton, who sold the property to the Brownes. John Browne, who succeeded to the estate in 1604 and died in 1634, is said to have built the original part of the present house, of which an illustration is given in Wright's *History of Rutland*, but as he was declared to have been a lunatic in 1612, his uncle John Browne, who apparently supervised his affairs,¹ may have been responsible. It was probably built on the site of the older house, but for some reason which is not apparent it was not built parallel to the gatehouse, nor in any strict alignment with it. The house was said to be much decayed in 1629 and meanly furnished.^{1a} Amid the many changes which the interior has undergone, the main walls of the building illustrated by

Wright can still be made out. There was a central hall with a short projecting wing at each end of the front facing the gatehouse. On the opposite front were also two wings, but of considerably greater projection, and they were roofed with the ridges parallel to the main building instead of at right angles, thus imparting a rather detached appearance to them. The house thus built was slightly modified in the 18th century, partly as to its façades and partly as to the interior. Alterations to some of the old windows are plainly visible outside, and inside there is a small room with a good 18th-century cornice, which probably once contained the staircase; the existing principal staircase, which is of similar date, may have been brought thence and adapted to its present position. The only other ancient feature of importance is the porch, which now stands against one of the two front gables. According to all precedents, it must originally have been in the centre of the front, which would have made it more directly opposite to the gatehouse; but as the court is not wide its removal may have been induced by the desire to get a more generous sweep from the gatehouse to the front door.

The house, thus slightly modified, remained until 1867, when the then owner, Mr. C. O. Eaton, added a large wing on the east in the Jacobean style, and another smaller one on the west, which may have replaced an earlier portion. At the same time the quaint disposition of the gables on the garden front, shown in Wright's view, was altered by the introduction of large square bow windows.

The modernisation of the interior, the absence of datestones (except that of 1867) and of all heraldry make it impossible to read the history of the house without much speculation. But these limitations, tantalising enough to the antiquary, still leave the place an interesting and attractive home, pleasantly situated and possessing a charming garden skilfully laid out in modern times on simple but effective lines.

There was a chapel in the parish, of which the Brownes bought the advowson with the estate, and Blore mentions a chantry, but there are no indications left of where it stood.

Among those connected with the house was Robert Browne, the founder of the Brownists, the fore-runners of the Congregationalists, who was born here about 1550.

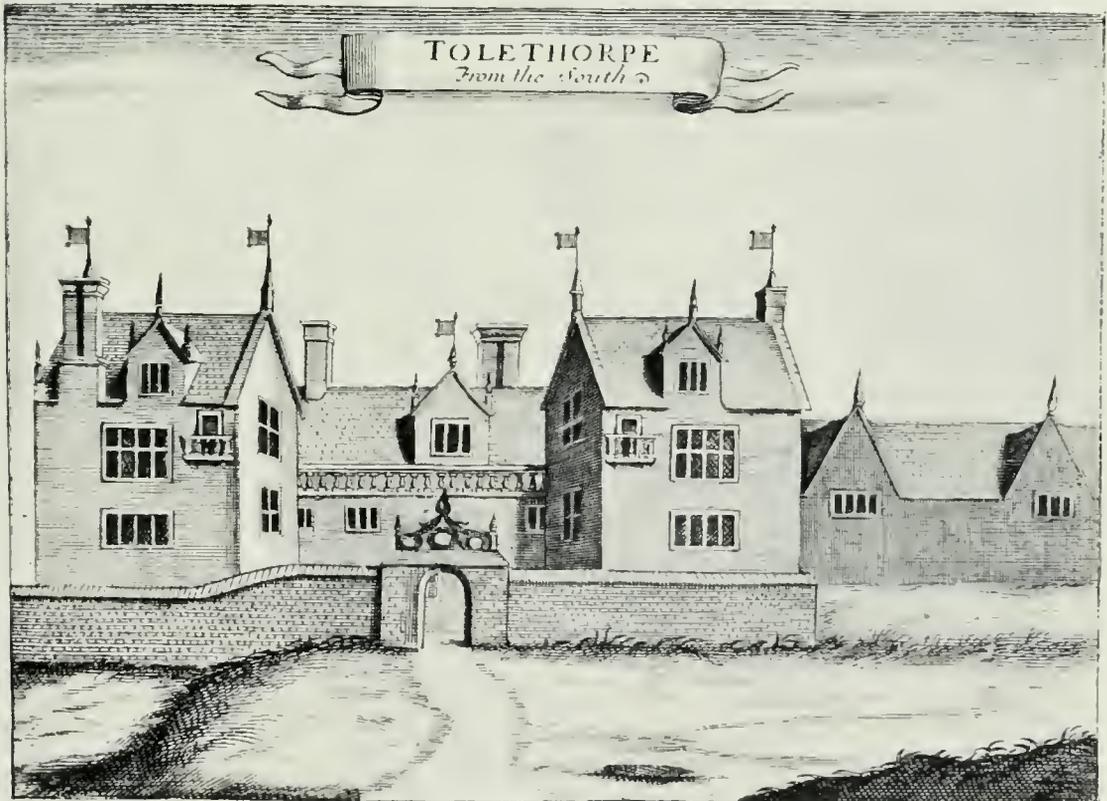
There are now only one or two cottages and a mill at Tolethorpe, the former village having disappeared.

¹ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), cccclxxv, 33.

^{1a} Ct. of Wards, Feodaries Surv. bdlc. 34.



LITTLE CASTERTON: TOLETHORPE HALL FROM THE SOUTH



LITTLE CASTERTON: TOLETHORPE HALL IN 1684
(From James Wright, *History of Rutland*)

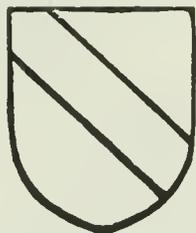
The hamlet of Newtown, consisting of a few cottages and a Methodist chapel, lies in the extreme west of the parish.

The open fields were inclosed by Act of Parliament in 1796.

Osgot held *LITTLE CASTERTON MANORS* in the time of Edward the Confessor, and in 1086 it was held of the king as 3 virgates, by David, of whom we know nothing.²

The manor was held by the family of Lyndon of their manor of Easton (co. Northants). Roland de Lyndon held Easton in 1086, and the manor of Little Casterton followed the descent of Lyndon (q.v.) until it, with Easton and Lyndon, fell into the hands of the Crown at the end of the 13th century. In 1298 Simon de Bokeministre died seised of lands in Little Casterton which he held of the king of the manor of Easton for a sixth of a fee, as his ancestors had held of the ancestors of Simon de Lyndon.³ From this date the overlordship followed the descent of Easton (co. Northants, q.v.).⁴

The undertenancy of the manor was obtained by Simon de Bokeministre, who in 1298 left a son and heir William aged 9 years,⁵ whose custody was granted to John de Sandale in 1304.⁶ In 1314 William de Bokeministre conveyed a messuage and carucate of land in Little Casterton to John de Neville of Stoke Dry,⁷ who received a grant of free warren in his demesne lands of Casterton in 1316,⁸ and with Elizabeth his wife in 1321 conveyed the manor and advowson to Henry le Scrope⁹ of Bolton (co. York), one of the king's judges. Henry died in 1336 seised of the manor and advowson and left a son and heir William aged 16 years,¹⁰ who served in the retinue of



SCROPE. *Azure a bend or.*

Ralph, Lord Neville, and died in 1344, leaving Richard his brother and heir aged 17 years.¹¹ Margaret, widow of Henry le Scrope, married Sir Hugh de Mortimer, and they presented to the church in 1349 and 1352,¹² the patronage being held as dower of Margaret. In 1346 dower was assigned to Cecily, widow of William le Scrope, who had married John de Clopton. Cecily was to have the houses on either side of the Great Gate extending towards the highway of Casterton, the south part of the great messuage, with various other houses and lands described, among the place-names being Bythefrerebalk, Wernelpole, Mydfild upon Weldonewong and Milneholm.¹³ Richard le Scrope, created Baron Scrope, who was a party to the celebrated case of Scrope versus Grosvenor, died in 1403, leaving a son and heir Roger aged 30 years who died in the same year.¹⁴ Roger had granted the manor of Little Casterton to Geoffrey Paynell for life, on whose death

in 1440 the manor reverted to Henry, son of Richard son of Roger le Scrope.¹⁵ Henry settled the manor in 1444 and 1448 and died seised of it in 1459, leaving a son John aged 21 years¹⁶ who died seised in 1498 and was succeeded by his son Henry aged 30 years.¹⁷

In 1527 Henry le Scrope of Bolton conveyed the manor of Little Casterton to Francis Browne, Richard Cooke and William Hygdon, chaplain, on behalf of Francis Browne.¹⁸ In 1537 Anthony Browne petitioned Sir Thomas Cromwell on behalf of his father, Francis, who was in prison, having been accused of speaking treasonable words during the late rebellion in Lincolnshire.¹⁹ Francis, who received permission from Henry VIII to wear his hat in the king's presence,²⁰ settled the manors of Tolethorpe and Little Casterton in 1540 on his heirs male with remainder to the heirs male of Christopher his father. He died in 1541 seised of these manors and the advowsons of Little Casterton and the chapel of Tolethorpe and was succeeded by his son Anthony aged 26 years.²¹ Anthony was succeeded in 1591 by his son Francis,²² who was brother of Robert Browne, the founder of the Brownists. Francis died in 1603, and was succeeded by his son John aged 11 years.²³ John, known as John Browne of Tolethorpe, conveyed the manors of Little Casterton and Tolethorpe in 1618 to his uncles Thomas Mackworth and John Bourne of Bourn Park (co. Linc.) in settlement on his heirs.²⁴ In the following year and again in 1629 it was found that he had been mad and unable to manage his affairs since 1612, that he held the manors and advowsons above mentioned, and had sons Christopher and John (aged 8 weeks), and a wife Mary (Quarles) who were surviving.²⁵ He died in 1634, when Christopher his son and heir was aged 15 years.²⁶ The manors and advowsons were settled in 1640, probably on the marriage of Christopher with Elizabeth daughter of Sir Edward Harington of Ridlington.²⁷ Christopher was sheriff for the county in 1647 and 1681 and died in 1692, when he was succeeded by his son John. Lands in Tolethorpe were settled on Richard Torless, husband of Bridget, sister of John Browne, and John Torless.²⁸ John Browne died unmarried in 1719, when he left the manors to Francis son of his brother Edward. On the death of Francis in 1751 without issue the manors passed to his nephew Thomas, son of Thomas Trollope and Anne his wife, Francis's sister. Thomas Trollope, the son, took the additional name of Browne, and in 1758 married Harriet, daughter of Robert Needham and niece of the Earl of Chatham. Mary, daughter and heir of Thomas Trollope-Browne, who in 1793 married George Fermor, third Earl of Pomfret (d. 1830),²⁹ died without issue in 1839. Thomas, brother of George, succeeded to the Earldom of Pomfret. He died in 1833, and was succeeded by his son George Richard William, who died without issue in 1867, when the title became extinct.³⁰ The manors were in the possession of Mr. Charles Ormiston

² *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 142.

³ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 26 Edw. I, no. 28.

⁴ *V.C.H. Northants*, ii, 565-6.

⁵ *Chan. Inq. p.m. loc. cit.*

⁶ *Ibid.* 32 Edw. I, no. 202; *Cal. Fine R.* 1272-1307, p. 555.

⁷ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1313-17, p. 170.

⁸ *Cal. Chert. R.* 1300-26, 315.

⁹ Feet of F. Rutl. file 5, no. 34.

¹⁰ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 10 Edw. III (1st nos.), no. 47.

¹¹ *Ibid.* 19 Edw. III, no. 61 (41).

¹² Irons' Notes, Linc. Episc. Reg. (Instil.).

¹³ *Cal. Close R.* 1346-9, pp. 168-9;

Cal. Inq. viii, p. 453.

¹⁴ Dugdale, *Baronage*, i, p. 655.

¹⁵ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 18 Hen. VI, no. 23.

¹⁶ *Ibid.* 37 Hen. VI, no. 31.

¹⁷ *Ibid.* (Ser. ii), xiii, 114.

¹⁸ Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 19 Hen. VIII.

¹⁹ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xii (ii), 196.

²⁰ Blore, *Hist. of Rutl.* 93.

²¹ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), lxvi, 65.

²² *Ibid.* ccix, 126. ²³ *Ibid.* cclxxii, 37

²⁴ Feet of F. Div. Cos. Mich. 16 Jas. I.

²⁵ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), cccclxxv, 33;

Ct. of Wards, Feodaries Surv. Rutl.

bdle. 34.

²⁶ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), cccclxxiii,

43; cccclxxxvi, 20.

²⁷ *Recov. R. East.* 16 Chas. I, ro. 40.

²⁸ *Ibid.* Mich. 6 Will. & M. m. 1;

East. 7 Will. III, m. 11, ro. 82.

²⁹ Blore, *op. cit.* 95, 96; *G.E.C. Complete Peerage*, vi, 266.

³⁰ *G.E.C. Complete Peerage*, vi, 266.

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Eaton in the same year, and he died in 1907, leaving a son Stephen Ormiston Eaton (d. 1911), whose son, Mr. Charles Edward Thynne Eaton, is now lord of the manors.

The manor of *TOLETHORPE* was in the possession of eight sokemen in the time of Edward the Confessor, but by 1086 it was held by William son of Ansculf (de Picquigny or Pinkeney) brother of Ghilo de Picquigny, from whom the holders of the barony of Pinkeney were descended. It was assessed at 4 carucates,

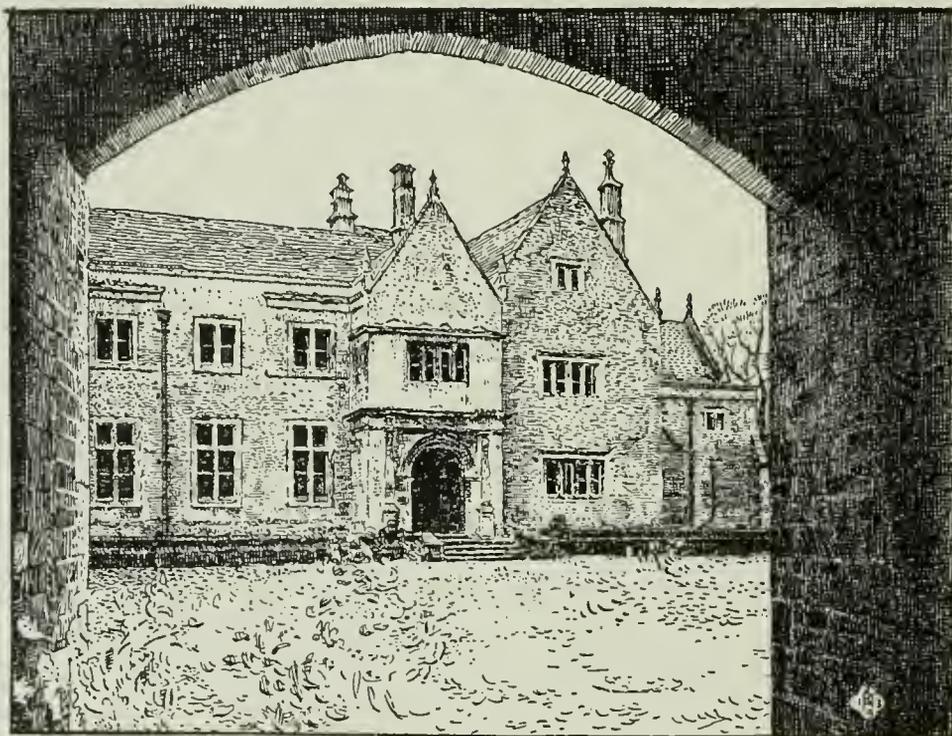
of which the king had the soke. There were four mills, and it had increased in value from 40s. in 1066 to 100s. in 1086.³¹ The overlordship passed to Fulk Paynel, probably by his marriage with the daughter of William son of Ansculf. From Fulk it went to his son Ralph and his grandson Gervase,³² who was living in 1154 and 1182.³³ Gervase's son Robert died in his father's lifetime, and Gervase was succeeded by his daughter,



EATON. *Or a fret azure quartering Or a bend azure between two lions' heads gules.*

son Roger, who died without issue and was succeeded by his brother John, who also died childless. The overlordship of Tolethorpe was assigned to his sister Joan, widow of Thomas Botetourt, in 1323.³⁶ Henceforth the manor was held of the manor of Newport Pagnell (co. Buck., q.v.).³⁷

The subtenant of Tolethorpe at the time of the Domesday Survey (1086) was Robert who, according to Blore, was ancestor of the Tolethorpe family. His son John had a son Robert living in 1166.³⁸ Robert's son Thomas de 'Tolestorp' in 1196 paid scutage due from his overlord Ralph de Somery in Rutland.³⁹ He married Juliana, daughter of William de Freney, and was dealing with lands in Tolethorpe in 1220.⁴⁰ Robert de 'Tollethorpe' his son married Alice, daughter of Robert L'Abbé, and in 1235 held a third part of a knight's fee in Rutland.⁴¹ In 1263 he obtained the right to a free fishery in the Gwash (Wesse) from Tolethorpe to the old bridge at Ryhall, from Hugh le Despenser.⁴² Thomas son of Robert de Tolethorpe married Maud, daughter of Brice Daneys, and held a knight's fee of Roger de Somery, in Tolethorpe in 1272,⁴³ which William de Tolethorpe his son held in 1291.⁴⁴



TOLETHORPE HALL

Hawise, wife of John de Somery.³⁴ Ralph de Somery, son of John and Hawise, was holding in 1196.³⁵ Ralph died about 1215, leaving a son William de Somery, also called Percival, whose son Nicholas died in 1229 and was succeeded by Roger, his uncle. Roger died in 1272 seised of Tolethorpe, and was succeeded by his

William de Tolethorpe married Alice, daughter of Ralph de Normanville of Empingham, and was holding in 1303 and 1305.⁴⁵ He had two daughters, Maud, wife of Nicholas de Burton of Stamford, and Elizabeth, wife of Giles de Erdington, and settled the manor of Tolethorpe before 1316 on Nicholas and Maud.⁴⁶

³¹ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 141; *Noribants*, i, 291,

339.

³² Round, *Cal. Doc. France*, 444.

³³ *Ibid.* 441, 444.

³⁴ Dugdale, *Baronage*, i, 432. On p. 612, under Somerie, Hawise is given as sister of Gervase.

³⁵ *Pipe R. Soc. (N.S.)*, vii, p. 229.

³⁶ *Cal. Close R.* 1318-23, p. 631.

³⁷ *V.C.H. Bucks*, iv, 414-16.

³⁸ Blore, *op. cit.* pp. 217-222, gives the descent of the manor from deeds (printed in full) and a 15th-century MS. history in the possession of the Countess of Pomfret from which much of this descent is taken.

³⁹ *Pipe R. Soc.* *loc. cit.*

⁴⁰ Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 4 Hen. III, no. 5.

⁴¹ *Bk. of Fees (P.R.O.)*, p. 506.

⁴² Feet of F. Rutl. file 3, no. 62.

⁴³ *Cal. Ing.* ii, p. 15. ⁴⁴ *Ibid.* p. 497.

⁴⁵ *Feud. Aids*, iv, 205, 206.

⁴⁶ *Ibid.* 208.

but a little later it was reconveyed to him. He was holding the Tolethorpe fee of the Somerys in 1323,⁴⁷ but died shortly afterwards. During the disturbed conditions of the country in the reign of Edward II, John Hakluyt, keeper of the Forest of Rutland, and his servants, were attacked at Liddington in 1318 by a great concourse of persons including William son of Robert de Tolethorpe, Robert son of John de Tolethorpe, 'mouner' and William his brother, the elder, and William his brother, the younger.⁴⁸ In 1321 a commission was issued for their trial, but the result does not appear.⁴⁹

Nicholas de Burton and Maud were dealing with lands in Tolethorpe in 1323, and in 1326 Nicholas granted the manor to his son Thomas, who died childless in 1333, when the manor went to William brother of Thomas. William de Burton, who spent much of his time abroad in the service of the king, founded a chantry at Little Casterton in 1358.⁵⁰ He died in 1375, seised of the manor of Tolethorpe and advowson of the church of Little Casterton, in which church he was buried. He left a son and heir Thomas aged 30 years.⁵¹ Thomas died in 1381⁵² and was buried with Margaret his wife in Little Casterton church, where there is a monument to him. He was succeeded by his son Thomas, who was also much abroad in the king's service. He was appointed keeper of Fotheringay Castle, where in 1419 he received Arthur, brother of the Duke of Burgundy, as a prisoner. Thomas died in Gascony in 1435, leaving a son Thomas aged 27 years. The last-named Thomas Burton married Cicely, daughter of Sir John Bussey, and left a son William.⁵³

Thomas son of William Burton in 1503 sold the manor of Tolethorpe, the Hundred of Little Casterton and the advowson of the church of Little Casterton to Christopher Browne, Thomas Bedingfield, Edmund Bedingfield, William Elmes and Edward Browne, on behalf of Christopher Browne, merchant of the staple of Calais.⁵⁴ Christopher was sheriff of the county in 1492 and 1500 and died in 1518, leaving Francis his son and heir.⁵⁵ Francis in 1527 purchased the manor of Little Casterton from Henry le Scrope of Bolton,⁵⁶ and from this date the manor of Tolethorpe followed the descent of Little Casterton (q.v.).

Possibly the origin of the *MANOR* of the *PRIOR OF NEWSTEAD* was a grant to the prior in 1278 by Hugh son of Hugh de Welledon, and Joan his wife, of four messuages, a mill, a toft, 6½ virgates and 8½ acres of land and 8s. rent in Little Casterton, in return for which Hugh and Joan were to have daily for life

4 convent loaves and a loaf of servants' bread, 4 gallons of superior convent ale and one gallon of servants' ale, 4 dishes of food, namely, 2 of large meat or fish, according to the time of year, and 2 of such as are given to the canons; they were also to have the place built on the east of the priory court, where they were to live, and were freely to attend the services in the church; and they were also to have hay, straw and grass for a sheep and a cow and necessary fuel.⁵⁷ The prior presented to the church in 1283, but according to Blore⁵⁸ his right was disputed by John de Oketon, who presented three months later, with Alice his wife.⁵⁹ The prior is returned as holding a manor in Little Casterton in 1316,⁶⁰ and in 1509 Stephen Scharp, prior of Newstead, granted lands in Little Casterton to Christopher Browne of Tolethorpe.⁶¹ Thomas Halam, prior, in 1534 granted lands in Little Casterton to Christopher Buckingham, and at the time of the Dissolution in 1536 held property worth £5 a year here.⁶² The lands of the priory were granted by Henry VIII to Richard Manours in 1540.⁶³ Some ten years later John Fenton complained to the Court of Augmentations that he had received a lease of the manor of Little Casterton from the late prior for 50 years, but that Francis Browne had inclosed lands in the manor and impounded Fenton's cattle, asserting that Fenton held no manor.⁶⁴ The lands later passed to the Brownes, who probably acquired the Crown title from Richard Manours, and thus they became merged in the chief manor.⁶⁵

The *HUNDRED OF LITTLE CASTERTON* seems to have been part of East Hundred (q.v.) and held with it. View of frankpledge and sheriff's aids in Little Casterton or the hide of Little Casterton were from time to time granted specifically with East Hundred. In 1414 Edward, Duke of York, enfeoffed Thomas Burton of Tolethorpe and the heirs of his body with 'the Hundred of Little Casterton within East Hundred,' together with knight's fees, homages, fealties, wards, marriages, etc., views of frankpledge and all that pertains to them, etc.⁶⁶ Thomas, descendant of the above Thomas Burton, sold the Hundred with the manor of Tolethorpe in 1503 to Christopher Browne. From this date the so-called Hundred of Little Casterton followed the descent of the manor of Tolethorpe (q.v.). The hundred comprised the tithings of Essendine, Ryhall, Belmesthorpe, Ingthorpe and Tinwell.⁶⁷

The church of *ALL SAINTS* consists of chancel 30 ft. by 14 ft. 9 in., clear-storied nave 32 ft. 9 in. by 14 ft. 9 in., with double bell-cote over the west gable, north and south aisles 7 ft. 8 in. wide, and south porch 7 ft. 6 in. by 6 ft. 2 in. The width across nave and aisles is 34 ft. 6 in., and the total length of the church is 64 ft. 9 in. All these measurements are internal.

The building generally is of rubble, plastered internally, but the clearstory walls are stuccoed⁶⁸ and



BURTON. *Sable a chevron between three owls argent crowned or.*

⁴⁷ *Cal. Close R.* 1318-23, p. 631.

⁴⁸ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1317-21, p. 608.

⁴⁹ *Ibid.* 1321-4, p. 54.

⁵⁰ *Ibid.* 1358-61, p. 129.

⁵¹ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 49 Edw. III, pt. 1, no. 18.

⁵² *Ibid.* 6 Ric. II, no. 19; M.I.

⁵³ *Ibid.* 18 Hen. VI, no. 40; Blore, op. cit. 217.

⁵⁴ Feet of F. Mich. 15 Hen. VII, no. 6; 17 Hen. VII, no. 7; East. 19 Hen. VII, no. 9.

⁵⁵ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), xxxiv, 87.

⁵⁶ Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 19 Hen. VIII.

⁵⁷ *Ibid.* Trin. 6 Edw. I, no. 4.

⁵⁸ Blore, op. cit. p. 2.

⁵⁹ Irons' Notes, Linc. Episc. Reg. (Instil.).

⁶⁰ *Feud. Aids*, iv, 208.

⁶¹ *Anct. D.* (P.R.O.), B 11217.

⁶² *Ibid.* B. 11218; Dugdale, *Mon. Angl.*

vi, pt. 1, p. 564.

⁶³ *L. and P. Hen.* VIII, xv, p. 293.

⁶⁴ Aug. Off. Proc. bdlc. 33, no. 10.

⁶⁵ Blore, loc. cit.

⁶⁶ *Ibid.* p. 193, quoting charter *penes* Mary Countess of Pomfret; *Cal. Pat. R.* 1413-16, p. 193.

⁶⁷ Blore, op. cit. 194, quoting Roll of the Hundred 9 Hen. VII, *penes* Countess of Pomfret.

⁶⁸ On the north side the plaster has been more roughly applied and is in part gone.

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

lined to represent masonry. The chancel, north aisle and porch are covered with stone slates, the nave and south aisle being leaded. All the roofs are eaved.

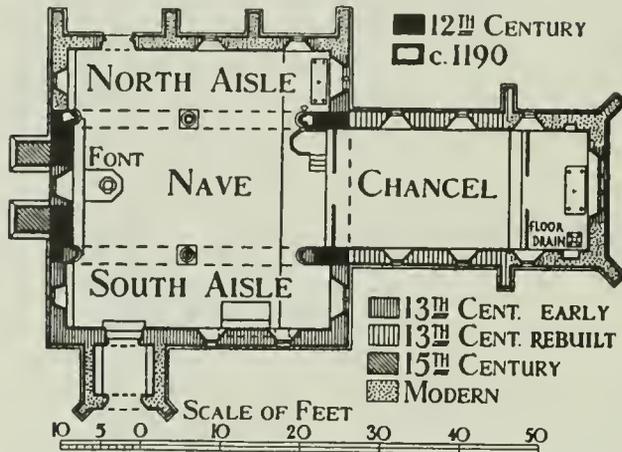
The original church was probably a rectangular 12th-century building covering the area of the present nave, with small square-ended chancel. To this, c. 1190, a north aisle was added, the wall being pierced by the existing arcade of two bays. Early in the 13th century a south aisle was thrown out and the fabric rebuilt more or less on its present plan, a new chancel being erected and the bell-cote added. The 13th-century remodelling also included the rebuilding and probably the widening of the old north aisle, the nave and aisle being under a single wide-spanned roof, the ridge of which was level with the bottom of the bell-cote openings.⁶⁹ In the 15th century the nave

has a tree in the centre and three wheels on either side; it is now affixed to the wall of the north aisle, together with a smaller 12th-century fragment, but no other architectural features of the early church have survived.

The late 12th-century north arcade consists of two wide rounded⁷⁴ arches of two moulded orders on half-round responds and cylindrical dividing pillar. The inner order of the arch has a flat soffit with edge-roll on each side, and the outer order a similar edge-roll on the nave side only, with plain double-chamfered hood-mould; towards the aisle the outer order is chamfered and without a hood. The pillar and responds have circular moulded bases on square plinths, and carved capitals with divided and chamfered abaci. The capitals are shallow and spreading—on the pillar and west respond they have stiff conventional foliage,⁷⁵ but the carving on the east respond is of a more developed character and different in style.

The 13th-century south arcade is spaced to correspond with that opposite, but its round arches are of two chamfered orders with hood-mould towards the nave, and the cylindrical pillar and responds have moulded capitals and bases, the latter on square plinths. The 13th-century chancel arch is pointed and of two chamfered orders without hood-mould, springing from half-round tapering moulded corbels which terminate on the north side in a grotesque head and on the south in foliage.

The chancel has an east window of three graded lancet lights, which may be an old one re-used, and three single lancet windows in the north and south walls, the two westernmost on each side being original. In rebuilding the chancel in the early 19th century the old materials appear to have been used,⁷⁶ only the added eastern portion being entirely modern. The lancets have hollow chamfered jambs and hood-moulds with head-stops and there is a string, chamfered on both edges, at sill level. The north and south buttresses, east of which the work is new, are of five stages with triangular heads. In the modern extension is a rather elaborate piscina recess, apparently the old one re-used, with moulded arch under a straight-sided crocketed canopy, on slender jambshafts with foliated capitals and moulded bases, but the bowl and shelf are new. In the floor below is a large quatrefoil water drain,⁷⁷ said to have belonged to the old church



PLAN OF LITTLE CASTERTON CHURCH

was heightened by the addition of a clearstory and the present low-pitched roof erected, with lean-to roofs over the aisles. The large supporting buttresses at the west end were also added at this time, the building then assuming more or less the appearance it has since retained. The church was restored in 1810-11, the north aisle being rebuilt and faced with ashlar and the chancel lengthened about 8 ft.,⁷⁰ and in 1837 a new porch was erected.⁷¹ There appear to have been repairs in the chancel and nave about ten years later,⁷² but no further general restoration of the fabric took place till 1908, when a Norman tympanum was found built into the sill of the west window of the nave about 13 ft. above the floor. The tympanum⁷³

⁶⁹ The mark of the roof remains on the east side of the bell-cote above the present roof. Probably the rebuilding was not completed until 1314 when licence was granted for the dedication of the church (Linc. Epis. Reg. Dalderhy, Memo. 284d).

⁷⁰ The chancel is said to have been repaired at two different times by the Rev. Richard Twopeny, rector 1781-1843, who 'first only built it the same length he found it, but having afterwards ascertained that the original length was much more, he then lengthened it as it appears at present': *Stamford Mercury*, May 2, 1862. This implies a shortening of the 13th-century chancel at some period unknown, and a rebuilding of the whole by Mr. Twopeny. The drawing of the church in *Blore's Hist. of Rutland* (1811), p. 12, shows an extended lancet or lowside

window in the south-west corner of the chancel of which there is now no trace, having apparently been omitted in the rebuilding of 1811. In the east gable of the chancel is a circular panel with a Greek inscription.

⁷¹ The porch was designed by William Twopeny and built at the charge of Mary, Countess Dowager of Pomfret, in place of an old one of uncertain date. On the south-west buttress is 'A.D. 1837.' William Twopeny also designed the east end of the chancel.

⁷² Sir Henry Dryden in May 1850 noted that the chancel and nave had been 'done up a few years ago,' apparently since his former visit in April 1846: MS. in Northampton Public Library.

⁷³ The tympanum is 36 in. in diameter, 18 in. high and 4 in. thick. The tree has fourteen branches and the wheels seven

or eight spokes: see Keyser, *List of Norman Tympana*, 2nd ed. (1927), p. 11, fig. 42a; *Brit. Archaeol. Assoc. Jour.* xiv, n.s. p. 257, fig. 5; *Reliquary and Illust. Archaeol.* July 1909.

⁷⁴ They are not complete semicircles, the centres being slightly below the springing.

⁷⁵ The middle leaf on the west respond is enriched.

⁷⁶ The omission of a lowside window has been noted.

⁷⁷ It is 27 in. square and consists of a quatrefoil flower, each lobe of which is hollowed, and has a boss in the centre, round which are grouped eight drain holes. It was seen in a farmyard at Pickworth by the rector of Little Casterton, who in order to save it obtained leave to have it removed to his church (*Stamford Mercury* 2 May 1862).



LITTLE CASTERTON CHURCH FROM THE SOUTH

at Pickworth, placed here when the chancel was rebuilt. In the north wall is a rectangular aumbry. The lower part of a 15th-century chancel screen remains, with two wide panels on each side of the opening, and on the north side of the arch, its sill just above the springing, is a blocked square-headed rood-loft doorway.⁷⁸

The aisles are lighted laterally and at the west end by single lancet windows and at the east end by pointed windows of two trefoiled lights, with pierced spandrels and hoods with head-stops. In the north aisle the windows and the doorway are the old ones re-used, but the buttresses are modern. There is a string with chamfered edges at sill level round both aisles, and at the west end of the nave a lancet window high in the wall. The north doorway, now blocked, has a round arch of a single chamfered order on moulded impost, but the south doorway is pointed and apparently of 15th-century date, though much restored and perhaps altered when the porch was built. The ritual arrangements of the aisle altars remain, a trefoil-headed piscina with fluted bowl on the south side and a circular floor drain on the north, and there is a plain image bracket in each east wall. An old altar slab, discovered in 1908 under the flooring,⁷⁹ has been set up on the modern altar in the north aisle. A step extends across the east end of both nave and aisles about 6 ft. west of the chancel arch, and there is a second step at the entrance to the chancel. There are stone benches at the west end of the nave and aisles, above which is some good 17th-century oak panelling from a former reading-desk and pew.⁸⁰

The 13th-century bell-cote has two gables connected by a coped ridge and each terminating in a cross. The pointed openings are of a single chamfered order on shafted jambs with moulded capitals and bases. The supporting buttresses, added after the removal of the old high-pitched nave roof and the erection of the clearstory, are of two stages, with moulded plinths.⁸¹ The clearstory has two four-centred windows of two trefoiled lights on the south side, and on the north two almost flat-headed windows, the lights of which are cinquefoiled. The 15th-century oak roof, though restored, retains much original work and is of two main bays, with moulded intermediate pieces, at the base of which are shield-bearing angels and one playing a clarion; there are carved bosses at their intersection with the ridge and

purlins. The three principals have wall pieces on plain corbels.⁸² The oak roof of the south aisle is largely old, but the north aisle has a plaster ceiling.

The font has a plain octagonal bowl, rounded on the underside, and is probably not older than 1811; it stands on an octagonal stem and has a modern crocketed oak cover. The wooden pulpit and the seats⁸³ are modern.

In the south wall of the south aisle, between the windows, is a late 13th-century tomb recess, with richly moulded arch of two orders, on short filleted jambshafts with moulded capitals and bases. Below the arch is a mutilated 13th-century coffin slab with floriated cross,⁸⁴ and underneath it, the floor being sunk, a second and more perfect slab, probably of the early 14th century, with a very beautiful cross.⁸⁵ At the east end of the same aisle is a floor slab with illegible Norman-French inscription.

At the west end of the chancel floor is a large blue stone with brasses of Sir Thomas Burton of Toletorpe (d. 1381) and Margaret his wife (d. 1410), with Latin inscription about the verge,⁸⁶ and in the sanctuary inscribed slabs to Christopher Browne (1618) and Humfrey Hyde, rector (1754). In the north aisle is a memorial to four men of the parish who fell in the war of 1914-19.

There is some 14th-century grisaille glass in the heads of the two original lancets on the south side of the chancel.⁸⁷ There are traces of wall decoration on the south side of the south arcade.

The smaller of the two bells is blank; the other is dated 1608.⁸⁸

The plate consists of a cup and paten of 1805-6 and an almsdish of 1809-10.⁸⁹

The registers before 1812 are as follows: (i) all entries 1557-1726; (ii) baptisms and burials 1722-1812, marriages 1722-54; (iii) marriages 1754-1819.⁹⁰

The advowson was held by Walter *ADVOWSON* de Came, possibly sub-tenant of the manor, who presented in 1263.⁹¹ In 1283 the prior and canons of Newstead, near Stamford, presented,⁹² but their title seems to have been disputed, and Sir John de Oketon and Alice his wife presented William de Empingham within three months, and Empingham retained the living until his death in 1331.⁹³ In 1312 Alice de Seymour (St. Mauro) and Edmund de Seymour and Joan his wife conveyed the advowson to Walter Berdewell,⁹⁴ who was probably acting on behalf of John Neville of Stoke Dry, lord

⁷⁸ There are no traces of the lower doorway.

⁷⁹ *Trans. Rutl. Arch. Soc.* (1916), 45.

⁸⁰ The panelling was placed in its present position in 1908.

⁸¹ The buttresses are only 5 ft. apart and project 4 ft. 6 in. In 1619 the buttress on the north side of the church was in decay, and endangered that side of the church (Irons' Notes, Archd. Visit.).

⁸² One corbel on the south side is carved.

⁸³ The old box pews of deal were removed in 1908.

⁸⁴ The head is distinct from the stem: the slab is figured in Boutell's *Christian Monuments*, 22. The mutilation probably dates from 1811, when pews were erected covering the recess.

⁸⁵ There is a floriated cross at each end of the flowered stem. Before the removal of the pews in 1908 the lower slab had been hidden by the flooring. There are

indications that the cross is carved upon an older coffin lid.

⁸⁶ The knight wears a jupon over a short mail hauberk, and a collar of SS. There was a shield at each corner, only one of which, with the arms of Burton, remains. Parts of the inscription are gone; it read: 'Hic jacet Dominus Thomas Burton miles quondam dominus de Tolthorp ac ecclesie istius Patronus qui obiit kalendas Augusti ano. dni. mcccclxxxi et d'na Margerta uxor sua in ejus sinistris, quor. aiab 3. ppicietur Deus Amen': Wright, *Hist. of Rutl.* 37; *Trans. Rutl. Arch. Soc.* (1917), 69. On another stone in the chancel floor is a brass shield—per bend indented impaling an eagle displayed.

⁸⁷ It is white glass with a conventional design painted in black pigment, red border, and in the centre a red and gold rosette; it is said to have been originally in the east window. Blore in 1811 mentions 'a horseshoe and a device of a

merchant of the staple' amongst the glass then remaining: *Hist. of Rutl.* 12. The present east window contains good modern glass (1910) with figures of our Lord, St. Hubert and St. Francis of Assisi.

⁸⁸ North, *Cb. Bells of Rutl.* 126. The larger bell is by Tobie Norris I of Stamford: it is inscribed 'Cum voco venite.'

⁸⁹ Hope, *Cb. Plate in Rutl.* 12. All three pieces are believed to have been presented by the Rev. Richard Twopeny, rector; each bears a Greek inscription and the name 'Casterton Parva.'

⁹⁰ The first entry in the third volume is in 1756.

⁹¹ Irons' Notes, Linc. Episc. Reg. (Instit.).

⁹² *Ibid.*

⁹³ *Ibid.*

⁹⁴ Feet of F. Div. Cos. Trin. 5 Edw. II, no. 68.

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

of the manor of Little Casterton. In 1321 Henry le Scrope purchased the advowson with the manor from Neville,⁹⁵ and in the same year obtained licence to alienate the advowson to the prior of Newstead in exchange for all the lands that the prior held in Little Casterton.⁹⁶ The exchange, however, was not made, as Scrope presented in 1331⁹⁷ and died seized of the advowson in 1336,⁹⁸ and his widow, who married Hugh de Mortimer, presented in 1349 and 1352.⁹⁹ The advowson had passed to William de Burton of Tolethorpe manor by 1365, possibly when he founded a chantry in 1358, and his widow, Eleanor, presented in 1376.¹⁰⁰ Their son Thomas presented in 1427, but apparently during his absence abroad the presentations were made by John Basing.¹⁰¹ The advowson was sold with the manor of Tolethorpe to Christopher Browne in 1503, and from this time it followed the descent of the manor (q.v.) until the death in 1839 of Mary, daughter of Thomas Trollope Browne and

wife of George Fermor, Earl of Pomfret.¹⁰² Shortly after this date it was conveyed to Charles Compton Cavendish, created Baron Chesham, who presented in 1844, and it has since passed with the Chesham title, Lord Chesham being the present patron.

In 1358 William de Burton obtained licence to alienate lands in mortmain to endow two chaplains to celebrate divine service daily in the church of Little Casterton and the chapel of Tolethorpe, to pray for the souls of King Edward III and his mother Queen Isabel.¹⁰³ In 1360 Burton had licence to assign a rent from the manor of Conington (co. Hunt.) for the chaplains of a chantry he proposed to found in the chapel of Tolethorpe for the souls of King Edward III and himself.¹⁰⁴ This probably gives us the date of the foundation of the chapel of Tolethorpe under the name of the chantry.

There are no charities for this parish.

EMPINGHAM

Empingham (xi cent.); Empingeham (xii cent.); Empingham, Hemplingham, Amplingeham (xiii cent.).

Empingham is a large parish comprising 4,875 acres of a loamy soil. The greater part of the area is arable land, with about 400 acres of woodland. It was inclosed by Act of Parliament in 1794.¹ Early in the 19th century about 60 acres had been planted with young forest trees. There are numerous spinneys, and a considerable part of Normanton Park is in the parish.

The village lies at the intersection of the road from Exton to Ketton and the road from Oakham to Stamford, but a great part is built along both sides of the road from Empingham to the Great North Road. The River Gwash runs from west to east through the middle of the parish and passes to the south of the village, Empingham Mill, now disused, being about half a mile to the east. The North Brook marks the end of the village to the east. It is traditionally supposed that the village extended southward as far as the river and eastward as far as Chapel Hill, where in Chapel Spinney, on the north side, Blore states that by tradition there was a chapel of St. Botolph or Botleys. The ruins are marked on some old maps, and there are here many suggestive irregularities in the ground, which is much overgrown. It is conjectured that this may have been the site of the fairs held for three days at the feast of St. Botolph, under grant dated 1318. There was also a weekly market held under the same grant,² indicating that Empingham was a place of more importance than it subsequently became. In 1445 the hamlet of Hardwick was said to be devastated and uninhabitable; possibly Empingham was also then declining in importance.³

The church stands in the south part of the village, with the Rectory to the south-west of it. West of

the Rectory are some old thatched cottages, while other groups of old cottages stand a little to the east of the fine Tithe Barn and in the neighbourhood of the North Brook. In the middle of the village are some well-built modern cottages bearing the arms of the Earl of Gainsborough. The moat in Hall Close, to the south-west of the village, marks the site of the ancient manor house, no doubt the hall (aula) which Ralph de Normanville was building in 1221 and where in 1272 Sir Thomas de Normanville had licence to found a chapel.⁴

Hardwick, which comprises the part of the parish lying north of Ermine Street, was at one time a hamlet of importance, but now survives only in the names of Hardwick Wood, Hardwick Farm and cottages. Here, where the Great North Road crosses the parish, was fought the battle of Loosecoat Field on 12 March 1470, when the Lancastrian forces, led by Sir Robert Welles, were routed by Edward IV; Lord Willoughby, the father of Sir Robert, who had been brought by the king as a hostage for the doings of his son, was beheaded in front of his son's army before the battle.⁵ The battle was fought in 'Hornefeld' in Empingham,⁶ and the name of a small wood beside the road at this point, Bloody Oaks, probably has reference to this occurrence.

The five mills in 1086 on the Gand fee, and the mill and a half in the Peverel fee, which must have been on the River Gwash and its tributary the North Brook, were reduced to two mills in 1557,⁷ and Empingham Mill, the sole survivor, is now disused.

A tenement in Empingham held by Francis Mackworth was given for finding a torch at the second mass on Christmas Day.⁸ This was converted into a yearly rent of 6s. 8d. This rent and 2 acres of meadow called Coblers Croft in 'le Southfeld' or 'le Capell Fielde' given for finding a lamp in the church, were granted

⁹⁵ Feet of F. Div. Cos. East. 14 Edw. II, no. 34.

⁹⁶ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1321-24, pp. 3, 9.

⁹⁷ Irons' Notes, loc. cit.

⁹⁸ Chan. Inq. p.m. 10 Edw. III (1st nos.), no. 47.

⁹⁹ Irons' Notes, loc. cit.

¹⁰⁰ *Ibid.* ¹⁰¹ *Ibid.*

¹⁰² Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 40 Geo. III.

¹⁰³ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1358-61, p. 129.

¹⁰⁴ *Ibid.* 451.

¹ The Inclosure Award was in the possession of Lord Aveland in 1876, when he was asked to hand it over to the churchwardens. In 1916 it was still in the possession of the Earl of Ancaster (*R. Com. on Pub. Rec. App. to 3rd Rep. vol. iii, pt. ii, p. 35*).

² *Cal. Chart. R.* 1300-26, p. 395.

³ Chan. Inq. p.m. 24 Hen. VI, no. 41.

⁴ Blore, *Hist. Rutl.* 141, quoting deed of Sir Thos. Mackworth.

⁵ *Rutl. Mag.* i, 186-94.

⁶ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1467-77, p. 508.

⁷ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), cxxiv, 155.

⁸ Chant. Certif. 39, no. 12.

in 1550 to Thomas Reve, John Johnson and Henry Herdson.⁹

At the time of the Domesday Survey, *MANORS* Empingham was held as two manors by Gilbert de Gand. One contained 4 hides, with 5 mills rendering 42s. 8d., and the other 7½ hides and 1 bovate of the king's sokeland of Rutland, and 'he says that the king is his patron.' On the latter estate there were also 5 mills.¹⁰

By the time of Henry II or earlier¹¹ Roger Mowbray had acquired the overlordship, possibly by marriage with Alice or Adeliza de Gand, who was probably related to Gilbert de Gand, Earl of Lincoln, grandson of Gilbert de Gand the Domesday holder of Empingham.¹² Sir Roger de Mowbray, great-grandson of the above Roger, was holding in 1259,¹³ and the overlordship descended with the title of Lord Mowbray. Thomas Mowbray, Duke of Norfolk (d. 1400), held two fees in Empingham,¹⁴ which in 1432 were said to be held of the manor of Melton Mowbray (co. Leics.),¹⁵ and in 1445 of the manor of Hameldon.¹⁶ John Mowbray, Duke of Norfolk, the last of the line, died without male issue in 1476. His widow Elizabeth held Empingham in 1487¹⁷ and died in 1507. After her death the overlordship passed to the Lords Berkeley, to whom half the estates of the Duke of Norfolk had passed.¹⁸

The manor of Empingham was given by Roger de Mowbray to Ralph de Normanville¹⁹ for his services. Ralph seems to have forfeited it, for Roger later restored it to Gerold de Normanville, possibly Ralph's son, to whom it was confirmed by King Henry II.²⁰ Gerold was living in 1164-5. By an undated charter, he granted to Geoffrey de la Mare in frank marriage with Mary, his daughter, at the door of the church of St. Peter in Stamford, lands and rent in Empingham.²¹

Ralph, said to be son of Gerold de Normanville, paid 40s. for a writ of right in 1170²² and was in possession of Empingham in 1205, when he obtained a grant of free warren there.²³ King John by the same charter granted him the county of Rutland at farm, for which grants Ralph agreed to pay 60 marks, a destrier or war horse, and a palfrey.²⁴ At about the same time Ralph

inherited from his uncle, Reginald de Normanville, land in Rouceby and Rokesham (co. Linc.).²⁵

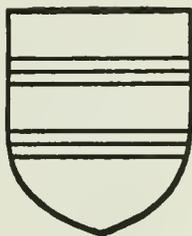
In the early years of the reign of King John, Ralph de Normanville was apparently in the king's favour, and in 1213 served with Ralph de Bray as Marshal of the king's army in England.²⁶ In the same year he was appointed to make inquiry as to damage done to churches in the diocese of Lincoln, during the late disturbances in the kingdom.²⁷ Later he joined the rebellion against King John, and though he was pardoned,²⁸ severe conditions were imposed upon him. Gerold his son, and one of his knights, William de Badlesmere, had been taken prisoner, and for their release and his own pardon, Ralph was required to pay 500 marks and 5 palfreys of 25 marks. Of this, 250 marks and 25 marks for the palfreys was to be paid before the release of Gerold and William de Badlesmere, and two other of Ralph's sons, Geoffrey and Thomas, were to be delivered to the king to be held as hostages until Ralph made two further payments of £100 at Easter and 100 marks at Whitsun. After payment of these sums, Ralph was further required to give the king his charter of faithful service, when one of his two sons should be released, the other being retained as a hostage for the faithful service of Ralph and his son Gerold.²⁹

After the death of King John, Ralph made an agreement with King Henry III whereby his two sons, Sir Gerold and Sir Ralph, should be pledged to the king's service while the war lasted, and the king should remit 200 marks of Ralph's fine. Thomas, younger son of Ralph, then a valet, who was still held as a hostage, was to be released and to serve the king with his two brothers. Geoffrey³⁰ apparently had been already released, as his name is not mentioned in the agreement. Ralph himself was going on a pilgrimage to Santiago, but was pledged to go direct, and return that he might enter the king's service with his sons.³¹ By February 1217 he had paid his fine and his son Thomas had been released and his lands restored.³² In 1221 the king gave him six oaks from the Forest of Clive for beams to be used in building his hall at Empingham.³³ He was constable of Stamford in 1221,³⁴ and it was he, probably, who served in 1225 as a justice of the forest for the perambulation of the Forest of Rutland.³⁵ The date of his death is not known, but an incomplete entry on the Pipe Roll of 1230 suggests that his son Ralph had then succeeded him.³⁶

The younger Ralph and Thomas his brother were pledged in 1222 for the payment of William Mauduit's relief.³⁷ Both of them forfeited their lands in Kent in 1223.³⁸ Ralph's offence, and probably that of Thomas, was that he took part in a tournament at Blythe notwithstanding the king's prohibition.³⁹



MOWBRAY. Gules a lion argent.



NORMANVILLE. Gules a fesse cotised argent.

⁹ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1549-51, p. 380.

¹⁰ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 142.

¹¹ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1494-1509, p. 268.

¹² *Dict. Nat. Biog.* Roger Mowbray;

G.E.C. *Complete Peerage*, v, 672.

¹³ *Cal. Inq. Hen. III*, no. 421.

¹⁴ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 1 Hen. IV, pt. 1, no. 71b, m. 15.

¹⁵ *Ibid.* 11 Hen. VI, no. 43.

¹⁶ *Ibid.* 24 Hen. VI, no. 41.

¹⁷ *Cal. Inq. Hen. VII*, i, no. 300.

¹⁸ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), lviii, 74; cxxiv, 155.

¹⁹ Ralph and Gerold de Normanville were witnesses to the foundation of the

Abbey of St. Mary, Huntingdon, by Simon, Earl of Northampton, in 1146-7: *Geneal.* (New Ser.), 13, 15.

²⁰ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1494-1509, p. 268.

²¹ *Blore*, op. cit. 124; *Pipe R. Soc.* viii, 57.

²² *Ibid.* 16 Hen. II, p. 147; *Geneal.* (New Ser.), 13, 15.

²³ *Rot. Chant. Jobn* (Rec. Com.), 149.

²⁴ *Pipe R.* 7 John, m. 50; *Rot. de Oblat. et Fin.* (Rec. Com.), 268.

²⁵ *Curia Reg. R.* iv, 299; v, 84.

²⁶ *Rot. Litt. Claus.* (Rec. Com.), i, 164.

²⁷ *Ibid.*

²⁸ *Ibid.* 260.

²⁹ *Rot. de Oblat. et Fin.* 576.

³⁰ A Geoffrey de Normanville, tenant of Ingram de Frenes, is mentioned in 1252 (*Cal. Close R.* 1251-2, p. 229).

³¹ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1216-25, pp. 33, 108.

³² *Ibid.* 33; *Rot. Litt. Claus.* (Rec. Com.), i, 318.

³³ *Ibid.* 449.

³⁴ *Ibid.* 451.

³⁵ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1216-25, p. 569.

³⁶ *Pipe R. Soc.* (New Ser.), iv, 324.

³⁷ *Excerpt. e Rot. Fin.* i, 87.

³⁸ *Rot. Litt. Claus.* (Rec. Com.), i, 568.

³⁹ *Ibid.* i, 545.

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

The tournament was the cause of a quarrel between nobles and led to great disorders.⁴⁰

It was probably the younger Ralph who, with A[gatha] his wife, founded a chapel at Catesby (co. Northant.) in 1228,⁴¹ had a gift of 2 does from the forest of Clive for the use of his wife in 1230,⁴² and who served on an assize of arms in Rutland in the same year.⁴³ He was keeper of escheats in Rutland in 1232 and collector of an aid 3 years later.⁴⁴ It was probably this same Ralph who, with Agatha his wife, was involved in a suit in 1240 as to land in Lubbethorp (co. Leic.).⁴⁵ In 1241 he was one of the surveyors of the king's castles in Northamptonshire.⁴⁶ Ralph de Normanville seems to have died shortly after this date and to have been succeeded by his brother Thomas, or possibly a son of that name. Thomas de Normanville died seised of the family estate at Kenardington (co. Kent) in 1245 and was succeeded by his heir, Ralph, probably his son.⁴⁷ Ralph de Normanville set out on a pilgrimage to Santiago in April 1259⁴⁸ and died before May following, probably on the journey. He died seised of the manor of Empingham,⁴⁹ and his widow Galiena had dower there.⁵⁰ Galiena paid 300 marks for the wardship of Ralph's lands and heir and for her own marriage,⁵¹ and in 1261, at the instance of her kinsman Geoffrey Rawe, a Knight Templar, she was exempted from suits of county, hundred and other courts for three years.⁵² Thomas, her eldest son, was only two and a half years old at his father's death.⁵³ He inherited the manor of Empingham, but Kenardington (co. Kent) was divided between him and his brother Ralph, according to the law of gavelkind.⁵⁴ Thomas died in 1282, leaving Ralph, his brother, heir to his Kent property,⁵⁵ but Margaret, his daughter, a minor, seems to have been heir to his Rutland estates. His widow, Denise or Dionisia, was assigned dower from the Kent estates, and the wardship of his lands was granted to John de Lovetot,⁵⁶ who sold it and the marriage of Margaret in 1294 to Robert de Basing, citizen of London.⁵⁷ Margaret was destined to marry Robert's son Reginald when she came of age, if she would consent, but in 1297 Reginald was taken prisoner in Gascony while in the king's service. His father therefore obtained leave to marry Margaret to another son, William, if she consented on coming of age.⁵⁸

Much of the Rutland property had been subinfeudated to a Thomas de Normanville, possibly a brother of Ralph who married Galiena and died in 1259. Thomas held a knight's fee in Empingham of Ralph by the rent of a sparrow-hawk at the time of Ralph's death.⁵⁹ He, or perhaps a son of the same name, was a minister of considerable importance under Edward I, being constable of Bamburgh Castle, steward of the king's castles beyond the Trent, justice of assize, justice of the forest and escheator north of the Trent.⁶⁰

Like other successful ministers of the Crown at this date, he probably amassed a fortune and invested it in property in the counties of Nottingham and Rutland. He died in 1295, seised of a capital messuage and 4 bovates of land in Empingham held of Margery or Margaret de Normanville by the rent of a sparrow-hawk, another capital messuage and 10 bovates of land in Empingham and Hardwick held of William le Waleys, together with other lands in Empingham held of Margaret de Normanville and others, and lands in Horn (q.v.) and Normanton (q.v.). His son and heir Edmund was aged four years. Edmund died before 1316, and Margaret and her husband William de Basing succeeded to his property.⁶¹

Margaret de Normanville married William de Basing shortly after 1297. In 1313 her mother Denise claimed the whole manor of Empingham as a gift from Thomas her husband before their marriage, but Margaret and William contended that she was only entitled to a third as dower.⁶² A verdict was given in Denise's favour, but it was later reversed,⁶³ and in 1317 Margaret settled two-thirds of the manor on herself and her children,⁶⁴ and in 1321 she and her second husband confirmed one-third to Denise for life.⁶⁵

William de Basing died in 1316, leaving a son Thomas aged 15 years.⁶⁶ Margaret afterwards married Edmund de Passelew, and in 1318 they received a grant of a weekly market on Thursdays at Empingham and a yearly fair on the vigil, day and morrow of St. Botolph.⁶⁷ Margaret died about 1341⁶⁸ and her son Sir Thomas de Basing in 1349.⁶⁹ His son and heir John, aged eight at the death of his father, died in 1384, leaving a widow Elizabeth and a son Thomas.⁷⁰ In 1400 Thomas died without issue and was succeeded by Sir John, his brother.⁷¹ Sir John had no legitimate children, and in 1439 granted the manors of Empingham and Normanton and the advowson of Normanton to trustees. In the same year these trustees conveyed the property to Agnes Brounfield, servant of Sir John de Basing, for life and in 1445 granted the reversion after Agnes's death to John de Basing, Sir John's illegitimate son. Sir John died in 1445, his lawful heir being his sister Alice, widow of Thomas Mackworth of Mackworth (co. Derby), then aged 50 years and more.⁷² Agnes Brounfield probably died shortly after Sir John, for John, his illegitimate son, presented to the church of Normanton in 1447. John appears to have died in the following year, as Alice Mackworth then presented to Normanton and again in 1452 and 1457.⁷³ Alice apparently died before 1484 and was



BASING. Azure a millrind cross or with a bazon gules over all.

⁴⁰ Matth. Paris, *Cbron. Maj.* (Rolls Ser.), iii, 404.

⁴¹ *Roi. Hug. de Welles* (Cant. and York Soc.), p. 228.

⁴² *Cal. Close R.* 1227-31, p. 283.

⁴³ *Ibid.* 401.

⁴⁴ *Ibid.* 1231-4, p. 131; 1234-7, p. 191.

⁴⁵ *Abbrev. Plac.* (Rec. Com.), 113.

⁴⁶ *Cal. Close R.* 1237-42, p. 346.

⁴⁷ *Cal. Inq. Hen. III*, i, 55.

⁴⁸ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1258-66, p. 20.

⁴⁹ *Cal. Inq. Hen. III*, i, 421.

⁵⁰ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1258-66, p. 33.

⁵¹ *Excerpt. e Rot. Fin.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 309; *Cal. Pat. R.* 1258-66, p. 37.

⁵² *Ibid.* p. 157.

⁵³ *Cal. Inq. Hen. III*, i, no. 421.

⁵⁴ *Cal. Fine R.* 1272-1307, pp. 172, 187;

Cal. Inq. ii, no. 479.

⁵⁵ *Ibid.*

⁵⁶ *Cal. Fine R.* 1272-1307, p. 187.

⁵⁷ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1292-1301, p. 80.

⁵⁸ *Ibid.* 231-2.

⁵⁹ *Cal. Inq. Hen. III*, i, no. 421.

⁶⁰ See *Cal. Fine R.* 1272-1307, pp. 55-356 passim. For identification with Thomas de Normanville of Empingham, see record of death on pp. 353, 356.

⁶¹ *Cal. Inq. iii*, no. 253.

⁶² *Assize R.* no. 1350, m. 56.

⁶³ *Abbrev. Plac.* (Rec. Com.), 329.

⁶⁴ Feet of F. Rutl. file 5, no. 22.

⁶⁵ *Ibid.* no. 33.

⁶⁶ *Cal. Inq. v*, no. 566.

⁶⁷ *Cal. Chart. R.* 1300-26, p. 395.

⁶⁸ *Cal. Inq. viii*, no. 422.

⁶⁹ *Ibid.* ix, nos. 317, 318.

⁷⁰ Chan. Inq. p.m. 7 Ric. II, no. 6. Proof of age, *ibid.* 37 Edw. III (1st nos.), no. 16; *Cal. Close R.* 1381-5, p. 502.

⁷¹ Chan. Inq. p.m. 1 Hen. IV, no. 48; Blore, *Hist. Rudl.* 127.

⁷² Chan. Inq. p.m. 24 Hen. VI, no. 41.

⁷³ Irons' Notes, Linc. Epis. Reg. (Instit.).

succeeded by her son Henry, who died in 1487 and was followed by his grandson George, his son John having predeceased him.⁷⁴ George in 1501 obtained confirmation of the grant by Henry II to Gerold de Normanville.⁷⁵ George Mackworth died in 1535, leaving a son Francis,⁷⁶ who died in 1557.⁷⁷ His son George died in 1594, leaving a son Thomas by his first wife, Grace Rokeby,⁷⁸ and a widow Anne. Thomas was sheriff of Rutland in 1599 and 1609⁷⁹ and created a baronet in 1619.⁸⁰ He settled the estates in 1622,⁸¹ probably on the marriage of his son Henry to Mary, widow of Sir Thomas Hartopp, sister and co-heir of Ralph, Lord Hopton of Stratton.⁸² Sir Henry Mackworth, who succeeded to the title in 1626, rebuilt the manor house at Normanton, where he resided, and died there in 1640.⁸³ His son Sir Thomas,

also of Normanton, took the oath of allegiance in 1641, probably on coming of age.⁸⁴ He espoused the Royalist cause before he was of age and lived in the Low Countries until 1646, when he and his uncle, Neale Mackworth, were fined for delinquency.⁸⁵ Neale compounded on the Truro Articles, being present with his relation Lord Hopton on the surrender of Truro to Sir Thomas Fairfax.⁸⁶ Sir Thomas Mackworth was sheriff for

Rutland in 1666 and member for the county in several parliaments. He was succeeded in 1694 by Sir Thomas Mackworth his son, who⁸⁷ contested the election for the county in 1722 with Lord Finch and Mr. Sherard, and, though he was returned, the expenses of the election are said by Blore to have ruined the family.⁸⁸ Sir Thomas Mackworth sold Empingham manor in 1723 to Charles Tryon, who conveyed it in 1729 to Gilbert Heathcote,⁸⁹ merchant, eldest of the eight sons of Gilbert Heathcote of Chesterfield (co. Derby). All Gilbert's brothers were Merchant Adventurers, he himself being a member of the Vintners' Company of London, trading in Spanish wine to Jamaica and the East Indies. In 1693 he disputed the monopoly claimed by the East India Company to trade with India, at the bar of the House of Commons, and the House upheld his claim to trade where he pleased. Heathcote served as a Director of the new East India Company and was one of the founders of the Bank of England, of which he was Governor in 1708. He was President of St. Thomas's Hospital, and a portrait of him is still

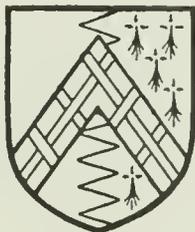
preserved in the court room there. He was Lord Mayor of London in 1710-11, being the last who rode on horseback on Lord Mayor's day.⁹⁰ He rebuilt the manor house at Normanton, and was buried at Normanton in January 1733, only eight days after he had been created a baronet. He was reputed to be the richest commoner in England, being worth at his death £700,000, besides having large estates in Lincolnshire and elsewhere in Rutland.⁹¹

His son, Sir John Heathcote, was also a director of the East India Company and President in 1722 of St. Thomas's Hospital, a trustee of the British Museum and Vice-President of the Foundling Hospital. He was succeeded in 1759 by his son, Sir Gilbert Heathcote, who was sheriff of Rutland 1771-2, and M.P. for Shaftesbury 1761-68. He in turn was succeeded in 1785 by his son Gilbert, M.P. for Rutland in nine Parliaments, 1812-41, who died in 1851. His eldest son, Gilbert John, married the Hon. Clementina Elizabeth Burrell-Drummond, who became in 1871 Baroness Willoughby de Eresby in her own right. Gilbert, a distinguished Whig politician, who was created Baron Aveland of Aveland (co. Linc.) in 1856, was buried at Normanton 13 Sept. 1867. His widow died in 1888 and was buried with him. She took for herself and her issue the surname Heathcote-Drummond-Willoughby and her son Gilbert Henry, who had succeeded his father at Normanton in 1867, became Lord Willoughby de Eresby, and joint Hereditary Great Chamberlain on her death. He was created Earl of Ancaster in 1892⁹² and was succeeded in 1910 by his son Gilbert, who had been baptised at Normanton in 1867, and who is the present owner.

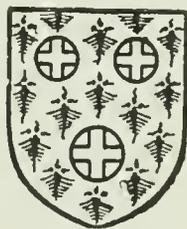
The hamlet of *HARDWICK* and part of Empingham were held in the time of Edward the Confessor by Edward and Fredgis, but they were given by William the Conqueror to William Peverel of Nottingham,⁹³ said, with little authority, to have been his illegitimate son.

William Peverel was holding the overlordship in 1086 and died in 1114. He was succeeded by his son William, a strong supporter of King Stephen. He was taken prisoner at the Battle of Lincoln in 1141, when his lands were seized, but returned in 1143. Henry Fitz Empress in 1153 promised Ranulf, Earl of Chester, Peverel's lands, on condition of his support, whereupon Peverel, it is said, poisoned the Earl of Chester a few months later. William became a monk and his lands were seized by Henry II in 1155. The manor continued to be held of the Peverel fee.⁹⁴

The subtenant of the manor in 1086 was Sasfrid, who held 2½ hides with a mill and a half rendering 12s.⁹⁵ He endowed Lenton Priory, founded by William Peverel, with two-thirds of the tithes of his demesne in Empingham, about 1103-8.⁹⁶ Sasfrid is said to have had a son Philip whose son, Richard son of Philip, joined with Richard L'Abbé (Abbas) in giving a



MACKWORTH. Party indented sable and ermine a cheveron gules fretty or.



HEATHCOTE. Ermine three roundels vert each charged with a cross or.

⁷⁴ *Cal. Inq.* Hen. VII, i, no. 300; Feet of F. Rutl. file 10, no. 7.

⁷⁵ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1494-1509, p. 268.

⁷⁶ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), lviii, 74.

⁷⁷ *Ibid.* cxiv, 155.

⁷⁸ *Ibid.* ccxlii, 74.

⁷⁹ List of Sheriffs (P.R.O.), 114.

⁸⁰ G.E.C. *Complete Baronetage*, i, 122.

⁸¹ Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 20 Jas. I.

⁸² G.E.C. loc. cit.

⁸³ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), cccxciii, 118.

⁸⁴ *Cal. S.P. Dom.* 1640-1, p. 580.

⁸⁵ *Cal. of Com. for Comp.* p. 1605.

⁸⁶ *Ibid.* p. 1757; *Visit. Rutl.* 1681-2 (Harl. Soc.), p. 11.

⁸⁷ G.E.C. loc. cit.

⁸⁸ Blore, op. cit. 132; for settlements see Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 1652; Mich. 12 Will. III.

⁸⁹ *Recov. R.* Mich. 10 Geo. I, ro. 224; Feet of F. Rutl. East. 2 Geo. II; Blore, loc. cit.

⁹⁰ G.E.C. *Complete Baronetage*, v, 73-5; *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

⁹¹ G.E.C. loc. cit.

⁹² *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), i, 130.

⁹³ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 141.

⁹⁴ The Peverel fee has been traced in *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), iv, p. 761, et seq.; Farrer, *Honors and Knights' Fees*, i, 202; *V.C.H. Northants*, iii, 267-8.

⁹⁵ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 141.

⁹⁶ Dugdale, *Mon. Angl.* v, 108; Blore, op. cit. 142-3; *Cal. Pap. Lett.* i, 19; *Cal. Pat. R.* 1381-5, 187.

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

carucate of land in Empingham to the Abbey of St. Mary de Pré (co. Leic.) by a grant confirmed by Henry II in 1156.⁹⁷ Geoffrey L'Abbé was pardoned 10s. 10d. of the common assize of Rutland in 1158 and died in 1164 or 1165. Richard son of Geoffrey paid relief in Nottinghamshire in 1166, and in the following year Richard L'Abbé, we find, was tenant of land in Empingham.⁹⁸ He seems to have died in 1167 or 1168, as Empingham was in the king's hands in the latter year, probably on account of the heir being a minor. It was still in the king's hands in 1174. A Geoffrey L'Abbé occurs in 1177 and 1183, but in 1187 Empingham was again in the king's hands. Richard L'Abbé, however, paid scutage on a fee in Rutland in 1196.⁹⁹ He was dead in 1205, when the custody of his lands and marriage of his son were granted to Ralph de Normanville.¹ The heir of Richard L'Abbé was holding in 1211-12.² Nicholas L'Abbé, holding one fee in Empingham in 1235, was probably son of Richard, and in 1248 Peter son of Roger obtained the wardship of the land of the heir of Agnes, daughter of Nicholas L'Abbé, in Empingham, held of the honour of Peverel.³ This holding seems to have got into the hands of Ralph de Normanville (d. 1259), who, as stated above, subinfeudated Thomas de Normanville. In 1275 it is stated that Thomas held a tenement in Empingham of the fee of Peverel which used to do suit at Nottingham Castle 40 years before, but then did suit at the county court. Thomas at the same time claimed view of frankpledge, gallows, assize of bread and ale, pillory and tumbrel,⁴ in Empingham, no doubt in respect of the manor of Empingham, which he held of the elder branch of the Normanville family.

He died about June 1295, holding at Hardwick a capital messuage with pond and dovecot, worth only half a mark because of great deductions for the houses, ten bovates of land in villeinage and a wood, held of William le Waleys in exchange for lands in Thorpe, by the service of a pair of gilt spurs.⁵ On the death of his son Edmund the estate passed to Margaret de Basing, and is described in 1316 as a 'manerettum' of Thomas de Normanville.⁶ It subsequently passed with Empingham manor to the Heathcotes.

In Blore's time the manor of Hardwick contained 358 acres.⁷

William le Daneys was holding land of the manor of Empingham in 1259.⁸ The land afterwards passed to Brice Daneys, and in 1344 it was conveyed with the manor of Tickencote by Oger Daneys to his brother Roland.⁹ Roland and his wife Elizabeth obtained a further grant of land in Empingham in 1361 from Thomas son and heir of Roger de Denford.¹⁰ This land passed with Tickencote to the families of Dale, Lynne, Campinet, Gresham and Wingfield, and was in 1811 the property of John Wingfield of Tickencote.¹¹

Another estate in Empingham was held by a family taking the name of Empingham. Philip son of Richard de Empingham granted to Hugh de Bokeland, by deed said to be of the time of Henry III, five bovates of land in Empingham, and in 1288 Ralph son of John de Empingham confirmed a charter by which John, son of Ralph de Empingham, his father, had granted to Thomas, son of Hugh de Bokeland, a bovate of land in Empingham.¹² Philip de Empingham was a witness to the charter, and in 1291 Richard son of Philip de Empingham had a suit regarding his pasture in Empingham.¹³ In 1312 Geoffrey son of Henry de Empingham recovered his seisin of land in Empingham against William de Basing and Margaret his wife.¹⁴ This land afterwards passed to the Whittlebury family. Seven messuages and 10 bovates of land in Empingham, including the reversion of land which Henry Stacy and Cecily his wife held for life, were granted in 1346 by William de Thorp and Beatrice his wife to Aubrey (Albreudus) de Whittlebury (Wytlesbury) and Joan his wife in fee tail.¹⁵ Joan outlived Aubrey and died in 1368 holding 5 messuages and 10 bovates of land in Empingham. Her eldest son Thomas had predeceased her, and she was succeeded by John, her second son.¹⁶ John Whittlebury, in 1369, leased the property to Richard Dawe of Empingham and Sarah his wife for their lives¹⁷ and died in 1400, when his son Aubrey Whittlebury succeeded.¹⁸ Aubrey died seven years later¹⁹ holding this land jointly with Margery his wife. His infant daughter and heiress, Isabella, afterwards became the second wife of Sir Henry Plessington, whose first wife was Agnes, daughter of Roger Flore or Flower of Oakham. In 1457 Isabella conveyed to Richard Galway her servant all the lands which had belonged to her father in Empingham, including 7 messuages and 140 acres of land.²⁰

The Knights of St. John of Jerusalem at an early date held land in Empingham, forming part of the Preceptory of Dingley. Twelve bovates there had been granted to them before 1185 by Alice de Condi, and of these Wlwiet held two bovates and Odo the Deacon held one.²¹ In 1382 Sir Thomas de Burton, lord of Whitwell, held this land of the prior, jointly with Margery his wife, who obtained livery of it in November of that year.²² From this date the property followed the descent of the adjoining manor of Whitwell until 1572, when it passed by exchange from Sir John Harington of Exton to George Mackworth.²³ From that date it became part of the manor of Empingham.

Sir John Harington's tenants in Empingham were sued by Francis Mackworth, lord of Empingham manor, for taking wood and fuel on Empingham Common. They stated that the tenants of Whitwell manor in Empingham had always had common of estovers in the waste and common of Empingham with the other

⁹⁷ *Cal. Cbart. R.* 1300-26, p. 381
Farrer, *op. cit.* i, 219.

⁹⁸ *Ibid.* 219, 220.

⁹⁹ *Ibid.*

¹ *Pipe R.* 7 John, m. 5d; *Rot. de Oblat. et Fin.* (Rec. Com.), 308.

² *Red Bk. of Exch.* (Rolls Ser.), 585.

³ Farrer, *op. cit.* 221.

⁴ *Rot. Hund.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 53.

⁵ *Cal. Inq.* iii, 253.

⁶ *Ibid.* v, 566.

⁷ Blore, *op. cit.* 113.

⁸ *Ibid.* 135.

⁹ *Cal. Close R.* 1343-6, 336.

¹⁰ *Ibid.* 1360-64, 243.

¹¹ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), lix, 44; cxcv, 58; *Cal. Pat. R.* 1550-53, p. 60; Feet of F. Rutl. East. 34 Eliz.; 25 Chas. II; Mich. 5 Anne; *Chan. Proc.* (Ser. ii), bdle. 41, no. 54; Blore, *op. cit.* 135.

¹² *Ibid.* 134. It is possible Sastrid's descendants may have taken the name of Empingham.

¹³ *Abbrev. Rot. Orig.* (Rec. Com.), i, 69.

¹⁴ *Ibid.* 191.

¹⁵ Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 20 Edw. III, no. 41.

¹⁶ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 43 Edw. III (1st nos.), pt. 2, no. 44; *Cal. Close R.* 1369-74, p. 19.

¹⁷ Blore, *op. cit.* 135.

¹⁸ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 1 Hen. IV, pt. 1, no. 41.

¹⁹ *Ibid.* 8 Hen. IV, no. 48.

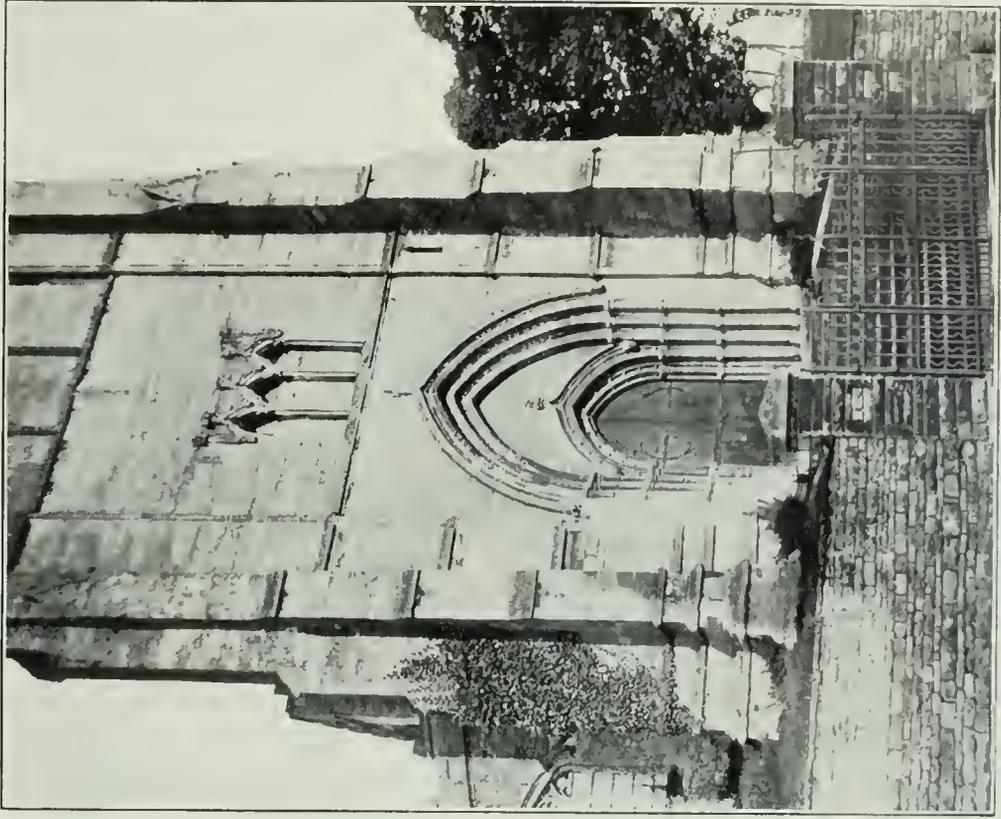
²⁰ Blore, *loc. cit.*

²¹ *Ibid.*

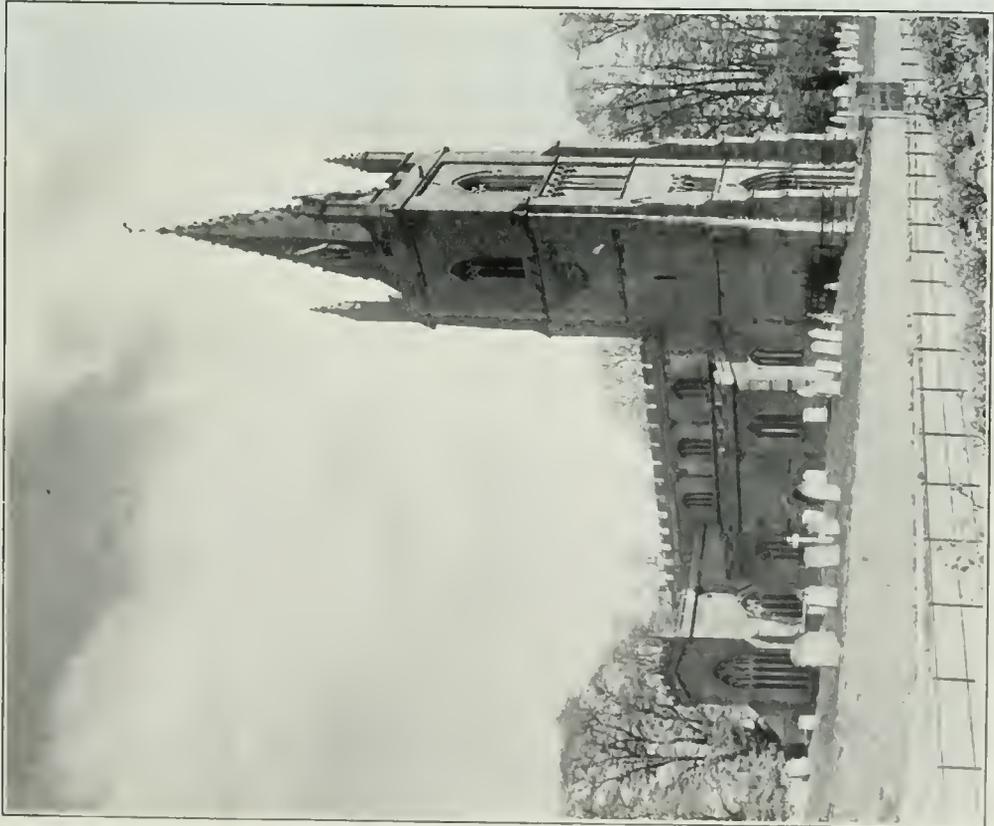
²² *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 6 Ric. II, no. 19;

Cal. Close R. 1381-5, p. 175.

²³ Blore, *loc. cit.*



EMPINGHAM CHURCH: THE WEST DOORWAY



EMPINGHAM CHURCH FROM THE NORTH-WEST



EMPINGHAM CHURCH: THE INTERIOR, LOOKING EAST

freeholders of Empingham. Mackworth denied that any part of Whitwell²⁴ manor lay in Empingham. Apparently he claimed under a lease from Dingley Preceptory, for in a further action in 1545 it is stated that he had caused a mere or division to be made between his land and that of Sir John, but the latter caused the quicksetts to be pulled down, as they encroached on his land. Mackworth further complained that a great bank, which carried the water to the mills from time immemorial, was broken down at the command of Sir John, so that the mills could no longer grind. Sir John pleaded that long before the mills were built there was a water-course on the west part above the mills, which ran through Sir John's ground, and an ancestor of Mackworth built the bank on Sir John's land, causing the stream to be turned from its old course and conveyed another way to the mills. Mackworth had recently had the bank remade much higher, and for this purpose he had taken turves and wood on Sir John's ground, and therefore Sir John gave orders for it to be pulled down.²⁵

An estate in Empingham comprising a capital messuage and land was held of the lords of Empingham by the Edmunds family. Guy Edmunds was succeeded in 1521 by a son Bartholomew.²⁶ James Edmunds died seised of the estate in 1626, when his son Bartholomew succeeded.²⁷ Bartholomew settled this estate in May 1628 on his marriage with Alice Austin, but he died childless in August of that year, leaving as his heir his nephew Robert, son of Geoffrey Edmunds.²⁸

The church of Empingham and three bovates of land, later known as the *PREBENDAL MANOR*, were given to the Bishop of Lincoln by Gilbert de Gand and confirmed by Henry I, who also gave to the church of Lincoln 6 bovates in Willingham (co. Linc.) which became annexed to the Prebendal manor of Empingham.²⁹ The king in his confirmation commanded that if the Count of Eu had disseised the bishop, Aubrey the Chamberlain should forthwith reiseise him.³⁰

This manor was leased from time to time by the prebendaries. Nicholas Bullingham, the prebendary, in 1552 stipulated with his lessee that he should have house-room whenever he came to visit his prebend.³¹ In 1554 the bishop annexed the prebend of Empingham to the precentorship of the cathedral.³²

In 1649 the trustees for the sale of Dean and Chapter lands sold to Charles Skipwith, of Staple Inn, the manor, the capital messuage and a close of pasture on the south side of the messuage abutting on Sir Thomas Mackworth's land on the east and the river on the south, with the fishing in Cherry Willingham.³³ Later the Mackworths of Empingham obtained leases of the Prebendal manor.³⁴ In 1723 Sir Thomas Mackworth transferred his lease to Charles Tryon, and the lords of the manor afterwards leased the Prebendal manor on terms of three lives from the prebendary. The ancient prebendal house

was on the south-east side of the church, but at the time of the inclosure in 1794 the house was exchanged with Sir Gilbert Heathcote for the present prebendal house, which is in the village.³⁵

The church of *ST. PETER* consists of *CHURCH* chancel 35 ft. by 19 ft. 6 in., north and south transeptal chapels each 23 ft. 6 in. by 14 ft. 6 in., clearstoried nave 54 ft. by 23 ft., north and south aisles 10 ft. 6 in. wide, south porch 13 ft. by 10 ft. 6 in., and west tower 12 ft. square, all these measurements being internal. The tower is surmounted by a short spire. The width across nave and aisles is 49 ft. and across nave and transepts 75 ft. 6 in., the total internal length of the church being 109 ft. 6 in. There is a modern vestry on the north side of the chancel.

The tower is faced with ashlar, but elsewhere the walling is of rubble, plastered internally. The chancel has a stone-slatted caved roof, the other roofs being of low pitch and leaded, behind battlemented parapets. There was a general restoration of the fabric in 1894-5, when the roofs were renewed on the old lines and the floors relaid.³⁶

The church is mainly of 13th-century date, with additions and alterations in the 14th and 15th centuries, but has developed from an aisleless 12th-century building the nave of which covered the same area as the present nave and of which the angles remain. To this building a south aisle was added c. 1200-10, the existing south arcade being of that period, and shortly after (c. 1225) a north aisle was built. The transepts, which cover the eastern bays, were perhaps contemporary with the aisles, or were added shortly after, but the rebuilding of the chancel on its present plan does not appear to have been finished till late in the century. The tower and porch are 14th-century additions, and in the 15th century the north transept was remodelled and its walls heightened, new windows were inserted in the aisles, the present clearstory (replacing an older one) erected, the nave, aisles and transepts newly roofed, and the battlemented parapets added.

Remains of medieval arrangements are plentiful. In the chancel are a triple sedile and a double piscina, and the piscinae of two altars in each transept remain; there is also a piscina belonging to a former chapel at the west end of the south aisle. Traces of a rood-loft are to be seen, but not of a staircase to the loft.

The chancel is divided externally into three unequal bays by buttresses, with pairs of buttresses at its eastern angles, the north wall, however, being covered at its east end by the vestry. The pointed east window is of three uncusped lights with intersecting mullions and hood-mould with head-stops.³⁷ In the north wall is a single blocked lancet, but the other windows are grouped lancets of three and two lights. On the south side the easternmost window is of three lights placed high in the wall, and in the middle and west bays are tall two-light windows

²⁴ Star Chamber Proc. Hen. VIII, bdle. 24, no. 185. ²⁵ *Ibid.* bdle. 28, no. 28.

²⁶ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), xliv, 157. See also Ct. of Req. bdle. 2, no. 17; bdle. 5, no. 289.

²⁷ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), dcl, 66.

²⁸ *Ibid.* 88.

²⁹ *Pope Nich. Tax.* (Rec. Com.), 56 b; Blore, *Hist. Rutl.* 135, 136.

³⁰ *Linc. Rec. Soc.* (vol. xxvii), 1, 28.

³¹ *Ibid.* xv, p. xxix.

³² *Ibid.* pp. xix, 112-3.

³³ Close R. 1650, pt. 66, no. 12.

³⁴ Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 28 Chas. II; Trin. 12 Will. III.

³⁵ Blore, *op. cit.* 136.

³⁶ Little external restoration was needed

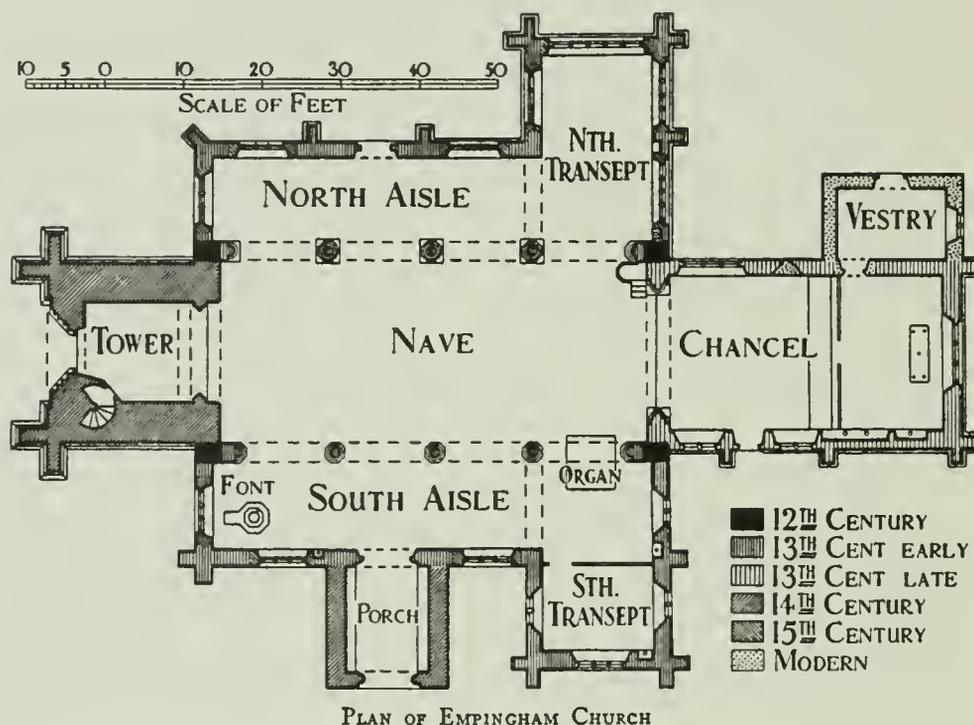
and the chancel was not touched; there had been some repair in 1868. In 1813 the building was 'in excellent repair and condition' (Laird, *Top. and Hist. Desc. Rutl.* 95).

³⁷ The east window has double hollow-chamfered jambs. In the lateral windows the jambs have a single straight-chamfer.

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the sills of which are about 4 ft. above the ground. In the west bay of the north wall is a three-light window similar to that on the south side. In all these windows the hood-moulds follow the individual openings, but the character of the stops varies: all the chancel windows have rear arches with hood-moulds. Externally a string, chamfered on the underside, follows the sill levels; the internal string is rounded on the upper edge, and on the north wall it occurs only at the west end. There is a continuous moulded doorway in the middle bay on the south side. In the east wall south of the altar is a moulded ogee-headed niche for the image of the patron saint. The beautiful 13th-century piscina and sedilia,

fered orders, on cylindrical pillars and half-round responds, with plain octagonal capitals and circular water-holding bases on tall octagonal plinths. The later north arcade has pointed arches of two chamfered orders, on more slender⁴⁰ cylindrical pillars and half-round responds, with circular moulded capitals and bases on high square plinths. In both arcades the arches have hood-moulds on each side, with large head-stops over the pillars on the south, and two very small stops only on the north. The easternmost arches open into the transepts, and the two eastern pillars receive the spring of transverse arches which divide the transepts from the aisles. These arches are of two chamfered orders, and spring on the wall



PLAN OF EMPINGHAM CHURCH

though distinct in design, form approximately a single architectural composition. The two fluted bowls of the piscina are under trefoiled arches on jambshafts with moulded capitals and bases, the hood-mould stop over the dividing shaft consisting of a boldly carved eight-leaf flower. The triple sedilia have trefoiled rounded arches on detached shafts and shafted jambs, with moulded capitals and bases; the seats are on the same level and the hoods have foliated stops, the arches ranging with those of the piscina. The chancel arch is of two chamfered orders³⁸ springing from clustered responds with moulded capitals and water-holding bases on high plinths. Both bases and plinths have been mutilated for the rood-screen, of which there remains only a piece of wood³⁹ on the north side of the arch, at the east end of the nave arcade.

The nave arcades are of four bays, that on the south side having semicircular arches of two cham-

side from corbels, that on the north carved, the other plain.

The transepts project 13 ft. beyond the aisles and are of two bays, each of which contained an altar, with pairs of buttresses at the angles, and are lighted by two windows in the east wall and one in the west and end walls. The south transept is without plinth or string, and retains most of its original architectural features; the windows are all grouped lancets like those in the chancel, that in the end wall being of three graded lights, the others of two lights. Internally the splayed jambs of the east windows are cut away at the bottom in order to admit the altar reredoses, and the two piscinæ, one in the east and the other in the south wall, are trefoil-headed, but only one of the bowls remains.⁴¹ Below the end window is an empty square-headed chamfered tomb recess.⁴² The transept now contains the organ, its south end being used as a choir vestry.

³⁸ It has a hood-mould only towards the chancel.

³⁹ It cuts through the hood-mould of the easternmost arch of the arcade, the outer order of which is also mutilated. There is much red colouring here on the

plaster and stonework.

⁴⁰ The pillars are 19 in. diam.; those of the south arcade are 22 in. diam.

⁴¹ The piscina of the north altar has foliated cusping and a fluted bowl; the other has a wooden shelf, but a flat stone

has been inserted in the place of the bowl.

⁴² The sill of the window forms the head of the recess. During the restoration the ground below the recess was opened and bones were found.

All the windows of the north transept are of the 15th century, and the gable has a large curved crocketed finial similar to those at Langham and Oakham, flanked by large pinnacles. The end window is of five cinquefoiled lights with Perpendicular tracery and hood with flower-stops, the two east windows of four lights and that on the west of three, all different in design. The northern of the two east windows has a rounded head and vertical tracery; the others are pointed. The two piscinæ are in the east wall, one with a low ogee-headed recess, and the other, at the south end, much larger, with cinquefoiled head; in each the bowl is fluted. There is a plain chamfered tomb recess in the end wall beneath the window, with low two-centred arch, containing a 13th-century coffin lid.⁴³

The north and south doorways are in the middle bay of the aisles; they are of the 13th century and of two chamfered orders, the north doorway nearly round-headed with quirked imposts and hood-mould chamfered on each edge. The south door has a pointed arch on moulded imposts. The 15th-century windows of the aisles are of three trefoiled lights with four-centred heads, without tracery, and there is an internal string, rounded on the upper edge, below sill level along the whole of the north and part of the south aisle. The aisle piscina, already alluded to, is about 4 ft. west of the south doorway; it has a pointed moulded recess with orifice at the back.

The 14th-century porch is without buttresses, and the later battlemented parapet takes the place of the original gable. The pointed doorway is of two chamfered orders, the inner on half-round filleted responds with moulded capitals and bases, the outer continuous.⁴⁴

The 15th-century clearstory windows are similar to those of the aisles, but have cinquefoiled cusping. There are four windows on the south side⁴⁵ and three on the north, the easternmost bay on that side retaining a circular window⁴⁶ belonging to the 13th-century clearstory, which was covered by the heightened roof of the reconstructed transept, into which it now opens.

The tower is of four stages marked by strings, with moulded plinth and pairs of buttresses at the angles to the top of the third stage. There is a vice in the south-west angle. Between the buttresses the face of each side of the tower is slightly recessed, and above the buttresses the angles of the bell-chamber stage thus form broad pilasters. The two lower stages are blank on the north and south, except for a trefoiled loop in the upper part. The pointed west doorway is of two moulded orders enriched with ball-flower, on banded jambshafts with moulded capitals and bases, set within a tall moulded arch of three orders on twice-banded shafts, the whole

forming a somewhat elaborate composition, both arches having deeply moulded hoods with finials and head-stops.⁴⁷ The space between the two arches was restored some years before 1895, and is filled with plain masonry, but originally it appears to have been of carved stones set in a sort of diagonal pattern.⁴⁸ Above the doorway, in the second stage, are three niches with ogee canopies and engaged jambshafts, and the third stage on three sides is occupied by blind arcading in three bays, with small crocketed ogee arches, two to each bay; on the east side is the line of the old high-pitched roof. The pointed bell-chamber windows are of two trefoiled lights with curvilinear tracery and hood-moulds, and the tower finishes with an enriched cornice and high battlemented parapet the angles of which have massive octagonal pinnacles with crocketed terminations. The spire is very short in proportion to the height of the tower and has crocketed angles, and two tiers of gabled lights on its cardinal faces. Internally the tower opens into the nave by a pointed arch of two moulded orders, the inner order springing from clustered and filleted responds, the outer dying into the walls: the hood-mould has large head-stops.

The font dates from 1895, and is in the style of the 14th century.⁴⁹ The late 17th-century hexagonal oak pulpit has plain panelled sides and fluted angle pilasters: it was refixed on a stone base at the restoration, to which period also the fittings of the quire belong. The nave and aisles are seated with chairs.

There are considerable remains of coloured decoration on the end wall of the south transept in the form of masonry lines and red five-lobed flowers. Traces of similar decoration occur also over the south doorway and on the east wall of the north transept.

In the north transept, in addition to the slab within the recess, are two coped coffin lids⁵⁰ with foliated crosses, another mutilated, and fragments of a fourth of plain character. There is also a slab with incised cross, probably of early 13th-century date, built into the north wall of the tower.

In the tracery of the two east windows of the north transept are some fragments of 15th-century glass and ten shields of arms, eight shields and two heads in the northernmost window and two shields and two imperfect figures in the other.⁵¹ In the same transept is an 18th-century communion table with curved legs, and in the floor a number of 17th and 18th century slabs, and two brass plates to members of the Mackworth family and others.⁵² The royal arms of the Hanoverian sovereigns (before 1801) are under the tower.⁵³

There is a ring of six bells cast by Taylor and Co. of Loughborough in 1895.⁵⁴

⁴³ It has a cross with omega ornament on stem.

⁴⁴ The settlement of the arch has pushed the jambs outward.

⁴⁵ The easternmost window is made shorter than the others in order to clear the transept roof.

⁴⁶ This window was discovered and opened out during the restoration of 1895.

⁴⁷ Those of the doorway represent a king and queen.

⁴⁸ See illustration in Blore, *Hist. of Rutl.* 139.

⁴⁹ The original font had been replaced at some time unknown by 'a plain stone pillar with a small basin on the top.'

⁵⁰ Blore in 1811 mentions two coffin lids with crosses in the churchyard, near the east end of the church (*Hist. of Rutland*, 140).

⁵¹ The arms in the northernmost window are those of Chamberlayn, Ros, Beke, Burton, Normanville, Basing, one unidentified and Zouche; in the southernmost window are Normanville and Basing.

⁵² The brass plates are to Maria, wife of Sir Henry Mackworth, bt. of Nor-

manton (d. 1693), and Mary, daughter of Sir Thomas Mackworth (d. 1737). The transept is sometimes known as the Mackworth Chapel.

⁵³ The arms are on a painted board, with supporters, garter, crown and motto.

⁵⁴ They take the place of five bells by G. Mears, 1859, which were recast and a new bell and clock added at the time of the restoration. The old bells, before 1859, dated from 1548 (second), 1611 (tenor), 1648 (third), 1661 (fourth), and 1695 (treble) (North, *Cb. Bells of Rutl.* 129).

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The plate consists of a paten of 1714-15, a cup of 1722-3, a flagon of 1721-2, and two plates of 1722-3.⁵⁵

The registers before 1812 are as follows: (i) baptisms and burials 1563-1784, marriages 1563-1754; (ii) baptisms and burials 1785-1812; (iii) marriages 1755-94; (iv) marriages 1792-1812.

South of the porch is the lower portion of the shaft of a churchyard cross, set in an octagonal socket stone.⁵⁶

A vicarage was first ordained in *ADVOWSON* Empingham in 1263 by Richard Gravesend,⁵⁷ and the advowson was attached to the prebend.⁵⁸ Empingham was declared a rectory in 1867 and was endowed out of the Common Fund with £100 a year in lieu of £5 charge on the prebend. The interest of Sir Gilbert Heathcote in the prebend and chancel of the church was transferred to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners in exchange for certain lands in the parish in 1845,⁵⁹ and the patronage was transferred before 1892 to the Bishop of Peterborough, the present holder.

In 1272 a chapel in Sir Thomas de Normanville's manor of Empingham was licensed for divine service.⁶⁰ Sir Thomas's capital messuage appears to have been

on the east side of the village on a hill, but no ruins of the chapel remain.

The Poor's money consisted of a *CHARITIES* sum of £60 given for the poor and payable on St. Thomas's Day. The charity by tradition was formerly called Sir Thomas Mackworth's dole. The fund remained at interest in the hands of Sir John Heathcote and his successors from 1745 till October 1794, at which time, as appears from an entry in the overseers' book and a receipt for the money, it was paid to the minister, churchwardens and overseers, and was applied in supplying the workhouse with bedsteads and other furniture. No interest has been paid since 1794.

Henry Foster's Charity is shared by this parish.

John Warrington's Charity is shared by this parish.

Jane Forsyth, by her will proved at Canterbury 18 December 1835, bequeathed a sum of £105 to the minister and churchwardens upon trust to apply the income in the purchase of bread for the industrious poor. The endowment consists of a sum of £102 11s. 7d. 2½ per cent. Consols held by the Official Trustees and producing in dividends £2 11s. per annum. The income is distributed in bread by the rector and two trustees appointed by the parish council.

ESSENDINE

Esindone (xi cent.); Essenden (xii cent.); Esenden, Esinden, Isenden, Essendene (xiii cent.); Issingden, Esindon, Esyndon, Essingden (xiv cent.).

Essendine is a small parish containing 1,477 acres on the Lincolnshire border of the county. The little village lies on the high road from Stamford to Bourne, near the junction of the main line of the London and North Eastern Railway with the Stamford and Bourne branches. Some old stone cottages still remain, but those along the main road are mostly of yellow brick. The village and greater part of the parish are in the valley of the river Glen, and the land in the south of the village and the southern part of the parish is liable to floods.

Until the inclosure of the parish about 615 acres were open fields, and there was attached to the manor part of a common called Aunby Heath. About 50 acres of the common fields of Essendine lay interspersed among the common fields belonging to Carlby (co. Linc.), and some of the common fields of Carlby were in Essendine. By an agreement made in 1803-4, these lands were exchanged,¹ and the whole parish was inclosed by 1811.

The site of the castle of Essendine, now overgrown with trees, is still to be distinguished to the north-east of the church, though the castle itself has long since disappeared. The date of the building of the castle is unknown, but it was probably the work of the Busseys or of Robert de Vipont at the end of the

12th or early in the 13th century. It is clear that the lords of the manor had a residence at Essendine for some centuries, as Robert de Clifford was stocking his park here with deer in 1296,² and in 1318 John de Cromwell complained of his park having been broken into.³ The Despensers evidently had a residence, as Edward le Despenser was born and baptised at Essendine in 1336.⁴ Blore suggests that the castle may still have been standing in the time of Queen Elizabeth, as Lord Treasurer Burghley, in his will, mentions Essendine as a place of residence for his younger son Robert, and there is no tradition of any other mansion house having existed,⁵ but the records do not mention any castle. The site is a square area of rather more than an acre, encompassed by a deep moat.

The park of Essendine was granted to Cecily, Duchess of Warwick, in 1447. It then contained 200 acres of wood, 200 acres of land and 20 acres of meadow and lay in Lincolnshire.⁶ The park was excepted from the grant to Richard Cecil in 1544, and was granted in 1548 to Sir Edward Fynes, Lord Clinton.⁷ It was then described as a wood called Essendine Park, and had been acquired before his death in 1598 by William, Lord Burghley.⁸

There was a watermill at Essendine in 1086, rendering 16s.⁹ The mill is mentioned again in 1334,¹⁰ 1417,¹¹ 1440,¹² and in 1480 it was farmed for 20s.¹³

Among place-names are Parkelonde, le Deynes,

⁵⁵ Hope, *Cb. Plate in Rutl.* 14; the paten is inscribed 'For the altar at Empingham' and the cup 'Empingham 1723. Quem primo donavit hoc anno renovavit calicem de Mackworth dignissima familia.' The flagon was given by William Willes of Exton and Hanna his wife in 1723, and the plates by Henry Heyrick of Exton, 1732.

⁵⁶ The shaft is octagonal to square at the base, and stands 4 ft. 10 in. high.

⁵⁷ Blore, *Hist. Rutl.* 139; Irons' Notes, Linc. Episc. Reg. (Instit.).

⁵⁸ Inst. Bks. (P.R.O.).

⁵⁹ *Index to Lond. Gazette.*

⁶⁰ Blore, *op. cit.* p. 141, quoting muniments of Sir Thomas Mackworth, bart. *Beauties of E. and W.* xii (2), 95.

¹ Blore, *Hist. of Rutl.* 13. Kelly gives date of the exchange as 1887.

² *Cal. Close R.* 1288-96, p. 472.

³ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1317-21, pp. 279, 303.

⁴ *Cal. Inq. x.* 333. ⁵ Blore, *op. cit.* 27.

⁶ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1446-52, p. 37.

⁷ *Ibid.* 1547-8, 219.

⁸ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), cclvii, 91.

⁹ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 141.

¹⁰ Chan. Inq. p.m. 8 Edw. III (1st nos.), no. 66.

¹¹ *Ibid.* 4 Hen. V, no. 52.

¹² *Ibid.* 18 Hen. VI, no. 3.

¹³ Mins. Accts. (Duchy of Lanc.), bdle. 640, no. 10388.

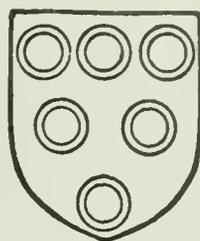
Rowsoke, Edycroft.¹⁴ A pasture called Shenyngthorpe or Shellingthorpe in Lincolnshire was part of the manor of Essendine,¹⁵ and in the 15th century the manor was known as Essendine-cum-Shellingthorpe.¹⁶

At the time of the Domesday Survey *MANOR ESSENDINE* was included among the lands of the Bishop of Lincoln in Northamptonshire. It belonged to Bardi, a wealthy Lincolnshire thegn, owner of Liddington and of Carlby, Sleaford, and other manors in Lincolnshire, all of which had been given to Remigius, Bishop of Lincoln. In 1086 Walter held one hide in Essendine of the bishop.¹⁷ The overlordship of the bishops of Lincoln was formally recognised until the middle of the 14th century,¹⁸ but, in practice, the manor appears to have been considered as having been held in chief. In 1241 the bishop entered his claim to the custody during a minority, and the matter seems to have received consideration by the king's officers,¹⁹ with the result that in 1242 the custody was surrendered to the bishop, but not before he had paid 100 marks for the right.²⁰ In 1265 the manor was said to be held of the king in chief,²¹ and in 1282 of the fee of the Bishop of Lincoln.²² In an inquisition taken in 1334, the statement that the manor was held of the king was corrected, and it was returned as held of the bishop.²³ After this time the somewhat shadowy claim of the bishop seems to have lapsed, and the manor became an appurtenance of Oakham Castle.²⁴

Walter, who held Essendine of the bishop in 1086, appears to be identical with Walter Espec, founder of the monasteries of Rievaulx and Kirkham in Yorkshire and of Warden in Bedfordshire, in the time of Henry I. He was probably son of William Espec, holder in 1086 of a number of manors in Bedfordshire including Warden.²⁵ Walter died without issue, and the manor passed before 1159²⁶ to his nephew and co-heir, William de Bussey, son of Walter's sister, Hawisia. William died about 1177, leaving two sons, Bartholomew, who died about 1179, and Walter, who died before 1182, neither of whom apparently left any issue.²⁷ William's widow Rose, daughter of Baldwin Fitz Gilbert de Clare, married Baldwin Buelot and was again a widow by 1185, when, it was reported, she had two daughters, Cecily the wife of John de Builli and Maud the wife of Hugh Wake.²⁸ Rose, with the consent of her daughters, gave to the monks of St. Andrew, Northampton, 12 acres of the demesne of Essendine, for which they undertook to maintain a chaplain to serve the chapel there.²⁹ She also gave them 18 acres of her demesne and the tithes of the assarts of Essendine to be received with the tithes of the rest of the town.³⁰

Essendine passed to Rose's daughter Cecily, wife of John de Builli, son of Richard de Builli founder of Roche Abbey. Cecily had two daughters, Joan the wife of Thomas Gravenel, and Idonea the wife of Robert de Vipont.³¹ Essendine went to Idonea, and she and her husband had livery of the lands in 1213. Robert de Vipont was active in the service of King John, and he and his brother Ivo were accounted by Matthew Paris as among the king's evil counsellors.³² Robert was with the king in France in 1202,³³ and Arthur, the king's nephew, was committed to his charge. He was sheriff of Nottingham in 1207³⁴ and later of Cumberland and Westmorland.³⁵ He died before 1 Feb. 1228, when the custody of his land and of John de Vipont, his heir, was granted to Hubert de Burgh, Earl of Kent, the Justiciar.³⁶

Idonea's inheritance, which had been taken into the king's hands on Robert's death, was restored to her,³⁷ and in 1230 she claimed to be quit of suit of shire and hundred courts for her men of Essendine.³⁸ John de Vipont and his mother Idonea both died in 1241. The marriage of John's children was granted to John Fitz Geoffrey.³⁹ In 1242 Alice, Countess of Eu, and the Bishop of Lincoln each made a fine of 100 marks for having the custody of the land which Idonea held in their respective fees.⁴⁰ Robert, son and heir of John de Vipont,⁴¹ was an adherent of Simon de Montfort, and his name appears among the list of barons whose seal was required to ratify the peace made between Henry III and the barons in 1261.⁴² He died in 1264, when the custody of the county of Westmorland and all his lands was granted to John, son of John.⁴³ His manor of Essendine was then valued at £50.⁴⁴ He left as heirs two young daughters; the wardship and marriage of the elder, Isabel, was granted in 1265 to Roger de Clifford, and of the younger, Idonea, to Roger de Leyburn.⁴⁵ Idonea, who was in the charge of Bertha de Furnival, and Isabel, who was in the charge of the Countess of Winchester, were to be sent to the king.⁴⁶ In the following year the trespasses of their father were remitted at the instance of Roger de Clifford and Roger de Leyburn.⁴⁷ Isabel, then the wife of Roger, son of Roger de Clifford, came of age in 1269.⁴⁸ Her sister was married to Roger de Leyburn. Up to the time of the death of Roger de Clifford in 1281 there had been no partition of the estates between the sisters,⁴⁹ and as Roger died in debt to the Crown, Isabel



VIPONT. Or six rings gules.

¹⁴ Mins. Accts. (Duchy of Lanc.), bdle. 640, no. 10388.

¹⁵ Rent. and Surv. (gen. ser.), ptfl. 14, no. 14.

¹⁶ Mins. Accts. loc. cit.

¹⁷ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 134, 141.

¹⁸ *Cal. Inq.* ii, no. 478; vii, no. 559.

¹⁹ *Cal. Close R.* 1237-42, 341.

²⁰ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1232-47, p. 283.

²¹ *Ibid.* 1258-66, p. 481.

²² *Cal. Inq.* ii, no. 478.

²³ *Ibid.* vii, no. 559.

²⁴ *Chan. Inq.* p.m. 18 Hen. VI, no. 3;

24 Hen. VI, no. 43.

²⁵ *Blore, op. cit.* 14.

²⁶ *Wright, Hist. of Rutl.* 62.

²⁷ *Rot. de Dom.* (Pipe R. Soc.), note by J. H. Round on p. 11; Round, *Family Origins*, 13-21.

²⁸ *Ibid.*; *Curia Regis R.* i, 326; Dugdale, *Mon. Angl.* v, 281; Maitland, *Bracton's Note Bk.* no. 1085; *V.C.H. Beds.* ii, 230; iii, 252; *Blore, op. cit.* 15.

²⁹ *Wright, op. cit.* 62, 64, quoting MSS. of Sir Wingfield Bodenham.

³⁰ *Ibid.*

³¹ Maitland, loc. cit.; *Blore, op. cit.* 14.

³² Matthew Paris, *Cbron. Maj.* (Rolls Ser.), ii, 533.

³³ *Blore, loc. cit.*

³⁴ *Rot. de Oblat. et Fin.* 392.

³⁵ *List of Sheriffs* (P.R.O.).

²⁶ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1225-32, pp. 176, 177, 187

²⁷ *Cal. Close R.* 1227-31, p. 17.

²⁸ *Ibid.* p. 352.

²⁹ *Blore, op. cit.* 17; *Excerpta e Rot. Fin.* i, 389; *Cal. Pat. R.* 1232-47, p. 319.

³⁰ *Excerpta e Rot. Fin.* i, 371; *Cal. Pat. R.* 1232-47, p. 283.

³¹ *Ibid.* p. 510.

³² *Ibid.* 1258-66, p. 195.

³³ *Ibid.* p. 322.

³⁴ *Cal. Inq. Misc.* i, 856.

³⁵ Also called Iseult and Juetta (*Cal. Pat. R.* 1258-66, pp. 435, 555, 586).

³⁶ *Ibid.* 456, 457.

³⁷ *Cal. Inq.* Hen. III, no. 717.

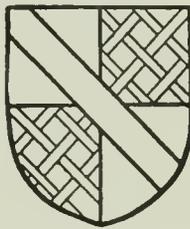
³⁸ *Ibid.* ii, no. 478.

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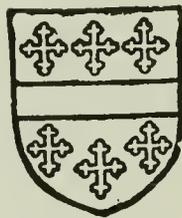
had to give security for Roger's goods in the manor of Essendine.⁶⁰ Isabel was probably dead before 1296, when her son, Robert de Clifford, received four live bucks and eight does to stock his park of Essendine.⁶¹ Robert de Clifford was still holding Essendine in 1305,⁶² but a partition was probably made about this time, for Idonea and her second husband, John de Cromwell, were in possession in 1308,⁶³ when they obtained a grant of free warren there.⁶⁴

In 1323 John and Idonea settled this manor on themselves during the life of Idonea, with remainders to Hugh le Despenser, the younger, for life, to Hugh le Despenser, the elder, for life, and to Edward, son of Hugh le Despenser, the younger.⁶⁵ Three years later John was under the king's displeasure, as he refused to return from beyond seas in spite of repeated commands to do so. All his manors, including those held in right of his wife, were given into the custody of Roger de Bynley, but the issues were in August 1326 granted to Idonea during pleasure, and she was to be permitted to have the stock and goods and all jewels, etc., belonging to her chamber, but the horses, armour, falcons, jewels and other possessions of John were reserved to the king.⁶⁶ John de Cromwell probably returned early in the reign of Edward III, as he was suing his bailiff, Richard de Roderam, touching his accounts for the manor early in 1327.⁶⁷

In 1331 John de Cromwell and Idonea took advantage of the statute annulling all fines levied by force and duress after the exile of the Despensers, and tried to obtain an annulment of the fine of 1323, which they said had been so levied.⁶⁸ They were evidently unsuccessful, for when Idonea died in 1334 the manor was delivered to Edward, son of Hugh le Despenser, the younger, as next in remainder under the settlement of 1323, both Hughs being then dead.⁶⁹ Edward died in 1342. His son and successor, Edward, was born at Essendine on 24 March 1336, and baptised in the church of St. Mary Magdalen there on the same day. He proved his age in 1356.⁶⁰ He granted two-thirds of the manor to his brother Thomas for life, and on Thomas's death in 1381, this part reverted to Thomas, son of Edward,⁸¹ who had succeeded his father as Lord Despenser in 1375.⁸² In 1381 Thomas was still a minor, and the two-thirds of the manor were committed to his mother, Elizabeth, till he should come of age;⁸³ she claimed in 1382 the remaining



DESPENSER. Quarterly argent and gules fretty or with a bend sable over all.



BEAUCHAMP. Gules a fesse between six crosslets or.

third as dower.⁶⁴ Elizabeth survived her son, who was executed in 1400.⁶⁵ He had given the manor to Hugh le Despenser for life, and on Hugh's death the king granted the manor in 1401 to his esquire, John Blount, to hold during the minority of Richard, son of Thomas, Lord Despenser.⁶⁶ The site of the manor was assigned as dower to Thomas's widow, Constance, who died in 1416, Richard having died in 1414 while still a minor.⁶⁷ Isabel, sister of Richard, was twice married. By her first husband, Richard de Beauchamp, Lord Bergavenny, she had one daughter, Elizabeth, who married Sir Edward Neville, created Lord Bergavenny. Her second husband was Richard de Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick, cousin of her first husband, who was holding the manor of Essendine in her right in 1428.⁶⁸ The Earl and Countess both died in 1439, their son Henry being then 16 years of age.⁶⁹ He was created Duke of Warwick in 1445, and died seised of Essendine manor in June 1446,⁷⁰ leaving a daughter Anne, aged two. The manor was granted to Henry's widow, Cecily, in May 1447.⁷¹

Essendine passed in the same way as Barrowden to George, Duke of Clarence. In 1480 the manor was in the king's hands, and he appointed John Walle, one of the valets of the Crown, to be bailiff, William Hussey being then steward.⁷² In 1485 Everard Digby was appointed bailiff,⁷³ and in the following year Simon Digby became steward.⁷⁴ He surrendered this office in 1515 to Everard Digby,⁷⁵ son of the above-named Everard. The father, Everard, died early in 1509,⁷⁶ and David Cecil was appointed in that year to succeed him as bailiff.⁷⁷ Cecil also obtained a lease of the demesnes of the manor for 21 years.⁷⁸ In 1532 David's son Richard obtained a lease in reversion for 60 years,⁷⁹ but in 1544 the whole manor, with the exception of the park and advowson, was granted in fee to Richard, then described as the king's servant.⁸⁰ In the following year a further grant of the manor was made to Richard, then of Little Burghley (co. Northant.), and his son William, who was afterwards Lord Burghley, and Mildred, one of the daughters of Anthony Cooke, whom William afterwards married.⁸¹ Richard died 19 March 1553.⁸² William Cecil made several settlements of the manor,⁸³ and died seised of it in 1598.⁸⁴ It then passed to his second son Robert,⁸⁵ Principal Secretary of State from 1596-1612. He was created Baron Cecil of Essendine in 1603 and Earl of Salisbury

⁶⁰ *Abbrev. Rot. Orig.* (Rec. Com.), i,

44; *Cal. Fine R.* 1272-1307, 182.

⁶¹ *Cal. Close R.* 1288-96, p. 472.

⁶² *Feud. Aids*, iv, 205.

⁶³ *Cal. Cbart. R.* 1300-26, p. 121.

⁶⁴ *Ibid.*

⁶⁵ Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 17 Edw. II, no. 42.

⁶⁶ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1324-7, p. 313; *Cal. Close R.* 1323-7, p. 603; *Cal. Fine R.* 1319-27, p. 407.

⁶⁷ *Cal. of De Banco R.* 544.

⁶⁸ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1330-4, pp. 63, 440.

⁶⁹ *Cal. Close R.* 1333-37, pp. 272, 273; *Cal. Inq.* iii, no. 395; vii, no. 559.

⁷⁰ *Ibid.* x, no. 333.

⁷¹ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 4 Ric. II, no. 21.

⁷² *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), iv, 278.

⁷³ *Cal. Fine R.* 1377-83, pp. 277-8.

⁷⁴ *Cal. Close R.* 1381-5, p. 67.

⁷⁵ *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), iv, 280-1.

⁷⁶ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1401-5, 64.

⁷⁷ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 4 Hen. V, no. 52.

⁷⁸ *Feud. Aids*, iv, 213; *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), i, 26-28.

⁷⁹ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 18 Hen. VI, no. 3.

⁸⁰ *Ibid.* 24 Hen. VI, no. 43.

⁸¹ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1446-52, p. 37.

⁸² *Mins. Accts.* (Duchy of Lanc.), bdlc. 640, no. 10388.

⁸³ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1485-94, 54.

⁸⁴ *Ibid.* 91.

⁸⁵ *Ibid.*

⁷⁶ He left his land in Essendine to his younger son John (*Rutl. Mag.* ii, 228).

⁷⁷ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, i, g. 132 (49).

⁷⁸ *Rent. and Surv. (gen. ser.)*, ptf. 14, no. 14.

⁷⁹ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, v, g. 1370 (7).

⁸⁰ *Ibid.* xix (i), g. 1035 (117).

⁸¹ *Ibid.* xx (ii), p. 455.

⁸² *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), ii, 428.

⁸³ Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 16 Eliz.; Trin. 31 Eliz.

⁸⁴ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), cclvii, 91.

⁸⁵ *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* (Salisbury MSS.), viii, 409.



ESSENDINE CHURCH : SOUTH DOORWAY



ESSENDINE CHURCH FROM THE SOUTH

in 1605. He died in 1612,⁸⁶ and was buried at Hatfield. His son William had just come of age. William was on the side of the Parliament in the Civil War, and sat in Cromwell's House of Commons in 1645, 1654 and 1656. After the Restoration, however, he was received into favour by Charles II, and was made High Steward of St. Albans. He died in 1668 at the age of 78.⁸⁷ His grandson James, son of Charles Cecil, succeeded, and the manor of Essendine passed with the title of Earl and Marquess of Salisbury.⁸⁸ The Marquess of Salisbury was holding in 1811,⁸⁹ but the subsequent descent is obscure, and probably the manorial rights have fallen into desuetude.

The church of
**CHURCH ST. MARY
MAGDALENE**⁹⁰

stands on the south-west portion of the site of the earthwork known as Essendine Castle,⁹¹ and consists of chancel 25 ft. 6 in. by 15 ft., and aisleless nave 43 ft. by 17 ft. 6 in., with double bell-cote over the west gable.

These measurements are internal. The building has been a good deal repaired, and in part rebuilt, but in the main is a 12th-century structure remodelled in the 13th century, in which latter period the chancel appears to have been rebuilt on its present plan, new windows being inserted later in both chancel and nave. A considerable amount of reconstruction appears to have taken place during the second quarter of the 19th century,⁹² the west wall being taken down and rebuilt, a massive buttress which had been erected against the middle of the wall, hiding the west window, being then removed.⁹³ The chancel has also been rebuilt but retains many of the ancient features. There was a further restoration in 1888.

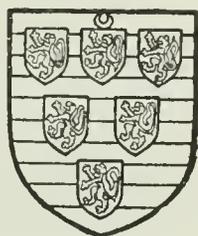
The nave is of rubble, and the north side of the chancel is built of coursed dressed stones, but on the east and south the chancel is faced with ashlar above a high chamfered plinth of dressed stones. The chancel and nave are under separate stone-slatted eaved roofs, the ridge of the chancel roof being the higher. The walls are plastered internally.

Though much rebuilt, the south wall of the nave retains its original doorway, the date of which is c. 1130-40. The semicircular tympanum is set within a segmental arch,⁹⁴ the space on either side being made up with stone filling, which suggests

that it is part of an older⁹⁵ doorway re-used, or that there has been some reconstruction of the existing doorway subsequent to its erection. The tympanum is carved with a half-length figure of Our Lord in glory within an incomplete vesica supported by an angel on either side with hands upraised; on the dexter side above the angel is the abbreviated name IHC.⁹⁶ The bottom of the tympanum has apparently been cut to a slight camber, in order to provide more headroom. The flat jambs of the doorway, within the arched opening, are elaborately carved, but the sculpture is much weathered, and is now rapidly perishing. The carving may have originally extended to the inner surfaces, but in places some of the stones have been moved and others mutilated, making identification of the subjects represented difficult. Some of the sculpture is now set up inside the nave on the east side of the doorway. Externally, on the west side, are two figures⁹⁷ under a tree in the upper part, but the lower part is obliterated, and on the east side is a stag under a tree; inside is a mutilated stone with figures of two men⁹⁸ holding crooks, or sticks, and on another is the foot of a beast. The inclosing arch is of a single square order with chevron on the wall plane and hood-mould enriched with lozenge ornament; the ends of the hood-mould are turned outwards and slightly upwards.⁹⁹ The arch springs from angle-shafts with moulded bases and plain cushion capitals with heavy chamfered abaci, the whole surface of the shafts to within about 5 in. of the neck moulding being carved with spiral ornament, the upper part having a band of diaper-work.

The north doorway is also of 12th-century date, but is of very plain character and square-headed externally, the lintel having two rows of plain incised indented ornament; on the inside there is an unmoulded semicircular arch and plain recessed tympanum.

The opening between the chancel and nave also belongs to the 12th century, but the arch was rebuilt in pointed form in the succeeding century, the old stones being re-used. On the side towards the nave it is of two orders, the outer carved with bold cheverons on the wall plane, and the square inner order with a large round moulding on the soffit. There is no hood, and towards the chancel only one square order. The inner order springs from half-round responds with moulded bases and plain capitals with octagonal abaci, and the outer from angle-shafts with tall flattened cushion capitals¹⁰⁰ and moulded bases. All the bases have indented ornament on the lower member. No other distinctly 12th-century architectural features remain.



CECIL. Barry of ten argent and azure with six scutcheons sable each charged with a lion argent and in chief the difference of a crescent gules.

while the width of the arch at the springing is 5 ft. 4 in.

⁹⁶ The apparently earlier character of the tympanum has frequently been noticed: Keyser, *List of Norman Tympana*, 2nd ed. p. lxxv. It is, however, probably not older than the sculptured jambs of the doorway.

⁹⁷ Keyser, op. cit. lxxv, 19, and fig. 109. Our Lord is represented with right hand in attitude of benediction and left hand on the book of the gospels, as at Castor (Northants). The doorway is figured in Carter, *Arch. Antiquities* (ed. 1845), pl. xx, p. 19 (drawing dated 1780); Blore, op. cit. 27; Parker, *Glossary of Arch.* plate 44; Romilly Allen, *Early Christian Symbolism*, 263.

⁹⁸ Carter, who visited Essendine in 1780, describes these as Adam and Eve, op. cit. 20.

⁹⁹ Half of one of the figures is cut away; the complete figure has his hand upraised. It has been suggested that as St. Tibba, the patron saint of sportsmen, was held in special veneration at Ryhall, these sculptures may represent hunting scenes and episodes.

¹⁰⁰ Carter's drawing shows only the western termination turned up. 'The extremities,' he wrote, 'are varied, one of them lying with the line of the capital and the other pointing upwards' (op. cit. 20).

¹⁰¹ The capitals are without abaci, perhaps the result of reconstruction in the 13th century.

⁸⁶ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), cccxlii, 123.

⁸⁷ G.E.C. *Complete Peerage*, vii, 39-40.

⁸⁸ *Recov. R. Trin.* 11 Anne, ro. 100; *Trin.* 25 Geo. III, ro. 379.

⁸⁹ Blore, op. cit. 13.

⁹⁰ For dedication in 1356 see *Cal. Inq.* x, 333.

⁹¹ See plan of earthwork in *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 114.

⁹² Repairs are said to have taken place in 1835 and 1845, but no proper record of these alterations appears to have been kept.

⁹³ The buttress is shown in the south-west view of the church engraved in Blore, op. cit. plate iii, p. 27.

⁹⁴ The tympanum is 4 ft. in width,

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

The chancel is of two bays marked externally by buttresses; it has a modern east window of three graded lancets,¹⁰¹ and in each bay on the south side, and in the east bay in the north, a pointed two-light window with forked mullion. These windows are modern, but are copied from one on the north side of the nave inserted in the latter half of the 13th century. At the west end of the south wall of the chancel is a blocked 14th-century low-side window, consisting of a quatrefoil within a square, fitted inside with modern oak doors,¹⁰² and in the usual position near the east end a plain 13th-century piscina, the bowl of which has been mutilated.

At the west end of the nave is a widely splayed and much-restored lancet window, and there is a 13th-century window of two pointed lights with straight-sided hood-mould,¹⁰³ near the east end of the south wall. Two other windows on the south side are modern. A small rectangular moulded window at the east end of the north wall, the sill of which is about 7 ft. above the ground, appears to be a 17th-century insertion, probably to light a pulpit.

The 13th-century bell-cote has two gables without crosses, and the openings consist of single-chamfered arches on shafted jambs with moulded capitals and bases. The bells are both dated 1808, but are without founder's name or mark.¹⁰⁴

The font has a plain octagonal basin with chamfered under edge, on a modern square stem.

At the east end of the nave, south of the chancel arch, are the remains of a wall-painting.¹⁰⁵ A memorial to four men of the parish who fell in the war of 1914-19 is on the same wall.

The pulpit and all the fittings are modern.¹⁰⁶

The plate includes a silver cup of 1577-8, inscribed 'Essendine Church' in later lettering.

The registers before 1812 are as follows: (i) baptisms 1600-05, 1621-1778, marriages 1624-90, 1697-1754, burials 1621-1778; (ii) baptisms 1779-1812, burials 1780-81;¹⁰⁷ (iii) marriages 1754-1812.¹⁰⁸

Essendine is a chapelry of Ryhall *ADVOWSON* and its advowson has followed the descent of that of Ryhall (q.v.).

There are no charities for the parish.

KETTON

Chetene (xi cent.); Keten, Ketene (xii-xiii cent.).

Ketton is in a country of low hills and woodland on the north-west slope to the River Welland. It covers 3,338 acres of land mostly arable, but with a considerable amount of pasture, particularly on the eastern side near the River Welland, which forms the eastern boundary. The River Chater skirts the east side of the village, and flowing north-east falls into the Welland at the north-east boundary of the parish. Tixover is a chapelry in the ecclesiastical parish of Ketton.

The picturesque village is somewhat scattered, the main part of it being built along the Uppingham to Stamford road about 3½ miles south-west of Stamford. The cottages and inns, of which there are several, are mostly of stone with stone roofs. The church stands in the south part of the village with the Hall, a modern building, having a park of over a hundred acres, to the south-west. The Hall belongs to the Prebendal Estate, whose mansion house was described, when sold by the Parliamentary Commissioners, as abutting upon the street, with a water-mill adjoining. Westward of the Hall is the Green.

The Priory, to the south of the church, marks the site of the chief messuage of the manor held before the Dissolution by the Priory of Sempringham. Blore states that the Greenham Manor house was situated about a quarter of a mile south-east of the church above the Chater. The remains of the house

were then (1811) in a forlorn condition, but exhibited evidences of very respectable antiquity in some of the windows, in a curious piscina in the oratory, and in the arched roof of timber of the hall.¹ This was probably the house that had a chequered history of siege and counter-siege by rival claimants before it left the Greenhams' possession. The hamlet of Aldgate lies to the east of the village, and to the south-east is Greston, consisting of Greston House, a line of stone-built and stone-roofed cottages, and a brewery. Kilthorpe, with Kilthorpe Grange and its ancient fishponds, is about a mile to the south of the village.

There are numerous quarries of building stone for which Ketton is famous,² the most important being those of the Ketton Cement Works at the east end of the village. There are also some brickfields in the parish. There is an old windmill a little way past Ketton Cemetery on the road to Collyweston. Along the road to Uppingham are the smithy and chapel, and Rutland Brewery. The Grange stands near the quarries north of the village, on a road branching north-west from the Uppingham Road, and Ketton Grange is east of the point of junction of these roads near the Chater.

The parish was inclosed in 1768, at which date about 2,200 acres were still open fields in addition to 800 acres of common, heath,³ etc.

Land called Hay Closes is mentioned in 1612.⁴

¹⁰¹ This design does not apparently reproduce that of the window formerly existing. In 1850 Sir Henry Dryden stated that the east window had been blocked 'till twenty years ago'; in 1862 all the windows in the chancel were described as 'Decorated': *Stamford Mercury*, May 16, 1862.

¹⁰² The square frame is more correctly a rectangle 2 ft. wide by 2 ft. 3 in. high, moulded on three sides. It is 2 ft. above the ground outside. There is a low-side window of similar character at Tatsfield,

Surrey, and one of the same type at Dersingham, Norfolk: *Arch. Journ.* lxii, 23, 25.

¹⁰³ Perhaps a reconstruction: there is little or no internal splay to the window.

¹⁰⁴ North, *Cb. Bells of Rutl.* 130. Before 1888 the bells were rung from the outside.

¹⁰⁵ Part of a draped figure alone is visible.

¹⁰⁶ In 1850 Sir Henry Dryden described the pews as 'of common beggarly description,' and stated that 'till twenty years ago' there was a mud floor. The present

floor and seats date from the restoration of 1888.

¹⁰⁷ Only two burials are recorded, one in 1780 and one in 1781. There is no record of burials between 1781 and 1812.

¹⁰⁸ The last marriage entry is 1781. No further marriage entry occurs until 1816.

¹ Blore, *Hist. of Rutl.* p. 157.

² For Ketton stone and quarries see *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 235.

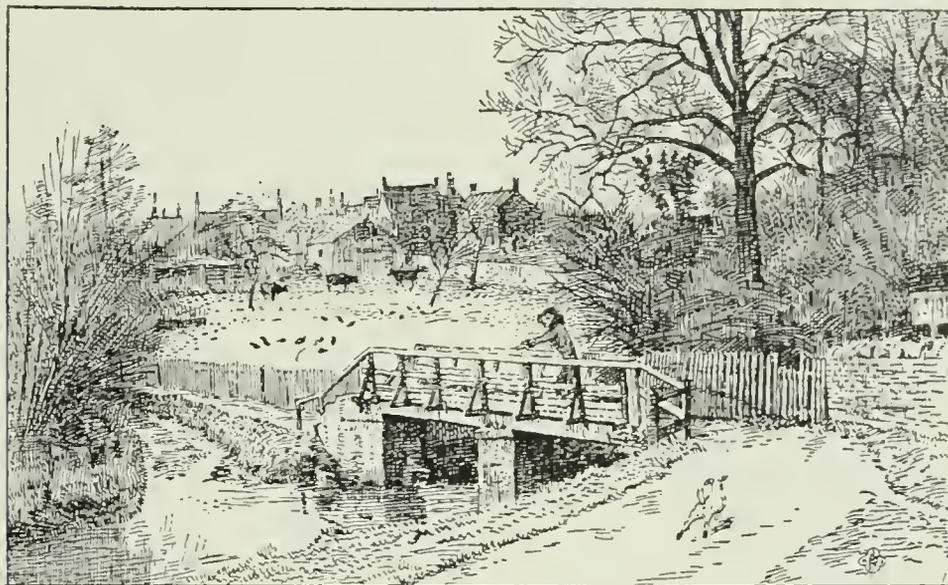
³ *Priv. Stat.* 8 Geo. III, 1768, cap. 19.

⁴ Deed *penes* Mr. Conant.

There is a station on the London Midland and Scottish Railway.

In 1086 *KETTON* was entered in *MANORS* the Domesday Survey among the king's lands in the Wapentake of Wiceslea in Northamptonshire, to which Tixover belonged. The whole holding had risen in value

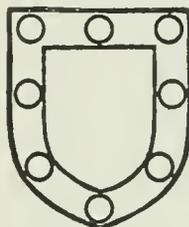
life to William de Boeles or Bueles,¹³ an ecclesiastic employed by the English Crown on many foreign missions. Boeles was holding in 1244, but we lose sight of him after 1253,¹⁴ and in 1257 Edward granted his lands in Ketton to Ebulo de Mountz or Montibus, to be held of Edward by the service of a quarter of a knight's fee. Henry III confirmed this grant in 1259,



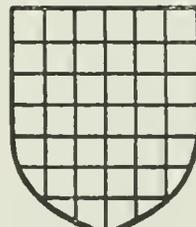
KETTON : THE STREAM

from 100s. under Edward the Confessor to £10.⁵ Ketton remained in the hands of the Crown until 1156, when Stamford (co. Linc.), and with it Ketton, was granted by Henry II to Richard de Humez, whom he had made Constable of Normandy,⁶ and who in 1156 and later served as sheriff of Rutland.⁷ Richard de Humez retired to the monastery of Aunay in Normandy, in the latter part of the reign of Henry II (d. 1189), and was succeeded by his son William, constable of Normandy.⁸ When John was threatened with the loss of Normandy, William de Humez, the constable, advised him to go there. John, finding the Norman barons were conspiring against him, returned, and William de Humez had to flee the country.⁹ In 1204 he forfeited his lands in England as a Norman, and at the same time the Abbot of Aunay, as a Norman, forfeited 5 marks rent in Ketton,¹⁰ probably granted to his house by Richard de Humez. William de Humez died about 1213, and his son Richard having predeceased him in 1200, he was succeeded by his grandson William.¹¹ Ketton remained with the Crown, but was held for King John by William de Warenne, Earl of Surrey, until in 1228 Henry III granted Stamford and the lordship of Ketton, which had belonged to William de Humez, to the Earl of Surrey for life.¹² After the death of the earl in 1240 Ketton seems to have passed to Edward, eldest son of Henry III, who apparently granted it for

but the mesne lordship of Edward merged in the Crown on his accession in 1272. Ebulo's interest was the subject of conflicting claims,¹⁵ but it eventually went to his daughter Maud, the second wife of John L'Estrange of Knokyn (co. Salop). John died in 1311, leaving a son and heir John, a minor, who



HUMEZ. Argent a border gules bezanty.



WARENNE. Chequy or and azure.

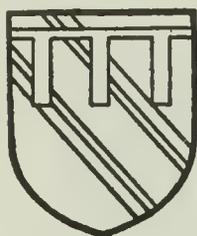
⁵ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 140.
⁶ *Pipe R.* 2, 3, 4 Hen. II, (Rec. Com.), p. 24; Dugdale, *Baronage*, i, 631; Stapleton, *Rot. Scacc. Norm.* ii, clxxxiii.
⁷ *Pipe R.* 2, 3, 4 Hen. II, (Rec. Com.), p. 42; *List of Sheriffs* (P.R.O.).
⁸ Stapleton, loc. cit. A full descent of

the Hommet or Humez family is given by Stapleton in the prefaces to vols. i and ii.
⁹ *Cal. Inq. Misc.* i, no. 1644.
¹⁰ *Ibid.* no. 483.
¹¹ Stapleton, op. cit. i, cxlv; ii, clxxxiv.
¹² *Cal. Pat. R.* 1225-32, p. 190; Farrer, *Honors and Knights' Fees*, ii, 339.

¹³ *Bk. of Fees* (P.R.O.), pt. ii, p. 1151.
¹⁴ See *Cal. Pat. R.* 1247-58, p. 250.
¹⁵ *Cal. Close R.* 1318-23, p. 416.
¹⁶ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 5 Edw. III (2nd nos.), no. 70.
¹⁷ *Cal. Inq. Misc.* ii, no. 1191; *Chan. Inq. p.m.* loc. cit.

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

Earl of Surrey, was attainted in 1397, when the overlordship of Ketton was forfeited to the Crown. It may have been restored to Thomas his son and at his death without issue in 1415 may have passed to his sisters and co-heirs, but its later history is uncertain. In 1526 the manor was said to be held



MOUNTZ. Or a bend cotised gules and a label azure.



L'ESTRANGE. Gules two lions passant argent.



FITZALAN. Gules a lion or.

of John Caldecott,¹⁸ by the ancient tenure of a quarter of a knight's fee, but in 1560 the tenure of the manor was unknown.¹⁹

In 1266 Ebulo de Mountz subinfeudated his manor of Ketton, which afterwards became known as *CONSTABLE'S* or *GREENHAM'S MANOR*, to Ralph de Greenham and Mabel his wife to hold of him by the service of a quarter of a knight's fee.²⁰ Ralph was already dealing with lands in Ketton in 1254 and 1262.²¹ Ralph de Greenham, son of Peter and grandson of Ralph and Mabel, was holding the manor in 1305 and 1309,²² and obtained a confirmation of the grant to his grandfather in 1316.²³ He died later in that year, and the wardship of his son and heir Thomas, in consequence of the minority of the heir of John L'Estrange, the chief lord, was apparently assumed by his widow, Joan, who sold it to Roger de Northborow, Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield. Thomas was married by the Bishop to Alice daughter of Roger de Sulgrave of Helpston (co. Northants.) and obtained seisin in 1322.²⁴ Joan was engaged in disputes with her neighbours in Ketton, owing apparently to a confusion in the tenures of this and Gray's Manor in Ketton (q.v.), and consequently the wardship and marriage of Thomas de Greenham was claimed by Lord Grey of

Codnor and the Crown. Thomas in 1325 had been sentenced, at 'the marble table at Westminster' of the Court of Exchequer, to a fine of 200 marks for having entered without the king's licence, his age unproved, into a manor in Ketton which his father had held of the heir of John L'Estrange, a minor in the king's wardship, and for having married without licence.²⁵ Inquiry was made and it appeared that Hasculph de Whitwell had informed the Chancellor that the king ought to have the wardship and marriage of Thomas, whereupon he was ejected from his house and lands with his mother, wife, children, brother and sisters until payment was made of a fine.²⁶ The manor, it was shown, had never been held of John L'Estrange or his ancestors, but of Roger L'Estrange. A fresh inquiry was made in 1332 which confirmed his statement about the overlordship, and described the site of the manor as unbuilt,²⁷ by which it would appear that the house from which Thomas was ejected had been destroyed.²⁸

Thomas de Greenham represented Rutland in Parliament in 1331, 1339 and 1341, and died in 1376.²⁹ Nicholas de Greenham, who represented the county in 1384,³⁰ may have been his successor, and the father of Hugh de Greenham, its representative in 1392, who with his wife Katherine acquired land in Maids' Moreton (co. Bucks.) in 1384.³¹ He died in 1407. His heir was his grandson John, aged eight, son of his son Thomas.³² John died in 1408, when his heir was his father's brother William,³³ who died in 1411. He left a son and heir Thomas,³⁴ a minor, whose custody was granted to Queen Joan, and by her to Nicholas, Bishop of Bath and Wells.³⁵ Thomas was born at South Luffenham and baptized in the church there, his godparents being Nicholas Greenham, parson of Seaton, John Attehalle, parson of South Luffenham, and Elizabeth Oudeby.³⁶ In 1428 he was returned as holding a quarter fee in Ketton.³⁷ In 1438 he was outlawed for breaking the park of Sir Ralph de Cromwell at Collyweston,³⁸ and in 1439, with his wife Joceline, he settled his manors of Ketton and South Luffenham.³⁹

By 1476 the manor seems to have passed to William de Greenham, late of London, alias late of Ketton, alias late of Loxton (co. Somers.), who then received a general pardon.⁴⁰ Thomas Greenham, who had settled tenements in Ketton on his son Thomas and Joyce his wife in 1519, died seised in 1523, and was succeeded by his son Thomas.⁴¹ In 1542 Thomas Greenham settled the manor on the marriage of his son George with Eleanor Beachcroft.⁴² George Greenham lived for three years at the manor house and then died, after which it was occupied by his widow Eleanor and her son Francis. Reginald Conyers of Wakerley (co. Northants.) claimed that the manor had been sold by George Greenham to Christopher Wraye of Lincoln's Inn, who had sold it to him, but

¹⁸ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), xlv, 116.

¹⁹ Ibid. cxvii, 42.

²⁰ Cal. Chanc. R. 1300-26, p. 311.

²¹ Feet of F. Rutl. East. 38 Hen. III, no. 46; East. 46 Hen. III, no. 55.

²² Feud. Aids, iv, 205, 208; Cal. Close R. 1307-13, p. 155; Blore, op. cit. 227.

²³ Cal. Chanc. R. 1300-26, p. 311.

²⁴ Cal. Inq. vi, no. 388; Feet of F. Rutl. East. 15 Edw. II, no. 40; Cal. Close R. 1318-23, p. 416.

²⁵ Ibid. 1323-7, pp. 400, 502.

²⁶ Cal. Inq. vi, no. 388.

²⁷ Chan. Inq. p.m. 5 Edw. III (2nd nos.), no. 70.

²⁸ Letters patent, writs of aid, &c., had been dated at Ketton in 1293 and 1296; Cal. Pat. R. 1292-1301, pp. 7, 184; Cal. Fine R. 1272-1307, p. 370. But this may have been at Gray's or Whitwell's Manor.

²⁹ Blore, op. cit. 160.

³⁰ Ibid. 161.

³¹ V.C.H. Bucks. iv, 200.

³² Chan. Inq. p.m. 9 Hen. IV, no. 9

³³ Ibid. 10 Hen. IV, no. 16.

³⁴ Ibid. 13 Hen. IV, no. 1.

³⁵ Ibid. 1 Hen. VI, no. 68.

³⁶ Ibid. no. 72.

³⁷ Feud. Aids, iv, 213.

³⁸ Cal. Pat. R. 1436-41, pp. 147, 221.

³⁹ Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 17 Hen. VI no. 10.

⁴⁰ Cal. Pat. R. 1467-77, p. 504.

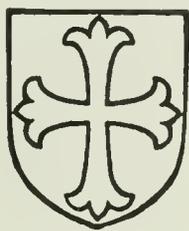
⁴¹ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), xlv, 116.

⁴² Chan. Proc. (Ser. ii), bdle. 77, no. 12.

that he had been forcibly kept out of the chief messuage and manor house. Among the persons cited as assisting the Greenhams to besiege the house in riotous manner after Reginald Conyers had achieved possession, were Zevesan and Dorothy Greenham, spinsters, and Anthony Drilaunde. By these defendants William Caldecott, described as Justice of the Peace and as Constable of Ketton, had previously been resisted when, with Reginald Conyers, he had appeared at the outer gates and demanded admission. In 1558 Reginald Conyers obtained an award of the manor against young Francis Greenham and his guardian John Marthe.⁴³ Reginald Conyers bequeathed the manor to his wife Elizabeth Stonnor and died in 1559, leaving a son and heir also named Francis, aged seven,⁴¹ and a daughter Lucy. Elizabeth Stonnor, the widow of Reginald Conyers, married Edward Griffin of Wardon and Dingley (co. Northant.), and against them Francis Greenham, on reaching his majority, brought an action to recover possession of the manor, claiming that the use only during his nonage had been

bequest of the manor to Elizabeth Stonnor in Reginald Conyers' will was fraudulent.⁵⁴ In 1584 Elizabeth, Lady St. John of Bletsoe, with Edward and Richard Griffin, and Edward's wife Lucy, conveyed the manor to Ferdinand Caldecott,⁵⁵ the owner of Whitwell's Manor (q.v.). John Caldecott, after mortgaging it to John Burton of Stockerston (co. Leic.) and Thomas Burton his son,⁵⁶ sold it in 1602 for £2,660 to Robert Lane of Burford (co. Northant.),⁵⁷ a younger son of Sir Robert Lane of Horton (co. Northant.). Robert Lane established his case against the Burtons as to the redemption of the mortgage.⁵⁸ He was knighted in the royal garden at Whitehall before the coronation of James I,⁵⁹ was sheriff of Rutland in 1612 and 1622, and died in 1624, when the manor passed to his nephew and heir, William Lane.⁶⁰ By 1630 the manor had been conveyed to William, Earl of Denbigh,⁶¹ who, with his wife Susan and with William Lane, sold it with the manor of Whitwells, to George Benyon, citizen and grocer of London, in 1631.⁶²

George Benyon, who was Receiver General for Northamptonshire and Rutland, was impeached by the Long Parliament and imprisoned in Colchester Castle,⁶³ but knighted by King Charles at Beverley in 1642,⁶⁴ in which year his wife petitioned the House of Commons for relief. By settlement of 1667 and his will dated 1669, he devised his manors of Greenhams, Whitwells and Hutchins in Ketton, with grounds called Ketton Common and Witchley Heath within the Forest of Rutland alias Leighfield (i.e., 230 acres severed from the forest and allotted to Sir Robert Lane), to his son George Benyon and his heirs, with remainder to his (Sir George's) grandson George Smith (his daughter's son by John Smith) and his heirs.⁶⁵ George Benyon succeeded his father and was dealing with these manors in 1677,⁶⁶ but died childless. His nephew George Smith, of London, devised his Ketton manors to his wife Margaret for life, then to their issue, and in default of such issue to his kinsman John Rushout, fourth son of Sir James Rushout of Milnot Maynard (co. Essex), and afterwards of Northwick (co. Worc.), and of Alice, daughter and heir of Edmund Pitt of Harrow by Alice, daughter of Sir George Benyon.⁶⁷ John Rushout inherited these manors and became 4th baronet in 1711. He was M.P. for Evesham and Malmesbury, and married Anne, daughter of George Compton, fourth Earl of Northampton, by whom he had a son and heir John.⁶⁸ He settled his Ketton manors in 1761 on his son John in tail,⁶⁹ and died in 1775, aged 92. His son John, who was also M.P. for Evesham, succeeded him, and was created Baron



LATIMER. *Gules a cross patty or.*



GRIFFIN. *Sable a griffin argent with beak and forelegs or.*

decreed to Reginald Conyers.⁴⁵ The Griffins, who had held Wardon as heirs of the Latimers since the time of Henry IV,⁴⁶ were described in this suit as 'of great power and friendship in the counties of Rutland and Northampton,' and must have arrived at an accommodation with Francis Greenham, who apparently conveyed the manor to Edward Griffin in 1567.⁴⁷ Edward Griffin died in 1569, leaving two sons, Richard, by his wife Elizabeth Stonnor, and Edward, by a former wife.⁴⁸ His widow was dealing with the manors of Ketton and Edith Weston in the following year.⁴⁹ She married again, as his second wife, Oliver, Lord St. John of Bletsoe.⁵⁰ In 1572 Francis Conyers died, and his sister and heir Lucy married Edward Griffin, son and heir of Edward Griffin and Elizabeth Palmer.⁵¹ A dispute about the will of Reginald Conyers was settled by arbitration in 1575.⁵² Oliver Lord St. John died in 1582,⁵³ and legal proceedings were then instituted by Edward Griffin of Dingley and his wife Lucy (née Conyers) against her mother, the widowed Lady St. John, to obtain possession of the estate of Francis Conyers, including the manor of Ketton, late manor of Greenhams, household goods and jewels, etc., the plaintiffs alleging that the



RUSHOUT, Lord Northwick. *Sable two leopards in a border en-grailed or.*

⁴³ Star Chamb. Proc. Hen. VIII, bdle. 26, nos. 75, 285; Phil. & M. bdle. 6, no. 1; Chan. Proc. (Ser. ii), bdle. 39, no. 13; bdle. 77, no. 12.

⁴⁴ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), cxvii, 42.
⁴⁵ Chan. Proc. (Ser. ii), bdle. 77, no. 12.

⁴⁶ Bridges, *Hist. of Northants*, i, 114. See also Wakerley, *ibid.* ii, 343.

⁴⁷ *Recov. R. Mich.* 9 Eliz. ro. 1127.

⁴⁸ Burke, *Extinct Peerage*, 1866, p. 255.

⁴⁹ Feet of F. Rutl. East. 12 Eliz.

⁵⁰ Chan. Proc. (Ser. ii), bdle. 240, no. 16.

⁵¹ *Ibid.*; Burke, *loc. cit.*

⁵² Chan. Proc. *loc. cit.*

⁵³ G.E.C. *Complete Peerage*, vii, 18.

⁵⁴ Chan. Proc. *loc. cit.*

⁵⁵ Feet of F. Rutl. East. 26 Eliz.

⁵⁶ Chan. Proc. (Ser. ii), bdle. 280, no. 20.

⁵⁷ Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 44 Eliz.

⁵⁸ Chan. Proc. *loc. cit.*

⁵⁹ Shaw, *Knights of Engl.* ii, 115.

⁶⁰ *Blore, op. cit.* 165, 169.

⁶¹ Pat. R. 6 Chas. I, pt. 3, no. 32.

⁶² Feet of F. Rutl. III. 6 Chas. I.

⁶³ *Blore, op. cit.* 166, 173.

⁶⁴ Shaw, *op. cit.* 213.

⁶⁵ *Blore, op. cit.* 173.

⁶⁶ *Recov. R. III. 29-30 Chas. II, ro. 34.*

⁶⁷ *Blore, op. cit.* 173-4.

⁶⁸ G.E.C. *Baronetage*, iii, 211.

⁶⁹ *Recov. R. III. 1 Geo. III, m. 75.*

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Northwick of Northwick Park (co. Worc.) in 1797.⁷⁰ He, dying in 1800, was succeeded in the barony and manors by John his son. John, who died unmarried in 1859, was succeeded by his nephew, George Rushout-Bowles, son of his only brother, George Rushout-Bowles, incumbent of Burford (co. Salop), who inherited the family estates and title. The title became extinct when George died childless in 1887.⁷¹ His widow continued to hold the manors until her death, when they passed to her grandson Edward George Spencer-Churchill, son of her daughter by a former husband. The property was afterwards bought by the Ketton Cement Company.

At the end of the 12th century William de Humez, Constable of Normandy, granted lands in Ketton to Sir Henry de Grey,⁷² which were later known as GREY'S or WHITWELL'S MANOR. Henry's son Richard de Grey married Lucy, daughter of John de Humez, son of Jordan, younger brother of William de Humez the Constable,⁷³ and these lands were confirmed to him in 1219,⁷⁴ and were excepted from the grant to William de Warenne in 1228.⁷⁵ They appear in 1243 as a manor in Ketton, in the demesnes of which John de Grey, a younger brother of Richard, received a grant of free warren,⁷⁶ and John was dealing with lands there in 1258.⁷⁷ The overlordship of the manor descended with the title of Lord Grey of Codnor until 1496, when Sir Henry Grey died without legitimate issue. The overlordship of Ketton then went to his aunt Elizabeth, wife of Sir John Zouche. In 1543 the manor was held of George Zouche as of his manor of Codnor.⁷⁸

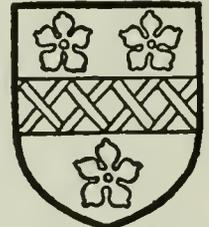
The Greys subinfeudated the manor, possibly to Robert de Legh and Joan, his wife, who in 1241 were dealing with lands in Ketton.⁷⁹ The Leghs were possibly kinsfolk of John de Grey, who in 1243 had a reversionary interest in lands after the death of Emma de Legh.⁸⁰

Hasculph de Whitwell and his wife Maud in 1321 acquired lands in Ketton from Roger de Pedwardyn and Alice his wife,⁸¹ and in the same year John son of John L'Estrange granted land held by the service of a quarter of a fee to Hasculph de Whitwell.⁸² In 1342 Hasculph was licensed to alienate a rent of 100s. from lands in Ketton, Weston and Grantham, not held in chief, to find a chaplain for celebrating daily service in a church not specified.⁸³ He was probably followed by Robert de Whitwell of Ketton, who, in 1364, made a grant of his manor of Harrowby or Herardeby (co. Linc.), retaining his manor of Ketton.⁸⁴ In 1384 Robert Whitwell and his wife, Denise, conveyed lands and rents in Ketton and

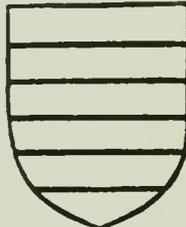
Kilthorpe to Thomas Whitwell and his wife Sara.⁸⁵ Robert Whitwell of Ketton appears in a list of persons summoned to take the oath not to maintain peace-breakers in 1434.⁸⁶ The manor came to the Caldecotts by marriage with the heir-general of the Whitwells.⁸⁷



WHITWELL. *Azure three griffons' heads razed or.*



CALDECOTT. *Argent a fesse azure fretted or between three cinquefoils gules.*



GREY. *Barry argent and azure.*

This was probably Annabella Caldecott, whose husband John Caldecott died in 1531, leaving his grandson William, son of Edward Caldecott, his heir, aged twenty.⁸⁸ Annabella, apparently in her own right, settled the manor, held of George Zouche as of his manor of Codnor, on William, her grandson, in 1536.⁸⁹ She died in 1542, and was succeeded by William,⁹⁰ who settled the manor on his son Ferdinand on his marriage in 1572 with Margery, daughter and co-heir of Thomas Digby of Cotes (co. Leic.), son of Libaeus Digby of North Luffenham and Cotes, a younger son of Everard Digby of Stoke Dry.⁹¹ Ferdinand, who was holding Whitwells in that year,⁹² was defendant with his mother, Mary Caldecott, in an action brought to recover lands alleged to have been conveyed by William, his father, to Richard Morris of Caldecott.⁹³ In 1602 Whitwells was conveyed with Greenhams (q.v.) by John Caldecott to Robert Lane, and since then they have descended together.

HUCHYNS MANOR probably originated in the lands and rents in Ketton, held by Hasculph de Whitwell as a quarter fee, by grant from John L'Estrange, of which the Greenhams were tenants. It was possibly this estate which Sir Thomas Burton and Master Nicholas Burton, clerk, conveyed to John Sapcote of Exton, merchant, in 1423, Thomas Greenham, whose daughter married Sir Thomas Burton, witnessing the grant.⁹⁴ John Sapcote was dealing with land in Ketton in 1427.⁹⁵ Sir Richard Sapcote held a manor of Ketton of Thomas Greenham as of his manor of Ketton, which he settled in 1521 on his wife Christine, and died in 1543, leaving his son Robert, aged seventeen, his heir.⁹⁶ In 1558 Robert Sapcote conveyed the manor to William Caldecott.⁹⁷ The manor of Huchyns was included with those manors (q.v.) in the settlement and will of Sir George Benyon in 1667 and 1669, since which date it has been held with Greenhams and Whitwells.

Robert Huchyn (Hochen or Hochyn), who gave his

⁷⁰ G.E.C. *Complete Peerage*, vi, 98.

⁷¹ *Ibid.*

⁷² *Cal. Pat. R.* 1225-32, p. 190.

⁷³ *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), vi, 135 n.; *Blore*, op. cit. 158.

⁷⁴ *Rot. Litt. Claus.* (Rec. Com.), i, 522, 550, 552.

⁷⁵ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1225-32, p. 190.

⁷⁶ *Ibid.* 1232-47, p. 371.

⁷⁷ Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 42 Hen. III, no. 52.

⁷⁸ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), lxxix, 87.

⁷⁹ Feet of F. Rutl. file 3, no. 22.

⁸⁰ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1232-47, p. 371.

⁸¹ Feet of F. Rutl. 14 Edw. II, no. 31.

⁸² Inq. a.q.d. cxlii, 19.

⁸³ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1340-3, p. 464.

⁸⁴ *Ibid.* 1361-4, p. 511; Inq. a.q.d. cccli, 4.

⁸⁵ Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 7 Ric. II, no. 5.

⁸⁶ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1429-36, p. 370.

⁸⁷ *Blore*, op. cit. 164.

⁸⁸ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), lxxxi, 260. This inquisition on Rutland property makes no mention of Ketton estates.

⁸⁹ *Ibid.* lxxix, 87.

⁹⁰ *Ibid.*

⁹¹ Chan. Proc. (Ser. ii), bdle. 214, no. 25; *Blore*, loc. cit.

⁹² *Recov. R. Trin.* 14 Eliz. ro. 1025.

⁹³ Chan. Proc. loc. cit.

⁹⁴ *Visit. Rutl.* 1681-2 (Harl. Soc.), pp. 22, 24.

⁹⁵ Feet of F. Rutl. East. 5 Hen. VI, no. 1.

⁹⁶ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), lxxix, 92.

⁹⁷ Feet of F. Rutl. East. 4 & 5 Phil. & M.

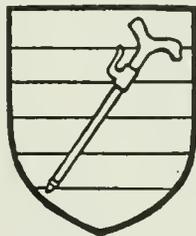
name to the manor, with his wife Isobel and William Smith and his wife Cecily, between 1518-29 sued William Breton and his wife Joan, daughter of Richard Sherwood, for lands in Ketton.⁹⁸ Robert Huchyn, with the other plaintiffs, conveyed a manor in Ketton in 1547 to Robert Hare, clerk, with warranty against the heirs of Isobel.⁹⁹ In 1561 John Houghton and his wife Susan and Robert Huchyn, conveyed a manor in Ketton to George Trigg,¹ who by his will devised it to Francis, son of his sister Joyce Carroll, to Robert, George and Roger Carroll, brothers of Francis, and to Richard Crayford, son of William Crayford, and died in 1587.² Francis Carroll succeeded him, but in 1599 it had passed to Richard Crayford.³ An almost illegible deed purports to convey it to the Queen, but no further mention of it has been found.

In 1301 Robert Lutrel had licence to grant lands in Ketton, later known as *KETTLETHORPE HALL*, to the Priory of Sempringham (co. Linc.),⁴ to which priory Hasculph de Whitwell may have assigned the lands he proposed in 1342, to devote to the maintenance of a chaplain already referred to. After the Dissolution a messuage and lands in Ketton formerly belonging to the priory of Sempringham were granted in 1544 to John Markham.⁵ The manor of Ketton and manor or grange in Ketton called Kettlethorpe Hall, formerly belonging to Sempringham Priory, were granted in 1545 to James Gunter and William Lewes,⁶ who in 1546 had licence to alienate the same to Sir John Harington.⁷ His grandson John, son of Sir James Harington and his wife Anne, in 1596 conveyed these manors to Richard Stace.⁸ John, afterwards 1st Lord Harington, was holding them in 1599,⁹ in which year Richard Stace and Betelina his wife conveyed them to John Tredway.¹⁰ In the same year, John Tredway settled them on his wife Elizabeth and son Robert.¹¹ In 1610 John died seised of these manors¹² and his son Robert, who was aged sixteen at his father's death, had livery of the manors in 1618.¹³ He was sheriff in 1623. He seems to have died childless, as in 1636 the manors were held by John's widow, Elizabeth, and daughter Cecilia, who settled them on the marriage of Cecilia with Evers Ardyn.¹⁴ Evers was an active Parliamentarian, and as 'Mr. Ardyn of Ketton' had been referred to with his wife Cecilia, on account of his opinions in a report on ecclesiastical matters at Ketton in 1639 and 1640.¹⁵ They had a son and four daughters, one of whom¹⁶ married John Bullingham.

Evers and Cecilia were dealing with these manors in 1657.¹⁷ Their son evidently predeceased them. Evers died in 1680, survived by his wife, his heir being his grandson Ardyn Bullingham, a minor. Ardyn's father, John Bullingham, son of Richard, the lessee of the prebendal manor, proved the will, and, as John Bullingham of Ketton, was sheriff in 1685.¹⁸ In 1691 Ardyn Bullingham of Ketton settled the manors,¹⁹ after which he sold them in 1697 to Samuel Tryon, of Collyweston (co. Northant.), with view of frankpledge, courts leet, etc., in Ketton, Kettlethorpe, Kiltthorpe and Geeston.²⁰ Samuel Tryon was succeeded by his son John, who²¹ was dealing with the manor in 1718.²² John Tryon left an only daughter who married Richard Dixon Skrine, and died in 1800.²³ The manorial rights seem to have been lost after this date.

In the Domesday Survey (1086) the king was entered as holding *KILTTHORPE* (Sculetorpe xi cent.; Killingthorp, Kelethorpe, Kiltthorpe xiii cent.) with South Luffenham, and both were then held at farm by the king's important tenant, Hugh de Port.²⁴ It was held of Thomas de Greenham in 1370,²⁵ and had possibly, like the Ketton manor, which the Greenhams acquired from Ebulo de Mountz, been held at an earlier date by William de Humez.²⁶ In 1230 Baldwin de Frivill had the custody of a manor of Kiltthorpe, which was probably this manor, and of the daughter and heir of Ralph de Kiltthorpe.²⁷ This heiress may possibly have become the wife of Ralph de Greenham, and the land with which in 1254 and 1262 Ralph de Greenham and his wife Mabel were dealing may have been in Ketton manor (q.v.), which was granted to them in 1266 by Ebulo de Mountz. The manor of Kiltthorpe was held of Thomas de Greenham by suit of court at his manor of Ketton in 1370.²⁸ At this date, moreover, Simon de Bereford held of Hasculph de Whitwell, himself apparently a tenant of Thomas Greenham, property described sometimes as in Ketton, but at others as in Kiltthorpe, from which a rent was due to the heirs of Mabel de Greenham.²⁹ It was granted to Tateshall Priory in the 15th century, and after the Dissolution was held of the Crown.³⁰

In 1199, Henry son of Geoffrey granted 10½ bovates and half a mill in Kiltthorpe to John the Clerk,³¹ and about the same time Robert son of Geoffrey was disputing rights in 4 bovates and half a mill in Kiltthorpe with John de Witeringe.³² In the 14th century, the manor, like the neighbouring manor of Duddington, was held by the Deyncourts, descending later from Lord Deyncourt to a younger branch of that family. In 1342 William Deyncourt was dealing with a messuage, lands, and rent in Ketton.³³ In 1359 protection was granted for William Deyncourt, who was occupied about the keeping of the king's



SEMPRINGHAM PRIORY. *Barry argent and gules with a palmer's staff or bendwise sinister over all.*

⁹⁸ Early Chan. Proc. bdle. 525, no. 58.

⁹⁹ Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 1 Edw. VI.

¹ Ibid. East. 3 Eliz.

² Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), ccxix, 108.

³ Recov. R. East. 41 Eliz. m. 11.

⁴ Inq. a.q.d. xxxvii, 12; *Cal. Pat. R.* 1301-7, p. 6.

⁵ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xix (i), p. 646.

⁶ *Pat. R.* 37 Hen. VIII, pt. 12; *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xx (i), g. 1335 (37).

⁷ Ibid. xxi (ii), g. 332 (91).

⁸ Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 38 Eliz.

⁹ Recov. R. Mich. 41 Eliz. ro. 60.

¹⁰ Feet of F. Rutl. East. 41 Eliz.

¹¹ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), ccvii, 105.

¹² Ibid.

¹³ Fine R. 15 Jas. I, pt. 2, no. 55.

¹⁴ Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 11 Chas. I.

¹⁵ *Cal. S.P. Dom.* 1639, p. 495; 1640, p. 139.

¹⁶ Blore, op. cit. 176.

¹⁷ Feet of F. Rutl. East. 1657. A conveyance to which, as in 1636, Thomas Hatcher was a party; in 1657 Michael Ardyn acted with him.

¹⁸ Blore, op. cit. 175.

¹⁹ Recov. R. Mich. 3 Will. & M. ro. 244.

²⁰ Ibid. East. 9 Will. III, ro. 189.

²¹ For an account of this family see *V.C.H. Northants*, ii, 553.

²² Recov. R. Mich. 5 Geo. I, ro. 17.

²³ *V.C.H.* loc. cit.

²⁴ Ibid. i, 304.

²⁵ Chan. Inq. p.m. 43 Edw. III, pt. 1, no. 27.

²⁶ *Bk. of Fees* (P.R.O.), p. 618.

²⁷ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1225-32, p. 322.

²⁸ Chan. Inq. p.m. 43 Edw. III, pt. 1, no. 27.

²⁹ See below.

³⁰ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), cccxvii, 6.

³¹ Feet of F. Rutl. file i, no. 6.

³² *Curia Regis R.* i, 7.

³³ Feet of F. Rutl. East. & Trin. 15 Edw. III, no. 28.

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adversary, the king of France, in the Castle of Somerton.³⁴ William Deyncourt confirmed an agreement between his sons Robert and Thomas, by which Thomas and his heirs male held this manor during the life of Robert. Thomas died in 1368 when Robert was returned as his heir.³⁵ In 1458 Thomas Deyncourt of Upminster (co. Essex) settled Kiltorpe and other manors,³⁶ and in the reign of Richard III

(1483-5) lands in Ketton were granted to the College of the Holy Trinity of Tateshall by John Deyncourt and his wife Joan and son and heir Robert.³⁷ At the Dissolution the college owned rents and lands worth 73s. in Kiltorpe.³⁸ All the possessions of the college in Kiltorpe were granted with the college to Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk, in 1545.³⁹ The manor was in the possession of Thomas Glemham in

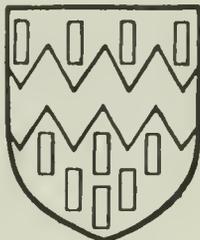
1563 and granted by him to Francis Colbye,⁴⁰ who immediately conveyed it to John Houghton.⁴¹ John Houghton, who built the Guildhall at Stamford, and represented that borough in Parliament, made a settlement of the manor in 1571,⁴² and died in 1583. He left two sons, Thomas and Tobias, and two daughters, Sarah and Millicent, by his first wife, and a daughter Susan by his second. Tobias succeeded to Kiltorpe and married Mary, daughter of Christopher Peyton.⁴³

He died seised of the manor in 1625,⁴⁴ and his son Walter, aged thirty at his father's death, had livery of the manor in 1628.⁴⁵ In 1629, with his wife Elizabeth, Walter conveyed it to his son John Houghton and Henry Peake.⁴⁶ He died in 1635 at Kiltorpe.⁴⁷ His son and heir John, aged twenty-five at his father's death, had livery of the manor in 1638.⁴⁸ In 1676 the manor was in the hands of George Houghton and his wife Helen.⁴⁹ In 1709 George Houghton conveyed it to Francis Annesley⁵⁰ in trust and a settlement was made in 1711 previous to the marriage of George with Euphemia Bor.⁵¹ In 1730 it was conveyed to Euphemia for payment of legacies, as executor with Francis Loftus and Francis Annesley.⁵² In 1751 Euphemia Houghton, widow, James Houghton, eldest son and heir of George, Arthur, Richard, and Captain Charles Houghton, younger sons, with the surviving executors of George Houghton, made a conveyance of the manor to Francis Wotton of Ketton, clerk.⁵³ In 1756 Francis Wotton settled the manor in

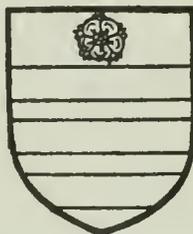
tail male, and in 1773 with Francis Wotton, junior, his son by his late wife Mary, again made settlement of it.⁵⁴ In 1782 it was sold by the Rev. Francis Wotton, his son Francis, and Sarah, wife of his son Francis, to Sir Gilbert Heathcote, bart., of Normanton,⁵⁵ from which date it followed the descent of Normanton (q.v.) until the beginning of the 20th century. It was then apparently held by George Henry Whattoff, but the manorial rights have been lost.

The *PREBENDAL* or *RECTORY MANOR* has been leased for terms of three lives to a succession of lessees. Nicholas Bullingham, son of the bishop, was holding it during the reigns of James I and Charles I.⁵⁶ In 1617 it was demised by Thomas Cecil, then prebendary, to Richard Judkin in trust for the lives of Thomas, Francis, and Richard Bullingham, sons of Nicholas, and the longer liver.⁵⁷ A conveyance to which Richard Bullingham, John Worsley of Deeping Gate (co. Northant.), Robert Harington, citizen and draper of London, Francis Bullingham of London, John Byrd of Stamford, and Mary Worsley, sister of the above John Worsley, afterwards the wife of Richard Bullingham, were parties, was made in 1620,⁵⁸ and in 1633 the subject of legal proceedings instituted by Thomas Levet of Tixover, to whom Richard Bullingham had in the previous year leased the tithes in Tixover.⁵⁹ The lease to the Bullinghams had not expired when under the Commonwealth the Parliamentary Trustees in 1650 sold to Adam Banck, of London, the Prebendal mansion house and site (from the High Dayes northward with the chapel, stable next the chapel and

ground covering 4 acres) abutting on the street north and east and on the Field, west, with the water-mill near the mansion house, the Millholmes, and certain other tenements, closes and meadows, etc., belonging to the prebend, for £480 18s. 4d.⁶⁰ At the same time they sold to Evers Ardyn of Gray's Inn for £105 11s. 8d. the manor itself, with all profits of courts, hunting and fishing rights, excepting out of the sale of the said chief messuage, etc., sold to Adam Banck, all quarries opened within the manor, public churches, chapels and churchyards.⁶¹ From the Bullinghams the manor had passed before 1723 to Martin Bladen, who in that year obtained a renewal of the lease for the lives of himself, of Richard and Sarah Smelt, and of Isabella Bladen, daughter of Martin Bladen. Bladen, who had been lieutenant-colonel under Marlborough, and held the controllership of the Mint and other posts, died in 1746.⁶²



DEYNCOURT. *Azure a fesse dancetty between ten billets or.*



HOUGHTON. *Sable three bars argent with a rose or in the chief.*



BULLINGHAM. *Azure an eagle argent holding in his beak a sprig of beech or and a chief or with a rose between two crosslets gules therein.*

³⁴ Blore, op. cit. 153; *Cal. Pat. R.* 1358-61, p. 315. These were manors belonging to William Lord Deyncourt, to a younger branch of whose family Whalley Hall (co. Derby) descended. Granby was his chief seat.

³⁵ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 43 Edw. III, pt. 1, no. 27.

³⁶ *Close R.* 36 Hen. VI, m. 23.

³⁷ Blore, op. cit. 227.

³⁸ *Valor Eccles.* (Rec. Com.), iv, 42.

³⁹ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xx (1), g. 465 (38).

⁴⁰ Feet of F. Rutl. East. 5 Eliz. This is written 'Glemham' in the grant, but is suspiciously like Grenham. ⁴¹ *Ibid.*

⁴² *Ibid.* Mich. 13 & 14 Eliz.; *Pat. R.* 29 Eliz. pt. 16.

⁴³ *Genealogist* (N.S.), vol. xxix.

⁴⁴ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), ccccxvii, 6.

⁴⁵ *Fine R.* 3 Chas. I, pt. 3, no. 8.

⁴⁶ Feet of F. Rutl. East. 4 Chas. I.

⁴⁷ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), cccclxxv, 51.

⁴⁸ *Fine R.* 13 Chas. I, pt. 3, no. 19.

⁴⁹ Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 27-28 Chas. II.

⁵⁰ *Ibid.* Hil. 7 Anne.

⁵¹ Blore, op. cit. 156.

⁵² *Ibid.*

⁵³ *Ibid.*; *Recov. R. Trin.* 26-27 Geo. II, ro. 337.

⁵⁴ *Ibid.* Mich. 14 Geo. III, ros. 249-50.

⁵⁵ Blore, op. cit. 157.

⁵⁶ *Ibid.* 179.

⁵⁷ *Close R.* 1651, pt. 19, no. 39.

⁵⁸ *Chan. Proc.* (Ser. ii), bdlc. 408, no. 95.

⁵⁹ *Ibid.*

⁶⁰ *Close R.* 1651, pt. 17, no. 18.

⁶¹ *Ibid.* pt. 19, no. 39.

⁶² Blore, op. cit. 180-1.



KETTON CHURCH: THE WEST FRONT



KETTON CHURCH : THE INTERIOR, LOOKING EAST



KETTON CHURCH FROM THE SOUTH-WEST

Isabella, his only daughter and heir, married, as her first husband, John Tinker of Weybridge. She was holding the manor with her second husband, George Blount, in 1768,⁶³ and died seized of it at Ketton in 1775.⁶⁴ Her grandson, Martin Bladen Tinker, sold the manor in 1786 to Colonel Gerard Noel Edwards. Colonel Edwards afterwards took the name of Noel under the will of Henry Noel, last Earl of Gainsborough, whose eldest sister and co-heir was his mother. He obtained a renewal of the lease in 1798 for the lives of his eldest son, Charles Noel, Gerard Thomas, his second son, and Francis, his seventh son, his mother, Lady Jane Edwards, continuing to live at the manor house. Diana, the wife of Colonel Gerard Noel Noel, was the daughter of Sir Charles Middleton, created Baron Barham in 1805, with remainder of dignities to his said daughter, and in 1809 the manor, still the property of her husband, was leased by the Middleton family, who continued as lessees until the latter half of the century. Between 1889 and 1900 the lands of the Prebendal Manor were sold to Thomas Casswell Molesworth, and on his death he was succeeded by his son, Mr. Thomas Casswell Molesworth, the present lay rector. In 1872 the Hall was purchased from the Hon. H. Noel by J. T. Hopwood, whose seat it remained until about 1900, when it was bought by Richard Roger Hollins, who afterwards sold it to the Ketton Cement Company, when it was pulled down. The land was bought by various people, including Mr. E. Guy Fenwick, of North Luffenham, and Capt. Henry C. Fenwick, who built the present Hall, but the manorial rights have apparently disappeared.⁶⁵

The church of *ST. MARY* consists *CHURCH* of chancel 43 ft. 9 in. by 19 ft. 9 in., central tower 13 ft. square, short north and south transepts 16 ft. wide, clearstoried nave of three bays 59 ft. 9 in. by 17 ft. 6 in., north and south aisles 8 ft. wide, and south porch 11 ft. 3 in. by 10 ft. 3 in., all these measurements being internal. The tower is surmounted by a lofty spire. The width across nave and aisles is 38 ft. 8 in., and the total internal length of the church is 123 ft. 6 in. The transepts were formerly larger, but have been reduced in length to 9 ft. 6 in., their end walls ranging externally with the walls of the aisles.

The west end of the nave and aisles, the south transept and the tower are faced with ashlar, but elsewhere the walling is of rubble,⁶⁶ plastered internally. The chancel has a high-pitched stone-slatted roof, but the other roofs are leaved and of low pitch, those of the aisles being continued eastward over the transepts. There are plain parapets to the chancel and aisles, but the nave roof is eaved. The north transept is now the organ-chamber, and the south transept the vestry.

The church is, in the main, a 13th-century rebuilding

of a Norman fabric, which itself may have been a late 12th-century rebuilding of an earlier structure.⁶⁷ The existing west front of the nave dates from c. 1190, and some botched chevron work re-used at the east end of the south aisle, which may have come from a tower arch, is probably not much earlier. It would appear, therefore, that a new church was begun upon a large scale, on an aisleless cruciform plan, about the end of the third quarter of the 12th century, and that the nave was completed as far as the west front, c. 1190. Of this nave, the roof line still remains on the west side of the tower,⁶⁸ but the tower was not finished and the projected transepts were left entirely incomplete.⁶⁹ The work probably came to a stop owing to lack of funds, and was not again taken in hand until more than thirty years later, when, with the aid of indulgences, its completion was begun on a still bigger scale. Bishop Hugh de Wells's grant of a release of twenty days' penance in 1232 to those who should help in building the church mentions its 'ruinous' condition at that time,⁷⁰ but the term, used rather vaguely in such documents, may mean little more than that the building was unfinished and in need of repair. However this may be, it would seem that the former plan was altered in favour of an aisled nave, and perhaps of transepts of a slighter projection than had been originally intended, though in their present form the transepts are of early 14th-century date.⁷¹

Such a remodelling of the fabric probably involved the underpinning of the whole of the crossing, the old roof being left in place for the time being, so as to keep the nave in use until the aisle walls were completed, and by the time the nave arcades were begun, the new chancel and crossing would be ready for use, and the nave walls could be taken down to make way for the arcades.⁷² The old west wall of the nave was retained, and if the old crossing was rebuilt by underpinning while the nave roof was still on, little of the 12th-century work would be left below or above the roof line, as the old courses could be taken away piecemeal and new masonry substituted. The work, beginning with the chancel, may have spread over a number of years, the indulgence of 1232 perhaps only marking a point at which the fabric fund showed signs of exhaustion, when application for assistance would be made to the bishop.⁷³ The church was re-dedicated by Bishop Grosseteste on 7 October 1240, and its general style points to its having been completed at that time or not much later, though the dedication itself affords no architectural evidence.⁷⁴

In the 14th century the spire was built, new windows inserted in the north aisle and at the west end of the nave, the aisle walls heightened and the porch erected; the completion or remodelling of the transepts, as already mentioned, also appears to have

⁶³ *Priv. Stat.* 8 Geo. III, 1768, cap. 19.

⁶⁴ Blore, *op. cit.* 182.

⁶⁵ *Inf.* kindly supplied by the Rev. Canon A. H. Snowden.

⁶⁶ Barnack stone was used notwithstanding the existence of the Ketton quarries (Blore, *op. cit.* 183).

⁶⁷ In 1911, during alterations to the heating apparatus, a fragment of what appears to have been the arm of a pre-Conquest cross was found buried in the floor, and is now preserved in the chancel. *Trans. Rul. Arch. Soc.* (1917), 52. It is

carved with a plaited pattern and is perhaps of 11th-century date.

⁶⁸ The lower of two roof lines below the existing flat-pitched roof.

⁶⁹ Their roof lines are seen on the outside of the tower, and that of the chancel on the east side, below the present chancel roof.

⁷⁰ Wright, *Hist. of Rul.* 73; Blore, *loc. cit.*

⁷¹ Whether they stood unfinished until this time, or whether 13th-century transepts were then shortened, is uncertain; but a shortening so soon after building seems unlikely.

⁷² The arcades, with their lofty arches, must have been built clear of any earlier walls.

⁷³ This, of course, would not apply to the chancel, for which the prebendary of Ketton, as rector, would be responsible, possibly with assistance from the Dean and Chapter of Lincoln.

⁷⁴ Dedications in the neighbourhood of 1240 are very numerous, their cause being the order made at the Council of London, 1237-8, that churches whose high altars had not been properly consecrated should receive dedication as soon as possible.

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

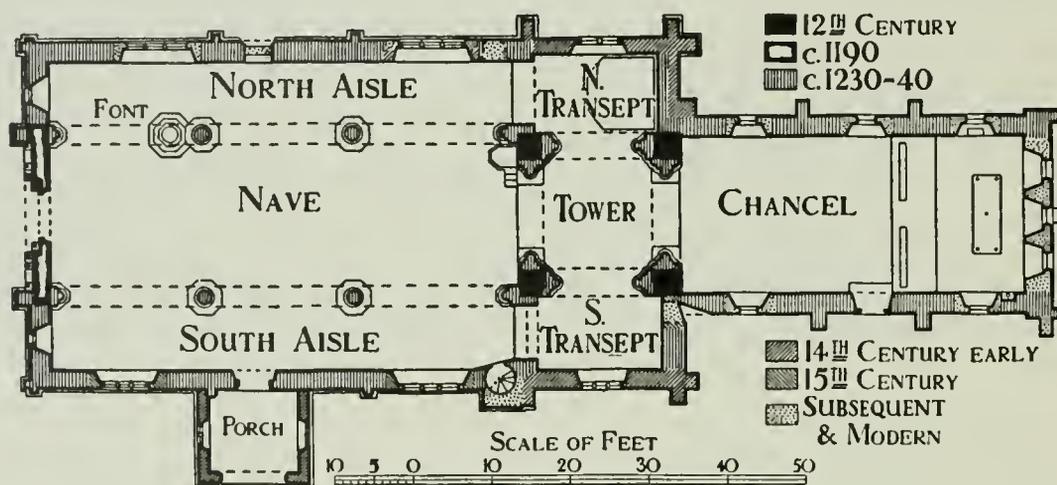
been effected early in this period. The clearstory was added in the 15th century, and new windows inserted in the south aisle. There was a general restoration of the church west of the chancel in 1861, under the direction of Sir Gilbert Scott, when the old west window was replaced by a new one and the upper part of the north wall of the north aisle rebuilt. An extensive restoration of the chancel by Sir T. G. Jackson followed in 1863, when the lateral windows were renewed and a then existing square-headed transomed east window of six lights,⁷⁵ probably of 17th-century date, was removed, and a new roof erected. No ancient ritual arrangements have survived.

The chancel is divided externally into three bays by buttresses of three stages, with tall clasping buttresses at the eastern angles and a dwarf buttress in the middle of the east wall. The upper part of the walls all round has been rebuilt and the windows are

decoration.⁷⁶ There is a modern flat ceiling immediately above the arches.

The nave arcades consist of three pointed arches of two chamfered orders, with hood-moulds on each side, springing from tall cylindrical pillars and from responds similar to those of the tower arches, with moulded capitals and bases,⁷⁷ the latter on large octagonal plinths. The capitals are enriched with nail-head ornament, and the hood-moulds have a variety of stops, mostly heads.⁷⁸ The wide outer chamfers of the arches are also stopped above the pillars in various ways.⁷⁹

At the west end of each aisle is an unaltered tall lancet window, with chamfered jambs and hood with head-stops, but no other 13th-century windows remain. Externally the aisles are divided into three bays by small single-stage buttresses,⁸⁰ and a hollow moulding below the later parapets is enriched with notch-heads and four-leaf flowers.⁸¹ The north and



PLAN OF KETTON CHURCH

all modern. Few original features have been retained. The tall lancet windows, one in each bay on either side, reproduce old work, but the three grouped lancets in the east wall with a vesica-shaped opening above are a conjectural restoration only. The chamfered doorway in the south wall, however, is original; it is in the middle bay below the window, and has a segment head, with hood-mould rounded on the upper edge. Internally there is a string at sill level all round, but at the east end only outside. The piscina and ambry and all the chancel fittings are modern.

The four tower arches are acutely pointed, and of three orders, the two outer orders chamfered and the inner moulded, with hood-moulds on each side. They spring from clustered responds composed of a half-round column flanked by quarter shafts, all with water-holding bases and moulded capitals enriched with nail-head ornament. On the east side of the east arch there are considerable remains of coloured

south doorways are opposite each other in the middle bay; both are pointed, and that on the north side, which is now blocked, has a single chamfered arch on moulded imposts and hood with notch-stops. The south doorway has a moulded arch and jambs, the latter in the form of shafts with moulded capitals, one of which is enriched with nail-head ornament. Above the doorway is a trefoiled niche the back of which still retains traces of colour. The external sill string of the aisle, which has a rounded upper edge, is taken over the doorway as a hood-mould.

The west doorway of the nave is well known as a very interesting example of the transition from the Norman to the 13th-century style,⁸² and forms an architectural composition of great beauty filling the whole of the lower part of the wall between the nave buttresses.⁸³ The doorway has a wide semicircular arch of three moulded orders and is flanked by narrow lancet wall arches, all with enriched hood-moulds, on banded jambshafts with moulded bases and early

⁷⁵ It is shown in a drawing of the church in Wickes, *Spires and Towers of Engl.* ii, plate 20. There was then no gable, the parapet being taken straight along the east wall, behind which the roof was hipped.

⁷⁶ The outer chamfers are covered with running scrolls in red pigment.

⁷⁷ The hollows of the bases are more vertical than horizontal.

⁷⁸ In one case a large flower.

⁷⁹ Over the westernmost pier of the north arcade, towards the nave, the outer order of each arch has a single dog-tooth above the rounded stop.

⁸⁰ They are 16 in. on the face and project 7 in. They are in pairs at the

western angles. Those facing west and on the south side have bevelled angles.

⁸¹ On the south side there is an occasional ball-flower.

⁸² It is figured in Rickman, *Gothic Arch.* 7th ed. 100.

⁸³ These buttresses, which support the nave arcades, are 26½ in. on the face and project 19½ in.

foliated capitals. The inner order of the doorway is continuous and has an edge-roll with chevron moulding on both the wall and soffit plane, broken only by an impost. The middle order has a double chevron moulding with square edge and a hollow enriched with a variety of small heads, while the outer order has a large edge-roll between two hollows and hood-mould ornamented with small dog-tooth widely spaced. A larger dog-tooth is carried down the jambs between the supporting shafts of the arch. The capitals of the shafts vary in design, one on the north having fully developed angle volutes; another, on the south, has somewhat elaborate foliage, the others being of earlier type. The shaft bands are thoroughly Gothic in character, but the quirked abaci are square. The side arches are of a single order with chevron moulding on the wall plane only, upon jambshafts similar to those of the doorway, the hollows of the hood-moulds being enriched with pellets and nail-heads.⁸⁴ The whole of the work, which is rather a combination of 12th and 13th century features than a typical transitional composition, is much restored. There are stone benches below the wall arches.

There are dividing arches between the aisles and the transepts, that on the north side of two chamfered orders, corbelled out on heads. The south arch, which is higher and springs straight from the wall, has an inner chamfered order on the east side, but towards the aisle has a made-up Norman rear-arch, with chevron moulding on wall and soffit planes,⁸⁵ which carries a passage from the still-existing vice at the junction of the aisle and transept to the tower by means of a wooden stair⁸⁶ communicating with the round-headed doorway already referred to over the nave arch. Externally the vice has been rebuilt and the plain chamfered doorway from the aisle restored. A second high-pitched roof line on the west face of the tower is that of the 13th-century roof, which was superseded by the present flat-pitched roof in the 15th century after the erection of the clearstory.

The transepts in their present form seem little more than extensions of the nave aisles. They have pairs of boldly projecting buttresses at the eastern angles, and the pointed window of the north transept is of two lights with forked mullion. The south transept window is of three uncusped lights, with geometrical tracery consisting of three trefoiled circles, and there is a scroll-moulded string at sill level. Both these windows have single hollow-chamfered jambs, but there is a hood-mould to the north window only. All this work dates from c. 1300, or early in the 14th century; the moulding under the parapet of the north transept is enriched with ball-flowers, but on the south is plainly chamfered.⁸⁷

The windows of the north aisle are modern, but reproduce pointed 14th-century windows of three lights with geometrical tracery; the great five-light west window of the nave, however, was newly designed by Sir Gilbert Scott.⁸⁸ There is a blocked doorway of uncertain date at the east end of the north wall of

the north aisle. There is also a blocked 15th-century doorway in the east wall of the south transept, at its junction with the chancel.

Of the three 15th-century windows of the south aisle a square-headed one nearly over the porch is contemporary with the clearstory and of two lights. The tall segmental-headed window west of the porch is of three trefoiled lights with transom at mid-height, while that in the eastern bay is a large pointed window of three cinquefoiled lights, with battlemented transom at the spring of the arch and vertical trefoiled tracery.⁸⁹

The porch is without buttresses and has a later low-pitched battlemented gable and parapets to the side wall, the hollow moulding below which is enriched with various ornaments, including a portcullis. The pointed doorway is of two chamfered orders, the inner order springing from moulded corbels supported by heads; the hood has notch-stops and a head at the apex. The side windows are square-headed and of two lights, but that on the east is apparently a later renewal. There is a scratch dial on the east jamb of the doorway. The clearstory has three square-headed windows of two cinquefoiled lights on each side.

Above the crossing, the tower is of two stages, the plain lower stage being partly covered east and west by the roofs of the chancel and nave. The bell-chamber stage is a very beautiful example of 13th-century architecture, each face being slightly recessed and pierced by three tall pointed windows with richly moulded heads carried on banded shafts with moulded capitals and bases. Each window is divided into two lancet lights with a slender mid-shaft with moulded capital and base, the jambs being enriched with a double trail of dog-tooth. Between the windows a banded wall-shaft, grouping with those of the jambs, is continued upwards to the corbel table, which is confined to the recessed portion of the walling. The tabling consists of small arches enriched with dog-tooth on notch-heads. The lofty 14th-century spire⁹⁰ has ribbed angles, stopped at the bottom by carved heads, and three tiers of spire-lights, the upper and lower in the cardinal faces and the middle ones placed obliquely. The lower two-light openings are under plain gables ornamented with ball-flower and surmounted by crosses, while the middle ones, which are of two lights with a quatrefoil in the head, have crocketed gables with foliated finials. The small topmost single lights have plain gables surmounted by crosses, and the spire terminates in a cock vane. The broaches have ribbed ridges, and above each, at its junction with the spire, is a carved figure⁹¹ under a crocketed canopy. The symbols of the four Evangelists are carved at the lower angles.

The 14th-century font has an octagonal bowl with incised window-tracery panels, on a central cylindrical stem and rectangular legs with moulded bases.

The wooden pulpit and the screens at the east end of the aisles are modern. The altar and the pavement of the sanctuary date from 1925.

⁸⁴ On the north arch pellets only, on the south arch pellets and nail-head.

⁸⁵ This 'rear-arch' is a botched-up piece of work constructed of chevron voussoirs from the 12th-century building.

⁸⁶ The wooden stair is modern.

⁸⁷ Below the parapet of the north aisle the moulding has notch-heads and an occasional four-leafed flower, in the south

aisle notch-heads and occasional ball-flowers.

⁸⁸ The old west window was of four lights with uncusped tracery. It is shown in the south-west view of the church in Blore, *op. cit.* 138.

⁸⁹ The jambs have a plain single chamfer and below the transom may belong to an older window; those of

the window west of the porch are double chamfered.

⁹⁰ The height of the spire is variously given, but is about 145 ft.: *Trans. Rutl. Arch. Soc.* (1917), 55.

⁹¹ The figures are St. Gabriel (south-west), the Blessed Virgin (south-east), St. Paul (north-west), and St. Peter (north-east): *Trans. Rutl. Arch. Soc.* (1917), 54.

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There was formerly much armorial glass in the windows of the church,⁹² but all that has survived are two shields, now in the tracery of the south-west window of the south aisle, with the arms of France ancient, and France and England quarterly. There are also some fragments of 15th-century yellow and white glass in one of the south clearstory windows.⁹³

In the floor of the nave is a medieval grave slab with incised cross, re-used in the 18th century, and in the chancel a slab with indent for inscription. The monument to members of the Caldecote family, dated 1594, in the north transept, is now hidden by the organ;⁹⁴ another monument in the same place is to Richard Spenser, 1723. In the chancel is an armorial floor slab to Anthony Hotchkin, grocer and citizen of London (d. 1763).⁹⁵

There is a ring of six bells, the first dated 1748, the second by Henry Oldfield of Nottingham 1609, the third by Henry Penn of Peterborough 1713, the fourth cast at Leicester in 1598, the fifth by Hugh Watts of Leicester 1601, and the tenor by Newcombe of Leicester 1606.⁹⁶

The plate consists of a bell-shaped cup with marks illegible, a paten given in 1862, and a flagon of 1840-1. There is also a brass alms-dish.⁹⁷

The registers before 1812 are as follows: (i) baptisms 1567-1645, marriages 1561-1640, burials 1568-1639; (ii) births 1653-65 (May), baptisms 1665 (August)-1707, marriages 1670-1706, burials 1653-1707; (iii) baptisms and burials 1707-54, marriages 1708-54; (iv) baptisms, marriages and burials 1754-1812.

In the churchyard is a memorial cross to thirty-six men of the parish who fell in the war of 1914-19.

There was a priest at Ketton at *ADVOWSON* the time of the Domesday Survey (1086).⁹⁸ In 1104-6 Queen Maud, with the consent of King Henry I, granted land in Tixover in the parish of Ketton to the Bishop of Lincoln,⁹⁹ which gift the King confirmed in 1123.¹ It is probable that Queen Maud's grant carried with it the advowson of the church, as the church was confirmed to the canons of Lincoln in 1146 by Pope Eugenius III,² and the church of Ketton and chapel of Tixover were further confirmed to the dean and canons in 1163.³ The land was assigned to a prebend in Lincoln Cathedral, and the church became a prebendal rectory to which a vicarage was ordained by Bishop Sutton in 1283.⁴ The church was held until shortly before the close of the 19th century by a canon of Lincoln Cathedral who presented to the vicarage and the chapel of Tixover annexed to it. By 1880 the prebend had been appropriated by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners and the vicarage, with the chapelry valued at £300 a year, was in the gift of the Bishop of Peterborough.

⁹² Blore (1811) cites a document in the College of Arms in which there is an account of the arms in Ketton Church. In the chancel were the shields of the Dukes of Lancaster, Bedford, and Buckingham, the Earl of Derby, Robert Whytby, prebendary (1392-1410), and others, and in the church thirteen shields, including those of England, France, the Earl of Kent, the Earl of Rutland, Daney, Grey, Stafford, Clare, Ros, Warren, etc.: *op. cit.* 183.

⁹³ There is good modern glass (1907) designed by Mr. J. N. Comper in the east window of the chancel.

⁹⁴ The Latin inscription is given in Wright, *loc. cit.*

⁹⁵ The inscription records that 'in the midst of life and a very gainful trade, satisfied with modest acquisitions (he) retired here from the hurry of business, to the quiet enjoyment of himself, his friends, and fortune, affording a rare instance of contentment, but alas, a very common one of human disappointment.' He died in his 48th year: Blore, *op. cit.* 184. Other M.I.'s of 17th and 18th century date given in Blore have disappeared.

A petition for augmentation of the vicarage was supported by Archbishop Laud in 1638. It was then stated that the vicarage was not worth more than £26 a year, whereas Richard Bullingham, as farmer of the rectory, was receiving £300 a year.⁵ In 1650 it was found that Richard Bullingham had a lease of the prebend, consisting of glebe and tithes worth £200 a year from a former prebendary, at a rent of £56 13s. 4d.; and that John Dunton, who officiated by order of the Committee for Plundered Ministers, had been granted the rent of £56 13s. 4d. with 'the house and room' reserved for the prebendary. The house and land formerly belonging to the vicar was valued at £4 a year, but 'the said pension' was not paid to Dunton, but was carried up to London.⁶

By the Inclosure Act of 1768 the Commissioners set aside a perpetual rent of £300 a year for the prebendary in lieu of tithes, and it was ordained that an additional stipend of £10 was to be paid by the lessees of the tithes to the vicar, in addition to £28 a year already due from them.

There was a Peculiar Court at Ketton called the Prebendal Court of Ketton and Tixover, for the probate of wills and grants of letters of administration.⁷

The Town Estate, otherwise known *CHARITIES* as the Town Land and Whitehead Allotment, is regulated by a scheme of the Charity Commissioners dated 19 February 1918. The origin of the charity is not known, but it has been in existence for very many years. The endowment consists of the Whitehead Allotment containing about 5 acres and a sum of £100 5 per cent. War stock representing the sale of a small piece of land formerly called the Town Land. The annual income amounts to about £15 11s., which is applied by the parish council in such way as they think fit, for the benefit of the inhabitants.

Henry Foster's Charity.—The parish participates in this charity, which was founded by the Rev. Henry Foster, by his will dated 1692.

Thomas Casswell Molesworth, by his will proved in the P.C.C. on the 9th October 1895, gave a sum of money to the vicar and churchwardens upon trust to apply the income annually, and within one month after Christmas day, amongst twelve most destitute or afflicted families. The endowment consists of a sum of £160 16s. 1d. 2½ per cent. Consols producing in dividends £4 0s. 4d. per annum. The income is paid to twelve persons at the rate of about 6s. 8d. each.

The Peterborough Diocesan Home of St. Mary, Ketton, is comprised in an indenture dated 11 October 1892, and is managed by a committee which consists of the bishop of the diocese as the resident, the archdeacons of the diocese and 16 others.

The Congregational Chapel is comprised in indentures dated 21 July 1865 and 9 March 1871, and

⁹⁶ North, *Cb. Bells of Rutl.* 135, where the inscriptions are given.

⁹⁷ Hope, *Cb. Plate in Rutl.* 16.

⁹⁸ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 140.

⁹⁹ *Reg. Antiq.* (Linc. Rec. Soc.), xvii, 18, 19.

¹ Dugdale, *Mon. Angl.* vi, 1271-2.

² *Reg. Antiq.* 199. ³ *Ibid.* 206.

⁴ *Linc. Episc. Rec.* (Oliver Sutton), fol. 64.

⁵ *Cal. S.P. Dom.* 1637-8, p. 468.

⁶ *Parl. Surv.* (Lambeth MS.), vol. vii, p. 317, etc.

⁷ *Northants and Rutl. Wills, 1510-1652* (Index Lib.), p. vi.

is regulated by a scheme of the Charity Commissioners dated 23 December 1930, which appoints the Congregational Union of England and Wales (Incorporated) trustees. The chapel is held upon trusts and subject to powers and provisions declared by clauses in a scheme of the Commissioners, confirmed by the Little Longstone Congregational Chapel Scheme Confirmation Act, 1920.

The sums of stock are with the Official Trustees.

John Warrington, by his will dated 23 May 1806, bequeathed to his trustees £4,000 stock in the 5 per cent. Annuities upon trust, after the decease of his brothers and the survivor of them, to pay the dividends to the officiating ministers of Uffington, Tallington and Market Deeping, in the county of Lincoln, and of Ketton and Empingham in Rutland, for the use of 50 poor widows or old unmarried women of these parishes to be chosen 10 out of each parish. He

further directed that the ministers and trustees should, out of such dividends, be allowed £2 10s. to be expended at their yearly meeting and that out of the first dividend there should be paid the cost of fixing in each of the five parish churches one large table setting forth the trusts, such tables to be forever kept up and repaired out of the dividends. The charity took effect in 1819 after the decease of the survivor of the testator's brothers, the first dividends being received for the purpose in April of that year. The endowment consists of a sum of £5,825 2½ per cent. Consols standing in the names of John Henry Joseph Phillips and two others, and producing in dividends £145 12s. 4d. per annum. The annuitants, about 50 in number, receive £2 each per annum, which is paid to them half-yearly in May and November. The sum of £2 10s. is expended in a dinner on the occasion of the annual audit.

PICKWORTH

Pakewrth, Pikeworda, Pykewurthe, Pikeworth, Picworthe, Pikkeworth (xiii cent.); Pykeworth, Picworth (xiv cent.); Pikworth, Pykworth (xv cent.).

Pickworth is a parish on the Lincolnshire border of the county, containing 2,486 acres. The land on the northern border is well wooded, Newell Wood being partly in Aunby (co. Linc.). There is another smaller wood called Turnpole Wood to the south-east of the village. The parish, however, is mainly arable land, only a small part being laid down to grass. The south-western part of the parish is known as Pickworth Plain.

The village is situated in the middle of the parish, at the intersection of a road from Holywell to Great Casterton and another road called the Drift running east and west through the parish and joining the Great North Road at Losecoat Field.

The somewhat scattered village is an interesting example of the changes which took place in the 19th century. It now consists of the rebuilt church and remains of the old church, two farm houses, one of which, near the church, has been converted into three cottages, and the new Manor Farm House built to take its place. The Blue Bell Inn some sixty years ago was of stone with a thatched roof, but it has now been given a yellow brick front and modern roof; inside, however, there are evidences of the original structure in the old beams and wide chimneys. The cottages to the east of the inn were built by the Marquess of Exeter early in Queen Victoria's reign and took the place of cottages, now demolished, on the south side of the road.

The site of the ancient manor house is still indicated by some well-defined ridges in a grass field about 400 yds. north-west of the church. Blore in 1811 states that the site was traceable near the centre of the parish eastward from the site of the church, in two fields, one of which was called the Foundations and the other the Back close.¹ In Wright's time the only part of the church of Pickworth which

remained standing was the steeple then called Mock-begger.²

It is supposed that the parish was devastated by the rebels before the battle of Losecoat Field in 1470, and in 1491 Pickworth was described as having no parishioners.³ Traces of the old floors and fireplaces, remains of the former village, have been found in excavations.

About a quarter of a mile south-west of the village on the Casterton road is Top Pickworth, where formerly there was a hamlet of some eight cottages, which have now disappeared or been converted into outhouses.

Tycho Wing, the astrologer, of the family of Vincent Wing of North Luffenham, taught the arts and sciences at Pickworth in 1727. Vincent Wing's almanac was edited by Tycho from 1739 onwards. He was coroner of Rutland 1727-1742, and died at Pickworth in 1750. His portrait is in the Hall of the Stationers' Company in London.⁴

John Clare, the Northamptonshire peasant poet, at one time worked as a limeburner at Pickworth. The ruins of the church at Pickworth inspired one of his poems, which was written on a Sunday morning after the poet had been helping to dig the hole for a lime kiln. Clare died in 1864.⁵

PICKWORTH is not mentioned in *MANORS* the Domesday Survey. It may possibly have formed part of Oakham at that time, as it was subsequently held of Oakham Castle.⁶

Thomas de Gyney (Gisneto, Gisnay) and Engelram, his son, paid a fine for an offence in the forest of Rutland in 1176,⁷ and William de Gyney was apparently holding Pickworth in 1203.⁸ He evidently joined in the rebellion against King John, for in 1216 his land in Pickworth was granted to Robert de Peverell.⁹ At the same time his lands in Norfolk and Lincoln were granted to Robert de Albeni.¹⁰ William de Gyney returned to the allegiance of Henry III and his lands were restored in October

¹ Blore, *Hist. of Rutl.* p. 187.

² Wright, *Hist. of Rutl.* 106.

³ *Rutl. Mag.* i, 228.

⁴ *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

⁵ *Ibid.*

⁶ *Cal. Inq.* iii, p. 474; *Chan. Inq.*

p.m. 50 Edw. III (1st nos.), no. 25; *Cal. Inq. Misc.* ii, no. 1703. Pickworth was in Martinsley Hundred in the 14th century, though it is now in the hundred of East.

⁷ *Pipe R. Soc.* xxv, p. 55.

⁸ *Assize R.* (Northants. Rec. Soc. v), nos. 716, 780, 853, 854.

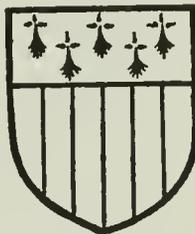
⁹ *Rot. Litt. Claus.* (Rec. Com.), i, 251.

¹⁰ *Ibid.* 257.

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

1217.¹¹ William was probably brother of Roger de Gyney of Norfolk who, with his son Walter, occurs in 1197 and in the reign of King John, in pleas relating to land in Norfolk.¹²

William himself, with Maud de Gyney his mother, widow of Baldwin de Gyney,¹³ was concerned in a plea as to a mill in Whitwell (co. Norf.) in 1205, and in the same year he paid a fine to be excused from supplying wood for repairs at Norwich Castle.¹⁴ William made several presentations to the church of Pickworth in the early years of the reign of Henry III.¹⁵ He served as collector of a fifteenth in Norfolk and Suffolk in 1225, and as a Justice of Assize in 1226.¹⁶ Hisson¹⁷ and successor, William, was co-heir in 1254 of his uncle Peter de Pelevill, lord of the manors of Bilney and Bodeney (co. Norf.), William then being about 30 years of age.¹⁸



GYNEY. *Paly or and gules a chief ermine.*

In 1234 William de Gyney presented Thomas, son of Thomas de Beggeville, to the church, and he or another of the same name made other presentations in 1268 and 1277. In 1284, however, Thomas de Beggeville presented William de Beggeville, but it was probably only for that turn.¹⁹ Four years later a charter was enrolled recording a grant by Richard, son of Richard de Pickworth, to Master Henry de Massington of his manor of Pickworth in Rutland, to be held of the grantor at a rent of *1d.*²⁰ In the previous year Richard had granted to Walter de Windsor, and his wife Sabina, a mill and a virgate and a half of land in Pickworth to hold at a rent of *1d.*²¹ This estate Walter and Sabina granted in 1291 to Master Henry de Nassington.²²

In that same year Roger de Gyney, son and heir of the above-mentioned William de Gyney, who died about that time,²³ presented to Pickworth church,²⁴ and it seems possible that Master Henry de Nassington was acting for him in purchasing Richard de Pickworth's interest in the manor. Roger held one knight's fee in Pickworth in 1299.²⁵ He was knighted before 1309 when he witnessed a deed relating to Hambleton.²⁶ He was summoned to attend the king at Berwick, to march against the Scots in 1301.²⁷ He was still alive in 1329, when he tried to establish his claim to the advowson of the church of Botone (co. Norf.),²⁸ but by 1340 had been succeeded as lord and patron of Pickworth by his son William.²⁹

Roger Gyney (Geney), son of William, succeeded

him before 1358, when he granted the manor of Pickworth to trustees, Sir John le Groos and Hugh Fastolf.³⁰ Roger, who served as sheriff of Norfolk and Suffolk in 1365,³¹ died in 1376 leaving a son John aged 18 years as his heir,³² to whom he left Pickworth. Sir John, by his will dated 1422, directed that he should be buried near his son Roger at the Augustine Friary, Norwich. The manor of Pickworth was sold to Sir Henry Inglose, who had married Anne, niece and heir of Sir John Gyney, daughter and heir of his brother Robert by Margaret, daughter of John Fastolf.³³ Sir Henry Inglose, who was in possession of the manor in 1428,³⁴ represented Suffolk in several Parliaments. He died in 1451, his wife Anne having predeceased him. By his will he left the manor of Pickworth to trustees to be sold for the payment of his debts.³⁵ It was sold with the advowson in 1456 to Robert Danvers.³⁶ A conveyance of the manor made in 1462 by John Ashefeld and Thomas, son and heir of John Fastolf, to Simon Byrington, Danvers's trustee,³⁷ was perhaps made for security of title to the Danvers.

Not long after his purchase of the manor Robert Danvers was disturbed in his possession by John Browe, who 'imagining as well by great mayntenance and champertie as by great routes and riots to resist the said Robert and put him in such drede that he should not be so hardy as to occupy nor approche the said manor, . . . assembled with 300 persons armed and arrayed in manner of war and riotously at the said maner lay in a wayte of the said Robert to have destroyed him . . . and then gaf him that he durst not for drede of his lyfe ther abyde nor occupie the fruytes.'³⁸ Robert, however, retained his possession and died about 1472 as Sir Robert, leaving no son. Of his three daughters Alice the eldest married George Burneby, Anneys or Agnes married Walter Denys, and another daughter married Hugh Unton or Umpton. She was represented at Sir Robert's death by her son Thomas Unton. The shares of the co-heirs were purchased in 1472 by Richard Danvers, who was probably brother of Sir Robert.³⁹

David Malpas presented to the church in 1491, and in 1495 Sir William Hussey, Chief Justice of the King's Bench (1481-95), died seised of an interest in the manor.⁴⁰ Guy Fairfax, one of the justices of the King's Bench, and others were holding the manor as trustees for David Malpas, for his life, with remainder to Hussey and his heirs.⁴¹ David died two years later,⁴² and the manor passed to Sir John Hussey, eldest son of Sir William. Sir John, who became Lord Hussey in 1529, served the king in many

¹¹ *Rot. Litt. Claus.* (Rec. Com.), i. 331.

¹² *Abbrev. Plac.* (Rec. Com.), 6, 20, 21, 94; *Curia Regis R.* iii, 101.

¹³ Blore, op. cit. 188.

¹⁴ *Curia Regis R.* iii, 272; *Rot. Litt. Claus.* (Rec. Com.), i, 54.

¹⁵ *Rot. Hug. de Welles* (Cant. and York Soc.), i, 80, 167; ii, 131, 193, 216; Wright, op. cit. 107.

¹⁶ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1216-25, p. 564; 1225-1232, p. 79.

¹⁷ Blore, loc. cit.

¹⁸ *Cal. Inq.* Hen. III, no. 306; *Excerpti. e Rot. Fin.* ii, 193.

¹⁹ Irons' Notes, Linc. Episc. Reg. (Instit.).

²⁰ *Coram Rege R.* East. 16 Edw. I, ro. 32 d.

²¹ Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 15 Edw. I, no. 16.

²² *Ibid.* Hil. 19 Edw. I, no. 27.

²³ Blore, loc. cit.; *Cal. Close R.* 1288-1296, p. 253.

²⁴ Wright, loc. cit.

²⁵ *Cal. Inq.* iii, p. 474.

²⁶ *Cal. Close R.* 1307-13, p. 227.

²⁷ Blore, op. cit. 187.

²⁸ *Feud. Aids*, iv, 207; Wrottesley, *Ped. from Plea R.* 3.

²⁹ *Chan. Inq.* p.m. 14 Edw. III (2nd nos.), no. 67; *Cal. Inq. Misc.* ii, no. 1703; Blore, op. cit. 188.

³⁰ *Chan. Inq.* p.m. 50 Edw. III (1st nos.), no. 25.

³¹ List of Sheriffs (P.R.O.).

³² *Chan. Inq.* p.m. loc. cit.

³³ Blore, op. cit. 187.

³⁴ *Feud. Aids*, iv, 212.

³⁵ Blore, op. cit. 187-8; *Chan. Inq.* p.m. 29 Hen. VI, no. 9.

³⁶ Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 35 Hen. VI, no. 17.

³⁷ *Ibid.* 1 Edw. IV, no. 2; East. 2 Edw. IV, no. 2.

³⁸ *Early Chan. Proc. bdl.* 26, no. 618.

³⁹ Feet of F. Div. Cos. Hil. 11 Edw. IV, no. 82 (Walter is here given as William); Mich. 12 Edw. IV, no. 84; *Add. Chart.* 38853-59, 38970-3; *Coll. Top. et Gen.* i, 324.

⁴⁰ *Cal. Inq.* Hen. VII, i, no. 1209.

⁴¹ *Ibid.*

⁴² *Ibid.* ii, no. 207.

capacities until 1536, when he fell under the king's suspicion and was imprisoned in the Tower. In 1537 he was convicted of treason and executed, when Pickworth manor came to the Crown. In 1541 Lawrence Lee, one of Queen Katherine's footmen, was appointed keeper of the seven woods in Rutland, including Pickworth wood which had belonged to Lord Hussey.⁴³ Three years later a lease for 21 years was made to Richard Greneway, of certain closes and a warren of coneyes in Pickworth Infield and of the pastures in Pickworth Outfield, then held by Robert Harington.⁴⁴

Sir William Cecil, afterwards Lord Burghley, presented to the church in 1560 and 1563 and had probably by that time acquired the manor. In 1594 Queen Elizabeth granted a rabbit warren and woods in Pickworth, late parcel of the possessions of Sir John Hussey, to Sir Thomas Cecil with remainder to his son William Cecil for life, with remainder to William Cecil, Lord Roos, son of William. James I made a further grant of the same premises to Thomas, then Lord Burghley.⁴⁵ In neither grant is any reference made to the manor, but in 1612 Thomas, then Earl of Exeter, settled the manor of Pickworth on himself for life with various remainders.⁴⁶ He died seised of the manor in 1623,⁴⁷ and it has since remained in the possession of the Earls and later of the Marquesses of Exeter, following the same descent as Barrowden (q.v.).⁴⁸

The priory of Oulston (co. Leic.) held property in Pickworth at least as early as 1358,⁴⁹ though it is not known how they acquired it. In the valuation of the priory's property taken at the Dissolution it is returned as the farm of a pasture at Pickworth valued at 13s. 4d. a year.⁵⁰ In 1537 the King's Receiver accounted for the farm of a pasture called Abbots Stocking in Pickworth and land called Withawe Pitts, which had been leased in 1524 under the conventual seal to Sir John Hussey for 50 years.⁵¹ This land, which afterwards became known as the manor of PICKWORTH STOCKING, was granted in 1539 to John Harington, esquire of the Royal Body.⁵² John was afterwards knighted,⁵³ and his grandson, John, Lord Harington of Exton, died seised of the manor of Pickworth Stocking in 1613, at Worms,⁵⁴ being then on his return from attending the marriage of the Princess Elizabeth to Frederick, Prince Palatine, at Heidelberg. His son John died shortly afterwards,⁵⁵ and the manor passed to his sister Lucy, wife of Edward, Earl of Bedford. Lucy and her husband sold it in 1616 to Francis Stacy of

Clipsham, who sold it in 1623 to George Boteler of Iye Lodge and Harington Boteler of Cambridge.⁵⁶ From this date the descent followed that of Clipsham (q.v.).

The church of *ALL SAINTS*, built *CHURCH* in 1821, stands a short distance to the south-east of the site of the medieval church, which is said to have been partially destroyed at the time of the battle of Losecoat Field, and was so much decayed in the latter part of the 17th century that nothing but the steeple was then standing.⁵⁷ This appears to have consisted of a tower and spire and was described by Stukeley as 'a very fine steeple, seen all round the country,' but the spire was taken down about 1728, and the tower in 1731, to build or repair bridges at Wakerley and Casterton.⁵⁸ The only existing remains of the old church⁵⁹ consist of the 14th-century pointed arch of the porch doorway, which is of two chamfered orders, the outer continuous and the inner on jambs consisting of three clustered columns with moulded bases and capitals carved with beautiful natural foliage: in one case the leaves issue from the mouth of a human face, and in the other there is a face in the middle of the foliage.⁶⁰ The arch stands isolated on open grassland adjoining a farm.

The new church consists of chancel 16 ft. square, aisleless nave 40 ft. 6 in. by 22 ft., and south porch 7 ft. 3 in. by 7 ft. 9 in., all these measurements being internal. The porch is at the east end of the south wall of the nave, to the full height of which it is carried as a quasi-tower. The building, which is of rubble with ashlar dressings and has slated eaved roofs, is of a very plain character.⁶¹ It was erected by the Rev. Richard Lucas, rector of Great Casterton, 'at his own desire and expense,' on land given by the Earl of Exeter,⁶² but was not consecrated until 1824. The windows are large round-headed openings with jambshafts, and a heavy round moulding carried round the head,⁶³ and the outer doorway of the porch is of similar character, but has double jambshafts and a double line of moulding in the head; the tympanum is quite plain. The chancel has windows in the east and south walls, and in the nave there are two windows on each side and one at the west end. The 'tower' finishes with a cornice and plain parapet and is without windows, but in the wall above the doorway are two blind circular panels. Internally the walls are plastered and the floor flagged. The chancel is divided from the nave by a semicircular arch, and both nave and chancel have plaster ceilings of segmental form. The inner doorway of the porch is square headed. The three-decker deal pulpit was originally at the west end of the nave and all the pews faced in that direction. It is now in the north-east corner of the nave⁶⁴ and the box-pews⁶⁵ face eastward; the lower part of the nave walls is panelled in deal.

⁴³ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xvi, g. 947 (10).

⁴⁴ *Ibid.* xix (i), g. 278 (23).

⁴⁵ *Blore*, op. cit. 188-9.

⁴⁶ Feet of F. Div. Cos. Hil. 9 Jas. I.

⁴⁷ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), ccccxxiv, 84; Misc. dxxxvii, 18.

⁴⁸ *Recov. R. East. 22 Chas. II*, ro. 23; *Hil. 7 Will. III*, ro. 97; *Mich. 13 Geo. III*, ro. 465; Feet of F. Rutl. East. 22 Chas. II; *Div. Cos. Hil. 8 Will. III*.

⁴⁹ *Mins. Accts.* (Gen. Ser.), bdl. 1103, no. 22. See also nos. 24 and 25.

⁵⁰ *Dugdale, Mon. Angl.* vi, 425.

⁵¹ *Blore*, op. cit. 189.

⁵² *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xiv (i), g. 905 (3).

⁵³ *Cal. S.P. Dom.* 1547-80, 36.

⁵⁴ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), cccclvi, 116.

⁵⁵ *Ibid.* 117.

⁵⁶ *Blore*, loc. cit.

⁵⁷ *Ibid.* 191.

⁵⁸ *Laird, Topog. and Hist. Desc. Rutl.*, 101, quoting Stukeley.

⁵⁹ 'During some alterations in the adjacent farm in 1910 several fragments of masonry belonging to the church were discovered, consisting chiefly of the gabled top of a buttress and portions of a moulded arch': *Trans. Rutl. Arch. Soc.* (1917), 47.

⁶⁰ The width of the arch is 5 ft. 4 in.

It is figured in *Blore*, loc. cit. (plate xii), where details of the capitals are given.

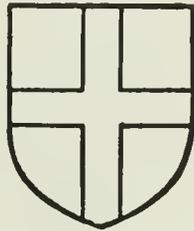
⁶¹ It is a kind of early 19th-century 'Norman,' perhaps suggested by the new nave of Tickencote.

⁶² First stone laid April 23, 1821; opened October 21, 1821; consecrated July 15, 1824.

⁶³ The windows on the north side are quite plain.

⁶⁴ It stands about 5 ft. from the east wall, the intervening space forming a 'vestry.'

⁶⁵ The pews are of painted deal; two big pews fill the north-west and south-west corners respectively.



HUSSEY. Or a cross vert.

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

The square block font has bevelled edges and may be old; its flat oak cover dates from 1905. The 18th-century communion table has curved legs and claw feet. The Royal Arms, dated 1839, are over the west window.

There is one modern bell, rung from the porch.⁶⁶

In the chancel is a marble tablet to Joseph Armitage, of Wakefield, Yorks (d. 1820), 'gratefully placed by the Rev. Rd. Lucas, rector of Casterton Magna cum Pickworth, who, by property derived from him in the year 1822, was enabled to erect and endow this church.' There is a memorial in the nave to three men of the parish who fell in the war of 1914-19.

Some ancient glass now at Clipsham is said to have come from the old church at Pickworth.

The plate consists of a cup, paten and a plate all inscribed 'Pickworth, Rutland.' The gift of Richard Lucas, Rector.⁶⁷

The registers before 1812 are as follows: (i) baptisms and burials 1660-1789, marriages 1660-1753; (ii) baptisms and burials 1790-1812.⁶⁸

The advowson of the church of *ADVOWSON* Pickworth belonged in early times to the lords of the manor.⁶⁹ It is not

mentioned in the conveyance of 1472 by which the co-heirs of Sir Robert Danvers sold the manor to Richard Danvers, possibly because the church was then destroyed, nor is it mentioned in the inquisitions taken on the deaths of Sir William Hussey and David Malpas. It is said there were no churchwardens in 1546 and no church in 1598.⁷⁰ In 1650 at an inquisition held at Uppingham it was found that in Pickworth 'there is noe incumbent or church or hath beene tyme out of my mynd.'⁷¹ The advowson of the sinecure, which seems to have passed, on Lord Hussey's attainder, to the Crown, was granted in 1588 to Edward Downing and Miles Dodding, who thereupon conveyed it to William, Lord Burghley.⁷² After the acquisition of the manor by Thomas, Lord Burghley, manor and advowson once more followed the same descent, though presentations were made by the Crown in 1636 and 1734.⁷³ In the latter year, the church having long since been destroyed and the profits being too small to support a rector had the church been rebuilt, Pickworth was, at the petition of the parishioners of both parishes, united with Great Casterton,⁷⁴ the advowson of the latter parish being also vested in the Earls of Exeter.

There are no charities in this parish.

RYHALL

Rihale (vii cent.); Righale, Riehale (xi cent.); Rihale (xii cent.); Ryale, Reyhal (xiii cent.); Real, Ryhall (xiv cent.); Ruyhall, Ryall, Riall (xvi cent.); with Belmesthorp (vii cent.); Beolmesthorp, Belmestorp (xi cent.); Bulmestorp (xiii cent.); Belstrop, Belmesthorpe (xvi cent.).

Ryhall is a parish of irregular shape on the Lincolnshire border of the county. It comprises the chapelries of Essendine and Belmesthorpe, but Essendine (q.v.) is considered, for lay purposes, a separate parish. Ryhall contains 2,680 acres, and formerly there were 30 acres of the manor in Uffington parish (co. Linc.). It was inclosed in 1800. The land is mostly low lying and falls from Ryhall Heath (about 218ft. above Ordnance datum) to the River Gwash, where for some distance it is liable to floods. It is mainly agricultural, growing the usual corn and root crops. There is a railway station at Belmesthorpe on the London and North Eastern Railway, about half a mile south-east of Ryhall village, called Ryhall.

The village of Ryhall adjoins the high road from Stamford to Bourne and stands on both banks of the River Gwash, on land that rises slightly from the river banks and the low-lying districts to the east, south and west of it. The portions of the village north and south of the river are joined by a bridge and a causeway over the low-lying land adjoining it. The principal part is on the south side of the river where the church is. The vicarage to the south of it has extensive modern additions, but on the older part is a panel inscribed r. w. 1750. An inn called the Green Dragon, which stands a short distance to the north-east of the

church, has a fine vaulted cellar of 13th-century date. The inn itself is a stone house with stone-slatted roofs and wood-framed windows of no particular architectural interest, but it has been erected on the site of a much older edifice, which is the house that Blore suggests was the manor house.¹

The manor court, it is said, was held here in a chamber which had a door made out of a piece of a fine old painting representing part of the Crucifixion, reported to have been given by one of the ancient lords to the church. At the entrance stood the old buttery hatch, and the hall on the right hand, with a small old window cut out of one stone, on the staircase. In the outside wall a very large arch still remained, showing great antiquity and that it must once have been a larger building. In 1796 the old manor house was an alehouse, at which time it is said there was an old font in the courtyard used as a trough.² In 1813 it was the residence of Col. Pierrepont,³ but it was again an alehouse in 1897.

A two-story stone-slatted house on the north side of the churchyard has a panel inscribed 1^WE 1685, possibly standing for John Walleit and his wife, whose house is described as on the north of the church (see below). It has wind-break chimneys, but its windows have been mutilated or removed. The other houses are mostly of stone with roofs of varying material.

There is a water-mill, now in a decayed condition, on the River Gwash on the west side of the village. In 1086 there were two mills,⁴ one of which was given by Payn to the Priory of St. Andrew,

⁶⁶ North, *Cb. Bells of Rutl.* 147.

⁶⁷ Hope, *Cb. Plate in Rutl.* 17.

⁶⁸ The volume of marriages 1754-1812 is missing.

⁶⁹ Chan. Inq. p.m. 14 Edw. III (2nd nos.), no. 67; 29 Hen. VI, no. 9; Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 35 Hen. VI, no. 17.

⁷⁰ Irons' Notes, Archd. Visit.

⁷¹ Lambeth MS. Parl. Ret. vol. vii, p. 317 etc.

⁷² Pat. R. 30 Eliz. pt. 15; Blore, *op. cit.* 189-90.

⁷³ Inst. Bks. (P.R.O.).

⁷⁴ Blore, *op. cit.* 190.

¹ Blore, *Hist. of Rutl.* 48.

² *Gent. Mag.* lxvi, 187.

³ *Beauties of Engl. and Wales*, xii (2), 107-8.

⁴ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 142. See also Chan. Inq. p.m. 4 Edw. III (1st nos.), no. 38.



PICKWORTH : RUINS OF OLD CHURCH



RYHALL CHURCH FROM THE SOUTH-EAST



RYHALL CHURCH: THE INTERIOR, LOOKING EAST

Northampton;⁵ the other was retained for the manorial use and was under repair in 1321.⁶

Belmesthorpe is a small hamlet half a mile south-east of Ryhall village, consisting of some farmhouses and cottages. The farmhouse on the north side of the main street has a good square dovecot of stone on the east side of it. In medieval times Belmesthorpe was frequently cut off from the village and parish church of Ryhall by 'streams of water,' so that in 1392 the inhabitants petitioned to have a perpetual chaplain to serve the chapel of St. Mary the Virgin there.⁷ The chapel of Belmesthorpe was still in existence in 1636, though the chancel was then out of repair.⁸ The chapel has since disappeared, but in 1811 its site still retained the name of Chapel Yard.⁹

In 1276 Hugh le Despenser is said to have appropriated a several fishery in the Gwash.¹⁰ He evidently made good his claim, for the fishery is mentioned in 14th-century extents of the manor.¹¹

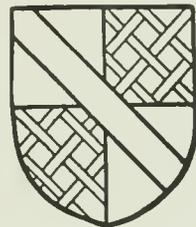
Many traditions are current about the connection of St. Tibba, patron saint of falconers (c. 690), with Ryhall, where she is supposed to have passed much of her life. She is said to have been buried there, but her remains were afterwards removed to Peterborough.¹² Her cousin and companion, St. Eabba, is supposed to have given her name to Stablesford Bridge (St. Eabba's-well-ford) just above Ryhall. The spring is now called by the shepherds Jacob's Well and is opposite to Tibba's well.¹³

The manors of *RYHALL* and *MANORS BELMESTHORPE* are said to have been given in 664 by Wulfere, King of Mercia, to the monastery of Medeshamsted.¹⁴ In the time of Edward the Confessor his sister Godgive, a widow, gave Ryhall and Belmesthorpe to Peterborough, with the king's consent. Godgive later married Siward, Earl of Northumberland, and soon afterwards died. Siward then agreed with the abbot to retain the two villis during his life. After his death, however, Waltheof, his son, was reluctant to return them and made an agreement with Leofric, the abbot, to hold Ryhall for his life and surrender Belmesthorpe to the monastery. Waltheof later made a further agreement whereby he was to hold both villis for life.¹⁵ Waltheof was executed in 1075, when instead of the manors returning to Peterborough Monastery they were settled on Judith, Waltheof's widow and niece of William the Conqueror, who was holding them in 1086.¹⁶ Under the account of the Countess Judith's land in Lincolnshire is an entry that in Uffington the Abbot of Peterborough had before the Conquest 60 acres which Judith then held, but that she had no profit from it in Lincolnshire because she cultivated it in the manor of Belmesthorpe.¹⁷ Part of the manor of Ryhall was still, in 1807, in Uffington, and it seems probable that this was the estate described as 'Riale and Belmestorp' which was given to the Abbey of

Peterborough before 992 by Halfdene son of Brencine.¹⁸ From the Countess Judith, Ryhall passed with the Honour and Earldom of Huntingdon to Simon de St. Liz, grandson of Maud daughter of Waltheof, by her first husband Simon de St. Liz. Simon died in 1184 and the honour was granted to William, King of Scotland, who resigned it immediately to his brother David.¹⁹ The manor of Ryhall then appears to have been separated from the honour, and was assigned in 1195 to Margaret, sister of David and widow of Humphrey de Bohun.²⁰ Margaret died in 1201 and in 1204 a dispute arose between her son Henry de Bohun, Earl of Hereford, and David, Earl of Huntingdon, his uncle, concerning Ryhall and 20 knights' fees of the fee of Huntingdon which David claimed. David failed to appear to prosecute his claim and seisin was given to Henry.²¹ He, as one of the leaders of the barons against King John, was disseised of Ryhall by the king's command.²² In May 1212 Reginald Dammartin, Count of Boulogne, fled to England and did homage to John, who thereupon restored to him certain manors in Oxfordshire claimed by his wife Ida, daughter of Matthew of Flanders, Count of Boulogne, and Mary, daughter of King Stephen, as parcel of the honour of Boulogne and granted him in addition Ryhall and other manors which had been held of the honour of Huntingdon. Reginald was taken prisoner by the French in 1214 and died in prison.²³ In 1215 Ryhall was restored to Henry, Earl of Hereford,²⁴ but he again forfeited in 1218 for his adherence to Louis of France, and William Marshal was ordered to give seisin to Robert Marshal, seneschal of the Count of Boulogne.²⁵

In 1227 the manor was granted by the king to Hugh le Despenser, until the king should restore it to the heirs of Reginald, Count of Boulogne, of his free will or by a peace.²⁶ In 1230 and again in 1233 the manor with its member, Belmesthorpe, was confirmed to Hugh, on the latter occasion to be held quit of suits of shires and hundreds, sheriff's aid, view of frankpledge and murder.²⁷

Hugh le Despenser died in 1238 and for his faithful service the king permitted his son Hugh to marry as it should seem best for his promotion.²⁸ Hugh the son received a grant of free warren in Ryhall and Belmesthorpe in 1253²⁹ and in 1257 was released by Richard, King of the Romans, from suits at the county and hundred courts for Ryhall except at the sheriff's tourn at Easter and Michaelmas.³⁰ He joined the barons under Simon de Montfort and was killed at the battle of Evesham in 1265, when his lands were forfeited. The manor was then valued at £40 8s. 10d.³¹



DESPENSER. Quarterly argent and gules fretty or with a bend sable over all.

⁵ Dugdale, *Mon. Angl.* v, 185.

⁶ Mins. Accts. 1145, no. 4.

⁷ *Cal. of Papal Letters*, iv, 421.

⁸ Archd. Rec.

⁹ Blore, *op. cit.* 53.

¹⁰ *Rot. Hund.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 53.

¹¹ Mins. Accts. 1145, no. 4; Chan. Inq.

p. m. 4 Edw. III (1st nos.), no. 38.

¹² *Rutl. Mag.* i, 103; *Beauties of Engl. and Wales*, xii (2), 105.

¹³ *Rutl. Mag.* ii, 109.

¹⁴ Kemble, *Cod. Dip.* no. 984.

¹⁵ *Ibid.* no. 927.

¹⁶ *V. C. H. Rutl.* i, 142.

¹⁷ *Domesday Bk.* (Rec. Com.), i, 366 d.

¹⁸ Dugdale, *Mon. Angl.* i, 386; Blore,

op. cit. 30, 194.

¹⁹ G. E. C. *Complete Peerage*, iv, 284.

²⁰ *Pipe R. Soc.* (N.S.), vi, 107.

²¹ *Curia Regis R.* iii, 99.

²² *Rot. Litt. Claus.* (Rec. Com.), i, 216b.

²³ *Add. Chart.* 11239; *Cal. Chart.*

R. K. Jobn (Rec. Com.), 186; Round,

Peerage and Fam. Hist. 172, 178-9.

Farrer, Honors and Knights' Fees, ii,

392, 403.

²⁴ *Rot. Litt. Claus.* *loc. cit.*

²⁵ *Ibid.* 349.

²⁶ *Cal. Chart. R.* 1226-57, p. 57.

²⁷ *Ibid.* pp. 125-182. *Cal. Pat. R.* 1225-32,

p. 403; *Anct. D.* (P.R.O.), A.3208;

Cal. Close R. 1231-4, p. 231.

²⁸ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1232-47, p. 210.

²⁹ *Cal. Chart. R.* 1226-57, p. 415.

³⁰ *Add. Chart.* 1051.

³¹ *Cal. Inq. Misc.* i, no. 856. Hugh

was said in 1275 to have appropriated a

several fishery in the waters of the Gwash

(*Rot. Hund.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 53).

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

All Hugh's lands were restored to his son Hugh in 1281, though he was not then of age.³² In 1285 Hugh le Despenser was summoned to show by what right he held the manor, and he cited the charter granted to his grandfather.³³ In 1297 Hugh, who was about to go overseas with the king, granted the manor for 7 years to Richard de Lugteburgh and Robert de Harwedon. Later Hugh seems to have given this manor to his son Hugh, for in 1320 Hugh le Despenser, the younger, and his wife Eleanor, by the king's precept exchanged this, among other manors, with Hugh de Audley, the younger, and Margaret his wife for the castle and manor of Newport and other lands.³⁴ Hugh de Audley joined in the insurrection of the Earl of Lancaster in 1321, and forfeited this manor,³⁵ and though he was afterwards pardoned, Ryhall was not restored to him. The sentence against Hugh le Despenser, who had been banished in 1321, was annulled in 1322 and the manor of Ryhall was in the same year granted to him and his wife Eleanor to hold by the service of rendering yearly one sparrowhawk.³⁶ Both the Despensers, father and son, were executed in the autumn of 1326, and the manor of Ryhall came into the king's hands. Edward II granted it to his brother Edmund, Earl of Kent,³⁷ and Edward III confirmed the gift on his accession.³⁸ Edmund was executed in 1330 at the instigation of Roger Mortimer, and the manor once more escheated to the crown.³⁹ It was granted in April 1330 to Geoffrey de Mortimer the king's kinsman, in tail, with remainder to Roger Mortimer, Earl of March,⁴⁰ but on the fall of Mortimer this grant was no doubt annulled. The wardship of the manor and all the goods of the Earl of Kent were granted to Margaret his widow in 1331.⁴¹ Edmund, eldest son of the earl, was then dead, a minor in the king's wardship, and his brother John was heir to the earl's estates and titles. Margaret was exempted from paying aid for the manor in 1347.⁴² Her son John, Earl of Kent, died in 1352, his heir being his sister Joan, wife of Thomas de Holland.⁴³ A few days before his death the earl had granted this manor to Bartholomew de Burghersh for life, and this gift was confirmed by the king.⁴⁴ Bartholomew held the manor till he died in 1355.⁴⁵

The manor then reverted to Joan, wife of Thomas Holland, Earl of Kent. The earl died abroad in 1360, his son Thomas being then ten years of age.⁴⁶ Joan married, as a second husband, Edward the Black Prince, and was again left a widow in 1376. The guardianship of her son, Richard II, was left in her hands. She was a woman of great tact and ability, and on her death in 1385 her loss as a moderating and reconciling power in the kingdom was greatly felt. Her son Thomas Holland, Earl of Kent, succeeded her at Ryhall.⁴⁷ He died in 1397,⁴⁸ and his son and successor, Thomas, obtained from Thomas le Despenser, Earl of Gloucester, a quitclaim of all the latter's right

in the manor.⁴⁹ Thomas, Earl of Kent, having joined in the plot to seize Henry IV, forfeited all his estates as a traitor in 1400. It was found when the manor was extended after his death that the bailiff had made vast extortions and destruction there.⁵⁰ This manor was restored to Thomas Holland's brother, Edmund, who died seised of it in 1408. His heirs were his four sisters and his nephew Edmund, son of Eleanor Countess of March, a fifth sister.

Ryhall manor fell to Edmund's share of the lands of the earldom of Kent.⁵¹ He died in 1425 leaving as his heirs Richard, Duke of York, son of his sister Anne, and his sisters Joan, wife of Sir John Grey, and Joyce, wife of John Tiptoft.⁵² Joan Grey died seised of a third of the manor in September of the same year, leaving a son, Henry, aged seven.⁵³ Anne, widow of Edmund Earl of March, held dower in the manor until her death in 1432, with reversion to Joyce, wife of Sir John Tiptoft, Richard, Duke of York, and Henry Grey.⁵⁴ The manor appears to have been assigned to Joyce Tiptoft, who died, a widow, in 1446.⁵⁵ Her son, John Tiptoft, was created Earl of Worcester in 1449, but on the temporary restoration of Henry VI in 1470, he was beheaded and forfeited his honours. Ryhall manor, which he held at his death, passed to his son Edward, then aged three,⁵⁶ who was restored to his father's lands and honours. Edward died unmarried in 1485. His heir was his cousin Edward, Lord Dudley, son of Edward's aunt Joyce and Sir Edmund Dudley.⁵⁷ In 1490 Sir Edward Dudley and Cecilia his wife sold the manor of Ryhall to Sir Thomas Lovell,⁵⁸ Speaker of the House of Commons, fifth son of Sir Ralph Lovell of Barton Bendish (co. Norf.). Sir Thomas died in 1525 leaving as his heirs general his three nieces, daughters of his brother Robert Lovell. The manor of Ryhall had, however, been settled in tail male upon his nephew and adopted son Francis Lovell, son of Gregory Lovell of Barton Bendish, with remainder in default to another nephew, Sir Thomas Lovell.⁵⁹ Francis with his wife Elizabeth settled the manor in 1541,⁶⁰ and Sir Thomas Lovell of Harling (co. Norf.), his son, who succeeded him, in 1550 bequeathed Ryhall to his wife Elizabeth for life with remainder in



HOLLAND, Earl of Kent. *The arms of England in a border argent.*



LOVELL. *Argent a chevron azure between three squirrels gules.*

³² *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), iv, 262.

³³ *Plac. de Quo Warr.* (Rec. Com.), 672.

³⁴ Feet of F. Div. Cos. Trin. 13 and 14 Edw. II, no. 7. See *Cal. Pat. R.* 1317-21, p. 208.

³⁵ *Mins. Accts.* 1145, no. 4.

³⁶ *Cal. Cbart. R.* 1300-26, p. 449.

³⁷ *Cal. Close R.* 1323-7, p. 622.

³⁸ *Cal. Cbart. R.* 1327-41, p. 4.

³⁹ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 4 Edw. III (1st nos.), no. 38.

⁴⁰ *Cal. Cbart. R.* 1327-41, p. 176.

⁴¹ *Cal. Close R.* 1330-3, p. 205; *Cal. Fine R.* 1327-37, p. 279.

⁴² *Cal. Close R.* 1346-9, p. 280.

⁴³ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 26 Edw. III (1st nos.), no. 54.

⁴⁴ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1350-4, p. 383.

⁴⁵ *Cal. Inq.* x, no. 253.

⁴⁶ *Ibid.* no. 657.

⁴⁷ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 9 Ric. II, no. 54.

⁴⁸ *Ibid.* 20 Ric. II, no. 30.

⁴⁹ *Cal. Close R.* 1396-9, pp. 284, 298.

⁵⁰ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 1 Hen. IV, pt. 2, no. 2b.

⁵¹ *Ibid.* 10 Hen. IV, no. 51.

⁵² *Ibid.* 3 Hen. VI, no. 32.

⁵³ *Ibid.* 4 Hen. VI, no. 36.

⁵⁴ *Ibid.* 11 Hen. VI, no. 39.

⁵⁵ *G.E.C. Complete Peerage*, vii, 402.

⁵⁶ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 9 and 10 Edw. IV, no. 53.

⁵⁷ *G.E.C. op. cit.* iii, 183; vii, 403.

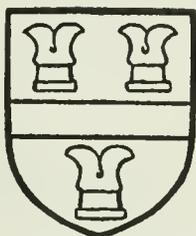
⁵⁸ Feet of F. Div. Cos. Trin. 5 Hen. VII.

⁵⁹ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), xliii, 45; *Visit. Norf.* (Harl. Soc.), 191.

⁶⁰ Feet of F. Div. Cos. Trin. 33 Hen. VIII.

tail male successively to his sons Thomas, Philip, Robert, Francis, Harry and Thomas. He died in 1567, when Thomas, the eldest son, succeeded.⁶¹ In 1584 Thomas and his mother Elizabeth sold the manor to William Cecil, Lord Burghley.⁶² William died seized of it in 1598,⁶³ when it passed to his son Thomas Cecil, afterwards Earl of Exeter. From that time the manor descended with that of Barrowden in the possession of the Earls or Marquesses of Exeter⁶⁴ to the present day.

An estate in Ryhall comprising about 280 acres of land and the ancient manor house is said by Blore to have been in the hands of the Netelham, or Netlam, family. William Netelham was farmer of the rectory at the time of the Dissolution and in 1587 John Netelham of Yaxham (co. Norf.), son and heir of William, son of Henry Netelham, conveyed to William Cecil, Lord Burghley, the reversion of three messuages in Ryhall called Redgates, Baldwins and Warrens, of the land which William Freeston and Elizabeth his wife held for the life of Elizabeth, and the reversion of a capital messuage or hall house called Margetts lands in the occupation of William Bodenham and other messuages in Ryhall, all which reversionary estates were expectant on the right which Francis Woodhouse of Breckles (co. Norf.) and Eleanor his wife had in the premises for the life of Eleanor. The Netelhams also had land which towards the end of Elizabeth's reign they conveyed to the Bodenhams,⁶⁵ and Henry Netelham was sued in 1601 by John Waterfall, of Belmesthorpe, for defrauding him of a lease of land in Ryhall and elsewhere.⁶⁶ It appears that William Bodenham of Ryhall bought an estate there in 1591 of Richard Shute, which adjoined land he already held.⁶⁷ William Bodenham died in 1613 and by his will desired to be buried in the south part of the church of Ryhall 'right under the scutchine that is there made for me and Sense⁶⁸ my wife, which scutchine I would have new made in metal, and some part of the Quarles arms joined thereto to shew that my second wife was a Quarles.'⁶⁹ William, who was sheriff of Rutland in 1603 and was knighted in 1608,⁷⁰ was succeeded by his son Francis, knighted in 1616.⁷¹ Sir Francis was sheriff of Rutland in 1614 and 1634 and member of Parliament for the county in 1625.⁷² He was sequestered as a royalist and died in 1648.⁷³ His widow Theodocia begged for a third of her husband's estate in 1652, as she had no jointure, but was only allowed a fifth.⁷⁴ Sir Wingfield Bodenham, son of Sir Francis, was high sheriff of Rutland and was taken in arms against the Parliament in 1644 at Burghley (co.



BODENHAM. Azure
a fesse between three
chess rooks or.

Northant.) by Lieut.-Gen. Cromwell. He was fined £1,000, which he obstinately refused to pay, saying that he was expecting a change. At the beginning of 1646 he was still a prisoner in the Tower, and in March was offered his liberty if he would pay the fine already set. He was released on bail in November 1647; but his fine was still unpaid in July 1651. He petitioned for some allowance for his heavy debt and begged to be allowed to sell his estate to pay his fine. Finally, in August 1653, his fine was reduced to £376, and by September it was paid and he was discharged.⁷⁵ His wife Frances Lady Bodenham in 1650 obtained a fifth of her husband's estate for herself and her children. Sir Wingfield whilst a prisoner in the Tower devoted much of his time to collecting material on matters of antiquity, and was later a liberal encourager of James Wright in his publication of *The History of Rutland*.⁷⁶ Beaumont Bodenham, son and successor of Sir Wingfield, was sheriff of Rutland in 1663⁷⁷ and died in 1681 leaving an only daughter Elizabeth. She married Thomas Burrell of Dowsby (co. Linc.), but had no children. In 1708 she settled the estate at Ryhall on the heirs of Thomas. By a second marriage Thomas Burrell had a son Thomas, but he died without issue in 1763, and the estate devolved on his cousin and co-heir, the Rev. Thomas Foster, son of Jane, sister of the first Thomas Burrell. Foster sold the estate in 1800 to Michael Pierrepont,⁷⁸ who resided in 1811, when Blore wrote his history, in the old mansion house of the Bodenhams on the south side of the churchyard, which he considerably improved. He was major-commandant of the Militia of Rutland and had been lieutenant-col. of the Rutlandshire Fencibles before their disbandment. He died in 1834.

Another property may be traced to Michael Pierrepont. By an undated charter in the possession of the Marquess of Exeter, Reynilda, daughter and heir of Simon, son of Payn de Ryhall, in her widowhood granted to her daughter Susan half her tenement in Ryhall, namely, the northern moiety of her capital messuage and half of 12 acres of land and 2½ acres of meadow and half her rents. By a later charter Susan described as daughter of Reynilda de Hundegate in Ryhall gave the same property to Maud, her daughter. This estate Blore suggests may be that afterwards held by the family of Walleit.⁷⁹ John Walleit served the office of sheriff in 1675. The Walleits' estate was conveyed in 1734 by Mary, widow of a later John Walleit, and John her son to Sarah Sutcliffe, of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, for life, with remainder to Thomas Lawrence, of Empingham, her brother, for life and with further remainder to the heirs of Sarah. The estate included a mansion house on the north of the church and an acre of land, called the Hall Yard, described as the site of the manor of Ryhall.⁸⁰ In 1749 Sarah Sutcliffe died in possession of the estate, which then passed to her nephew

⁶¹ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), cxlv, 44.

⁶² Feet of F. Div. Cos. East. 26 Eliz.; Recov. R. East. 26 Eliz. ro. 84.

⁶³ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), celvii, 91.

⁶⁴ Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 9 Jas. I; East. 22 Chas. II; 35 Geo. III; Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), cccxxiv, 84; dxxxvii, 18; Recov. R. Trin. 21 and 22 Geo. II, ro. 57; East. 16 Geo. III, ro. 467.

⁶⁵ Blore, op. cit. 48, quoting deeds of the Marquess of Exeter.

⁶⁶ Chan. Proc. t. Eliz. W.W. 10, no. 20, and see W.W. 3, no. 10.

⁶⁷ Ibid. S.S. 5, no. 58.

⁶⁸ Daughter of Francis Harington of South Witham (Blore, op. cit. 49).

⁶⁹ *Leic. and Rutl. N. and Q.* iii, 273.

⁷⁰ *List of Sheriffs* (P.R.O.); Shaw, *Knights of Engl.* ii, 146.

⁷¹ Ibid. 159.

⁷² *List of Sheriffs* (P.R.O.); Blore, op. cit. 48.

⁷³ *Cal. of Com. for Comp.* p. 83.

⁷⁴ Ibid. p. 852.

⁷⁵ Ibid. 850-1.

⁷⁶ Blore, loc. cit.

⁷⁷ *List of Sheriffs* (P.R.O.).

⁷⁸ Blore, op. cit. 49, quoting Michael Pierrepont's evidences.

⁷⁹ Ibid. 48. Blore suggests a connexion between Simon son of Payn de Ryhall and Payn the donor of the church to St. Andrew's Priory, but there seems no warrant for such a connexion.

⁸⁰ Ibid. 52, quoting evidences of M. Pierrepont.

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

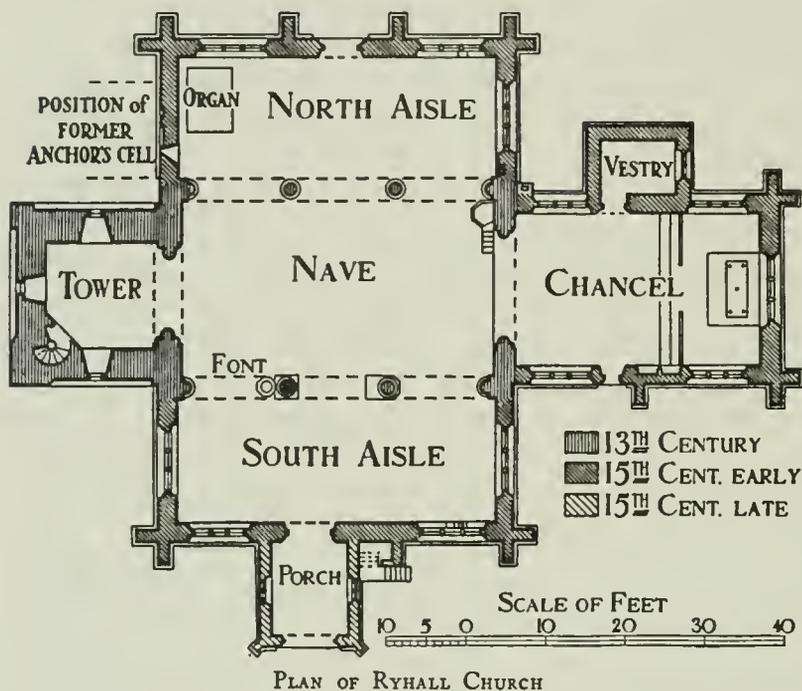
William Lawrence. He conveyed it in 1765 to her daughter Sarah, wife of Robert Tomblin, and her son Robert sold it in 1802 to Michael Pierrepoint.⁸¹

Land in Ryhall and Belmesthorpe was held as a third of a knight's fee of the manor of Ryhall. In 1247 William de Coleville conveyed it to Richard Pekke.⁸² Philip Basset held an estate at Ryhall in 1269, upon which the men of Roger Clifford are said to have trespassed.⁸³ By 1331 one half of this land was held by Henry de Sprotton and the other by Henry, son of Thomas.⁸⁴ In 1397 the two parts were held respectively by Agnes Irnhard and William Waryn.⁸⁵ Agnes appears to have been dead by 1409, but William Waryn still held his moiety at that time⁸⁶ and in 1429.⁸⁷ Waryn's holding is perhaps identical with

Mary, daughter and heir of Thomas Trollope Browne, of Gretford (co. Linc.) and Besthorpe (co. Norf.). The earl died in 1830 and the countess in 1839. They had no children.

The church of *ST. JOHN THE CHURCH EVANGELIST* consists of chancel 31 ft. by 18 ft. 9 in., with vestry on the north side, clearstoried nave of three bays 39 ft. by 21 ft. 9 in., north and south aisles 15 ft. wide, south porch, and west tower 13 ft. 3 in. by 13 ft. 6 in., all these measurements being internal. The tower is surmounted by a short broach spire and the porch has an upper story. The width across nave and aisles is 57 ft. 4 in. and the total internal length of the church about 90 ft.

With the exception of the clearstory, which is of rubble, the building is faced throughout with ashlar and all the walls are plastered internally. The church which William Payn and Adanor his wife gave to the Priory of St. Andrew, Northampton, about 1108, was probably a rectangular building erected at that time covering the area of the present nave, with a small square-ended chancel. This church was, however, rebuilt early in the 13th century, when aisles were added, a new chancel built and a tower and spire erected at the west end. Of this work the nave arcades, the chancel arch, and the tower and spire still remain. Early in the 15th century the chancel



the tenement called Warrens, which John Netelham sold in 1587 to Lord Burghley.⁸⁸

The other half of this land may be the estate which was held later by the Burtons of Tolthorpe. Blore records that in 1375 William de Burton, Lord of Tolthorpe, held rents of assize to the value of 5s. a year at Ryhall.⁸⁹ Thomas Burton and Margaret his wife made a conveyance of the manor of Tolthorpe with land in Ryhall and Belmesthorpe in 1504,⁹⁰ and this land passed with Tolthorpe manor to the Brownes. Francis Browne died seised of it in 1603 leaving a young son John as his heir.⁹¹ Thomas Cecil, Lord Burghley, quitclaimed a water-mill and land in Ryhall and Belmesthorpe to John Browne in 1604.⁹² John Browne went out of his mind, and in 1619 was certified as unable to manage his affairs. His son Christopher was an infant.⁹³

Blore states that the Brownes' estate at Ryhall consisted of about 100 acres and was in 1811 in the possession of the Earl of Pomfret in right of his wife,⁹⁴

was again rebuilt, the aisles widened, and the clear-story raised, and later in the century the porch was added. Externally, therefore, except for the tower and spire, the church has the appearance of a 15th-century building, with low-pitch roofs behind straight parapets, the porch alone being battlemented. The building was restored in 1857.

The chancel is divided externally into two bays and has a moulded plinth and string and pairs of buttresses at its eastern angles; the buttresses are of two stages with triangular cusped heads, those facing east having canopied niches in the upper stages with brackets for statues. The east window is of three cinquefoiled lights with moulded jambs⁹⁵ and mullions, vertical tracery, and hood-mould with head-stops. The lateral windows, two on each side, are similar in design, but the hood-stops are varied. In the south wall is a four-centred doorway, the hood of which is formed by lifting the wall string: the nail-studded oak door is the original one. Imme-

⁸¹ Blore, *op. cit.* 52.

⁸² Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 32 Hen. III, no. 37.

⁸³ *Cal. Close R.* 1266-72, p. 382.

⁸⁴ *Cal. Inq.* vii, p. 230.

⁸⁵ *Chan. Inq.* p.m. 20 Ric. II, no. 30.

⁸⁶ *Ibid.* 10 Hen. IV, no. 57.

⁸⁷ *Ibid.* 7 Hen. VI, no. 57.

⁸⁸ See above.

⁸⁹ Blore, *op. cit.* 54.

⁹⁰ Feet of F. Rutl. East. 19 Hen. VII.

⁹¹ *Chan. Inq.* p.m. (Ser. ii), cclxxxii, 37.

⁹² Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 2 Jas. I.

⁹³ *Chan. Inq.* p.m. (Ser. ii), cclxxv, 33.

⁹⁴ Blore, *loc. cit.*

⁹⁵ Internally the section of the jamb-moulding is different and there is no hood-mould.

diately east of the doorway are two stepped sedilia, with moulded arches and ogee crocketed canopies, but no other medieval ritual arrangements in the chancel have survived. The vestry is apparently contemporary with or only slightly later than the chancel and stands against the middle part of the north wall, between the windows; it has an east window of two trefoiled lights and a four-centred doorway. The pointed 13th-century chancel arch is of two chamfered orders, with hood-mould on each side, springing from responds composed of large, half-round columns flanked by quarter shafts, with moulded capitals and bases. The chancel has a flat plaster ceiling; externally the hollow moulding below the parapet is enriched all round with heads, flowers, and other devices. The parapet is taken along the low-pitched east gable, behind which the modern slated roof is hipped back.

The nave arcades consist of three pointed arches of two chamfered orders, with hood-moulds, springing from cylindrical pillars and half-round responds, all with circular moulded bases. On the south side the capitals also are circular, but on the north only the western pillar has a circular capital, the others being octagonal above the bell. All the capitals on the north side are carved with early water-leaf foliage, slightly varying in design, but on the south that of the western pillar only, the capital of the other pier having more developed and boldly out-curved foliage, while those of the responds are moulded. The bases, too, vary in character, those of the four responds and of the easternmost pillar on the north side being water-holding, but the others are without hollows and stand on high square plinths.⁹⁶

Externally the aisles are of three bays and follow the general character of the chancel, with moulded plinth and sill string, triangular-headed buttresses,⁹⁷ and enriched moulding below the parapets. The north and south doorways are in the middle bay and have four-centred arches with continuous hollow moulding; in the north doorway the moulding is enriched with large, widely spaced flowers. The north aisle is lighted by large traceried windows of three cinquefoiled lights, two in the north wall and one at the east end, similar in general character to those of the chancel, but with a battlemented transom in the tracery; at the west end is a small window of two lights placed high in the wall so as to clear the roof of a former anchorage. The same disposition of three-light windows, with a large one at the west end, obtains in the south aisle, but the tracery, though retaining the battlemented transom, is varied. The piscina and aumbry of the side altars remain in both aisles; in the north aisle the piscina is at the south end of the east wall and has a cinquefoil-headed recess with fluted bowl,⁹⁸ and the oblong aumbry is in the north wall below the window. In the south aisle both aumbry and piscina are in the south wall,

the former oblong, the latter with plain lancet-headed recess⁹⁹ and octofoil bowl.

The porch has diagonal buttresses with cusped triangular heads and pointed doorway of two moulded orders with elaborate cinquefoil cusping,¹ on filleted responds with battlemented capitals and moulded bases. The pointed lateral windows are of two trefoiled lights with quatrefoil in the head. The upper story slightly projects at the sides, the moulded set-off being ornamented with a series of naturalistic carvings, including a bat and a monkey. The chamber, which is lighted by a square-headed window of three lights at its south end, was at one time used as a school,² to which access was gained by a staircase from the churchyard in the north-east angle.³

The pointed clearstory windows, three on each side, are of two trefoiled lights, with pierced spandrels, and hood-moulds with head-stops. The 15th-century roofs of the nave and aisles, though restored, are for the most part original; they are of three bays with moulded principals and wall-pieces on carved stone corbels.

The tower is of three stages marked by strings, with moulded plinth and shallow clasping buttresses. There is a vice in the south-west angle. In the bottom stage, on all three sides, is a plain chamfered lancet window, that on the west being taller than the others, and in the middle stage on each side a recessed lancet of two chamfered orders, the outer one jambshafts with moulded capitals and bases, the inner enriched with nail-head. The deeply recessed bell-chamber windows consist of two lancet lights, with pierced spandrel, and are of three chamfered orders, the inner constituting the heads of the lights, all on banded jambshafts with moulded capitals and bases. There is a line of dog-tooth between the outer shafts, and the top moulding of the capitals is carried round the tower as a string upon which the hood-moulds sit. The dividing shaft is attached to a mullion and is not banded. The spire⁴ rises from a cornice of notched heads and has short broaches and plain angles; it is twice banded in its upper part, the lower band being enriched with dog-tooth, and has two tiers of spire lights, the principal ones, in the cardinal faces, being gabled and of two lights with shafted jambs and double line of dog-tooth. The smaller round-headed upper lights are also enriched with dog-tooth, but are now blocked. The spire terminates in a cock vane. Internally the tower opens into the nave by a pointed arch of three chamfered orders, with hood-mould on each side, springing from clustered responds similar in character to those of the chancel arch, but of greater dimensions.⁵ The doorway to the vice has a round head with imposts and chamfered hood-mould. Above the tower arch is a tall, round-headed opening, now blocked.⁶

The anchorage, which was attached to the west end

⁹⁶ The pillars of the north arcade are 20½ in. diam., those on the south 19½ in.

⁹⁷ The buttresses, however, are without cusping in the heads, except those in the north aisle facing west and east: the latter has also a niche.

⁹⁸ The bowl has four orifices.

⁹⁹ Probably that belonging to the 13th-century aisle re-used. Both piscinæ are mutilated, the hood-mould and front of the bowl being cut away.

¹ Each of the foils is itself trefoiled, giving the arch a very rich appearance.

² In Blore's time (1811) 'about thirty children' were instructed there: *op. cit.* 56. The room measures 11 ft. 6 in. by 9 ft. 6 in. inside, and has a fireplace with hob-grate in the east wall.

³ The staircase remains. From the churchyard seven stone steps lead to a landing and doorway, above which

the staircase is of wood. It is in the space between the porch and the adjoining buttress to the east.

⁴ Laird in 1813 stated that 'the spire is considered in danger of falling.' *Topog. and Hist. Desc. Rull.* 107.

⁵ The tower arch is 4 ft. thick, the chancel arch 3 ft.

⁶ It is visible through the plaster; on the west side, towards the ringing chamber, it has a pointed head.

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of the north aisle, has long been removed,⁷ but the line of its roof still remains on the wall, showing that it was about 12 ft. wide. It was apparently erected some time in the 15th century and is locally associated with the cult of St. Tibba (c. 690). The recess for the altar, with a canopied niche on its north side, and a squint through the wall directed on to the high altar still remain.⁸

The font has a plain octagonal bowl on a short, circular stem and tall moulded 13th-century base. It has an 18th-century wooden cover. The oak pulpit⁹ is modern, on a stone base. The organ is at the west end of the north aisle. The royal arms of George III (before 1801) are over the tower arch.

In the floor of the chancel is the lower half of a medieval grave slab¹⁰ with indent of a figure and inscription. On the walls are monuments to Sir William Bodenham (d. 1613), Sir Francis Bodenham (d. 1645) and his two wives (1625, 1671), Beaumont Bodenham (d. 1681), Samuel, infant son¹¹ of Henry Barker, vicar (d. 1696), and Thomas Harrison, D.D., vicar¹² (d. 1782).¹³ In the north aisle is a memorial to sixteen men of Ryhall who fell in the war of 1914-19.

There is a ring of five bells, the first by Edward Arnold of Leicester, 1790, the second (1627), third (1626) and tenor (1633), by Thomas Norris of Stamford, and the fourth by Mears and Stainbank of London, 1867. In the ringing chamber are rhymed ringers' rules dated 1715.¹⁴

The plate consists of a cup of 1639-40, inscribed 'This Cupe and cover¹⁵ doth belonge to the Parish of Riall in Rutlandshire,' and a flagon and two plates of 1781-2 given by Elizabeth Watson.¹⁶

The registers before 1812 are as follows: (i) baptisms 1653-1729, marriages 1674-1728, burials 1663-97; (ii) baptisms and burials 1727-94, marriages 1727-53; (iii) baptisms and burials 1795-1812; (iv) marriages 1754-85; (v) marriages 1785-1812.

The advowson and rectory of *ADVOWSON* Ryhall were granted to the Priory of St. Andrew, Northampton, not long after its foundation in 1084 by Simon de St. Liz. According to one authority, Payn (Paganus) made a grant to the Priory of the church of Ryhall, a mill he had built there, and a plough land, for a clerk who was to be made a monk of the Priory. This grant was confirmed, among others, in 1108 by Simon de

St. Liz and Maud his wife and King Henry I, and also by Malcolm, King of Scotland, and Hugh, Bishop of Lincoln.¹⁷ Another account states that the grant was made by William Payn and Adanor his wife and confirmed by their descendant Guy de Rahennis.¹⁸ St. Andrew's, as a cell of the Abbey of St. Mary de Caritate upon the Loire being an alien priory, was with the rectory of Ryhall frequently in the hands of the Crown during the wars with France. The rectory was farmed from time to time by the priory, the rent in 1443 being £14 13s. 4d.¹⁹ John Netelham or Netlam was apparently farmer of the rectory and advowson in 1503, when he presented Henry Netelham to the church.²⁰ In 1530 William Netelham obtained a lease of the rectory for 51 years.²¹ The Priory of St. Andrews was surrendered to the Crown in 1538 and with it the rectory and advowson of Ryhall.²² A lease in reversion of the rectory was granted to Hugh Alington in 1568,²³ but the advowson seems to have remained in the Crown. In 1544 Nicholas Wylson, S.T.P., presented, probably only for that turn, for in 1572 Queen Elizabeth presented.²⁴ In 1581 Edward Downynge and Peter Ashton, at the request of Sir Henry Darcy, exchanged lands in Yorkshire for the rectory and advowson of Ryhall and other property.²⁵ They probably conveyed their interest to the Cecils, for Sir Thomas Cecil presented in 1583²⁶ and his father William Cecil, Lord Burghley, purchased the manor in the following year, but the rectory and advowson remained with Thomas Cecil, who was created Earl of Exeter and died seised in 1623.²⁷ It was conveyed by William, Earl of Exeter, in 1626 to Thomas Gray and others,²⁸ probably trustees for his daughter, Anne, and her husband Henry, Lord Grey of Groby, afterwards Earl of Stamford. Anne's son Thomas, Lord Grey, made a conveyance of the rectory in 1649,²⁹ and in 1651 he and his mother and father, and Elizabeth, Dowager Countess of Exeter, his grandmother, were in possession of it.³⁰ Afterwards it reverted to the Earls of Exeter, and John Earl of Exeter presented in 1681.³¹ Since that date the rectory and advowson have been held by the Earls and Marquesses of Exeter.

Thomas Bradley, by his will proved *CHARITIES* in the P.C.C. on the 10th April 1878, gave a sum of money to his trustees to be distributed among poor widows. The endowment consists of a sum of £237 9s. 2d. 2½ per cent. Consols producing in dividends £5 18s. 8d.

⁷ There is no record of the time of its removal. A drawing by Dr. Stukeley dated June 22nd, 1736, shows the site in its present condition.

⁸ The recess is 4 ft. 3½ in. wide, 3 ft. high and 8 in. deep, and its sill is about 4 ft. above the ground. The squint splays out inside the church to 2 ft. 10 in.; the opening, which is 12 in. high, is now glazed.

⁹ In 1850 Sir Henry Dryden described the pulpit, desk and pewing as wretched. The lower part of a chancel screen then remained.

¹⁰ Re-used in the 18th century.

¹¹ The inscription states that 'he was a child of admirable sweetness of temper, of an erect and comely body, of a most pregnant wit, even beyond what could be imagined at the age of 2 years and 15 days, at which time he departed this life, Octob. the 13, 1696.'

¹² Also rector of Great Casterton and of Market Overton.

¹³ The inscriptions on these monuments and also on floor slabs in chancel and nave (1678-1798) are given in Blore, *op. cit.* 57. Those on the monuments of Sir William and Sir Francis Bodenham are in Wright, *Hist. of Rutl.* 113.

¹⁴ North, *Ch. Bells of Rutl.* 149, where the inscriptions are given. The old fourth bell was dated 1720. The clock works bear the name 'William Bird, Seagrave, 1771.'

¹⁵ The cover is missing.

¹⁶ Hope, *Ch. Plate in Rutl.* 18. One of the plates is used as a paten. There is also a silver bread box given in memory of Hannah Maria Swann, school mistress and sacristan 1928. In 1640 a chalice and paten were consecrated in Peterborough Cathedral by Bishop Towers for Ryhall Church. Irons' Notes, Archd. Visit.

¹⁷ Dugdale, *Mon. Angl.* v, 185, 191, quoting Cott. MS. Vesp. E xvii, fol. 2.

¹⁸ Farrer, *Honors and Knights' Fees*, ii, 392, quoting Cott. MS. Vesp. E xvii, fol. 257, 257d. Possibly William Payn was the son of Payn. We occasionally find a parent's Christian name taken as a surname by a son about this time.

¹⁹ Mins. Accts. (Gen. Ser. P.R.O.), bdle. 1108, no. 21.

²⁰ Irons' Notes, Linc. Episc. Reg. (Instit.).

²¹ Recited in lease to Alington: Pat. R. 10 Eliz. pt. 6.

²² Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 29 Hen. VIII.

²³ Pat. R. 10 Eliz. pt. 6.

²⁴ Irons, loc. cit.

²⁵ Pat. R. 23 Eliz. pt. 1.

²⁶ Irons, loc. cit.

²⁷ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), ccccxxiv. 84; Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 9 Jas. I.

²⁸ Ibid. Trin. 2 Chas. I.

²⁹ Ibid. 1649.

³⁰ Ibid. 1651.

³¹ Blore, *op. cit.* 56; Irons, loc. cit.

per annum. The income is distributed among about 18 widows by the vicar and churchwardens.

Church Land.—By an inclosure award dated 23rd June 1800 a piece of land containing 1 acre 3 roods 25 poles lying in the Riddle Field was granted to the churchwardens and overseers. The land is now let at an annual rent of £3, which is devoted to church expenses.

Fuel Allotment.—By the same inclosure award a parcel of land was granted to the Marquess of Exeter, as Lord of the Manor, and the vicar and churchwardens in lieu of the custom of the poor of cutting and carrying away furze upon Aunby Heath. The endowment consists of land containing about 16 acres let to Mr. T. H. Woolley at an annual rent of £18. The income is distributed in coal among about 20 aged persons and 20 other approved persons.

Charles Gann, by his will proved in the P.C.C. on the 6th October 1902, bequeathed to the vicar and

churchwardens a sum of £200 upon trust to apply the income in renovating, beautifying and repairing the church. The endowment consists of a sum of £205 1s. 6d. India 3 per cent. stock producing in dividends £6 3s. per annum, which is applied by the trustees in accordance with the trusts.

Michael Pierrepont, by his will proved at the P.C.C. on the 6th June 1834, bequeathed to the vicar and churchwardens a sum of £500 upon trust to apply the income arising therefrom in the purchase of coal to be distributed among the deserving and industrious poor. The endowment consists of a sum of £500 2½ per cent. Consols producing in dividends £12 10s. per annum. The income is distributed in coal among about 20 aged persons and 20 other approved persons by the vicar and two persons appointed by the parish council.

The several sums of stock are with the Official Trustees.

TICKENCOTE

Tichecote (xi cent.); Tikencote (xii cent.); Tykenot (xiii cent.); Tykingkote (xiv cent.); Totynote, Tetynote (xv cent.); Thekencote (xvi cent.).

The parish of Tickencote, in the eastern part of the county to the north-west of Stamford, contains 1,293 acres, of which five are covered by water and the greater part of the remainder are laid down to permanent pasture. The subsoil is Inferior Oolite and, by the river, Great Oolite. The Great North Road, which here follows the line of Ermine Street, lies just within the north-eastern boundary of the parish; the small portion of the parish lying to the north-east of this road contains Warren Wood and the building known as Tickencote Warren. The village is picturesquely situated on the southern slope of the hill from the Great North Road to the River Gwash, which flows through the parish, and beside the river there is a mill, only recently out of use. The houses, which are of stone, include the former rectory opposite the church, which is of considerable interest, and a number of thatched cottages, two of which have been burnt down and not yet rebuilt. Alterations appear to have taken place in the village streets. It seems probable that there was a definite road where the path runs south-east of the school and the present flagstaff, erected by Col. Wingfield in commemoration of His Majesty's Coronation. The path joins the road in the direction of Great Casterton. Probably this road branched off to join the earlier road by the church. This road led round the west end of the church and thence to the south of it, along the Rifle Range erected about 1906.

The Hall stands a short distance south-west of the church, with Tickencote Park to the north and west. It is a well-designed early 18th-century¹ building of two principal stories in the Italian style of the period, with tall sash windows, eaves, cornice and quoined angles. On the main front the central block has a pediment containing a shield with the arms of Wing-

field, a semicircular flight of steps to the entrance, and projecting wings.² A detached low two-story 17th-century building with mullioned windows and stone-slatted eaved roof, which stands a short distance to the south-east, is apparently part of, or belonged to, an older house, but was later used as offices and stables.

There are besides the main village two groups of farm buildings, Tickencote Lodge and Wild's Lodge, the latter now used as cottages. Both groups are close by the river. There is a wood north-west of the village known as Tickencote Launde, and Tickencote Lodge and Wild's Lodge are suggestive of forest land.

TICKENCOTE was held at the time *MANORS* of Domesday (1086) by the Countess Judith³ and thence passed to the St. Liz family and the Kings of Scotland, as parcel of the Honour of Huntingdon, until in the reign of Henry III, on the death of John le Scot, the honour was divided among his co-heirs and Tickencote followed the descent of the Hastings purparty.⁴ By the time of Edward III the 'corpus of the honor was dismembered and that feudal description ceased to have any great significance.'⁵

In 1086 Grimbald held of the Countess 3 hides less one bovat in Tickencote.⁶ He was succeeded by his son, Robert Grimbald,⁷ who founded the Priory of Austin Canons at Owston and gave them the church of Tickencote, which gift was confirmed by Robert de Chesney, Bishop of Lincoln (1147-68).⁸ The descent of the Grimbald family has been traced under Diddington (co. Hunts. q.v.).⁹ William Grimbald, apparently son of Robert, granted land in Tickencote to Henry, son of Richard de Tickencote, in 1199.¹⁰ Robert, son of William Grimbald, seems to have died in 1216, when the custody of his lands in Tickencote was granted to John de Candi.¹¹ This Robert Grimbald, or a son of the same name, in 1234 acknowledged

¹ The house, which is built of Ketton stone, is said to have been erected in 1705. *Stamford Mercury*, May 23, 1862.

² There are five windows in the central block (of which three belong to the slightly advanced middle portion below the pedi-

ment) and one in each of the wings, making seven windows in all along the front.

³ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 142.

⁴ Farrer, *Honors and Knights' Fees*, ii, 300, 304.

⁵ *Ibid.* 301.

⁶ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 142.

⁷ Farrer, *op. cit.* 302.

⁸ Dugdale, *Mon. Angl.* vi, 424.

⁹ *V.C.H. Hunts.* ii, 269.

¹⁰ Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 10 Ric. I, no. 4.

¹¹ *Rot. Litt. Claus.* (Rec. Com.), i, 246.

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the right of the abbot of Owston to present to Ticken-cote church.¹² He was returned as overlord of the manor in 1250.¹³ William, son of Robert, who was a minor in 1265, married Mabel, sister of John Kirkby, Bishop of Ely, and their son Robert was of the age of 30 years in 1312.¹⁴ The mesne lordship probably passed with Diddington (q.v.) to Robert's brother, William (d. 1328), then to William his son (d. 1350), and to Robert his son, who died young.¹⁵

The tenant holding at all events a part of the manor of the Grimbalds was Henry, son of Richard de Tickencote, who was granted 6 bovates of land here for a fifth of a fee.¹⁶ Henry de Tickencote had licence to export bread in 1224.¹⁷ Before 1234, however, the manor had passed to William le Daneys, who, with his overlord Robert Grimbald, consented to the presentation to the church of Tickencote by the abbot of Owston (co. Leic.).¹⁸ William had married as his second wife Mabel, who was apparently heiress of the Tickencotes, as on the death of William in 1250 his widow Mabel had the custody of the manor¹⁹ until the majority of the heir, John, which occurred in 1253.²⁰ John in that year had seisin of the manor, which had been in the king's hands on account of the debt owing from William de Plessetis, who had a lien on the manor from William le Daneys, saving the dower of Mabel.²¹ John le Daneys seems to have died without issue before 1263, when lands in Tickencote were settled on Mabel for life with reversion to William,²² son of Richard le Daneys, brother of Mabel's husband William.²³ William, son of William son of Richard, had a son Brice le Daneys,²⁴ who with Isabel his wife was holding lands in Tickencote in 1287.²⁵ Brice held a quarter of a fee and Hugh de Bussey half a fee there in 1305.²⁶ Before 1311, however, Brice had acquired the manor, which he settled in that year on himself and Joan, probably his second wife.²⁷ Brice was knight of the shire for Rutland in 1312 and took a prominent part in the affairs of the county. In the same year he was involved in a suit against Grimbald, son of Grimbald Pauncefort, heir of Brice's cousin, Ella le Daneys, as to lands in Hildesham.²⁸ Brice died before 1344, when Oger Daveys (Daneys) released to his brother Roland all claim to the manor of Tickencote and all other lands which formerly belonged to Brice in Empingham.²⁹ The relationship of Brice to the brothers does not appear. Roland was knight of the shire in 1352 and in 1362 died seised of the manor of Tickencote.³⁰ His widow, Elizabeth, held the manor for life, by gift of Alexander Skulthorpe and Richard Daneys, with remainder to John, son of Oliver (? Oger), then aged 24 years, and died

in 1377.³¹ John had livery of his uncle's lands,³² so we may conclude that Oliver is a scribal error for Oger, brother of Roland. In 1400 John died seised of the manor leaving his son and heir John, aged 25 years.³³ In 1433 John Daneys, Kt., died seised of the manor, including a hall, dovecote, view of frankpledge and Court Baron, and left Robert his son and heir aged 23 years.³⁴ In 1434 Robert Daneys of Tickencote was sheriff.³⁵ In the following or same year he died without issue, leaving his sister Joan, the wife of Thomas Dale, aged 22 years, and Elizabeth aged 20, his co-heirs.³⁶ Thomas Dale was sheriff of Rutland in 1457 and John son of Thomas in 1468.³⁷ In 1479 John died seised of the manor, leaving William his son and heir aged 8 years.³⁸ In 1535 William settled the manor and died in 1536. His heirs were his daughters Anne Fetyplace, Joan Wollascot and his granddaughter, Margaret Lynne,³⁹ who inherited Tickencote. Margaret married John Campynett, and in 1551 he granted the manor of Tickencote and 40s. rent in Tickencote and Empingham to trustees for himself and Margaret in survivorship, with remainder to their heirs and with further remainder to the heirs of John.⁴⁰ This settlement led to much litigation, as John Campynett died in 1557,⁴¹ and Margaret, who survived him, married Paul Gresham. John's brother, William Campynett, claimed the inheritance and lost his case.⁴² On Paul's death Margaret married Robert Ratcliffe, but as Paul Gresham had previously settled the property upon their children, and as their sons died without issue, the property, on the death of Margaret in 1594, passed to their only daughter, Elizabeth, the wife of John Wingfield.⁴³ Elizabeth Wingfield died in 1602 seised of the manor of Tickencote, held of the king in chief by knight service, leaving John Wingfield, her husband, holding the premises by courtesy; her son and heir John Wingfield was aged 8 years.⁴⁴ Sir John Wingfield, Kt., the son, made a settlement on his marriage with Frances, daughter of Lord Edward Cromwell, and died in 1632 seised of the manor and a wood called Bowyowe Wood in Tickencote, tenements bought of Edward Maria Wingfield, leaving a son Richard, aged 12.⁴⁵ It is possible that Bowyowe Wood was the parcel of woodland in the parish of Tickencote containing 24 acres of which Robert, Earl of Salisbury, died seised in 1612.⁴⁶ Sir Richard was succeeded by his son, John Wingfield, in 1663,⁴⁷ who held the manor and also view of frankpledge in 1673.⁴⁸ John died in 1680 and was succeeded by his son John, who held the manor and died in 1734.⁴⁹ His son John died in his lifetime, but he was succeeded by his grandson John.⁵⁰

¹² *Rot. Hug. de Welles* (Cant. and York Soc.), ii, 180.

¹³ *Cal. Inq. Hen. III*, nos. 203, 275.

¹⁴ *Ibid.* v, no. 320.

¹⁵ *V.C.H. Hunts.* ii, 269-70.

¹⁶ Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 10 Ric. I, no. 4.

¹⁷ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1216-25, p. 494.

¹⁸ *Rot. Hug. de Welles*, loc. cit.

¹⁹ *Cal. Inq. Hen. III*, nos. 203, 275. Emma, first wife of William le Daneys, was daughter and heir of Robert de Offord. William had by her two daughters (*V.C.H. Hunts.* ii, 323).

²⁰ *Cal. Inq. op. cit.* no. 275.

²¹ *Cal. Close R.* 1251-3, p. 410.

²² Feet of F. Rutl. East. 47 Hen. III, no. 58.

²³ *V.C.H. Hunts.* ii, 223.

²⁴ *Ibid.*; Assize R. 348, m. 6 d.

²⁵ Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 16 Edw. I, no. 17.

²⁶ *Feud. Aids*, iv, 205.

²⁷ Feet of F. Rutl. Mich. 5 Edw. II, no. 5.

²⁸ *Selden Soc.* 1917, p. 233; *V.C.H. Hunts.* ii, 323.

²⁹ *Cal. Close R.* 1343-6, p. 336.

³⁰ Chan. Inq. p.m. 49 Edw. III, pt. i, no. 34.

³¹ *Ibid.* 51 Edw. III (1st nos.), no. 9.

³² *Cal. Close R.* 1374-7, p. 505.

³³ Chan. Inq. p.m. 1 Hen. IV, pt. 1, no. 33.

³⁴ *Ibid.* 12 Hen. VI, no. 22.

³⁵ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1429-36, p. 370.

³⁶ *Blore, Hist. of Rutl.* 62.

³⁷ List of Sheriffs (P.R.O.).

³⁸ Chan. Inq. p.m. 19 Edw. IV, no. 9; *Cal. Pat. R.* 1475-85, p. 195.

³⁹ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), lix, 44; *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xii, pt. 1, g. 539 (21).

⁴⁰ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1550-3, p. 60; Feet of F. Div. Cos. Mich. 5 Edw. VI; *Recov. R. East.* 5 Edw. VI, ro. 100.

⁴¹ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), cxv, 37.

⁴² *Cal. S.P. Dom.* 1547-80, p. 700; *Addenda*, 1580-1625, p. 33.

⁴³ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. ii), ccxlvii, 29.

⁴⁴ *Ibid.* ccxcv, 58.

⁴⁵ *Ibid.* cccclxx, 178.

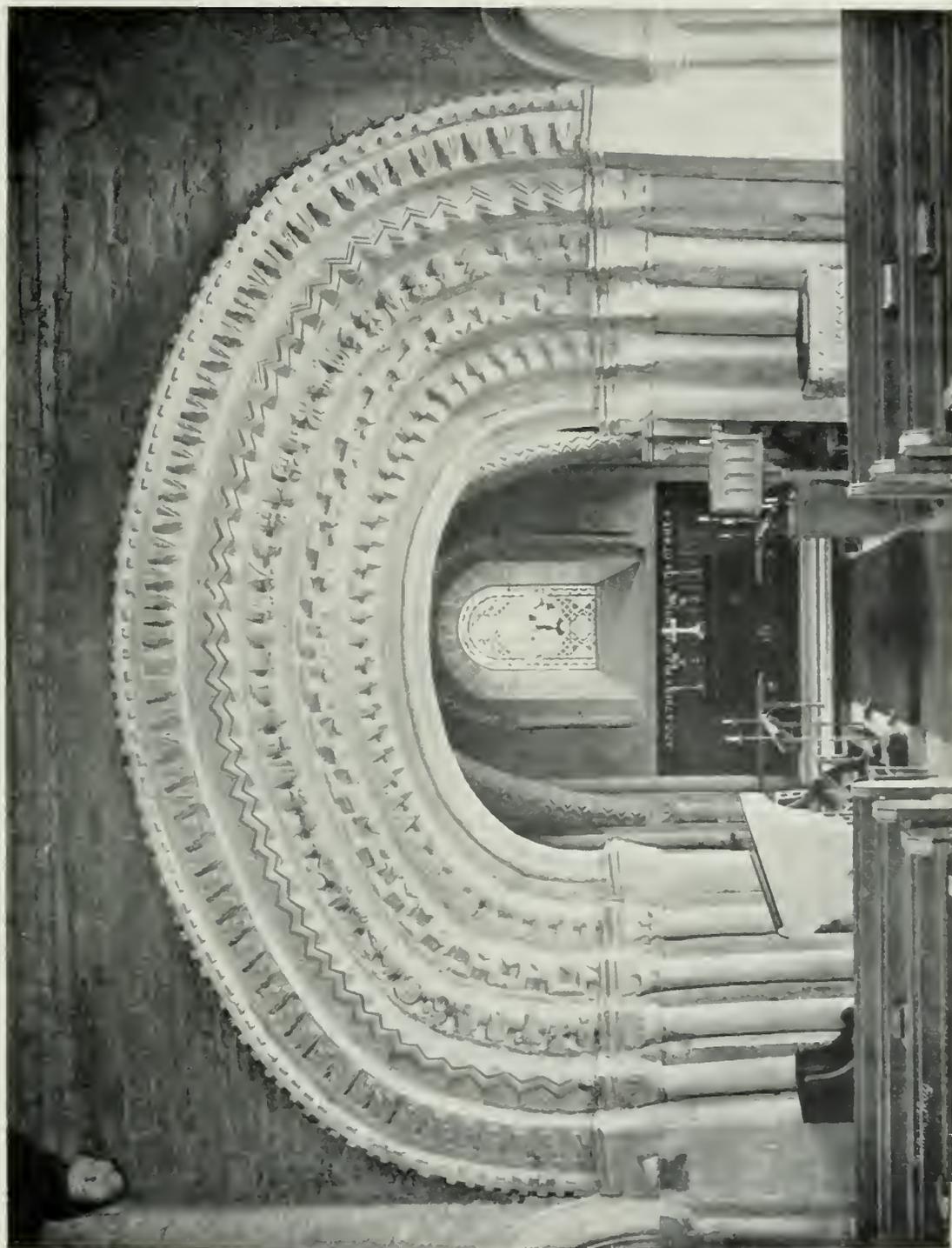
⁴⁶ *Ibid.* ccclxii, 123.

⁴⁷ *Blore, op. cit.* 70.

⁴⁸ Feet of F. Rutl. East. 25 Chas. II.

⁴⁹ *Blore, loc. cit.*; Feet of F. Rutl. Trin. 6 & 7 Geo. II.

⁵⁰ *Blore, loc. cit.*

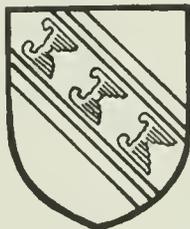


TICKNOCOIL CHURCH: THE CHANCEL ARCH

This John Wingfield held the manor and died in 1773,⁵¹ his wife Sarah surviving him.⁵² In 1787 Sarah Wingfield and her son, John Wingfield, were dealing with the manor and also free warren, courts leet and courts baron.⁵³ John Wingfield was succeeded by John Muxloe Wingfield, the owner in 1846 of all the soil of the parish except 3 acres of glebe.⁵⁴ He was succeeded by his son John Harry Lee Wingfield, who died in 1880.⁵⁵ His elder son, Col. John Maurice Wingfield, D.S.O., O.B.E., J.P., died in 1931 and left the estates to his nephew, John Llewellyn Parry, in tail male with a proviso that he should assume the name of Wingfield.

In 1185 the Knights Templars held in Tickencote of the gift of Ralph Grimbald one bovat of land which Asceline the priest had for 4s.⁵⁶ This holding is difficult to trace; in the report of Prior Philip de Thame to the Grand Master for A.D. 1338, there is no mention of its having come into the hands of the Hospitallers, and it is well known that some of the Templars' lands were never surrendered to them.⁵⁷ It is tempting to identify this holding with 78 acres of glebe mentioned in an undated 18th-century terrier in the Peterborough Diocesan Register, the fields now forming part of the manorial lands and probably now known as Rectory Fields.⁵⁸

In 1504 there was a quitclaim to the heirs of Hugh Asherton of a holding in Tickencote.⁵⁹ In 1535 Sir Robert Peyton and Frances his wife had licence to settle a considerable estate in Lyndon and Tickencote on themselves for life, with remainder to their son Robert Peyton, with contingent remainders over.⁶⁰ In 1553 licence was granted to the said Frances, widow, her son Robert Peyton and others to grant the last-mentioned premises with some additions and view of frankpledge to John Hunt his heirs and assigns.⁶¹ It is not clear how much of this holding was in Tickencote, but in 1673 the view of frankpledge had come into the hands of the Wingfield family.⁶²



WINGFIELD. *Argent a bend gules cotised sable with three pairs of wings argent upon the bend.*

CHURCH

The church of *ST. PETER* consists of a vaulted chancel 21 ft. by 17 ft. 6 in., nave 32 ft. 6 in. by 21 ft. 6 in., north vestry 8 ft. by 7 ft. 3 in., and south porch 8 ft. 2 in. by 6 ft. 5 in., all these measurements being internal. The vestry and porch are opposite one another at the east end of the nave, the porch being carried up as a tower, with pyramidal slated roof. The chancel and nave are under a continuous slated roof with east and west gables. The vestry is the full height of the walls of chancel and nave.

With the exception of the chancel arch, which is a particularly rich example of Norman work, c. 1160–70 or perhaps a little later, the whole of the church was rebuilt in 1792 by Miss Eliza Wingfield from the designs of Samuel Pepys Cockerell.⁶³ The chancel, however, was rebuilt on the old plan and in imitation of the old work,⁶⁴ and though far from being an exact copy, still to a large extent preserves the main characteristics of the Norman building. No attempt was made to reproduce the old nave, Cockerell's design being meant to harmonise with and carry westward the main lines and features of the rebuilt 12th-century chancel: as a late 18th-century version of Norman architecture it has a certain historical value and interest, but the complete disappearance of any vestige of old work west of the chancel is much to be regretted. There exist, however, perspective drawings and a plan of the chancel made by Dr. Stukeley in 1731,⁶⁵ a plan of the whole building and other drawings made by Carter in 1780,⁶⁶ and a view from the north-east by Carter taken in 1785.⁶⁷ From these a fairly complete knowledge of the church as it existed in the half-century prior to its rebuilding can be obtained, though there are discrepancies in the drawings, and their accuracy has been questioned.⁶⁸ It is difficult, therefore, to determine with what amount of fidelity the old work was followed at the rebuilding.

Carter's plan⁶⁹ shows an aisleless nave about 33 ft. 6 in. by 23 ft., with north and south doorways near the west end, the former blocked, a west window of three lights, and north and south windows of two lights in the eastern half. The south doorway was covered by a porch. The north wall was of considerable thickness⁷⁰ at its east end, where it joined the chancel

⁵¹ Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 29 Geo. II; Blore, loc. cit.

⁵² Inst. Bks. (P.R.O.).

⁵³ Recov. R. Trin. 27 Geo. III, ro. 128.

⁵⁴ White, *Hist. and Gaz. Rutl.* 1846.

⁵⁵ Walford, *County Families*, 1916.

⁵⁶ Dugdale, *Mon. Angl.* vi, pt. 2, 829.

⁵⁷ *The Hospitallers in Engl.* (Camden Soc. 1855), lvii, lix.

⁵⁸ Peterb. Dioc. Reg.

⁵⁹ Feet of F. Rutl. East. 19 Hen. VII, no. 9.

⁶⁰ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, viii, g. 962 (11).

⁶¹ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1550–3, p. 274; Feet of F. Rutl. Hil. 7 Edw. VI.

⁶² *Ibid.* East. 25 Chas. II.

⁶³ *Gent. Mag.* lxiv, 677 (July 1744): in an obituary notice of Miss Wingfield it is stated that 'she lived just to see rebuilt, at her own expense, the very ancient and singular church of Tickencote in Rutland, in a style of architecture as near the original as perhaps could be constructed by a modern artist under the direction of Mr. Cockerell, surveyor, of Savile-row, and execution of Mr. Heynes, mason, of Stamford.' John Carter in

1806 wrote: 'The improvements of St. Margaret's Church, Westminster, tell what fate must have befallen Tickencote, as the same architect had the handling of both' (*Gent. Mag.* lxxvi, 34). Cockerell 'improved' St. Margaret's, Westminster, in 1791.

⁶⁴ 'Tickencote, till within a few years, was one of the most valuable remains in the kingdom, but it has been rebuilt sufficiently near in its likeness to the original to deceive many, and so far from it as to render it not a copy, but an imitation' (Rickman, *Gothic Architecture*, 7th ed. 77).

⁶⁵ Stukeley's sketch-book contains five drawings of Tickencote—(i) chancel arch and plan of chancel, (ii) south side of church dated July 20, 1731, (iii) east end, dated July 16, 1731, (iv) north side of chancel 'as formerly,' (v) north-east prospect. The sketch-book, now the property of Mrs. St. John, Dismore House, Hereford, was exhibited at the Society of Antiquaries, March 30, 1922. The Tickencote drawings have been photographed. There are engravings from Stukeley's drawings in Gough's edition

of Camden's *Britannia*, ii, 223* (1789), Plate v: these are (i) east end, (ii) plan of chancel, (iii) section through chancel looking west, (iv) north side of chancel. There are also drawings of the south doorway and porch, and of the chancel arch in Ducarel's *Anglo-Norman Antiquities* (1767), pl. xiii.

⁶⁶ Carter, *Anc. Archit. of Engl.* (ed. 1845), plates 23, 34, and 77. These comprise (i) elevation and details of east end, (ii) details of chancel arch, (iii) monument in nave. Carter's original drawings further include a plan of the entire building dated September 1, 1780, and a draft of the south doorway and porch.

⁶⁷ In Grose's *Antiquities* (new ed.), vol. viii, J. Newton direxit. The engraving was published by S. Hooper, July 20 1787.

⁶⁸ Blore, in 1811, wrote: 'I hazard but little in stating that none of these engravings are very accurate. They do not carry the air of accuracy upon the face of them' (*Hist. of Rutl.* 72).

⁶⁹ It is dated Sept. 1, 1780.

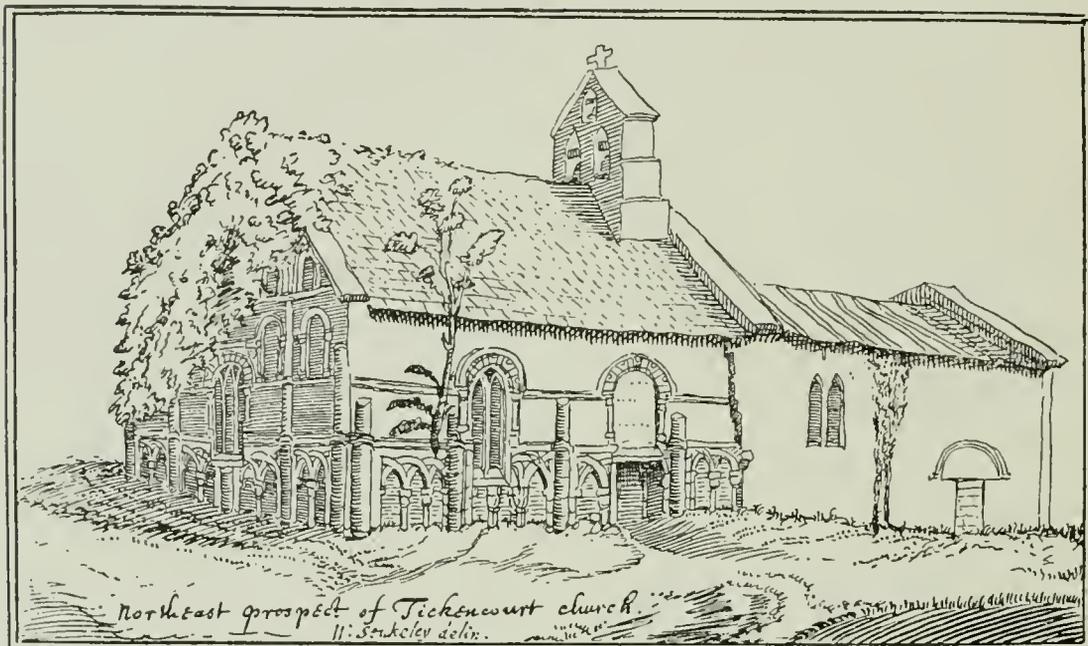
⁷⁰ About 3 ft. 6 in.

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

arch, but gradually narrowed westward, and the west and south walls appear to have been about 27 in. thick. The other drawings show that the south doorway was of 12th-century date, with an outer round-headed arch of a single chevron moulded order on jambshafts with cushion capitals, but the inner order or arch was apparently much later with a flat-pointed head.⁷¹ The nave was covered by a low-pitched, leaded eaved roof, and over the chancel arch was a bell-cote with arched openings for two bells under a single gable surmounted by a cross and pierced by a

century. The north and south windows were square-headed and apparently of the latter period, and the low-pitched roof was probably then erected.⁷⁴ The west window is not shown in any of the drawings.

The whole of the building is said to have been in a state of dilapidation and decay in the years immediately preceding the rebuilding. Both Stukeley's and Carter's drawings bear this out, as well in the chancel⁷⁵ as in the nave. The round-headed east window appears to have been lengthened downwards, its sill



SKETCH BY DR. STUKELEY OF TICKENCOTE CHURCH

small pointed opening.⁷² The bell-cote, like others in the county, was probably of 13th-century date, in which period the nave may have been rebuilt. There was a 13th-century moulded tomb recess,⁷³ containing a coffin lid with floriated cross, in the north wall, but the evidence of the drawings is not sufficient to enable a definite date to be assigned to the nave as a whole. There is, however, no reason to suppose that the 12th-century south doorway was not part of the original structure, which was probably reconstructed in the 13th and altered in the 15th

cutting into the wall-arcade below,⁷⁶ and mullions dividing it into three lights inserted.⁷⁷ The eastern-most window on the north side had also been divided into two lights by a mullion. The other north window was blocked and a doorway had been cut through the wall below it.⁷⁸ On the south side little or nothing of the 12th-century walling remained, a chapel dedicated to the Holy Trinity having been added on that side early in the 14th century, and two pointed arches pierced through the wall, one on each side of the abutment⁷⁹ of the transverse arch of the vault.

⁷¹ In Stukeley's north-east prospect the north doorway appears to have a semi-circular tympanum, but in Carter's drawing of 1785 it is shown pointed.

⁷² The upper opening appears to have been too small for a bell, though Stukeley shows it containing one. There is none in Carter's drawing. The bell-cote was over the west wall of the chancel, but was removed when the old nave was taken down and not rebuilt.

⁷³ It is figured in Carter, *op. cit.* pl. lxxvii, and in Blore, *op. cit.* 73. It had a tall moulded equilateral arch, the hood with head-stops.

⁷⁴ Carter described the body of the church as 'of the Tudor style, of common simple work,' and conceived that the south doorway and the tomb recess had been brought from some other fabric: *Gent. Mag.* lxxvi, 35 (Jan. 1806, in a description of the church as it was in

1780). But there is nothing to support such a view, which appears to have been founded on the belief that the nave was 'added to give room' in Tudor times: *ibid.* 34.

⁷⁵ In 1578 part of the chancel was pulled down and in 1586 the chancel windows were out of repair: frons' Notes, Archd. Visit. Gough described the east end as 'rather cracked and decaying': Camden's *Brit.* ii (1789), 233*. Carter said that in 1780 much of the work had been 'havoeked,' though the greater part of the intention was left: *Gent. Mag.* lxxvi, 34.

⁷⁶ It is so shown in Stukeley's and Carter's north-east views, but not on their east elevations, and these appear to have been meant to represent the east front in its original state; there are other discrepancies between them and the perspectives.

⁷⁷ So shown in the two perspectives, but not on the east elevations. But the mullions are shown on Carter's enlarged plan of the chancel dated September 1780. In the perspectives the window looks like a 13th-century alteration, and may have been so, but Blore states that a mason employed in the rebuilding assured him that the mullions and alterations in the window 'had not the appearance of antiquity, but were of clumsy workmanship': *op. cit.* 72. Carter, in his description of the church, makes no mention of alterations to the window.

⁷⁸ So shown in both Stukeley's and Carter's drawings.

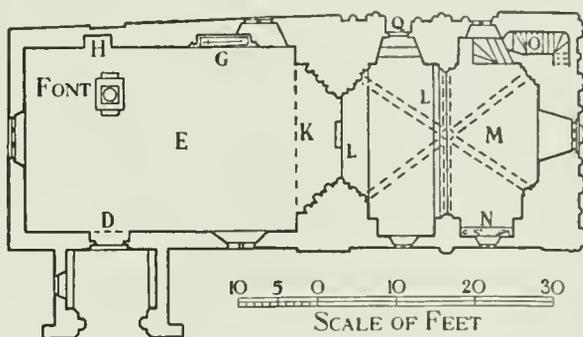
⁷⁹ This appears to have been reconstructed and a tall octagonal column substituted for the original round one, the spring of the arch being thus heightened on that side.

The chapel measured internally about 18 ft. by 15 ft.,⁸⁰ but had long been demolished, the arches filled in and square-headed windows inserted.

In rebuilding the chancel the old materials are said to have been re-used where possible,⁸¹ but a stair in the thickness of the wall at the north-east angle, which led to the roof space, or a chamber above the vault, was omitted, and part of the floor (at the west end) was raised.⁸² The rebuilt elevations, as already pointed out, are conjectural restorations rather than copies of the then existing work: the whole of the south wall is new, the design being copied from what remained on the north side, and the cornice⁸³ has no relation to anything that was there before, the old roof being eaved.

The chancel is of two bays combined into one by the use of a sexpartite vault⁸⁴ and lighted on each side by two round-headed windows and by one at the east end. The external elevations consist each of four bays, formed by tall half-round buttresses, and are divided horizontally into three well-marked stages, with two more above in the east gable. At the eastern angles the buttresses form large, triple-clustered shafts⁸⁵ extending to the middle of the third stage. The ground stage throughout is occupied by a wall-arcade consisting of intersecting semicircular moulded arches, one full arch to each bay, springing from jambshafts with moulded abaci only, middle-shafts with scalloped capitals, all with plain bases on a continuous chamfered plinth and sub-plinth. The stringcourse above the arcade has a round between two quirks and forms the sills of the windows. The second stage is blank except for the windows, like the third stage on the north and south, the dividing stringcourse being decorated with a double billet. This string serves as a hood to the windows, and like the one below is taken round the buttresses. The window arches are of a single enriched moulded order on jambshafts with cushion capitals and moulded bases, the enrichment consisting of the same ornament as that used in the cornice. At the east end the third stage is occupied by a series of four round-headed recesses, or blind windows, the arches decorated with double cheverons on jambshafts, with cushion capitals and moulded bases, and an outer continuous billet-moulded order. Above this the gable is divided into two more stages by enriched strings, the topmost triangular portion having three square-headed recesses with another above.⁸⁶ The fourth

stage is occupied its full height by an arcade of continuous chevron moulded arches, on either side of a tall round-headed window, the sill of which is extended downward to the middle of the stage below. This window has two continuous lines of billet-moulding, and an enriched sill supported by carved heads; there are also carved heads above and on either side of the opening. This upper window lights the roof space over the vault, which cuts across and blocks its lower portion,⁸⁷ though the opening is now glazed its full height. The whole of the work in the east front is of a very elaborate description,⁸⁸ nearly every part being enriched with chevron, billet or



PLAN OF TICKENCOTE CHURCH BY J. CARTER, SEPT. 1780

other ornament, the only unrelieved surfaces being in the second stage. The middle buttress stops below the east window, but those on either side are taken, in receding stages, almost the full height of the wall.

Internally there is a string round the chancel at sill level and the windows have an outer chevron arch on shafts with cushion capitals and moulded bases; the splays are continued round the heads. The vault ribs spring at the angles from low pillars with scalloped and cushion capitals varying in design, flanked by tall shafts carrying the moulded wall arches,⁸⁹ and the transverse arch from a similar half-round column or respond on the north side.⁹⁰ The ribs and the transverse arch are elaborately decorated on each side with cheverons and the circular boss at the intersection is carved with three small heads. The cells of the vault are plastered. The walls are of bare stone. There are no ancient ritual arrangements in the form of piscina, sedile or aumbry.⁹¹

The magnificent chancel arch is the chief feature of interest in the church and the only part of the fabric that was not taken down in 1792. It has been

⁸⁰ Its foundations were uncovered in 1840, those of the east and south walls, with pairs of buttresses at the angles, being intact. A great part of the foundations of the west wall had been moved in the digging of graves.

⁸¹ Blore, loc. cit.: 'The greatest care was taken to preserve all the parts of the chancel which were fit to be used again and appeared to be members of the original design, and what was supplied was so far as possible carefully copied from the old materials.'

⁸² Ibid. 73. The vault was rebuilt stone by stone, but some of the decayed filling of the cells was renewed.

⁸³ Apparently copied from the ornament of the east window, itself a variation of that of the outer order of the chancel arch.

⁸⁴ This use of a 12th-century sexpartite

vault in an English parish church is unique, and its probable date seems to preclude its having been copied from Canterbury: see Bond, *Gothic Arch. in Eng.* 320.

⁸⁵ Compare the tower buttresses of St. Peter's, Northampton.

⁸⁶ Carter shows three square-headed recesses in this position, but in Stukeley's drawing they are round-headed and graded.

⁸⁷ Carter describes this as a 'large recess, and near its head a small opening lighting the roof': *Gent. Mag.* lxxvi, 34. It is so shown in his drawing.

⁸⁸ Carter thought it 'grand and rich' in 1780. 'Between each range there is a string, and at the angles of the elevation rise clusters of columns to the top of the building; similar single columns are likewise between the recesses. The

capitals, architraves and strings are full charged with diagonals and other adornments': *ibid.*

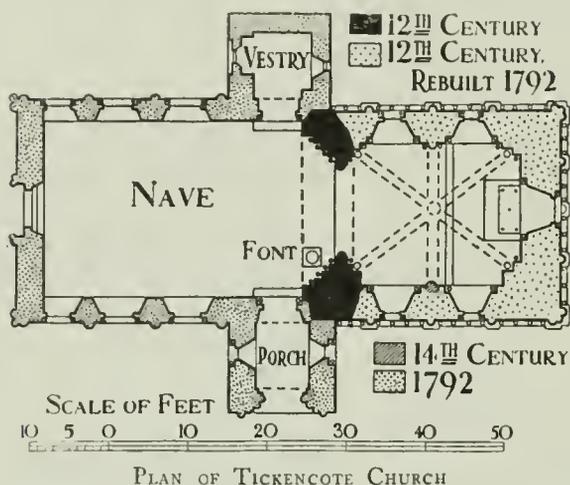
⁸⁹ There are no wall arches on the south side, their place being taken by hood-moulds with head-stops over the windows.

⁹⁰ On the south side the transverse arch rests on the 14th-century respond, the capital of which is about 3 ft. higher than that of the column opposite.

⁹¹ A drawing by Carter of the interior of the chancel looking south, dated Aug. 31, 1780, shows two blocked 14th-century pointed arches of three moulded orders in the south wall, with square-headed two-light windows in the filling. A small engraving made from this drawing together with a north-east view of the church is included in Carter's *Specimens of Gothic Archit.* (1824) vol. iii.

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carefully preserved and there are no indications of its having been in any way altered or re-chiselled.⁹² Settlement has caused the arch to spread and has pushed the jambs outward; its shape is now an irregular half-ellipse. On the side facing the nave the arch is of six elaborately moulded and enriched orders with hood-mould, but towards the chancel of two orders only. On the west side the outer order rests on square jambs with moulded impost, and the next four orders on angle-shafts with scalloped and other capitals varying in design, the abaci of which are similar to and continue the line of the chancel string.



PLAN OF TICKENCOTE CHURCH

The shafts have moulded bases on tall double plinths. The inner order of the arch, which has a large round soffit moulding with an edge-roll on each side, springs from half-round responds, with cushion capitals, and moulded bases on square plinths with spurs. On the east side the outer order has a shallow hollow moulding with double cone ornament on the edge, and flat soffit. The enrichment of the arch on the west side is as follows: (i) the innermost order already described; (ii) cats' heads; (iii) battlemented, with chevron on edge; (iv) grotesques, alternately heads and foliage;⁹³ (v) enriched chevron on both planes; (vi) conventional leaf, or stepped tongue on the wall plane, and plain

⁹² The point is discussed by Blore, *op. cit.* 73. The 5th Lord Torrington in his Diary refers in 1792 to the arch as 'beautifully painted.'

⁹³ Amongst the former is a muzzled bear, and reversed heads of a king and queen (on one voussoir). Carter called this order 'a curious and extraordinary collection of masques, ornaments, costume heads, grotesque figures, etc.': *Gent. Mag.* lxxvi, 34.

⁹⁴ The width of the opening, from face to face of responds, is 9 ft. 9 in. Carter described the arch as partaking 'of an oval shape,' and stated that the original colour was in many parts visible: *ibid.*

⁹⁵ The wall is about 7 ft. 6 in. thick.

⁹⁶ The passage affords access from the vestry to the bell-chamber over the porch, and to the roof-space above the chancel, by a round-headed doorway.

⁹⁷ A section through the chancel looking west, from Stukeley's drawing, showing the roof-space above the vault, is engraved in Gough's edition of Camden's *Brit.* 2nd ed. (1806), ii, 329 (pl. vii). Carter merely mentions the window 'lighting the roof.' Peck (*Hist. of*

soffit; the hood-mould has a double billet. The effect of the whole is extraordinarily rich.⁹⁴ Over the arch in the thickness of the wall⁹⁵ is a passage 3 ft. 9 in. wide, access to which is now only by a trap-door in the vestry.⁹⁶ The chancel roof in its present form is modern, and how far it reproduces the old one is uncertain. Little, therefore, can be said regarding the reputed chamber, or priest's room above the vault,⁹⁷ and whether the stairway⁹⁸ at the north-east angle of the chancel was an original feature or a later insertion it is impossible now to say.

Below the south-east window of the chancel is a flat-arched recess⁹⁹ containing a defaced wooden effigy, said to be that of Sir Roland le Daneys¹ (d. 1363), removed from his tomb in the Holy Trinity chapel at the time of its demolition.²

The 13th-century font has a square bowl, with an arcade of intersecting round arches on each face, foliage above and a line of dog-tooth at each angle stopped by a head below the chamfered rim. The pedestal is modern.

There is a good oak altar-table with bulbous legs, given in 1627 by Lady Ann Beverly.³ It stands on a slab of Purbeck marble.⁴ There is a lectern, but no pulpit.

The design⁵ of the new nave was based on that of the chancel, the lines of the sill string and cornice being carried all round the building, and the windows and buttresses are 'copied' from the older work. The nave, however, is much plainer in character, with three windows on each side and one at the west end. Internally the plaster has been stripped from the walls.

The entrance is at the east end of the south wall, covered by the porch-tower, with lofty round-headed doorway of three orders; the tympanum has an inscription recording that the church was 'repaired' by Eliza Wingfield in 1792 'with that true sense of religion and reverence for her Maker which ever distinguished her life.' The tower is of three stages, with four tall round-headed openings on the south side in the upper stage.

As originally built a pulpit and desk were placed at the west end.⁶ Some alterations appear to have been made in the pews in 1807,⁷ but the present seating

chusion under head: A. C. Fryer, *Wooden Mont. Effigies*, 59; *Arch.* lxi, 545.

² The date of demolition is unknown.

³ It is inscribed 'O precor aeterna tecum discumbere mensae Deo illi mensam hanc quae tibi Christe dedit. Ex dono D^{no} Annae Beverly, Anno Domini 1627.'

⁴ It is thought to be the old altar slab.

⁵ Describing the church as lately rebuilt in the Norman style, a writer in 1796 said 'it does the person who designed it much credit as there is more purity in it than is usually found in attempts of the sort': *Gent. Mag.* lxxvi, 187 (March 1796). Another view was expressed by Blore (1811), who wrote, 'with respect to this imitative re-edification, if the architect has not been successful, he has the consolation to have many brethren in his profession who have failed in their endeavours to revive the architectural taste of our ancestors': *loc. cit.*

⁶ As at Pickworth, erected 1821.

⁷ An estimate dated October 18, 1807, provides for 'taking down the present seats and dividing the same into proper pews.' In 1862 the pews were described as 'high and closed.'

Stamford, 1727) mentions 'a large room over the body of the chancel, with a stone floor and stone stairs up to it, which (if an anchorite, or some such sort of religious person, did not formerly live in it) is alike strange in the designment': bk. viii, 53. Blore said nothing about this 'chamber.' The present floor above the vault is said to have been raised when the new roof was erected, and the ridge of the roof lowered, 'so that the possibility of a living chamber being constructed over the chancel can hardly be fairly judged now from the condition of the loft': MS. Rev. Mordaunt Barton, rector 1885-1904.

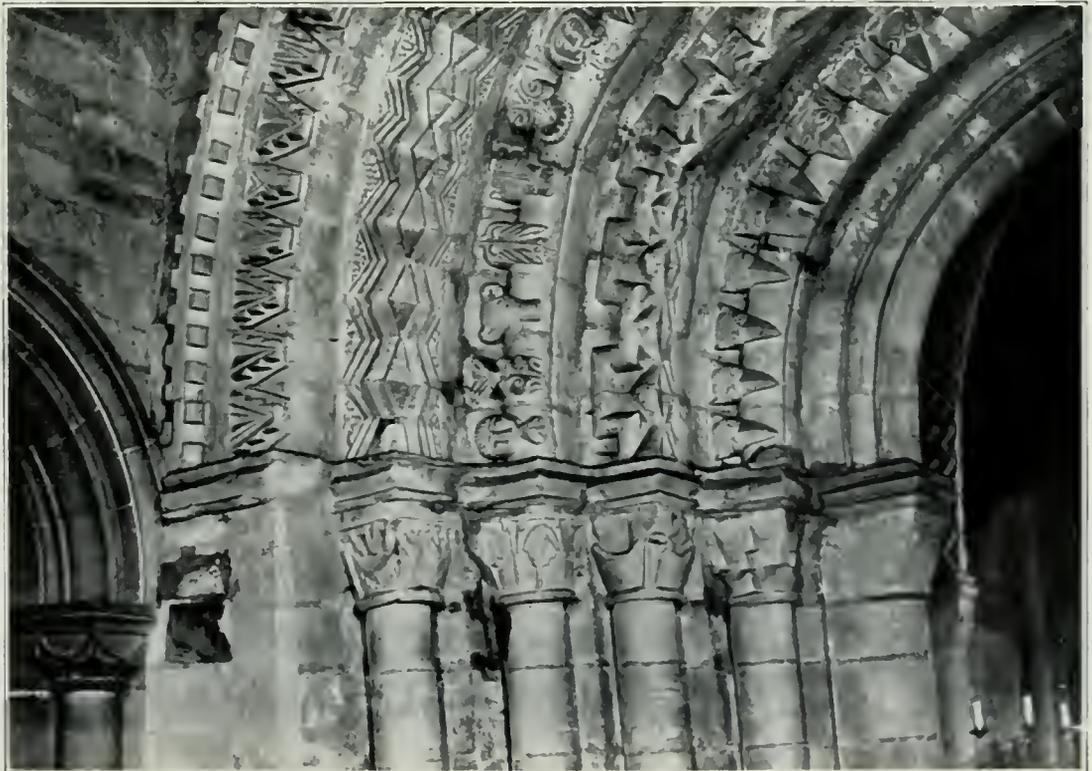
⁹⁸ It started in the thickness of the wall below the north-east window and turned at right angles along the east wall.

⁹⁹ It is 6 ft. 9 in. wide, 2 ft. 9 in. high, and the site is 14 in. above the sanctuary floor.

¹ He is represented in bascinet with camail, hauberk, fringed jupon, shoulder pieces, brassarts, vambraces, elbow and thigh pieces, jambs, knee-caps, articulated sollerets, and richly ornamented belt, but is without spurs or sword. The hands are in prayer, dog at feet, and



TICKENCOTE CHURCH FROM THE NORTH-EAST



TICKENCOTE CHURCH · SECTION OF THE CHANCEL ARCH



TICKENCOTE CHURCH FROM THE SOUTH



TINWILL CHURCH FROM THE SOUTH-EAST

dates from 1875, in which year the church was re-roofed and the former plain doorways from the nave to the vestry and porch were given 'Norman' casings.

An iron ring with pierced escutcheon of great beauty was attached to the south door of the old nave, but it has long disappeared.⁸

A fragment of medieval glass, with the head of Our Lord, is preserved in the middle window on the north side of the nave.

In the nave are memorials to John Wingfield (d. 1841) and other members of the family, and to the Rev. Maudaunt Barton (d. 1904), rector, in whose memory the vestry was restored.⁹

There are two bells in the tower, the first blank, the second by Thomas Norris of Stamford, 1630.¹⁰

The plate consists of a cup and cover paten¹¹ of 1607-8, 'given by John Wingfield and Margaret his wife anno 1608,' and a paten and flagon of 1712-13, 'the gift of John Wingfield, Esq., and Eliz. his Wife to ye Parish Church of Trikenote in ye County of Rutland on ye 25th of Decembr. 1712.' There were provided by a legacy of Col. J. M. Wingfield and dedicated on 28 April 1932 a silver-gilt chalice and paten, a silver cross and altar candlesticks made by the Goldsmiths' Company. There were also obtained with the same legacy various other gifts, including communion rails, standard candlesticks, credence tables and reredos, all of carved oak enriched by gilding.

The registers before 1812 are as follows: (i) baptisms 1574-1803, marriages 1574-1754, burials 1574-1803; (ii) marriages 1755-1812; (iii) baptisms and burials 1804-1812.¹²

The first authenticated mention of *ADVOWSON* the advowson is found in the confirmation by Robert de Chesney, Bishop of Lincoln (1147-1168), of the gift of Robert Grimbald of the church of Tickencote to the priory of Austin Canons at Owston (co. Leic.).¹³ In 1234, as already stated, the abbot of Owston presented to the church after acknowledgment of his right had been made by Robert Grimbald and his tenant William le Daneys.¹⁴ In 1300 Brice le Daneys after suit renounced his claim to the right of presentation and the abbot and convent of Owston presented and continued to do so until the dissolution of that house. The last presentation was in 1528.¹⁵ In 1553 the king granted to William Fitz William and Arthur Hilton (*inter alia*) the advowson and rectory of Tickencote,¹⁶ which in 1553 the grantees conveyed to John Campynett.¹⁷ John Campynett presented in 1556 and his brother, William Campynett, in 1563 and Gaspar Hunt in 1568. The Bishop presented on the next two occasions, and in 1623 John Wingfield presented, and the advowson has since descended with the manor.¹⁸

There are no charities in this parish.

TINWELL

Tidenwelle (xi cent.); Tineguella (xii cent.); Tynewell (xiii cent.); Tinewell (xiv cent.); Tynwell (xvi cent.).

The parish of Tinwell lies on the eastern border of the county and comprises 1,711 acres, mainly of arable land, growing the usual cereal and root crops. It is an irregularly shaped strip of land covering the hill rising to 270 ft. above Ordnance datum, between the River Gwash on the north and the Welland on the south.

The village is in the south part of the parish on both sides of the road from Uppingham to Stamford, on the southern slope of the hill overlooking the valley of the Welland. The cottages are mostly modern, and one opposite the church is dated 1850.

Ackarius, Abbot of Peterborough (1200-1210), built a hall at Tinwell¹ and in 1321 we find there were there a capital messuage, dovecot and water-mill;² probably it was this capital messuage which, under the name of the Manor Place, was being repaired by Richard Cecil in 1546.³ The present Manor House, said to have been a dower house of the Cecil family, stands between the church and the river Welland. It is a picturesque gabled stone building of two stories and attics, with mullioned and transomed windows and stone-slatted roofs, apparently of the late 16th or first

half of the 17th century. The building is of simple design, without any elaboration of detail, but the combination of gabled dormer windows and tall projecting chimneys imparts distinction to its long north front.

The hamlet of Ingthorpe, near to Great Casterton, about two miles to the north on the banks of the River Gwash, consists of a farm and some cottages.

About 1835 a cavern was discovered, while ploughing in a field adjoining the road from Tinwell to Casterton, on the land of Mr. Edward Pawlett. It was 30 yds. to 40 yds. in length and about 8 ft. in width. The sides were of stone with a flat ceiling supported in the middle by a stone pillar. At one end were two doorways bricked up.⁴

A complaint was made in the consistory court that on 1 May 1606 four men came into the church after 'dancing the Morris' all the morning, during the time of divine service, shouting and 'blowing in their dancing' with their napkins, ribbons, scarves, etc. One said he put his cloak over his apparel before coming to church and attended evening prayer at Ketton though not at Tinwell. Richard Ward was the fool of the said Morris and came to church with his fool's cap under his arm and in his fool's coat. Robert Bower was lord of the said Morris and came

⁸ It is figured in Carter's unpublished drawings and engraved in Parker's *Glossary* (4th ed. 1845), i, 158. Its whereabouts were unknown in 1862: *Stamford Mercury*, May 23, 1862.

⁹ He was rector for nineteen years, and gave the choir stalls.

¹⁰ North, *Cb. Bells of Rutl.* 154. The second bell is cracked and not used. There is a pit for a third.

¹¹ Figured in Hope, *Cb. Plate in Rutl.*

18. The bowl has the arms of Wingfield and is inscribed 'Tickencote in the Countie of Rutland'; the rest of the inscription is on the bottom of base.

¹² The last marriage in the first volume is in 1750, and the first burial in the third volume is in 1806.

¹³ Dugdale, *Mon. Angl.* vi, 424.

¹⁴ *Rot. Hug. de Welles* (Cant. and York Soc.), ii, 180.

¹⁵ Irons' Notes, Linc. Episc. Reg. (Instit.).

¹⁶ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1553, p. 303.

¹⁷ Com. Pleas, Deeds Enr. Mich. 1 Mary, m. 19.

¹⁸ Irons' Notes, loc. cit.

¹ Sparke, *Hist. Angl. Script.* (Var.), ii, 105.

² *Ibid.* 202.

³ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xxi, pt. i, no. 722 (7).

⁴ *Rud. Mag.* i, 24, citing *Genl. Mag.* 1835.

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

to church 'in his lowly apparel.' Apparently the dancers were admonished.⁵

By a spurious charter of Wulfhere of *MANOR* Mercia dated 664, confirmed by later charters, *TINWELL* was granted with Ingthorpe and the church, chapel and mills to the monastery of Medhamstede (Peterborough).⁶ A more probable story, however, is told by Hugh Candidus, the chronicler of Peterborough, that Tinwell was given from his own patrimony to the monastery by Kensige (d. 1060), a monk of the monastery, who afterwards became Archbishop of York.⁷ The manor was held in demesne by Peterborough according to the Domesday Survey (1086)⁸ and was retained in the hands of the abbey until the Dissolution in 1539. In 1289 Robert, son of Philip le Freman of Tinwell, did homage to the abbot for three bovates of land in Tinwell,⁹ but his holding was apparently only a large freehold and not a separate manor.

In 1535 David Cecil (Cycell) was bailiff of Tinwell under the Abbot of Peterborough,¹⁰ and he was succeeded before 1546 by Richard Cecil, who rendered an account of repairs to the Manor Place and 'Caves Mill' at Tinwell.¹¹ In 1547, in fulfilment of the will

ning of the 19th century they held three acres of land there.¹⁹

The church of *ALL SAINTS* consists *CHURCH* of chancel 27 ft. 6 in. by 15 ft. 8 in., nave of three bays 36 ft. 6 in. by 20 ft. 8 in., south aisle 7 ft. 6 in. wide, north porch and west tower 9 ft. 6 in. square, all these measurements being internal. There is also a modern vestry built in front of the south doorway. The arcade of a former north aisle, the area of which is now included in the nave, has long been removed and the north wall rebuilt and heightened for a clearstory. A sacristy on the north side of the chancel, at its east end, has also long disappeared. The church was restored in 1849, when the foundations of the pillars of the north arcade were discovered. The tower has a saddle-back roof.

The building is of coursed roughly dressed stone and is plastered internally. The roofs are leaded and of low pitch, that of the nave being behind straight parapets; the other roofs are eaved. The porch and vestry are covered with stone slates.

The nave arcade, south aisle, chancel arch and the west window of the former north aisle are of the first half of the 13th century and probably represent a rebuilding at that period of a 12th-century aisleless church no portion of which now remains except possibly at the west end of the nave. The chancel was rebuilt on its present plan in the 15th century, the clearstory erected and the porch added. In all probability the removal of the north arcade took place at this time, the north wall of the north aisle being then rebuilt in its present form and a roof of wide span erected over the widened nave. The tower is probably not older than the 13th-century rebuilding of the church, though it may have been built on the foundations of a former tower. Its moulded plinth, however, rules out the early date sometimes assigned to it,²⁰ and there is an absence of any distinctly Norman features. The upper stages were rebuilt or added in the late 14th or early 15th century; the bell-chamber windows are of this period, and there is no reason for assigning an earlier date to the saddle-back roof.

When the chancel was rebuilt in the 15th century its new south wall appears to have been built outside the old one, the width of the chancel being thus increased about 3 ft., and the axis thrown out of line with that of the nave and of the centre of the chancel arch. Except the arch no structural portion of the 13th-century chancel remains.²¹ Externally, the chancel is divided into two bays by buttresses and has a modern traceried east window of three cinquefoiled lights and coped gable with large apex cross. The lateral windows, one in each bay, are also of three cinquefoiled lights, that in the eastern bay on the north side, formerly covered by the sacristy, being modern; the hood-moulds have grotesque head-stops. The sacristy doorway has a chamfered four-centred



PETERBOROUGH ABBEY. Gules two keys crossed saltirewise between four crosses formy fitchy or.



CÆCIL. Barry of ten argent and azure six scutcheons sable each charged with a lion argent.

of Henry VIII, Richard Cecil received a grant of the lordship and manor of Tinwell and the advowson of the rectory lately belonging to Peterborough Abbey, with lands, liberties, etc., in Tinwell and Ingthorpe alias Inglethorpe, subject to a rent of £3 5s. 7d., except 13s. 4d. allowed to him for his fee as bailiff.¹² This grant was confirmed to Sir William Cecil in 1553 as son and heir of Richard Cecil.¹³ From this date the manor followed the descent of Barrowden (q.v.).¹⁴

In 1235-6 there is a reference to half a fee in Tinwell of the Honour of Huntingdon held by Simon the Less,¹⁵ but there appears to be no further mention of it. Tenements and lands were held in Tinwell and Ingthorpe in the reign of Henry VII by Hugh Ashton and his heirs,¹⁶ by the Lane family in the reigns of Elizabeth and Charles I,¹⁷ and the Browne family in the reign of James I,¹⁸ in Ingthorpe by the Wingfield family from the reign of Charles II, and at the begin-

⁵ Irons' Notes from Consistory Bks.

⁶ Kemble, *Cod. Dip.* v, p. 6; *Cal. Chart. R.* 1226-57, p. 19; 1327-41, p. 275.

⁷ Sparke, *op. cit.* 43, 45.

⁸ *V.C.H. Rutl.* i, 141.

⁹ *Chron. Petrob.* (Camden Soc.), 145.

¹⁰ Bridges, *Hist. of Northants.* ii, 549.

¹¹ *L. and P. Hen. VIII.*, loc. cit.

¹² *Cal. Pat. R.* 1547-48, p. 241.

¹³ *Ibid.* 1553, p. 182.

¹⁴ Feet of F. Div. Cos. Hil. 9 Jas. I; Rutl. Mich. 1649; Recov. R. East. 22 Chas. II, ro. 23; Trin. 10 Geo. I, ro. 53; East. 16 Geo. III, ro. 467.

¹⁵ *Bk. of Fees* (P.R.O.), 494. Misread as Twiwell (co. Northants).

¹⁶ Feet of F. Rutl. East. 19 Hen. VII.

¹⁷ *Ibid.* Trin. 44 Eliz.; Hil. 6 Chas. I.

¹⁸ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. ii), cclxxxii, 37; cclxxv, 33.

¹⁹ Feet of F. Rutl. East. 25 Chas. II; Mich. 5 Anne; Hil. 29 Geo. II; *Blorc, Hist. of Rutl.* 74.

²⁰ *Stamford Mercury*, August 20, 1861; *Rutl. Mag.* i, 232.

²¹ Built into the east wall outside, below the window, is a small fragment of 13th-century arcading, found during the restoration. It measures 14 in. by 16 in., and has two moulded arches on shafts with moulded capitals and bases.

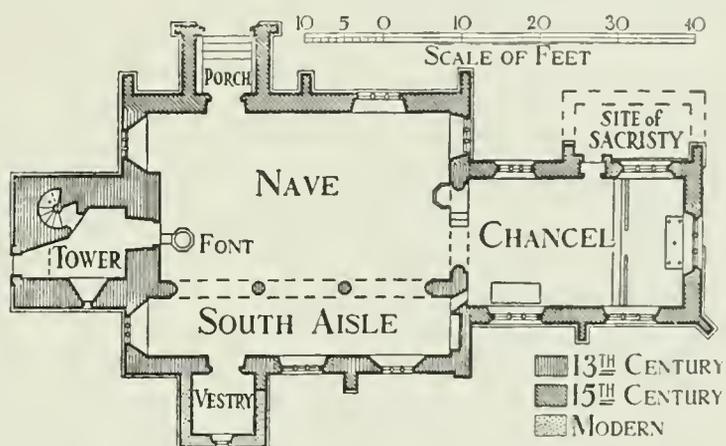
head, but being now external the wall has been thickened on the outside. The sill of the south-east window is lowered to form a sedile, but there is no piscina or ambry visible: the south-west window is recessed to the ground. The chancel arch is of two chamfered orders on the east side, but towards the nave the outer order is moulded. The arch springs from half-round responds with beautiful foliated capitals and water-holding bases on half-octagonal plinths; there is a hood-mould on the nave side only.

The nave arcade consists of three pointed arches of two chamfered orders on cylindrical pillars and half-round responds, all with plain moulded capitals and circular moulded bases; the arches are without hood-moulds. At the east end of the aisle is a wide, round-headed recess in the plastered wall, apparently for the reredos of the aisle altar, but no piscina remains; a plain squint from the aisle is directed on to the high altar. The 13th-century south doorway, now within the vestry, has a pointed arch of a single order rounded on the edge, on imposts and with keel-shaped hood-mould. The original south-east window of the aisle has three graded lancet lights, with hood-mould following the heads of the opening, and segmental rear-arch. The heads of the outer lights are enriched with dog-tooth and the hood-mould has notch-stops. In a similar window at the west end of the former north aisle the enrichment is continued over the middle light, but the corresponding window in the south aisle is wholly restored. The remaining window in the south aisle, east of the doorway, is a 15th-century insertion of three trefoiled lights and depressed four-centred head. At its south-east angle the aisle retains an original flat-buttress, and at the south-west there is a small angle-shaft with moulded capital.

The north wall appears to have been rebuilt from the foundation in the 15th century, and has a moulded plinth and three tall two-stage buttresses which divide it externally into two wide bays: the buttresses have cusped triangular heads and extend the full height of the wall, the upper part of which is pierced by the clearstory windows. The pointed north doorway has a continuous moulding, ornamented in the hollow with male and female heads, square-leaf flowers, roses, and a fleur-de-lys; above the doorway is a trefoiled niche. The porch is of slightly later date, with wide four-centred arch of two continuous chamfered orders, short buttresses and modern wooden gates. There is a descent of four steps from the churchyard to the porch. In the north wall, east of the porch, is a traceried three-light window, and there is another, of different design, at the east end of the old north aisle.

The pointed clearstory windows, two on each side, are of two cinquefoiled lights. The wide east gable of the nave has a plain moulded coping and large apex cross. A spout-head on the north wall is inscribed 'I.D. 1781.' The roofs of the chancel and nave are modern, but that of the nave, which is of three bays, rests on the corbels of an older roof, supported by carved heads. The lean-to roof of the aisle is old.

The tower is of three well-marked stages and is without buttresses. It sets back slightly at the first stage, the later upper stages being divided by a string. There is a vice in the north-west angle. The round-headed west doorway is modern. Over it is a tall, square-topped loop and there is another in the south wall;²² the internal splay of each loop is carried round the head in semicircular form. There are also



PLAN OF TINWELL CHURCH

smaller loops to the vice. There is no tower arch visible, access from the nave being by a small pointed doorway in the plastered wall. The pointed bell-chamber windows are of two trefoiled lights with quatrefoils varying in shape in the heads, and the coped gables of roof have a string along the bottom and terminate on the east side with a cross, and on the west with a weather-vane. The roof is covered with stone slates. The middle stage of the tower is blank.

The font dates from 1894,²³ and the pulpit and seating also are modern. Above the chancel arch, within a circle, are the Royal Arms of one of the Hanoverian Georges.

On the south wall of the chancel is a good Renaissance monument, with Ionic pilasters and cornice, to Elizabeth, daughter of Richard Cecil and sister of the first Lord Burghley, who died in 1611.²⁴ She was married first to Richard Wingfield and after his death to Hugh Allington; her arms, with the name 'Elizabeth' above, are flanked by those of her two husbands and their initials. In the chancel also are memorials of Rayner Herman,²⁵ rector (d. 1668); Richard Knowles (d. 1754), and his son, Richard Arthur Knowles (d. 1796), rectors; Thomas Foster, rector

²² It splays inside to 2 ft. 11 in., and the sill is 6 ft. above the floor.

²³ The font is in memory of Emma Everett (d. 1893). The pulpit is of wood.

²⁴ The date of her death is not recorded on the monument, but she was buried December 6, 1611. The monument is described and the Latin inscription given in Wright,

Hist. of Rutl. 125, and in Blore, *op. cit.* 86.

²⁵ The inscription reads 'Rainerus jacet heic Hermanus origine Tanger qui novit multa et multis impertiit; in quo docte cum cultis habitavit moribus artes, Christi sancta fides, zelus pietatis aviti. Aetatis 51. Octob. 18. Obiit anno domini 1668.' According to Venn's *Alumni Cantab.* (Pt. 1, vol. ii, 357)

Herman was born at Nymegen, Gelderland, Holland, educated at Westminster and Cambridge, ordained deacon 1641, headmaster of Stamford School 1657-62, priest 1661, rector of Tinwell 1662-8. See also *V.C.H. Lincs.* ii, 475. By 'Tanger' is probably meant t'Angeren (at Angeren) in the district of Nymegen *N. and Q.* clxiv, 340.

A HISTORY OF RUTLAND

(d. 1825), and Lieut. Henry Leicester Arnold (d. Lucknow, 1857). There are 18th and early 19th-century tablets in the nave, and in the aisle a memorial to twelve men of Tinwell and Ingthorpe who fell in the war of 1914-1919.

There are four bells, the first by Thomas Norris of Stamford 1654, the third by the same founder 1639, and the second and tenor by Taylor and Co. of Loughborough 1883.²⁶

The plate consists of a silver cup and paten of 1809-10, a plated paten, and a plated flagon presented in 1869. There are also two pewter plates.²⁷

The registers before 1812 are as follows: (i) all entries 1561-1644; (ii) baptisms 1652-98, marriages 1652-97, burials 1652-88; (iii) baptisms 1698-1755, marriages 1698-1752, burials 1689-1755; (iv) baptisms and burials 1755-1801; (v) baptisms and burials 1801-12; (vi) marriages 1754-1812.²⁸

There are three stone coffin lids²⁹ in the churchyard, north of the chancel.

The church of Tinwell is mentioned *ADVOWSON* as belonging to the monastery of Peterborough in the spurious charter of Wulfhere (664), already referred to, which was confirmed by Henry III and Edward II. It is also mentioned in the Privileges of Pope Eugenius (1145-53)³⁰ and from architectural evidence the church here referred to may have been the first on the site. The advowson from the earliest time has belonged to the monastery of Peterborough, and the abbot presented from 1221 to the Dissolution in 1539.³¹ King Henry VIII presented in 1545, but from 1547, when the advowson was granted to Richard Cecil, the Cecils, Lords Burghley and Earls and Marquesses of Exeter, have held the patronage down to the present day.³²

John Westhus, the rector in 1570, was accused of

being a known papist and was ordered by the Bishop to explain his views on St. Matthew iii, 13, and Hebrews xiii, 4, on honourable marriage. The rector, however, sent excuses that he could not attend on account of sickness. He was ordered to produce a medical certificate, but he died shortly afterwards. A successor, Edward Wilkinson, in 1588-92 went to the other extreme and brought into the church unauthorised preachers, omitted to read the Epistle and Gospel, did not use the sign of the cross in baptism and did not wear a surplice.³³ Samuel Fuller (1635-1700), Dean of Lincoln, was rector here 1668-9.³⁴ In the spurious charter by Wulfhere and its confirmations reference is made to a church and chapel at Tinwell. The chapel has been assigned to Ingthorpe, but there is no other evidence of a chapel at Ingthorpe or elsewhere in the parish.

John Blake, who died before the year *CHARITIES* 1847, by his will bequeathed a sum of £100 to the rector and churchwardens upon trust to apply the income annually on Good Friday for the benefit of the most deserving and distressed poor persons. The endowment consists of a sum of £111 15s. 9d. 2½ per cent. Consols producing in dividends £2 15s. 8d. per annum, which sum is distributed among about eight recipients.

Mrs. Sarah Burdett, by her will proved at Leicester on May 12, 1879, bequeathed a sum of stock to the rector and churchwardens upon trust to apply the income in the purchase of coal to be distributed on or immediately before December 24 in each year among the poor inhabitants. The endowment consists of a sum of £333 6s. 8d. 2½ per cent. Consols producing in dividends £8 6s. 8d. per annum, which is distributed among about 30 recipients.

The several sums of stock are with the Official Trustees.

²⁶ The bells were rehung and the second and tenor recast in 1883; the old second was by Henry Penn of Peterborough 1708, and the tenor by Tobie Norris II of Stamford 1620: North, *Cb. Bells of Rutl.* 154, where the inscriptions are given. A set of bell-ringers' rules is painted on the wall of the vice, the bells being rung from the ground. A new clock was placed in the tower, with dial on the north side, in 1929.

²⁷ Hope, *Cb. Plate in Rutl.* 19. There

is also a large brass christening bowl. In 1605 it was said the communion table was unfit and the carpet not decent. In 1619 they were wanting a clock and there was no paten, and in 1681 the churchwardens were ordered to buy a silver gilt plate for the communion bread. (Irons' Notes from Consistory Bks.)

²⁸ There is a copy of the first three volumes, made in 1912 by the Rev. A. H. Snowden, vicar of Ketton. The first volume consists of thirteen leaves of

parchment, the second of a loose leaf (Dec. 1652 to Dec. 1653) and twelve leaves of parchment.

²⁹ They are now moss covered; one is said to have a Norman-French inscription.

³⁰ Sparke, *op. cit.* 79. The church is not mentioned in the return of Tinwell in the Domesday Survey.

³¹ Irons' Notes, Linc. Episc. Reg. (Instit.).

³² *Ibid.*

³³ Irons' Notes from Consistory Bks.

³⁴ *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

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