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Handwritten scribbles and a diagonal line.

Manning 4° 91





QUERIES proposed to the NOBILITY, GENTRY, and CLERGY, of LEICESTERSHIRE; with a view of completing, from their Answers, an Account of the ANTIQUITIES and NATURAL HISTORY of the several Parishes in that County.

1. **W**HAT is the antient and modern name of the parish in which you reside? and what do you suppose to be its etymology?
2. What is its distance from LEICESTER, or from the nearest market town?
3. What is the extent of the parish? and by what parishes is it bounded, East, West, North, and South? and what are its length and breadth?
4. What number of hamlets, villages, townships, chapelries, &c. are in it? their names and situation? and to what division, hundred, liberty, belonging?
5. What are the number of its houses and inhabitants of every kind, and of its teams? list of freeholds and copyholds, and their holders?
6. What number of persons have been married, christened, and buried, for the space of 20 years past, compared with the first 20 years of the register? When did the register begin? Are any curious entries or remarks made therein?
7. What manors are or were in the parish, and who are or were lords thereof?
8. What are the names and qualities, arms and descent, of their proprietors?
9. Are there any particular customs or privileges, or remarkable tenures, in any of the manors in the parish? What courts, and their peculiar customs? What exempt jurisdictions, civil or ecclesiastical?
10. What castle, fort, ancient manor or mansion house, seat, villa, or other remarkable buildings, are or have been in the parish? and the dimensions of their largest apartment or galleries?
11. What coats of arms, inscriptions, dates, or other ornaments and figures, are or were carved or painted in and about any of their buildings?
12. In what manor, deanry, and hundred, does the CHURCH stand?
13. Is it dedicated to any Saint? when and by whom it was built, of what materials? and has it a tower or spire?
14. What are its dimensions, number of ailes, chapels, and bells?
15. Are the font, altar-piece, or plate, ancient, or any way remarkable?
16. What chantries, altars, shrines, lights, images, gilds, or roods, appear to have been in the church; or what privileges or indulgencies annexed to it?
17. Are there any painted figures, arms, or inscriptions, in the windows? Is there any parochial library in the church or parsonage?
18. Are there any ancient or modern monuments, grave-stones, or brass plates? and what inscriptions and arms in the church, chancel, or steeple, or on the bells, plate, chests, pews, screens, &c. or in the church-yard? The communication of copies of any such monumental or other inscriptions is particularly requested.
19. Are there any tables of benefactions, or other inscriptions, which are worthy of notice, painted or carved in or about the church, within or without?
20. Are there any vaults or burial-places peculiar to any ancient or other families? and what extraordinary interments or preservation of bodies?
21. Is the living a rectory, vicarage, donative, or sinecure?
22. Are the computed worth of the living and its rate in the King's books rightly stated in Bacon's lately-published Liber Regis, or in Eton's Thesaurus?
23. Who

23. Who are, or who have been, patrons?

24. Who are, or have been, incumbents, as far back as you can trace by the parish-registers or otherwise? and were any of them remarkable for their writings, sufferings, or other particulars? of what university or college, what their degrees or preferments, and where buried?

25. Are there any lands belonging to the glebe or vicarage, or any copy of the endowment, or any tithes? Has it been augmented by Queen Anne's bounty? What are the first-fruits, tenths, synodals, procurations, pensions, &c.

26. Who is possessed of the great tithes? what may their reputed value be? and is any modus paid thereout, and to whom?

27. Is there any chapel of ease in the parish; how is it supported? and who are, or have been, incumbents? and of what value may the cure be supposed?

28. What charities or benefactions belong to the parish? when and by whom given? how improved, or how lost? What was the return made to Parliament?

29. Are there any Dissenting or other meeting-houses, or Popish-chapels? and what number of each persuasion may be in the parish?

30. Are there any colleges, alms-houses, free or other school, or hospital? by whom and when founded, for how many objects, and what is the present state?

31. Have there been any abbeys, priories, friaries, nunneries, hermitages, sanctuaries, or other religious houses; or are there any remains or ruins of them? by whom founded, and to whom granted? what charters, cartularies, ledger-books, rentals, statutes, deeds, wills, obituaries, bede-rolls, or other writings, seals, habits, shrines, or other fragments, belonging to any church, monastery, chantry, gild, hospital, school, or other charity?—Speed mentions *Stane* and *Werewreden* as Benedictine monasteries in Leicestershire. Q. where were those houses situated?

32. Are there any crosses or obelisks, inscribed or carved stones, circles of rude stones, single stones on hillocks, or otherwise, hollows wrought in rocks, single stones placed horizontally or over one another, or any beacons, in the parish?

33. Are there any barrows or tumuli, or extraordinary mounds? have any been opened, and what have been found therein?

34. Are there any *Roman*, *Saxon*, or *Danish* castles, forts, camps, roads, ditches, banks, pits, or other extraordinary earth-works, or pieces of antiquity, remaining in your parish; and what traditions or historical accounts are there of them?

35. Have there been any vaults, pavements, urns, pieces of pottery, lamps, weapons, armour, seals, rings, buckles, odd pieces of metal, statues, busts, carvings, altars, images, coins, or other pieces of antiquity, *Roman*, *Saxon*, *Danish*, or other, or bones of extraordinary size, dug up in your parish; when and by whom; and in whose custody are or were they?

36. Have there been any remarkable battles fought? on what spot, by whom, when, and what traditions are there relating thereto? Or what the sufferings or adventures of the clergy or gentry in the civil wars?

37. Have any councils, synods, parliaments, or other meetings, civil or religious, been held in it?

38. Have you any wake, Whitsun ale, doles, or other such customs, used in the parish; or any annual or other processions or perambulations?

39. What markets or fairs are kept in the parish? what commodities are chiefly brought for sale; are they the manufactures or produce of the country, live cattle, or other things? what toll is paid, and to whom?

40. Is there any statute-fair for hiring of servants, and how long has it been established? What are the usual wages for men and maid-servants, &c. for each branch of husbandry?

41. Are there any manufactures carried on in the parish, and what number of hands are employed? What rare pieces of art have been invented or made by any of the parishioners?

42. What is generally a day's wages for labourers in husbandry and other work; and what for carpenters, bricklayers, masons, or other mechanicks, &c.?

43. What are, or have been, the prices of provisions, beef, veal, mutton, lamb, pork, pigs, geese, ducks, chicken, rabbits, butter, cheese, &c.?

44. What is the annual rent or value of the lands or houses in the parish, or township? what is the poors-rate in the pound *communibus annis*?

45. What common, or quantity of waste land, may be in the parish?

46. Are there any forests, chaces, parks, or warrens; of what extent, number of deer, &c.? any heronries, decoys, or fisheries; and to whom belonging?

47. What is the usual fuel? is it coal, wood, heath, furze, turf, or peat? and the prices paid on the spot?

48. Is there any great road leading through the parish, and from noted places?

49. Do any rivers, or brooks, or navigable canals, rise in or run through the parish? and when and on what terms were the acts for making them navigable obtained?

50. What bridges, when and by whom built, of what materials, what number of piers or arches, the length and breadth of the bridge, and width of the arches? are they supported by private or public cost?

51. Has the parish given birth or burial to any man eminent for learning, or other remarkable or valuable qualifications?

52. What particular games, sports, customs, proverbs, or peculiar words or phrases, or names of places, persons, animals, vegetables, or things, are used; and what notions or traditions obtain among the common people?

53. Are there, in any of the gentlemen's or other houses, any pictures which give insight into any historical facts, or any portraits of men eminent in art, science, or literature; any statues, bustos, or other memorial, which will give any light to past transactions; or what manuscripts in any language, books of arms, pedigrees, lives, signatures, patents, diplomas, perambulations, surveys, plans, pictures, or drawings, of any persons, buildings, or views, relating to the parish, in the possession of any person in the parish, or their acquaintance?

54. What is the appearance of the country in the parish; is it flat or hilly, rocky, or mountainous, open or inclosed; and the terms and mode of modern inclosing? and when was the inclosure made?

55. Do the lands consist of woods, arable, pasture, meadow, heath, or what?

56. Are they fenny or moorish, boggy or firm, fertile or barren?

57. Is there sand, clay, chalk, stone, gravel, loam, or what is the nature of the soil?

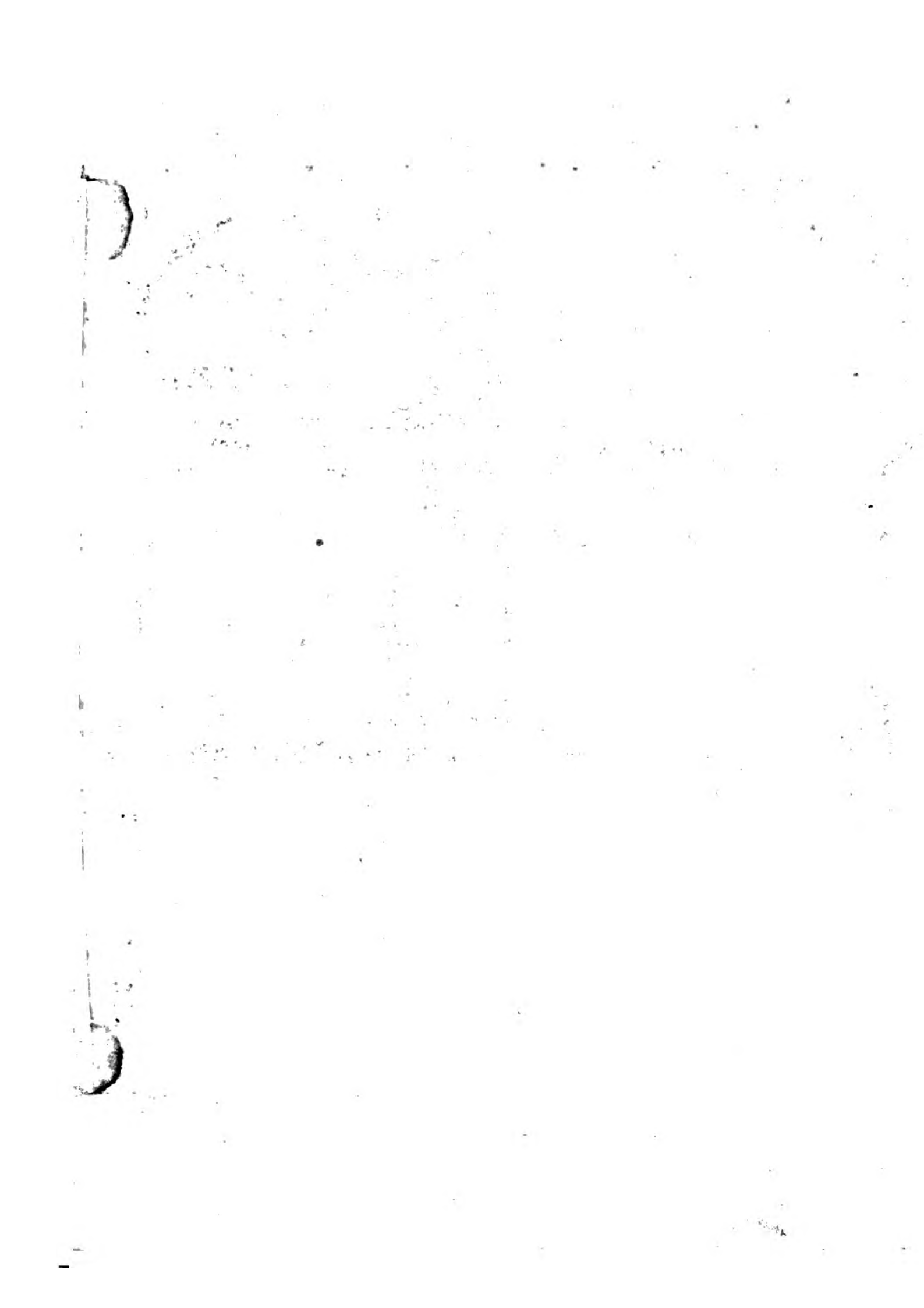
58. What petrifications or fossils are found in the parish, and in what strata?

59. Are

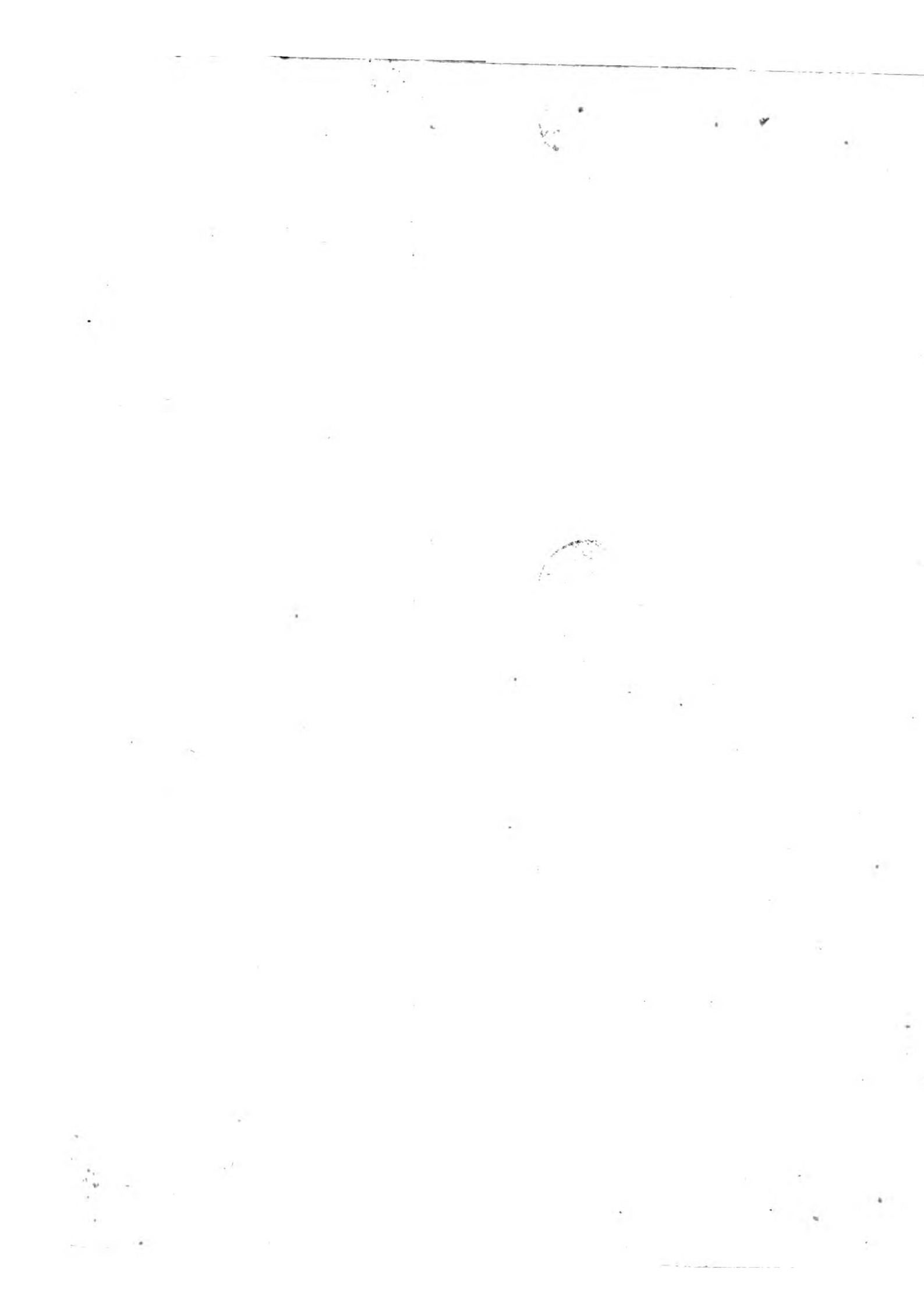
59. Are there any mines? to whom do they belong, and what do they produce?
60. Are there any mineral springs, frequented or not; at what seasons of the year reckoned best, and what distempers are they frequented for? What are their qualities, virtues, weight, and analysis; and what cures attested or wrought by them?
61. Are there any hot waters or wells for bathing, and for what distempers frequented? any wells or streams formerly accounted holy?
62. Are there any lakes, meers, pools, or water-falls; what their depth and height; where do they rise, and whither do they run?
63. What is the proportion of arable, and meadow or pasture?
64. What are the chief produce of the lands, and in what proportion?
65. What is the general price paid for lands, arable, meadow, pasture, &c.? What sort of manure is chiefly used for the land, and what is the price of it on the spot? What are the methods of tillage; what sort of ploughs and other instruments of husbandry are used? or have any new modes of cultivation been introduced?
66. What trees thrive best, or are most common? What plants, shrubs, grains, mosses, grasses, trees, fruits, flowers, are peculiar or most common?
67. Is the parish remarkable for breeding any cattle of remarkable qualities, colour, size, value, or number, and how sold? with other general observations.
68. What quantities of sheep are raised or fed; and what is their chief food?
69. What is the nature of the air? is it moist or dry, clear or foggy; healthy, or subject to produce agues, fevers, or other disorders? and at what time is it reckoned most so, and by what probable cause?
70. What are the kinds of birds, insects, or reptiles, common or rare?
71. What sorts of fish do the rivers produce, what quantities, what are their prices on the spot, and in what seasons are they best?
72. What strange accidents, wonderful events, or extraordinary diseases and cures, have happened; or uncommon deaths, discoveries of murder, or apparitions; what legends and traditions obtain about them, or what their occasion?
73. Hath there been any remarkable mischief done by thunder and lightning, storms, whirlwinds, or earthquakes? Or any remarkable phenomena or meteors?
74. To these Queries, as applied to the Town of LEICESTER, any farther information will be useful, respecting its ancient or modern history, foundations, streets, buildings, walls, gates, churches, wards, parishes, charters, privileges, immunities, companies, gilds, government, trade, manufactures, sieges, accidents by fire or otherwise; with lists of the mayors, recorders, representatives in parliament for the town and county; and, as far as any of these particulars are applicable to the other market-towns, or to any of the larger villages in the county, the same information is also requested.

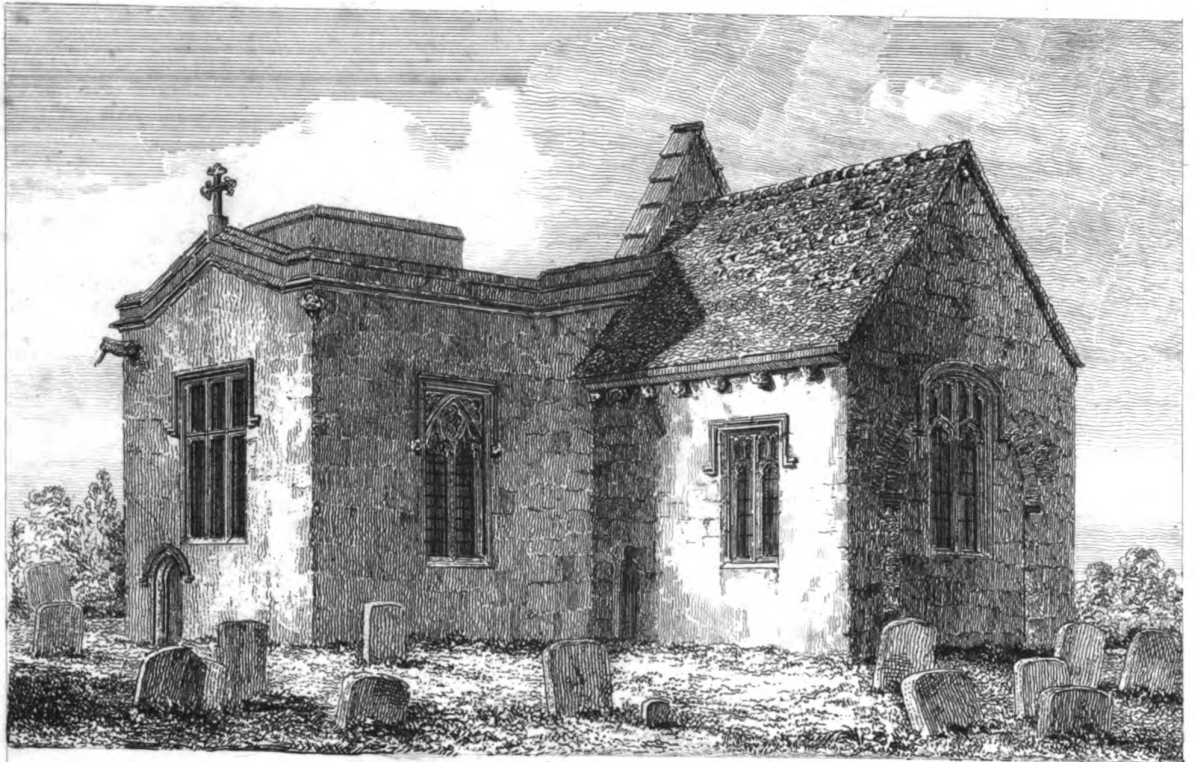
* * * The object in proposing the above Queries is, to obtain, wherever it is possible, the fullest information towards completing "The History and Antiquities of the County of LEICESTER." It is therefore hoped, that gentlemen will communicate such particulars as may occur to them, on all or any part of the heads here specified; and their favours shall be thankfully acknowledged, if addressed to J. NICHOLS, either at his Printing-office, at *Cicero's Head, Red-Lion-Passage, Fleet-Street*; or at Mr. THROSBY'S Coffee-Room in *Leicester*.





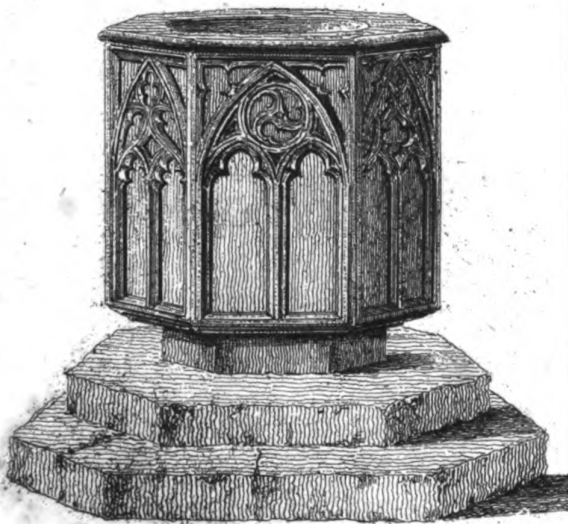






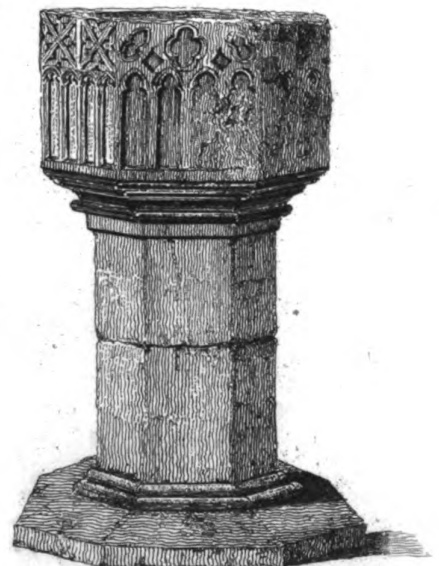
South East View of Kiddington Church, Oxfordshire.

See p. 11.



Font in Kiddington Church.

See p. 11.



Font in the Gardens of C. Browne, Mostyn Esq.

See p. 22.

Drawn & Engraved by J. C. Buckler. 1814.

THE
HISTORY AND ANTIQUITIES
OF
KIDDINGTON:

FIRST PUBLISHED AS

A SPECIMEN

OF A

HISTORY OF OXFORDSHIRE.

BY THE REV. THOMAS WARTON, B.D. F.S.A.
FELLOW OF TRINITY COLLEGE, OXFORD;
AND RECTOR OF KIDDINGTON.

THE THIRD EDITION.



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1815.



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ADVERTISEMENT.

THE "History of KIDDINGTON," by the celebrated Antiquary THOMAS WARTON, having been generally allowed to be one of the most elegant and judicious Accounts of a single Parish that has yet appeared; it was considered by the Publishers, that a Re-print of it in a form more worthy of its merits, would be esteemed an acceptable acquisition to the Topographical Collector.

It is greatly to be regretted that the Author's other engagements and inclinations did not permit him to undertake "a regular and comprehensive Survey of Oxfordshire"—a County entirely open to the industry and research of any Person desirous of becoming its Historian.

The present Edition has been superintended through the Press by a Gentleman completely qualified for such an undertaking, if his more important avocations permitted, and his inclination led him to the task. To him the Publishers beg to express their best thanks for several judicious Additions and Corrections, as well as for a complete Index.

To CHARLES BROWNE MOSTYN, Esq. the present Lord of the Manor of Kiddington, they are obliged for much polite Attention; and to JOHN CALEY, Esq. F. S. A. they are indebted for the Extract from the Hundred Roll for the County of Oxford, 7 Edward I.

Neat and faithful Etchings of the Church and two curious Fonts have been contributed by Mr. J. C. BUCKLER.

Sept. 23, 1815.

MR. WARTON'S PREFACE.

HISTORIES of Counties have been condemned as the dullest of compilations. They are commonly supposed to contain only materials of a circumscribed and particular nature, and consequently to be incapable of acquiring any large share of the public attention. It is the prevailing opinion of the world, that these performances are solely fabricated by the petty diligence of those unambitious Antiquaries, who employ their time in collecting Coats of Arms, poring over Parish Registers, and transcribing Tombstones. But Histories of Counties, if properly written, become works of entertainment, of importance, and universality. They may be made the vehicles of much general intelligence, and of such as is interesting to every reader of a liberal curiosity. What is local is often national.

There are indeed many Topographers who think nothing tedious or superfluous; and it must be confessed, that books of this kind are too frequently encumbered with the pedantries of Heraldry, fantastic Pedigrees, Catalogues of Incumbents, and ostentatious Epitaphs of obscure persons. But in the hands of a sensible and judicious examiner, they are the Histories of ancient Manners, Arts, and Customs. Even the descents of property, which, except to a few families immediately concerned, are usually thought the least attractive parts of these topical
B discussions,

discussions, often exhibit early modes of life, uncommon tenures, the peculiarities of obsolete laws, the practices of the feudal institution, the complexion of the times, and the traces of public transactions. The French, the most lively people in Europe, and at the same time a nation of Antiquaries, have a strong predilection for Topography. They have numerous histories of their towns and provinces, which preserve some of the most agreeable pictures of their ancient fashions and original usages.

General knowledge is to be drawn from particularities; and nothing, in my apprehension, would more effectually facilitate the reduction of our Celtic, Roman, Saxon, and Danish Antiquities to a system, than distinct and separate descriptions of every County. By the same means, our Churches, Castles, Monasteries, and miscellaneous Gothic remains, would be displayed with a more minute and circumstantial accuracy; and other ancient monuments, unknown and concealed in remote and obscure parts of the Island, would be brought to public notice. This, it will be said, may be done by the general traveller. But Itineraries will be always incomplete. The notices of the traveller are necessarily superficial and cursory. He is in a state of restless migration; is liable to a variety of inconveniencies; is often uninformed or misinformed; and, distracted by a successive multiplicity of objects, unavoidably forms details, at least imperfect, if not incorrect. It seems that this business may be best performed by men, who are so situated as to enjoy opportunities of long and familiar observation, and who, confining their views to one single point and to a more contracted circle of country, can examine at leisure, and consequently will describe with united comprehension and precision. From these partial Topographies, whatever is of importance in every district, whether Celtic, Roman, Saxon, or Danish, might be commodiously abstracted, and severally digested into

one common repository. It is by these assistances, to instance in a single class, and perhaps by these only, that the plan of such a work as Horseley's *BRITANNIA ROMANA* might be fully completed and brought to perfection.

Let me add, that as notices of the lives of celebrated persons properly make a part of our County Histories, and as anecdotes of this sort are notorious or accessible in a private neighbourhood, which cannot be discovered or collected at a distance, from this mode of research many considerable improvements would accrue to the present state of our national biography: another proof that collections of this kind have a popular utility, and that their effect is more widely diffused than the world is willing to allow.

Agriculture, Soil, and Produce, constitute another department of the Historian of a County. The advantages which for the same reasons would hence result to the science of nature, are an additional confirmation of this argument. Even if a gratification of a fondness for the elegancies of physiology should alone be regarded, it is thus that new treasures would be pointed out for multiplying the beautiful and romantic arrangements of the Naturalist; and even for enriching the capital cabinets of the Duchess of Portland, with fresh accessions of shells and fossils.

With respect to the County before us, to except what has been written concerning the University of Oxford, which is a subject connected with Great Britain at large rather than with Oxfordshire in particular, I know not any that has received so little elucidation.

Bishop Kennett's *PAROCHIAL ANTIQUITIES*, however elaborate and exact, replete with research, and authenticated by curious evidences, are restricted to a few places and a short period. Nor is his plan sufficiently variegated.

Plot's

Plot's NATURAL HISTORY OF OXFORDSHIRE is closed with a single chapter on Antiquities. But this chapter, being professedly extrinsic, and bearing no relation to his main design, is concise and compendious. Besides, his inquiries under this head are limited to one track. He has totally neglected a very copious, pleasing, and indispensable article of the Antiquities of a County. He has omitted the investigation of Churches and Religious Ruins; and his remarks are entirely confined to Coins, Pavements, Barrows, Fosses, Roads, Sepulchral Utensils, and Circumvallations. At the same time, although he does not seem to have wanted activity or industry in his searches, his conjectures often betray a want either of discernment or of experience; and he appears, from a tritical philosophy, to have carried his uncommon credulity, and a peculiar propensity to the marvellous, into our British, Roman, and Dano-Saxon Archæology.

To say the truth, this celebrated Naturalist shines chiefly in his own profession; and he seems to be most happily employed when he is learnedly debating on tautological echoes, fanciful petrifications, subterraneous snails, undescribed thunderbolts, cosmetic clay, the altitude of giants, uncommonly prolific cases of Oxfordshire women and cows, pregnancies of extraordinary duration, children crying in the womb yet portending no misfortune, prophetic dreams, knockings before death, capricious devils, amulets against witchcraft, stags without antlers, and rams with six horns. These are the reveries of Vertù. To say nothing of his ingenious and *pretty devices*, how to paint a cat looking every way, to cut dials in box, to know from what points the wind has blown while we have been asleep, to fright oxen from a field of corn, to feed pigs without waste, and to construct a clock that goes by water.

That

That OXFORDSHIRE should have remained so long without its legitimate Historian, a County respectable for its Antiquities, and presenting many a topic of useful and amusive speculation, may justly be esteemed matter of surprise; more especially if we consider the very valuable and ample treasures which it contains within itself for its own illustration, and which are preserved in the Bodleian and Ashmolean Libraries.

Let it not be suspected from this slight Essay that I have any design of writing a History of OXFORDSHIRE. I have other engagements, and other inclinations. But if ever such a History should be undertaken, I must acknowledge that I wish to contribute this account of a Parish with which I am most nearly connected, and am therefore most likely to be best acquainted. Other places might have been selected, perhaps more fertile of curious information; but my choice was accidental, and determined by my situation.

As this account of a single Parish now stands detached, some Notes, which in an entire History of the County would have been otherwise disposed of, together with a few digressions in the text, were thought necessary. This I mention, to obviate a seeming objection, that matter is intermixed belonging to other places.

It may be proper to inform the Reader, that *twenty copies* of this piece were printed last winter for private use. These being more extensively circulated than was expected or intended, and falling into the hands of some learned friends, who sometimes suffer their judgment to give way to their candour, have imperceptibly betrayed the reluctant Author into another impression for the public inspection. It has therefore been carefully revised, and is now offered to the Publick with considerable additions and emendations.

If

If this little work should not attain its original destination, nor ever arrive at the good fortune of being incorporated into a regular and comprehensive survey of the County of Oxford; at least it may serve, in its present state of publication, as a specimen of the Writer's general idea of Provincial History.

T. WARTON.

*Trinity College, Oxford,
December, 1782.*

KIDDINGTON.

KIDDINGTON, or Cuddington, antiently and properly, according to its British etymology, written *Cudenton*, or **THE TOWN AMONG THE WOODS**, is a small village pleasantly situated on the river Glym, twelve miles from the city of Oxford to the North-West, four from Woodstock, and seven from Cheping-Norton, market towns in this county*. It is divided by the river Glym into the Upper and Lower Town, or Over-Kiddington and Nether-Kiddington. The first is in the Hundred of Chadlington, the second in that of Wootton. Both parts contain not more than forty houses.

* In the British, CUD, or CWD, or GWYD, is *Wood*. In the same language, the final syllable EN is sometimes redundant, yet with the power of a genitive case; and is often introduced as connective in compounds. Thus OUSENEY, that is, Oseney, or Osney, near Oxford, the eyot, insulet, the watery meadow or meadows, *of* or *in* the river Ouse, Use, or Ise, is to be resolved into OUS-EN-EY. Whence OUSENEYSFORD, now Oxford, the Ford *of*, or *at*, or *near* Oseney, or the meadows of Ouse. This city is written ORSNAFORDA, or OKSNAFORDA, on a coin of Alfred published by Fountayne. See Wise, NUMM. BODL. p. 232. OXNAFORD, and OXENEFORD, frequently in the Saxon CHRONICLE. OXNEFORD on pennies of the two Williams. See Snelling's SILVER COINS, pp. 3. 11. OUSEN, OUSN, or OSN, were quickly reduced or corrupted into ORSN, OXSN, or OKN. Those who make OXFORD to be VADUM BOUM, plausibly contend, that it was never called OUSEFORD. But they should remember, that it was first called OXENFORD before OXFORD. And even this would countenance an hypothesis, to the utter exclusion of the other, that OXENFORD might be derived from OUSENFORD. But that OUSENEYSFORD is its primitive radix, appears from hence; that in the earliest spellings of this place, we constantly find the letter *e*, or *a*, after *n*, in the second syllable: a
presumptive

The Church, situated in Lower Kiddington, is said by Browne Willis, not always successful in his laborious investigations of Patron Saints, to be dedicated to Saint Nicholas*: but the annual Wake is celebrated on the Sunday following the Festival of Saint Peter. It consists of one pace, or aile, ten yards broad, and, with the chancel, thirty yards long. But there is a proportionable lateral projection, or southern semi-transept, before we enter the chancel; and an opposite one was perhaps intended on the North side, which would have given the Church the complete form of a cross. It is not, however, quite improbable that this was

presumptive proof, by the way, that *Oxen* have no concern in the etymology. In Domesday-book, we have OXENEF'SCYRE; and OXENEFORD perpetually in charters for two hundred years below. At length, the original meaning being forgot and obliterated, OXENEFORD, whence OXENFORD, or OXFORD, presented an obvious and familiar signification, which the pedantry of our ancestors latinized into VADUM BOUM. For the great source of corruption in etymologies of names, both of places and men, consists in the natural propensity to substitute in the place of one difficult and obscure, a more common and notorious appellation, suggested and authorised by affinity of sound. It is artfully said, that the Britons called Oxford RHYD-YCHEN, that is, the *Ford of Oxen*. But these Britons are the modern Welsh. The truth is, RHYD-YCHEN originated with Geoffrey of Monmouth, a fantastic historian of the twelfth century. See HIST. BRIT. ix. 12. x. 4. It would be ludicrous to refute the absurdity of the idea that the FORD was restricted to OXEN only.

There are other places in England now called OXENFORD, and with the same etymology. For OUSE was a general name for *river*, or *water*. One of these, near Godalming in Surrey, formerly belonging to Waverley-abbey, is written OXENEFORD, in an instrument dated 1147, Dugd. MON. ii. 913, a. In a charter of King Athelstan to Wilton abbey in Wiltshire, dated 937, a ford over the water is mentioned, and written OXNAFORD. CARTUL. Abbat. de WILTON, in the possession of lord Pembroke. "lang rpeamey of Oxnaforpb. ponne pep orep on ane lake." That is, "By the river to the FORD (commonly called OXENFORD). Then beyond the FORD to the lake." fol. 60, b.

* Willis, CATHEDR. Oxford. p. 473. It was by the interest of the Dominicans, that so many churches were dedicated to Saint Nicholas. He was their favourite tutelary saint.

The magnificent church of their monastery at Oxford was dedicated to Saint Nicholas in 1262. Wood, HIST. ANTIQUIT. Univ. Oxon. i. 65.

designed

designed only for a sepulchral aile to cover a family-vault*. Within its Southern wall are two niches for Holy Water: we may therefore suppose that there was once an altar, perhaps two, in the semi-transept. The whole fabric is cieled with rafter-work. In the South window of the semi-transept, which has been altered unsuitably from its original Gothic shape, these Arms were to be seen in antient painted glass about the year 1670.

I. Or, three cheverons Gules, within a bordure ingrailed.

II. Argent, three bars Azure; over, a lyon rampant Gules, crowned Or.

III. Argent, three lyons passant Argent †, a file of three labels Gules.

Antony Wood, who saw these Arms, in his curious parochial Perambulation of Oxfordshire, yet unpublished, calls this Southern wing a Chapel ‡; in which, perhaps, a domestic priest, or chaplain residing with the family of the capital mansion before the Reformation, was occupied in singing daily mass for the souls of those interred in the vault.

* From Willis's MITRED ABBEYS, ii. 188, we learn, that in 1553 a pension of five pounds per annum was paid to William Burton, as incumbent of the Holy Trinity Guild in Cudington Church in Oxfordshire.

† So Wood. Perhaps, Gardant.

‡ Wood, MSS. Mus. Ashmol. E. 1. 4to. f. 146. a. Manu sua.

In the South Chapel are the following Inscriptions:

R. I. P.

Here lie the remains

of

The Honourable Sir Henry Browne, K^t.

Third son of the Right Honourable Anthony Browne, K^t.

First Viscount Montague,

[Grandson of John Nevil Marquis of Montague]

who was installed Knight of the Garter, Oct. 22, 1555.

Sir Henry was buried 6 of Feby, 1638.

Sir Peter Browne, Kn^t, his heir,

engaging in the cause of his Sovereign

King Charles the First,

was slain at the battle of Naseby, June 14, 1645;

buried July 5, 1645, aged 30.

Sir Henry Browne, created Baronet July 1, 1639,

married Frances, third daughter and coheir

I find it transmitted to the present family as an appropriated chapel or chantry. It has an original doorway to the South, now walled up, which,

of the Honourable Sir Charles Somerset,
sixth son of Edward 4th Earl of Worcester,
ancestor to the Duke of Beaufort,
buried 1689, aged 50.

Sir Charles Browne, Bart.

buried 24th December, 1751, aged 88.

Sir George Browne, Bart.

married the R^t Hon^{ble} Lady Barbara Lee,
daughter to Edward Henry first Earl of Litchfield,

by Lady Charlotte Fitzroy,

natural daughter of King Charles the Second,

buried 23 June, 1754, aged 60.

The Baronetage extinct.

The Kiddington Estate, &c. descended
to Sir George Browne's daughter and heiress,

Barbara now Lady Mostyn,

first married to Sir Edw^d Mostyn, Bart.

of Talacre, Flintshire, buried here March 13, 1755;

secondly, to Edward Gore, Esq.

of Barrow Court in Somersetshire,

and hath issue by both.

R. I. P.

To the Memory

of Barbara Gore,

who died Aug. 21, A. D. 1770, aged 12 years.

She was the eldest daughter of Edward Gore, Esq.

and of Dame Barbara Mostyn,

relict of Sir Edward Mostyn, Baronet,

and sole daughter and heiress of Sir George Browne,

(who was lineally descended

from Sir Anthony Browne,

first Lord Viscount Mountague)

by Lady Barbara Lee,

fourth daughter of Edward Henry

first Earl of Litchfield.

In the same Vault is interred

Frances, sister of the said Barbara Gore,

who died March 22, 1764, aged 2 years.

by

by its situation at one end of that side of the building, seems intended for an entrance to a descent into the vault abovementioned.

The body of the Church seems to have been built about the year 1400. The semi-transept, or chapel, soon after.

The Chancel is evidently the remainder of an older original Church, in the style of the Saxon or rather Norman architecture; and at the back of the present altar a large Norman arch is walled up, which seems to have opened Eastward into a more extended edifice, perhaps into the Chancel of the old Church. The zigzagged semicircle of this arch, and its jambs, remain entire; and visibly projecting from the wall with which they are now incorporated, form an inclosure to the altar. Over the Altar is a picture of the Crucifixion. On the outside of what is now the Chancel, under the roofing, on either side, is a series of rude grotesque ornaments in stone, resembling heads placed horizontally. They exhibit marks of the architecture, or rather sculpture, of a very remote æra. The Chancel is built of rag-stone; the Body of a more polished free-stone. The new work of the Body is terminated Eastward by a lofty pointed arch, leading into the Chancel: the Chancel is higher than any part of the rest of the building. I suppose the old Church, of which the present Chancel is the remainder, to have been built by the family of De Sauceie, or Salcey, about the reign of King Stephen, at least before the year 1200. The old Norman-built parochial churches seldom consisted of more than one aisle or pace; as the church of Eifley in this county, erected by a bishop of Lincoln in the twelfth century*.

The Font, remaining in its old situation near the chief entrance, is large and well ornamented, and was probably constructed at the time of the

* The most curious one with ailes, that I recollect, I mean as complete in its first plan, although small, is the church of Steyning in Sussex. The nave has on each side four Norman round arches zigzagged, surmounted with as many round-headed small windows. The two side ailes are much and disproportionably lower, as was the custom. The roof is of rafter, stone-vaulting being either not known or not common in the Norman system. A lofty Norman arch leads into the Chancel. Only the Tower is additional. The Church of Eifley, with a yard-land at Cowley, belonged to the Monastery of Black Canons near Kenilworth-castle in Warwickshire. See Dugd. ANTIQ. WARW. p. 157. It is singular that Stewkley church in Buckinghamshire, built about the same period, and exactly in the style of Eifley, also belonged to the same Priory.

present church, with some of whose windows the Gothic mouldings on the faces of its octagonal panes uniformly correspond. It may be remarked in general, that Fonts, originally intended for the total immersion of the infant, are antient in proportion as they are capacious*.

The Seating of the body of the Church is probably the same that was there before the Reformation; consisting, as was antiently the fashion, of a regular arrangement of plain benches, low and open, without distinction, and on one plan, running at right angles from either side. Moveable stools were sometimes used. Pews, according to the modern use and idea, which destroy the beauty of our parochial churches, were not known till long after the Reformation †. They would have obstructed processions, and other ceremonies of the Romish religion.

* Of the total immersion the inconveniences must have been many. It is recorded of King Etheldred, that at his baptism, in 967, he *defiled* the font. W. Wyrcester, METRA DE REGIB. ANGLIÆ. Apud. LIB. Nig. SCACC. p. 530. edit. Hearne, 1728.

Sacra statim natus Etheldredus violavit,
Nam baptizatus, BAPTISTERIUM maculavit.

On this ominous occasion, archbishop Dunstan, who baptised the royal babe, with an oath exclaimed, "Per Deum, et Matrem ejus, IGNAVUS homo erit!" See Holinsh. CHRON. i. 165. col. i. 20. See also Dugd. BARON. vol. i. p. 17.

† Stowe says, that about the year 1520, half of the church of Saint Andrew Under-shaft was rebuilt by Stephen Gennings, Mayor of London, "and the PEWES in the South chapell made of his costs, as appeareth in euery window, and upon the said PEWES." SURV. LOND. p. 109, edit. 1599, 4to. That is, he furnished the South Chapel with a set of uniform benches, or *subsellia*, for the general use of the parishioners. Before the Reformation, benefactions were often bequeathed for *seating* a church in this manner. Blomefield cites legacies about the year 1502, for *stolyng* various parts of the church of Swaffham in Norfolk, the choir being fitted up with stalls. HIST. NORF. iii. 511, seq. That is, for *stooling*, or *benching*, various parts of the church. Particularly, for making "all the gret *stolys* of both sydes of the myd aley." p. 512. Lord Bacon somewhere says, that Sir Thomas More when at mass sate in the *chancel*, and his lady in a *pew*. He means, that she sate in one of the common *parish-seats*, without, and in the nave. Weever, who lived in the reigns of Elizabeth and James the First, speaking of epitaphs on the pavements of churches in and about London, has the following passage: "Many monuments are couered with seates or pewes, made high and easie for parishioners to sit or sleepe in, a fashion of no long continuance, and worthy of reformation." FUN. MON. p. 701. edit. 1631.

The PATRON was always indulged with a stall and desk in the chancel or choir, just within

This Church, in common with most other parish churches, retains marks of the sordid devotion of its possessors under the dominion of Cromwell. But many of those disgraces to Divine worship which Calvinism had left behind, have been lately removed by a generous benefactor, with the addition of new improvements and ornaments. When a country-church has been **BEAUTIFIED**, to use the technical phrase on this occasion, it is customary for the grateful topographer, minutely to display the judicious application of some late pious legacy, and to dwell with singular satisfaction on the modern decorations of the communion-table, consisting of semicircular groupes of bloated cherubs, tawdry festoons, gingerbread pilasters, flaming urns, and a newly-gilded decalogue, flanked by a magnificent Moses and Aaron in scarlet and purple, the work of some capital artist, who unites the callings of painter, plumber, and glazier, in the next dirty market-town. I do not regret, that the present edifice, which yet has not been without its friends, can boast none of these embellishments.

A few steps of the rood-loft remain; and on the opposite side is a small arcade or receptacle for Holy Water*. There is another on the left in the arch at entering the chancel. These receptacles indicate altars: but not always. In the old Convocation-house adjoining to Saint Mary's church at Oxford, was a place for Holy Water, occasionally consecrated by the Chaplain of the University, with which the Masters crossed themselves before they were sworn.

Just within the entrance of the great South-door, which has a spacious porch, there is a brass-plate on the floor, the only antient monument in the church, exhibiting the effigy of a priest habited, with the following inscription:

within the screen. The most antient notice of this distinction that I can at present recollect, occurs in some injunctions directed by the learned bishop Grosthead to his diocese of Lincoln, about the year 1240. "Ad hæc adjicimus, ne Laici stent vel sedeant inter clericos in CANCELLO, dum divina ibidem celebrantur: nisi forte, ob reverentiam vel aliam rationabilem causam, hoc solis PATRONIS permittatur." Browne's APPEND. ad FASCICUL. RER. EXPETEND. ET FUGIEND. vol. ii. p. 413. Lond. 1690, fol. Compare SYNOD. EXON. A. D. 1287. cap. xii. Wilkins's CONCIL. tom. ii. p. 140.

* A Piscina.

Orate pro anima magistri Walteri Goodere quondam rectoris istius Ecclesie, qui obiit decimo octavo Septembris Anno Dom. MDLIII. Cujus anime propitiatur Deus.

Above the head, on a brass tablet also, are his Arms, almost obliterated, which I think I have seen in some drawings from the windows of the stately old mansion house, now destroyed, of the family of Walter, at Sarsden in this neighbourhood, *viz.* Gules, a fess between two cheverons vairy Argent and Azure*. Near it are the marks of another brass plate, which has long ago disappeared. Monuments of brass in our churches, notwithstanding the boasted proverbial durability of such memorials, have proved far more perishable than those of stone. But these losses are not so much owing to time, as to fanaticism, a more powerful, at least a more furious destroyer.

At the West end, coeval with the body, into which it opens, is a low square Tower, containing three large bells, with a SANCTUS bell, or Saint's bell †. The oldest date on these bells is the year 1629. I have searched them in vain for dates and legends in the Gothic type; nor do I mean to record the names of modern churchwardens. Perhaps they are

* By the Christian name, he seems to have had some connection with the family of Walter at Sarsden. At Kiddington-house is preserved a fine manuscript missal on vellum, with elegant pictures and illuminations, which appears to have belonged to the parish church or chapel of Sarsden. A parish missal is a curiosity.

One Robert GOODERE, of a gentleman's family in the neighbouring village of Hethrop, occurs entering a gentleman-commoner at Trinity college, Oxford, in 1659. REGISTR. ADMISSION. fol. 14. Also Charles, of the same family, son of Edmond, a commoner in 1666. *ibid.* fol. 31. But the Arms of Goodyere, among those of the Oxfordshire Gentry, in the Map prefixed to Plot's OXFORDSHIRE, do not correspond with the coat in the text.

† A Saint's bell is so called, because it was rung out when the priest came to those words of the mass, SANCTE, SANCTE, SANCTE, DEUS SABAOTH, that all persons who were absent might fall on their knees, in reverence of the holy office which was then going on in the church. It was usually placed where it might be heard farthest, in a lantern at the springing of the steeple, or in a turret at an angle of the tower: and sometimes, for the convenience of being more readily and exactly rung, within a pediment or arcade, between the church and the chancel; the rope, in this situation, falling down into the choir not far from the altar.

all

all antient bells refounded. Here I must confess, that in this branch of our Ecclesiastical Antiquities I want the sagacity of the late Mr. Browne Willis, who is universally allowed to have treated the history of bells with the hand of a master.

The pediment of the Southern Transept is pinnacled, not inelegantly, with a flourished cross.

The Church is in the Deanery of Woodstock. The Benefice is rectorial. The Rectory was rated annually, in the year 1291, the nineteenth year of King Edward the First, in what is commonly called the Valuation of Pope Nicholas, at seven marcs and a half*. One of the taxers, in that business, of the archdeaconry of Oxford, to which this Church is still subject, was Richard, rector of the adjacent church of Wootton †. In the Valuation of King Henry the Eighth, made in the year 1535, it is rated at seven pounds nine shillings and four pence, and three farthings. The Tenths are fifteen shillings and six pence. The Synodals to the bishop at Easter, two shillings. To the archdeacon at Michaelmas for Procurations, nine shillings. To the bishop for Procurations, on account of his triennial visitation, three shillings and eight pence. Beside the tythes, it is endowed with a Glebe of seventy acres of arable, meadow, and pasture. The Parsonage-house stands near the river Glym, to the North. It once, according to tradition, stood about forty yards to the North-East of the Church.

The following Catalogue of the RECTORS of this Church, is the most complete which I have been able to collect.

A. D. 1232. Thomas Decanus de Barton ‡, styled CAPELLANUS, that is, simply an officiating clergyman, was instituted Rector on the presentation of Letitia de Sauseto, or Lettice de Saucey; due enquiry being first made by Adam archdeacon of Oxford §.

* MSS. Bibl. Bodl. MSS. SPELMAN, e MUS. Num. xxi. f. 99. b. in pergam. fol.

† Kennet, PAROCH. ANTIQUIT. p. 316.

‡ Perhaps Thomas Dene, or Dean, of Barton. Unless we suppose him to have been a RURAL DEAN. Barton is the next village.

§ ROT. Hugonis WELLYS, Episcop. Lincoln. sub. ann. xxiii. This is the earliest episcopal Roll in the Church of Lincoln. See also ROT. ii. de Institut. omnium Archidiaconatum simul, temp. Hugonis Wellys.

A. D. 1232. Robert La Warr, Subdeacon, apparently on the speedy death or cession of Thomas Decanus of Barton, was instituted, on the presentation of the same Letitia de Salseto, before written Sauseto; due inquisition being first made by the said Adam archdeacon of Oxford. At his admission, he was ordered by the bishop of Lincoln, to go to the University and qualify himself in literature. "Injunctum est ut scholas frequentet, et addiscat, &c.*" These injunctions are common in the more antient episcopal registers. Had other evidences been wanting, it appears that he must have been instituted before the year 1236, when Adam the archdeacon, called Adam of Saint Edmundsbury, had left his office †.

A. D. 1273. Hugh of Willamescote, on the death of Robert La Warr, was instituted, 8 Kal. of April, on the presentation of Thomas of Willamescote ‡.

A. D. 1307. Robert of Bladyngton, called CAPELLANUS, on the death of Hugh of Willamescote, was instituted 6 Id. of December, on the presentation of Sir Henry of Wyllamescot §.

A. D. Johannes, or John, I suppose on the death or cession of Robert of Bladyngton, was instituted. He resigned ||.

A. D. 1361. Hugh Wylbote of [de] Wyllamescote, styled PRESBITER, or priest, on the free resignation of John the last Rector, was instituted 10 Kal. of October, on the presentation of Thomas of Wyllamescote ¶.

A. D. 1369. Richard Swatlyne, styled PRESBITER, on the resignation of Hugh Welbode, before written *Wylbote*, was instituted Jul. 24, on the presentation of Sir Thomas of Willamescote, who is called *Vir nobilis*. It appears that Swatlyne had exchanged the vicarage of North-Aston, in Lincoln diocese, now in that of Oxford, with Wylbote, for this Rectory **.

* ROT. HUGONIS WELLYS, Episcop. Lincoln. sub ann. xxiii.

† Le Neve, FAST. p. 165.

‡ ROT. GRAVESEND, Episc. Lincoln. sub ann. xv.

§ REGISTR. D'ALDERBY, Episc. Lincoln. f. 142.

|| Ut modò infr.

¶ REGISTR. GYNEWELL, Episc. Lincoln. f. 229.

** REGISTR. BOKINGAM, Episcop. Lincoln. f. 346.

A. D. Richard Odam, I suppose on the vacation of Swatlyne, was instituted. Odam had exchanged the vicarage of Hōpewolinch, a place I cannot find, with William Goddard, for this rectory, called *Nether-Cudington*, November 21, 1380*.

A. D. Richard Wood, or Wode, was instituted. He appears to have been Rector in 1466 †.

A. D. Walter Goodere, perhaps on the death of Wood, was instituted. He died September 18, 1513, and lies buried in the church under a brass-plate ‡.

A. D. Philip Morgan, perhaps on the death of Goodere, was instituted. He resigned §, probably refusing the oath of supremacy at the accession of Queen Elizabeth.

A. D. 1559. John Harryson, on the resignation of Philip Morgan, was instituted March 12, on the presentation of William Babington, Esquire ¶.

A. D. Robert Lloid, M. A. was instituted. Perhaps the successor of Harryson. He resigned Feb. 8, 1610-11 ¶¶.

A. D. 1611. Walter Browne, B. D. Fellow of C. C. C. in Oxford, on the resignation of Lloid, was instituted June 21, 1611, on the presentation of Henry Moore of Nether-Kiddington, Gentleman, *on account of a demise of the Advowson for a term of years not yet expired* **. At Archbishop Laud's trial, Sir Nathaniel Brent objected to the archbishop, that he had been intimate at Oxford with this Walter Browne; who, because he was strongly attached to the hierarchy and rites of the Church of England, was supposed by the Presbyterians to be a Catholic. I will give the archbishop's own state of the case. "His [Brent's]

* Ibid. f. 373. One John Odam is admitted to the church of Bicester in Oxfordshire, Oct. 18, 1434. See Kennett, *PAROCH. ANTIQUIT.* p. 622. See also p. 669.

† And of Asterley, in the same year, as will appear hereafter.

‡ See above, p. 14.

§ Ut modò infr.

¶ REGISTR. *Episcopatus OXON.* I. f. 201. b.

¶¶ Ut modò infr.

** REGISTR. *Episcopatus OXON.* II. f. 49. a.

second instance was, that I was acquainted with Mr. Browne, fellow of Corpus Christi College at Oxford, who was suspected to be a papist. I was acquainted with this man; he was a very good scholar, and an honest man, and a good Protestant, for aught I know," &c.*

A. D. 1639. Edmund Plant, I suppose on the death, or rather removal, of Browne, was instituted, July 18, on the presentation of Henry Knollys, Esquire, of Grove-place near Southampton †. I suspect, he gave way to one of Cromwell's intruders, whose name I do not wish to recover.

A. D. Jonathan Edwards was instituted. He resigned ‡. If one of the fanatics imposed by the usurpers, as he survived the Restoration, he must have conformed §.

A. D. 1681. John Cudworth, M. A. soon afterwards. B. D. Fellow of Trinity College, Oxford, on the resignation of Edwards, was instituted March 12, on the presentation of Sir Henry Browne, Baronet ||. He was born at Burford in Oxfordshire: elected Scholar of Trinity College, July 5, 1665 ¶: Fellow, June 6, 1672**. His tutor, one of the

* Laud's TROUBLES AND TRYAL, written by himself, &c. Lond. 1695, fol. ch. xl. p. 380.

† REGISTR. Episcopat. OXON. II. f. 131. a.

‡ Ut modò infra.

§ Jonathan Edwards, a native of Wrexham in Denbighshire, became, in 1655, a servitor of Christ Church, Oxford, where he was admitted B. A. October 28, 1659; elected Fellow of Jesus College in 1662; B. D. March 15, 1669; afterwards Rector of Kiddington, which he exchanged, in 1681, for Hinton in Hants; Principal of Jesus College, Nov. 1686; D. D. Dec. 1, that year; and Vice Chancellor 1689—1691. He had two other livings, one in Anglesea, the other in Caernarvonshire. He published "A PRESERVATIVE AGAINST SOCINIANISM, Part I. 1693;" and "Part II. 1694," 4to. MS. Rawl. See also Bishop Atterbury's Correspondence, edit. 1784, vol. III. p. 535. In 1687 Dr. Edwards became Treasurer of Landaff. He died June 20, 1712, aged 73, and was buried in the Chapel of Jesus College. See Gutch's COLLEGES AND HALLS IN OXFORD, pp. 578, 583, 584.

|| REGISTR. Episcopat. OXON. III. f. 109. a.

¶ REGISTR. Coll. Trin. OXON. A. f. 180. b.

** Ibid. f. 101. a.

Fellows,

Fellows, was Daniel Whitby, afterwards Chantor of Salisbury, and eminent for many valuable and popular works in theology and ethics*. He published a Terminal Latin Sermon, preached at St. Mary's Church, Oxford, Oct. 9, 1688, intituled, "FIDES ECCLESIAE ANGLICANÆ VINDICATA AB INCERTITUDINE: Sive Concio coram Academia Oxoniensi habita ineunte Termino, Octob. 9, 1688. In S. Matth. vi. 23." Oxon. 1688, 4to. He appears to have taken pupils in the college. He was a lover and a preserver of antiquities. Some of his Letters and other papers are among Rawlinson's Manuscript Collections in the Bodleian Library. He died December 10, 1729, and is buried with a short Latin Inscription on a stone-lozenge in the pavement, on the North side of the altar. Many years before his death, he kept a school in the parsonage-house, where he educated with great reputation the youth of the best families of the neighbourhood. He is still remembered for his punctual and conscientious discharge of every private and public duty.

A. D. 1729. Robert Buswell, M. A. of Trinity College, Oxford, on the death of Cudworth, was instituted Feb. 3, on the presentation of Robert Buswell of Westcote Barton, and John Knapp of Ensham †, gentlemen ‡. He died April 2 §, 1760, and is buried on the South side of the altar, with an inscription on a black marble tablet against the Southern wall of the Chancel.

A. D. 1760. Jeremiah Nicolson, D. D. Fellow of St. John's College, Oxford, on the death of Buswell, was instituted May 20, on the presentation of George Henry Earl of Litchfield. When he left the college, he held this Rectory with the Vicarage of St. Laurence at Reading ||.

* REGISTR. ADMISSION. Coll. Trin. Oxon. fol. 30. Whence it also appears, that he was elected to Trinity from Queen's College, where he was entered in 1663: and that his father was John Cudworth, a clergyman, of Kinarton in Warwickshire.

† f. Endstone.

‡ REGISTR. Episcopat. OXON. IV. f. 65. a.

§ The Inscription on his Monument says March 31st.

|| He died at Reading July 18, 1771.

A. D. 1771.

A. D. 1771. Thomas Warton, B. D. Fellow of Trinity College, Oxford, on the death of Nicolson, was instituted October 22, on the presentation of George Henry Earl of Litchfield, then Chancellor of the University of Oxford.

A. D. 1790. John Roberts, M. A. Fellow of Jesus College, Oxford, on the death of Warton, was instituted Nov. 10, 1790, on the presentation of Charles Lord Dillon of the kingdom of Ireland. He is now Rector, Sept. 12, 1813.

In that division of the parish called the Upper Town, is the ruin of the old parochial Cross, containing part of the shaft and base, built of stone. It is still known by the name of the Cross. I know of no county which has more frequent or more curious remains of Parish Crosses than Oxfordshire*. To this circumstance, the plenty of stone with which the whole county abounds, greatly contributed.

A more venerable monument of religious antiquity is preserved entire, in the gardens of the capital mansion house of this village. This is a Font of a stone, brought by Sir Henry Browne in 1660, from the Chapel of King Edward the Confessor at Islip in this county, connected with a royal palace long since destroyed †. There is a constant tradition, and

* On the taper and elegant shaft of the Cross at Ensham, undoubtedly built by the abbey, is still discernible the figure of a bishop or abbot, at full length, pontifically vested and mitred, with other ornamental sculpture †. Unless this should be esteemed a relic, I know of no other, of this once magnificent monastery, except the rude capital of a pillar, with a date in the stone work (1504), surmounted by a stone escutcheon of arms with supporters, preserved in the Vicar's Garden at Ensham.

† Probably first inhabited by his father, Etheldred. I have not been able to find any remains of it, though Plot says its footsteps are discernible. I have examined the spot. On the North-east part of Islip is a Close called the COURT-CLOSE, at some distance from the Chapel. In this Close there are vestiges of a Mote, now almost entirely filled up, the proof of some large building. About sixty years ago §, many loads of lead were dug up within the area or compass of this Mote, in irregular masses, as if melted. Here might have been the Palace. But I infer nothing from the appellation COURT-CLOSE, as anciently every capital mansion house, at least in this part of England, was usually called the COURT: in Latin CURIA. For instance: Gilbert Basset

‡ At Yarnton, the Church of which belonged also to Ensham abbey, is another Cross of similar sculpture.

§ The Reader must recollect that this work was originally published in 1783.

Wood, Plot, and Hearne, have asserted *, that this is the same Font in which the Confessor, born at Islip about 1010, was baptized †. But though a very ancient piece of workmanship, and a relic of great

recites, in his foundation-charter of Bicester Priory in this county, under the year 1182, "Concessi dictis canonicis liberam Capellam CURIÆ meæ, et de CURIIS hæredum meorum." That is, "The oblations at the altar in the chapel of his manor-house, &c." Again, in the same charter, "Omnes Capellas infra CURIAS meas existentes." Dugd. MON. ii. 284. And in a charter of Richard Foliot, of Warpsgrave in Oxfordshire, to the Knight-Templars, about the year 1190: "Universis, &c. Ricardus Foliot salutem in Domino. Noverit universitas vestra, me dedisse et concessisse, et hac presenti meæ carta confirmasse, Deo, et Beate Marie, et fratribus Milicie Templi Salomonis in Anglia, Grangiam meam forinsecam extra CURIAM meam in Werpisgrave, &c." CARTULAR. Ballivæ de Saundford. Orig. [Compilat. temp. Roberti Le Scrop, Præceptoris ibid. 1274.] MS. in pergamen. Cod. A. Wood, Bibl. Bodl. x. f. 42. a. Much later, about the year 1268, Matthew de Stratton, archdeacon of Buckingham, gave to Oseney abbey, in which he bequeathed his body to be buried, his whole Court of Moreton in Buckinghamshire. "Totam CURIAM suam de Moreton, quam habuit ex concessione Wilhelmi Fitz-Reginald." REGISTR. Abbat. Oseney, f. 24. MS. His Court-Baron is not here intended. Many other instances might be given.

A field at Heddington, with the same uncertainty of conclusion, is said to be the site of another of Etheldred's palaces, because it is called COURT-CLOSE. Here, however, has antiently been a building. See Dugd. MON. i. 984. a.

At Wantage, between Limborough and the Brook, is a field called COURT-CLOSE, which Wise thinks has a reference to King Alfred's Palace. WHITE HORSE, &c. p. 52. I suspect we need not go so high for a solution. Nor should it be forgotten, that this denomination may sometimes arise from the hundred-court, or county-court, often held in a field.

* See Plot's OXFORDSH. Ch. x. § 124. Hearne's GLOSS. Rob. Gl. p. 725. And PREF. to CURIOUS DISCOURSES, Oxf. 1720, p. xc. And Wood, MSS. Mus. Ashmol. E. 1. f. 146. a. 4to. ut supra. Hearne has recorded, that an old lady kept meat to cram her turkeys in this Font; but that the turkeys all died! to the great disarrangement of her Christmas-dinners, and disappointment of her friends in London.

† He was born near the church, where the abbots of Westminster had a manerial house till about the year 1320, when abbot Curtlynton built a new one in another part of the town. See Widmore's HIST. WESTMINST. ABB. p. 87. One of his palaces is supposed to have been on Brill-hill, on a Roman site; where, near the church, is now only an oblique vallum without a foss, about three hundred yards east and west. What Camden saw, has been confounded by Cromwell's trenches.

curiosity,

curiosity, it is perhaps of later date. At least the traceries and construction do not agree with the rude arts of such a barbarous and early period. The Font which succeeded to the original Baptistry of this Chapel, and in which a canonized monarch had received the rite of spiritual ablution, would for many obvious reasons continue to be called the same. But perhaps the substance may be the same, under a different form. It is natural to suppose, that the Abbats of Westminster, who had a country seat at Islip, paid all due attention to their founder's Font, and would repair or renew it if decayed. But I will at least allow it to be Norman. The block of stone in which the bason of immersion is excavated, is of unusual massiness. When struck, it sounds like a bell. The interior diameter of the bason is thirty inches, and its depth twenty. At the bottom of the bason may be perceived an aperture for draining off the consecrated water. With the pedestal, which is of a piece with the rest, it is five feet high. A plate of it may be seen in Plot's OXFORDSHIRE*. But Plot's, though a neat engraving, and in the most finished manner of that excellent architectural sculptor, Michael Burghers, is by no means a faithful and exact representation. The engraver, to make a pretty picture, has softened the roughness of the work. On the pedestal is this modern inscription in mouldering capitals, and not preserved by Plot, but made long before the removal of the Font from Islip Chapel, which I do not recite for its elegance.

This sacred Font Saint Edward first receavd.
 From womb to grace, from grace to glory went
 His virtuous life. To this fayre isle beqvethd.
 Prase and to vs but lent.
 Let this remaine, the trophies of his fame,
 A King baptizd from hence a Saint became.

Then is inscribed this notification, cut in the stone since the removal from Islip, "This Fonte came from the Kings Chapell in Islip." The Chapel at Islip here mentioned, standing at a small distance to the North

* Ad pag. 356. TAB. xvi. fig. 6.

from

from Islip Church, is still called the KING'S CHAPEL, but has been entirely desecrated ever since Cromwell's usurpation, and converted to the meanest uses of a dirty farm-yard. At present it has a roof of thatch. It is built of stone, is fifteen yards long and seven broad, and retains traces of the arches of an oblong window at the East end*. Probably this Chapel was maintained in a decent condition, with the establishment of regular service, by the Monks of Westminster, till their dissolution in 1540 †. I have a confused remembrance of having seen an old donation, for the sustenance of a perpetual lamp to burn before the high altar in the royal chapel at Islip, under the trust and supervision of the abbats of Westminster.

Among the fields and woods of this parish, detached at almost half a mile's distance from Over-Kiddington, to the South-west, is a single Farm-house called Asterley, which also denominates a manor. Here was once the Parish of Asterley, of which the memory now scarcely subsists in tradition. But there is a large field, called Chapel-breke ‡, now covered with bushes and high trees, in which the church, long since decayed or destroyed, may probably be supposed to have stood. The

* Since my last view, this Chapel has been destroyed.

† The manor of Islip was given to Westminster abbey by the Confessor, and still, with the advowson, belongs to that church.

‡ BREKE, or BRECHE, I believe, is Close or Inclosure. In the Lincoln Registers, in an Award, dated 1480, for uniting the parochial and conventual churches of Chetwood in Bucks, is this passage, which may throw light on the word. The parishioners are to have free passage through a certain close of the Convent, called *Church-Brigg*. As also through the same Close called *Church-breake*, to the South end of the same Close abutting upon West Green. Also to have access to the Church, through another Close of the Convent called *Town Breche*, &c. Willis's BUCKINGH. p. 379. Near Basingstoke in Hants, is a farm in the midst of woods and downs, called *Breche*, or *The Breche*: that is, the inclosed ground. In an audit-roll of Bicester Priory, Oxfordshire, A. D. 1430, in Trinity Bursary at Oxford, is this entry, "Et de vj l. receptis de firma clausi *de Breche* dimissi, &c." Again, in another audit-roll of the same, for the year 1428, printed by bishop Kennett, "Et de receptis, de Dayeria [the dairy] de la *Breche*, &c." PAROCH. ANT. p. 570. See also the word again in Kennett, which he does not explain in his Glossary, in deeds relating to Oxfordshire, pp. 628. 369. 457. *Breche* is probably from the French *broce*, a thicket or covert of Brush-wood.

inequalities

inequalities of the ground seem also to denote the site of an ancient and considerable mansion-house. Here have been dug up, pieces of the mouldings of lancet windows, and other fragments of antique masonry in stone. Other buildings, or houses, seem also to have been once standing hereabout. The Church, called the parochial church of Asterley in the Registers of Lincoln, was dedicated to St. Peter*. It was a Rectory, and was valued in 1291 at seven marcs and a half, and is recited under the Deanery of Cheping-Norton †.

In the year 1466, and on the twenty-second day of October, John Chedworth, Bishop of Lincoln, judicially seated in the monastery of the Dominican Friars at Oxford ‡, united and incorporated the church of Asterley with that of Kiddington, on the petition of Sir Richard Illingworth, Chief Baron of the Exchequer, John Dynham, Richard Quartermayns, and William Babyngton of Chylwell in Nottinghamshire, Esquires, Hugh Fen, Thomas Babyngton, William Essex, John Fitzherbert, and Henry Melland, feoffees of William Babyngton, son and heir of Robert Babyngton, deceased, now patrons of both churches on account of their feoffment, and with the consent of Fulk Burmyngham, archdeacon of Oxford. Among the reasons for this measure, the bishop, having first stated the convicinity and contiguity of the two parishes, represents, that the tenths, oblations, rents, and emoluments, of the rectory of Asterley were so diminished, as to be insufficient to support a rector, or even a competent parochial chaplain, on account of paucity of parishioners, barrenness of land, defects of husbandry, and an unusual prevalence of pestilences and epidemic sicknesses §. All which evils, he adds, are

* REGISTR. REPYNDON, Episc. Lincoln. f. 402.

† MSS. SPELMAN, ut supr. f. 101, where it is written Easterley. In another ancient copy of the same taxation, it is written Easterleye, f. 146. MSS. HATTON. 99. in pergam. Bibl. Bodl.

‡ In the original instrument, presently to be cited, "In hospitio nostro fratrum prædicatorum Oxon."

§ In cases of consolidation and appropriation, it was customary to set forth some COGENT reasons. When the Rectory of Heghefeld, or Heckfield, in Hampshire, was appropriated to New College Oxford, by the founder, Bishop William of Wykeham, in 1383, the following process and PRETEXTS were thought necessary. The bishop, in consequence

perpetually increasing, nor can ever be removed, on this deplorable principle, *quoniam mundus semper ad deteriora se declinet*, because the world is always naturally growing worse*. He therefore transfers all parochial rights, spiritual jurisdictions, and obventions, from the Church of Asterley to that of Kiddington, and to its present rector, Richard Wode, and his successors, thus reducing and consolidating both churches into one body. Yet with provision, among other reservations, that the inhabitants of the village of Asterley shall sustain the clausure or fence of the cemetery of the church there, to prevent the profanations of sepulture; and that the Rectors of Kiddington shall pay two shillings annually, every Easter, to the Bishop of Lincoln at his episcopal palace of Lincoln, and one shilling to the archdeacon of Oxford, for their

consequence of a petition from the society, represents to the archdeacon, that New College, in Oxford, founded about four years ago, *adeo exiliter et insufficienter dotatum existit*, is so slenderly and insufficiently endowed, that it cannot long or well subsist on its present revenues; which, by war, pestilence, tempests, taxes, and imposts from the king, have been reduced to so moderate a value. "Item, quod Capella, Aula, Camere, Coquina, Pistrina, et alie domus et edificia dicti Collegii, necessaria pro mora et habitacione dictorum Custodis et Scholarium, remanent imperfecta, utpote a primaria fundacione seu institutione dicti Collegii nondum constructa, que [quæ] maxima indigent constructione, et quasi inestimabiles sumptus requirunt." The bishop orders an Inquisition of this matter, which is dated Jan. 8, 1382, and which makes the same report. The Inquisition also says, "that these things are verified, notorious, and manifest in Oxford and its neighbourhood;" and that, "Laborat eciam de presenti publica vox et fama." And therefore, the urgent necessity and evident utility of the said Warden and Scholars require and justify the Appropriation of Heghefeld. The bishop then appropriates the same, by his mandate, dated Jan. 25, 1383. REGISTR. WYKEHAM, Episc. Winton. Parte I. fol. 144. We cannot suppose these allegations to be all true. Not that I believe the bishop to have been here privy to any collusive misrepresentation or imposition, which yet his beneficence would have excused. The truth is, he only acceded to the usual style and tenor of an official formulary. The popes affected a violent opposition to the prevailing and certainly pernicious practice of appropriations: and these plausible pretences are nothing more than a piece of chicanery of the canon law.

* In this instrument, the Cure of Souls is called *ARS ARTIUM*.

several indemnifications*. The father of a very old man remembered the ruins of the Font. The last presentation of a Clerk to the Church was in the year 1466, just before the consolidation†. Rivers were antiently the boundaries of parishes; and there is great reason to suppose that the whole of Upper Kiddington, separated from Lower Kiddington by the river Glym, and which is not in the same Hundred with Lower Kiddington, was originally part of the parish of Asterley. To this it may be objected, that in a presentation to Kiddington above cited, NETHER CUDINGTON is mentioned in the year 1380. And Mr. Astle has pointed out to me a Fine-Roll of King Henry the Third, of the year 1241, in which Francis de Punchard claims right against Ralph de Salcey, of common pasture in a moor of the said Ralph at UPPER CUDINGTON‡. However, I am of opinion, that the lords of Asterley and Kiddington, two manors which have constantly gone together, antiently lived at Asterley; but that at length they removed their capital seat to Kiddington, a situation less exposed, and nearer the water. This circumstance soon occasioned the desertion of Asterley, and at last the incorporation of its parish into that of Kiddington. Asterley Farm-house claims the privilege of being extra-parochial. Hence we may conclude, that, beside the Church, there was a domestic or manerial Chapel belonging to the old family seat at Asterley, of which the Farm-house is now the representative. And this will lead to another solution of the meaning of Chapel Breke§.

* From an instrument intituled "UNIO Ecclesiarum de Asterlygh et Cuddington." The witnesses are John Botuler, Doctor in Decrees, and John Wynterburn. Laurence Bartlet, Notary Public. Registr. CHEDWORTH, Episc. Linc. fol. 83.

† There is a Statute, 37 Hen. VIII. by which two neighbouring parishes, one not exceeding the annual value of six pounds, under circumstances of mutual convenience, may be consolidated. Cap. xxi. A. D. 1545.

‡ See supra, p. 17. "CHUDINGTON ET ESTERLEY. Finis levatus inter Franciscum de Punchard Querentem et Radulphum de Salseto Deforciantem, de communi pastura quam dictus Franciscus clamat se habere, in Mora ipsius Radulphi in superiori Cudington, ad omnimoda averia sua." ROT. FIN. Hen. III. ann. regn. 25°. A. D. 1241. Of this family of De Salcey, I shall speak at large hereafter.

§ These domestic Oratories were not always adjoining to the House. See Burton's MONAST. EBOR. p. 448. Licences for celebrating divine service in a manerial chapel, are

The name *ASTERLEY* signifies the eastern place or town, *locus orientalis*, with respect to some other in the neighbourhood: this I suppose to be Spellesbury, a place, perhaps, of higher antiquity, and not unknown to the Saxons, as we shall see hereafter, about the reign of King Offa. Unless Cheping-Norton, six miles distant, be supposed; whose name implies a Saxon market-town*, and where was a castle near the church, probably destroyed by King Stephen about 1145, and perhaps built by the Normans on a Saxon and Roman site. Asterley is not recited in *DOMESDAY-BOOK*.

The parish of Asterley being ingrafted into that of Kiddington, a Catalogue of the Rectors of the Church of Asterley becomes a necessary appendage to those of the Church of Kiddington.

A. D. James *de Solero* was instituted Rector of Asterley. He resigned †.

A. D. 1221. Roger de Munviron, Clerk, on the resignation of James *de Solero*, was instituted, at the presentation of Sir Ralph de Sausei, or Saucey, Knight ‡.

are very frequent in our episcopal registers. As thus: Wykeham, bishop of Winchester, grants licence to Thomas Earl of Kent and Alice his wife, to have a Chapel in their mansion-house in the New Forest for celebrating mass and all sacraments, “per idoneos capellanos extra matricis ecclesie prejudicium, &c.” Dat. Nov. 12, 1390. Registr. WYKEHAM. P. iii. fol. 102. Grosthead Bishop of Lincoln, in some Constitutions given to his diocese about the year 1250, forbids Earl Warren to have mass performed in the hall of his mansion house at Graham, “Canibus ubique in ea discurrentibus et cubantibus, &c.” He calls it, “Aula de Graham.” Browne’s *FASCIC.* Vol. ii. p. 345, ut supra.

* The Market-North-Town. From the Saxon Ceapan, to buy. It is, however, to be remembered, that entire Saxon words remained long in common use in our language. And, as to the etymology in question, Chepyng is used, in Wickliffe’s Bible for *Market-place*. Matt. xi. 16. And in Chaucer, for *Market-town*, KN. T. 2002. Tyrwh. “The CHEPING brenning with the blake smoke.” That is, “the town on fire.”

† Ut modò infra.

‡ ROT. H. WELLYS, Episc. Linc. sub ann. xii.

A. D.

A. D. 1225. Hugh de Wychindun, CAPELLANUS, I suppose on the death or cession of Roger de Munviron, was instituted, at the presentation of the said Sir Ralph de Saucey, Knight *.

A. D. John *de Sancto Egidio*, or John of Saint Giles's, Sub-deacon, I suppose on the death or cession of Hugh de Wychindun, was instituted †.

A. D. Richard Payne, probably his successor, was instituted ‡.

A. D. 1334. Andrew Grene, or Atte-Greene, de Barton, on the resignation of Payne, was instituted, Kal. March, at the presentation of Richard of Williamscothe §.

A. D. Sir William de Brendmille, I suppose his successor, was instituted ||.

A. D. 1375. Philip Kirie, Priest, on the death of Brendmille, was instituted, Sept. 5, at the presentation of Sir Peter de La Mare, Knight ¶,

* ROT. H. WELLYS, Episc. Linc. sub ann. xv. He was presented the year following by the same patron to the Church of Islip. Ibid. sub ann. xvi.

† ROT. GRAVESEND, Episc. Linc.

‡ Ut modò infra.

§ REGISTR. BURGERSH, Episc. Linc. f. 271. I have an imperfect extract among my papers, which says that Sir Richard Wylamescot, Knight, presented a clerk to the church of Asterley in 1288. Ex ROT. Archidiaconat. Oxon. temp. Oliveri Sutton, Episc. Lincoln. ann. ix. R. Edw. I. 16°.

|| Ut modò infr.

¶ The family of De la Mare were of great note in Oxfordshire. Peter de Mara and Robert his son gave half the Church of Heiford, com. Oxon. with some lands, to Eynsham abbey, when Heiford church was dedicated by Wulfwin Bishop of Dorchester, about the year 1060. Among the witnesses to the Charter are Hugh de la Mara, Clerk, and Richard de Mara. REGISTR. MONAST. EYNESHAM, f. 124. apud Æd. Christ. Oxon. Henry de La Mara, in 1140, on the death of his father, paid a fine of 28*l.* 6*s.* 3*d.* to hold his father's office of huntsman to the King by petty serjeanty. ROT. PIP. Stephan. 5°. A. D. 1140. OXFORD. His son Robert was Sheriff of Oxfordshire, 1188. OXFORD. ROT. PIP. Hen. II. 32°. A. D. 1188; and in 1189, and 1190, of Oxfordshire and Berks. ROT. PIP. Ric. I. 1° et 2° de iisdem A. D. Geoffrey his son, in 1208, paid a fine of 100 marks and one palfrey, for warranty of his lands at Dudcote, Berks. BERKS. ROT. PIP. Johan. 10°, A. D. 1208. His descendant, John, seated at Gersyndon, now Garsington, near Oxford, was, in 1294, in the expedition into Gascoigne. ROT. Vascon.

Edw.

Lord of Asterley, he having the custody and marriage of Thomas, the son and heir of Richard of Williamskote, deceased, late lord of the manor, and patron of the church, of Asterley*.

A. D. 1413. William Strechere, CAPELLANUS, I suppose Kirie's successor, was instituted Jan. 16, in the person of his proxy, Stephen Braywell, at the presentation of Ralph Arches †. He resigned, by exchange for the vicarage of Ardyngton in Berkshire, June 9, 1419 ‡.

A. D. 1419. Richard Richmille, exchanging Ardyngton with Strechere, the last incumbent, was instituted §.

A. D. John Perkins, I suppose Richmille's successor, was instituted. He resigned ||.

A. D. 1434. Thomas Toghill, on the resignation of Perkins, was instituted November 1, at the presentation of William Marmyon ¶ and

Edw. I. 22^o, m. 9. And, in 1298, in the wars of Scotland. ROT. Scot. Edw. I. 26^o, m. 9. Summoned to Parliament in 1300. ROT. Claus. Edw. I. 26^o, in dors. Afterwards, till 1314. He obtained a discharge, in 1305, of a debt to the Exchequer. ROT. Claus. Edw. I. 33^o. None of his descendants were barons. His son, as I suppose, John de La Mare, Knight, and probably living at Garsington, is a witness at Heddingdon to a grant of the custody of Shotover-Forest, in 1316. CARTUL. de Borstal. f. 40. In the possession of John Aubrey, Esquire, of Borstall near Oxford. Henry de Mara attests a monastic charter at Wallingford, in 1253. Dugd. MON. i. 583. b. Robert and Geoffrey de la Mare, brothers, and William, are benefactors to Bruerne abbey, before 1200. Ibid. 835. a. Peter de La Mare, the same perhaps that is mentioned in the text, is witness to a Deed concerning the manors of Grendon and Sheneston, in the year 1343. Kennet, PAROCH. ANTIQUIT. p. 457. See also *ibid.* p. 240.

* REGISTR. BOKYNGHAM, Episc. Linc. f. 363, I.

† REGISTR. REPYNDON, Episc. Linc. f. 402.

‡ Ibid. fol. 421.

§ REGISTR. REPYNDON, *ut supr.*

|| *Ut modò infr.*

¶ This William Marmyon is witness, among others, to a grant of lands to Bicester Priory, Aug. 7, 1440. Kennet, PAROCH. ANTIQUIT. p. 628. The same is arbitrator in a suit between Edmund Rede, Esquire, of Borstall, and John Werefeld, at Wallingford, July 27, 1441. CARTUL. de BORSTALL, f. 4. The family lived at Stoke Marmyon near Bicester. See Dugd. WARW. p. 621. Robert Marmyon is a witness to the Empress Maud's



Margaret his wife, in the person of William Raffh, or Ralph, his *literate proxy* *.

A. D. Lodowik Noth, I suppose Toghill's successor, was instituted. He resigned †.

A. D. 1454. Richard Bagge, on the resignation of Noth, was instituted June 29, at the presentation of Robert Babyngton, Gentleman. He resigned ‡.

A. D. 1460. Robert Kaynell, on the resignation of Bagge, was instituted November 16, at the presentation of Robert Babyngton, Esquire. He resigned §.

A. D. 1463. Ralph Dalton, on the resignation of Kaynall, was instituted May 28, at the presentation of the same Robert Babyngton ||.

A. D. Walter Bate, undoubtedly his successor, was instituted. He resigned ¶. He died in 1478, and founded, by will, in 1479, in Lincoln college Oxford, of which he had been a member, an Obit for the health of his soul, endowing it with a house and garden contiguous to the college. Or, to speak in the words of Wood, "he gave a house and garden joining to the College; for which the Rector and Fellowes, by a certain writing, dated Nov. 3, 1479, obliged themselves and successors to celebrate the day of his Obit every year **."

A. D. 1466. Richard Wood, the last of the rectors, and rector also of Kiddington ††, on the resignation of Bate, was instituted June 8,

Maud's donation of lands at Covele, or Cowley, in this county, to the Knights Templars, before 1160. MSS. CARTUL. de SAUNDFORD, ut supr. fol. 14. a. He occurs again in the same page, and fol. 69. a.

* REGISTR. GRAY, Episc. Linc. f. 63.

† Ut modò infr.

‡ REGISTR. CHEDWORTH, Episc. Linc. f. 116.

§ Ibid. f. 123.

|| Ibid. f. 124.

¶ Ut modò infr.

** Wood's English MS HIST. UNIV. OXON. B. ii. fol. 266. Bibl. Bodl. He afterwards occurs, giving ornaments to the altar, fol. 273. He was Proctor of the University in 1447. Wood, FAST. OXON. p. 408, b. HIST. L. ii.

†† See supra, p. 17.

at the presentation of Richard Illingworth, Chief Baron of the Exchequer, John Dynham, Richard Quatermayne, William Babyngton esquire, Hugh Ffen, Thomas Babyngton, William Essex, and John Fitzherbert, feoffees of William Babyngton, son and heir of Robert Babyngton*.

There is nothing singular in the agriculture or productions of this parish. Its river, GLYM, a deep but narrow stream, winding through willowed meadows, abounds in trouts, pikes, and wild-fowl. As to natural curiosities, in the arable grounds towards Barton, lying on a bed of stone, has been found a species of the astroite, or starry stone, very beautiful, deeply intagliated or engraven like a seal, and striated from the prominent pentagonal edges above to a center in the bottom. Here is nothing that would either enrich or multiply the classes of the botanist. The original face of the hilly parts of this parish appears to have been wood and down, covered with turf. When it was inclosed, would be vain to enquire: but I shall observe in general, that inclosures may be traced backward to causes operating in very distant periods; to the rebellious barons in the twelfth century, who manumitted their vassals

* REGISTR. ut supr. CHEDWORTH, Episc. Lincoln. f. 127. This is the last presentation to Asterley that occurs in the Lincoln Registers, where it is thus variously written, viz. Esterlegh, Esterleg, Esterlee, Asterlie, Asterleye, Asterley, Asturley, Asterleigh, Asterlygh. This place must not be confounded with Astally near Burford, written Esthalle in DOMESDAY BOOK, and in Bishop Wellys's Register, Esthall, whose vicarage was antiently in the patronage of the Benedictine abbey of Iveri or Yuri in Normandy. "Monachi de Ibreio presentant ad Vicariam de ESTHALL, quæ consistit in omnibus obventionibus altaris, cum manso quod fuit Monachorum de Ibreio. Et in omnibus decimis garbarum de dominico quod ex illa parte aque in qua sita est ecclesia, viz. In campo orientali de tribus hidis et viij acris et dimidio, et xxiv acris quarum iv bubulci tenent de dicto dominico. Et in campo orientali percipiet decimas de ij hidis et xxvj acris de dominico, et de xxiv acris quas dicti bubulci tenuerunt, que quidem appretiate sunt ad duas marcas. Debet autem Vicarius sustinere omnia onera illius ecclesie debita et consueta, præter Hospitium Archidiaconi, quod dicti monachi procurabunt." ROT. vel. Registr. WELLYS, Episc. Linc. sub. ann. 11. A. D. 1220. It is Estelai, in a charter of 1109. Dugd. MON. i. 265. b. Near Astally, called ASTALL-BARROW, is the most considerable barrow on the AKEMAN, eminently situated, and undoubtedly the sepulchre of some distinguished personage.

and

and gave them free land, in order to conciliate their interest against the king; to the relaxation and diminution of the feudal tenure in the reign of Henry the Seventh; and, under Henry the Eighth, to a national spirit of lucrative improvement, and to the distribution of the monastic revenues among the laity, who were rapacious in turning their new accessions of property to the best advantage, and who continued to break up commons, and cultivate waste grounds, till the practice apparently tended to the depopulation and impoverishment of the peasantry, and was at length prohibited by the legislature. Let me add, that in respect to the country before us, the prodigious and disproportionable extent of waste ground engrossed by the enlargements of Whichwood-Forest under the reign of King John, of which I shall say more hereafter, must have driven the bordering parishes to a necessity of inclosing, both for tillage and pasture.

The history of the property of Kiddington, to which I now proceed, commences at a very early period. King Offa, the most powerful prince of the heptarchy, an encourager of arts and civilisation, and who softened the ruggedness of a barbarous people by religious establishments*, about the year 780, gave Kiddington, together with the neighbouring village of Hethrop, now the seat of Lord Shrewsbury, to the Episcopal Priory of Worcester; from which, within a few years, they were both taken away by the Danes, nor were they ever afterwards restored. These particulars are recorded by an authentic and well-informed annalist, Heming, the learned Sub-prior of that monastery, who compiled a chartulary of its possessions and privileges, at the command and under the instruction of Bishop Wulstan, about the year 1000 †. Oxfordshire,

* It is remarkable, that Offa's Coins, in fabrication and invention, far exceed those of his predecessors and successors in the Saxon lineage; nor are they the least inferior in elegance to the best coins of his contemporary foreign potentates, many of whom had better opportunities of copying Roman models.

† Hemingi CARTULAR. edit. T. Hearne, Oxon. 1723, p. 280. 8vo. "De OXANFORDSCIRE. In vicecomitatu Oxenfordensi due ville ditoni hujus monasterii adjacebant, que his nominibus vocantur, Heðrop et Kidigtun, quas rex gloriosissimus Offa regali munificentia donavit, &c." But the bishoprick of Worcester, by the gift of Berthulf a Mercian

with some of the adjacent counties was included in Offa's kingdom; and he is supposed to have kept his court at the fortress or castle of Witham near Oxford, which he had won from Kinewulf, King of the West Saxons*.

A note by Bishop Tanner informs me, that the monastery of Winchcombe in Gloucestershire, founded also by King Offa, had lands or tithes in this parish before the Conquest. That monastery had indeed the rectorial tithes and manor of the neighbouring parish of Endstone†,

a Mercian king, and one of Offa's successors, had an estate, or manor, containing fifteen hides, in the bordering parish of Spellesbury, which continued in possession of that See till the close of the fourteenth century. Heming. *ubi supra*, p. 313, 369, 480, 511. Nash's WORCESTERSHIRE. INTRODUCT. p. xxxiv. In King Etheldred's Charter of Donation and Confirmation to the Church of Worcester, A. D. 1005, this place is written *Speoleſ byrig*, or *Speoles byrig*. MSS. Cott. NERO, E. 1. fol. B. 107. Mus. Brit.

As to the alienation of Hethrop above-mentioned, a design was afterwards formed to restore it to the Church. Leland informs us, from an unprinted chronicle, that William Longespe, Earl of Salisbury, gave his manor of Hethrop, in 1222, for building a Carthusian monastery. But it being represented as an inconvenient situation, his widow Ela transferred the house to Henton in Wiltshire. Leland, COLLECTAN. tom. ii. f. 341. [Edit. 1770, vol. iii. p. 384.] Dugd. MON. ii. 341. a. Kennet says, that the Earl of Salisbury first founded this Carthusian convent at *Hethrop in Oxfordshire*. PAROCH. ANTIQUIT. p. 202. Tanner, reciting this foundation, places it at *Hethrop in Gloucestershire*. MON. p. 148. Ela's Charter has *ATHERCOP*. Dugd. MON. i. 960. If any village in Gloucestershire is intended, it is probably *Hatherop* near Lechelade. Compare Kennet, *ubi supra*, p. 199, 200; and Dugd. BAR. i. 177.

* See Hearne's LIB. NIG. SCACC. in *Append.* p. 567. Oxon. 1728, 8vo. This fortress probably stood on the site of the present ancient mansion-house of Lord Abingdon, built about the reign of Henry the Sixth. See Dugd. MON. i. 97. b. It is, however, called "Castellum super MONTEM de Witham." Registr. ABBAT. ABEND. fol. 5. b. cap. xi. MSS. COTTON. Claud. B. vi. Mus. Brit. But, after a frequent and deliberate inspection, I have not been able to discover any mounds or trenches on the summit of Witham-hill, although commodious in every respect for a Roman specula, to which the Saxons might have succeeded. It seems to have been connected with SECKWORTH, a desolated adjacent town, the *Soldiers Town* in Saxon.

† The manor of Endstone, being parcel of Winchcombe abbey, was granted by King Henry the Eighth to Sir Thomas Pope, June 3, 1542. PAT. Hen. VIII. an. regn. 32^o, part. 5. This was for a valuable consideration. In the statutes of Trinity college,

where a large barn, or granary, of stone, still remains, with this antient memorial carved in Gothic letters : " Ista Grangia facta et fundata fuit A. D. M.CCC.LXXXII. per Walterum de Wyniforton abbatem de Wynchecumbe ad exorationem Roberti Mason ballivi istius loci." That is, " This granary was founded and built in the year 1382, by Walter of Wyniforton abbat of Wynchecombe, at the petition of Robert Mason, bailiff of this place *." But whatever property at Kiddington belonged to Winchcombe Abbey before the Conquest, I suspect it did not long remain unalienated. In all the rentals and registers of the abbey which I have seen, there are not the least traces of any such endowment. It might be swallowed up in the Danish devastations : and the more ancient muniments of Winchcombe were destroyed by fire in the reign of King Stephen.

At the Conquest, Roger de Iveri, a Norman, an adventurer and sworn brother of Robert de Oily in the Norman expedition †, was rewarded by

college, Oxford, it is recited as one of Sir Thomas Pope's manors. CAP. vi. It was given to that monastery by the Mercian King, Kenulph, about A. D. 818. Dugd. MON. i. 190. a. †

* At Abbey-Milton in Dorsetshire, the South end of a much nobler granary, or barn, belonging to the adjoining abbey, yet remains undemolished, built of flint with some stone mouldings, with three narrow or lancet lights in stone. It seems to have resembled those of the neighbouring abbies of Cerne and Abbotsbury, which now remain entire.

† " Memorandum, quod Robertus de Oleio, et Rogerus de Iverio, fratres jurati, et per fidem et sacramentum confederati, venerunt ad conquestum Angliæ cum rege Willjelmo Bastard, &c." REGISTR. Abb. OSENEY. apud Æd. Christ. Oxon. f. 1. Beckley, in this county, was the capital seat of Roger's barony §. He founded the Benedictine abbey near the castle of Iveri in Normandy.

‡ The Church of Endstone was appropriated to Winchcombe Abbey in 1308. Pat. 2 Edw. II. p. 2. See Tann. NOR. MON. The Church of Saresden, also, in Oxfordshire, belonged to the same Monastery.

§ Reginald de St. Walery gave the Church of Beckley to the Preceptory of Sandford before 1274. The following Deed occurs in the Chartulary of Sandford, in the Bodleian Library, MS. Wood, Empt. 10 :

" R. de Sancto Walerico omnibus, &c. salutem. Sciatis me dedisse et concessisse in perpet. elemos. fratribus Templi Ecclesiam de Beckel pro anima mea et pro anima Bernardi filii mei, et pro animabus patris mei et matris meæ et omnium antecessorum meorum et omnium benefactorum meorum et pro omnibus illis qui mecu' Iherosolyma' contendere cupiunt. Et pervolo et precipio ut ipsi illam Ecclesiam habeant et teneant quiete et honorifice et libere. T. Hugo de Bello Camo, Regno de Surpo Campo."

the

the Conqueror with ample possessions in this part of Oxfordshire *. Many of these at his death were inherited by his wife Adeline, eldest daughter of Hugh de Grentmaisnil, another leader in the Norman expedition, and at length constituted Chief Justiciary of England, with Odo Bishop of Baieux and William Fitz-Osbern †. Among other fees of Roger de Iveri in this neighbourhood, who died about the year 1079, was a part of the village of KIDDINGTON. His estate here, as descended to his widow Adeline, is thus surveyed in DOMESDAY-BOOK, compiled about the year 1086.

“ OXENEF'SCIRE.

“ Terra Uxoris Rogeri de Iveri. Uxor Rogerii de Ivri tenet de Rege, &c. Idem ‡ tenet v hidas in CHIDINTONE §, et Maino de eo. Terra vj

* Lib. DOMESDAY.

† See Dugd. BAR. i. 428. 88.

‡ Should not this *Idem* be *Eadem*, and afterwards *Ea* for *Eo*? Unless we suppose Roger to be now alive; in which case *Idem* will refer to *Rogeri de Ivri*, and the estate will be his, not his widow's.

§ From this Norman pronunciation of Cudington, probably came that which now prevails, of *Kiddington*. So, in DOMESDAY, Cudlington (now Kidlington) in this county, the Norman inquisitors and their scribes pronounced and wrote *Chedelintone*. They softened all the old Saxon appellations, as (in this county) *Rovesham* for Rousham, *Misseberie* for Mixbury, *Blicestone* for Blechingdon, *Hansitone* for Hensington, *Esefelde* for Ellsfield, &c. Other places they totally misrepresented, with the carelessness or affectation of a modern Frenchman, as *Chenefelde* for Clanfield, *Chenetone* for Kencot, *Geresdune* for Garsington, &c. Hence it has happened, that we cannot always appeal with certainty to this ancient and venerable record, which would otherwise have possessed the highest authority, and would have afforded informations now never to be obtained.

It is, however, remarkable, that *Ecclesia* is often written *æcclesia*, with the Saxon *æ*. Hence, among other reasons, we are led to suspect, that the several rotuli were made out on the spot by Saxon scribes, and that afterwards the Norman scribes, in digesting DOMESDAY BOOK, from those rotuli, wrote the names of places, partly in contempt, according to their own articulation. An ancient transcript of some of these original rotuli, as it seems, is preserved in Exeter cathedral, affording other proofs of this.

I take this opportunity of observing, that as Kidlington was anciently written *Cudenton*, so Kidlington, just mentioned, was written *Cudelinton*. Among other proofs,

I find

carucarum, nunc in dominio ij carucatæ, et iiij servi, et vij villani, cum x bordariis habentibus ij carucatas et dimidium. Ibi molendinum * v solidorum, et xij acræ prati. Silva i leuca longitudine, et iij quarentinis latitudine. Valuit iij libras modo iiij libras. Godric libere tenuit has ij terras. Silva i leuca longitudine et dimidium leucæ latitudine. Valuit viij libras T. R. E. [tempore Regis Edwardi] cum receipt viij. Modo x libr. Godric et Aluuin libere tenuerunt." Lib. DOMESDAY, f. 160. 55.

That is, "OXFORDSHIRE. The land of the wife of Roger de Iveri. The wife of Roger de Iveri holds of the king, &c. The same holds five hides in CHIDINTONE. And Maino of him. The arable consists of six carucates: now in demesne are two carucates, four servi and seven villanes, with ten cottagers who have two ploughs and a half. There is a mill worth five shillings, and twelve acres of meadow. A wood twelve furlongs long, and three furlongs broad. It was worth three pounds, now four. Godric held these two lands [carucates] freely. A [*f.* another] wood twelve furlongs long, and six broad. It [the whole] was worth seven pounds in the time of King Edward, when he received eight. Now ten pounds. Godric and Alwin held it freely."

This lady died at her capital manse at Fencot near Bicester in the year 1111. She was a benefactress to many monasteries †. In her last sick-

I find the following in a very ancient grant to Oseney abbey. "Ad sustentacionem unius lampadis coram crucifixo in ecclesia de Cudelinton, pro animabus Henrici de Oyl et antecessorum et successorum meorum." REGISTR. Abb. OSENEY, MS. f. 77. The Register, reciting this grant, was compiled by abbot William de Sutton, about the year 1290 ‡.

* Perhaps the same that remained till within these few years. Mills are of high antiquity, and for an obvious reason. In Domesday Book, wherever a mill is specified, we generally find it still subsisting. Mills anciently belonged to lords of manors. The tenants were permitted to grind only at the lord's mill; nor could they erect a mill without a special indulgence of the lord.

† She gave a mill at Islip to the abbey of Bec in Normandy. Dugd. MON. ii. 954. a. The manor of Brocthorp to St. Peter's abbey at Gloucester. Ibid. iii. par. i. p. 8. a. To the monastery of St. Ebrulf, at Utica in Normandy, her manor of Charlton in Wiltshire. Ibid. ii. 966. b.

‡ This date in the first edition was 1260. Perhaps it should be 1269, William de Sutton being abbot from 1267 to 1284. T. LOVEDAY.

ness,

ness, she gave to the abbey of Abingdon one hide of land at Fencot*. Her corpse was conveyed into Normandy, and interred in the abbey of Saint Ebrulf at Utica, founded or restored by her father, near the bodies of her father and mother †.

Some lands at Kiddington were of the fee of Earl William, Fitzosborne, Earl of Hereford, as appears by the following entry in DOMESDAY.

“ In LEVECANOTE Hundr. ‡ He infra scripte terre sunt de feudo Willielmi comitis. Gislebertus de Breteuille tenet, &c. Rogerius de Laci tenet i hidam et ij virgatas terre et dimidium in CHIDINTONE. Et Radulfus tenet de eo. Terra ij carucatarum, et dimidium: nunc in dominio i carucata, et iij villani, cum iij bordariis habentibus i carucatam. De parte molendini, xx denarii et ij acræ prati. Silva v quarentinis longitudine, et una quarentina latitudine. Valuit xxx solidis. Modo xl solidis §.”

That is, “ In Levecanote Hundred. These underwritten lands are of the fee of Earl William. Gislebert de Breteville holds, &c. || Roger de Laci ¶ holds one hide and two yards of arable, and a half, in CHI-

* “ Nobilis quædam matrona, Adelina de Hiverio vocata, apud locum qui Faincote dicitur, ubi diu irremediabiliter ægrotavit, hidam unam pro suo remedio abbathiæ de Abbendun contulit, an. xi Henrici primi, &c.” MSS. Dodsworth. vol. 105. f. 2. Ex CARTUL. ABEND. The charter was executed, “ apud Wudestoc in quadragesima.”

† See Order. Vital. lib. v. p. 585. She died seised in dowry of the manors of Islip and Ottindon, or Oddington.

‡ That is, the Hundred of LEWKNOR. At the time of the Norman survey, there were more Hundreds than at present. Consequently those which now remain do not always contain the same places as at that time; nor do the Norman Hundreds always contain one hundred villages. This has introduced still greater confusion into Domesday Book.

§ Lib. DOMESDAY, f. 161. 59. I am obliged to the ingenious and communicative Mr. Astle, of the Paper-office, for these extracts from Domesday.

|| That is, Gilbert of Bretvil in Normandy.

¶ The son of Walter de Laci, a distinguished general in William the Conqueror's army. In Domesday Book, this Roger de Laci has very extensive grants from the Conqueror, particularly in Shropshire, Herefordshire, Worcestershire, and Gloucestershire. His descendants were Earls of Lincoln.

DINTONE. And Radulph holds of him. The arable is of two carucates and a half: now in demesne, one carucate, and three villanes, with three cottagers having one plough. Of the part of the mill twenty-pence, and two acres of meadow. A wood five quarentines in length, and one in breadth. It was worth thirty shillings. Now forty."

Soon after the Conquest, about the year 1130, and in the reign of King Henry the First, the Norman family of De Salcey, or Saucey *, seem to have become proprietors of the manors of Kiddington and Asterly, with other large estates in the neighbourhood. They presented to the churches of both places, as we have seen, as early as the years 1221 and 1232, and it is perhaps from the defect of the Lincoln registers, that we do not find much earlier presentations from that family to those benefices. I have before observed, that they probably built the old church of Kiddington: and I am of opinion, that they had a large capital mansion at Asterley, the marks of which yet remain. They were a family of high rank and distinction, though unnoticed in history; and were seised of very considerable lands and jurisdictions, not only in this county, but in the counties of Buckinghamshire, Nottinghamshire, Yorkshire, Derbyshire, Herefordshire, and Northamptonshire, particularly

* Salcey, or Saussay, is a place of note in Normandy. See a roll of the year 1419. "De terris in Balliagio de Caen et Constantin quæ fuerunt Guilliemi de Saussay concessis Willielmo Alcock." Membran. 67. Rot. Normanniæ, de anno R. Hen. V. 7º. A. D. 1417. In Turri Lond. Again, ROT. R. Johann. ann. 6º. A. D. 1295. *De valore terrarum Normannorum*, "Holedich terra Willielmi de Sauçay." Ibid. Le Seigneur de Sausey is among the Norman adventurers with Duke William in 1067, in Tailleur's *Chronicles of Normandy*, Hollingsh. iii. p. 3. Compare Leland, *COLLECTAN.* i. 201, edit. 1772.

When England and Normandy began to be separated, about the end of the twelfth century, the Kings of France seized the estates which the English held in Normandy, as did the Kings of England those which the Normans held in England. Thus the lands in England held by Normans became vested in the crown of England as escheats, under the title of *TERRÆ NORMANNORUM*. These the Kings of England occasionally granted to their English subjects. Many examples occur in the Pipe Rolls of King Richard the First, John, and Henry the Third. The intercommunity of lands between the English and Normans was never afterwards restored.

in the latter *. Ralph de Salcey, written de Salchei, is one of the witnesses to Sir Robert Gait's foundation charter of the abbey of Oddington, afterwards removed to Thame Park, now the seat of Lord Wenman, in this county, so early as the year 1138 †. The same Ralph de Salcey, or Salcei, paid at the Exchequer for two serjeanties in Oxfordshire, in 1165 ‡. In 1176, William de Salcey rendered his accompt at the Exchequer, paying twenty marks for the forest, perhaps of Whichwood §. The king had antiently a forester, or superintendent over his forests in every county, usually a person of high rank. In attestations to ancient charters, we sometimes find such a person writing himself FORESTARIUS. In this case, William de Salcey certainly was not the sheriff, as it may seem; nor, at the same time, does it absolutely appear that he was the royal forester for Oxfordshire. It is often difficult to distinguish or ascertain the nature or reason of payments at the Exchequer, occurring in the more early Pipe Rolls. In the reign of King John, this family appears to have taken part with the Barons against the King. In the tenth year of Richard the First, 1199, Richard de Salcey stipulated by the Sheriff of Northamptonshire to the King, in one hundred shillings, not to pass beyond the seas ||.

*-I am of opinion, that Salcey Forest in Northamptonshire took its name from this family.

† Dugd. MON. i. 802. a. This place was called Thame Park, *Parcus super Thamam*, as early as 1140. Ibid. b. The park belonged to the new founder, Alexander Bishop of Lincoln. It must be observed, that the Priory of Nuttley in Bucks was also called "De parco super Thamam," being situated on the river Thame, in the park of Crendon. See Dugd. MON. ii. 156. a.

‡ OXF. NOVA PLACITA. "Radulfus de Salcei reddit computum de ij servientibus in perdonis." ROT. PIP. Hen. II. 11°. A. D. 1165.

§ OXF. PRO FORESTA. Willielmus de Salcei reddit computum de xx marcis." ROT. PIP. Hen. II. 22°. A. D. 1276.

|| "EUERKESCYRE [Yorksh.] NOVA OBLATA. Petrus de Brus debet xv marcas et i palefridum, pro habenda serjeantia terre de Lef. . . . que est de feodo suo que fuit Willielmi de Saucey, qui est ultra mare contra Regem." ROT. PIP. Johann. 7°. A. D. 1206. They were favourers of Earl John. "NORTHAMT. De vij libris de catallis Roberti de Salceio venditis." ROT. PIP. Ric. I. 6°. A. D. 1195. Again, "NORTHAMT.

NOVA

About the year 1220, Sibill de Saucey married Richard de Willescote or Williamscode, who, dying before or in the year 1232, left Thomas

NOVA PROMISSA. Idem Vicecomes reddit computum de *cs.* Roberti de Saucei ne transfretet, et pro feodo i militis de hereditate, *iiij* de custodia. ROT. PIP. Ric. I. 10°. A. D. 1199.

I will here throw together some other notices of this family. "HEREF. NOVA PLACITA. Radulfus de Salceia reddit computum de *xl s.* de militibus." ROT. PIP. Hen. II. 7°. A. D. 1161.—"BUCKS et BEDF. De OBLATIS CURIE. Robertus de Salceio redd. comp. de *v.* marcis pro custodia habenda filii Roberti Mantell cum terra sua." ROT. PIP. Hen. II. 29°. A. D. 1183.—Henry the Second confirms to Plumton Monastery in Devonshire, "terram de Lulacumba," which Hugh de Salceto had given, by consent of William [Warewast] Bishop of Exeter. Dugd. MON. ii. p. 9.—"OXF. DE OBLATIS CURIE. Ricardus filius Meini reddit computum de *iiij* marcis, pro habenda loquela in Curia Regis versus Willielmum de Salceio de terra, Bokebroch [in com. Northampt.] Idem R. debet i marcam pro habenda eadem loquela in Curia Regis ad Scaccarium." ROT. PIP. Ric. I. 1°. A. D. 1189.—"Idem R. debet i marcam pro habendo duello suo in curia regis versus Will. de Salceio." IBID. paul. inf.—"NORTHAMT. et LEICEST. De OBLATIS CURIE in Legrecestershire. Robertus de la Salceie debet *ij* marcas pro habendo recto de feodo i militis versus Johannem de Criol et Joannam uxorem ejus." ROT. PIP. Ric. I. 5°. A. D. 1194.—"NORTHAMT. De NOVIS FINIBUS post adventum Regis ab Alemania. Robertus de Salceio redd. comp. de *lx* marcis pro habenda serjantia de terra que fuit Petri de Goldington cum hereditate." ROT. PIP. Ric. I. 6°. A. D. 1195.—Robert de Sauceie is sheriff of Northamptonshire, Johann. 7°. A. D. 1206. HIST. NORTHAMT. p. 4.—Robertus de Salseto holds of the Honour of Peverell in Nottinghamshire. Inquisit. De Servis tenent. De Rege in Capite, 12° et 13° Johann. A. D. 1212, 1213. Compare Thoroton's NOTTINGHAMSH. p. 41. col. 1.—Robertus de Salceto has one knight's fee in Plumpton, Ykelee, and Horepol, in Northamptonshire, three parts in Saverton, a fourth part in Nottinghamshire. Inquisit. de Honor. Reg. esch. Johann. 13°. A. D. 1213.—"De eodem Honore [Sc. Peverell, Nott.] in Plumpton quam Beatrix que fuit uxor Roberti de Salceio tenet de rege in dotem." Ex Feod. Nottingh. circ. ann. prædict. Johann.—"NORTHAMT. NOVA OBLATA. Robertus de Bosco debet i palefridum, pro habenda licentia quod Alienora filia Roberti de Salceto se possit maritare." ROT. PIP. Hen. III. 2°. A. D. 1218.—W. de Vernun is fined in *iv l. xs.* to have seisin of the lands late of Sir Hugh Salcey, who was hanged by judgment of the King's court, *suspensus per judicium Curie Regis.* ROT. PIP. Hen. III. 2°. A. D. 1218.—"NORTHAMT. NOVA OBLATA. Robertus filius Rogeri de Saliceto redd. comp. de *xx s.* pro relevio suo de essarto de La Hu, et de Landa, et de Bustardlegh." ROT. PIP. Hen. III. 6°. A. D. 1222.—Robertus de Salceto presents to the church of Harpole in Northamptonshire,

his son and heir*. From this match, Kiddington and Asterley became

shire, A. D. 1224. ROT. WELLYS, Episc. Linc. sub ann. xv.—Again, in 1225, Ibid. ann. xvi.—NOTTINGH. DERB. NOVA OBLATA. “Robertus de Saliceto x marcas pro relevio suo de feodo i militis qui fuit Roberti patris sui.” ROT. PIP. Hen. III. 7°. A. D. 1223.—“NORTHAMT. NOVA OBLATA. Robertus de Salceto redd. comp. de v marcis pro licencia habenda claudendi quendam parvum boscum suum *Bassa Haya*, ita quod fere [feræ] Regis libere in eo possint intrare et exire.” ROT. PIP. Hen. III. 15° A. D. 1231.—Robert de Salceto is constituted one of the itinerant justices for Rutlandshire, A. D. 1234. PAT. Hen. III. 18°. in dors. m. 3.—The prior of Lenton having presented to the church of Irecestre, there was an assize concerning his right, before David de Esseby, Robert de Salceto, Richard Gubyon, and John de Vlecote, A. D. 1263. ROT. WELLYS, ut supr. sub ann. xx.—“NORTHAMT. NOVA OBLATA. Petrus de Goldington de relevio suo de porcione terre ipsum contingente de terris Roberti de Salceto.” ROT. PIP. Hen. III. 20°. A. D. 1236.—“NORTHAMT. DERB. NOVA OBLATA. Vicecomes redd. comp. de xls. Roberti de Salceto de feodo ad *militandum*,” for knighting his eldest son. ROT. PIP. Hen. III. 38°. A. D. 1254.—“Robertus Lupus, Rogerus de Lynnes, Petrus de Goldington, Simon de Torp, Alanus de Runceby, et Galfridus de Mortuo-Mari, sunt heredes Roberti de Salceto.” Commun. Memorand. Scacc. S. Mich. ann. 32° Hen. III. [A. D. 1249.] Rot. 2^{do}, in tergo.—A sixth part of the manor of Plumpton in Pauler’s Perry, and moiety of its capital messuage, late belonged to Beatrix, wife of Robert de Salcey. Northampt. Fin. ann. 42° Hen. III. A. D. 1259. In a close adjoining to Plumpton-end, named the Hall-close, was the old mansion-house, and foundations are dug up there. Peter de Brus confirmed to the canons of Gisburne in Yorkshire, the church of Loftus, of the gift of William de Saucey. One of the witnesses is William de Eboraco, justiciary of the king, who occurs before and after the year 1240. Registr. GISBURNE, in Præfat. f. 155. b. Bibl. Cott.—LINCOLN. There is a plea, whether Amicia, wife of Simon de Salcey, mother of Hugh, was possessed of lands in Coleby. PLACIT. coram Reg. Hen. III. 56°. Octav. Hil. Rot. 13. A. D. 1272.—“NORTHAMT. DERB. SECUND. SCUTAG. Walliæ. NOVA OBLATA. Robertus de Salceto redd. comp. de xls. de i ff. [feodo]. ROT. PIP. Edw. I. 15°. A. D. 1287.—Robert de Salcey gives Bustardley, lands at Cotes, and at Horlpole, to St. James’s abbey near Northampton. Registr. S. JACOB. Abbat. Northt. f. 24. 104. MSS. COTTON. Tiber. E. v.—The same Robert, Robertus de Salceya, gave a rent of ten solidates at Stokes, to St. Mary’s convent of Cluniac Nuns at Northampton. CART. INSPEX. Edw. III. memb. 15. n. 47. ann. 2°. A. D. 1329.—Onoricus de Sauce is in the parliament at Nottingham, for the borough of Northampton, Edw. III. 10°. A. D. 1337. HIST. NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, p. 434. See also ibid. p. 516.—I find Dominus Emericus de Sacy, I know not if of this family, twice attesting charters to Tichfield Abbey in Hampshire, about 1220. Dugd. MON. ii. 662. 8. 664. 11.

* ROT. H. WELLYS, Episc. Lincoln. ann. xxiii. A. D. 1232. “Omnibus, &c. No-

the inheritance of the family of De Williamscote. In the year 1273, the said Thomas de Wylyamscote presented, as we have seen, to the church of Kiddington: and his son, Sir Richard of Williamscote, to that of Asterley in 1288. And afterwards, many presentations to both churches from this family have occurred. In the year 1291, the said Richard de Williamscote, or Wilnescote, was Sheriff of Oxfordshire and Berkshire*. The said Richard married Joan Foliot, daughter of Robert Foliot, lord of Bickmarsh in Warwickshire, before the year 1268 †. And, in 1276, he was presented for withdrawing his suit due to the Hundred Court of Bickmarsh ‡. Richard's son was Henry de Williamscote, who sold the manor of Bickmarsh to John de Bloxham in 1303 §. The said Henry, a knight, is one of the witnesses to a Deed, dated 1308, constituting Sir John de Handlo, of Borstall in Buckinghamshire, governor of Saint Briavel's castle in Gloucestershire, and keeper of the forest of Dene ||. Richard, his son, as I suppose, is one of the witnesses to a charter of lands given to Bicester Priory, dated Oct. 5, 1349 ¶. Thomas, his son, whose minority and marriage were in the custody of Sir Peter de Le Mare in 1373, seems to have been the last of the family of De Williamscote that had any connection with this place.

verit universitas vestra, quod Sibilla de Sauceia, quondam uxor Ricardi de Willescote, persolvit nobis xl marcas argenti, in quibus ipsa nobis tenebatur pro custodia Thome filii sui et heredis, ac terre que fuit predicti Ricardi de feodo nostro, secundum quod in cyrographo super hoc inter nos confecto plenius continetur. Dat. iij non. Marcii."

* Fuller, WORTHIES, p. 103. Ashmole says, 1287. BERKSH. i. cxiii. John de Williamscott is also sheriff of these counties in 1354. *ibid.* cxiv.

† Plac. de Jur. et Assis. apud Winton, ann. 52^o Hen. III. ROT. iv.

‡ Inquisit. per Hundred.

§ Fin. levat. Oct. Jo. Baptist. ann. 35^o Edw. I. John de Wilmecote is witness to an antient deed of Arbury-Priory in Warwickshire. Dugd. MON. ii. 265. a.

|| CARTUL. de Borstall. f. 44. See Dugd. BAR. tom. ii. 61. b.

¶ Kennet's PAROCH. ANTIQUIT. p. 472.

I am of opinion, that this family of De Williamscot took its name from WILLIAMSCOT, commonly called WILLESCOT, a hamlet in the parish of Cropredy near Banbury, where is still an ancient manor-house*. Walter Calcot, a native of Hooknorton, merchant of the staple of Calais, founded, in 1572, a school at Williamscott for forty boys, with a salary of thirteen pounds; and in the charter he orders six, among other scholars, to be chosen from Cropredy, and twelve from Williamscot. "Besides the lord's children of the manour house of Williamscott †." Not that I suppose any of the family of De Williamscot to have been at that time living at the aforesaid hamlet of Williamscot ‡.

* The manor of Williamscot was in Reuley abbey at Oxford, PLACIT. Oxon. ann. 13^o Edw. I. Quo warrant. ROT. 39. A. D. 1285.

In the Cotton MS. Claud. C. II. fol. 88. b. in a list of those persons who held 20*l.* of the king in capite 25 Edw. I. we find "Henricus de Wyllamescote."

† Compare MSS. Wood, Mus. ASHMOL. D. 7. 4to. f. 30.

‡ Of the name of WILLESCOTE, corrupted from Williamscote, there is a family, lately seated at Woolhampton, near Newbury in Berkshire. They write WOLLASCOTE. The last heiress, as I apprehend, intermarried with the Earl of Fingall, an Irish peer, within these last twenty years [1783], who is now living at that place. See Aubrey's SURREY, vol. v. p. 401. 402. Ashmole's BERKSH. vol. iii. p. 407.

The conjecture is plausible, but I am not of opinion that this family took its name from the neighbouring village of Wilcot, which is variously and corruptly written. In a charter to Cogges Priory, of 1103, it is written WILECOT. Dugd. MON. i. 574. a. Where is also mentioned "Pratum Willielmi de WILLECOTA." William Lord Lovell died seised of this manor of *Wevilcote*, called *Butler's Court*, co. Oxon. ESCH. 33^o Hen. VI. n. 28. and ESCH. 4^o Edw. IV. n. 27. Through the periods of which I have been speaking, the noble family of Boteler, in old Latin Deeds styled PINCERNA, lived at Wilcot, and their capital mansion-house there was called BOTELER'S COURT §. In Shropshire there is a place called Willescote, written WYNELESCOTE in an instrument printed by Dugdale, MON. ii. 47. a. b. Such a name occurs in other counties.

There was an old Oxfordshire family sometimes written Willicotes; but whether originally the same with this before us, I am at a loss to ascertain. In the year 1397,

§ In 1316, 8 Kal. Sept. Simon de Burcheston was presented to the Rectory of Wilcot by Rob. le Botiller, who also presented William de Wyvelcote, acolite, 7 id. Maij, 1333. Reg. BURGHESCH. LINC. In 1346, either the same or another Robert le Botiler presented William Elys of Wenrith. Reg. BEKE LINC. On the 15th July, 1403, Thomas Wykham, Esq. Lord of Wilcot, presented William Broughton, priest. Reg. BEAUFORT LINC.

William

How long the lords of Kiddington and Asterley continued to live at their ancient mansion at Asterley, and when they removed to their present situation near the church at Kiddington, I cannot precisely ascertain. In the reign of King Henry the Sixth, the family of Babington, a branch of the Babingtons of Chillwell in Nottinghamshire, acquiring these estates, appear to have been established in the capital seat at Kiddington*.

William Willicotes, Esquire, has licence to purchase the manor of Willicotes in Gloucestershire [f. Oxon.] of the abbey of S. Euold [Ebrulf] in Normandy. PAT. 3. et ult. ann. 20° Ric. II. In 1399, the same William was seized of the manor of Hedington, of Bullington Hundred, and North-gate Hundred at Oxford. DODSW. MSS. vol. 53. f. 152. and PAT. 3. et ult. ann. 22° Ric. II. and PAT. 11° Hen. IV. By which also he appears to have had the custody of the royal park of Cornbury. [ESCHEAT. Bundell. in turr. p. 117.] See also Carte's *Rolles* GASC. i. 337. 348. ii. 197. By inquisition after his death, in 1410, the said manor and hundreds appear to have been inherited by his son Thomas. DODSW. MSS. vol. 36. f. 81. The said Thomas is in possession of the same in 1415. MSS. ASHMOL. x. p. 350. I find Thomas Willicotes, Esquire, infeoffing his estate at Chalkford to Oriel College, and founding an obit in the church of Spellesbury, where he was buried, and another at the tomb of his father in the church of Great Tew, all places in this neighbourhood, in 1471. Hearne's *TROKELowe*, Append. p. 329—334. In painted glass, in the old mansion-house at Great Tew, were the names of John Wylcotes and Alicia his wife (father and mother of the said Thomas), with the date 1401. The said John lived there, and had the lordship. See *LIFE* of Sir Thomas Pope, edit. 2. p. 435. William Wilcote in 1391, the same in 1392, John in 1400, 1413, 1417, occur Sheriffs of Oxfordshire and Berkshire. Ashmole's *BERKSH.* i. cxv. cxvi. Mr. Price, of the Bodleian library, has a very ancient seal, in brass, one inch broad, inscribed, *Sigillu' Thome de Wylcote Armigeri* †, with his Arms, viz. an Eagle with wings, which had been long preserved at Wilcot-house. The same coat occurs in the neighbouring church of Northleigh, where is a beautiful chantry-chapel belonging to the family, containing an altar-tomb highly embellished. Both chapel and tomb appear to have been executed about the reign of Henry the Sixth ‡.

* The custody and revenues of Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire are committed to Hugh de Babington. ROT. PIP. MEMORAND. Hen. III. ann. 55°. A. D. 1271. Again,

† There was a Thomas Wylcote, a priest, who was presented 25 Feb. 1465, by the Abbot and Convent of Westminster to the Church of Islip. Reg. CHEDWORTH LINC. He died before 1479.

‡ Mr. Warton was right in his conjecture as to the date of the Chapel; but not in respect to the persons to whom it belonged. By a Patent granted Nov. 4, 17 Hen. VI. we find a licence allowed to Elizabeth Blaket for founding this Chantry. See Harl. MS. 6963, fol. 52.

Robert Babington, Esquire, who presented to the church of Asterley in 1454, 1460, and 1463, seems to have died at Lower Kiddington in 1464. He left the manors of Over Kiddington and Asterley, and of Hoke, otherwise Noke, in this county, to his son and heir William Babington, who married Eleanor the daughter of Sir Richard Illingworth, Chief Baron of the Exchequer*, and in the year 1466, granted and conveyed the premises to his uncle Thomas Babington †.

Many persons of note were of this family of Babington. In the year 1459, William Babington, Esquire, son of Sir William Babington, Knight, and Margery [Martell] his wife, of Chillwell in Nottinghamshire, perfected a Chantry, begun by the family of Martell, and consisting of three chaplains or priests; two of whom were appointed to officiate in the chapel of Saint Andrew in the church of Flatforth in the said county, and one in the chapel of the manor-house of Chillwell. They were ordered to pray for the souls of King Henry the Sixth, of his queen Margaret, of the founder William Babington, and of the Martells, &c. It was called BABINGTON'S CHANTRY, and amply endowed with the yearly rent of 25*l.* ‡. About the same time, the said William founded, at Rodyngton in Nottinghamshire, a College of one warden and four chaplains, which was valued at the yearly rent of thirty pounds, just before its dissolution §. Another of this family was William Babington, in 1423 constituted Chief Baron of the Court of Exchequer ||. Of the same was also Henry Babington, an ecclesiastic, often employed as an orator, or envoy, to foreign courts, by King Henry the Seventh ¶.

the castle of Cambridge, with the counties of Cambridge and Huntingdon, to the same. MICH. COMMUN. Edw. I. ann. 18°. ROT. i. a.

* See Dugd. CHRON. SER. p. 66. 70. Thoroton's NOTTINGHAMSH. p. 45.

† ROT. CLAUS. Edw. IV. in dors. membran. 27. apud DODSW. MSS. vol. 136. f. 124.

‡ Thoroton's NOTTINGHAMSHIRE, p. 66.

§ Registr. MS. prægrand. [com. NOTT.] in officin. PRIMITIAR. Sub. ann. 26° Hen. VIII.

|| See Dugd. CHRON. SER. p. 57. 58. 59.

¶ William Babington, Doctor of Laws, and President of the Benedictine Order in England, occurs abbat of Saint Edmundsbury in 1441, 1447, and 1453. Willis, MITR.

And the learned Gervaise Babington, an assistant to Mary Sydney Countess of Pembroke, in her translation of the Psalms, and successively Bishop of Llandaff, Exeter, and Worcester, in the reigns of Queen Elizabeth and King James the First*.

But to return to the branch of Babington seated at Kiddington †. We have seen that Robert Babington presented to the church of Asterley in 1454, 1460, and 1463; and that Richard Illingworth, Chief Baron of the Exchequer, William Babington, Esquire, and others, the feoffees of William Babington, son and heir of the said Robert Babington, presented

ABB. i. 88. Batteley, ANTIQUIT. S. EDM. BURG. Append. p. 161. Wood, HIST. UNIV. Oxon. ii. 407. a.

* He died in 1610. See Prince's WORTH. DEVON. p. 87. Prince thus describes the arms of Bishop Babington, "Argent, ten Torteaux, four, three, two, and one, Gules." Izacke represents them thus, "Argent, ten Torteaux, as before, a label of three points Azure." ANTIQUIT. CITY OF EXETER, Lond. 1681. Episcop. 38. We must remember that the Label was sometimes introduced as a *difference*. But in Newstede abbey in Nottinghamshire, in painted glass in a window of the lodgings of King Henry the Seventh, are or were the Arms of BABINGTON *militis*, exactly like those exhibited by Izacke. They are the same also in East Bridgeford church in Nottinghamshire, on an ancient alabaster tomb of John Babington, who died in 1409. See Thoroton, NOTTINGHAMSH. p. 153. Thoroton adds, that in the window above the alabaster tomb, are pictured these Arms, "Argent, ten Torteaux, with Argent a Lyon rampant Gules, bordered with Torteaux Or." Compare the second coat among those which I mentioned above to have been in the window of the semi-transept of Kiddington Church. But on the whole, I suspect that all the Arms in that transept, belonged to the ancient families of De Sauci and Williamscoote. It is, however, to be observed, that the first Coat is like that of CLARE. See Milles's CAT. HON. p. 368, &c. I believe it will appear from Thoroton, that BABINGTON intermarried with CLARE.

† Another branch was seated at Dethick in Derbyshire before 1432; of which was Antony Babington, Esquire, concerned with Mary Queen of Scots in 1586. "Finis inter Thomam Babington armigerum et Isabellam uxorem ejus querentes, et Thomam Chaworth militem et Willielmum Babington militem et Willielmum Ulgorthorp armigerum deforciantes, de manerio de Dethick et Lutchurch, cum uno prato et ij messuagiis et ij bovatis terre in Whittington, et de Advocatione Capelle Sancti Johannis Baptiste de Dethick, &c." FIN. ann. 10^o Hen. VI. co. Derb. and MSS. DODSW. vol. 136. f. 66. In the year 1512, Aug. 30, Thomas Babington of Dethick had licence to found a Chantry in the parish church of All Saints at Aston, in Coventry and Litchfield diocese.

PRIV.

to the same in 1466*. William Babington, Esquire, presented to the church of Kiddington in 1559, and perhaps at one or two of the preceding vacancies. Sir William Babington, Knight, perhaps the same person, or else his son, occurs living at Kiddington in the year 1573 †. He was sheriff of Oxfordshire in 1574 ‡, [and died at the Black Assize at Oxford in 1577 §]. In 1573, William Babington, I suppose the same, sold the manor of Broadway in Worcestershire, which he had acquired at the dissolution of Pershore Abbey, to Sneldon and others ||. From the year 1573, for more than forty years, many of the family appear to have been born, married, and buried, at this place ¶.

In the year 1613, or thereabout, the Babingtons sold their estate here, that is, the manors of Upper and Lower Kiddington, and the manor of Asterley, with the advowson of the church of Kiddington, to Sir Henry Browne, Knight, third son of Antony Browne, the first Lord

PRIV. SIG. anno 3^o Hen. VIII. In the church of Merton college at Oxford, on a grave-stone near the entrance into the choir, is this inscription, "Maria Babington generosa et piissima virgo, obiit 22 Maii, 1632;" with these arms, viz. Argent, ten Torteaux, a file of three Labels Gules. This Mary Babington was daughter of Babington, of Derby, as I learn from Antony Wood's parish register of the church, MS. pergamen. propria manu. fol. 59. Bibl. Bodl. I presume that Zachary Babington of Merton college, created D. C. L. in 1599, and who died in 1614, was her relation. See Wood, *ATHEN. OXON.* i. F. pp. 156. 118. 87. 89. [See a very ample account of the various branches of the Babington Family in Nichols's *LEICESTERSHIRE*, vol. III. p. 955.]

* See p. 24. *supr.*

† Parish-Register: which begins in that year.

‡ Ann. xxi. Eliz. Fuller's *WORTH*. p. 344; who blazons his arms, "Argent, ten Torteaux, four, three, two, one."

§ Peshall's *HIST. OF OXFORD*, p. 246.

|| Nash's *WORCESTERSH.* i. 144. The arms of Babington were in the chancel of Overbury church in the same county. *Ibid.* ii. 235.

¶ They had other property in this neighbourhood, particularly at Worton. An Inquisition was taken, A. D. 1460, at or near Bicester, by which it appears, that Sir William Babington, Knight, with other considerable persons, was enfeoffed by Humphrey Duke of Buckingham, killed in the battle of Northampton, of the manor of Stretton-Ardley, and appurtenances, in Oxfordshire. MSS. *DODSW.* xxxvii. f. 41. and *Bundell. ESCHEAT.* in Turri. Hen. VI. 38^o. P. 710.

Viscount

Viscount Montague*, by his second wife Magdalen, eldest daughter of

* This Sir Antony Browne, the first Viscount Montague, was one of the forty knights made at the Coronation of King Edward the Sixth in 1546. In 1554, he was appointed Master of the Horse to King Philip. Strype, MEM. ii. 23. iii. 119. The same year he was constituted Viscount Montague. He chose this title, because Lady Lucy, his grandmother, was one of the daughters and coheirs of John Nevil Marquis of Montague. Soon afterwards he was sent ambassador to the Pope, with Thirlby bishop of Ely, for reducing the nation to an union with the Church of Rome. He was a privy counsellor to Queen Mary. In 1555, he was installed Knight of the Garter. In 1556, he was lieutenant-general of the English army at the siege of Saint Quintin's in Picardy. Hollinsh. f. 1133. In 1561, he was thought by Queen Elizabeth the most acceptable of her nobility that could be sent to the King of Spain, concerning her majesty's invasion of Scotland. COMPL. HIST. ENGL. ii. 381. b. He was one of the peers that sat on the trial of Mary Queen of Scots. In Camden's ELIZABETHA, his loyalty, prudence, and integrity, are more than once recorded. See Dugd. BAR. ii. 219. b. 377. b. He died at Horsley in Surrey, Oct. 19, 1592, and was buried in the family-vault at Coudray in Sussex. Of this Sir Antony, the first Viscount Montague, and of his second wife Magdalen, are two ancient original pictures, at full length and large as life, richly habited, at Kiddington. His first wife was Jane, daughter of Robert Earl of Sussex.

His father, Sir Antony Browne, was high in favour with King Henry the Eighth, under whom he held numerous honourable offices; and he is often mentioned in the history of that monarch, for his many signal services both civil and military. He was one of the executors of Henry's will, and of the Council to Prince Edward. He was the builder of Coudray-house at Midhurst in Sussex, the most beautiful and genuine model now remaining †, of a magnificent mansion in the reign of Henry the Eighth, and which it will not be quite foreign to my purpose to describe. We enter a spacious and lofty quadrangle built of stone, through a stately Gothic tower with four light angular turrets. The roof of the gateway, or portico, is a fine piece of old fret-work.

There is a venerable old hall, but the sides have been improperly painted, and are charged with other ornaments too modern for its noble oak-raftered roof, and a high range of roomy Gothic windows. Opposite the screen is the arched portal of the buttery. Adjoining to the hall is a dining-room, original, the walls painted all over, as was anciently the mode, soon after the beginning of the reign of Edward the Sixth, chiefly with histories, out of all perspective, of the time of Henry the Eighth. The roof is flat, in compartments. A gallery, with window recesses, or oriels, occupies one whole side of the quadrangular court. A gallery on the opposite side, of equal dimensions, has

† It was burnt Sept. 24, 1793. See Mr. Gough's account of Cowdray House, in Vol. III. of VETUSTA MONUMENTA.
given

William Lord Dacres of Gillesland *. The said Sir Henry Browne married Anne, daughter of Sir William Catesby, Knight, of Ashby Legers in Northamptonshire, by whom he had no male issue. His second wife was Mary, daughter of Sir Philip Hungate, Baronet, of Saxton in Yorkshire, widow of Sir Marmaduke Grimston, Knight, of Holderness in the same county †. By this second lady ‡, the said Sir Henry Browne

given way to modern convenience, and is converted into bed-chambers. Here are innumerable curious pictures, chiefly portraits, by Holbein, Vandyke, Dobson, &c. Among others are two pieces by Julio Romano, ASSEMBLIES OF THE GODS, in a great style. In the apartments, the round tops of the windows have been injudiciously made flat. This hurts the character of the building on the outside. In the center of the court is a magnificent old fountain, with much imagery in brass, and a variety of devices for spouting water. On the top of the hall is an original Louver, lantern, or cupola, adorned with a profusion of vanes. The Chapel, running at right angles to the hall, terminates in the garden with three large Gothic windows. The same Sir Antony built also Byfleet-house in Surrey. He died May 6, 1548, and is buried under a sumptuous altar-tomb at Battel-abbey in Sussex.

The father of this last-mentioned Sir Antony Browne, was Sir Antony Browne, third son of Sir George Browne of Betchworth-castle in Surrey, high in favour with King Henry the Seventh, by whom he was made standard-bearer throughout England and elsewhere, in 1485. In the following year, being one of the Esquires for the King's body, he was appointed governor of Queenborough-castle in Kent. In the same year, June 16, being in the battle of Newark, when the Earl of Lincoln and Lambert Simnel were defeated, he was knighted for his gallant behaviour. In 1503 he was constable, and in 1505 lieutenant, of the castle of Calais. Rymer, FOED. xii. 204. xv. 117. He died in 1506. See Dugd. BAR. ii. 300. b. His will is dated at Calais, Sept. 25, 1505, in which he orders his body to be buried in the resurrection-church in Saint Nicholas's chapel. He bequeaths to every brotherhood in that church, 10s.: and to the prior of Christ-Church at Canterbury, a standing cup of silver gilt. Lady Lucy, above-mentioned, his second wife, is executrix.

Many of these particulars may be vouched from PAPERS and INFORMATIONS of the FAMILY.

* By Elizabeth, fifth daughter of George Earl of Shrewsbury. See Dugd. BAR. ii. 24. b.

† Thoresby's LEEDES, p. 247.

‡ Of whom, as I apprehend, there is a beautiful portrait at Kiddington, by Cornelius Jansen.

had a son, and his heir, Sir Peter Browne, Knight, a distinguished loyalist, who died at Oxford in the year 1645, of the wounds he received at the fatal battle of Naseby, in the service of King Charles the First *. Sir Peter left issue, by Margaret, daughter of Sir Henry Knollys, Knight, of Grove Place, in Hampshire †, two sons, Henry and Francis. Of these, Henry, the eldest, in consideration of the bravery and fidelity which the family had so lately exerted in support of the royal cause, was created a Baronet by Letters Patent of King Charles the Second, dated at Brussels, July 1, 1659 ‡. He married Frances, third daughter and coheiress of Sir Charles Somerset, of Troy in Monmouthshire (made a Knight of the Bath at the creation of Prince Henry in 1610), sixth son of Edward Earl of Worcester, ancestor to the present Duke of Beaufort §. His son and successor, Sir Charles Browne, Baronet ||, married Mary, eldest daughter of George Pitt, Esquire, of Stratfield-say in Hampshire, grandfather to the present Lord Rivers, who died in August, 1739 ¶. Sir Charles died in 1751. In his son George, who died in 1754, the Baronetage became extinct. He had married, in 1725, Lady Barbara Lee, one of the daughters of Edward-Henry the first Earl of Litchfield by Charlotte Fitzroy, daughter of King Charles the Second ** by Barbara Duchess of Cleveland. [After the death of Lady Barbara, he was a widower for several years, and then married Mrs. Holman, of Warkworth near Banbury, who had been a widow for three or four years, and was the daughter of Mr. Wells, a Hampshire gentleman. She lived not above seven years after her marriage to Sir George Browne, and died in childbed. After her death Sir George was

* The said Sir Henry died in 1638, and left by will, dated 1636, forty pounds, then a considerable sum, for a monument in Kiddington church. This bequest was not executed: perhaps on account of the rebellion which soon followed.

† See the Presentation to the church of Kiddington, under the year 1639.

‡ Penès FAMIL.

§ See Sandford, GENEAL. HIST. B. iv. ch. xvi. p. 339. Dugd. BAR. ii. 295. b.

|| Sir Henry had five children besides, Peter, Mary, Francis, Catharine, and Frances.

¶ From the FAMILY, ut supr.

** And sister of Henry Fitzroy, the first Duke of Grafton. Dugd. BAR. ii. 484. a. b.

a widower

a widower for some years, and then married Frances Sheldon, who was born 20 Feb. 1714, and was the widow of Henry Fermor, of Tusmore, co. Oxford, Esq. to whom she had married in August 1736. Her brother was the late William Sheldon, of Beoley, co. Worcester, and Weston, co. Warwick, Esq.] This estate then descended by inheritance to Sir George Browne's daughter and heiress, Barbara afterwards Lady Mostyn *, first married to Sir Edward Mostyn, Baronet, of Talacre, in Flintshire, and afterwards to Edward Gore, Esquire, of Barrow Court in Somersetshire †. [After her death in 1801, it came to Charles Browne Mostyn, Esq. her second son, the present possessor.]

The family of Browne have constantly resided on their estate here, from the beginning of the reign of King James the First ‡. The present mansion-house was for the most part built, or rebuilt, by Sir Henry Browne the first Baronet, in 1673, on the foundations of the old one, to which belonged a walled park. The situation is remarkably pleasing, on the summit of a gentle semicircular slope, with great advantages of wood, water, and crossing declivities. On altering the windows of an old-fashioned dining room on the West side of the house, about the year

* Compare Sandford's *GENEAL. HIST.* B. iv. ch. xiv. pag. 332 ; and Nash's *WORCESTERSHIRE*, i. 68. *BEOLY*.

† Of the family of GORE, there is an ample pedigree on vellum, beautifully ornamented, in the possession of Charles Mountague, Esquire, of Alderton in Wiltshire. Alderton was the ancient seat of GORE. In Aubrey's time, many old escutcheons of painted glass were remaining in the great hall of the manor-house, which he has drawn in his manuscript history of WILTSHIRE, now partly preserved in the library there, and partly in the Ashmolean Museum.

‡ Their arms, with crest and motto, are the same as those borne by Browne Viscount Montague, viz. Sable, three Lions passant in bend, between two double cotises Argent. Crest, on a wreath an Eagle displayed Vert. Motto, *SUIVEZ RAISON*. Of these arms there is an empalement, on the canopy of the magnificent tomb of Henry Somerset Earl of Worcester and his Countess Elizabeth, in the church of Chepstowe. The said countess being the daughter of the first Sir Antony Browne, and his wife Lady Lucy Nevile above-mentioned. It is remarkable that there is no inscription on this superb monument. The countess died in 1565: the earl, 1549. If this tomb be not merely a cenotaph, Dugdale is mistaken in saying that the earl was buried at Ragland. *BAR.* ii. 295. a. Compare Ashmole's *BERKSH.* vol. i. p. 12, 13, 14.

1750, some beautiful armorial shields in painted glass were removed; perhaps the same that were once in the church*. In this house are preserved many valuable and capital portraits of the family of Browne, and their honourable intermarriages, by Cornelius Jansen, and other eminent masters of the reigns of Mary, Elizabeth, James, and Charles the First.

With regard to smaller and detached parcels of land occupied in this parish, I have discovered that Lady Elizabeth Montacute, wife of Sir William de Montacute, afterwards married to Thomas Lord Furnivall, daughter of Peter Montfort of Beldesert castle in Warwickshire, possessed one virgate about the year 1330 †. This lady, who appears to have been devoted to acts of religion, in 1346 founded a chantry with two regular priests, in the Priory of Saint Frydeswyde at Oxford, now Christ Church, who were to celebrate near Saint Frydeswyde's shrine, in the chapel of the Holy Virgin. Lady Montacute's ancient tomb still subsists on the North side of the choir, below the shrine of Didane and Saffride, father and mother of Saint Frydeswyde ‡. She was a benefactress to building the cloisters of that monastery; and a shield of her arms, the same that appear on her tomb, are yet to be seen, Argent, three fusils in fess Gules, among the ramifications of the southern extremity, on the vaulting of the eastern pane to the West. It is probable, that this virgate at Kiddington was one of her purchases for a religious purpose: but it soon reverted into the general property of the place. She died in 1353, perhaps at Cassington near Oxford §; for, in the year 1318, her husband,

* I am just informed that they are now placed in the windows of the church of Cherrington in Warwickshire, by the late Rector the Rev. Dr. Warner, a great collector and preserver of painted glass.

† MSS. Tann.

‡ It was assigned to two secular priests, by the bishop of Lincoln, in 1380. PAT. 20 Ric. II. P. 3. m. 23. For its endowment she gave Stockwell meadow, that is, about one half of Christ Church meadow, parted from the northern half, or Frydeswyde's meadow, by what was called Sheerlake. PAT. 19^o Edw. III. See Registr. PRIORAT. S. FRYDESW. MS. f. 293, 294, 295.

§ See Dugd. BARON. i. 727. a.

Sir William de Montacute, son and heir of Simon de Montacute, ancestor of the Montacutes Earls of Salisbury, high in favour with Edward the Second, obtained licence of that monarch, to make a castle of his mansion-house at *Kersynton*, or Cassington, in Oxfordshire *. And the manor of Cassington was a part of the dowry of his said wife Lady Elizabeth Montacute †.

* PAT. 11 Edw. II. ann. 11°. P. 1. m. 24. Sir William Montacute had two acres of land in Cassington by the gift, I suppose an exchange, of Maud de Upton, abbess of Godstowe in 1318. Registr. Abbat. EYNHAM. MS. cap. 136. Cassington appears to have been granted to his father Simon by Edward the First, in the year 1290. CART. 18° Edw. I. n. 73. The arms of Montacute are, or lately were, in the western window of the church of Cassington. They were also in a window of the neighbouring church of Bladon.

† ESCH. 28° Edw. II. n. 39. The mansion-house of the Montacutes at Cassington, perhaps, stood where is now a large farm-house with a moat and other marks of an ancient manerial edifice. Here, however, originally lived the noble family of Clinton. Geoffrey of Clinton, chamberlain to Henry the Second (son of Geoffrey of Clinton, chamberlain and treasurer to Henry the First, founder of the monastery and castle of Kenilworth, and lord of Cassington), built the church of Cassington, on his own fee, at the request of Robert de Chesney bishop of Lincoln, and of the abbot of Eynsham, about the year 1155. It was consecrated by the bishop, and dedicated to Saint Peter. The abbey of Eynsham was to find a chaplain, or minister, with the advice and consent of Geoffrey the archdeacon. Cassington was before in the parish of Saint Mary at Eynsham, and the new church was given to Eynsham abbey. At the same time it was ordained, that as often as Geoffrey de Clinton resided at Cassington with his family, the chaplain of this church should receive half the oblations coming from his family, “contra capellanos ipsius Galfredi.” The said Geoffrey also endowed his new church with one yard-land at Cassington, and all the tithes of the village in corn and cattle. Registr. ABBAT. DE EYNHAM. MS. ut supr. cap. 19. Of this church, much of Geoffrey’s original building still remains; particularly a noble Norman arch on which the Tower stands; and the roof of the choir yet retains four intersecting Norman ribs. There appears also to have been a Norman transept. The body of the church, as well as the choir, is evidently genuine, being of rag-stone, with few or no windows. In the Register of Eynsham abbey is another particular relating to this church: “Galfridus de Clinton concessit ecclesie S. Petri de Chersington unam virgatam terre in eadem Chersington, quam Gulielmus de Clinton eidem ecclesie dedit pro restauratione TURRIS ipsius ecclesie, quam propter imminencia et suspecta sibi pericula dejecit, &c. Teste Agnete uxore ejus.” cap. 101. For *Gulielmus* I suspect we should read *Galfridus*, that is the father; against

I now come to what may be called the Military History of this place. Much contest was carried on in this county, and particularly in this neighbourhood, between the deserted Britons and the encroaching Saxons, between the petty Saxon kings, and the Saxons and Danes. I mean to give only a transient view of these transactions, just to prepare the reader for the particular object in view.

About the year 551, Cynric, King of the West Saxons, fought many battles with the midland Britons. In 556, both armies met near

against whom a false accusation of treason was brought before King Henry the First, keeping his Christmas at Woodstock in 1130. Dugd. WARW. p. 157. BAR. i. 528. Agnes, the witness here mentioned, and wife of the second Geoffrey, was daughter of Roger Earl of Warwick.

Nor in the history of the property of KIDDINGTON should it be omitted, that Lady Isabell de Shottesbroke, wife of John Barton, lord of Thornton in Buckinghamshire, afterwards re-married to Sir Robert Shottesbroke, was in treaty, about the year 1450, to purchase lands at Kiddington and Wotton, to be settled on Oseney abbey near Oxford, and Chetwoode Priory in Buckinghamshire. But I presume that this intention, on account of the civil commotions about the crown of England, never took effect. The said John Barton, who died in 1443, and the said Isabell, built a chapel with beautiful painted glass in Thornton church, where they are both buried under a most elegant Gothic altar-tomb, with their figures in alabaster. John founded a chantry in this chapel, for the souls of himself, his wife Isabell, and others; and among its charges, All Souls College was to find the Priest, at the yearly stipend of 108*s.* with 12*s.* for the king's tenths. See Willis's BUCKINGH. p. 296. 301. 302. 307. Isabell, who died in 1456, seems to have been possessed of estates in Bucks, settled on that college in reversion by the founder, and determinable by her death. But, in illustration of what has been said, I will give some notices of this lady from the early accompt rolls of All Souls college. ROT. Comp. Burss. Coll. Omn. Anim. A. D. 1451. "Sol. Domine de Shottesbroke, xviiijl. xiijs. ivd. — Et de ijd. ob. pro pare cirotecarum famule domine de Shottesbroke." ROT. Comp. A. D. 1456. "Et de ixl. vjs. viijd. sol. pro reddito resoluta domine Isabell de Shottisbrook pro anno xxxo.—Et de xviiijl. xiijs. ivd. sol. predicte de Shottesbroke, pro annuitate sibi concessa ad terminum vite hoc anno ultimo.—Et de iijs. ivd. datis in regardo famulo Thome More de Bokyngham annuntianti de morte domine Shottisbroke, xix die Novembris. Et de iijd. datis iv Sociis et eorum famulis in ostreis ad eorum prandium limitatis per collegium ad equitandum et capiendam seisinam manerium de Crendon, Foxcote, et Moreton, nuper in tenura domine Shottsbroke, eodem die.—Et de vis. viijd. sol. et traditis Reginaldo

Thomas

BERANBYRIG *, or Banbury, in this county ; where the Britons, having disposed their soldiers with great skill according to the Roman method, appear to have been victorious †. In another engagement near Bampton in 614, the Saxon princes Cynegil and Cwhichelm slew more than two thousand Britons ‡. Ensham, four miles North-west of Oxford, was a Saxon frontier-garrison, often infested by the Britons §. On which occasion the barrow at Stanton Harcourt, and the stones called the **DEVIL'S COITS**, were perhaps erected. In 752, the Saxon heptarchists, Cuthred and Ethelbald, fought a desperate battle at **BEORGFORD**, or Burford ||. About the year 778, King Offa, as I have hinted, recovered Oxfordshire from the West Saxon kings ¶. Soon afterwards **AVESDICH**, or Offa's Ditch, a partition between the Mercian and West Saxon kingdoms, was drawn through this country, and may still be traced at Ardley, Middleton Stoney, Northbrook, Heyford, and Kirtleton. In 914, the Danes, assembling at Northampton and Leicester, made violent incursions into the North-east parts of Oxfordshire, and had many bloody

Kennett, *1sted. p.**ibid. p. 25.*Kennett, *1sted. p. 2*

Thomas in parte solutionis communarum suarum dum modo est apud Thornton celebrando ibidem pro animabus Joannis Barton et Isabelle uxoris sue xxvij^o. Novembr." ROT. Comp. A. D. 1458. " Et de vjl. solut. domino Joanni N. celebranti apud Thornton pro animabus Joannis Barton et Elizabethæ [legend. Isabelle] uxoris ejus hoc anno." Her Obit-day was kept in the college-chapel, viz. ROT. Comp. A. D. 1457. " **EXPENS. CAPELLE.** Pro iv cereis ponderantibus i libram et factura, in obitu Isabelle de Shottysbrooke, vjd. ob. &c." Again, ROT. Comp. A. D. 1458. " Et de iijs. vd. solut. [in obitu] Isabelle Barton [leg. Shottesbrook] pro vino ad Capellam, partim ante festum Omnium Sanctorum et partim post, per dipticam [an obit tablet]." Richard Foulter, chancellor of the duchy of Lancaster, by will dated 1477, orders masses at Buckingham for the soul of this lady. See Willis's **BUCKINGHAM**, p. 57. 58. And p. 54. 55. 56.

* Some antiquaries think this place to be Barbury in Wiltshire, near White Horse Hill, where are large old entrenchments. But Knighton, Camden, Gibson, and Kennet, understand Banbury in Oxfordshire: and, my context seems to favour, if not to ascertain, the latter supposition.

† Henr. Hunting. p. 314. edit. Savil. **CHRON. SAXON.** p. 20. 11. edit. Gibs. 1692. 4to.

‡ **CHRON. SAXON.** p. 25. 25. R. Higden. **POLYCRON.** sub anno 611.

§ See **CHRON. SAXON.** p. 22. 9.

|| Kennet's **PAROCH. ANTIQVIT.** p. 32.

¶ *Ibid.* p. 33.

conflicts

copied from
Plot. 2nd ed. p. 342.

ibid. p. 342

ibid. p. 342.

Kennett, p. 42

ibid. p. 46.

conflicts with the Anglo-Saxons, at and about HOCNERATUNE, or Hooknorton*. During these affrays, Kiddington and Hethrop, as I have related, were ravished from the church of Worcester. About the same time were formed two strong military works, still remaining in good preservation: TADMARTON CASTLE, a round fortification of the Danes, on a hill, with a double trench; and HOOKNORTON BARROW, a smaller and quinquangular circumvallation of the Saxons. In the woods of Merton, near Ottmoor, are obsolete and anomalous entrenchments, the probable marks of an obstinate battle between King Ethelred and his brother Alfred, combating the Danes, or Pagans as they were usually styled by the Monkish annalists, in 871 †. At Tame, a burg or fort of some note, the Danes had gained a powerful establishment under their King Earl Toglör and Earl Mannan his son, in 921, till they were dispossessed by the approaches of King Edward the Elder ‡. But they soon regained their strength; and not long before the Conquest, about the year 1010, having effected a march of ambuscade along the Chiltern woods, attacked Oxford (in which some faint remains of Alfred's literary institutions were kept alive, but which derived more celebrity from its fane of Saint Frydeswyde) with fire and sword, and reduced all the town to a state of ruin and desolation. Connected with which event, are the indistinct and perishing fragments of a few barrows dispersed about Shotover-hill. Oxford, however, must have been a place of no great defence; for being little known to the Romans, it had retained no fortifications which might afterwards have been occupied by the Saxons. The terrors impressed by the Danes undoubtedly transferred to that people, in the traditions of posterity, many a camp and castle erected by the Romans or Saxons. But there is better reason than common report to believe that the barrow or encampment at Chastleton is Danish. Perhaps it was thrown into its present form on a Roman site,

* CHRON. SAXON. p. 104. 26.

† Flor. Vig. sub ann. He writes the place MERETUNE. It is written MERETON, in the Register of Eynsham abbey. Some suppose MERDON in Wiltshire.

‡ CHRON. SAXON. sub ann. 921.

as the name implies, in or about the year 1016, when King Canute was defeated in the South-western parts of the county by Edmund Ironside. This action happened at a place by Bromton called SEORSTAN*, by Matthew of Westminster SCERNESTON †, and SCERUSDAN, and by Florence of Worcester and Simeon of Durham ‡, SCEARSTAN; lastly, by Olaus Wormius, SEJERSTAN, who having corrupted the name, either wilfully or by an ignorance excusable in a foreigner, derives it from *sejer*, victory, and *stan*, stone §. From all these appellations, it is possible for an inventive etymologist to make out SCYRSTAN, that is the FOURSHIRE-STONE, a stone in this neighbourhood marking the point where four counties meet. But without indulging ingenious conjectures, I think we may fairly interpret the place to be the present village of SARESDEN, anciently written CERCEDEN ||, and from thence frequently SCERCEDEN and SERESDEN. The historians here cited say the place was in Huiccia or Worcestershire; but such a mistake was easy, as Worcestershire is one of the four counties meeting at the Fourshire-stone above mentioned. Between Chadlington and SARESDEN is also an unmentioned camp, either Saxon or Danish, for both are concerned in this question; and their castrametation, even under the most practicable and commodious circumstances of ground, is sometimes ambiguous. The vallum is steep and perfect, composed of heaps of the rubble-stone of the country,

to see from
Plot. Ind. ed. 16

ibid.

Knol. Garry; 2
bury, p. 41.

* CHRON. f. 904. b.

† FLOR. HIST. sub. ann. 1016.

‡ Sub ann. eod.

§ MON. DAN. lib. v. p. 343.

|| What is the meaning of the initial syllable *Cerce*, I will not stay to inquire; but shall only observe, that Churchill was anciently written CERCEHULL, and Seawell (near Dunthorp) CERCEWELL, SCERCEWELLE, and SERCEWELLE, both places in the neighbourhood. Sir Roger Golafre, Knight, "Dominus de CERCEDENE," in the reign of King John, with some of his descendants, was buried in the Chapter-house of Bruerne-abbey. Leland's ITIN. iv. P. i. fol. 2. See also Kennet, PAROCH. ANT. p. 505. And Dugd. MON. iii. 57. col. i. 20. Robert de CERCEDENE is a witness to an early undated deed to Wroxton abbey, at Trinity college, Oxford. Free warren is granted to Bruerne-abbey at CERCEDEN, &c. in 1366. Tann. NOTIT. MON. p. 425. col. 2.



cemented and coated with earth: the surface turf. And **LYNEHAM-BARROW**, on the hill above Saresden, exhibits every character of a sepulchre of one of Canute's generals. Other rude works of the same people, unseen or unnoticed by our antiquaries, might be pointed out in this neighbourhood*.

2nd ed. p. 328.

Plot confounds one of the ancient military boundaries, passing through **Kiddington** and its environs, and giving the name to **Ditchley**, with a Roman road. Speaking of two ways branching from the **Akeman-street** †,

* I have seen some Roman coins lately found in **TADMARTON CAMP**. This is only a proof of a Roman site adopted by the Danes. The coins were in the hands of my late learned and ingenious friend Mr. Harrison, rector of **Tadmarton** and of **Broughton**. On the reverse of one of them was a **FORTUNA** with some singularities.

† From what was once the Roman town of **Allchester**, or **Ealdchester**, now a low swampy meadow, where I saw fragments of Roman pottery, pavements, and foundations, dug up about sixteen years ago, near **Bicester**, the **Akeman-street** passes through **Kirtlington**; but it is not very visible till about the middle of the Northern part of **Blenheim-park**, and near the Lodge of Mr. **Smalebones**, one of the **Rangers**. Hence it proceeds through or near **Stunsfield-gate**; and, having left the park, and preserving a straight line, appears in almost its original state of height and breadth, for half a mile. It is here more than thirty feet broad, and of considerable elevation from the level of the fields. As it falls down to the river **Evenlode**, through the quarry-pits of **Stunsfield**, it disappears. On the other side of the water we hardly trace it through **Wilcot** and **Ramsden**: but it soon resumes its substance and solidity over **Witty-green**. Entering **Whichwood-forest** from **Witty-green**, it breaks off abruptly, and is discontinued in some degree through the whole length of the forest. Roman roads are in general most apparent through waste and uncultivated grounds. But through **Whichwood-forest** this road seems to have been artificially destroyed by parts, so as on the whole to be rendered useless or unfrequented. This, I apprehend, was done by **King John**, to cut off and prevent a public passage through the forest, which he had newly enlarged and inclosed with a fence. I have somewhere seen, that it was one of the accusations of the **Barons** against the tyrannical usurpations of **John**, that he had increased the limits of **Whichwood-forest** to an enormous extent: and that by this exclusive monopoly of a vast tract of country, he had obstructed the liberties and privileges of the people, to a most unwarrantable and intolerable degree. The ruins of **King John's palace***,

* These vestiges of the palace remain, the queen's garden, park-pool, the slaughter-house, the park-closes with stone walls ten feet high, a barn, and a farm-house with Gothic arches and windows, &c. The prospect is extensive and beautiful. The royal family often removed hither from **Woodstock**. In the register of the parish of **Shipton-under-Whichwood**, is an entry, I think in 1604, of a person being drowned in the **Evenlode**, "the court then being

which goes from Fenny Stratford westward through Allchester, to Bath,

which was inhabited by the royal family till the beginning of the reign of Charles the First, are still to be seen in the edge of the forest, at a place called Langley. I must, however remark, that through the almost impassable woods of Minster Lovell, before we come to Astally, for near a mile, the Akeman-street, where it is seldom seen, and where it has been disused for many centuries, presents a most respectable ridge, and almost an unbroken surface. At Astally, on the other side of the forest, its indelible crest is again perceived: and from thence, I have observed its tendency to Bath, near Broadwell-grove, and the North-west borders of College-House Farm belonging to Trinity college Oxford, to Sheep-bridge, Williamstrop, Colne, and Cirencester. At the last of which places, ample and rich remains of Roman art have lately been discovered. But it must be remarked, that the remainder, from Cirencester to Bath, by Tetbury, may be the FOSSE-WAY, which enters Cirencester from Camden, Stowe, and Northleach. Antoninus's thirteenth Journey also passes from Gloucester, through Cirencester, to Speenham-land in Berkshire.

For the purpose of opening a road to Ditchley and Stunsfield, the Akeman-street has been lately traversly and longitudinally cut through at a place called *Stockie-gap* in Northleigh parish, whence its substance appears to be an aggestion of the rubble-stone with which the country abounds. A similar incision, affording the same discovery, has also been made through this stratum, by the Duke of Marlborough, near Stunsfield-gate within Blenheim-park.

Some think that AKEMAN-STREET, is SICK-MAN'S WAY, the appellation which the Saxons gave to this road of their immediate predecessors the Romans, because it led to the salubrious waters of Bath, and which they therefore called AKEMANCESTER. We have the following passage in the SAXON CHRONICLE, written soon after the Conquest. [sub A.D. 973.] "Hep Eadgar wæs. Engla wælend. corðre micelre. to cýnge gehalfoð. on þære ealban býrig Acemannes-ceastre. ac hie wuend. oðre worde beornar Baðon nemnað." That is, "This year Eadgar was consecrated King of England, in the antient city of Acemannescester, which the inhabitants call Badon." Edit. Gibs. p. 121. col. 1. 30. In the Cotton manuscript it is called "Acemannes-beu." Where, beu (beri) is *place*, or *town*. MSS. COTT. Simeon Dunelmensis, almost the Saxon Chronicler's contemporary, says, that Edgar was consecrated "in civitate ACAMANNI." HIST. de GEST. REG. ANGL. apud DECEM SCRIPTOR. p. 159. col. 1. 29. Bromton, who wrote about the year 1330, "Rex iste Edgarus,

being at Langley." In 1512, the king grants to John Whitwell a *valettus* of the Crown, "officium gardini Regis, de Langley, et supervisoris Gardini de Woodstock." PRIV. SIGILL. anno 3 Hen. VIII. with a fee of ten marks.

Pat. 33 Edw. I. p. 2. Rex dedit Thomæ de Netherton capellano Capellam suam Sanctæ Crucis in Foresta de Whichewode, 1 Oct. 1305. Harl. MS. 6958, fol. 159.

It was in this Forest that Edward the Fourth, while hunting, chanced to fix his eyes on Elizabeth, the widow of Sir John Grey, and was so captivated with her beauty, that he broke off an intended match with the daughter of the Duke of Savoy, and made her his Queen. See Dugd. Bar. i. 305.

Part, added fo. 328

he says, " Beside these, there are yet two other branches coming out of

in urbe ACHAMANNI, id est *Badonis* sive *Bathonia*, inungitur rex." CHRON. *ibid.* p. 869. col. 1. 10. And Gervasius, a writer of the year 1200, "In civitate ACAMANNI, quæ nunc dicitur *Bathonia*." ACT. PONTIFIC. CANTUAR. *ibid.* p. 1647. col. 1. 6. And, to omit other Monkish historians, Matthew of Westminster, who wrote about 1370, records, that Edgar "apud AKEMANECESTRE, quæ Latine *Bathonia* dicitur, coronam portavit, &c." FLOR. HISTOR. edit. fol. Lond. 1570. p. 374. 30. It is a mistake in Gibson's Interpolations to Camden, that Florence of Worcester mentions, "Acamanni civitas." See *Camd. BRIT.* i. 187. edit. 1772. I must not forget, that Harrison, in his DESCRIPTION OF ENGLAND, prefixed to Holinshed, 1574, calls Bath, *Scamannia*, or ACMANCESTER. Where, for *Scamannia*, read ACAMANNIA. Hollinsh. CRON. i. ii. p. 215. col. 2. 9.

In a perambulation of Bernwood-forest, in Oxfordshire, through which this Roman road passed, dated 1294, it is expressly written *Akeman-strete*. Kennet, PAROCH. ANTIQUIT. p. 324. Again, in another, dated 1315. CHARTUL. de Borstall. MS. f. 113.

Undoubtedly this road is connected with AKEMANCESTER, or Bath. Stukeley, excluding this connection, derives it from "*Ag* and *maen*, the stony agger." ITIN. p. 40. If so, what will become of the etymology of AKEMANCESTER? For the *castrum*, or town, on the *stony road*, conveys no determinate idea. To say nothing of the mixture of British and Roman, I am rather inclined to suppose, that we are to look for the leading syllable of AKEMAN, not in AGGER, which was never the proper or familiar Latin name of a Road, but in AQUÆSOLIS, Antoninus's Roman name for Bath. *Ag* is British for *Water*. In old French *Age*. As to the second syllable, *Man* is British for *good, abundant, wholesome, &c.* The meaning is therefore, *The Way leading to the Salutory Waters*, from which the city in question was also denominated. *Maen*, British for *stone* or *stony*, is plausible, if it could be reconciled with its other member. I grant that AKEMANSTREET is an appellation given to a Roman road in the neighbourhood, taking a different direction. But it is very possible that in later times, a name should be transferred to a neighbouring Roman road, from another of greater notoriety.

I suspect there was a diverticle of the Akeman shooting from Whichwood towards Idbury, through Fyfield; for King John, in 1205, confirms to Bruerne-abbey, among other things, 150 acres in the territory of *Fifhide* "in walda juxta *Le STRET*, et totum *Le STRET* &c." Dugd. MON. i. 835. col. 2. This, which I think could not be any part of the Akeman itself, is entirely unnoticed by our searchers for Roman roads in Oxfordshire. There is a *castrum*, or fortification, at Idbury, where parcels of Roman money have been found, of the emperors, exclusively between Cocceius Nerva and the second Theodosius.

Probably the Akeman is the same that is styled CHEMINIUM PETRINUM, and specified as a land-mark or limit, in the antient Register of Eynsham abbey, in an *Inspeximus* of Edw. I. to that convent, fol. iv. b. And among the PLACITA FORESTÆ, Oxfordshire,

in

*Spina from Hist. 2^d
p. 341.*

Akeman-street; one in Woodstock Park near Colonel Cooke's Lodge*,

in the fifty-sixth year of Henry the Third, A. D. 1262, I find a grant to Eynsham-abbey, "pro assartis terræ inter Bladen et CHIMINIUM PETRINUM." PLACIT. FOREST. Oxon. an. 56^o Hen. III. Rot. 3. It is not my present intention, precisely to examine how far Which-wood Forest extended to the South-east. But if Bladen near Woodstock be here intended †, I venture to conclude, that the double-trenched circumvallation, undoubtedly Roman, and unnoticed by Camden and Gibson, situated on a commanding eminence in Bladen-heath, and called ROUND-CASTLE, was an exploratory post to the AKEMAN-STREET. Although this idea destroys an otherwise improbable hypothesis of Hearne, that this camp on Bladen-heath belonged to a branch of some military Roman way, proceeding from Water-Eaton, where once a tessellated pavement existed, to Bladen. Heming. CARTULAR. Præfat. § x. p. lxxiv. Not the smallest marks, to say no more, of such a branch now remain.

In this note we have CHEMINIUM PETRINUM, for the AKEMAN-STREET. Anciently, CHEMINIUM was often specially used for a Roman road. In the Laws of Edward the Confessor, there is one "De Pace quatuor CHEMINORUM," that is, the four grand Roman ways. Cap. xii. In a Papal Bull of Confirmation to Waverley-abbey in Surrey, dated 1147, lands are recited "juxta CHIMINIUM Wintoniæ." Dugd. MON. ii. 913. a. This is the Roman road from Winchester to Farnham. In an original Register of Evidences of the Augustin Priory of Mottisfont in Hampshire, in the possession of Sir Charles Mill, Bart. there is an instrument with these words: "Carta Henrici de Mara de viij^{to} denar. in Burghton [Broughton]. — Quarum trium acrarum due se extendunt super CHEMINUM." No date, but before 1200. fol. 1. a. Here CHEMINUM is the noble Roman road proceeding in a direct line from the West gate of the city of Winchester to the East gate of the castrum of Old Sarum: of which many very considerable lengths and breadths are yet apparent in almost original preservation, flanked with a suite of small encampments at proper distances, with a trajectus of flint over a marsh and river, still used. Yet in a deed of Richard Fizcluck, in the same Register, dated 1307, (Edw. I. 35^o.) this road is called the VIA REGIA at or near Broughton. Broughton, here written BURGHTON, is the Brige, or Brage, of Antoninus. IT. xii. xv. In a charter of the said Priory, printed by Dugdale, about 1200, one of the witnesses is Willielmus Decanus de *Berkton*, i. e. Broughton. MON. ANGL. ii. 323. col. 1. It may, however, be doubted, whether Brige did not stand on the hill, nearer the stratum than the present Broughton.

* Now the house of Mr. Richard Smalebones, Ranger of the Park.

† Antiently written Bladene. In a Charter of Hen. III. A. D. 1229, to Oseney Abbey, is "Pons de Bladene." Archiv. ÆD. CHR. Oxon. And in King Ethelred's foundation-charter for Eynsham-abbey, we have "anlang Blabene into Temeje."—"Along Bladene into Thames." A. D. 1005, REGISTR. f. 7, a. sequ. ibid. In Domesday, i. 156, col. 1, it is written *Blade*.

whence

whence it runs towards the trees called *Oak* and *Ash* not far from Glympton, where it is discontinued; and where to be met with again, I could no where find: so that all I can say of it is, that towards the end it points North-west towards Enstone and Chipping Norton, and seems to have cut another such like way near UPPER KIDDINGTON, which has its period there, as far as I could learn, but runs as far as Ditchley the other way, where the ridge turns to a ditch by the name of GRIMESDIKE, &c." He then conjectures, that the ROAD *by Ditchley* may tend "either towards Vennonis and Ratae," that is, Cleybrook and Leicester*.

This account, exclusive of the radical mistake on which it proceeds, is embarrassed, inconsistent, and almost unintelligible. Stukeley, an enterprising antiquarian, whose conjectures sometimes deviate into truth, observes, that in travelling from Stunsfield to Chipping Norton, "we crossed a foss called GRIMESDITCH, the vallum Eastward; it goes by Ditchley wood and house, which takes its name from it. Dr. Plot does not sufficiently distinguish this from a Roman road. It was doubtless some division of the ancient Britons †." Stukeley believed this foss to be British, merely from his attachment to system. Had it been Saxon, his predilections would have given it to the Britons.

I have lately examined this road, or boundary, in company with Mr. Price of the Bodleian library. We were inclined to determine it to be a boundary, and not a road, and to be either British or Saxon. It is perhaps too rude even to be a Saxon work. The foss is westerly. It might have therefore been formed by the interior Britons of Arden, to counteract the advances of the Romans. I rather think it to be British against British. Amidst the complication of barbarous wars, and among the various allotments of territory which have happened in this county, during the unsettled and uncivilised state of England, it is, indeed, difficult to determine by whom or when it was made. But that it was a boundary, and not a road, certainly not a Roman road, the irregularity of its course, and its conformation, are sufficient evidences. As to the

* OXFORDSH. ch. x. § 37, 38. p. 321.

† ITIN. CURIOS. ii. p. 45. edit. i.

appellation GRIMESDIKE, or the ditch made by magic, it is common to other works of the same sort, and indiscriminately applied to ancient trenches, roads, and boundaries, whether British, Roman, Saxon, or Danish. Parts of the Roman road from Silchester to Winchester are known to the common people by the names of LONG BANK and GRIMESDIKE. The vallum or ridged bank, seemingly a vicinal way, if not a rampart, crossing the Ikenild-street within two miles of Ewelme and near Nuffield, is called GRIMESDITCH. In a charter made in or before the reign of King Richard the First, William of Huntercombe grants to the Knights Templars of Saundford and Cowley in this county, lands near this ridge, "Quatuor acras terre mee in territorio de Newnham, scilicet extra Fossatum de *Grimisdic*, inter terram meam et terram Willielmi Morin, &c.*" This *Fossatum* evidently relates to Newnham Warren, near Nuffield, and not to that part of the Roman vicinal way from Allchester to Dorchester, which passing over Ottmoor to Beckley-park, afterwards crosses Stafford-brook, a corruption as I conjecture from *Stane-ford*, at *Bayard's water* †, goes between Heddington-quarries and Shotover-hill, and reaches Bullington-green; and on the South side of Bullington-green abutting with a considerable breadth and elevation on the East end of Cowley, and there suddenly disappearing, runs with a paved ridge over Balden-heath, close by Lord Harcourt's new village of Newtown, not far from old Newnham, or Newnham-Courtney ‡.

Plat., 2nd ed. p.

* CARTULAR. Ballivæ de Saundford. MS. ut supr. f. 11. b. Three or four more charters follow to the same purpose.

† Hence Stafford-grove, just by, is properly STANE-FORD Grove.

‡ By the way, it appears from hence that this Roman road, or ridge, near Newnham-Warren, though now very strong, about the year 1180 remained so complete and notorious, as to form the boundaries and ascertain the divisions, of property. It may be also remarked, that this is a very early instance of the use of the word GRIMESDITCH. It is one of the earliest I have seen. It is also observable, that it is here called a foss.

In the same very curious Cartulary, William del Osse of Charlton, on the Northern banks of Ottmoor, grants in 1188, to the same Templars, certain lands described to be between the house of Walter de Merlac and the GREAT ROAD, that is the Roman road across Ottmoor to Dorchester. "Acram jacentem juxta domum Walteri de Merlac et MAGNAM RODAM." CARTUL. ut supr. f. 106. b. One of the witnesses is Robert le Meare, then

The wall of Antoninus Pius in Scotland is called GRIMESDIKE*. So is

* From what is here said, correct Horseley, BRITAN. ROMAN. p. 173.

then VICECOMES of Oxfordshire. And again, in a Confirmation of Alexander del Osse, son of the said William, *De tota terra de Ossa*, I find expressly the same references to the same MAGNA RODA. Ibid. f. 107. a. This road was sometimes called PORTMONESTRED, or PORTMANSTREET, (that is, the *public* or *town* or *city road*) as appears from another instrument, of lands given to the same, before 1290, by Harwys del Osse, of the same family, with consent of Joan his wife, *viz.* "Hujus acre medietas jacet inter Comlake et inter Merlake, et altera medietas jacet inter Comlake et inter Burton versus PORTMONESTRED; et altera acra super culturam que dicitur *Le Wodforlong*, et inter terram Monialium de Stodeleya, et terram Roberti de Bosco, et tendit usque ad LE BRECHE, &c." Ibid. f. 104. b. In the same instrument it is afterwards called PORTSTRED, or *Port-street*. And in the instrument, or chart, immediately preceding, we have exactly the same descriptions. Again, William de Bosco, of the same neighbourhood, and about the same period, grants to the said Templars, lands in *magno wrechio*, leading "in viam que vocatur PORTMONESTRED." And he next recites, two acres "que extenduntur in FOSSATUM de OTT MER." Ibid. f. 108. a. I believe some part of this road is still called the PORTWAY. It is so called, near Aynho, in deeds of Aynho-hospital about 1280. Archiv. Coll. MAGD. Oxon.

The curious reader may compare a very antient English description of limits of land belonging to Saint Frydeswyde's at Oxford, in Dugdale. "From the lowe into the *Portstrete*, fro the *Strete* into Charewell, &c. Again, ii hyde lond ymere into Cudeslawe [Cutslowe] erest of *Portstrete* into Trillewelle," &c. MON. i. 984. a. †

† There is a PORT-WAY, a branch from Watling Street, in Whitebury Forest. The Roman road from Silchester to Old Sarum, which cuts another at almost right angles between Andover and Knights Inham, in Hampshire, and crosses the river Test, or Anton, at Saint Mary Bourn, is sometimes called the PORT-WAY. So is the Ikenild, in its progress from Streatley to Wantage, about Upton and Harwell, in Berkshire. The street called Ikenild, where it passes from Old Sarum, from North-East to South-West, towards Stratford, is always called PORT-LANE.

In the Psalms we have "The *Ports* § of the daughter of Sion," that is the *towns*, from PORT, Saxon, a *gate* or *city*. *Port-meadow*, near Oxford, is the *town-meadow*, given to the free citizens of Oxford, by the conqueror, or Sir Robert d'Oilli, about 1070. Sometimes this is called *Portman's-mead*, or the mead of the *townsmen*. As in a Plea of Godstow Nunnery, 1403. "De ecclesia Sancti Egidii, et de communi in *Portman-medow*." PLACIT. coram Rege, Hen. IV. 6° Pasch. Rot. 4. In the instrument of the Dedication of Godstowe church, in 1138, we have *Portmancit*, that is, Portman's *Eyte*, or *insulet*, or peninsular meadow, an appendage to port-meadow. *Eyte* is Anglo-Saxon. "Et cives Oxenfordie dederunt terram in *Portmancit* quam tenuit Sagrinus." Registr. ABBAT. GODST. in Scacc. Westmon. fol. 1. b. See also fol. 2. a. In many towns the chief magistrate is called the PORT-REVE, or PORT-GRAVE; that is, the guardian or keeper of the town. PORT occurs in the termination of names of towns in this sense, as New-Port in the Isle of Wight, the *new town*, which rose on the decay of Carisbrook, &c. At Ware-

§ "The Bible version of Psalm ix. has 'gates' in the 14th as well as in the 13th verse, as the very same Hebrew word occurs in each." T. LOVEDAY.

the great ditch and rampart, separating Dorsetshire and Wiltshire to the South-west, crossing the Roman road near Woodyate-inn in Dorsetshire.

Two or three miles North-west of Balden-heath aforesaid, a diverticular branch of this road from Ottmoor, seems to shoot Westward opposite the village of Radley, where it crossed the river Isis into Berkshire by a ford, now an occasional ferry. Radley, in Saxton's maps is written RODLEY, perhaps in reference to this branch. The ford at Radley seems to be mentioned under the word *stanford*, STANFORD, in King Ceadwalla's Saxon Charter of boundaries of twenty hides of land given to Abingdon-abbey; as with it, or near it, the *Thames* and *bagcanleah*, or BAGLEY, once a village, are recited. Registr. ABBAT. ABEND. ut supr. fol. 34. a. And to S. Bartholomew's hospital near Oxford, in 1316, is a patent "for one load of hay *in prato juxta STANFORD.*" Claus. 9^o Edw. II. m. 15. Unless this last be Stafford-brook, i. e. STANEFORD, near Heddington, just mentioned.

I have traced a ridged way from Noke by Wood-Eaton bearing to Elsfield, and thence cutting the Worcester road, which possibly may be another secondary diverticle from the AKEMAN. Plot mentions an urn and coins found at a place called Drunshill in Stow-wood, I believe in Marston parish. CH. x. § 62. § 31. From thence it soon yields to the plough. The learned Mr. Wise, late Radclivian librarian, had a glass lachrymatory, or rather a sepulchral aromatic phial, dug up between Noke and Wood-Eaton, together with fragments of an urn or pot, of a cerulean earth, containing a silver Adrian. This coin throws light on the age of the road.

Another branch of the branches of the AKEMAN perceptibly slants from the brow of Shotover-hill near Oxford, down its Northern declivity; bisects Marston-lane, crosses the Charwell North of Holywell-church with a stone-pavement, is then called KING'S SWATH, or Way, goes over Saint Giles's field*, and Port-meadow, has an apparent trajectus over the Isis, now called Binsey-ford, being a few yards North of Medley-grove, runs through Binsey churchyard, in which are the signatures of large buildings, winds up the hill towards the left, where stood the antient village of Seckworth, signifying in Saxon a *military town*, now reduced to a barn and a pound, once abounding in inns for the reception of pilgrims, either frequenting Saint Margaret's well in Binsey church-yard, or travelling to the second Edward's shrine at Gloucester; and from thence either proceeds to Gloucester, or falls into the AKEMAN about Witney. It is very difficult to point out the digressions of the AKEMAN, and their subordinate ramifications.

ham in Dorsetshire, a meadow belonging to the townsmen is called *Portland-meadow*. This is not the place for multiplying instances. Hither must be referred PORTMOTE, PORTSOKE. See also Junius in PORTQUEAN.

Port-meadow is undoubtedly alluded to in Domesday Book, i. fol. 154, col. 2. "Omnes burgenses Oxeneford habent communiter extra murum pasturam reddentem vi solid. et viii den."

* Here it is interrupted by the military works of the last century. One part of the Roman road, by the corner of the Parks, was converted into an earth bastion by the Royalists.

Plot, 2nd ed. p.

2nd ed. p. 326

Plot, 2nd ed.

v. Hearne's

4th ed., 1700.

In a charter of King Edgar, granting lands to the abbey of Wilton in Wiltshire, in the year 978, the IKENILD road, as it seems, near *Bradangle*, or Maiden-Bradley, is called ΕΡΜΕΥ-ΔΙC, or GRIMES-DIC *. The division of the kingdom of the East Angles, or rather of their ecclesiastical jurisdiction, which runs through Newmarket-heath, is called the DEVIL'S DITCH, a name of the same import.

The reader must have observed, that I have wholly excluded the Romans from any share in this antient trench passing through Kiddington and its environs. Plot imagined it to be Roman, because it seemed to originate from the Akeman-street in Blenheim-Park. There is indeed, not a mile from this boundary, in the parish of KIDDINGTON, South of the London-road, in the middle of a thick oaken wood called HILL-WOOD, a square Roman entrenchment, the ridge and fosses in extraordinary preservation, as yet undetected by any Topographer, and rarely visited but by the woodman †. In a line with this, there is another small Roman encampment, on a steep eminence, South of Ditchley, called Challow-hill. Both these were nothing more than speculative out-posts to the Akeman-street ‡. Of which kind was another on Chesthill-acre, properly Chestrenhill, near Stunsfield §. But we must

? Plot. 2nd ed. p. 343.

Hearn's Land.

* CARTUL. Abb. WILTON. in the possession of Lord Pembroke. fol. 26. a. If a forged Charter, it is as old as the Conquest.

† It is now, 1813, so thickly covered with wood as to be found with difficulty.

‡ Probably there was another out-post, at Woodstock. In the year 1755, in pulling down or erasing some old houses at New Woodstock, called King John's Cottages, formerly the endowment of a Chantry dedicated to Saint Margaret, in Woodstock church, several Roman coins were found; particularly two of Vespasian very fair and fresh, with JUDAEA CAPTA on the reverse. King John founded this chantry in 1210, endowing it with several houses and thirteen cottages at Woodstock, for one priest to celebrate for his soul. It was granted to the corporation of the town by Queen Elizabeth.

§ Not far from a CASTELLUM, or mansion-house of some Roman person of distinction, perhaps of a military person who superintended the road. In the year 1711, a tessellated floor of this house was found in ploughing, which was then thought by many to be nothing more than the site of a Roman general's tent; because from the time of Julius Cæsar throughout the lower empire, it was customary to pave the Pretorium with Mosaic tiles.

not suppose all encampments on the borders of Roman roads to be Roman. Both Saxons and Danes often encamped near a Roman road, availing

tiles. A reason, which was surely no exclusive proof that this must have been only the area of a tent. For the Romans, according to Vitruvius, used this ornament in their houses : and as their soldiery grew of course luxurious and refined, they imported the furniture of their palaces into the camp, and affected to decorate their tents as they did their domestic apartments. Many more conjectures, but no other discoveries, were then made. A stop was put to farther searches, and the place was neglected. At length, in 1779, on the same spot, a few feet under ground, the areas of several other large apartments were found, with tessellated pavements, and borders of the most beautiful patterns. Adjoining to these was a brick hypocaust, with funnels, and a bath with leaden pipes in the sides, covered with plaister painted red, arcades, and pilasters. The Roman brickwork, of which great quantities appeared, fresh and solid. Unluckily most of these curiosities have been removed from their proper situations, yet carefully preserved. Mr. Walker of Woodstock, auditor to the Duke of Marlborough, has drawings of the tessellations, with large masses of the pavements. The foundation walls went down to the solid rock. †

In the romantic valley between Stunsfield and Northleigh, and not half a mile from the course of the Akeman-street, are the vestiges of a Roman OFFICINA, or laboratory, never mentioned by any writer, for making bricks, tiles, and stucco. The area was lately a spreading tumulus, consisting of rubbish and fragments of Roman bricks and cement, and probably concealing ovens, hypocaustic ducts, and subterraneous works of stone, necessary for that manufacture, in which the Romans excelled.

We are told by antiquaries, of Roman Mosaic pavements being dug up, about a hundred years ago, at Steeple Barton and Duns Tew in this neighbourhood. In digging to plant a clump of firs, below Challow-hill, near the new lodge, on the right of the road from Blenheim, at Ditchley, about sixty years ago, the workmen came to a Roman pavement, exactly, as I have been told by an old man, like that found at Stunsfield in 1711. Its fragments are still supposed to be under the clump. These pavements were the marks of Roman houses. Nor are we always to suppose with Hearne, who could not dispossess himself of the idea, that such remains point out the habitation or post of a Roman general. For great part of four hundred years, the Romans occupied this island in a state of peace and tranquillity : and a colony so fertile, and abounding in beautiful situations, must have been inhabited by many Roman adventurers, who migrated hither with their families, and built villas or country seats, where they lived in some degree of opulence and elegance. Agricola introduced architecture. Even the Britons of rank might have built houses in the Roman taste. Whenever we talk of the Romans in Britain, we think of nothing but rapine and hostility.

themselves

+ v. Gough's Cam

The Tiles excavated
1816 by Geo. Pitt
Haberhill. v. 5. p.
there, p.

Cl. 2. m. ed. p.
Great Tew.

themselves of such a convenience, for shifting their ground, and marching their armies, with more expedition and regularity. Nor can Danish and Roman camps be always distinguished. The Ikenild-street abounds more in adjacent castra, than any other of our Pretorian ways. But these numerous fortresses on the Ikenild, cannot uniformly be pronounced Roman. To prevent the sudden incursions, and stop the depredations of the Danes, the Saxons in many parts were obliged to fortify their great roads, that is, those left them by their predecessors the Romans, with works of considerable strength. The road-camps of the Romans, however, have generally a small area with a weak circumvallation. I have sometimes seen them in low grounds, where only a temporary lodgement of soldiers was necessary, to defend attacks from thick woods.

But I am digressing, I hope not unnecessarily, when I ought to be describing this boundary.

From the Lodge of Mr. Smalebones in Blenheim-park, its curve and irregular ridge may be followed, by the keen eye of an antiquary, to Ditchley-gate. Thence it shoots partly up the road to Ditchley, and turns off to a lone house called the SARTFARM, otherwise the SARTS, that is, the ESSARTS, a forest-phrase for a cultivated spot*. Here we lose its doublings, which yet are frequently discernible in the roughest parts of the surrounding woods. Running towards Glympton, into OAK-AND-ASH lane, and avoiding the river Glym and its meadows, it reverts in a sweep to KIDDINGTON; and from the South of the turnpike there, appears for almost a quarter of a mile in many high and massy ridges, covered with a fine turf, down the winding declivity of a very broad lane, or waste. Here, although the foss and vallum are confounded, are proofs that it was a work of prodigious labour. Mounting the hill North of ASTERLEY, and passing Ditchley-house, near the late Lord Litchfield's Gothic Barn, it presents a deep foss of considerable breadth and length, often called GRIMESDIKE, but more commonly, LOVE-LANE †. Hence,

* From the French *assartir*, to make plain.

† Probably some modern art has been here used: for Plot, who wrote about 1670, says, that "for a close walk, there is a fine one lately designed in GRIMESDITCH near Ditchley, about half a mile in length." OXFORDSH. ch. ix. § 115. pag. 261.

a little

a little to the South-west of Charlbury-town, it rises in a bold vallum, broad and lofty, which it preserves in a straight line through a field called Baywell, down to the edge of Blandford-Park. Just within the wall of the park, I have remarked an accumulation of some strong and spacious earth-works, very ancient, affording no slight pretensions to a connection with our boundary, as they are rudely constructed, and of a shapeless and unintelligible configuration.

It is with greater confidence I hazard a conjecture, that the Kiddington-Boundary is also connected with the celebrated neighbouring monument of ROLLRIGHT-STONES, and that they both mutually determine each other to be British. The latter, which has every signature of Celticism, I conceive to be coeval and perhaps of a class with Stone-henge. It seems to be either a British temple or a British trophy. It is probably not funereal; for some years ago its area, which is without a tumulus, was examined to a considerable depth by digging, and no marks of inhumation appeared. Nor was any the least indication afforded of its design, age, or nation. There were no foundations of a central altar, to denominate it a temple. Had it been a mausoleum, it would have been accompanied with barrows. Unless we suppose the five detached stones, about two furlongs to the Eastward, to point out a collateral interment of some of the principal dependent chiefs. To say nothing of one standing alone, about fifty yards to the North, and nine feet high. Antiquaries bewilder themselves, and perplex their cause, in attempting to decide the different purposes of these circular erections in various parts of England, by the peculiar arrangement of the stones, which seems to have been often accidental and arbitrary. Hence their vain distinctions of druidical shrines, thrones of royal inauguration, triumphal piles, sepulchres, and judicatory tribunals. One of Stukeley's arguments to demonstrate the present monument to be British, is ingenious but fallacious. He argues from mensuration, and affirms that all its proportions are to be resolved into the Phenician cubit. His inference is, that it was therefore erected by the Britons, a colony of the Phenicians*. But on

* STONEHENGE, Ch. i. p. 6. 7. 16. 32. The diameter of the circle at Rollright is thirty-five yards. That is, sixty cubits. The tallest stone is nine feet high. I will not

the very plausible supposition that the Danes or Saxons were alike originally oriental, although not perhaps conducted into Europe by Stukeley's hero, the Tyrian Hercules, the same mode of arguing might be applied with almost equal force to prove it either Danish or Saxon. It has been declared Danish from a similarity with many others in Denmark: but it is natural, that the fashions and arts of one barbarous tribe should resemble those of another. Camden in pronouncing it Danish, supports his argument by suggesting that Rollright is derived from Rollo the Dane, or Norwegian, an active champion against the Saxons. But if a name be here implied, ROWLAND has as much concern in the etymology as ROLLO; for this place was anciently written ROWLANDRIGHT*. Not that I contend for a derivation from ROWLAND. Had it been a practice of the Saxons to set up these assemblages of artless and massy pillars, more specimens would have remained. And their early conversion to Christianity prevented them from leaving many monuments of the pagan character. The Danes, during their temporary visits and unmatured establishment, had not leisure or opportunities for such laborious and lasting structures, however suitable to their rude conceptions. In the mean time, the grossest inelegance of workmanship excludes the Romans.

To add to the reciprocation of British antiquities in this neighbourhood, and to throw still more light on our Boundary, in the fields of the

not here, in illustration, insist on a pyramidal stone, on a bank between the neighbouring parishes of Endstone and Fulwell, attended by some of a smaller size: and another near the road between Burford and Cheping-Norton.

* In charters and evidences belonging to Cold-Norton Priory, now CHAPEL-HOUSE, in this county, from the year 1229 down to the reign of Henry the Seventh inclusive, Rollright is never written otherwise than ROWLANDRIGHT. ROLENDRICT, ROWLANDRYGHT, ROLLENDRICHE, ROLLENDRITES, and ROWLONDRIGHT. Most commonly ROWLANDRYGHT. In Thesauriar. Coll. ÆN. NAS. Oxon. sub. tit. COLD-NORTON. In a charter of William Rufus to Lincoln Cathedral, it is written "Rollendrehg." Dugd. MON. iii. P. i. p. 259. a. See also, i. 264. b. 265. a. In a charter of King John to Saint Frydeswyde's, it is written ROLLANDICT. Ibid. 985. a. See also Dugd. BAR. ii. 62. a. And Kennet, ut supr. p. 368. 516. Many other instances are at hand.

almost

almost bordering parish of Steeple-Barton, is an extensive area of ground, covered with a thick underwood, well known to the fox-hunter, and to such antiquaries as happen to be keen sportsmen, by the name of MAIDEN-BOWER. This seems to have been a British earth-work, from the first part of the appellation MAIDEN, which is from the Celtic MAIDIAN, with its affinitives, signifying *strong, chief, great, distinguished**, and BURG or BEORGH, *fortress, place, or habitation*, corrupted into *bur, bour, and bower* †. I cannot lay so much stress on a plate and description given by Plot, of a dart uncommonly barbated, discovered in the same parish of Steeple-Barton. For unluckily the shaft was of wood in tolerable preservation: otherwise it would have been pronounced the MATARA, or LONG BRITISH DART, which the Britons threw from their ESSEDÆ, or iron cars ‡. Nor will I avail myself of a coin of the British King Cunobelin, produced by Plot, and said to be found at Wood-Eaton, within eight miles of the nearest known part of our boundary §. It is easy to demonstrate, that the coins of Cunobelin, on which the advocates for the existence of British money build their principal proofs, together with all the rest of the British series exhibited and speciously explained by Camden, Thoresby, and Walker, are either pieces of Saxon mintage in England, or were imported by the Saxons

2nd ed. p. 215.

* So we are to interpret MAIDEN-castle, MAIDEN-way, MAIDEN-tower, MAIDEN-hold, &c. Near Dunstable is a MAIDEN-BOWER of nine acres with a vallum, which Stukeley thought British. There is another at Ashwell in Hertfordshire, and at Ickleford in the same county. There are also others of the kind, especially in the North. For a MAIDEN-WAY in Westmorland, evidently Roman, see Burn's WESTMORL. and CUMBERL. i. 380. edit. 1777.

† Thus, there is King John's BOWER, a fortress of King John, on Kings-Clere hills in Hampshire.

‡ OXFORDSH. ch. x. § 138. p. 356. Pl. xvi. 7.

§ OXFORDSH. ch. x. § 3. 4. p. 309. It is to be wished that Plot had more accurately scrutinised the Inscription on a stone dug up in Sir Thomas Spencer's garden at Yarnton, which has at least as good pretensions to be British. Instead of which, he enters into a physical disquisition about the colour and texture of the stone, and says it resembles some sort of Cheese. Ibid. § 139. 140. And Pl. xvi. 8.

form

from Germany, or by the Romans from their conquered provinces. To suppose that some of them were Northern, and that they found their way into England, after Rome had been sacked in the great Gothic migration, would open a new and an ample field of rational hypothesis.

But that my Reader may be enabled to form a more distinct and clear conception of the nature of this ancient Celtic rampart, I will close the present article with some general observations, and distant notices respecting other works of a similar species, digested into one comprehensive view, and drawn from actual examination.

Petty barbarian states, intent only on repelling their neighbours or enlarging their territories, unfurnished with arts or letters, and, from their natural ferocity, cherishing the most violent jealousies, and destitute of the principles of mutual confidence, possessed no other mode of adjusting their differences, and securing their frontiers, than to construct these inartificial bulwarks, serving at once for division and defence, planned on the simplest mechanism, and executed by the mere strength of tumultuary multitudes.

They must be esteemed stupendous operations, not only if we consider their solidity and extent, but the inconveniencies of ground, and impracticabilities of country, over which they were conducted, with a sort of blind but un baffled perseverance, by the devious and eccentric hand of savage conquest. There is often a kind of barbaric capriciousness even in the irregularities of their course. It frequently happened, that a boundary raised with infinite labour, soon became superfluous, and, as new spaces of country gradually fell a prey to the progression of prosperous arms, was included by another on a more comprehensive scale, and wider compass. A straight line drawn Northward, from the Southern coast of England about Dorsetshire and Hampshire, only thirty miles into land, would cut through the curve of no fewer than seven of these boundaries, successively circulating one beyond the other, and which I believe to have been reared by the Belgæ, a formidable colony of the Celts from Gaul, as they gradually extended their victories, and propagated their acquisitions, over Dorsetshire, Wiltshire, and Hampshire. All these seven valla describe the most desultory track, but proceed in windings

windings nearly parallel. A proof of their reference to each other, and that the aboriginal Britons did not suffer the invaders to advance with any degree of precipitation.

The most perfect is that above-mentioned, near Woodyates in Dorsetshire: and which originating, as I presume, from the river Stour, or the sea-shore, about Christ-Church in Hampshire, appears conspicuous, like the ecliptic on one of the hemispheres of a globe, over the long and broad declivity of Bladon-hill above Marton in Wiltshire, and intersecting, with a prodigious ridge and foss in almost original preservation, the Roman road called the IKENILD-STREET, within a furlong of Woodyates, pushes through the woody tracts of Cranbourne-chase, and seems to terminate at Grovely-wood, within five miles of Salisbury*. This very remarkable rampart is unquestionably Celtic, being evidently antecedent to the Romans: for at the intersection above-mentioned, the substance of the IKENILD, that most dubious and unintelligible of the Pretorian ways, yet here retaining the genuine and massy remains of a pebbly and flinty stratum cemented with chalk, is continued in a line across or through it, as was plainly perceptible when the London turnpike road was lately made †. Had the rampart and dyke been posterior, the Roman materials would have been torn up and destroyed. And I must add, that near Woodyates-lane the Roman road penetrates the center of a barrow, one of a numerous groupe ‡. These barrows, apparently con-

* Probably GRAVE-LY. The PLACE-ON-THE-DIKE.

† One of the layers seems to be a sea-gravel. About five years ago, on the edge of a lane in the parish of Slinfold in Sussex, four miles from Horsham, I saw several deep fissures made in the STANE-STREET, a Roman road, going from Arundel, if not from the sea-side, through Darking to London. The dorsum, not intended for heavy carriages, consists of sea-gravel, and sea-pebbles abounding on the Sussex coast, above three feet deep, and seven yards broad. These minute materials must have been amassed with prodigious labour. The road is at least fifty miles long. Unless a part of it, nearer London, is the ERMINE-STREET §.

‡ This road is specified, by the names of *strata* and *magna via*, in an Insepimus-charter of Henry the Third to Tarent-abbey in Dorsetshire. Dugd. MON. i. 888. a.

§ Qu. If the whole of the road here mentioned is not the ERMINE-STREET. Dr. Stukeley, ITIN. CURIOS. Cent. ii. p. 13, says, "A third road is the Hermen-street from the sea-side in Sussex to Scotland."

nected with the rampart, are as indisputably Celtic, and not Roman: because the Romans, more pious than modern Christians, would not have suffered such a profanation to have been committed on a sepulchre of their ancestors. Nor, in after-times, would the Saxons or Danes have formed a barrow on a public way. WANS DYKE, or GWHAHAN-DYKE, the ditch of division, which also interferes with a probable Roman road at Hedington, and in the midst of which is situated the town of DEVISES, anciently a Celtic station, is the last frontier-rampart of the encroachments of the Belgæ Northward*. Here a stand was made between the contending barbarians: and as WANSDYKE runs between Stonehenge and Abury, probably those two mysterious monuments, if not sepulchral, were intended to perpetuate the final triumph of the Southern Britons, and the limitation of the Belgic dominion. It has never been yet observed or considered, that this noble sevenfold cincture, or semicircular suite of entrenchments, is finished by those two magnificent Celtic edifices, which, under our present idea, might have had either a religious or a civil designation. Nor is it suspected, that many of the numerous encampments in Wiltshire, especially those of a large and loose formation, are probably the effects of this obstinate war between the insular Britons and the continental Celts.

The boundaries of which I am now speaking, are for the most part extant on the steeper and Northern sides of hills, the foss, or excavation, lying on the North: because a people pressing forward from the South, were opposing the resistance of a Northern adversary. Yet I have remarked, that one of them, that which crosses the London-road not far North of Thorney-down inn, and I believe in the parish of Hanley, in Dorsetshire, consists of two or three ridges and as many fosses alternately.

* From the British GWHAHAN, *Separation*. It is however called *þoden-þic*, i.e. Woden's dyke, in a Saxon charter of King Athelstan to Wilton monastery, dated A.D. 933. *CARTULAR. de WILTON. Penès Com. de Pembroc. fol. 60. b.* In the same Cartulary, many boundaries, ways, and fosses, are specified in the neighbourhood of Wilton, in grants from Athelstan, Edgar, Ethelred, and other Saxon kings. In another of Athelstan's, dated 937, mention is made of the stone-agger stretching to "the burial-place in the plain." Perhaps STONEHENGE, if not a large barrow. *Ibid. fol. 60. b.* This is again mentioned, from Athelstan. *Ibid. fol. 86. a.*

These

These ramparts seem intended to have had some effect even on the eye. Being dug out of a bed of chalk, and belting the hills far and wide with white, more especially if we suppose some assistance from an artificial facing, they must have been visible at a vast distance; and this whiteness they might have retained for much more than a century, till the putrescence of their surfaces at length created a coat of mould and turf. In the same manner, barrows dispersed over a boundless length of verdant plain, were at first conspicuous and striking studs of white for many miles. Here was a savage idea of sepulchral pomp; and these open monuments of Saxon or Danish chieftains, by no means exhibited their present figure of common and obscure hillocks, in their early construction. They must have had even a picturesque appearance in the landscape. With the same notions, the Saxons conceived and fabricated their famous military trophy, the WHITE HORSE, at Ashdown in Berkshire, which covers an acre of ground; and which being trenched into the chalk on the side of a steep and lofty hill, and consequently contrasted with the verdure of the turf, is clearly discernible in its full dimensions, for almost twenty miles, under the Western sun. From the circumstance here mentioned, but not sufficiently regarded, WHITE-LEAF CROSS near Monks-Risborough in Buckinghamshire, formed by the Saxons on the South-western steep of a chalky hill, to the depth of three feet, and occupying a very considerable area in its shaft and branches, both of length and breadth, derived an effect naturally dictated by the simplicity of an unpolished people. To the hypothesis of those antiquarian etymologists, who deduce the Belgic boundary called WANSDYKE, above-mentioned, from the Saxon adjective wan, or *pale*, these remarks may perhaps give a degree of plausibility.

Rivers were sometimes used for this purpose of separation. But rivers did not always flow in obedience to the track of an uncontrollable conqueror. They were, however, sometimes adopted as lateral terminations to the ends of the ridges. Thus one of the seven Celtic boundaries just mentioned, called COMBSDITCH, abuts at one end on the river Alan by Blandford, and on the other, on the river Bere, both in Dorsetshire. WANSDYKE is believed to be flanked by the Tees about Andover in
Hampshire,

Hampshire, and by the Avon near Bristol. In the same manner, to mention no more instances, the boundary at Kiddington runs from the borders of the Glym in Blenheim-park, yet with many an intricate digression, to the Evenlode, on the Eastern side of Blandford-park.

A British or Celtic rampart, fresh and prominent, runs, North and South, at right angles over the Roman road to Farnham-castle in Surrey, originally a Roman fortress, bearing on the North to the hamlet of Chilland and the river Ichen, about five miles from the East-gate of the city of Winchester, unnoticed by Camden or any later writer. This I conceive to be the limit, or distinction, of a tribe or district of aboriginal inhabitants. I know not if it had any connection with a similar ridge, which creeping through the deep South-East valley beneath the trench of the great encampment on the brows of Catharine-hill near Winchester, suddenly rises into a massy dorsum *, but is soon penetrated and obliterated by the Roman road leading from Winchester to Old Southampton or to Portchester, and from thence seems to have held its course Eastward by the village of Chilcomb. I have lately traced another of the same sort, a separation of natives from natives, on the hills above Andover. It is with difficulty that any thing British can be explained or ascertained. Our own investigations, or rather our own sagacity, must supply the place of history. The Roman historians have given us inexplicable catalogues of British clans, which have only contributed to perplex our reasonings, and multiply conjectures. What they have said of this island, was only to illustrate their own victories : what little they knew of it, is probably misrepresented.

The Saxons practised this mode of division for fixing the several extents of their heptarchic empire, yet with less boldness and rudeness of construction, as may be also seen in their camps. I have mentioned the definitive line of the East-Angles winding over Newmarket-heath, accompanied by three others, and AVESDITCH †. The latter, a partition

* Unless we suppose that here are the temporary vallations of the approaches of an enemy, attacking the weakest and eastern side of the camp on the hill.

† See *supr*, p. 55. I have never traced the great OFFA'S-DYKE, from Westchester to Carleon. It is to be seen for a long way near HERGEST-RIDGE. It has the Saxon marks of a slight foss and vallum.

between

between the Normans and West-Saxons, is supposed by Mr. Morton, a diligent and judicious examiner of these antiquities, to be a pretence of the Romans against the Northern Britons, possessing the immense wilds of the forest, or uncultivated country, reduced to tillage much later than the Southern country, called ARDEN. His hypothesis, before I consulted his work, had occurred to me, that in WELLOW-bank, which denominates a part of this boundary in Northamptonshire*, is a strong trace of the Roman word VALLUM. The vallation South-west of Dorchester in this county, called DYKE-HILLS, consisting of two ridges or borders with an intermediate trench, although so near a Roman town and road, is not Roman, but I imagine Saxon or Danish. It may perhaps have had some connection with SINNODUNE, an opposite antient fortress, over the water. But I suppose it a temporary division during the Heptarchy; and particularly, when Offa was gaining ground of the West-Saxon king, and advancing his rapid conquests Southward, towards a broad flexure of the Thames †. If Danish, it was cut by the Danes as a new but slight channel from the Thames, for the purpose of easier communication, and the use of small vessels. By this shorter and direct line of navigation, two shores were soon united, and a spacious semicircle of the river avoided ‡. Stukeley supposes these two banks to have formed the ground for a British hippodrome, or horse-race §. Of the

* NAT. HIST. NORTHAMPT. ch. x. p. 526.

† I should think, that the ridge called MEDLERS-BANK, running West of Benson church, was one of Offa's or Kenwulf's works during this dispute, and not a part of a Southern branch of the AKEMAN. See CHRON. SAXON. sub ann. 785. p. 61. ||

‡ It would strengthen this hypothesis, to shew that CAR-DIKE, once extending forty miles on the borders of the Lincoln fens, was a similar artificial channel of the Danes. But this is not the place for such a discussion. Morton, I think, is mistaken in supposing it Roman. NAT. HIST. NORTH. ch. 10. § 30. p. 512. seq.

§ STONEHENGE, Ch. ix. p. 43.

|| "West of Benson Church," says Mr. Gough, "is a bank and trench of a square form, the North side exceeding bold, the West and South traceable, the East most injured. Plot, p. 348, mentions an angle of King Offa's palace near the Church, which must be the same place." ADDITIONS TO CAMDEN, Edit. 1789, i. 157.

It seems more probable that Medlar's Bank was thrown up in the time of Charles the First, to secure the pass of the River.

age and workmanship of King Offa is probably a very durable rampart, beginning near Letcombe-castle in Berkshire, an entrenchment of twenty-five acres, the summer-camp of the garrison at Wantage*. From Letcombe, I could discern its march for many miles Eastward, across the spreading brows of the hills towards Blubery †. Near it is another, but of an inferior proportion, called EASTDITCH, which from the Saxon fortress on Childrey-hill, preserves its undulating path towards Lambourne. Near Witney in this county, is the mouldering remnant of a division of this class, undoubtedly Saxon. It is called by the very problematical name of EMS-DYKE, I conjecture from Queen Emma, who, about the year 1040, having escaped the trial of the fire-ordeal, to which she was condemned on suspicion of an adulterous amour with her confessor bishop Alwin, in acknowledgment of her miraculous deliverance, procured the donation of the manor of Witney, with eight others, to the church of Winchester, to which it is still appendant.

Many such works of our disunited and unpacific ancestors were undoubtedly destroyed, either by their first constructors, or by new invaders, by agreement or by conquest, and sometimes by civil dissensions, in the early martial ages. As to those which still subsist, it is not so much from time, as from other circumstances and accidents, that they have been so much diminished, defaced, and obscured. These remains are injured by inclosures, by cultivation, and habitation. The antiquary of

* Letcombe castle or camp, is sometimes called SAGBURY. Perhaps from the Saxon *Sege*, a *Soldier*. In travelling the Roman fosse from Newark to Leicester, I remember to have passed a lone house, a petty inn, close to the road-side, the only house for many miles, called Segg-house. I write from the pronunciation of the people. From the same root is perhaps SEGGBURY, or Segg-barrow, in Worcestershire; in Domesday-book SEEGESBARUE, and in a charter of the time of King Offa, SEGGESBERG. Dugd. MON. i. 120. a. I suppose SEDGEFIELD in Durham, written SEGGEFIELD in charters in the MONASTICON, and some other places with the like or same initial syllable, may have the same derivation. See Dugd. MON. iii. P. 1. pag. 91. a. I have mentioned Seckworth.

† Its course is marked by the title of "The Ridge Way" in the Map of Berkshire in Mr. Gough's edit. of CAMDEN.

the field must look for his greatest gratifications on open plains and hills, which have suffered none of these innovations.

Juvat arva videre,
Non rastris hominum, non ulli obnoxia curæ *:

It is only in extensive tracts of down, undivided, unpeopled, and traversed only by the solitary shepherd, that such antiquities are to be seen almost entire. For this reason, the numerous ramparts, encampments, roads, fosses, and barrows, whether British, Roman, Saxon, or Danish, in Dorsetshire, Hampshire, and Wiltshire, retain so much of their native substance and shape ; and consequently afford the most ample and satisfactory fund of information, for the theories of the critical and inquisitive observer.

* Virg. GEORG. ii. 439.



From the Hundred Roll for the County of OXFORD, 7 EDWARD 1st.
preserved in the TOWER of LONDON.

ESTERL ET } Ricūs de Willamescot' tenet maner' de Esterl & Cudinton' de Johann' de
CUDINTON' } la Mar' p uno feodo milit' & idm Johs de

Et dnt qđ pđcūs Ricūs tenz in eod' maner' in dñico suo duas caruc' terr'
cū ptin' suis que vañt c. S. Et ht boscum suū ptinen' ad pđcēm maner'
inf^a coptum foreste de Wycchewod & vañt pñcua iñ pvenient' p ann'
xx. S. q. est inf^a regard.

Villani. Ricūs Herwest tenz j vrgat' terr' opabilem & d3 intr' festum Sđi Michis &
fīm nativit' Sđi Joh Bapt' ^{xxij.} vj. opa & vañt iij. S. vij. D. pñcū opis oñ. et d3
iij. arur' dimid' que vañt iiij. D. oñ. & d3 ij. opa ad hciand & vañt j. D. &
d3 j gallin' ad natañ que vocat' Wodehen & val3 j. D. & ij cariag' de bosco
& vañt iij. D. & d3 xvi. ova ad pasch & vañt oñ. & d3 affrag' que vañt
x. D. nⁱ Dñs volūit & qñ inf^a comit' et d3 lavare & tonde oves p j diem &
val3 oñ et d3 inñ gulam autompn' & festum Sđi Mich' xvij. opa & vañt ij.
S. iij. D. pñcū opis oñ et d3 iij p'car' in autompn' sin' pont'a que vañt
vj. D. & d3 ij. pñcañ in autompn' que vañt ij. D. & d3 duo dimid' cariag' &
de blađ & vañt iiij. D. & d3 fače j quarterium bras' qđ opus val3 oñ. d3
collig'e nuces p j diem & val3 oñ et d3 talliar' quol3 ann' ad voluntatē Dñi
et d3 iij. S. de annuo redditu.

Suma xj. S. viij. D.

Dñt et' qđ Matild' Relicta Reginald', Nichs P'pos', Rađs le Bonde M^arg'ia
vidua, Rađs Bovetun, Wiffs Wysdom, Roñs Chopp', Regin' Eliot, Wal'f's
Chopp', Johs Culiehar', & Rog's Gosselin quoz quitz istoñ pret' duos ulti-
mos tenz j vrgat' terr' ann' eod' modo sicut Ricūs Hervest.

Libe tenent'. Wiffs de la Mar' tenz duas vrgat' cū ptin' reddo p ann' ij. libras pipis pñcij
xvj. D.

Johann' Filius Regin' Fabr' tenz dimid' virgat' terr' reddo p ann' iiij. D.
p omi s'vicio.

Rads Gamel tenz v'gat' terr' cū ptin' faciend p ann' s'tam ad hundr' de Chadelinton' de iij. sept' in iij sept'as p p̄dco Ričo inppetū.

Witto le Bercher tenz unam v'gat' terr' reddo p ann' v. S. p omib; s'vicijs.

Joħs Fit Fray Punsard tenz duas v'gat' terr' faciend s'tam cur' & scutag' qñ currt p porcōne.

Henr' pson' tenz duas ac's terr' reddo p añ iij. S. p omib; servicijs.

Elen^a Avenel tenz dimid v'gat' terr' & j molendin' reddo p ann' xij. S. v. D. p omib; s'vicijs.

Agn' de Nortfolch tenz duas ac's terr' reddo p ann' xij. D. p omi s'vičo.

Sum^a tocius valoris xij. libr' x. S. j. D.

Forins'.

Dñt et' qđ p̄dcūs Ricūs de Willamescot d; s'tam ad hundr' de Chadelinton' de iij sept'is in iij sept' q^am quidem s'tam idm Ricūs facit p Radm Gamel atornatū suū ad hoc feoffatum et d; duos advent' ad duos magnos comit' Oxon' & ad duos trnos vic' tent' in hundr' de Chadelinton' Et om̄s tenent' sui debnt de t'no vic' vj. S. viij. D. Et ballivi Cōmis Glouc' venient quot; ann' in eodm maner' semel ad tenend visum f'ncipt' & asportabunt omia am'ciānta iñ pvend & ij. S. de c̄to visus f'ncipt'.

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