

BRIXSTAN HUND.]

## M E R T O N.

MERTON, vulgarly called MARTIN, is a small Village on the road from *Epsom* to *London*; bounded on the North by *Wimbledon*, on the West by *Kingston* and *Malden*, on the South by *Mordon* and *Micham*, and on the East by *Micham* and *Toting*; and the name, expressive of it's situation, is compounded of the two Saxon words, *Mepe*, which signifies a *Marsh*, and *tun*, a *Town* or *Vill*.

This place was famous for the death of *Cynewulph*, King of the *West Saxons*, A° 784; who, while on a visit to one of the Ladies of his Court that lived here, was assaulted by *Cyneheard* (brother of *Sigebriht* his predecessor) whom he had ordered into banishment, and slain\*. He was buried at *Winchester*.

The Saxon Chronicle relates that, in the year 871, King *Ethelred* and *Alfred* his brother defeated the *Danes* with great slaughter at *Meretune*, which some have understood of this place: but this is generally, and on better grounds, supposed to have happened at *Merdon* near *Devises* in *Wiltshire*°. And indeed some of the Saxon copies have it *Mepebun*, and not *Mepe-tun*.

The account given of this place in the *Domesday* Record is as follows:—

*The KING holds MERETONE. Earl HAROLD held it. At that time it was rated, and now is, for twenty Hides. The Arable Land is twenty-one Carrucates. There are two Carrucates in demesne; and fifty-six Villans, and thirteen Bordars, with eighteen Carrucates. There is a CHURCH, and two Mills of 60s. rent; and ten Acres of Meadow. Woodland for fourscore Swine.*

*In the time of King EDWARD it was valued at xxvi. ; and afterwards at xvii. At present it is valued at xxxvi. and yet he who occupies it pays xliii.*

*In SUDWERC sixteen Tenements, of xviii s. iid. rent, belong to this Maner.*

*One ORCUS holds two Hides, which always lay in this Maner, and are in another Hundred. He held them in the time of King EDWARD. They were then rated for two Hides; now for nothing. There is one Carrucate in demesne, and two Acres of Meadow. These were always valued at xxs.*

*The Bishop of LISIEUX<sup>a</sup> holds, in KENT, two sulungs<sup>b</sup>, which lay to this Maner in the time of King EDWARD and King WILLIAM, as the men of the Hundred testify. He rejecteth, as a vouchee, the Bishop of BAIEUX, and his Bailiff would not thenceforth enter his plea.*

## COMMENTARY.

The KING was at this time Lord of the Maner of MERTON, as HAROLD had been before him: and, in both reigns, it was rated to the Land tax as containing *two thousand* acres only, although the *Arable* alone amounted to *two thousand* and *one hundred*.

The DEMESNE, or Maner properly so called, consisted of *two hundred* acres occupied by the Lord himself, and *eighteen hundred* more occupied by his Tenents at will, which were *fifty-six* VILLANS and *thirteen* BORDARS.

There was also a CHURCH endowed<sup>c</sup>; two Mills let at 180*l.* per annum of our present currency; ten acres of Meadow, and as much Wood-land as would produce, to the Lord's share, *fourscore* fat Swine, i. e. as much as would feed, in all, *eight hundred*.

<sup>a</sup> Chron. Saxon, A° 755. 784.

<sup>b</sup> Rapin. Spelman, Vit. Alfredi, I. 29.

<sup>c</sup> Plate I.

<sup>d</sup> Hugh, brother of Robert Earl of *Augi* or *Ewe*, and of *William* of *Soissons*.

<sup>e</sup> This term (*solinus*) occurs in the *Domesday* Record, yet nowhere but in the County of *Kent*. It is there said that *four hundred* acres and an *half* are equal to *two Solini* and an *half*; which makes the *solinus* to be about 160 acres. In 1 Inst. fol. 15.

*Seven solini* are said to be equal to *xvii Carrucates*; according to which computation the *solinus* will be about *two Carrucates* and an *half*. But as the Saxon *sulung*, from which the Norman *solinus* was fabricated, was but another expression for *Carrucate* or *Plough-land*, I have given that interpretation of the word in the present passage. Vide *Somner's Gloss.* ad X. Scriptores.

<sup>f</sup> *Ecclesia*, in the Record, always signifies a Church with the great Tythes; the *Rectory*.

The reputed annual *Value* of the Lordship, in the *Confessor's* time, was 1500*l.* of our present money; afterwards, *viz.* at the accession of WILLIAM, 960*l.*; at the time of the *Survey*, 2100*l.* But the Bailiff, who occupied for the King, paid in as much as would amount, according to modern reckoning, to the actual sum of 2580*l.*

In SOUTHWARK were sixteen tenements holden of this Maner, which paid a yearly rent of 54*l.* 10*s.* of our present *English* money.

One ORCUS held two hundred Acres, which were parcel of this Maner, though they lay in another Hundred. He held them also in the reign of the *Confessor*. They were then taxed to their full amount; at present they were not rated at all. Two acres of these were *Meadow*; and he occupied an hundred acres of them himself. The value of these two hundred acres was equal to 60*l.* per annum of our present money, i. e. six shillings an acre; the difference between which and the present rent, per acre, is the improved value of the Land there.

The Bishop of LISIEUX held two hundred acres in KENT, which were certified by the Inquest of the Hundred Court to have been parcel of this Maner in the reign of the *Confessor* and at the accession of WILLIAM. The Bishop of BAIEUX was vouched in support of their verdict; but the Bishop of LISIEUX excepted to his evidence; and his Bailiff refused to try the issue on that ground.

This Maner remained in the Crown until 22 *Hen. I.* A° 1121; when it was given by that King<sup>†</sup>, under the denomination of *Villa de Coroná suá*, to the Canons Regular residing, and hereafter to reside at this place, to enable them to build a Church to the honor of the Virgin *Mary*; free of all imposts and molestation as when annexed to his Crown, with<sup>‡</sup> *Soc* and *Suc*, *Infangentheof*<sup>§</sup> and *Forestal*<sup>¶</sup>, *Hamsocn*<sup>\*\*</sup> and *Mundbriche*<sup>††</sup>, and all other customs and privileges pertaining to it as parcel of his Royal Demesne: reserving the said Church, when built, with such others as should be appropriated to it's use, in the Royal hand and protection, [\*and he delivers it to his successors to be so defended that no secular power may intermeddle or injure it\*] saving the jurisdiction of the Bishop of Winchester in whose diocese it is situated. [\*He makes the mark of the Cross with his own hand, as does his Queen *Adeliza*. \*]

The Priory continued in possession of the Maner 'till the time of it's surrender, which was made by the Abbat and fourteen Monks, 16 Apr. 29 *Hen. VIII.* A° 1538, when it became vested in the Crown. In 5 and 6 *Phil. and Mar.* by Letters patent dated 14 Nov. 1558, it was granted, with all it's rights, members, and appertinencies, to the then newly refounded Monastery of *Shene*<sup>b</sup>: but this also being dissolved in less than a year after, it reverted to the Crown again, in whose hands it continued about fifty years.

At length, by his Letters patent<sup>c</sup>, bearing date 13 Mar. in the 7th year of his reign, A° 1609-10, K. James I. in consideration of the sum of 828*l.* 8*s.* 9*d.* granted this Maner, with the rights, members and appertinencies, and all lands, tenements, rents and hereditaments whatsoever, called or known by the name of the Maner of *Merton*, which Maner and other the premises hereby granted were formerly parcel of the possessions of the late Priory or House of Jesus of *Bethlehem* of SHENE in this County (excepting all Mills and Advowsons of Churches thereto belonging) to Thomas Hunt, Esq. and Joyce his wife, and the heirs of the body of the said Joyce lawfully begotten and to be begotten; remainder to Richard Bancroft Gent. and the heirs of his body; remainder to John Bancroft Clerk, and the heirs of his body; remainder to Sylvester Bancroft Gent. and the heirs of his body; remainder to Sir John Bowyer Knt. and Sibyl his wife, and the heirs of the body of the said Sibyl; remainder to John Gough Gent. and the heirs of his body; remainder to Robert Tighe D.D. and Mary his wife, and the heirs of the body of the said Mary, remainder to George Newman LL.D. and Sibyl his wife, and the heirs of the body of the said Sibyl; remainder to Mary Wenland natural daughter of George Wenland, and the heirs of her body;—to be holden of the King, his heirs and successors, as of his Maner of *East Greenwich*, by fealty only, in free and common socage, and not<sup>d</sup> in Chief, nor by Knight's service.

<sup>†</sup> Mon. Ang. II. 135.

<sup>‡</sup> Court Baron, with it's privileges. V. in *Gildford*.

<sup>§</sup> The right of trying a thief taken within their jurisdiction, and with the goods upon him.

<sup>¶</sup> Stopping up of ways.

<sup>\*\*</sup> The right of inquiring concerning *House-breaking* within the Maner.

<sup>††</sup> The right of inquiring into and punishing *breaches* of the *Peace* within the Maner.

<sup>b</sup> Pat. 5, 6 *Phil. & Mar.* p. 4.

<sup>c</sup> Pat. 7 *Jac.* p. 47. n. 19.

<sup>d</sup> Tenure in *Chief* is spoken of in this and other Grants, as if it were a distinct kind of tenure, in like manner as tenure by *Knights service*, *socage*, &c. whereas, in reality, a man may hold in Chief by *Knights service*, or any other tenure whatsoever. In fact, these words, *not in Chief*, are repugnant to those that go before, to be holden of the King; because whosoever holds of the King, must hold in *Chief*. *Madox*, *Exch.* 4to. c. xvi. § 1. note b.

But

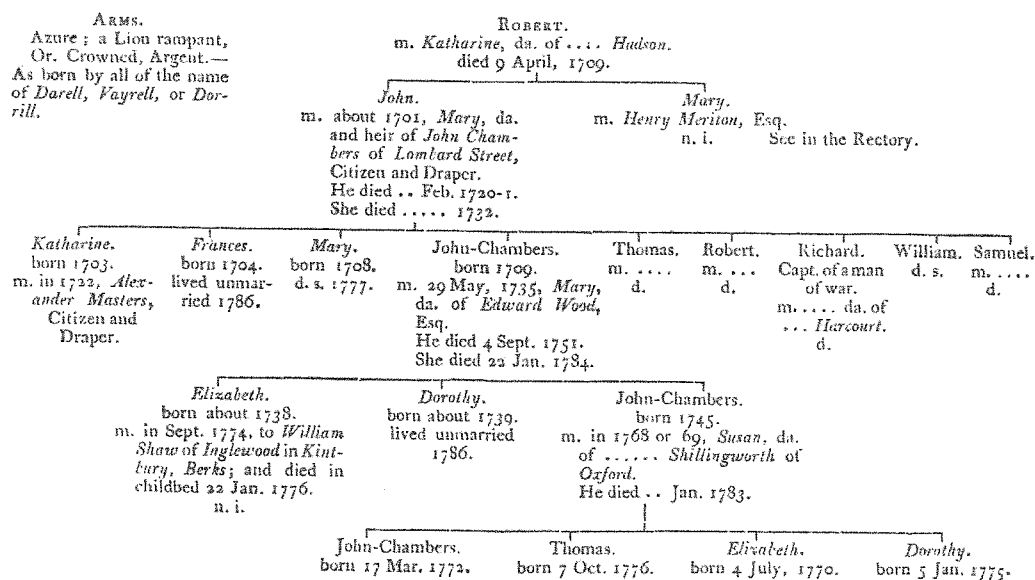
But, by other Letters patent\*, dated 10 Jan. in the 14th year of his reign, reciting the aforesaid Grant to *Hunt* and others, the King, for diverse good causes and considerations him thereunto moving, granted the Reversion and Reversions, Remainder and Remainders of the said Maner of *Merton*, with it's rights, members and appertinencies; and all that the said Maner of *Merton*, alias *Marten*, alias *Merton*, with it's rights, members and appertinencies, and a Tenement called *Salings* in *Merton*, with other hereditaments therein particularly specified, parcel of the possessions of the late Priory of *Shene*, unto *Thomas Ford* of *London* Gent. to hold to and to the use of the said *Thomas*, his heirs and assigns for ever; of the King, his heirs and successors, as of his Maner of *East Greenwich*, by fealty only, in free and common socage, and not in Chief nor by Knight's service.

In 20 Cha. II. A° 1663, we find *Nicholas Philpot*, Esq. of *Poston*, in the County of *Hereford*, possessed of it<sup>†</sup> in right of *Penelope* his wife, daughter of *James Haward*, Esq. of *Fletherhill* in the County of *Pembroke*<sup>‡</sup>. This *Nicholas* died in 1683, aged 40; leaving *Penelope* his wife surviving, who continued to hold this Maner, and shortly after became the wife of Sir *Charles Hamilton* Knt. and Bart. of the kingdom of *Ireland*, whom also she survived, the Courts being holden by Trustees in her name as his relict, on the 30th of May 1689<sup>§</sup>. The said *Nicholas* and *Penelope* had an only son, *Nicholas*, who was eleven years of age at the time of his father's death; and a daughter, *Mary*, aged sixteen years<sup>||</sup>. By whom, or on whose behalf, after the death of their mother, it was sold to

*John Dorril*, Esq. who held his first Court here in 6 Will. III. A° 1693<sup>¶</sup>. He married *Mary*, daughter and heir of *John Chambers*, Gent. of *London*; and departed this life in February, 1720-1, leaving the said *Mary* his wife surviving, who held this Maner 'till her death in 1732. They had issue, several sons, and three daughters, viz. *Catharine*, who married *Alexander Master*, Citizen and Draper of *London*; *Frances* and *Mary*, who died single in 1777<sup>‡</sup>.

*John-Chambers Dorril*, Esq. son and heir of *John* and *Mary* aforesaid, married, 29 May, 1735, *Mary*, second daughter of *Edward Wood*, Esq. of *Littleton* in the County of *Middlesex*; and died 4 Sept. 1751, leaving *John-Chambers Dorril* his son and heir, and other children. *Mary*, his relict, in May 1756 married to her second husband, *Winthrop Baldwin* Esq. and held this Maner in dower<sup>¶</sup> until her death, which happened at *Bath* on the 22d of January, 1784, when it descended to *John-Chambers Dorril* her grandson; the last abovementioned *John-Chambers* her son (who married *Susan* daughter of . . . . *Shillingworth* of *Oxford*, by whom he had one other son and two daughters) having deceased before her in 1783.—*John* the grandson was born in March, 1772. [\*In 1801 he sold it to *John Hilbert* Esq. of *Wandsworth*. The Maner house stood in a field not far from the Church, but was entirely pulled down some years ago.\*]

PEDIGREE OF DORRIL, ex inform. *Thomas Wood*, Arm. de *Littleton*, Co. *Middlesex*.



\* Pat. 14 Jac. p. 16. n. 8.

† Court Rolls, 20 C. ii.

‡ Off. Arm. K. 6. 45.

¶ Off. Arm. K. 6. 45.

§ Court Rolls.

|| Court Rolls.

¶ Ex inform. *Thomas Wood*, Esq.

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*The Priory.*

The foundation of this PRIORY was laid, according to *Stow*, in the year 1092; but it does not appear to have been completed before the year 1117<sup>a</sup>, when *Robert*, the first Prior, and some *Canons Regular* of the Order of *St. Austin*, began to settle here under the patronage of *GILBERT NORMAN*, Sheriff of *Surrey*, who erected here a fine Church also, dedicated, as the Priory itself was, to the honor of the Virgin *Mary*. He died in the year 1125<sup>b</sup>.

[\* *Mr. Lysons* says, that in the *Heralds' College* is a MS. N° xxviii, which is an ancient narrative of the Foundation, and appears to have been written by a contemporary, as the author mentions some facts as received from the mouth of the Founder. This states that King *Henry* the 1st gave the Maner of *Merton* to *Gilbert Norman*, Sheriff of *Surrey*, who in 1115 built a Convent of wood in this place. Having so done, he requested and obtained the King's patronage for accomplishing the work. He then applied to the Prior of some regular *Canons* who had long flourished in *St. Mary's Church Huntingdon*, and promising to become a benefactor to that fraternity, desired that he would suffer *Robert Bayle*, his Subprior, to superintend the new establishment. This request being granted, he conducted *Bayle* to *Merton*, and delivered up to him the newly erected Convent, of which he was constituted Prior, giving him at the same time two plough lands, a mill of 60s. rent, and some Villans; promising, if he could obtain the King's licence, to settle the whole of the Manor upon the Convent. It was not long before persons from various parts of *England* not only bestowed their goods upon the new Monastery, but also took upon them the religious habit there. The founder brought the prelates and nobles to see the place, and recommended the institution to their patronage. Amongst others Queen *Matilda* came to see the Convent, and was pleased to express a great interest in its welfare. The Prior, after having resided there near two years, began to be dissatisfied with the situation, thinking the present site of the Monastery better adapted for religious retirement; but he had some scruples about making his opinion known, as the founder had already been at so great an expence. The Sheriff, however, soon heard of the Prior's inclinations, which he immediately resolved to gratify, and began to remove the Convent with all possible expedition. A wooden Chapel was soon built and consecrated by *William Giffard*, Bishop of *Winchester*, who was entertained with great cost at the Founder's house. Some of the cells, and part of the cloisters, were at the same time removed. The Prior (who had now resided at *Merton* two years and five months) went in procession, with 15 Brethren, to the new Convent, singing "*Salve Dies*;" the founder himself being present at the solemnity, accompanied with an immense croud. *Gilbert*, as before, brought the nobles to see the new building, and presents soon flowed in: some brought clothes, others wheat, cheese, wine, &c. Queen *Matilda* came again to visit the Prior in his new habitation, and brought with her the Prince her son, that she might interest him for the welfare of the Monastery if he should ever become King. The death of *Matilda*, which happened the same year, and the unfortunate catastrophe of Prince *William* which followed soon after, acted as a severe blow to the Convent, and threatened effectually to impede its rising glory; especially as the King, who was averse to the settlement of lands upon religious houses, refused to consent to the founder giving them the Maner. About this time an expedition to the *Holy Land* was in agitation, and a meeting of the Nobles and Prelates was to be held at *Winchester*; it was the founder's proposal, therefore, that a sum of money should be raised by the Convent, amounting to 100 pounds of silver, and 6 marks of gold, and presented to the King at this seasonable juncture, with a view of procuring his consent. The greater part of this sum the founder contributed himself, and accompanied the Prior to *Winchester*. Their journey was successful, and they returned with the King's Charter of Confirmation. This was in the year 1121. On their return the founder assembled all the men of the village into the Convent, and surrendered the Maner, with all the Villans thereunto belonging, to the Prior and Convent, which then consisted of 23 Brethren. In the year 1130 *Merton Abbey* was first built with stone. The founder himself laid the first stone with great solemnity, the Prior laid the second, and the Brethren, 36 in number, each one. The founder died the same year on the calends of August, and was buried within the walls of the Convent, where there was a monument to his memory. The MS. informs us, that he was born in *Normandy*, and bred a soldier. The splendor and magnificence in which he lived is highly spoken of; and

<sup>a</sup> *Matthew Paris. Matthew Westminster. Tanner's Notitia*, p. 538.

<sup>b</sup> *Ibid.*

his hospitality is said to have been so great, that his doors were constantly kept open that every one who wished might find ready access, and be entertained according to his rank.

The Canons entered the new Convent in 1136, being inducted by the Bishops of *St. Asaph* and *Rochester*, who were deputed for that purpose by Archbishop *Corboyle*†.

This account, however, is certainly incorrect in one particular at least: the King did not give the Maner to *Norman*, but gave it to the Abbey at once, as is proved by the very grant inserted at length in the *Monast. Angl.* vol. II. 135, and which is not a Charter of Confirmation only, as stated above. This writer makes *Gilbert* to have died in 1130; *Matthew Paris* and *Matthew of Westminster* say it was in 1125.\*]

By the munificence of their founder and of subsequent Benefactors, this House became possessed of very considerable Estates; their Rents, &c. amounting according to an *extended* valuation of them, at the time of their dissolution, to no less than what we might now call at least 6000*l.* *per annum*. The following is as complete an account of them as could be procured at this distance of time; besides which however they had many smaller parcels of Land, and rent-charges, in different parts of *England*.

#### The Temporalities of the PRIORY.

1121. 22 *Hen. I.* The KING, at the request of *GILBERT NORMAN* their founder, gave to the *Canons Regular* of this place the Lordship of *Merton*, in the manner already related, to enable them to found a Church here to the honor of the *Virgin Mary*†. In 36 *Hen. III.* they had a grant of *free warren* throughout the same†: and, in 20 *Edw. I.* the Prior had licence to assart, or grub up, and lay to his park at *Merton*, forty acres of his Woods adjoining thereto, and of those of *North Wood* and *le Frith*†.

\*\*\* The Maner of *East Molesey* was probably given to, or procured for them by *Gilbert Norman* aforesaid. They paid a quit-rent of 7*s.* 6*d.* *per annum* for this to the Corporation of *Kingston*†.

\*\*\* \* *Hen. II.* *Ralph de Caisnes* and *Alice* his wife, daughter of *Hugh Maminot*, with the consent of *Walchelin* her brother, Lord of the fee, gave certain lands at *Peckham* in *Kent* to the Priory, which lands had been given to the said *Ralph* and *Alice*, on their marriage, by *Hugh* her father†. This *Alice de Caisnes* was buried at *Merton*, in the Church belonging to the Convent†.

1156. 2 *Hen. II.* KING *Henry II.* gave them all his Maner of *Ewell* in this County, with it's appertinencies†, and also *Kings-wood* and *Selswood* members thereof†: and, in 36 *Hen. III.* they had a grant of *free warren* throughout the same†. Moreover, in 19 *Edw. I.* they had license to inclose *King's-wood* [\* in *Com. Surr.* & extra metas forestæ. \* \*]

The same King *Henry* granted them also pasture for their breeding mares, and pannage in all his forests throughout *England*†. By a subsequent Charter he gave them forty acres of assarted land at *Hertlegh*, *Pecham*, *Hegsend*, and *Upton*†: and, by another, fifty acres of the like assarted land in *Alcunbury* free of all impeachment of waste, &c.† All which grants were confirmed by a Charter of *Rich. I.*† another of *Hen. III.*† and by the Justices on a trial upon a writ of *Quo warranto* in 14 *Edw. I.*†

\*\*\* \* *Rich. I.* King *Richard I.* gave them an hundred and one Acres in *Ewell*, three acres at *Molesey*, and four acres of assarted land at *Grapelyngesham*, without impeachment of assart, and quit of all aids, Escheator's levies, &c.† And in 36 *Hen. III.* they had a grant of *free warren* throughout the same†.

1197. 8 *Rich. I.* *William de Turville* and *Isabel* his wife quit-claimed to the Prior and Convent all their right in the Vill and Maner of *Taplow* in the County of *Buckingham*†; and, in

† [\* *Lysons's Surrey*, p. 339. \*]

† *Cart.* 36 *Hen. III.* m. 11. *Inspec. Cart. Antiq.* n. 4.

† *Ibid.*

† *Pat.* 20 *Edw. I.* m. 5.

† *Rentale Ville de Kingston*, 5 *Hen. V.*

† *Chartul. Merton*, in *Bibl. Cost. Cleop. C.* VII. 20.

† *Ibidem.*

† *Chart. antiq.* V. n. 6. *Rot. Pip.* 5 *Hen. II.* *Test. de Nev.*

† *Testa de Nevil.*

† *Chart.* 36 *Hen. III.* m. 11.

† *Rot. Pat.* 19 *Edw. I.* m. 10.

† *Cart.* 36 *Hen. III.* m. 11. *Cart. antiq.* LL. n. 4.

† *Ibid.*

† *Ibid.*

† *Ibid.*

† *Ibid.*

† *Ibid.*

† *Ibid.*

† *Cart. antiq.* GG. n. 13.

† *Cart.* 36 *Hen. III.* m. 11.

† *Mag. Rot.* 8 *Rich. I.* *Rot.* 12. b. *Buckingham & Bedford.*

*Madox, Exch.* I. 106.

36 *Hen.* III. they had a grant of *free warren* throughout the same<sup>1</sup>. The possession of the Priory in this place amounted to two knight's fees<sup>2</sup>.

The Maners of *Berewell*, *Kingston-Canonbury*, and *Hertingdon*, in *KINGSTON*, did also belong to the Priory; and, in 36 *Hen.* III. they had a grant of *free warren* throughout the same<sup>3</sup>.

They had also a Maner in *Fechem* and a tenement there called *Great Bickney*; and, in 36 *Hen.* III. had a grant of *free warren* throughout the same<sup>4</sup>. This was given on the dissolution of the Priory by Letters Patent, dated 1 July, 36 *Hen.* VIII. to Sir *Anthony Browne*, Knt. [\*and now belongs to the Trustees of Dr. *Hugh Shortrudge* for augmenting certain Vicarages in *Surrey*, of which see in *Great Bookham*.\*]

The Maners of *Biggin* and *Tamworth* with diverse other lands in *Micham* were also a part of their possessions, being holden of the Honor of *Glocester* as *one fourth* of a knight's fee: and, in 36 *Hen.* III. they had a grant of *free warren* in the same<sup>5</sup>.

The Maner of *Werham* in *Bucks* did also belong to the Priory<sup>6</sup>; who had a grant of *free warren* therein in 36 *Hen.* III.<sup>7</sup>

The Maner of *Héverichesham* [\*now called *Hersham*\*] in *Walton upon Thames*, parcel of the Maner of *East Molesey*; in which also they had a grant of *free warren* in 36 *Hen.* III.<sup>8</sup>

They had also lands in *Salthouse* and *Kelling*, Co. *Norfolk*, for which the Prior of *Binham* paid them 5 marcs and 5 s. *per annum* pursuant to a Fine levied between them in 39 *Hen.* III.<sup>9</sup>

Also the Maner of *Holdshot*, (*Aldershot*) Co. *Southampton*, with a Mill, &c. which were granted, 20 April, 36 *Hen.* VIII. to Sir *William St. John*, at a yearly quit-rent of 78s. 8d.<sup>10</sup>

1255. 40 *Hen.* III. *Peter Chacepor*, a native of *Poictiers*, and Treasurer to Queen *Eleanor*, deceasing at *Bologne*, 24 Dec. 1255, bequeathed to the Convent 600 marcs to enable them to purchase lands in *England*<sup>11</sup>.

They had also lands in *Waybridge* forest, Co. *Huntingdon*, in which they had license to assart two acres and an half in 44 *Hen.* III.<sup>12</sup>: also other lands in *Alcmundbury* in the same County, for which they were quit of impeachment of assart in 14 *Edw.* I.<sup>13</sup>

Also an hundred acres of Land at *Mepertshall* in the County of *Bedford*<sup>14</sup>: and a fishery at the Wear at *Brainford*<sup>15</sup>.

The Maner of *South Tatworth* in *Long-Ditton* in this County also belonged to the Priory; being valued in 8 *Edw.* II. at 100s. *per annum*<sup>16</sup>, and holden of the Honor of *Glocester* by the service of *one third*<sup>17</sup>, and afterwards *one fourth*<sup>18</sup>, of a knight's fee.

1359. 33 *Edw.* III. *Thomas Cooke*, Parson of *Tappelowe* Co. *Bucks*, had licence to alienate to the Priory one *toft*, 117½ acres of arable land, 16 acres of pasture, and one acre of wood, with their appertinencies, to hold to them and their successors for ever, in satisfaction of 10l. *per annum* in lands and rents which they were impowered to purchase. The said *toft*, with 46½ acres of the arable land, and the acre of wood, lay in *Ewell* and *Chipsted*, and had been holden of the Priory as of their Maner of *Ewell*, by the service of 12s. 1d. annual rent, providing three men to do one day's work each for the Lord in Harvest, ploughing one day at each of the two seed-times, and suit of his Court at *Ewell*. The remaining 71 acres of arable land, and the 16 acres of pasture, lay in *la Legh*, and had been holden also of the Prior by the service of 9s. 10½d. annual rent and suit of his Court as aforesaid<sup>19</sup>.

1364. 38 *Edw.* III. The [\*demesne lands of the\*] Maner of *Wimbledon* in this County, and pasture for 300 sheep on the Heath in that Lordship, were this year demised to them by the Archbishop of *Canterbury* for a certain term of years at an annual rent of 10l.<sup>20</sup>

They had also twenty acres of arable land in *Wimbledon*, called *Blackland*, lying in one Culture<sup>21</sup> on the West side of the Road leading from the Priory at *Merton* to *Dunesford* in *Wandsworth*;

<sup>1</sup> Cart. 36 *Hen.* III. m. 11.

<sup>2</sup> Fin. *Buck.* 13 *Hen.* III. n. 84.

<sup>3</sup> Fin. *Surrey*.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> Cartular. *Merton*, Bibl. Cott. Cleop. vii. 20.

<sup>7</sup> Cart. 36 *Hen.* III. m. 11.

<sup>8</sup> Ibid.

<sup>9</sup> Year Book 46 *Edw.* III. Pasch. 17. 3 *Edw.* IV. Mich. 17.

<sup>10</sup> Cart. 36 *Hen.* VIII.

<sup>11</sup> Flor. *Histor.*

<sup>12</sup> Pat. 44 *Hen.* III. m. 14.

<sup>13</sup> Plac. Co. *Hunt.* 14 *Edw.* I. Quo Warr. Rot 5. Cart. 10

*Edw.* III. n. 44.

<sup>14</sup> Plac. ap *Bedf.* 4 *Edw.* III. Quo warr. Rot. 15. Cart. 10

*Edw.* III. n. 44.

<sup>15</sup> Esch. 8 *Edw.* II. n. 68.

<sup>16</sup> Esch. 23 *Edw.* III. p. 2. n. 169.

<sup>17</sup> Esch. 49 *Edw.* III. p. 1 or 2. n. 46.

<sup>18</sup> Esch. 33 *Edw.* III. n. 81.

<sup>19</sup> Pat. 38 *Edw.* III. p. 1. m. 34.

<sup>20</sup> "Pars agri latior, uni designata cultui." So *Spelman* in Gloss. from which it should seem to have been the same with *Plough-land*, but that the quantity (20 acres) is too small. I rather conceive it therefore to mean a parcel of land, whether more or less, in the occupation of one person: a small farm.

concerning

concerning which a dispute having arisen between *John Prior of Merton* and the Convent on one part, and *William Crosse*, Master, and the brethren of *St. Thomas's Hospital*, on the other, it was submitted to the arbitration of *Richard Bingham*, one of the Justices of the Common Pleas, under the penalty of 100 marks each to abide the same. The said *Richard*, on Monday next before the feast of the *Ascension* in 36 *Hen. VI.* A° 1458, adjudged that the said Master and Brethren should, under their Common Seal, release and quit-claim to the said Prior and Convent and their successors for ever, all their right and title to the said 20 acres and their appertinencies, before the feast of *Pentecost* next ensuing<sup>1</sup>.

They had also the Maner of, or Lands at least, in *Patric's-Burn* in *Kent*, in which they had certain privileges allowed them in 6 *Edw. II.*<sup>2</sup> Also others at *Harrietsham* in that County, rated, 8 *Rich. II.* at 26s. 8d. *per annum*<sup>3</sup>.

The Maner of *Dunsford* in *Wandesworth* belonged also to the Priory; and 20d. *per annum* rent out of a certain piece of land called *Doun's Croft*, in the Maner of *Downe* in the said parish.

1372. 46 *Edw. III.* *Richard Clere*, on a writ of *ad quod damnum*, had licence to alienate<sup>1</sup> to the Prior and Convent, and their successors for ever, *five Messuages, one Mill, one Carrucate*, and 231 acres and three roods of *arable land*, 20 acres and an half of *meadow*, 19 acres and one rood of *pasture*, 7 acres of *wood*, and 2l. 6s. 7½d. of *assised rents*, in the following places, *viz.*

	Messuages.	Mills.	Arable.	Meadow.	Pasture.	Assised rents.
						£. s. d.
In <i>Micham</i> , holden of the Priory of <i>St. Mary Overy</i> , by fealty and 8s. rent - - - - -	1		16			
In <i>Horsegray</i> in ditto of the Abbess of <i>Berking</i> , by fealty and 6d. rent - - - - -			2			
In <i>Micham</i> and <i>Bedington</i> , of the Priory of <i>Merton</i> , by fealty 8s. rent, and suit of their Court in <i>Micham</i> - - - - -	1	1	5½	12		0 18 8½
In <i>Bandon</i> and <i>Wallingtoth</i> , of the Priory of <i>Merton</i> , by fealty and suit of their Court in <i>Micham</i> - - - - -		car.	8			0 0 8
In <i>Micham</i> , holden of the Priory of <i>Merton</i> , by homage and suit of their Court in <i>Micham</i> - - - - -						0 0 12
In <i>Micham</i> - - - - -			3			
In <i>Micham</i> , holden of <i>Sir John Bernak</i> by knight's service - - - - -			32	8½	7	0 26 3
In <i>Ealdingsworth</i> in <i>Micham</i> , holden of <i>Sir John Dymok's</i> Maner of <i>Toting</i> by fealty and 2d. rent - - - - -			2			
In . . . . . holden of <i>Lady Margaret Burgersh's</i> Maner of <i>Stonecourt</i> , by fealty and 6s. 8d. rent - - - - -			30			
In <i>Carshalton</i> , holden of the said <i>Lady Margaret</i> , by fealty and suit of Court - - - - -			4			
In <i>Carshalton</i> , holden of <i>Sir N. Carew's</i> Maner there, by fealty and 14s. 3d. rent - - - - -		1	2			
In <i>Sutton</i> , holden of the Abbat of <i>Chertsey's</i> Maner there, by fealty and 2d. rent - - - - -	1		6			
In <i>Sutton</i> , holden of <i>Sim. Codington's</i> Maner there, by fealty 4s. rent and suit of Court - - - - -	1		13			
In <i>Sutton</i> , holden of <i>Sir N. Carew's</i> Maner of <i>Carshalton</i> , by fealty and 8d. rent - - - - -			12½			
In <i>Sutton</i> , holden of <i>Nicholas Davy</i> by render of one Clove of <i>Gilliflower</i> - - - - -			1½			
In <i>Southwerk</i> , holden of the Prior of <i>Bermondsey</i> , by fealty and 1d. rent - - - - -	1					
In <i>Hertingdon-combe</i> in <i>Kington</i> , of <i>Sir John Dymok</i> , by fealty 11s. 10d. rent, and suit of his Court of <i>Waleton</i> , [* and 7 acres of wood *] - - - - -			80	12½		
In <i>Tatworth</i> in <i>L. Ditton</i> , of the heirs of <i>John Aylward</i> , by fealty and 5s. rent - - - - -			10			
In <i>Wandesworth</i> , of the Priory of <i>Merton</i> by fealty and suit of their Court of <i>Dunsford</i> - - - - -			4			
	5	1	231½	20½	19½	2 6 7½

<sup>1</sup> Munim. *St. Thomas's Hosp.* pen. *Tho. Attle*, Arm.

<sup>2</sup> *Plac. Co. Kent.* 6 *Edw. II.* *Coren. Rot.* 3.

<sup>3</sup> *Taxatio* in *Chron. Thorn ap. X. Script.* p. 2167.

<sup>4</sup> *Esch.* 46 *Edw. III.* n. 56.

The Maner of *South Tadworth* in *Bansted* also belonged to the Priory; and a right of Common in the same, as also throughout the Maners of *Bansted* and *N. Tadworth*, was confirmed to them by the King's Charter in 2 *Edw.* I.<sup>1</sup>

The Lands called *Cross Lands*, in *Wallington*, in the parishes of *Carshalton* and *Bedington*, were also part of the possessions of the Priory.

They had Lands and Tenements also in *Maldon*, *Chessington*, and *Kingston*, in this County<sup>2</sup>; and others at *Ashsted*<sup>3</sup>. Also a Messuage and Lands in *Hourne* and *Horley*, called *Langshot* and *Prior's Lands*<sup>4</sup>.

The Maner of *Moor-hall* in *Hertfordshire*, with lands and tenements and certain woods called *Lomes Grove* and *Celys Grove*, in *Thorley*, *Sabridgeworth*, and *Stortford* in the same County, belonged also to the Priory: and were granted, 20 Mar. 35 *Hen.* VIII. to *Henry Parker* Lord *Morley*<sup>5</sup>.

A Messuage and Farm in *Merton*, called *West Barns*, and formerly belonging to the Priory, was granted, 12 Sept. 37 *Hen.* VIII. to Sir *Richard* and Sir *John Gresham*, Knts. and *Thomas Gresham* Esq. together with the Tythes thereof, at a yearly quit-rent of 39s. 8d.<sup>6</sup>

[\* For further particulars of this estate, see p. 265.\*]

1423. 1 *Hen.* VI. *William Cheigne* and others, feoffees<sup>a</sup> of the Estates of *John de Hadresham*, delivered seisin, by *Thomas Overton* and others their Attornies, of the Maner of *Comb Nevil* in *Kingston*, late the said *John de Hadresham's*, to the Prior and Convent of this place<sup>c</sup>.—This was granted 28 July, 1547, to *Edward Duke of Somerset*; and after his death and attainder, viz. 27 Feb. 1555-6, to *Ann* his Duchess for life. 18 July, 1571, to *William Lord Burleigh* in fee; whose son *Thomas*, afterwards Earl of *Exeter*, exchanged it in 1579 with *Thomas Vincent*; who sold it, in 1608, to *William Cokayne*. It was next in the family of *Harvey*, and is now the property of the Earl *Spenser*.

In a *Taxation* of the *Temporalities* of the RELIGIOUS in the Archdeaconry of *SURREY*, the following account is given of those belonging to this *Priory*, with the respective sums at which they were rated<sup>d</sup>, viz.

#### The Prior of MERTON hath

	£.	s.	d.		£.	s.	d.
At <i>Kersauton</i> , lands taxed at	-	12	6	6	At <i>Talcworth</i> in <i>Long-Ditton</i> , lands		
At <i>Merton</i> , lands taxed at	-	-	8	10	0	taxed at	- - - 0 16 0
The Maner of <i>Ewelle</i> , taxed at	-	-	6	0	0	At <i>Astede</i> , lands taxed at	- - - 0 13 4
Lands in <i>Bucham</i> , taxed at	-	-	1	5	0	At <i>Waldon</i> , lands taxed at	- - - 0 12 0
Lands in <i>Codington</i> , at	-	-	0	10	0	At <i>Horlee</i> , lands taxed at	- - - 0 5 0
In <i>Kyngeston</i> and <i>Hamme</i> , at	-	-	2	12	0	At <i>Fecham</i> and <i>Ledrede</i> , at	- - - 3 0 0
<i>Berewell</i> , in <i>Kyngeston</i> , at	-	-	0	8	0	At <i>Deneford</i> in <i>Wandsworth</i> , at	- - - 3 10 0
<i>S. Tadworth</i> , in <i>Bansted</i> , at	-	-	1	10	0	At <i>Clapham</i> , lands taxed at	- - - 0 5 0
Maner of <i>E. Molesey</i> , at	-	-	3	6	0	Quit rents in different parts of <i>Surrey</i>	10 0 0

#### The Spiritualities of the PRIORY.

\*\*\* \* *Hen.* I. The Advowson of the Rectory of *Merton*, with licence to appropriate, pleno jure.

\*\*\* \* *Hen.* I. The Advowson of the Rectory of the Church of *KINGSTON* upon *Thames* was given to the Priory by *Gilbert Norman* their founder, together with the four Chapels of *Petersham*, *Richmond*, *E. Molesey*, and *Thames-Ditton*<sup>1</sup>; which they afterwards had licence to appropriate. From which time the Vicar paid them 20s. per annum out of the Obventions, 'till the Convent gave it up temp. *Hen.* III.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Pat. 2 *Edw.* I. m. 23.

<sup>2</sup> Pat. 16 *Rich.* II. p. 2. m. 27.

<sup>3</sup> Taxat. *Beaufort*, f. 11. b.

<sup>4</sup> Cart. 37 *Hen.* VIII.

<sup>5</sup> Cart. 35 *Hen.* VIII.

<sup>6</sup> Cart. 37 *Hen.* VIII.

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<sup>a</sup> Claus. 5 *Hen.* V. m. 5.

<sup>c</sup> Claus. 1 *Hen.* VI. m. 1, 5. Pat. 2 *Hen.* VI. p. 3. m. 22, or 24.

<sup>d</sup> Taxatio *Beaufort*, f. 11. b.

<sup>e</sup> Mon. Angl. II. 135.

<sup>f</sup> Registr. *Merton*, in Bibl. Cott. Cleop., c. vii. 20.



\*\*\* \* *Hen. I.* The *Advowson* of the *Rectory* of EFFINGHAM was given them by *William Dammartin*<sup>a</sup>; and, in 27 *Edw. I.* they had licence to appropriate it<sup>b</sup>.

\*\*\* \* *Hen. I.* The *Advowson* of the *Rectory* of SUTTON, with the Chapel of Roppeley, Co. Southampton, was given by *Eustace Earl of Bologne*<sup>c</sup>; and A° . . . they had licence to appropriate it.

\*\*\* \* *Hen. I.* The *Advowson* of the *Rectory* of UPTON, Co. Bucks, was given by *Pagan de Beauchamp*<sup>d</sup>; and A° . . . they had licence to appropriate the same.

\*\*\* \* *Hen. I.* The *Advowson* of the *Rectory* of STANSTED-ABBOTS, Co. Hertford, was given by *Roger de Waunci*<sup>e</sup>; which afterwards they had licence to appropriate.—This *Impropriation* and *Advowson*, shortly after the dissolution of the Priory, were given to the family of *Baesh*, Lords of the Manor; whereof *Sir Edward Baesh*, in 1676, sold them to *Edmund Feild Esq.*

\*\*\* \* *Hen. I.* The *Advowson* of the *Rectory* of HUNSDON, Co. Hertford, was given them by the same *Roger de Waunci*<sup>f</sup>, and they continued in possession of it 'till their dissolution, but it never was appropriated. The Convent received a Pension from it of 6*s. per annum*<sup>g</sup>. This *Advowson*, after the surrender of the Priory, came to the Crown; and was granted, 1 *Eliz.* to *Henry Cary Lord Hunsdon*, whose great Grandson *John Earl of Dover* sold it to *William Lord Willoughby of Parham*, of whom it was purchased in 1671 by *Matthew Bluck Esq.*

\*\*\* \* *Hen. I.* The *Advowson* of the *Rectory* of EATON-BRAY, Co. Bedford, was given them by *Stephen Earl of Mortaign and Bologne*<sup>h</sup>; and, in 27 *Hen. III.* they had licence to appropriate it<sup>i</sup>. After the dissolution of the Priory, viz. 24 Dec. 38 *Hen. VIII.* it was given to *Trinity College in Cambridge*<sup>j</sup>, [\* who now present to the Vicarage.\* ]

\*\*\* \* *Steph.* The *Advowson* of the *Rectory* of GODMANCHESTER, Co. Huntingdon, was given them by *K. Stephen*<sup>k</sup>; and they afterwards obtained licence to appropriate it. This was granted, after their dissolution, to the Church of *Westminster*.

\*\*\* \* *Steph.* The *Advowson* of the *Rectory* of COBINGTON was given them by *Hugh de la Val*<sup>l</sup>; and, in 12 *Edw. I.* they had licence to appropriate it<sup>m</sup>. And this licence, after some contest about their right, was confirmed to them by the Bishop, 4 May, 1310, pursuant to other Letters patent of *K. Edw. II.*<sup>n</sup>

\*\*\* \* *Steph.* The *Advowson* of the *Rectory* of LONG-DITTON<sup>o</sup> did also belong to the Priory; and they continued in possession of it to the time of their dissolution, receiving from it a pension of 20*s. per annum*.

\*\*\* \* *Hen. II.* They also had the *Advowson* of the *Rectory* of MALDON in this County, and, in 7 *John*, recovered it of *Brien Fitz-Ralph* and *Gunnora* his wife, by whom it had been detained from them<sup>p</sup>. But on the foundation of the College of Maldon by *Walter de Merton* in 1264, it was given to that College<sup>q</sup>, who, 21 Oct. in the same year, had licence to appropriate it<sup>r</sup>. The *Impropriation* and *Advowson* are now in *Merton College, Oxford*.

\*\*\* \* *Hen. II.* The *Advowson* of the *Rectory* of CARSHALTON was given them by *Pharamus of Bologne*<sup>s</sup>, which they afterwards obtained licence to appropriate.

\*\*\* \* *Hen. II.* The *Advowson* of the *Rectory* of CLAPHAM was probably given them also by *Pharamus* aforesaid. They were certainly in possession of it before the commencement of our present Registers<sup>t</sup>, but it was never appropriated to the Convent.

\*\*\* \* *Hen. II.* The *Advowson* of the *Rectory* of GRETWORTH, Co. Northampton, was given them by *Ralph de Caisnes*; and they presented<sup>u</sup> to it temp. *Rich. I.* But in the following reign they released it to *William de Caisnes* his son<sup>v</sup>.

\*\*\* \* *Hen. II.* The *Advowson* of the *Rectory* of COMB-CAISNES, with the Chapel of WOOL, Co. Dorset, was given them by the same *Ralph de Caisnes*<sup>w</sup>; and appropriated to the Convent in 19 *Edw. I.* or before<sup>x</sup>.

<sup>a</sup> Mon. Angl. II. 135.

<sup>b</sup> Pat. 27 *Edw. I.* m. 17, 19, 30. Esch. 27 *Edw. I.* n. 61.

<sup>c</sup> Mon. Angl. II. 135.

<sup>d</sup> Ibid. *Dugdale*, Bar. I. 223.

<sup>e</sup> Ibid. *Newcourt*, Repert. I. 888.

<sup>f</sup> *Newcourt*, Repert. I. 839.

<sup>g</sup> Ecton, &c.

<sup>h</sup> Mon. Angl. II. 135.

<sup>i</sup> Fin. Buck. 27 *Edw. III.* n. 32.

<sup>j</sup> Cart. 38 *Hen. VIII.*

<sup>k</sup> Mon. Angl. II. 135.

<sup>l</sup> Cartul. *Merton*, Bibl. Cott. Cleop. VII. 20.

<sup>m</sup> Reg. *Woodloke*, f. 130. b.

<sup>n</sup> Pat. 2 *Edw. II.* p. 2. m. 4. Reg. *Woodloke*, 130. b.

<sup>o</sup> Plac. Co. Surrey, 7 *Edw. I.* assis. Rot. II.

<sup>p</sup> Fin. 7 *Joh.* m. 9.

<sup>q</sup> Cart. 48 *Hen. III.* m. 2.

<sup>r</sup> Ex archiv. Coll. *Merton*, Oxf.

<sup>s</sup> Mon. Angl. II. 135.

<sup>t</sup> viz. Before A° 1282.

<sup>u</sup> Cartul. *Merton*, supr. cit.

<sup>v</sup> Ibidem.

<sup>w</sup> Mon. Angl. II. 135.

<sup>x</sup> *Hutchins's Dorset*, I. 133. 2d Edit. I. 219.

\*\*\* \* *Hen. II.* The *Advowson* of the *Rectory* of EAST-LULWORTH, Co. *Dorset*, belonged also to the *Priory*<sup>y</sup>, and was appropriated thereto in or before 5 *Edw. II.*<sup>z</sup>.

\*\*\* \* *Hen. II.* To this *Priory* also belonged the *Advowsons* of the Churches of SAXBY and BONDEBY, with those of St. *John*, St. *Paul*, St. *Michael*, and St. *George*, in STAMFORD, Co. *Lincoln*, which, in 1 *John*, they gave to the *Priory* of St. *Fromond* in *Normandy*<sup>a</sup>. Soon after, a *Priory* was erected at *Bondeby* as a cell to St. *Fromond*, which being granted in 4 *Hen. IV.*<sup>b</sup> to the *Chartreux* at *Beauvale*, Co. *Nottingham*, these *Advowsons* became the property of that *Monastery*<sup>c</sup>.

\*\*\* \* *Hen. II.* The *Advowson* of the *Rectory* of MIDDLETON-BRIEN, Co. *Bedford*, was given them by Robert *Fitz-Brien*<sup>d</sup>; and they received an annual pension from it of 6s. 8d.

\*\*\* \* *John.* The *Advowson* of the *Rectory* of BARTON, Co. *Cambridge*, did also belong to the *Priory*, to whom a fine thereof was passed in 11 *John*, by Thomas le Mamber and Matilda his wife<sup>e</sup>, and who afterwards obtained licence to appropriate it. This *Rectory* and *Advowson* were granted 21 June, 36 *Hen. VIII.* to the *Provost* and *Scholars* of King's College in *Cambridge*<sup>f</sup>, but are now in the *Bishop* of *Ely*.

\*\*\* \* *Hen. III.* The *Advowson* of the *Rectories* of St. *Trinity* and St. *Mary* in GILDFORD were given them by William *Testard*<sup>g</sup>.

\*\*\* \* *John.* The *Advowson* of the *Rectory* of FLORE, Co. *Northampton*, was probably given them by Ralph de *Caines*<sup>h</sup>. They afterwards got licence to appropriate it. This *Rectory* and *Advowson* were granted, 11 Dec. 38 *Hen. VIII.* to the *Dean* and *Chapter* of *Christ-Church* in *Oxford*<sup>i</sup>.

\*\*\* 2 *Hen. III.* The *Advowson* of the *Rectory* of TWINSTED in *Essex* was given them this year by Philip Lord *Basset* of *Wycomb*<sup>j</sup>; and they continued in possession of it till the dissolution of the *Priory*, from which time it hath remained in the *Crown*.

\*\*\* \* *Hen. III.* The *Advowson* of the *Rectory* of PATRIC'S-BURN in *Kent* did also belong to the *Priory*; and, in 42 *Hen. III.* they had licence to appropriate it<sup>k</sup>. It was valued, 8 *Rich. II.* at 33*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*<sup>l</sup>

\*\*\* \* *Hen. III.* About this time also they became possessed of the *Advowson* of *Ryarsh* in *Kent*; the *Rectory* of which was appropriated to the *Convent* by Richard de *Wendover* *Bishop* of *Rochester*, in 1242<sup>m</sup>.

\*\*\* 52 *Hen. III.* The *Advowson* of the *Priory*, or rather of the *Rectory* of St. *James* (formerly St. *Keby* and St. *Januarius*) at TREGONEY in *Cornwall*, was obtained this year of the *Abbey* de *Valle* in *Normandy*, in exchange for other lands<sup>n</sup>.

They had also the *Advowson* of the *Rectory* of DUN'S-TEW, Co. *Oxford*, which was afterwards appropriated to them<sup>o</sup>. This was granted after the dissolution of the *Priory*, viz. 15 Sept. 37 *Hen. VIII.* to Richard *Andrews* *Esq.*<sup>p</sup>

They had also

The *Advowson* and *Rectory* appropriated of KIMPTON, Co. *Hereford*<sup>q</sup>.

The *Advowson* and *Rectory* appropriated of BURY-POMEROY, Co. *Devon*<sup>r</sup>.

The *Advowson* and *Rectory* appropriated of NORTON-MIDSUMMER, Co. *Somerset*<sup>s</sup>.

The *Advowson* of the *Rectory* of EWHURST in this County; from which the *Prior* received a Pension. This Pension is by some called 20*s.* per annum, by others<sup>t</sup>, 40*s.* But in a *Char-tulary*<sup>u</sup> of the *Priory* it is called 60*s.* and, in *Hilary Term*<sup>v</sup>, 16 *Edward IV.* was recovered by the *Prior*, with the arrears and costs, of Thomas *Myddleton* then *Rector*.

The *Advowson* of the *Rectory* of HEDLEY, Co. *Southt.*<sup>w</sup>

The *Advowson* of the *Rectory* of SHIRFIELD, Co. *Southt.*<sup>x</sup>

The *Advowson* of the *Rectory* of YELLING, Co. *Hunt.*<sup>y</sup> Pension 4*l.*

The *Advowson* of the *Rectory* of ASHCOMB, Co. *Devon*<sup>z</sup>. Pension 6*s.*

The *Advowson* of the *Rectory* of HARDRES parva, Co. *Kent*<sup>aa</sup>. Pension 13*s.* 4*d.*

<sup>y</sup> *Hutchins*, *Dorset*, I. 143. 2d Edit. I. 231.

<sup>z</sup> *Id.* *ibid.* <sup>a</sup> *Cart.* 1 *Joh.* p. 2. n. 38. 57.

<sup>b</sup> *Pat.* 4 *Hen. IV.* p. 2. m. 31. *Pat.* 3 *Hen. V.* p. 1. m. 30.

<sup>c</sup> *Ecton* ad loc. <sup>d</sup> *Mon. Angl.* II. 135.

<sup>e</sup> *Cartular. Merton*, *Bibl. Cott. Cleop.* VII. 20. *Plac. co. Cam-bridge*, 4 *Joh. Rot.* 5. d. *Fin.* 11 *Joh.* n.

<sup>f</sup> *Cart.* 36 *Hen. VIII.* <sup>g</sup> *Mon. Angl.* II. 135.

<sup>h</sup> *Ibid.* <sup>i</sup> *Pat.* 38 *Hen. VIII.* p. 8.

<sup>j</sup> *Newcourt*, *Repert.* II. 611. *Morant*, *Essex*, II. 272. *Rot. Fin.* 2 *Hen. III.*

<sup>k</sup> *Cartul. Ap'i. MS. Bodl. Plac. co. Kent*, 7 *Edw. I.* *Rot.* 55.

<sup>l</sup> *Decim. Script.* p. 2167.

<sup>m</sup> *Fin. div. Com.* 52 *Hen. III.* n. 18.

<sup>n</sup> *Cart.* 37 *Hen. VIII.*

<sup>o</sup> *Willis. Ecton. Cartul. Merton, Bib. Cott. Cleop.* VII. 20.

<sup>p</sup> *Id.* *Id.* & *Id.* <sup>q</sup> *Id.* *Id.* & *Id.* <sup>r</sup> *Ecton.*

<sup>s</sup> *Bodl. Val.* 20 *Edw. I.* *Tax. Beauf.* f. 7, b.

<sup>t</sup> *Cartul. Mert. pen. Tho. Astle*, arm.

<sup>u</sup> *Plac. ap. Westm.* Hil. 16 *Edw. IV.*

<sup>v</sup> *Cartul. Mert. supr. cit.*

<sup>w</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>x</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>y</sup> *Registr. Roff.*

<sup>z</sup> *Ecton.*

<sup>aa</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>bb</sup> *Ibid.*

The *Advowson* of the Rectory of TAPLOW, Co. Buck.<sup>d</sup>

The *Advowson* of the Rectory of ST. PETER in the Fields, alias Merton St. Peter's in the town of BEDFORD<sup>e</sup>.

The *Advowson* of the Rectory of STONDEN, Co. Bedf.<sup>f</sup> Pension 8s.

The *Advowson* of the Rectory of WHIPSNADE, Co. Bedf.<sup>g</sup> Pension 6s. 8d.

The *Advowson* of the Rectory of PLUMSTED, Co. Norf.<sup>h</sup>

The *Advowson* of the Rectory of WOLDINGHAM is said also to have belonged to the Priory, to whom also it is supposed to have been *appropriated*<sup>i</sup>; but on what foundation I know not. It was certainly presented to as a Rectory, and that by Lay-Patrons (chiefly those of the Stafford family) as late as the year 1468<sup>j</sup>.

PRIORS<sup>k</sup>.

A. D.

1117. ROBERT BAYLE, some time Sub-Prior of the regular Canons at *Huntingdon*<sup>l</sup>.

\*\*\*

\*\*\* ROBERT OCCURS A° 1163, and 1188<sup>m</sup>.

1190. RICHARD. He died 22 Mar. 1198, and was succeeded by

1198. WALTER<sup>n</sup>: who, taking the habit of a *Carthusian* Monk in 1218, retired from his office of Prior, and was succeeded by

1218. THOMAS, celerar<sup>o</sup>, who occurs as a witness, by the name of *Thomas Wllst*, Prior of Merton, to a Grant of *Odo Dammartin* to the Hospital of *Tanrige*<sup>o</sup>. His election is mentioned in the Chronicle of Dunstaple sub anno<sup>o</sup>. He died in 1222, and the King assented to the election of

RALPH de GILLING, 12 Sept. 6 Henry III.<sup>o</sup>

1222. GILES de BOURNE, a canon of the house, elected 25 Oct.<sup>o</sup> After he had presided between eight and nine years, he took the *Cistercian*<sup>o</sup> habit at *Beaulieu* co. *Hant.* A° 1231<sup>o</sup>, and was succeeded by another canon.

1231. HENRY, or HUGH de BASYNG, sub-cellarer of the church<sup>o</sup>; who died 22 Dec. 1238.

1238. ROBERT de HEXHAM, or HEGHAM, was installed 6 Jan. 1238-9. In his time, viz. A° 1241, the Seal of the Convent was renewed, of Silver<sup>o</sup>, and solemnly received into the House on the Eve of the festival of *St. Lucia*, viz. 12 Dec. This *Robert* died in 1249, and was succeeded by

1249. EUSTACHIUS, who died in 1252, and had for his successor

1252. GILBERT de ASHE, who was Prior forty years, and died A° 1292.

1292. NICHOLAS GREGORY; on whose decease, four years after,

1296. EDMUND de HERIARD was elected 28 Nov. 1296. He had been absolved from excommunication for paying money to the King's use notwithstanding the Pope's interdict<sup>o</sup>. At a Visitation of the Priory by *Robert* Archbishop of *Canterbury* (during the vacancy of the See of *Winchester*) in the latter end of 1304, no less than *thirty-seven* articles of complaint were exhibited against this Prior for diverse irregularities<sup>o</sup>: in consequence whereof he thought proper (yet not without the most vehement protestations of his innocence) to resign his office and dignity, 25 Sept. 1305<sup>o</sup>. The new Bishop, who presided in the Chapter on this occasion, with the consent of the Sub-Prior and Canons, permitted him however to reside within the Convent; with Lodgings convenient for himself and any one member of the House whom he should chuse to live with him; a 'Squire of the Body, and one Servant to attend on his person, with a suitable allowance for each<sup>o</sup>. On the 13th of October, the Bishop certified the Vacancy to the KING, as Patron<sup>o</sup>; who, on the 12th

<sup>d</sup> Ibid. <sup>e</sup> Ibid. <sup>f</sup> Ibid. <sup>g</sup> Ibid. <sup>h</sup> Ibid.

<sup>i</sup> Willis. Surv. of Cath. III. 55. Salmon, Ant. of Surrey, p. 64.

<sup>j</sup> Reg. Episc. Wint. Wainfl. I. f. 159, b.

<sup>k</sup> From Willis's Mitr. Abb. II. 231, and his Addenda at the end of Tanner's Notitia Monastica, with Additions from Records, &c.

<sup>l</sup> So Mr. Lysons in his "Environs of London, Vol. I. Art. Merton; from a MS. in Coll. Arm. No. 28.

<sup>m</sup> Cartul. Mert. Bibl. Cott. Cleop. VII. 20.

<sup>n</sup> Ann. Waverl. which inform us also that he died A° 1222.

1218. Dominus Walterus prior de Merton ad ordinem Carthusie se transtulit.—1222. Obiit pie memorie Walterus quondam prior Meriton quarto anno ex quo suscepit habitum ordinis Carthusie.

He was contemporary with Hugh abbot of Oxeney, and Robert abbot of Evesham.

<sup>o</sup> Rex concedit Mon. de Merton licenciam eligendi priorem quia Walterus nuper prior transierat ad habitum Carthus. dat. 2 Aug. 2 Hen. III.

<sup>p</sup> Mon. Angl. II. 403.

<sup>q</sup> Rex concessit licenciam eligendi prioris de Merton per mortem Thome prioris 1 Sept. 6 Hen. III.

Rex prebuit assensum electioni facte de Thoma quondam celerario de Merton in priorem ejusdem, 6 Nov. 3 Hen. III.

<sup>r</sup> Pat. 6 Hen. III.

<sup>s</sup> Chron. de Dunstaple.

<sup>t</sup> Ann. Wav. A° 1231. "relicta pastoralis cura."

<sup>u</sup> Chron. de Dunstaple.

<sup>v</sup> Ib.

<sup>w</sup> Ann. Wav. A° 1241.

<sup>x</sup> Reg. Pontifara epi Winton.

<sup>y</sup> Reg. Woodloke, f. 34, a.

<sup>z</sup> Ibid.

<sup>aa</sup> Id. f. 13, b.

of November, issued his Writ for the election of a successor. On the 1st of December (a Chapter having in the mean time been holden for that purpose, in which one part of the Canons had re-elected the deposed Prior, and the other had chosen *William de Brokesbourn*) they made a double return to the Bishop; who, not being able to bring them to a compromise, dismissed them for the present; and, on the 3d of December, certified their proceedings to the King. On the 27th of that month, the King issued a Writ to the *Bishop* to procede in the appointment of a Prior<sup>b</sup>: which being followed by a Petition from the Convent on the 30th<sup>c</sup>, who also deputed *Geffery de Alkemundbury* and *John de Suavesey* to accept his nomination, the former was at length appointed by the Bishop on the 5th of March ensuing<sup>d</sup>.

During these transactions, the deposed Prior having, under favour of the indulgence that had been granted him, found means to strengthen his Party by the Cabals he had set on foot; and, by the entertainments he had given for that purpose, brought an unwarrantable charge upon the Convent; was farther degraded to the state of a mere Canon of the House, and reduced to spend the remainder of his days amongst the brethren in the Cloister<sup>e</sup>.

1305. EDMUND dies; and GEFERY de ALKEMUNDBURY was appointed Prior by the Bishop, 5 Mar. 1305-6<sup>f</sup>. He died the year following, and was succeeded by

1307. WILLIAM de BROKESBOURN, or BRYKESBON, 17th Prior; whose confirmation by the Bishop<sup>g</sup>, and mandate of Induction<sup>h</sup> bear date 10 June, 1307. On his death

1334. THOMAS de KENTON, 18th Prior, was elected 19 Mar. 1334-5<sup>i</sup>, and confirmed by the Bishop 24 April following<sup>j</sup>. His successor was

1339. JOHN de LUTLYNGTON, or LITTLETON, whose Election was confirmed by the Bishop, 5 Nov. 1339<sup>k</sup>. He was deposed in 1345; as *Willis* informs us; but the Registers of this period being lost, we know nothing of the cause, nor of the proceedings thereupon.

1345. WILLIAM FREESTON was elected; and, dying in 1361, was succeeded by

1361. GEFERY de CHADDESLEY, 21st Prior, who died in 1368<sup>l</sup>.

1368. ROBERT de WYNDESORE was elected, and his Election confirmed by the Bishop, 27 Oct. 1368<sup>m</sup>. He died 6 May, 1403, and was succeeded by

1403. MICHAEL KIMPTON, D. D. <sup>n</sup> of the University of *Oxford*, whose Election was confirmed by the Bishop 30 June, 1403<sup>o</sup>. He died in 1413<sup>p</sup>.

1413. JOHN ROMENEY was elected, and confirmed Prior by commission from the Bishop to *Walter de Medeford* his Chancellor, 4 May, 1413<sup>q</sup>. He died in 1422.

1422. THOMAS SCHIRFELD succeeded, but resigned in 1432, when

1432. WILLIAM KENT was elected Prior, and, after him,

\* \* \* JOHN KINGSTON, D. D. who died 2 Jan. 1484-5<sup>r</sup>.

1484. JOHN GISBURNE was elected 14 Jan.<sup>s</sup> and confirmed 1 Feb. 1484-5. He died 7 Mar. 1501-2<sup>t</sup>.

1501. WILLIAM SALYNG, or SEILING, was elected Prior 16 Mar. 1501-2<sup>u</sup>; and died 14 Mar. 1519-0.<sup>v</sup>

1520. JOHN LACY, Sub-Prior, was elected Prior, 26 Mar. 1520<sup>w</sup>, and the King signified his assent thereto on the day following<sup>x</sup>. He died 16 Jan. 1529-0<sup>y</sup>.

1529. JOHN RAMSEY, Sub-Prior, was elected Prior 31 Jan. 1529-0<sup>z</sup>, and appears to have been living in 1534-5<sup>aa</sup>.

\* \* \* JOHN BOWLE, B. D. <sup>d</sup> and Fellow of *All Souls College* in *Oxford*, was the thirtieth<sup>ab</sup> and last Prior of this House: who, with fourteen Monks, surrendered it to the King, 16 April, 1538, 29 *Hen. VIII.* <sup>c</sup> He had a Pension of 200 Marcs (133*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*) *per annum* assigned him for life<sup>ac</sup>, and was afterwards promoted to a Canonry of *Windsor*, where he died 15 Aug. 1558<sup>ad</sup>.

The PRIOR of this House was elected by the Monks, by virtue of the King's licence for that purpose; and afterwards confirmed by the Bishop of *Winchester*, whose jurisdiction, as Diocesan, was expressly reserved in the Charter of their foundation by K. *Henry I.*<sup>ae</sup>

<sup>b</sup> Regist. *Woodl.* f. 30, a.

<sup>c</sup> Ibid.

<sup>d</sup> Id. 30, b. 31, a, b.

<sup>e</sup> Id. f. 32, a, b. 33, a.

<sup>f</sup> Id. ibid.

<sup>g</sup> Id. f. 60, b. 61, a.

<sup>h</sup> Id. Instit. f. 9, a.

<sup>i</sup> Regist. *Oriet.* I. f. 16, b.

<sup>j</sup> Id. f. 17, b.

<sup>k</sup> Id. f. 81, a.

<sup>l</sup> Regist. *Wickham.* I. f. 12, b.

<sup>m</sup> Id. ibid.

<sup>n</sup> *Sacræ pagine professor.*

<sup>o</sup> Id. f. 335, b.

<sup>p</sup> Regist. *Beauf.* Commiss. f. 49, b.

<sup>q</sup> Id. ibid.

<sup>r</sup> *Wainflete*, II. f. 96, b. &c.

<sup>s</sup> Ibid.

<sup>t</sup> *Fox*, I. f. 17, a. &c.

<sup>u</sup> Ibid. *Suscepit gradum* S. T. P. Ox. Ath. Ox. I. 640.

<sup>v</sup> *Fox*, IV. f. 26, a.

<sup>w</sup> Ibid.

<sup>x</sup> Id. IV. f. 24, b.

<sup>y</sup> *Wolsey*, f. 29, a.

<sup>z</sup> Ibid.

<sup>aa</sup> *Fox*, V. f. 172, a.

<sup>ab</sup> *Wood*, Ath. Ox. I. 112, mentions him

1537.

<sup>ac</sup> *Frith*, Catal. Can. *Winds.*

<sup>ad</sup> *Cartul. Mert.* p. *Tho. Astle.*

<sup>ae</sup> *Willis*, Abb. II. 232.

<sup>af</sup> Id. ibid.

<sup>ag</sup> *Frith*, ubi supra. Ath. Ox. I. 690.

<sup>ah</sup> *Mon. Angl.* II. 135.

This Monastery was one of those which anticipated the designs of the Crown upon the greater Convents (whose dissolution was first provided for by the Act of 31 *Hen. VIII.* c. 13.) by a voluntary surrender of it's Estates. The annual Revenue hereof, as in the original account taken by Commissioners, and delivered to the King<sup>k</sup>, was 1039*l.* 5*s.* 3*d.*; but, according to a Valuation taken also by Commissioners<sup>l</sup>, in 26 *Hen. VIII.* 957*l.* 19*s.* 5*d.*<sup>1</sup>; the former being, as is with great probability supposed, the *extended*, the latter, the *clear* yearly value of it's Estates.

Of the Pensions granted to the Members of this House, on the surrender of it (and which were allowed on these occasions to all who were not *Novices*, *Probationers*, or already *beneficed*<sup>m</sup>) there remained in charge, at the dissolution of the Court of *Augmentations*, in 7 *Edw. VI.* A° 1553.

	<i>£.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
The PRIOR's Pension of 200 Marcs °, or	133	6	8
<i>Thomas Painell's</i> - - 15 - - - or	10	0	0
<i>John Debenham's</i> - - 12 - - - or	8	0	0
<i>John Codrington's</i> - - 10 - - - or	6	13	4
<i>John Salyng's</i> - - - 10 - - - or	6	13	4
<i>John Pagge's</i> - - - 10 - - - or	6	13	4
<i>George Curson's</i> - - 10 - - - or	6	13	4
<i>Robert Knight's</i> - - 10 - - - or	6	13	4
<i>Thomas Mitchell's</i> - - 10 - - - or	6	13	4

The Site of the PRIORY, from the time of it's dissolution, in 29 *Hen. VIII.* remained in the Crown 'till 14 Nov. 1558; when it was granted, by K. *Philip* and Q. *Mary*, with all it's demesne lands, meadows, pastures, commons and hereditaments whatsoever, and all it's appertinencies heretofore demised, let or occupied therewith, and late in the tenure or occupation of Sir *Thomas Heneage*, Knt. or his assigns, to the Prior and Convent of *Shene*, then newly re-founded by the Queen<sup>p</sup>. But this House being also dissolved by her successor in less than a year after, the premises reverted to the Crown.

Queen *Elizabeth*, by her Letters patent bearing date on the 7th day of January in the 29th year of her reign, A° 1586-7<sup>q</sup>, granted it, by the description of "All that House and Scite of " the late Priory of *Merton* (alias *Marten*, alias *Marston*) in the County of *Surrey* then dissolved; " and all houses, edifices, barns, stables, dovecotes, garden-grounds, orchards, gardens, mills, land and " soil, within the scite and precinct of the said late dissolved Priory; and several parcels of land " therein particularly specified, with their appertinencies, situate, lying, and being in *Marten* " (alias *Marston*, alias *Merton*) *Moredon*, *Micheam* alias *Michelham*, *Stretham*, and *Long Ditton* " in the said County of *Surrey*, and to the said late Priory of *Marten* (alias *Marston*, alias *Merton*) " late belonging, and in the proper hands, culture, and occupation of the late Prior and Con- " vent of the said late Priory, to the use of their House at the time of the dissolution thereof, " (excepting all great Trees, Woods, Underwoods, Wards, Mines, and Quarries of all and " singular the premises)" unto *Gregory Lovel*, Esq. (second son of Sir *Francis Lovel*, Knt. of *Harling* in *Norfolk*<sup>r</sup>, and) Cofferer of her household; to hold to the said *Gregory* for twenty-one years from Michaelmas then last past.

Also, by other letters patent, dated 17 Feb. 1589-0, and in the 32d year of her reign<sup>s</sup>, the Queen did demise to the said *Gregory*, all the premises as above described; to hold to him, his heirs and assigns, for the farther term of twenty-one years from the determination of the former grant, under the yearly rent of 26*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*

At length, by her letters patent bearing date the 15th day of May in the 42d year of her reign, A° 1600<sup>t</sup>, the said Queen, in consideration of the laudable services of *Charles* Earl of *Nottingham*, Baron *Howard* of *Effingham*, K. G. and High Admiral of *England*, and at the humble petition of the said Earl, did give and grant unto *Nicholas Zouch*, Esq. and *Thomas Ware*, Gent. servants of the said Earl, their heirs and assigns, the said House and Site of the

<sup>k</sup> *Speed*, p. 799.

<sup>l</sup> *Mon. Angl.* I. 1038.

<sup>p</sup> *Pat.* 5, 6 *Ph.* and *M.* p. 4.

<sup>m</sup> *Fuller*, *Hist. Abb.* p. 341. 343.

<sup>q</sup> *Recit.* in *Pat.* 42 *Eliz.* p. 19.

<sup>r</sup> *Willis*, *Abb.* II. 232.

<sup>s</sup> *Blomfield*, *Norf.* I. 218.

<sup>t</sup> Unless perhaps withdrawn on his promotion to *Windsor*.

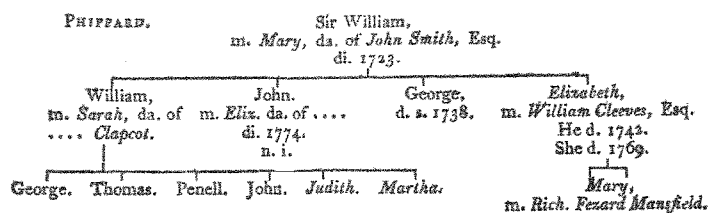
<sup>u</sup> *Recit.* in *Pat.* 42 *Eliz.* p. 19.

<sup>v</sup> *Pat.* 42 *Eliz.* p. 19.

Priory of *Merton* with other the premises as already described, late parcel of the possessions of the late Priory or House of *Jesus of Bethlehem* at *Shene*, and formerly parcel of the possessions of the late Priory of *Marton*; to hold unto, and to the use of, the said *Nicholas Zouch* and *Thomas Ware*, their heirs and assigns for ever (in trust nevertheless, as it should seem, for the said *Charles Earl of Nottingham*, to whom it was accordingly conveyed by them in the year following) of the Queen, her heirs and successors, in chief, by the service of one fortieth part of one Knight's fee, and under the yearly rent of 26*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* which fee-firm of 26*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* was granted, by Pat. 2. C. I. p. 4. n. 3. to *Henrietta-Maria*, Queen of *Charles I.* in part of her dower.

In 1604. 2 *Jam.* the Earl of *Nottingham* conveyed his interest in this Estate to *John Spilman*; by whom, on 1 April, 1606, 4 *Jam.* it was farther conveyed <sup>a</sup> to Sir *Thomas Cornwallis*, and by him, 1 May, 1613, 11 *Jam.* to *Thomas Merbury*; who conveyed to Sir *Edward Bellingham*, Knt. and *William Ashenden*, in trust for Sir *Francis Clarke* Knt. of *Putney* in this County<sup>7</sup>: who, by his Deed inrolled in Chancery, and bearing date 29 June, 1624, conveyed it to *Rowland Wilson*, Esq.<sup>a</sup> of this parish, and his heirs<sup>a</sup>. By his Will, dated 1 Feb. 1651, and proved 1 June, 1654, this *Rowland* devised it, among other estates [\*subject to the charitable donations after mentioned\*] to *Mary* his wife for her life; and afterwards to *Samuel Wilson* and others, in trust to sell the same for the benefit of eleven grandchildren, whereof *Ellis Crispe* the eldest appears to have purchased the shares of the rest. For, by Lease and Release, dated 20 and 21 Dec. 1661, this Estate was conveyed to him. By other like Deeds, bearing date 4, 5 June, 1668, the premises were conveyed by *Crispe* to *Thomas Pepys*, Esq. of *Hatcham Barns* in this County, Master of the Jewel Office in the reigns of *Charles II.* and *James II.* from whom they descended to *Olivia* his only daughter and heir (by *Ursula* daughter of *Bryan Stapylton*, Esq.) with whom they went in marriage, in 1683, to *Edward Smith*, Esq. son and heir apparent of Sir *Edward Smith* of *Edmundthorpe* in the County of *Leicester*, Knt.: which *Edward*, by Lease and Release, dated 8, 9 June, 1696, conveyed them to *Susanna* relict of *Henry St. John*, Esq. of *Farley Chamberlayne* in the County of *Southampton*; by whom they were released, 23 Oct. 1701, to *William Hubbard*, Esq. of *Stoke near Gildford*, Paymaster and Accomptant of the Navy Office. This *William* died 8 Dec. 1709; and, an Act having passed, 16 May, 1711<sup>b</sup>, for selling his Estates to satisfy his debts to the Crown, and to preserve the surplus for the uses therein mentioned, the site of the Priory with it's appertinencies, having been vested by the aforesaid Act in *William Cotesworth* and *Thomas Lake*, Esqrs. for that purpose, was, by bargain and sale dated 19 June 1711 and inrolled in Chancery, conveyed by the said *William Cotesworth* to *William Ashurst*, Esq. and his heirs, by and with the direction of Sir *Stephen Evans* and *Henry St. John*, Esq. in trust for Sir *William Phippard*, Knt. who thus became possessed of it<sup>c</sup>.

Sir *William Phippard* represented the borough of *Pool* in the County of *Dorset* in the several Parliaments of 12th and 13th of *William III.* and 1st, 4th, 6th, and 9th of *Ann*<sup>d</sup>; and died in 1723; leaving, by *Mary* his wife, daughter of *John Smith*, Esq. of *Huckney* (who deceased in April 1726) three sons, and one daughter, *Elizabeth*, wife of *William Cleeves* of *Pool* merchant, to whom he left this estate by Will, as Tenents in common in tail, with cross remainders over; shortly after which, *John* and *George*, the two younger sons, and the said *Elizabeth* their sister, suffered recoveries of their respective shares. *George*, the youngest of the three sons, died



unmarried in 1738, having devised his share of this Estate to *William* and *John* his brothers, and *Elizabeth Cleeves* his sister, and the heirs of their bodies lawfully begotten as Tenents in common and for want of such issue to his own

<sup>a</sup> Pat. 4 *Jam.* p. 16.

<sup>a</sup> Pat. 11 *Jam.* p. 36.

<sup>7</sup> Pat. 10 *Jam.* p. 30.

<sup>a</sup> Will of *Rowland Wilson* in Off. Prerog. prob. June, 1644. But Note, that this *Rowland* is not the same with *Rowland* mentioned under the article of the *Rectory*, and in the pedigree thereto annexed. For that *Rowland* was dead before 1643; in which year we find his Widow (whose name also was Ca-

tharine and not *Mary*) the wife of a second husband, viz. *John Highlord*. The *Rowland* here spoken of was therefore probably a younger son of his.

<sup>a</sup> Pat. 20 *Jam.* p. 20.

<sup>b</sup> Journ. H. Comm. XVI. 669.

<sup>c</sup> Ex informat. R. F. Mansfield, Arm.

<sup>d</sup> *Chandler's Lists*.

right heirs: *John*, the second brother, (who was of *Hamworthy*, in the county of *Dorset*) died also without issue, in 1774; when one moiety of that Estate which he took under the Will of his brother *George* deceased, resorted to his eldest and surviving brother *William*, and the residue thereof and of all his Estates real and personal, he gave unto *Mary Cleves* his niece; which *Mary* is now the wife of *Richard Fezard Mansfield Esq.* of *Ringwood*, in the county of *Southampton*. [\* *Mr. Mansfield* now holds two thirds of the estate, the other third belongs to *Mr. Charles Smith*, of *Bunhill Row* a wholesale watchmaker, who purchased it of the family of *Phippard*. \*]

This *Priory* was situate on the bank of the little River *Wandle*, at the distance of seven miles from *London*, and occupied, in it's antient state, no less than sixty acres of ground. How far the zeal of the Commissioners exerted itself in the demolition of it at the time of it's surrender, or what waste may have been since committed by the successive proprietors of it, we cannot pretend to say. It was probably reduced to it's present state, (in which however very considerable remains of it's outer walls are standing) by the caution of Parliament in the time of the late civil wars; when the consideration of it was judged of importance enough to be referred to a Committee, 4 July, 1648, with directions for putting it into such condition, as that no use might be made of it to the endangering the peace of the kingdom.

*Thomas Becket*, born at *London* in 1119<sup>a</sup>, afterwards Archbishop of *Canterbury* and Chancellor of *England*, was educated in this House under *Robert* the first Prior. His zeal for the pretended privileges of his Order, his struggles with the Crown in support of them, and the tragical conclusion of his life and greatness, may be seen at large in the historians of his time.

It was at this place, according to *Lambard*<sup>b</sup>, that the treaty of Peace was concluded, A° 1217, between *William Mareschall* Earl of *Pembroke* and Regent, on the part of *K. Henry III.* and *Lewis* the Dauphin: But *M. Paris* and other writers place this transaction at a little island in the *Thames* near *Stanes*.

When *Hubert de Burgh*, some time Chief Justice of *England*, being required, in 16 *Hen. III.* to give an account of his conduct and administration, found his ruin resolved upon, and despaired of vindicating himself to his judges, most of which were his enemies, he took sanctuary in this House, [\* the king ordered him to come before the Court and abide the law, but he refused to quit his asylum. The king being much incensed sent to the Lord Mayor of *London*, and ordered him to summon all the citizens capable of bearing arms, and proceed to *Merton* to take *Burgh* dead or alive. The citizens, with whom he was very unpopular, hastened towards *Merton*, in number about 20,000, and the Chief Justice flying to the High Altar waited the event. In the mean time the king, through the intercession of the *Earl of Chester* and *Bishop of Chichester* was induced to alter his purpose; the citizens were recalled, and *Burgh* remained there \*] 'till the Archbishop of *Dublin* procured his enlargement<sup>c</sup>.

On the 23d Jan. 20 *Hen. III.* A° 1235-6, a Parliament was holden at this place, when those Statutes were enacted which are still known by the name of the Statutes of *Merton*. At this Meeting also it was that the *Barons* so resolutely withstood the insidious overtures of the *Prelacy*, for the introduction of the *Imperial* and *Canon* Laws; their spirited reply to which will ever be remembered to their honour, NOLUMUS LEGES ANGLIÆ MUTARE<sup>m</sup>.

[\* 12

<sup>c</sup> Ex informat. supradicta.

<sup>d</sup> [\* From the same inform. 18:2. \*]

<sup>e</sup> Journ. H. Comm. V. 623.

<sup>f</sup> Chron. August. Cantuar.

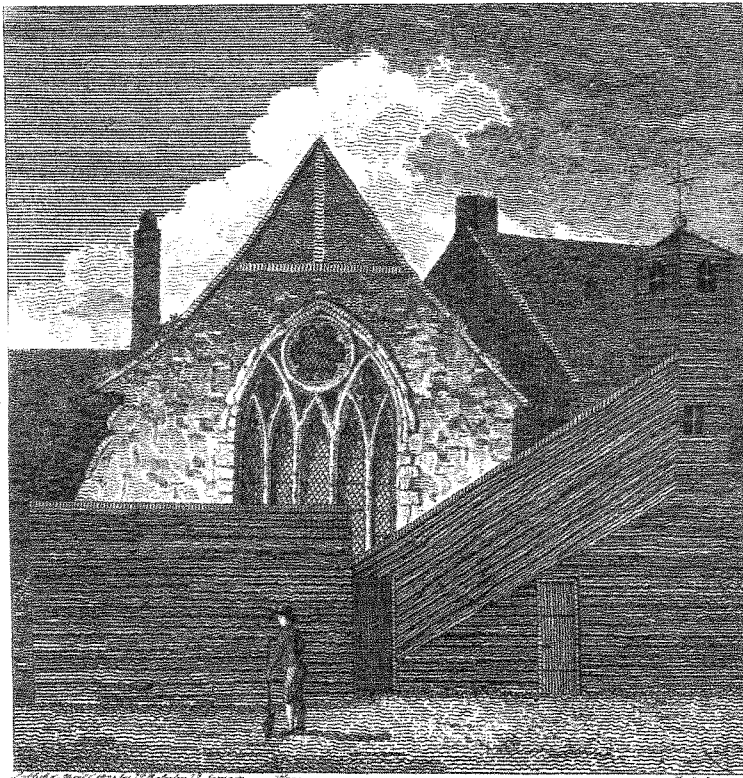
<sup>g</sup> Brompton, X. Script. 1056.

<sup>h</sup> Dictionar. p. 212.

<sup>i</sup> M. Paris. Rapin. Dugdale, Bar. I. 696.

<sup>m</sup> Stat. Merton, c. 9. Blackstone, Introd. to Charters, p. 333. For the better understanding of the grounds and occasion of this resolution of the *Barons*, the Reader is to be informed that, about this time, the King and his Parliament had made a considerable alteration in the mode of proceeding upon Trials of *Bastardy* in the case of a disputed succession. By the Law of the LAND, no person born out of Wedlock could inherit, even though his Parents had afterwards intermarried: But, by the ROMAN CIVIL Law, a person so circumstanced (whose case was called special *Bastardy* to distinguish it from *Bastardy* in general, where the Parents had never married) might inherit. By a Decretal Letter of Pope *Alexander III.* published in 26 *Hen. II.* A° 1180, this Doctrine became a part of the *Canon* Law; and, from that time, was

favoured by the *Clergy*, who would omit no occasion of bringing it forward into practice. It happened also that, though the doctrine itself had never been admitted into, nor the practice upon it adopted by, any of our Courts of Judicature in *England*, yet, on Trials of *Bastardy*, in the case of a disputed succession, frequent occasion was given for a clandestine exercise of the principle of it. For, this Trial, "Whether Bastard or not," (being usually a Question relating to the marriage of the Parents, and therefore a Question of a spiritual nature) had always been, and was still, referred to the *Bishops*, who certified what they found to the King's Justices, by whom sentence was given accordingly in respect to the succession in dispute. Now, as often as, in the course of these inquiries, the Parents of the impleaded Party appeared to have been married, the *Bishops*, without inquiring into the time of such Marriage, and whether the Party was born before or after, certified to the King's Courts, in conformity to the CANON, "No Bastard:" and as the Justices of these Courts gave sentence according to the Bishop's return, without troubling themselves to inquire on what principle it was founded, hence it came to pass that many kept



*Remains of Merton Abbey*



[ \* 12 April, 1230, king Henry the Third being at this place, sent his writ under the great seal inhibiting a meeting to tourney at *Guldeford*, which had been agreed upon by several persons, commanding them not to *tourney*, *bordier*, or do any acts pertaining to arms there or elsewhere without his special licence. This was sent by the abbot of *Waverley* and Prior of *Newark* \*. \* ]

On the 2d of June, 1245, *Boniface*, Archbishop of *Canterbury* elect, with five of his suffragans assembled at this House to consider of the election of *Robert Passelewe* to the see of *Chichester* by the Monks of that place; which, on the day following, they annulled °; alleging his want of learning °: and their Act was confirmed by a Bull of Pope *Innocent IV.* dated at *Lyons*, 21 July, 1245 †.

[ \* *John de Sandal*, Bishop of *Winchester*, held an ordination here in 1316.

In the Chronicles of this Abbey at the Bodleian Library are the ordinations of *William* of *Wickham* bishop of *Winchester*, for the government of the Convent. The Monks are prohibited from hunting, or keeping dogs for that purpose within the walls of the Abbey, under the penalty of being obliged to live on bread and ale for six holidays. The offenders are mostly punished in their diet. The most severe is the being sentenced to live on bread and water; the slightest, the being confined to bread, ale, and pulse.

In a Visitation by *Henry Woodlock*, bishop of *Winchester*, the canons are reprehended for not attending Mass, and for going about with bows and arrows †. \* ]

WALTER de MERTON was also born at this place, and educated in the Convent here. He was appointed Keeper of the Great Seal 7 May 1253 ‡, and Lord Chancellor of England in 1261 §, in which office he continued more than three years. From a regard to the place in which he had received his birth, and the house in which he had imbibed the first rudiments of instruction, he had conceived a design of endowing it with considerable revenues for the perpetual support of *scholastic Divines* \*. With this view he obtained of the Earl of *Glocester*, as Lord of the fee, his licence dated 7 May 1262 †, to give and assign the Maner of *Maldon* in this neighbourhood (which he had purchased in 24 Hen. III. of *Peter de Codyngton* ‡) to the Priory of *Merton* or to any other religious foundation, for that purpose. But reflecting on the inconveniences that might result in general from grafting a new design upon an old one to which it had no relation; as well as from that intermixture of Revenues in particular which would be a necessary consequence of it; or, moved by some other equally wise and weighty consideration, he resolved at length upon the foundation of a separate College at his Maner of *Maldon*, which he

kept possession of Estates, through the operation of a Law the authority of which was never meant to be acknowledged, who, by the Law of the Land, were utterly incapable of it.

To obviate this inconvenience, the Legislature, as soon as it was discovered, took out of the hands of the Bishops the decision upon the Question of *Bastardy* in all cases where the matter was *special*, i. e. in all cases where it was already known that the Parents of the Party were married, directing them, in their Writ, to inquire, not generally, as had hitherto been the case, "Whether the Party were a *Bastard*," and consequently disqualified to inherit; but simply this, "Whether he was born before his Parents married, or after," leaving the question "Whether *Bastard* or not," and consequently his capacity of inheriting, to be determined by the King's Courts. This was the purport of a Law enacted in a Parliament at *Tewkesbury*, on the 12th Oct. 18 Hen. III. A. 1234.

The Clergy, no longer at liberty to decide upon the Question of *Bastardy*, had now lost all hopes of introducing the canonical doctrine of legitimation into the body of the English Law. They therefore determined, from this time, to make no return whatsoever to the King's Courts upon any Writ of Inquiry that should be sent to them under the circumstances of so material an alteration in the form of them. Accordingly, when the Nobles, assembled in Parliament at *Merton* on the 23d of January in 20 Hen. III. A. 1235-6, were directed to report, upon the case of a Person born before *Wedlock*, "whether he could inherit in like manner as one that was born after," the spiritual Lords, as they could not give sentence in the affirmative, without arraigning the Law of the Land, or, in the negative, without derogating from the authority of the Church, refused to give an answer of any kind. Yet, as a last effort for carrying

their favourite point, they requested the temporal Lords with great importunity to admit Pope *Alexander's Canon* into the body of the English Law. But the Barons, though it would have enabled them to render their illegitimate offspring (which was at that time a pretty numerous one) capable of succession; yet, preferring their liberty as Englishmen, to the gratification of their private inclination as Parents; and foreseeing that if they accepted the benefit of the Papal Laws in one instance, they could not with consistency except to them in others, rejected the proposal, however agreeable to their wishes, lest their acceptance should make way for the introduction of a system whose genius and essence was arbitrary and despotic. They replied unanimously, and, as is observed by an able Writer, with a spirit that does honour to their memory, "*Nolumus LEGES ANGLIÆ mutare, quæ hucusque usitate sunt et approbatæ.*" They had nothing (to use the words of another elegant Writer on this occasion) to object to the proposal itself, but they were afraid for the CONSTITUTION. [Stat. Mert. 20 Hen. III. c. 9. *Blackstone*, Introd. to the Hist. of the Charters, p. 333, &c. *Burn's Eccl. Law*, I. p. 87. *Hurd's Polit. Dial. V.*]

\* [ \* Pat. 30 Hen. III. m. 5. \* ]

° *Annal. Waverl.* A. 1244.

† *Godwin de Presulibus.*

‡ *Rymer's Fæd.* I. 436.

§ [ \* *Lysons*, p. 344-345. \* ]

° Pat. 42 Hen. III. m. 29.

† Pat. 45 Hen. III. m. 18, 19.

\* "*Clericorum in Scholis degentium.*"

‡ *Petit. Parliam.* 6 Ed. I. n. 53.

§ *Ex archiv. Coll. Mert. Oxon.*

effected in 1264, 48 *Hen. III.*<sup>a</sup> and intended as a seminary for that larger at *Oxford* which is still known by his name, and which he founded in 1267<sup>a</sup>. But in 1270, both these Societies were united by him in that at *Oxford*, which he completed in 1274, 2 *Edw. I.* in which year also, having executed the office of Chancellor a third time for about a twelvemonth before<sup>b</sup>, he was consecrated 21 Oct. Bishop of *Rochester*<sup>c</sup>. He died 27 Oct. 1277, and was buried near the North Wall of his Cathedral opposite to the Bishop's Throne, under a Marble Tomb which was taken down in 1598, by Sir *Henry Savile* Warden, and the Fellows of *Merton College*, who erected an elegant Monument in it's stead with the following inscription<sup>d</sup>:

WALTERO de MERTON, Cancellario ANGLIÆ sub HENRICO tertio; Episcopo ROFFENSI sub EDUARDO primo Rege; Unius exemplo, omnium quotquot extant Collegiorum fundatori; Maximorum EUROPE totius ingeniorum foelicissimo parenti; Custos et Scholares domûs Scholarium de MERTON in Universitate OXON. communibus Collegii impensis, debitum pietatis monumentum posuere, anno Domini 1598, HENRICO SAVILE Custode. Obiit in vigiliâ SIMONIS et JUDÆ, anno Domini 1277, EDWARDI primi quinto. Inchoaverat Collegium MALDONIÆ in agro SURR. anno Domini 1264, HENRICI tertii 48: Cui dein, salubri consilio OXONIUM, anno 1270 translato, extrema manus foelicissimis (ut credi par est) auspiciis accessit anno 1274, ipsis Cal. Aug. anno regni Regis EDWARDI primi secundo.

Magne senex titulis, Musarum sede sacratâ,  
Major, MERTONIDUM maximè progenie;  
Hæc tibi gratantes, post secula sera, nepotes  
En votiva locant marmora, sancte Parens.

To which was added, in 1662, when the Monument was repaired by the College after the injuries it had received during the Civil War of the preceding reign, the following inscription on a separate Tablet<sup>e</sup>:

Hunc Tumulum FANATICORUM rabie (quæ durante nupero plusquam CIVILI Bello, prout in ipsa Templâ, sic et in Heroum Sanctorumque reliquias ibidem pie reconditas, immaniter sæviebat) deformatum atque ferè deletum, Custos et Scholares domûs Scholarium de MERTON in Acad. OXON. pietate et gratitudine redintegrabant, Ann. Dom. 1662, Custode THOMA CLAYTON Equite.

The ARMS of this PRIORY, as exhibited by Bishop *Tanner*<sup>f</sup>, are, Or. A Fret of six pieces, Azure; charged at each juncture with an Eagle displayed, Argent.

But an Indenture made between *Gilbert* Prior of this house, and *Alan* Prior of *St. Mary Overey*, in 1264, hath a different Seal appendent to it, and of a remarkably fine impression.

On the Obverse of this is the Virgin Mary sitting on a throne and crowned *Regina Mundi*, [\* with the infant Jesus on her left knee \*], and on each side of her a medallion with a head. Legend; SIGIL. ECCLESIE SANCTE MARIE DE MERITONA.

On the Reverse, *St. Augustin* mitred, standing under a Gothic nich, having his right hand lifted up, as in the action of benediction, and in his left a Pastoral Staff. Legend; MUNDI LUCERNA NOS AUGUSTINE GUBERNA.

Exergue: AUGVSTINE PATER QVOS INSTRAVIS IN MERITONA, HIS CHRISTI MATER TVTRIX EST ATQVE PATRONA<sup>g</sup>.

[\* During the Civil Wars this Priory appears to have been used as a garrison. In July, 1648, the Derby-house Committee were ordered by the Parliament to make *Farnham* castle indefensible, and to secure Merton Abbey, and other places of strength in the County<sup>h</sup>.

In 1680 Merton Abbey was advertised to be lett, and was described as containing several large rooms and a very fine chapel<sup>i</sup>. *Vertue*, who visited this place about the year 1730, mentions this chapel as being then entire, and says that it resembled the Saxon buildings<sup>k</sup>. At present there is no other vestige of the building than the East window of a chapel of crumbling stone, which seems, from the style of its architecture, to have been built in the 15th century. It is engraved among Mr. *Malcolm's* Views for illustrating Mr. *Lysons's* Environs.

In 1724 a manufactory for making calicoes was established on the site of the Abbey, which still exists on the same spot, and is brought to great perfection. There is another within the walls

<sup>a</sup> Cart. 48 Hen. III. m. 2.

<sup>a</sup> *Tanner*, Notit. Mon. p. 433.

<sup>g</sup> Ex *Aspilogia Joh. Anstis* arm. in *Bibliotheca Tho. Astle*, arm.

<sup>b</sup> *Spelman*, Gloss. voc. Cancellarius.

<sup>h</sup> Perfect Diurnal, July 3—10, 1648.

<sup>c</sup> *Regist. Cant. Le Neve*, Fast. &c.

<sup>i</sup> Domestic Intelligencer, Mar. 5, 1686.

<sup>d</sup> *Godwin*, p. 531.

<sup>e</sup> *Willis*, Mit. Abb. I. 288.

<sup>k</sup> *Vertue's* MSS. in the Earl of *Orford's* collection at *Strawberry hill*.

<sup>f</sup> Notit. Mon. Pref. p. xlvii. Pl. 163.

established in 1752 by Mr. *Halfhide*. At the North-east corner is a copper-mill, long used there. On a moderate computation there are 1000 persons employed within the walls in different manufactories<sup>1</sup>.

Within the last century Divine service has been performed in the chapel, and persons have been christened there.\*]

#### CHURCH.

In the conventual church we may conclude the priors were buried. The only interments recorded are John Haunsard and his wife Gundreda under the priorate of Eustachius between 1249 and 1262<sup>a</sup>. John de Lacy by will dated 1587 directed his body to be buried in *Merton Abbey*<sup>a</sup>.

The parochial CHURCH, dedicated to *St. Mary*, hath the appearance of great antiquity; and is probably therefore the same, or a part at least of the same, that is said to have been standing here at the time of the *General Survey*<sup>a</sup>. It consists, at present, of a Nave only with the Chancel, being built of Flints with a Coat of Plaister, and having a small spire covered with shingles issuing out of the Roof at the west end, [\*having three bells in it. The floor of the chancel is raised a little higher than that of the body of the church; in it are four pointed arches on each side, which, if ever open, are now worked up, and in some of them are opened lancet windows, but there are two windows of other shapes on each side, opened within these arches. There is no appearance of these arches on the outside. On the north side is a door with a semi-circular arch, round which are zig-zag mouldings. There is a handsome gallery, and the church is neatly pewed. The font is a small, modern marble bason.\*] The arms of *England*, and those of the *Priory*, painted on glass, are in the Chancel Window. The Church has been engraved by Mr. Malcolm.

#### Monumental Inscriptions.

1. On a neat Marble Monument against the North Wall of the Chancel :

Perge mereri.

To the memory of HENRY MERITON, Esq<sup>r</sup>, late of MERTON Place in this Town, who died at CHELSEA on the 18<sup>th</sup> of April, 1757, aged 83. He was thirty years Gentleman of the Privy Chamber to his Majesty K. GEORGE the Second. His Body lies interred in the family Vault opposite to this Monument, which is erected by his only daughter ANNE MERITON by his Wife the daughter of THOMAS LEWIS, Esq<sup>r</sup>. of NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

2. On an Alabaster Monument against the South Wall of the Chancel, divided into two Compartments (in the dexter side of which is a Man kneeling, with his Son and three daughters by his first Wife, underneath; and, in the sinister, his two Wives with his five Sons, by the second, placed below) is the following Inscription;

Here lieth GREGORY LOVELL, of MERTON ABBEY, Esquyer, Cofferer of his Majesties Houshold, second Sonn to St FRANCIS LOVELL of HARLINGE in NORF<sup>e</sup>. He had two Wives, JOANE, daughter of . . . . WHITHEAD, by whome he had issue, THOMAS, MILDRED, ELIZABETHE, and FRANCES. And DOROTHY, daughter of MICHAELL GREENE, by whom he had issue, Sir ROBERT LOVELL, HENRY, THOMAS, WILLIAM, and GREGORY. He lived to the age of threescore and xv, and dyed the xv of Marche, [\*in the year of our Lorde 1597.

Arms, quarterly, 1. *Ar.* a chevron *Az.* between three squirrels sejant *Gu.* 2. *Sa.* a cross between four lions rampant *Or.* 3. Vert. two chevronells *Or.* 4. Barry of Ten, *Or.* and *Sa.* surcharged with a lion rampant *Or.* \* \* ]

<sup>1</sup> [\* *Lysons*. \*]

<sup>a</sup> Cott. MSS. Brit. Mus. Cleopatra, C. 7. f. 137. b. "In nomine Trinitatis, &c. Eustachius Prior de Merton et ejusdem loci conventus: ex affectu intimo Dominum Johannem Haunsard et Dnam Gundredam uxorem ejus recipimus par-ticipes omnium bonorum quæ in ecclesiâ nostrâ operari digna-bitur clementiâ Salvatoris: concessimus etiam eisdem quod in ecclesiâ nostrâ sibi eligant sepulturam ut coram altari aliquo ubi eorum corpora debeant sepeliri assignabuntur duo canonici successivè qui ibidem celebrantes pro eis memoriam facient specialem. Auditâ autem eorum vel alterius eorum morte corpus suscipiemus cum honore et classicum faciemus pulsari exequias fieri sicut pro Priore fieri consuevit. Nomen vero eorum faciemus inter defunctos nostros in martilogio nume-rari, et per brevigerulum nostrum per Angliam deportari ut ejus anima in unoquoque collegio absolvatur. Die vero anni-

versario ejus pro eo ut pro canonico professo fiet servitium ad-lemniter in conventu et habebimus die illo pitanciam specia-lem quæ valeat unam marc. et similiter in anniversario Do-minæ Gundrede pitanciam unius marc. valoris debet fieri in conventu. Hæc etiam omnia predicta concedimus alteri eorum posteriùs decedenti. In cujus rei testimonium hoc scriptum sigillo ospituli nostri fecimus communiri. Unde testis est Dominus Jesus Christus." Eustachius was elected Prior in 1249, and died in 1262.

<sup>a</sup> Reg. *Wickham*.

\* [\* By the MS. at the Heralds' College quoted above, it ap-pears to have been built by Gilbert Norman, it being said that after the king granted him the Manor, he built a church there at his own expence, and adorned it with pictures and images, *Lysons*, p. 346.\*]

<sup>p</sup> [\* *Aubrey*, V. I. p. 223.\*]

3. On a white Marble inlaid in a Gravestone of black Marble in the floor of the Chancel :

Here lyeth y<sup>e</sup> Body of ELIZA<sup>'</sup> GARTH, late wife of JOHN GARTH of MERTON, Gent. sole daughter and heire of RICHARD STARR of LONDON, Gent. by whom he had issue seven Sonns, RICH<sup>'</sup>, JOHN, ROB<sup>'</sup>, THO<sup>'</sup>, WILL<sup>'</sup>M, RICH<sup>'</sup>, and JOHN, and four Daugh<sup>'</sup>. ELIZA<sup>'</sup>, MARY, REBEKA<sup>'</sup>, and JANE; and dyed y<sup>e</sup> 30<sup>th</sup> of January, Anno 1640, *Ætatis suæ*, 34.

4. On a black Marble Gravestone within the Rails of the Communion Table :

Here lyeth y<sup>e</sup> Body of S<sup>r</sup> HENRY STAPYLTON of MYTON upon SWALE, in the County of YORKE, K<sup>t</sup> and Barr<sup>'</sup>, who departed this life the 26<sup>th</sup> day of March, Anno Dom. 1679. *Ætatis suæ*, 63.

5. And on another adjoining to it :

Here lyeth the Body of Grace, y<sup>e</sup> Wife of THO. ROBINSON of ROKEBY, in y<sup>e</sup> County of YORKE, Esq. eldest daughter of S<sup>r</sup> HENRY STAPLETON of MYTON, in the same County, Barron<sup>'</sup>, who dyed y<sup>e</sup> 8<sup>th</sup> of Febru. ANNO DOM. 1676, *Ætatis suæ*, 24.

6. On a Gravestone in the body of the Church :

Here lyes CHRIST<sup>o</sup>. STAPYLTON, youngest son of S<sup>r</sup> I<sup>no</sup> STAPYLTON, Bart. of MYTON, in y<sup>e</sup> County of YORKE. He died at WESTMINSTER School, in y<sup>e</sup> 16<sup>th</sup> year of his age, and was buried y<sup>e</sup> 24<sup>th</sup> day of May, 1743.

7. On another, near the entrance into the Chancel :

Here lies Dame ANN NOEL, Relict of S<sup>r</sup> THOMAS NOEL, Bart. of KIRBY-MALLORY, in LEICESTERSHIRE, daughter of S<sup>r</sup> WM. WITTLCK of HENLY on *Thames*. She died Jan<sup>y</sup> y<sup>e</sup> 8<sup>th</sup>, 1736-7, aged 76.

8. On a Marble Monument against the South Wall of the Church :

Near this place, in the center of the isle, are deposited the remains of Mrs. ANNE ROBINSON, daughter and heiress of ROBERT WALTERS, Esq. of CUNDALE, and Wife and Widow of WILLIAM ROBINSON, Esq. of ROOKBY PARK, both in the North Riding of the County of YORK.

The part she acted in life was equally honourable to herself, and useful to others : for she was the best Wife, the best Mother, and the best Christian ; and, in a situation retired and unnoticed, set an example of domestic Virtues that would dignify the highest character. She died July the 26<sup>th</sup>, 1730, aged 53.

Her Family erected this Monument in veneration of her Memory, and to perpetuate their sense of the blessing of having sprung from so valuable and so honoured a Parent.

N. B. The Husband also of this Lady (who died Feb. 24, 1719) is said<sup>a</sup> to have been buried here ; but I find no memorial of him in the Church.

9. On another, against the North Wall of the Church :

Near this place lyeth the Body of JUDITH WILSON, Relict of EDWARD WILSON, of DIDLINGTON in NORFOLK, Esq. who was the second son of ROBERT WILSON, formerly an inhabitant of this Parish. She died the twenty-second day of November 1745, in the eighty-second year of her age.

10. On another, against the same Wall :

Sub externo hujus parietis latere reliquias suas humillimè jacere voluit ELIZABETHA ROBINSON, THOMÆ ROBINSON de ROOKEBY in Com. EBORAC. Armigeri filia. Egregias animi dotes tribuit illi Natura ; quas legendo auxit, et, ingenuorum usa consuetudine, perpolivit, ita ut vix aliquid in liberali colloquio occurreret, præsertim si de Religione ageretur, de quo non posset aptè loqui : Etiam tum cum esset cœcitate afflicta, quam calamitatem per multos annos non tantum æquo, sed et alacri animo tulit. Erat in pauperes, pro suis opibus larga ; in consanguineos munifica ; munificentissima certè in neptem suam GRACE FREIND, quæ hoc illi Monumentum gratissimâ, ut par erat, memoriâ statuit.

Obiit Februar. 15<sup>o</sup> die, 1738-9, currente Anno *Ætatis* 63.

11. On another, in the South-east corner of the Chancel :

Beneath this Monument are deposited the remains of Sir THOMAS ROBINSON, Knight and Bart. F. R. S. pursuant to the directions of his Will. He was the eldest son of WILLIAM

<sup>a</sup> English Baronets, Vol. V. page 226.

ROBINSON, Esq. of ROOKEBY, in the county of YORK, and ANN WALTERS, heiress of ROBERT WALTERS, Esq. of CUNDALE, in the said county. He died the 3d day of March, 1777, aged 76 years.

[ \* 12. On a white marble, near the West end of the North wall :

In a vault near this place lies interred the body of *William Baynes*, of *London*, Gent. eldest Land Surveyor of the Customs there, in which office he served the Crown in the reigns of King *William*, Queen *Ann*, and, to the time of his death, his present Majesty King *George*, with great judgement, fidelity and reputation, having always a just regard both to the revenue and the merchant. Hee was a most affectionate husband, dutiful son, a kind brother, and sincere friend ; and, with a most Christian resignation, departed this life the 30th of September, 1717, in the 65th year of his age.

Here also lies the body of *Hester* his first wife, one of the daughters of *Benjamin Burgess*, of *Windsor* in the county of *Berks*, Gent. by whom he had one son deceased. She departed this life the 30th of April 1712, in the 63d year of her age.

Here likewise lies interred the body of *Joanna* his second wife, only daughter of *Thomas West*, of *Craven* in the county of *York*, Gent. She departed this life the 6th of *November*, 1716, in the 35th year of her age.

This monument was erected by his only brother *Walter Baynes* of the *Middle Temple*, Gent. whose second wife, *Margery Baynes*, also lieth there. She departed this life the 29th of January 1711, in the 70th year of her age, and was the daughter of *Francis Green* of *Barnell Park*, in the county of *Worcester*, Gent.

Here also lye the Bodys of *Walter Baynes*, formerly of the City of *York*, but late of *Richmond* in *Surry*, Gent. who departed this life the 25th of *June* 1727, in the 84th year of his age ; and of *Elisabeth* his wife, who died the 14th of *March* 1743, aged 82. She was mother of the above named *Joanna*, the 2d wife of the said *William Baynes*. \* ]

13. On a brass Plate in a black Marble was the following <sup>p</sup>, now lost :

Pray for the Soule of KATERYN LOK, sumtyme the Wyfe of WILLIAM LOK, Mercer, of LONDON ; who decessed the xiii of October, An<sup>o</sup> xv<sup>c</sup> xxxvii. On whose Soule JHESV have mercy. Amen.

14. [ \* On a plain white marble against the North wall :

In this Chancel are deposited the remains of *George Bond*, Esq. who died April 28, A. D. 1792, ætat. 65. And of *Eleanor Bond* his wife, the daughter of Sir *Tho. Chitty* Knt. She died March 25 A. D. 1797, ætat. 75.

In the same vault are buried three of their children, *George Bond*, Esq. one of his Majesty's Serjeants at Law, who died Mar. 19, A. D. 1796, ætat. 40.<sup>q</sup>

*Eleanor Browne*, wife of *Barwell Browne*, Esq. who died June 12 A. D. 1786, ætat. 29.

*John Bond*, Esq. who died Sept. 4 A. D. 1781, ætat. 21.

15. On a stone on the floor :

Underneath are deposited the remains of the Rev. *John Bree*, A. M. formerly of *Baliol College, Oxford*, and Rector of *St. Mark's Tay*, in the county of *Essex*, and of *Rysholme*, in the county of *Lincoln*. Ob. 7 Dec. 1796, æt. 63<sup>r</sup>.

<sup>p</sup> *Aubrey*, I. 224.

<sup>q</sup> [ \* This gentleman died when in full practice, esteemed and beloved by his brethren at the Bar, and by all who knew him. \* ]

<sup>r</sup> [ \* Mr. Bree was Rector of *Rysholme*, in the county of *Lincoln*, in which it was said there was no church, parsonage-house, resident minister, or divine service. Mr. *Chaplin*, owner of all the parish, and of an estate called *Grange de Lyngs*, claimed to be discharged from tythe on an ancient composition of 15*l.* a year for his lands in *Rysholme*, and insisted that the *Grange* was not in the parish. Mr. *Bree* filed a bill in the Exchequer to recover tythes in kind, and issues being directed to try whether the *Grange* was in the parish, and whether the 15*l.* a year was a good composition, verdicts were found on both issues for Mr. *Chaplin*. The same happened on a second trial. Mr. *Bree* was not satisfied, and moved for a third trial. The Court

of Exchequer ordered it, but Mr. *Chaplin* appealed to the House of Lords. The event is differently reported by Mr. *Rayner* and Mr. *Wood*. The former says the Lords reversed the order as to the issue on the *Grange* only, but affirmed it as to the issue on the Modus. Mr. *Wood* says the order was reversed generally, and that the bill was then dismissed in the Court of Exchequer, but by Mr. *Chaplin's* consent without costs. Mr. *Rayner*, in his Introduction, reprobates the establishment of such a composition, and says that the *Earl of Mansfield* informed the House of Lords, that however they might be disposed to relieve the Appellant, and though his was a hard case, it was impossible to fly in the face of the Law. *Rayner* on Tythes, vol. II. p. 657. *Wood's Exchequer Title Causes*, vol. III. 415. Vol. XI. p. cxiii. \* ]

Also of his wife Mrs. *Ann Bree*, only daughter of the Rev. Sir *Martyn Stapylton* Bart. of *Myton Hall* in the county of *York*.

16. On another, near :

*Sophia Stapylton Bree*, daughter of *Martin Bree* Esquire, by *Sophia* his wife, died Nov. 1st, 1797, aged 11 months.

17. On another :

In memory of *Mary Halfhide*, the daughter of *James* and *Mary Halfhide* of this parish, who died Oct. 13th 1795, in the 17th year of her age.

18. On a raised tomb at the East end of the Church-yard :

In memory of *John Tyton*, Esq. of this Parish, who died the 19th of February 1790, in the 77th year of his age.

Also *Mary* his wife, who died Sept. the 21st 1799, in the 78th year of her age.

19. On another on the South side of the Church-yard :

In memory of *John Payne* Esq. of this parish, who died April the 1st 1778, aged 46 years.

Also the body of Mrs. *Jane Payne*, his widow. She died at *Kentish Town* the 14th Nov. 1783.

20. On another :

To the memory of Mr. *Francis Nixon*, of *Merton Abbey* (the first that perfected copper-plate callicoe printing) who departed this life the 17th February, 1765, aged 60 years.

21. On a gravestone in the Church-yard, near the South-east angle of the Chancel :

"*Dorcas*, wife of *J. Lackington* Bookseller *Finsbury Square*, died January 27th 1795, aged 45 years.

" Ladies who chance to frisk this way,  
 " With honest hearts and spirits gay ;  
 " A serious moment give to one,  
 " Who sleeps beneath this earth and stone.  
 " A better daughter never liv'd,  
 " A better wife ne'er husband griev'd,  
 " To her the claims of kindred dear,  
 " The tender orphan would she rear ;  
 " Nor e'er did to the grave descend,  
 " A more sincere or faithful friend.  
 " Think on her virtues,—heave a sigh,  
 " That goodness such as her's should die ;  
 " And whether you are Maid or Wife,  
 " Go imitate her former life :  
 " And when to Heaven you yield your breath,  
 " May you, like her, have peace in death."

22. On a tomb, on North side of the Church-yard :

Here lies interred the body of Mr. *William Rutlish*, imbroiderer to King *Charles* the Second, born in this parish, being eminent both for his piety and charity to the poore of this Parish in his life-time ; and at his death did bequeath several tenements in this Parish, to the value of 400*l*. for the putting out poor children borne in this Parish apprentices. He departed this life the 4th

\* [ \* Mr. Lackington, in 1791, printed an account of his life. He says that he was born at Wellington in Somersetshire, bred a shoemaker, came to live in London, and, in 1774, on Midsummer day, he took a small shop and parlour in Featherstone-street near Moorfields, and set up as a shoemaker and seller of old books on a stock value 5*l*. Finding the sale of books answer, he after some time left off his other trade, and confined himself to that, in which he went on by degrees till he says that in 1791 the profits of his business amounted to 4000*l*. and in a note to the 10th edition of his life, printed in 1795, he says that in 1792 and 1793 his profits were about 5000*l*. He has built a most extensive shop by Finsbury-square. \* ]

day of March 1687, in the 82d year of his age. Here lyeth also *Mary* the wife of the said *William Rutlish*, who departed this life April the 17th 1703, in the 86th yeare of her age. \* ]

The Parish of MERTON pays to the Land-tax, at 4s. in the pound, 284*l.* 15*s.* 2*d.*

The *Parish Register* begins in 1559. [ \* In the first leaf is written in a very fair hand, "The Regester Booke of *Marton*, truely taken out of the oulde register booke of all Christenings, Marriages, and Burials from the second yeare of the raygne of our Sov'aigne lady Quene *Elizabeth*, anno D'ni 1559, the beginninge." Among the Entries are,

*Judith*, daughter of Sir *Francis Clarke*, bap. 1616.

*Bartholomew*, son of ditto, 1620.

*Susannah*, daughter of *Thomas Locke*, Esq. bap. 1620.

In this book is the following entry :

List of Ministers from 1559.

*Tho. Locke* Esq. Minister of *Merton*.

*Michael Wigmore*, Curate 1559.

*John Harrison*, Minister 1623.

*Richard Webster*, 1776.

*John Strickley*, 1640.

*John C. Townshend*, 1788.

*John Blackiston*, 1760.

*Charles Frederick Bond*, 1789. \* ]

Here was a *Church* endowed at the time of the *General Survey*; the *Advowson* of which was afterwards given to the Prior and Convent of this place, with licence at length to appropriate the revenues to their own use, and that, *plenarily*. This was probably done at, or soon after, the foundation of that House, temp. *Hen. I.*; so that no traces of these Acts are to be met with in our Records. On the dissolution of the Priory in 1538, this *Impropriation*, amongst other its Estates, devolved on the Crown.

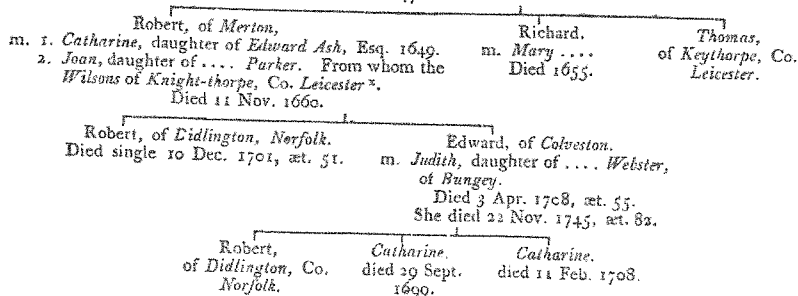
In 7 *Edw. VI.* 1552-3, the King by his Letters patent, dated 14 March, in consideration of the sum of 359*l.* granted unto *Thomas Lock* and *Mary* his wife, and to the heirs and assigns of the said *Thomas* for ever, the RECTORY of the Church of *Merton*, with the appertinencies, late parcel of the possessions of the dissolved Priory of *Merton*, to be holden of the King his heirs and successors, as of his Maner of *East Greenwich*, in free socage and not in chief.

On the 29 Nov. 1643, *John Lock* and *Jane* his wife mortgaged [ \* and in 1646 conveyed the equity of redemption of \* ] the Rectory, with all the Houses thereto belonging, to *Catharine Highlord*, the widow of *John Highlord*, an Alderman of *London*. On her death, not long after, the premises descended to *Robert Wilson* Esq. her eldest son by *Rowland Wilson* of this place, her first husband. This *Robert*, by Indenture dated 10 April, 1649, previously to his marriage with *Catharine* daughter of *Edward Ash* of the City of *London* merchant, (which immediately after took place,) conveyed the premises to the said *Edward Ash* and *John Ash* Esquires and their heirs, in trust for himself for life; and, after his death, to the use of the said *Catharine* as her jointure, for life; remainder to the first and other sons by her in tail male; remainder to him the said *Robert Wilson* in fee. This *Robert*, having survived the said *Catharine* several years, died 11 Nov. 1660<sup>a</sup>; whereupon this Estate descended to *Robert* his eldest son by her, who was of *Didlington* in *Norfolk*;

WILSON.  
From *Blomefield's Norfolk*,  
III. 421. 423.

Rowland, of *Merton*.  
m. *Catharine*, daughter of *Richard Rudd*,  
Citizen of *London*, who afterwards re-  
married *John Highlord*, Ald. of *London*.  
Died about 1647.

ARMS.  
*Sable*, a Wolf salient, *Or*.  
In chief, a Fleur de Lys, *Argent*,  
between two Bezants of the second.



<sup>a</sup> For he married also *Joan*, the daughter of ... *Parker*, of *London*, merchant.

<sup>b</sup> *Blomefield's Norfolk*, III. 421, 423, &c.

\* [ \* For the *Wilson*s of *Keythorpe* and *Knight-thorpe*, see *Nichols's Leicestershire*, vol. III. pp. 514. 907. \* ]

and who, being so seised, did by Indentures of Lease and Release inrolled in Chancery, and dated 15 and 16 Jan. 1697, (a Recovery having been suffered in Hilary Term, 25, 26 Cha. II. 1673-4) convey the *Rectory, Church Tythes*, and all other his Estate at *Merton*, unto *Robert Dorril*<sup>a</sup> of *London*, Esq. in fee, subject to 13s. 4d. *per annum*, payable out of the *Rectory* to the Lord of the Maner of *Greenwich*, 14*l.* *per annum* to the Bishop of *Winchester*, and 10½*d.* to the Archdeacon for Procurations and Synodals. The said *Robert Dorril*, by his will dated 16 Apr. 1707, devised the same unto *Mary* his daughter in fee, who afterwards became the wife of *Henry Meriton* Esq.<sup>r</sup> Gentleman of the Privy Chamber to his Majesty King *George II.*; and, in consideration of the settlement he had made upon her, did, by Indenture dated 27 May 1709, and a fine levied thereupon, convey the *Rectory, Tythes, Capital Messuage* (called *Merton-Place*) and other the Estate of the said *Mary* at *Merton*, unto the use of the said *Henry* for his life; remainder to the said *Mary* for her life; remainder to the heirs of the body of the said *Henry* on the said *Mary* to be begotten; remainder to the heirs of the body of the said *Mary*; remainder to such persons as the said *Henry* should by any deed or will duly executed appoint. Accordingly, the said *Mary* dying without issue, he, the said *Henry*, by Indenture dated 10 April 1733, conveyed the whole fee of the premises to Mr. *Joseph Chitty* of *London* merchant; of whose assignees it was purchased under a decree of Chancery for the sale thereof, by Sir *Thomas Chitty* Knt. and Alderman<sup>z</sup>, his brother. Sir *Thomas*, by his Will dated 20 March 1762<sup>a</sup>, devised it to Trustees for the use of *Eleanor* his daughter<sup>b</sup>, the wife of *George Bond* Esq.<sup>c</sup>; and, after her decease to the use of *Thomas Bond* her eldest son, in tail male; remainder to *George* his brother in like manner; remainder to *John*, the brother of *George*, and his heirs for ever. The Estate, as described in the Will of Sir *Thomas Chitty*, consisted of a *Royalty*, the *Church Tythes*, the Mansion called *Merton Place*, and two large Farms called *Merton Holts* and *Westbarnes*<sup>d</sup>; all which are now in the possession of the aforesaid *George Bond* Esq. the elder, as of the inheritance of the aforesaid *Eleanor* his wife<sup>e</sup>.—

This *Rectory*, in the “*Valor Beneficiorum*,” made by order of Pope *Nicholas*, about 20 *Edw. I.* is rated at *ten marcs per annum*.

#### BENEFICE.

The *Rectory* having been appropriated to the Convent *pleno jure*, that is, without any provision for the endowment of a *Vicar*, the services of the Church, as long as the Convent was in possession, were discharged by a *temporary Curate* at the appointment of the Prior; and, since the dissolution thereof, by a *perpetual Curate* who officiates under a nomination from the Impropiator, from whom also he receives a stipend of 14*l.* *per annum*, [\* now increased by Queen *Ann*'s Bounty to 28*l.* for which stipend and the surplice fees, and an Easter collection, amounting in all to about 70*l.* the present worthy Curate performs Divine Service twice on every Sunday. \* ]

#### ADVOWSON.

The *Advowson* to this Benefice, which was formerly in the Priory, was given, together with the *Rectory*, by King *Edward VI.* to *Thomas Lock* and *Mary* his wife; and from them hath been transmitted, through the several successors to that Estate, to the present proprietor thereof, *George Bond* Esq. to whose liberal communications the Public are indebted for the authentic information I have been enabled to give them relative to this and some other Estates in this place.

<sup>a</sup> Father of *John* Lord of this Maner. See the pedigree annexed to the account of the Maner.

<sup>r</sup> This Gentleman married also a daughter of *Thomas Lewis* Esq. of the County of *Nottingham*, by whom he left a daughter, *Ann*. Mon. Inscr. in *Merton Church*.

<sup>z</sup> Also Lord Mayor, 29 Sept. 1759.

<sup>a</sup> Sir *Thomas* died 18 Oct. 1762: his Lady having deceased 17 Feb. preceding.

<sup>b</sup> *Thomas*, only son of Sir *Thomas*, died 10 Jan. 1755.

<sup>c</sup> They were married 30 Mar. 1749.

<sup>d</sup> The former of these Estates, *Merton Holts*, hath gone through the same succession of Proprietors with *Merton Place* at least from the time of *Henry VII.* when the family of *Lock* became possessed of it: but *West Barnes* never belonged to the owners of the other estates, 'till purchased by Mr. *Meriton* of the family of *Carpenter*. [\* There is another estate in this parish called *West Barnes* belonging to Mr. *Middleton*, which has been mentioned before, p. 249. \* ]

<sup>e</sup> Ex informat. *George Bond jun.* Esq.



## MERTON PLACE.

Near the Church is a large old Mansion, which has been known from time immemorial, by the name of *Merton PLACE*; whereof *John* and *Ralph Franseys*, A° 1469, 8 or 9 *Edw. IV.* enfeoffed *Henry Ashbell*, *William Scot*, *William Crosley*, *Stephen Russel*, and *Richard Linton*, in trust; but no uses are declared, nor livery and seisin indorsed<sup>c</sup>.

A° 1499, 14 or 15 *Hen. VII.* *Laurence T. . . . .*, *John Aylmer*, *Edward Chamber*, and *Robert Drayton*, enfeoffed *John Lock* and *Jane* his wife, *John Knight*, *William Aldburgh*, *Thomas Bailey*, *Edward Grey*, and *Robert Cowper* of the same premises (whereof livery is indorsed) to the use of the said *John Lock* and *Jane* his wife, in whose family it continued until the year 1646; when *John*, a remote descendent of *John* abovementioned, (and whose ancestors had in the mean time purchased the Impropriation of the *Rectory* in 7 *Edw. VI.*) conveyed it, together with the Impropriation, to *Catharine*, sometime wife of *Rowland Wilson* of this parish, but late of *John Highlord* citizen and alderman of *London*, in fee; from whom it hath been transmitted, through the several possessors of the latter, to *George Bond Esq.* the present proprietor of both.

The Vicinity of this House to the Church would lead us to suppose that it was the *Parsonage*, but that the abovementioned alienations of the *fee*, at different times, while the *Rectory* was in other hands, evidently prove it was not. Nor indeed does it appear that the Estates were ever in the same person 'till 7 *Edw. VI.* 1552-3, when the family of *Lock*, who had been put in possession of this in 1499, 14 *Hen. VII.* purchased the *Rectory* also of the Crown.

## BENEFACTIONS.

[\* On the front of the Gallery, in 1793 :

Mr. *William Rutlish* left the sum of 400*l.* to put out poor parish-born children apprentices.

One pound is received annually as an allotment from Mr. *Henry Smith's* charity, which is paid by the Trustees out of an estate at *Berhill* in *Sussex*.

Mr. *Rowland Wilson*, of *Merton Abbey*, left fifty-two shillings *per annum*, payable out of his lands called *Black Dens*, to be distributed in Bread every Lord's day, to twelve of the poorest of the parish who attend the worship of God.

Half an acre of Land in the Common Field was bequeathed by a person unknown.

Mrs. *Eliz. Simon* gave 600*l.* 3 *per Cent. Consols*, to the Minister and Churchwardens of this Parish, in trust, to receive the dividends thereof, and to pay and apply the same to and for such Charitable purposes as the Minister for the time being should in his discretion think proper.

*Charles Frederick Bond*, Curate.

*Charles Greaves*, } Churchwardens,

*William Head*, } A. D. 1798. \* ]

## WEST BARNES

Consists of a Messuage and about 200 acres of land, and was part of the possessions of *Merton Abbey*, and granted to Sir *John Gresham*, as mentioned before, p. 249.

[\* Sir *John Gresham*, by will dated 12 Feb. 1552, devised this estate, amongst many others, to his wife *Katherine* for life, and after her death to his second son *John* and the heirs of his body; remainder to his eldest son *William* and the heirs of his body; remainder to his third son *Edmond* and the heirs of his body<sup>a</sup>. Sir *John* died in 1566.

This estate was sold to *John Carpenter*, who by his will dated 8 June, 9 *Jam. I.* devised it in parcels between his two sons *Gregory* and *Henry*, and his wife *Kath.* and his issue by her, and in failure thereof, that part was to go to his son *Henry*<sup>b</sup>.

*John* died about two years afterwards.

*Robert Carpenter* became seised, and, in 1660, settled it on his wife *Ann* for life, with remainder to their sons *Nicholas*, *William*, *Charles*, and *Thomas*.

In 1683 and 1685 this family sold to Dr. *John Budgen* of *Dorking*. He by will, dated 9 Feb. 1732-3, devised to his nephew, *Thomas Budgen Esq.* of the same place; who was elected

<sup>c</sup> Ex inform. *Geo. Bond*, Arm.

<sup>a</sup> Office copy of will.

<sup>b</sup> Exemplification of pardon for making said will.

Member for the County on the death of Lord *Baltimore* in 1751, and again at the General Election in 1754. He died in 1787, leaving an only son *John Smith Budgen Esq.* who, in 17... , sold it to *John Middleton Esq.* the present owner, who resides here.

*Mr. Wilson*, citizen and vintner of *London*, by will dated 1 Feb. 1631, willed that there should be for ever thereafter paid to and amongst the poor of this parish, 52*s.* *per annum* of lawful money, out of his lands called *Blackdens*, in *Martin*, *Kingston*, and *Malden*, or some of them, by the Minister, Wardens and Overseers, by one penny wheaten loaf apiece to 12 of the poorest of honest and good behaviour on every Lord's day, in the church, immediately after Divine Service or Sermon in the forenoon, to those who usually frequent the place of God's worship in the Church; the poor who were his tenants about *Martin Abbey* to be some who have the benefit.

A verbal codicil was made by him in the following words: Mem. that this six and twentieth day of April, one thousand six hundred and fifty-four, Master *Rowland Wilson* did, by word of mouth, will and appoint to be added to his last will and testament, that his Executors should, out of his personal estate, cause an alms-house to be built at *Martyn Graunge*, in the field there near to *Bowman's farm*; and that there shall be issuing out of the said farm at *Martyn Graunge* one yearly pension or annuity of twenty-four pounds *per annum* for six poor alms-men or alms-women, for their better maintenance, by four pounds apiece for ever; and this he appointed to be parcel of his will—the said alms-house to have a little backside. In the presence of *Francis Moses*, Notary Public, *Symon Smyth*, *Samuel Crispe*.

His Will with this Codicil was proved 1 June, 1654, by *Mary* his widow, and *Samuel Crispe* his grandchild, joint Executors, who built the almshouse; and the donation, or at least part of it, was paid to the year 1773. The Estate had descended to two daughters of one of whom married Capt. *James Pattison*, the other, Mr. *Crisp*. The *Pattisons* continued to pay to the above mentioned time, if not later; Mr. *Crisp's* son sold his moiety to Mr. *Hopkins*.

The other moiety has been lately sold to Mr. *Axe*, with notice (as it is said) of this charge, but he refuses to pay, alledging that this verbal Codicil does not bind the land. It is very true that in point of law it does not, for though before the Statute of 29 *Char. II.* for prevention of frauds and perjuries, the signatures of the deviser and the attestation by three witnesses of the execution, was not necessary to pass lands by will, yet by the Statute 32 *Hen. VIII.* it is as much required that a will of lands should be in writing, as by the Statute of Frauds and Perjuries it is required that such a will should have three witnesses. And though the Statute of 43 *Eliz.* making valid an appointment to charitable uses, being subsequent to the 32 *Hen. VIII.* which requires wills to be in writing, supersedes and repeals that Statute; yet the Statute of Frauds and Perjuries being subsequent to that of *Eliz.* repeals it, so that an appointment of lands to a Charity, by a will not being in writing attested by three witnesses, is void<sup>1</sup>. The poor therefore must lose the benefit of Mr. *Wilson's* intended donation, unless the purchaser's better thoughts should induce him to pay, or his having bought the estate with notice should vary the case.\*]

<sup>1</sup> [\* *Peere Williams*, Reports, vol. I. 247, in the case of *Jenner* against *Harper*.\*]