

*James Comerford.*





6. Perfect  
Peace

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THE  
HISTORY  
OF  
LINCOLNSHIRE,  
TOPOGRAPHICAL, HISTORICAL,  
AND  
DESCRIPTIVE.

BY W. MARRAT, BOSTON.

VOL. II.

*Nescio quâ natale solum dulcedine cunctos  
Ducit, et immemores non sinit esse sui.*

*Ovid.*

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# SKETCHES

## HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE

IN THE COUNTY OF LINCOLN.

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### CROYLAND OR CROWLAND

CONTINUED.

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THE abbot of Croyland had both the church and principal manor of Baston: but one John Witham, esq. pretended to be lord of the whole town, and besides several irregular acts, for several years withheld an ancient rent of two pounds of white incense for a piece of land there called *Boycotegrene*. He claimed also a chapel, which by leave of the abbot of Croyland had been built on the waste for the convenience of travellers, and not only held his court in it, but ordered his servants to put his horses into it and

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by way of encouraging them to this act of profaneness, made water over the walls. At length almost ruined by lawlessness, he was obliged to acknowledge the abbot's right, and end his days in poverty.

Amidst the confusion of the civil war, Henry VI. came hither, 1460, in Lent, to pay his devotion to St. Guthlac, and staid three days and three nights, and was so pleased with the devout behaviour of the convent, that he desired to be admitted into the brotherhood; in return for which he granted them a charter of liberties, with return of writs.

Upon the defeat and death of the duke of York at Wakefield this year, the northern men rose, and committed the most dreadful ravages. The inhabitants of Croyland were so alarmed, that they brought their effects to the abbey, who on their part concealed all theirs; performed continual processions round the tomb of St. Guthlac; kept constant watch, and fortified all the mouths of their dykes and canals with stakes; broke up their causeways and banks, and suffered none to go out or in without leave. The army came within six miles of them, but were at

length repulsed and dispersed by Edward earl of March, afterwards king Edward IV.

The first step of Edward IV. after he was crowned and met his parliament, was to resume and annul all the acts and grants of the three Henrys IV. V. and VI. in which were included the charter respecting vacancy in this abbey, granted by Henry V. to abbot Overton, and the late charter of liberties granted by Henry VI.

Abbot Lyllington now drew near his end. He was an exemplary benefactor to this convent, to whom, among other presents to their vestry, he gave nine copes of cloth of gold, exquisitely feathered, valued at 240l.; one rich suit of vestment of red and gold, viz. three copes, with a chesuble, and three tunics, which cost 160l.; a gilded table for the high altar, with its screen behind and before; he made the ceiling in the lower part of the church; glazed all the windows, and vaulted all the aisles of the same with stone; and made the great organ over the entrance of the church, besides a lesser in the choir, which was brought on the shoulders of two porters from London to Croyland. He caused a table to be carved for our Lady's altar; and among the jewels in the vestry gave the

principal cross for processions, a magnificent chalice with other vessels and several massive candlesticks, all of silver gilt, instead of the old ones.

Among the monks his cotemporaries who were benefactors, were *John Leycester*, who gave a handsome vestment, valued at 40*l.* and 40 marks, towards recasting the great bells in the outer steeple. *Simon Swynshed* gave a fine cope and albe, with his name ænigmatically wrought on the breast, worth above 20*l.* *William Swynshed* repaired the chapel of the Trinity in the infirmary, which was ready to fall, and leaded the roof, and gave new benches, &c. to the choir, and a tabernacle of the Trinity. *Thomas Walden* contributed 20*l.* towards the beautiful carving over the high altar. *John Laxton* rebuilt a newly purchased house in the town, and gave it to find our Lady's light in the infirmary. *John Wisbeck*, afterwards abbot, gave another house to the chamberlain, to pay four shillings on Christmas-day annually, *quatenus ad reparationem conventus in eorum minutionibus*\*. *Thomas Levertou*

\* Nobody in Peterborough Abbey could let blood (*accipere minutionem*), an operation so necessary to sedentary people subject to repletion, without an order



gave another to the master of the works, to feed the monks with cheese for supper in summer, and in winter on the festival *In nomine Domini*, only in the lower hall. That noble and industrious man, *Richard Basington*, was their greatest benefactor, and gave 40l. to glaze the windows west of the nave.

There was in the town of Croyland a poor labouring man, named John Wayle, about 40 years old, who had committed some great crime which he would not disclose to any one. After receiving the sacrament at Easter he was suddenly seized with madness, and so continued without relief from any of the saints, till by the merits of St. Guthlac he was restored to his reason.

In the year 1464 Margaret dutchess of Somers-

from the prior, who let some of them have it often, some more rarely: some after 5 weeks, some after 6, and some not till after 8 or 10 or 15, or half a year: which last seems to have been the case here alluded to. To take away therefore all trouble out of their minds, abbot Robert de Lyndsey, 1214, ordained that the convent should be divided into six parts; and on the day of letting blood, he that was the senior of the part whose turn it was to have the benefit of it should ask leave (*licentiam minuendi*) under his hand for his brethren from the prior. Abbot Walter divided them into six parts. They who were (*mixti*) let blood were frequently refreshed in the refectory thrice a day with a regular diet. Gunton's Hist. of Peterb. p. 296.

set, who resided at her castle of Maxey, was received into the sisterhood, together with her daughter and heir Margaret countess of Richmond. Notwithstanding this she kept possession of Goggisland, and the stone crosses set up in abbot Ashby's time by the advice and assistance of John of Gaunt were now thrown down by the people of Depyng.

Abbot Lytlyngton sent the three old bells to London to be new cast into five, which, including the carriage, amounted to 160*l*. Before they were hung they were consecrated by Nicholas bishop of Elphin, suffragan to John bishop of Lincoln, and called Guthlac, Bartholomew, Michael, Mary, and Trinity. As they were raising a great beam to roof and floor the new-built belfrey, the tackle suddenly gave way, and fell down, bearing all the building below before it; but though there were twenty workmen under, not one received any hurt.

In 1467 a great flood overflowed the district of Holland; and among the many prognostics of calamity, such as showers of blood, &c. there appeared in the air armies, both foot and horse, conducted by St. George with his red cross. About this time the king quarrelled with the

earl of Warwick, and forbid him and the rest of his faithful lords his presence. The northern men also rose under Robin of Redysdale, and marched to support the earl. The king on this alarm went on a pilgrimage to St. Edmund to Norwich; on returning by Walsingham to Lynn, and so by Wisbeach to Dovedale, rode with a suit of 200 horse to Croyland, where he lodged one night, and next day walked through the town to the West end, and after praising the situation of the stone bridge and houses, took ship with his train and went to Fodringhey castle, where the queen was. He staid there till his troops came up, with whom he marched to Newark and Nottingham, at which last place he received news of the defeat of the earl Pembroke with the Welsh under his command at Banbury.

The alarm spread in consequence of this defeat reached Croyland, but by the interposition of Providence, and the good conduct of the earl of Warwick, the troops returned home the shortest way by Trent.

In the mean time the abbot, who had been long afflicted with the piles, which he had contracted by frequent riding on horseback, finished his course, after having governed this house

42 years and eight months, in the 66th year of his age, and 69th of his profession, January 16, 1469, 9 Edward VI. With him ends this second continuation of the History of Croyland. It is resumed again by another hand the same year; when *John de Wisbech*, prior of Freston, was elected abbot February 13. He rebuilt the chapel of St. Pega of Payland, which had long been in ruins, and completed the state apartments between the west part of the church and the almonry, which had been begun by his predecessor. He also built the great granary adjoining to the bakehouse, made lighter the dark rooms for the abbot's officers near the cloysters, and built convenient apartments in Buckingham college, Cambridge, for the scholars of this house to sleep and study in. He changed the annual service of four masses of wax to be furnished by this town to Peterborough abbey into a pension of 20 shillings; and he first abolished the ancient custom, or rather abuse, of giving little knives to all comers on St. Bartholomew's day, thereby exempting both the abbot and convent from a great and needless expence. He likewise obtained from the pope a bull, to allow the eating of meat in Lent. In his time happened



a fire in the town, which, though it lessened the revenues of the monastery 20 marks a year, yet the inhabitants by his bounty were encouraged to rebuild immediately. He died November 19, 16 Edward' IV, 1476.

His successor was *Richard Croyland*, S. T. P. elected December 17, 1476, having been before steward of the house. He held this abbacy only seven years, during the troubles at the close of the reign of Edward VI. to the short reign of Richard III. and died November 10, 1483. He was a man of so studious a turn that he not only bought many books for the library, but gave several written with his own hand. The people of Depyng took advantage of this his turn to renew their depredations in Goggisland, carrying away the rushes which had been cut by the servants and tenants of the monastery, or beating and plunging them in the water, so that the abbot was forced to leave his apartment, and receive their complaints in the body of the church. When it was necessary for any person to cut down the bank of Goggisland fen to carry off a flood, they laid heavy fines on the abbot, distraining and seizing corn coming from Langtoft and Baston, by the water which runs from Dea.

pyng, and they shot with arrows the collarer's guard-dog. The tenants and parishoners of Whaplode, who were dependants on this house, gave this worthy abbot great trouble, falling in a most violent manner on friar Lambert Fossedyk, steward of the place, forbidding him to cut down the trees growing in Whaplode church-yard, and threatening his life, if he had not bolted himself in within the church. But all these injuries were small in comparison of William Ramsey, abbot of Peterborough, who claimed Alderland fen and other undisputed lands and privileges of this house: which dispute was at last adjusted by archbishop Rotherham, in a way, says the historian, which shews which side he intended to favour.

On the death of abbot Croyland *Lambert Fossedyk* before mentioned, batchelor in decrees, was elected his successor, January 12, 1 Richard III. 1484. He enjoyed his dignity but two years, and died of the sweating sickness in eighteen hours, October or November 14, 1485, a little after the close of Richard III's reign.

He was succeeded by *Edmund Thorp*, S. T. B. prior of this house, elected November 1487, in whose time were settled by the church justices.

the three great disputes about the precincts of Croyland, which the men of Mutton and Weston had so much contested; the boundaries of the demesnes, and the right of common in Goggisland, controverted by the people of Depyng, which the prudence of the king's mother compromised; and the claim to Alderland fen left undetermined by the forementioned award, that the abbot and convent of Croyland should pay those of Peterborough 10*l.* per annum, till they could purchase and settle on them lands to that amount, or appropriate and unite the churches of Brinkhurst or Eston in Leicestershire to the said monastery at the same expence. Abbot Edmund chose the latter proposal, and obtained the king's licence accordingly. With this the third continuator of the history of Croyland ends, April 30, 1486. What follows there is no more than the necessary instruments of the said appropriations.

It appears from the records cited by Brown Willis that this abbot died 1487, and was succeeded by

Philip Everidge; Everard, or Evermue,

William Godyng, 1504;

Richard Berkeny or Bendency, 1507;

**John Welles, alias Bridges.**

He, with William Pynchbeck, prior, Richard Sleafurth, prior of Freston, cell to this house, Anthony Overton, and 27 other monks, subscribed to the king's supremacy 1534. After which, continuing abbot till the dissolution 1539, and joining in the surrender of the convent, he obtained for life a pension of 138l. 6s. 8d. per annum.

In 1553 these pensions remained in charge to some of their surviving unpensioned :

	<i>L.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
John Rotheram .....	8	0	0
John Grene .....	7	0	0
Richard Martyne ....	8	0	0
Thomas Greneham ..	6	13	4
John Ireforde .....	6	13	4
Nicholas Wynne ....	6	0	0
William Test .....	6	0	0
Robert Townsend ....	5	6	8
Peter Frexetonne ....	5	6	8
William Gotobedde ..	5	0	0
William Denton .....	5	0	0
William Portington ..	5	0	0

The revenues of this abbey at the dissolution were valued at 1083l. 15s. 8d., or 1217l. 5s. 11d.

The seal of this house, as given by Reyner, p. 215, and Fuller, p. 223, engraved in Tanner's *Noticia* XCIII. bore quarterly 1. 4. Three St. Bartholomew's knives; 2. 3. Three St. Guthlac's whips. But in an Ashmolean MS. No. 763, there is another coat G. a cross flory O. within a border azure, *enealuron* of nine cross crosets A. So also in Mr. Cole's collections from a roll of the lords of parliament.

The scite of the abbey was granted, probably with the manor of Croyland, and the demesne lands thereto belonging, by letters patent, 4 Edward VI. to Edward lord Clinton.

Charles II. by letters patent under the great seal of England, bearing date September 15th, in the twenty-third year of his reign, did grant to Sir Thomas Orby (who attended his majesty in his exile) his executors, administrators, and assigns, the manor of Crowland, otherwise Croyland, all demesne lands, and all farm rents of the tenants by copy of court roll, amounting to the yearly sum of 15l. 10s. 2½d. or thereabouts, with all other rights and profits belonging to the said manor; and also the great Marsh called *Great Pursant*, containing by estimation 6543 acres more or less (excepting the marshes of

waste grounds called *Gog Island and Alderlands*) for sixty years from June 27, 1695, at the yearly rent of 178l. 15s. 6d. The said manor, lands, &c. afterwards came to Sir Charles Orby, bart. the eldest son of the abovesaid Sir Thomas, and at the decease of the said Sir Charles, to Sir Thomas Orby the younger son of the abovesaid Sir Thomas the grantee or lessee of the same premises, for the residue of the said term then unexpired; who afterwards assigned the same unto Robert Hunter, esq. his executors, &c. which said Robert married Elizabeth, widow of Lord Hayes, and the daughter and only child of the said Sir Thomas the son, and was a major-general, and appointed by queen Anne governor of New York in America, and during his government there was directed by her majesty to provide subsistence for about 3000 Palatines, sent from Great Britain to be employed in raising and manufacturing naval stores; and by an account stated in 1784, it appears that the said Robert had disbursed 20000l. and upwards in that undertaking, no part of which was ever paid to the said Robert or his representatives. Upon the death of the said Robert in 1784, his son Thomas Orby Hunter, esq. became vested in the re-



aidue of the said term unexpired by the late will of his said father Robert. On February 14, 10 George II. the said manor, &c. were granted, by letters patent, to the said Thomas Orby Hunter, his executors, &c. for eleven years, to commence from June 24, 1755, at which time the term granted by Charles II. did expire, at the ancient yearly rent above mentioned, payable half-yearly. And the said king further granted by letters patent dated June 22, in the 19th year of his reign, to the said Thomas Orby Hunter, his executors, &c. the said manors, &c. for the term of nine years and three quarters of a year, to commence from June 24, 1769, paying the yearly rent above mentioned, in the manner aforesaid. After this, in the 25th year of the said king's reign, the said manor, &c. by virtue of an act of parliament then passed, were alienated from the crown by the said king's grant to the said Thomas Orby Hunter and his heirs, paying the aforesaid rent, and also such additional rent, in lieu of a fine or consideration money for the purchase of the premises as was to be ascertained by the proper officers of the crown for the time being, on St. Michael and Lady-day in every year, by equal portions, to his said majesty, his heirs, &c.

at the receipt of the exchequer of his said majesty, his heirs, &c. After the death of the abovesaid Thomas Orby Hunter, which happened October 20, 1769, this manor, &c. descended by a devise in his last will, to Charles Orby Hunter, esq. his eldest son, who being unable to discharge the heavy mortgage with which it had been encumbered in time of the Orbys, the mortgagee entered into possession of it about five years ago.

By no account have we been able to collect who was in possession of this manor, &c. before the family of the Orbys. In the interval between them and the lord Clinton, no possessor appears except Valentine Walton and Adrian Scrope, two of the regicides, who purchased (of whom does not appear) the manor of Croyland and part of the manor of Spalding, being parcel of the queen mother's jointer. They were restored to the queen mother by parliament, 23 June, 1660.

Mr. Wray, who was here in 1661, rode from Croyland to Spalding upon a very firm bank for the space of eight miles, thrown up by Col. Walton.

In the year 1643, the town of Croyland was by the inhabitants thereof made a garrison for

the king, which they had great reason to do, not only to shew themselves good subjects, but good tenants, they holding their lands of him. April 14, that year, came the parliament forces to Peterborough, in order to the besieging of Croyland. Cromwell himself lay at Peterborough with a regiment of horse to carry on the siege. A company of foot came thither before, under col. Hubbert, raised by parliament in the associated counties for the same purpose. The town was taken on the 9th of May following, and Cromwell and his forces marched away to Stamford.

## THE CHURCH.

Mr. Ray describes the church, i. e. part of the body, the choir and cross buildings being all fallen down, "as having the roof within covered with wood curiously gilded, part of which now hangs in a house in the town, and round about and on the sides underneath the roof artificially carved many species of animals, both birds and beasts. In the time of the late wars this church was made a garrison, and held for the king. When it was taken by the parliament, one of the town soldiers affrighted got up to the top of the

church, above the wood wherewith it is covered, and walked along till he came to a place where wanted a board; there, whether casually slipping down (or being astonished by the soldiers calling upon him to come down) he hung a long time by the arms, till at last being weary he fell into the church, which is of a great height; but yet was not so dashed to pieces by the fall, but that he lived a day or two."

From this application of the church during the civil war, we may date the ruin of what then remained; for it had probably been reduced to the state in which Mr. Ray saw it by some of its lay proprietors after the dissolution, when the nave with its ailes was left standing for a parish church. Mr. Scribo about seven years ago buried an old man near 90 years old, who had been baptised in the now ruined nave. The people of the place told Mr. Willis the choir extended five pillars farther, perhaps exclusive of the Lady Chapel, which we have seen was on the north side. Besides this there was another Lady Chapel on the south side of the church, with a lofty screen.

At present the north aile, built by abbot Bardeney before 1247, serves for the parish

church. It is in length 90 feet, and in breadth 24; decently fitted up, but contains no remains of antiquity. Six arches support it on the south side: the roof has groined aches; in the key stones a head, a rose, i h g, a rebus of a tree issuing out of a ton for . . . . ., a flower, and the letters engraved. The font is octagonal, adorned with arch work and roses on the base.

From the wall of the south side, within the old church, projects horizontally a wooden angel or figure, called *the Devil with a dark lantern*, which formerly contributed to support the roof of the nave. The walls have bulged so much that they are supported by strong buttresses on each side, whose materials, taken from the ruined part of the church, will hasten its fall. Within the north side, over the vestry, has been built a school, ascended to formerly by the stairs leading into the singing gallery, but now by steps from without between the buttresses.

Over the porch hath formerly been a chamber with three windows, and on the right side of the porch, near the door entering into the belfry, is a small room, anciently used as a charnel-house; and opposite to it, on the left, is another, to what

use anciently appropriated no tradition tells us, but wherein, as many old inhabitants inform me, there was, about fifty years ago, one Christopher Kitchen, a mad man, chained to a post, to prevent any mischief that might ensue from him to the inhabitants. These rooms have been for some time past stopped up.

The pulpit, made of Norway oak, with the reading-desk, is placed against the south wall, and almost opposite to these is an arched opening, wherein hath been a door into the north church yard, but which is now stopped up. At the distance of about seven yards from the altar, is an old screen curiously carved, and which appears to have been highly gilded and painted. The ascent to the altar is by two steps, on the highest of which is a handsome balustrade of Norway oak, surrounding the altar on three sides; and above the altar is a large window towards the east. The church is well furnished with silver plate, having a quart chalice, and a large and a small paten, with a large, handsome, and scalloped basin for baptisms, on some of which are engraved the arms of the abbots of this place.

The nave of the old church is 144 feet long by 28 wide, exclusive of the south aisle, which



is 12 feet wide; so that the parish church probably includes more than the north aisle, which otherwise would be twice as wide as the south.

On each side of the nave are nine pointed arches near eleven feet wide, alternately round, hexagon, and concave, whose pillars are clustered like those in the nave of Westminster, but smaller; and from the ground to the top of the present walls, which want but little of the height on which the roof rested, is 25 yards. One of these fine pillars is miserably cracked. Eight windows of the clerestory on the south side remain with all their tracery, except in the fifth from the west, with the stone bases of arches that supported the roof; but on the north side they have been thrown down on repairing the church about thirty years ago, from an apprehension that their rocking would weaken the church. An attempt was made not many years since to pull down a whole window, the first from the west, but just as it was nodding to its fall the rope broke. The arch entering this nave is adorned with Gothic nich-work, of the style used in the reign of Henry VI.

The pillasters which supported the roof of the south aisle remain about 6 feet high. At the

east end of this aisle is a door stopped up that led into the cloister, the arch angular, adorned with massive zig-zag, and behind it a pointed arch of later date, sided by a lesser pointed arch. There was another door near the west end. The arch of the present east window, which was the west arch of the tower, has two rows of double zig-zag, and on the outside a third of dentals. The capitals of the two pillars differ: that on the south side is made up of Greek mouldings, beautifully diminishing, that on the north side of Saxon foliage, &c. Part of an arch in the north wall beautiful leafage. Within the great arch is a small oblong window of eight or nine bays, in double rows; under this a fascia of quatrefoils; below that two doors stopped up, and above them the defaced remains of a short inscription in black letter. Within the memory of the present sexton a considerable part of the Lord's prayer and creed were legible on this division wall. The back part of this lower division is adorned with rows of arches in relief, with defaced shields and quatrefoils over them, and against the doors are two buttresses. This was a screen separating the nave and the choir, and by the style of the ornaments, appears to be of

the reign of Henry VI. but contrary to the usual mode, it was under the *west* arch of the tower. On each side the great west door within was a lofty arch, that on the north side hid by a monstrous buttress built against the present church.

The small remains of the south aisle, its west end, preserves the Norman style of architecture in four stories of small arches. The first five from the ground have zig-zag arches, and among the rude ornaments cut in over them, one sees a compass and two circles, to which corresponds on the other side a rude figure, which Mr. Essex conjectures represents the *levell* or instrument for raising stone by with its cords. The second row of shorter round pillars have five blunt pointed arches; over these five more round pillars with interlaced arches within three semicircles, and over all a pointed arch between three round ones, without any pillars. There was another row of pointed arches above, entire 1726. This part of the building appears to have been a casing to an older wall, which is seen behind it, and a considerable cavity between them; but there is nothing singular in this. Time and frost may have separated the outer casing from the inner parts of the wall. The interlaced arches on little

pillars are not so ancient as the round arches, but were used in the same building. These arches are changed into six windows in King's print, where this aisle is represented as entire, with its leaden roof, ten buttresses, and seven windows: under the windows marks of arches, which may have belonged to the cloyster, whose pedestals still remain. Two lofty south windows of the choir are also shewn, and of the south transept. In every other instance the whole view is so distorted, that the west front of the nave and north aisle are nearly equal, or the former less than the latter; the projecting porch thrown to one end of the north aisle, the figures neither so numerous, nor so arranged as at present. The east window of this arch remains, and the sweep of a range of others on the west side of the south transept. The south wall of the south aisle was entire when Dr. Stukeley took his view, 1724, and when Collins of Peterborough and S. Buck drew it, 1726. At the west end of the north aisle, or present church, the Dr. placed St. Nicholas's chapel. The south buttress of the west front has a door-way in it, which Dr. Stukeley supposes entered into St. Guthlac's original cell and chapel at the west

end of the south aisle on which, he says, the buttress is built, on the brick work of the cell on rebuilding the church, A. D. 716. None of this brick work now remains; nor is there much probability in his supposition.

In the west end of that part of the middle aisle now standing, is a hole extending about five feet inward, called "little ease," in which, it is said, monks who had committed particular crimes were imprisoned;—it might also serve for a penitentiary, as the person when in it could neither sit, lie down, nor stand without stooping. Among a variety of devices in very fine sculpture in the west front, over the entrance, is a sow and nine pigs, which were the only animals found in the island when St. Guthlac and his party first landed. Here is also a remarkably fine figure of a woman, but the head is gone; this was probably Pega, Guthlac's sister.

The free-masons who were employed in building the west end of the aisle, rudely cut upon the face of it a pair of compasses, and some other instrument, probably a *levis*, with two circular figures: one of them I suppose is intended for the sun, with flames bursting from the circumference, the other may be designed to repre-

sent the moon or a star. These never could be meant as ornaments to the work; and if they have any meaning at all, they seem to relate to the mysteries of masonry, and might be intended as emblems or signs of something known to the free-masons only.

In the west front of the nave are the remains of two styles of building. The great west door with the statues on each side, part of the window above it, with the tabernacles as high as the springing of the arch, are of Henry the Third's time; but the upper part of the window, and the niches above, are of Edward the First's. From hence I conjecture, that this front was built by abbot Longchamp; but the fronton and turrets being blown down when Ralph Merske was abbot, they were rebuilt in the latter part of his time, or in the beginning of his successor's, Richard Croyland. If the whole of this front when perfect was as elegant as the lower part from the ground to the springing of the arch of the great window, it was as beautiful a piece of architecture as any of equal dimensions in the kingdom at that time; but by the destruction of the upper parts, its elegance was greatly impaired, and when it was rebuilt its original beauty was not

restored; for although several of the statues appear to be of the same age as those below, there is a manifest difference in the architecture.

There are some traces of that style of building used in the reign of Henry the Third, in the walls of the north aisle towards the east end, which must have been the work of abbot Barde-ney, who rebuilt that aisle, and made it eleven feet wider; but it has undergone considerable alterations since that time, so that, excepting some remains of the north wall, little of it is left to distinguish what was done in that age.

In the time of Edward the First or Second, the windows in this aisle were altered; and in the reign of Henry the Fourth, chapels were built against the north wall, and the opposite windows removed into them. The tower at the west end of this aisle, and the two large buttresses against the west front, are of the same age, and it is probable were all executed under the direction of William Croyland, master of the works, who built the arches and pillars of the nave. But the roof and ceiling of the nave, and the stone vaultings of the north and south aisles, were not completed until the reign of Henry the Sixth. The south buttress against the west end of the

nave has two door-ways, one above the other. Of what use they were I cannot say, unless there has been a stone stair-case leading to some apartment which joined to the church, which is not improbable; but Dr. Stukeley supposed it was built on the brick-work of St. Guthlac's original cell when the church was rebuilt, A. D. 716, and that the door-way opened into the original chapel, which he supposes was at the west end of the south aisle. But Guthlac's cell and chapel were little better than wooden huts, which could have no foundation capable of bearing the weight of such a mass of stone as is contained in this buttress. By what authority the Dr. has determined the scite of Guthlac's cell and chapel to have been at the west end of the south aisle does not appear; but we may venture to say, that this buttress has no relation to it, any more than its opposite on the north: for they were both built at the same time by the same architect who rebuilt the nave of the church, and were intended as abutments to resist the thrust of the arches to be built within the nave; and at the same time the two awkward buttresses were built at the east end of the nave against the tower to resist the thrust of the arches which sup-



ported it when those in the nave were taken down.

The monks' choir was separated from the nave by a stone screen of convenient height finished at the top with a double row of quatrefoils. In it were two doors, and between them two altars, one towards the nave for public service, the other for the monks only; the doors were made for the convenience of those who officiated at the altar next the nave, and for the monks when they came out of the choir in procession. The present screen was built when the nave was finished, in the reign of Henry the Sixth; but the window and all the wall above the fascia of quatrefoils was added after the Reformation, when the nave was inclosed for the use of the parish. The back of this screen towards the monks' choir was handsomely ornamented with arches and tracery; but the side next the nave was plain and covered with tapestry, or other hangings as high as the fascia.

The choir, which extended near 100 feet beyond the screen, exclusive of the tribune, must have undergone many alterations since it was built by Ethelbald; but they seem to have continued the same plan, by building upon the

original foundations, and whatever alterations they might make in the style of the building in the eastern part of it, the tower which was over the west end remained unaltered until the final destruction.

The high altar stood at the entrance into the tribune, under a baldachin, or ciborium, richly carved, and inclosed all round with a ballustrade; beyond it towards the east was the shrine of St. Guthlac.

The transept was intersected by the choir, which divided it into two parts, north and south. In each arm there were three porticoes on the east side. The furthest in the north arm was the chapel of Thomas Wells, abbot, who was buried there in the year 1253. One was dedicated to our Lady; and the other might be the chapel of St. John the Evangelist. In the south arm there were three porticoes like those in the north; one was a lady-chapel, another a vestry, and it is probable the other was the sacristy or muniment room; a new screen was made to this lady-chapel in Henry the Sixth's time, by Simon Eresby. All these chapels, the porticoes or ailes of the nave, and round the choir, were vaulted with stone; and the tribune over the

high altar was covered with a half dome. . But the nave and choir were cieled with wood painted, agreeable to the custom of those times.

If we may judge of Ethelbald's church from the plan and what remains of the superstructure, it was a regular and not inelegant building, and although it suffered greatly by fire in the time of Ingulphus, it does not appear to have undergone any material change in its form when the east end and south arm of the transept were rebuilt under the direction of Odo and Arnold. The first deviation from the original plan was made in the time of Henry the Third, when the north aisle was taken down and made wider ; this destroyed the regularity of the plan, and consequently added nothing to the beauty of the building. In the same reign the beautiful west front was added to the nave ; and the whole of the church to the tower was intended to be rebuilt in the same style, as appears by the preparations made for it. Had this been done, the south aisle would have been equal in width with the north, and the whole west front would have been completed in the same style as that in the center. Thus the regularity and uniformity of the build-

ing would have been preserved, though its proportions would have been a little impaired.

In the time of Henry the Sixth, William Croyland, many years master of the works, under whose direction many parts of the church and abbey were repaired and some rebuilt, had an opportunity of completing the design which was begun in the reign of Henry the Third, the whole nave being then rebuilt under his direction; but he was deficient in the art of designing, and wanted judgement to execute. We must attribute every deformity apparent in this building to his want of taste; the ridiculous tower and clumsy spire at one corner of the west front, the two enormous buttresses built against the elegant front of the nave, and those as absurdly placed within the church against the tower of the transept, were designed by him; and to his want of judgement in the execution of his work, may be imputed most of the defects which must have appeared soon after the work was finished, and now threaten destruction to the most beautiful remains of the building; for the works which he intended for its support were the primary cause of its ruin.

The buildings and offices belonging to this abbey must have been very extensive, as appears from the number of monks and lay-brothers, besides servants resident there, and upwards of 100 monks of other monasteries, who all, when they came, had a stall in the choir, a seat in the refectory, and a bed in the dormitory; besides these they often entertained many strangers, who found among them a comfortable retreat in times of danger. But these monk were no less famous for their learning than hospitality; the nobility sent their children to them for instruction; and to them the university of Cambridge was obliged for the revival of learning, if not the first institution of public lectures among them. But all the buildings belonging to this once famous manastery and ancient seminary of learning, except a small part of the church, are now so completely destroyed, that not a stone is left by which we can trace them. In the place where the abbot's apartments once stood there is a trench almost filled up, which the people of the place suppose was a canal, made to bring the stones and other materials to the church while it was building, but in reality it was an intrenchment, made when it was garrisoned in the time

of the civil war, as the two bastions yet remaining sufficiently evince. This intrenchment is about 30 yards south of the church and parallel to it, which being very near the extent of the cloister that way, the abbot's apartments, which were against the south side of them, must have stood where the church now runs.

The abbot's apartments, the cloisters, and some others adjoining the church, were built with stone, but the rest of the offices with timber; and as these required very shallow foundations, they were very soon erased after the buildings were destroyed, and the stones and rammel carried away to repair houses or mend roads, the ground was left with such irregular cavities, that it is impossible to trace any plan of the buildings from them.

That the original plan of this church was a Latin-cross, terminated with a semicircular tribune, conformable to the mode of building introduced by the Roman missionaries soon after the conversion of the Saxons, will admit of little doubt by those who are acquainted with the principles of ancient architecture: and that the superstructure corresponded with the plan can

be as little doubted by those who examine the small remains of it with attention.

At the east end of the ruin now standing stood the screen, or high altar; this was the entrance into the *sanctum sanctorum*, and on each side of it were formerly two chapels. That the high altar was at the east end of the remaining ruin is extremely plain, both from Mr. Essex's plan of the church, &c. and from the arms of the abbots: this east end displays an exquisite specimen of Anglo-Saxon architecture.

What was formerly the grand middle aisle of this superb structure, is now covered only by the canopy of heaven; its floor is gone, and it is used as a burying ground.

In the north aisle, which now serves as the parish church, we observed the following inscriptions:

In the middle aisle:

Here lie the remains of the Rev. Moor Scribo, B. A. Rector of this parish 42 years, who departed this life July the 13th, 1808, in the 85th year of his age.

It is said that this gentleman compiled a considerable part of Mr. Gough's History of Croyland.

On a neat marble tablet in the south wall :

Near this place, in a vault,

lie the remains of William Wyche,

who departed this life

December the 7th, 1807,

aged 55 years.

Spes in Deo.

William, son of William & Abigail Wyche,

died January 28th, 1810,

aged 28 years.

*Multis ille bonus flebilis occidit.*

Against the east wall of the present church :

George Baguley, died Dec. 7, 1751, aged 30.

He married Frances, relict of William Cherington.

She died August 1, 1787, aged 60.

Reader, stay, it is but just :

Thou dost not tread on common dust.

For underneath this stone doth lie,

One whose name can never die.

Trace her through all the scenes of life,

You'll find her free from envy, hate, and strife.

Mary, wife of Robert Darby, died Jan. 19,

1728-9, aged 30.

*Cujus anime propicietur Deus.*

She, whose unblemisht life a husband blest,

From cares and labour here is come to rest.



Chaste love, and tender mother, all that's good,  
 She daily shewed, and as well understood.  
 The poor have lost a friend, i a good wife ;  
 But she, i trust, hath gained eternal life.  
 On a wooden tablet against the north wall :

Beneath this place, in 6  
 foot in length, against the clerk's  
 pew, lyeth the body of Mr.

Abraham Badley. He died the 3 of Jan.

1704. Also, ye body of Mary his  
 widow. She died the 21 of May, 1705.

Also the body of Abraham, son of ye  
 said Abraham and Mary. He dyed ye 13 Jan.

1704. Also 2 which dyed in their

Enfantry. Man's life is like  
 unto a winter's day, some brake  
 their fast, and so depart away ;

Others stay dinner, and depart full fed,  
 the longest age but sups,  
 and goes to bed. O, reader, yt behold  
 and see, as we are now, so must you bee. 1708.

On a small brass plate in the nave :

Here lyeth the body of Elizabeth,  
 the wife of William Maltby, and 9 of their  
 children. She was interred  
 ye 6th day of Aug. 1694,

On a flat stone :

In memory of  
 Luke Cowley, gent.,  
 who departed this life  
 Oct. 18, 1728,  
 aged 84.

The same propitious day which gave him birth,  
 After a life well spent, resum'd his breath.

In memory of Mary the  
 relict of Luke Cowley, gent.,  
 who departed this life  
 Feb. the 15, 1730.,  
 aged 81.

#### CROYLAND BRIDGE.

The triangular bridge at Croyland is a curiosity worthy notice for the singularity of its form, more than its extent, or any difficulty in the construction. The plan of it is formed by three squares and an equilateral triangle about which they are placed. The bridge has three fronts; three ways over its, and three under it. And contrary to what is generally said about it standing in three counties, it is all of it in Lincolnshire. The walls, which extend beyond the opening of the arches on the abutments to form

the wings of the bridge, are placed irregularly to suit the course of the streams.

About the year 1752, a bridge of this kind was built in France, on the road between St. Omar's and Calais, upon the meeting of four canals. It is a magnificent dome pierced with four large arches upon a circular plan, and supported by four abutments. Four fine canals meet under it, and as many spacious roads cross each other on the top of it. It is called the *Pont sans pareil* with great propriety, being excellently well contrived to answer all the purposes of travelling by land or water. The design is plain, but not inelegant, and it is an admirable piece of masonry. These properties are wanting in the bridge at Croyland, where the ascents and descents are so steep, that neither carriages nor horses can pass over it, and foot passengers use it with difficulty. In short, it seems to have been built rather to be admired for the singularity of its form, than its utility as a bridge. Hence it has been supposed, that it was built under the direction of the abbots, rather to excite admiration, and furnish a pretence for granting indulgences and collecting money, than for real use: but I cannot agree with this conjecture, though it was

built in superstitious age, when every artifice was employed to impose upon the ignorant for the purpose of collecting money; because there is nothing so wonderful in its construction as to excite either admiration or devotion, unless the plan of it was intended as an emblem of the Trinity; there being three arches united in one arch, and three ways in one over it. But I cannot believe the builder had any such intention, because the singular situation of it naturally required the form he gave it, which is not unlike the common emblem of the Trinity. That it was built for a religious boundary is the most reasonable conjecture; though, strictly speaking, it cannot be a boundary, it being five miles at least from the nearest part of their bounds; but it may be considered as the place from whence their bounds are measured. It was used for that purpose by Ethelbald when he first settled their bounds, as appears by his charter; and it was used for the same purpose in succeeding times, as appears in the charters of Witlaf, Bertulph, and Edred. Hence it has been supposed that it was built in the time of Ethelbald; and this opinion seems to be confirmed by his statue being placed upon it. In the charter of Edred,

dated in the year of Christ 943, it is called the *Triangular Bridge* at Croyland; but in the preceding charters, which confirm the boundaries, it is called the *Bridge of Croyland*, without the appellation of *Triangular*; and from thence I should conclude, that it was not built long before the charter of Edred was granted, probably in the year 941; but the present bridge is not older than the time of Edward the first or second; consequently it must have been rebuilt since the time of Edred, if there was a stone bridge there in his time, which may be doubted.

When this island was a solitary desert, inaccessible on all sides but by water, a bridge was useless; and when it was inhabited by Gothlac, or three or four hermits only, their cells were less exposed to the sudden attacks of barbarians without a bridge than with it. But when Ethelbald, in conformity to his vow, had resolved to build a monastery there, accommodations of every kind were wanting, not only for those who were to be employed in the buildings, but for the monks who were to inhabit it, for whose use he gave leave to build a town, with right of common for themselves and servants.

Before they began to work, a lodge was of

course provided, for the masons to work in, and huts to lodge in and dress their victuals in, besides the necessary accommodations for other workmen of various denominations; all which were undoubtedly erected on the east bank of the Welland, as near the spot where Guthlaë's wooden Oratory stood as could conveniently be. On both sides the opposite banks, where the rivers Nyne, Welland, and Cat-Water unite, houses and cottages were built for the inhabitants of the new town, by whom they were to be supplied with the necessaries of life. At the same time a bridge must be built for the convenience of those who lived on the opposite sides of the river. This we may conclude was a wooden bridge, being easier and sooner built than one of stone. This bridge is mentioned in the several charters of Ethelbald, Witlaf, and Bertulph, by the name of Croyland Bridge. The triangular bridge was not built then; and it is probable the inhabitants had no access to the monastery, while it was building, but by boats; and, after it was inhabited, any other communication would have been inconsistent with the security of the place. For in those days it was as necessary to fortify monasteries

as castles, with walls, gates, moats, and draw-bridges, they being as much in danger of sudden attacks from their powerful neighbours, as from the incursions of the Danes, when no man was safe in his own house, unless that house was a castle. For these reasons, I apprehend, the only approach to the abbey, during the first 200 years after it was built, was by water.

The Triangular Bridge mentioned in Edred's charter was probably built by Turketyl when he restored the boundary stones. If that bridge had been built with stone, it would have been guarded by a strong gate, with portcullises and other works, agreeable to the custom of those times; but as there are no traces of any such works, I conclude, that bridge was made of wood; and that the branch leading to the monastery was guarded by a drawbridge; or so put together that it might be totally removed upon any emergency. As the present bridge cannot be older than the time of Edward the First, I see no reason why it might not be built in the beginning of his reign; for the causes which before prevented their building a stone bridge no longer existed. They had nothing to fear from the incursions of foreigners; the oppressive feudal

Woods were no longer so formidable as they had been; and a bridge might at that time be built without danger to the monks, who were sufficiently safe within the walls of the abbey. But why they should build a bridge which no carriage or horse could pass over, nor any foot passenger conveniently walk over, is somewhat difficult to account for. Had they intended it for common uses, without doubt those who built it could have built one convenient for every purpose; but I am inclined to think it was not intended for such uses, but for the support of a triangular stone cross on a pedestal of the same form, set up at the same time to answer two purposes; first, to mark the spot, which in all their charters was the place from whence their bounds were measured, and for a market-cross. That it was used for the first of these purposes is very probable; and that statue of Ethelwald, now awkwardly placed on one side, was set upon the pedestal at the foot of the pyramid or cross, to commemorate their founder or benefactor, who first settled their bounds, and made that spot the center of them. It was no uncommon thing at that time to set crosses upon bridges in recesses over the piers, either to mark the divi-



sion of counties, or the bounds of parishes, and sometimes for religious uses, as those were which stood on the sides of public roads. For this purpose chapels were sometimes built upon large bridges and by the sides of great roads. As no people were more tenacious of their privileges and property than the monks, without doubt they made the perambulation of their bounds as often as the state of the country permitted. These perambulations were made with solemn processions from the church to the high cross, where the host was exposed with great solemnity to the people, who there received the benediction; and, joining the procession, proceeded from thence with banners displayed, chanting litanies and psalms to solemn music, as they marched to the several places where their bounds were marked by stones or crosses; and if any had been thrown down by storms or floods, they were set up again; or, if any were lost, they restored them with the usual ceremonies. For this and other purposes of the same nature, no bridge was better situated or better contrived. It served likewise for a market-cross. A market and a fair were granted in the reign preceding that in

which we suppose the bridge was built. Market-crosses were generally raised on high steps; the lowermost serving as a bench to those who served the markets with the produce of the neighbouring towns; but the space about this cross would not admit such steps, had the situation required them; therefore they made stone seats against the walls of the wings to answer the same purpose. After the dissolution of the abbey, the bridge could not be used for any religious purpose; and the cross being no longer esteemed, it is probable they removed it to make a clear passage over the bridge, and that the statue of Ethelwald (who was no saint) was then placed on the stone seat where it still remains.

On leveling the trills, a few years ago, in the pasture where the abbey once stood, many stone coffins were found, and one in particular was very large; this undoubtedly belonged to abbot Siward, who is said to have been of a gigantic size: the skull was extremely large. The abbot's fishpond has been filled up many years;—and is now planted with willows: it was at a small distance from the east end of the church, on the right hand side of the road now leading to Salding.

T. O. Hunter, Esq. is *Lord of this manor*; and the same gentleman, Mr. Jas. Whitard, Mr. C. Wyche, Mr. S. Cherrington, and Mr. John Smith, are the principal proprietors of land in this parish.

The parish, consisting of abbey lands, is tithe free.

In Porsland the land is mostly pasture, but the remainder of the parish is principally ploughed.

The number of acres in the parish is about 14,000, and the average rent twenty-five shillings per acre. The fences consist of more ditches than hedges.

Porsland is drained by several wind engines, which throw the water into drains, and these carry it to the sea. A coarse kind of hemp is grown here in considerable quantities by the small farmers, which helps to supply the British Navy. Many of the poorer sort of the inhabitants here live, especially in the winter season, by fishing and fowling in a place called Cowbit Wash, which consists of several hundred acres of land covered almost constantly with water, and producing excellent pike and eels, beside much water fowl.

The following circumstances claim the attention of Geologists. In the parish of Croyland I was informed that about 40 years ago, a man could thrust into the ground a ten feet staff to the head, with much ease; the soil at that time principally consisting of moor or rotten vegetables. At this time I saw, in the very same place, gravel, consisting of fine large white quartz pebbles, within half a yard of the surface; the stratum of gravel being about three feet thick, and under it a large kind of sand. A man digging gravel there told me likewise, that, ten years ago, he opened a particular spot which he pointed out, in order to get gravel, and found nothing but a large gritty sand, like to that beneath the gravel, where he was then digging; but that *this* year he had opened the *same spot* again and had found gravel as large as what I then saw, many of the pebbles of which are as large as marbles, and some even as large as pigeons' eggs. Should this appear to militate against commonly received opinions, it may still be true; for the wisest of mankind *sometimes err*, and the operations of nature are sometimes difficult to investigate, even by the closest observers.

'Tis true that the belief of the facts are in

some degree founded on human testimony, but then it may be urged that the persons relating the circumstances, having no theory to support, had no motives to induce them to misrepresent what they believed to be true. It is possible also that the men may err through ignorance; but this is not very likely, since it requires no great portion of intellect to discover the difference between a vegetable soil and gravel, or to distinguish pebbles from sand. Mr. C. Wyche of Crowland knows how the matter stands, and I have no doubt but he will investigate the subject closely; for if this can be proved to be a fact, some very elaborate theories must vanish.

## TYDD ST. MARY.

TIDD St. MARY, or Tide St. Mary, so called because the tide once came up hither\*, is a

\* This derivation is confirmed by a part of the parish being called *Tydd-gout* (from *tide go out*), and which is

small village in the wapentake of Elloe, in the parts of Holland, about eight miles s. e. by e. from Holbeach. This parish is in the Duchy of Lancaster.

*Domesday Account.*

In Tite (Tydd St. Mary's) earl Algar had five carucates of land and one oxgang to be taxed. Land to three ploughs. The king has there one plough, and sixteen villanes and five bordars and one sokeman having eight ploughs, and eighty acres of meadow. Value in king Edward's time eight pounds. And one fishery with a wood, which paid four pennies less than seventy shillings. The whole is now worth fifteen pounds.

In Tite is a berewick of this manor of two carucates and one oxgang of land to be taxed. There are now there eight villanes and one sokeman having one plough and two oxen, and thirty acres of land.

**Camden and the author of Magna Britannia**

near the Shire Drain, made in the time of Elizabeth for the purpose of draining Thorney Fen;—it divides the counties of Lincoln and Cambridge, and falls into Sutton Wash.

say that Nicholas Breakspeare, who was afterwards Pope Adrian the IVth, was once rector of this parish; but Stowe in his Summarie of the Chronicles of England says, that "Nicholas Breakspeare, an Englishman, was borne at Langley in the countye of Harforde, sonne to Robert a yonger brother of the house of Breakspeare (whieh Robert after the death of his wife, professed himself a monk of saint Albons, causing his sonne to provide for his owne preferment) this yong man passed into France, was shorne a monke, and after chosen abbot, went to Rome, was consecrated bishop of Alba, made cardinal, sent legate to the Norwayes, where he reduced that nation from paganisme to christianitie, and after returned to Rome, where, as Anastasius was dead, he was chosen pope by the name of Adrian the fowerth."

#### THE CHURCH

is a rectory, valued in the king's books at 17l. 6s. 5½d. Patron the King. The steeple is a spire, standing at the west end, and contains five bells. The church is ancient, is moderately large, and has stalls instead of pews.

It contains the following inscriptions:

Here are deposited the remains  
of

Sigismund Trafford, Esq.

Whose plain and exemplary character  
was this ;

He was tender and indulgent to his wife, kind  
and affectionate to his relations, easy and hu-  
mane to his dependants, hospitable and friendly  
to his neighbours, a lover of his country and all  
mankind.

In a word,

He was in all respects an honest and a worthy  
man ;

In testimony of which truths,  
and under a grateful sense of their real force,

His widow

has caused this monument to be erected.

He departed this life Feb. 1, 1779, aged 47.

Here is also another (in Latin) to the memory  
of John Trafford, Esq. who died in 1719.

On another :

In a vault beneath are deposited the  
remains of Sir Clement Trafford, Knight,  
Of Dunton Hall\*,

\* "Dunton Hall, (says Stukeley) in the parish of Tydd,  
has been magnificently rebuilt by Sigismund Trafford,



In the County of Lincoln,  
 Lord of this Manor,  
 Who married Miss Jane Southwell; daughter of  
 Edward Southwell, Esq. of Wisbeach,  
 By whom he had issue Sigismund and Jane  
 now living,  
 and departed this life on the 1st of Jan. 1786,  
 in the 48 year of his age:

**FREE-SCHOOL.**

About the year 1740, a Free-School was founded for the instruction of a limited number of poor children, by a donation from Mrs. Martha Trafford, who died a few years ago at the age of 90 years. Since the original foundation, from the increase in the price of land, &c. the annual amount of the donation is six times greater than it was at that time, and the number of children has been proportionably increased. Several teachers of considerable ability have been masters here for a short time; and in 1786, the present able master, Mr. Jas. Abbot, was elected to do the duties of this institution.

Esq. who has likewise inclosed a considerable park with a brick wall."

It is now pulled down, and a farm house built on the site, out of the ruins.

In the year 1558 Mr. W. Medley left about twenty-acres of land to the industrious poor of Tydd, who receive no relief from the parish;—this land, with what was gained from the common and waste lands from inclosure, amounts to 40 acres, which is let for more than 120l. per annum.

Ravenbank is a fine Roman way passing through the middle of the level from Ely to Wisbeach, by Spalding, over Bridge-end causeway to Sleaford;—Dr. Stukeley traced it from Tydd to Cowbit, and observes that in some writings it is properly called Romanbank, and, to corroborate this supposition, he observes also that the Welch pronounce Roman Rhuffain.

The old Roman bank passes from Wisbeach through this place, to Long Sutton, thence to Lutton, Gedney Dyke, and so on to Fordike Wash and the Reservoir.

#### MODERN STATE.

Tydd St. Mary is a pleasant village on the road leading from Long Sutton to Wisbeach, and is situated three miles from the former and six from the latter place. Sir Clement Trafford was formerly Lord of the Manor, but it has recently

been purchased by Charles Hursthouse, Esq. The parish contains 5032 acres, the average rent of which is about 40s. per acre for small and 35s. for large farms. The poor rates are about 3s. in the pound. The principal proprietors of land here are C. Hursthouse, Esq., Mr. W. Stanger, Mr. John Stanger, Mr. Jos. Radcliff, and Mr. W. Hix. The fences are mostly ditches, and the tithes are paid by composition. It is fine rich grazing and corn land.

## LONG SUTTON.

LONG SUTTON, or Sutton St. Mary's, is a pleasant village in the wapentake of Elloe, in the parts of Holland, about  $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles east of Holbeach.

John of Gaunt owned Sutton, and other vast manors in this county. There were also lands here held of the honour of Croun of Frieston.—Inquis. Wap. Ellow, 1 Edw. III. feod milit. 42 offic. armor. p. 32.

The town took its name of Sutton, or *South Town*, from being south of Lutton, which is a much older place. Sutton is situated on the west side of the Roman bank, to which, some centuries ago, the tide used to flow. This village has no doubt been much larger than it is at present, for about a mile from it is a place called *Sutton two Crosses*, from two stone crosses having been built there: here are about twenty houses, including a public-house. There is also another place, about half a mile east of the town, called *Little London*, containing about seventy houses, pleasantly situated on the Roman bank. In the *Hall six acres*, a pasture at a very small distance S. E. of the church, are the foundations of a large mansion house, which formerly belonged to, or was the residence of John of Gaunt;—it has been moated round. Sutton once contained a monastery, called *Kotel*, the site of which lay in the King's manor at Tydd St. Mary's.

#### THE CHURCH,

which is dedicated to St. Mary, is a vicarage, valued in the king's books at 40l.; patron the Rev. T. L. Bennett. The steeple, which is a

spire of frame-work of wood, covered with lead, stands at the s. w. angle, nearly detached from the church. It is 54 yards high, and may be ascended to nearly the top, from whence the spectator has an extensive prospect of Cross-Keys Wash, and the adjacent country; it serves also for a sea-mark. In it are five musical bells. At the east end of the church is a curious circular window, constructed entirely of glass and iron.

On a pane, in one of the windows of the south aisle, is a painted figure of a knight in armour, in the act of being stung by a serpent. The inhabitants have a tradition that this is John of Gaunt, who, they say, lies buried in the south aisle;—this, however, is erroneous, for that powerful nobleman was buried in the choir of St. Paul's, London.

We noticed the following inscriptions:

On a marble monument in the east end of the south aisle.

Near this place are interred the last remains of Mary the wife of Joshua Scrope, Esq. Lord of this Manor; who after a long illness, which she bore with religious submission, patience, and fortitude, yielded her latest breath on the third

day of Feb. in the year 1705, in the 47th year of her age. She was the only child and heiress of Thomas Vivian, Esq. of Cornish extraction, who was heir at law, in right of his mother, to the Hydes of Langtoft, Lords of this Manor. Her mother was Mary Countess Dowager of De-lorane, daughter of Gervase Scrope of Cockerington, Esq. a lineal descendant of the Lords Scrope of Belton. She succeeded to the inheritance of the estates of that ancient family, in this county, under the will of her uncle Frederic James Scrope, Esq. in the year 1702.

On a plain stone in the floor of the middle aisle.

Here lyeth the body of Ann Morden, late wife of John Morden, Vicar of Long Sutton, and daughter of Anthony Tomson, Dr. of Divinitie, Parson and Vicar of the same parish, who deceased the twenty sixt of Nov. anno Dom. 1675, in the 46 year of her age, waiting for a glorious resurrection.

In the north aisle—

Lyeth the body of John Bailey, Surgeon, who was murdered in the spring of 1794.

On the stone is this ejaculation:

Alas! poor Bailey.

(The perpetrators of this horrid act have never yet been discovered.)

On a marble tablet in the north wall.

In memory of Amy the beloved wife of Maurice Delamore, gent. and eldest daughter of Henry Bly, gent. and Jane his wife, of Burnham Overy, in the co. of Norfolk; she departed this life Dec. 17, 1785, aged 32 years. She had eleven children, three only survived her, viz. William, Henry, and Sarah.

Another is erected to the memory of W. Delamore, Esq. who died Nov. 19, 1742, by his wife, who died the 11th of October, 1761, aged 72 years.

Another, to the memory of W. Gregg, who died the 10th of Dec. 1763, aged 51; also of Robt. Gregg, his son, who died April the 18th, 1788, aged 58.

Another beautiful one is erected to the memory of Nicholas Wileman, gent. who died 24th of June, 1758, aged 63; also of Mary his wife, who died Nov. 30, 1740, in the 40th year of her age.

On the south side of the church, in the wall, (outside) are several monuments, and a vault

beneath, belonging to the family of the Wallets\*, several of whom lie here interred.

Here is a beautiful octagonal font, handsomely carved, and supported by a stone pedestal and four wooden pillars. Here is also an excellent organ.

Near the s. w. angle of the church-yard, in an angle of the road, is the base of a stone cross.

Several charities have been given to this parish; one of which is by a Mr. Allen, who left some lands in Sutton St. Mary's for the support of an organist, also for putting out two children every year as apprentices, and for the relief of the poor.

#### THE SCHOOL.

About eighteen years ago the inhabitants came to a resolution, by a new decree, to apply forty pounds a year, to be paid out of Philip's charity, to the support of a school-master, the person not to teach more than 40 poor children. It is governed by a committee of seven, among whom

\* This ancient family resided in a good house, about a quarter of a mile nearly east of the church, now inhabited by Mr. Hutchinson.



are the churchwardens and the officiating minister; the other four are chosen annually. The school room is over the south porch of the church.

A convenient *Methodist Chapel* has been lately erected by subscription.

## MODERN STATE.

Here are three manors; the largest is manor of *Sutton Holland*, and parcel of the Duchy of Lancaster, and belongs to Francis Taylor, Esq. and Hugh Jackson, Esq.; *Guanock* manor belongs to Miss Catherine Copeman; and *Cranwell* manor, which is very small, belongs to — Green, Esq. The principal proprietors of land are Admiral Bertie, Redmore Allenby, Esq. Miss Pauntfort, Porter's heirs, Mr. G. Clark, and Mr. W. Hutchinson. This parish, including the hamlets of Lutton, St. James's, and St. Edmund's, with the marshes and commons, contains by admeasurement 21360a. 0r. 27p.; the average rent of which is 40s. per acre. The tithes are paid by composition, and are liable to be taken in kind. The fences are principally hedges, and the soil is a rich loam, but it varies in different parts of the parish, as in some places

it is silt, and in others clay. It is, generally, both good pasture and arable land. The parish rates in 1803 amounted to 906*l.* 18*s.* 5*d.* at 2*s.* 3*d.* in the pound. Sutton common has been inclosed about 24 years, and is now an extensive tract of rich fertile land, producing excellent crops of corn of every description.

Near a creek and house now occupied by Mr. Russel Mumby, called king's house, in Sutton marsh, King John is said to have lost his baggage, &c. in crossing from Lynn to Swineshead Abbey, in the year 1216.

#### SUTTON WASH,

On the road to Lynn, is three miles from Long Sutton, and nine from the latter place; it consists of about 80 houses, including three inns, the largest of which, kept by Mr. R. Mills, is neat and commodious; and is resorted to in summer by invalids, for the benefit of sea air and bathing.

Some few merchants and ship-owners reside here, who have large warehouses, and import corn, coals, and timber. The inhabitants, however, principally consist of the captains of coasting vessels, pilots, custom-house officers, and

tide-waiters. Most part of the land belongs to the governors of Guy's Hospital in London, the rest of which is about 24s. per acre: the steward, Mr. R. Shearcroft, resides here. The land having been gained from the sea, is silt, some of which is strong enough for bricks;—it produces excellent crops of corn, mustard, cole seed, and all kinds of pulse; sometimes it yields five quarters of wheat, or ten quarters of oats per acre.

Here is a Methodist's Chapel.

At this time (1818) surveyors are employed in taking levels for the purpose of cutting a river from Wisbeach to the west side of the wash, or estuary, over which is to be a bridge, after endeavours have been used to make up the old wash land as far as the proposed bridge; this, together with the new bridge at Fosdike Wash, will be, when completed, of essential benefit to all this part of the country. The meditated canal for draining Wittlesea Moor is intended to fall into the Ouse, and pass through this place.

About two years ago a horizontal windmill was erected here, but it did not answer, and it is now converted into a granary.

## SUTTON - ST. JAMES,

In the wapentake of Elloe, in the parts of Holland, and in the parish of Long Sutton, is a hamlet about four miles s. w. of the latter place.

From the remains of antiquity in this neighbourhood, it is probable that this hamlet has been much larger than it is at present. About two furlongs from the church, westward, in a quadrivium, stands Ivy Cross (on Ravensbank), ten feet diameter at the base, with four rows of steps up it, each of which is about a foot high. Its form is octangular, and on its top is one entire stone, 36 inches square, and  $10\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick, in the middle of which stands a pillar supported by four buttresses rudely carved; and which the ravages of time have almost destroyed. Nearly three quarters of a mile s. w. of this is another cross, in an inclining posture, somewhat sunk in the earth. Tradition says this was a market-cross, but it is far more probable that these crosses were erected either as boundaries or stations, or else for the purpose of religion, in the ages of superstition.

## THE CHAPEL

is a curacy not in charge, of the clear yearly value of 8l. 9s. 3d. the patron of which is the vicar of Long Sutton. Between the steeple and chancel is a space of twenty-two yards, which space was formerly the body of the church. In the present chancel, which has lately been repaired, there are no monumental inscriptions; the height of the tower steeple is equal to its distance from the chancel. Small as the number of inhabitants in this place must be, they are, nevertheless, divided in their religious principles, and a Methodist's Chapel has lately been erected. The body of the church has been down many years.

The foundations of the south porch, and of the south and north walls of the nave, are level with the ground, and from them it appears to have been about twenty-two yards long, and fourteen broad.

The hamlet contains about 2834 acres, the average rent being 2l. per acre. The soil, for the most part, is strong clay, and produces excellent crops of corn, and is moreover very good for grazing; but it is much incommoded in winter by water, for want of a proper drainage.

## SUTTON ST. EDMUND.

St. Edmund's is a straggling village in the parish of Long Sutton, about  $8\frac{1}{2}$  miles E. by N. of Croyland, and 10 miles W. of Wisbeach. The parish rates in 1803 amounted to 386l. 15s. 6d. at 3s. 4d. in the pound.

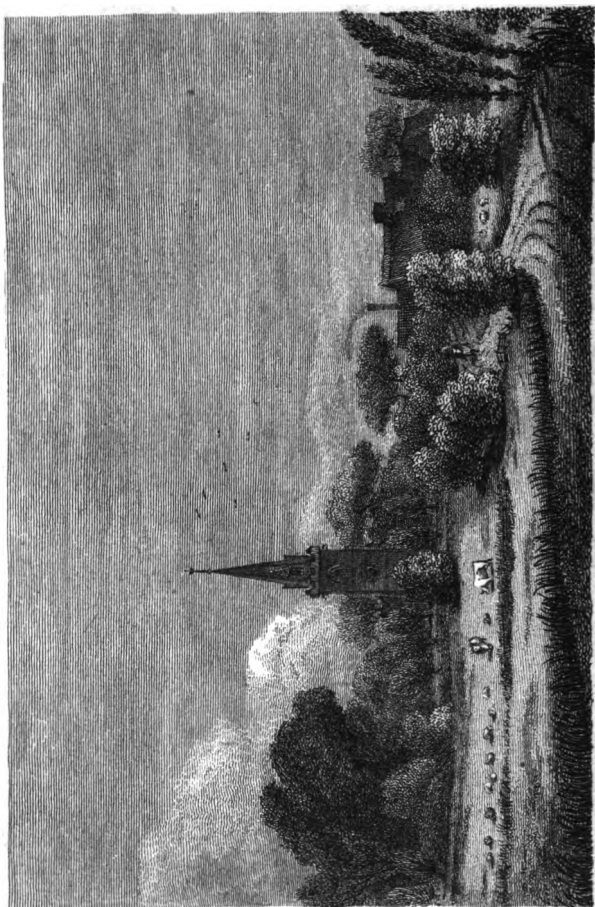
## THE CHAPEL

is an elegant structure, and was built about fourteen years ago; it is a small but neat chapel of ease to Long Sutton. It is endowed with Queen Anne's bounty, and is a curacy not in charge; patron, the vicar of Long Sutton.

The principal proprietors of land are Mr. Edw. Diggle, Mr. J. Harber, Mr. A. Whitshead, Mr. Chas. Ringston, Mrs. Taylor, Mr. J. Taylor, &c. &c. The soil is part clay and part moor, is exceedingly rich and fertile, and will feed the largest oxen. It is principally used for grazing; —the whole hamlet is well drained by two wind engines, which throw the water into the shire drain.

The whole number of acres is about 4362, the average rent of which is nearly 40s. per acre. The fences are mostly ditches. The hamlet is





*Drawn & Engraved by H. Burgess*

**WILTTON.**



divided by four straight droves, called Guanock Gate, Broad Gate, Hall Gate, and Lutton Gate.

A great part of the above information, respecting Long Sutton, was communicated by Mr. W. Quant, Officer of Excise.

#### LUTTON,

Or Sutton St. Nicholas, is a hamlet in the parish of Long Sutton, about a mile and a half to the north of this last-mentioned place, and five miles E. by N. of Holbeach. Lutton was formerly the residence of many wealthy families, chiefly merchants, who, to avoid the plague which raged in London in 1603, left that city and settled in this neighbourhood. One of the most eminent of these was called *Parke*, and many of this family lie buried in the middle aisle of the church, though several of the monumental inscriptions are now covered by the pews.

#### *Domesday Account.*

In Luctone (Lutton) Earl Algar had four carucates of land to be taxed. Land to two ploughs. The King has there six oxen, and sixteen villanes with four ploughs, and one fishery of twelve-pence, and sixty acres of meadow.

Value in King Edward's time eight pounds, the same now.

Dr. Richard Busby, the celebrated master of Westminster school, was born in this parish in the year 1606. He was indebted for the first rudiments of his education to the Whelby family (vide Holbeach). As no person of the name of Busby now resides any where in this neighbourhood, it may be reasonably inferred, that either the family removed to another part of the country, or it is become extinct, for no traces of it are to be met with. This celebrated teacher received a classical education at Westminster school, as a king's scholar, and afterwards acquired great reputation for his classical knowledge at Oxford. He took his degrees of M. A. in 1631. In 1640 he was appointed master of Westminster school, which post he held, in the highest reputation; for 55 years; he was much famed as a flogging master, but he is said to have made many excellent scholars. He was zealously attached to church and state, and was eminently charitable both in public and private life. He died in the year 1695, at the advanced age of 81, and was buried in Westminster Abbey, where a monument has been erected to his memory.

The people here say that Dr. Busby gave the pulpit, in Lutton church, to the parishioners, in 1702, and that he sent workmen from London to put it up, and also that he beautified the church in several parts;—in this, there must be some mistake, perhaps the pulpit was made and put up after his death. Be this as it may, it is very handsome, and is inlaid very fancifully; it is dated 1702.

A person of the name of Readhead, who was born here, and who died in the year 1770, was much attached to his bottle, and lest people should say "Here lies drunken Readhead!" he ordered that his coffin should be placed in an erect posture, with the feet downwards; and this whimsicality of his was punctually complied with. He was interred at the S. E. corner of the church, and has a mural monument.

#### THE CHURCH, OR CHAPEL,

is a small neat handsome building, dedicated to St. Nicholas; it is a chapel (not in charge) to the vicarage of Long Sutton. The steeple is a conical spire, 159 feet high. The body of the church is supported by fine slender pillars, and it is ornamented by some fine Saxon arches.

In the middle aisle we noticed the following curious inscription:

Thy busy and Inquisitive Eye,  
 Seems to Demand what here Doth Eye;  
 If that I must disclose my trust,  
 Tis greate, lamented, prudent Dust;  
 If yet unsatisfied thou'd know,  
 And eurg me further, Read below.  
 Here lyeth the body of Mr. Ruben Park,  
 Of Lutton, who deceased the 10 of July, 1659,  
 In the 63 year of his age.  
 Hence Quarrell nature, tell she shall  
 Repeat her Clymatericall.

#### MODERN STATE.

This parish contains about 3400 acres, the average rent of which is about 40s. per acre.

The lords of this manor are Francis Taylor and Hugh Jackson, Esqrs. The principal proprietors of land are the Governors of Guy's Hospital, Redmore Allenby, Esq. Mr. W. Taylor, and Mr. John Gibbons. The tithes are, next year, (1815) to be paid by composition, the same as at Long Sutton.

The soil is exceedingly fertile, producing abundantly.

dant crops of wheat, and other grain, it is also excellent grazing land. The finest part of the parish is that lately embanked and taken in from the sea, called the Salt Marhes, consisting of about one fourth of the whole parish; it belongs to Guy's Hospital. The hedges of the new inclosure are the finest and best in this part of the country; the old inclosure is principally fenced by dykes. The Roman Bank passes through the middle of the hamlet. The parish rates in 1803: amounted to 312l. 7s. 10d. at 2s. 1d. in the pound.

Stukeley thinks that this town is as ancient as any in Holland, and that it took its name from the general drainage of the country, which was here united in one channel; they call such places *lodes* or *lades* to this day, hence Lode Town or Lutton.

Much of this information was communicated by Mr. Macann.

Having mentioned Guy's Hospital, the following account of its founder may be acceptable to some readers.—Mr. Thomas Guy, to whom we are indebted for the endowment of the hospital which bears his name, was originally a bookseller on London Bridge, and a singular character.

The circumstance to which we owe this charity, originated in the following manner: Mr. Guy being about to marry his housekeeper, the day previous to that on which the ceremony was to have been performed, he had employed some paviors to repair the pavement as far as a particular brick, which he pointed out to them. The housekeeper being present when the men were at work, observed that there was a place further on which wanted mending: the men remonstrated that they had no orders to go further than Mr. Guy's direction; to which she replied, "Never mind Mr. Guy, I will take the consequences;" on which account she lost a husband, and the public gained an hospital.

Those men who have been great, in whatever situation, excite curiosity, and claim attention; the name of the following desperado is still familiar to many in these parts, as being one of the most notorious thieves that ever disgraced his country; he finished his career on the gallows at York, in 1730. We allude to *Richard Turpin*, who lived some time at Long Sutton under the fictitious name of Palmer;—this hero once sold a horse to a farmer of this place, for ready money, and found another who had credu-

lity enough to sell *him* another horse on the security of some trinkets which Turpin had stolen from a Jew pedlar, just before, when he was distributor of hand-bills to a mountebank doctor.

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## GEDNEY.

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GEDNEY is a village in the wapentake of Eloe, in the parts of Holland, about two miles east of Holbeach. The name seems to be derived from *Gaden-ea*, (aqua ad viam) *ea* signifies a watering place for cattle, and roads are frequently called *gates*; hence gate-en-ea, or Gedney.

### *Domesday Account.*

Manor. In Gadenia (Gedney) Earl Algar had eight carucates of land to be taxed. Land to four ploughs. The king has there six oxen, and eighteen villanes with three ploughs, and thirty acres of meadow, and a fishery of twelve-pence. Twenty quarentens long, and twelve broad. Value in King Edward's time eight pounds, now six pounds.

Some labourers of Mr. James Long, found, about three years ago, when digging among some old foundations, an oblong box, made of something resembling rotten bones, with an oval hollow, in which was a piece of white composition, that filled the hollow, but which was broken with the spade with which the man was digging. The upper part was undoubtedly the lid, but it now remains fixed nearly at right angles with the top of the box. Also, near the same place, an old coin was found, dated 1578, on one side, "POSVI DEVD," on the other a *crowned head* and the *date* are all that can be made out. Near this place, which is half a mile N. E. of the church, are some subterraneous passages, leading, it is supposed, to the abbots' manor-house. Mr. Long further observes that there have also been dug up in this field some large stone coffins, by which it appears that a religious house formerly stood here, or else here must have been the burying ground to one.

#### ABBOTS' MANOR-HOUSE.

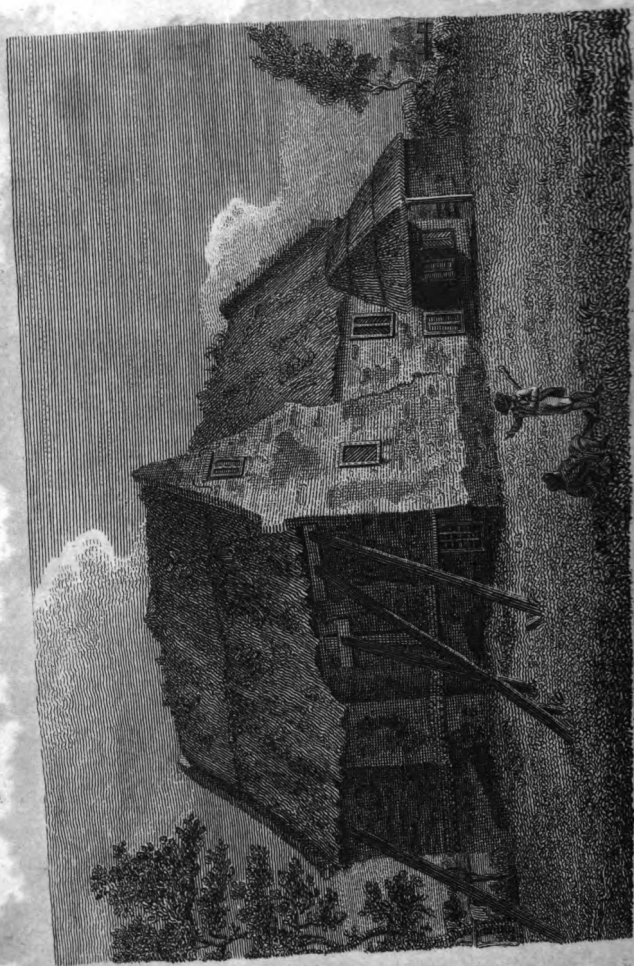
The abbots' manor-house, which stood about 100 yards north of the church, is now down, and its former situation can scarcely be determined;











Burgess Del. Sc.

ABBOTS MANOR, BROMLEY, NEW

it was anciently a a noble building, but, at the time it was taken down, it was nothing but a large heap of ruins: it was built by the abbots of Croyland. We have given two views of this edifice, to which we refer the reader. There was, formerly, a covered way from this house to the chancel of the church, where the broken projecting arches on the north side of the chancel are still visible, pointing, as it were, to the spot where the house stood.

#### THE CHURCH

is a noble structure, built by the abbots of Croyland. From the different kinds of architecture which it displays, it appears to have been built at different times. It has in all 52 glazed windows, and in one at the east end of the north aisle there is some fine painted glass, representing several scripture characters, extremely well executed.

“The church (says Stukeley) was built by the abbots of Croyland, who had a stately house on the north side of it, and vast possessions in the parish. The upper part of the tower is of the same date as the church, but built upon older work, both of which were, no doubt, built by the

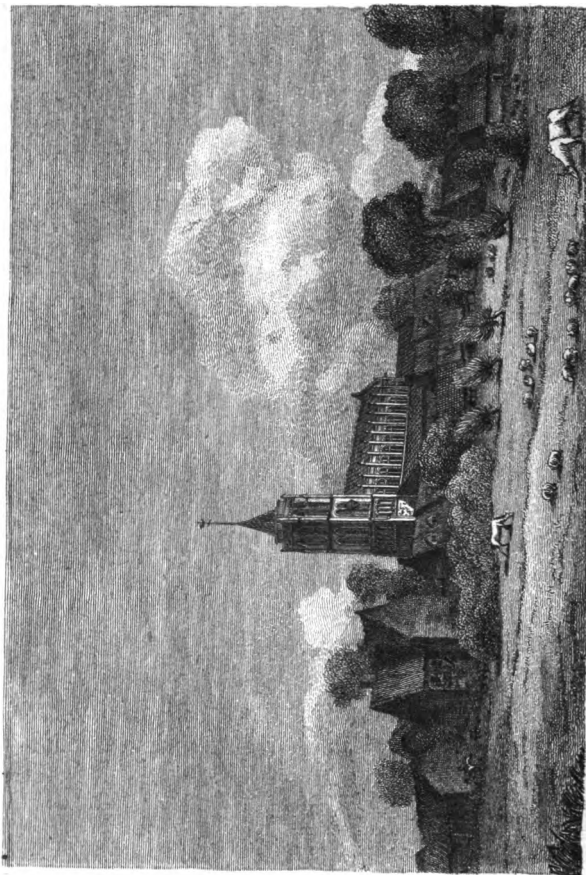
abbots, assisted by charitable donations. In the chancel window is a religious in his habits."

The pillars are light and octagonal, and painted in imitation of marble. The font is a polygon of sixteen sides, with fluted columns. Here is also a handsome singing gallery, supported by fluted square pillars. In the centre of the south door is a miniature representation of Christ on the cross, with his mother and some other women standing by; this is embossed in the oak. The same door has also a curious copper lock, with an ancient inscription, and over it is cut in the oak, in large Saxon capitals, FAX CHRISTI SIT HUIC DOMUI ET OMNIBUS INHABITANTIBUS IN EA; HIC REQUIES NOSTRA; and under four black shields, in capitals, IN HOPE. The altar piece in this church, which came from Boston, and which was the altar piece in that church more than 70 years ago, is a handsome addition to this fabric, and not much inferior to the one which fills its former situation. The pulpit is neat; and the cushion and hangings are crimson velvet, bordered with gold lace.

We noticed the following inscriptions.

On a fine marble monument, where Mr. Wel-





**GEDNEY CHURCH.**  
*Painted by Wm. Hume. - Sep. 7. 1812.*

*W. Burgess. Engraver.*



by and his wife are in effigy on their knees at prayer :

Here under lieth buried the bodies of Adlard Welby of Gedney, Esqirer, and Cassandra his wife, the daughter of William Apryce of Washingleys, in ye parish of Lvtton, in the county of Hyntington Esqvier, by whome he had Issue, fower sonnes and one Daughter, viz. William, Richard, Robart, John, and Swan, being all livinge at his death ; who departed this life the XI daye of Avgvst, Ano. 1570, being of the age of LXIII yeares, and Cassandra departed ye XXII of Febrvary, Ano. Dni. 1590, being LX yeares of age.

This Monvment was made at ye coste and charges of Sr. Willia Welbie Knight of the Honorable order of ye Bath, together with Robart Carr of Aswerbye, Esqvier, ye last husband of Cassandra, mother to ye foresayd Willm. and wife to ye above named Robart, and was finished in ye month of May, 1605, being in the raigne of our Sovoraigne Lord James by the grace of God, of England Fraynce and Ireland Kinge the third, and of Scotland the eight and thirtithe.

Also, in the north east corner of the north aile is the remains of an old monument, which repre-

sents part of a warrior upon a tomb, but this seems not to be much noticed, nor is any information given concerning it, nor is there any inscription on it.

Here are also several monuments of the Whitley family, one to Mr. Edw. Whitley, gent. another to Mr. James Fish. Here is also a handsome achievement belonging to Mr. Peter Sers, who was lately interred here, with this motto,

*In Cælo quies.*

Mr. Sers was the largest farmer in Lincolnshire;—he owned and rented nearly 2000 acres of land, all of which was in his own occupation.

The church is dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen; it is a vicarage, valued in the king's books at 30*l.* 11*s.* 10½*d.* Patron the King. The rectory (a sine cure) is valued in the king's books at 23*l.* 11*s.* 0½*d.* Patrons, the King two turns and W. Clayton, Esq. one turn.

In the time of the great rebellion Dr. Lodowick Wemmys, or Weems, prebendary of the fourth stall of Westminster abbey, had the donative of this church, of which he was deprived by the house of commons, April 22, 1643; and Mr. Robert Rich had the vicarage, from which he was also removed at the same time; but Mr.

Rich lived to the restoration of Charles II. and had the good fortune to regain his vicarage.

The manor of Gedney belonged, 37 Hen. VIII. to the lord St. John, (with the soke of Holbeach) but it was sold to King Henry at 20 years purchase, besides the woods belonging; the king allowed 50l. and the advowson of the church, for which his majesty paid 13l. 6s. 8d. The parsonage is a donative, and the vicar hath the cure of souls." (*Magna Britannia.*)

#### MODERN STATE.

The lord of the manor of *Abbot and Pawlet* is Jas. Bellamy, Esq. Attorney, Wisbeach; of *Burkin*, Lord Castlereagh; and of *Welby*, Sam. Farnard, Esq. of Boston. The parish contains about 9000 acres, the average rent of which is nearly 40s. per acre. The fences of the new inclosure are chiefly thorn hedges, but the old inclosure, except some part of the marshes, are surrounded either by dykes or dead fences. The soil is part clay and part loam. The old inclosure is as fine grazing land as any in England; the new inclosure is chiefly arable, and produces extremely fine crops of most kinds of grain. The marshes are extensive, and many

respectable farmers reside these in elegant mansions, conveniently situated in the centres of their respective farms. Some of the principal of these are Mr. John Brown, Mr. Jas. Sers, Mr. F. Brown, Mr. Scott, Mr. Hardy, Mr. Garton, and Mr. Burgess. Nearer to the town are the houses of Mr. J. Hutchinson, Mr. R. Bellamy, Mr. M. Athey, Mr. Jas. Long, Mr. John Long, Mr. John Millington, &c. The salt marshes, containing about 2200 acres, were embanked and inclosed by the ancestors of the Bertie family, in the time of Charles the first; but in the troublesome times which almost immediately followed, they were thrown out again, and so remained for 85 years; however, in the time of Charles the second, they were restored by parliament to their proper owners. The tithes are paid, part in kind, and part by composition. The parish rates in 1803 amounted to 522l. 6s. 8d. at 1s. 8d. in the pound. The general mode of tillage here is two crops and one fallow. The principal proprietors of land are, beside the lords of the manor, Mr. J. Hutchinson, J. G. Vernon, Esq. Mr. R. Bellamy, Mr. M. Athey, and Mr. John Ewen.

## GEDNEY HILL

Is a straggling place about two miles west of Sutton St. Edmunds.

At Gedney hill, a chapelry in Gedney parish, several coins of Antonius have been found, also in the same hamlet, about two miles north of south-ea bank, is a pasture called the high doles, a square double moated, where ancient foundations have been dug up, and some Roman coins found. One acre here, parcel to the abbey demesne, formerly belonged to the almoner of Croyland. Another such moated square is in the parish of Sutton St. Edmund's, about the same distance from south-ea bank, where the same things have been found.

Here are also some lands called *monk's dole*; also about 274 acres, six score to the hundred, as an old terrier expresses it called *Prior's field*, which formerly belonged to the priory of Spalding.

*Asceig grange*, near Whaplode drove chapel, is a high piece of ground, square, and moated round, in and near to which, several Roman coins and urns have been dug up;—this is near, Catscove, now catch colt corner, and these

have been supposed to be *castella* to secure the possession of this part of the country ; they lie in a right line in the most southerly part of Elloe.

At *Anytoft* in Holbeach, is a like moated square, where foundations, urns and coins have been dug up ; and Mr. Johnson of Spalding had the head of a spear which was found here, as well as several Roman coins. Many Roman coins have also been found at Gigglesburn, and in the sea dike, between Fleet and Gedney, a sword was found which appeared to be Roman.

#### THE CHAPEL

Is a chapel of ease to Gedney, and endowed with lands, part gifts, and part Queen Anne's bounty ; Patron, the seoffees of land given for charitable uses : the chapel is dedicated to the holy Trinity. It is a small neat modern building, with a handsome tower containing five bells. The church yard is an eminence, and when Cowbit bank broke in 1764, and again in 1771, this was the only place to which, the inhabitants of this part could fly for refuge from the fury of the watery element.







MODERN STATE.

The soil is the same as at Sutton St. Edmund's, but not so rich, because it is not so well drained. The principal proprietors of land are Mr. Perkins, Mr. Jacob Ussil, Mr. John Meers, Mr. C. Knight, and Mr. Prevost. Gedney Hill contains about 2000 acres.

To Mr. W. Quant of Long Sutton, and Mr. J. Cropley of Fleet we are indebted for much information respecting Gedney.

FLEET.

FLEET is a village in the wapentake of Elloe, in the parts of Holland, about two miles east of Holbeach. This village probably derived its name from its proximity to the sea, which once came hither; and Callis, in the Law of Sewers, edit. 1647, p. 34, says, "That a creek and a bay be all one, and a meer and a fleet be also of that nature." Fleet comes from the Saxon word

*fleet*, and signifies a place to which the tide flows. Like Bicker, this village had once a haven, where ships rode at anchor, but the sea has been retreating for several centuries, and it is now totally excluded by the junction of land in Holbeach and Gedney, at the west point of the parish.

Formerly, near the old Roman bank, in this parish, were several *beacon hills*, but they have been cut down to make bricks of;—these hills were found in almost every parish of south Holland, and from their relative situations, were probably designed for the purpose of giving signals by fire to the abbeys of Croyland and Peterborough, in cases of emergency; such as the appearance of the Danes, and other banditti, who often infested these parts, and committed horrible depredations. Some precaution of this kind was absolutely necessary, and this method is adopted by the British government, to give alarm in case of invasion at this time.

*Harrington Hall*, mentioned by Dugdale and other ancient writers, was pulled down a few years ago by Mr. Jonathan Andrew, who then owned the estate, and who built on its scite the farm house which now belongs to Mr. John Ashley. The old house, as well as the present new

one, was always known by the name of *Fleet Hall*; it stands near Harecroft lane; not far from the church. This estate once belonged to the Parke's of Lutton, and, together with the Bull Inn, and some other estates in Fleet, was settled on Miss Parke on her marriage with Mr. John Green of this place. It afterwards, by several alienations, became the property of Messrs. Rayment and Westby, and, on the death of the former, a bill in chancery was filed by his heiress at law, for a petition and sale;—a sale took place in the year 1800, or 1801, of the law estates, under an order of the said court, when Mr. Robert Andrew, the father of Mr. Jonathan Andrew, purchased the Hall estate. In the time of the great rebellion, in 1643, Dr. Hazlewood was rector of this place, and being disaffected at the changes which then took place, both in church and state, he was not only removed from his rectory, but having an estate of his own, that also was put under sequestration, and he himself was obliged to fly for his life.

"Flete gave name to a noble family. Here near Ravensclow a large urn with letters round it was found, covered with an oak board; it was

full of Roman coins. Of the lower empire, chiefly Gallienus and the thirty tyrants."

#### THE CHURCH

Is rather small but very neat, and is dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen;\* (*vide Carlile's Top. Dic.*) it is a rectory, valued in the king's books at 15l. Patron the Rev. R. Dods. It is a little remarkable that the steeple and church are separated about four yards.

The rectory, &c. formerly belonged to the monastery of Castle Acre, in Norfolk, and was granted by letters patent under the great seal of England, dated 2 Oct. 16 James I. to George Earl of Buckingham, his heirs and assigns for ever, by the description, of all the Advowson, donation, &c. thereto belonging.

In the chancel are the following inscriptions:

Marmor

Hoc juxta recubat cadaver

\* Mr. Burges, who published an engraving of this church, supposes that it was dedicated to three sisters, one of whom built the steeple, another the nave, and the other the chancel. This information was no doubt given him by the late rector, the Rev. J. Ashley, who was a scholar, and who wrote several papers to different periodical works, under the signature Atticus.

Triste Wilhelmi Jaii, celebris  
Gentis extinctæ manet ampla virtus

Sola superstes.

Rebus afflictis miserisque fida

Hospitali pane reluxit aula,

Conjugum et rara pietate, solus

Defuit Hæres.

Cum decennalis quater isset orbem

Sol, et accessit trieteris una,

Proximis triste ingemuit *valet*;

Quid valet orbis?

Desideratissimo marito

Jan: viges: sept: 1706

In cœlum reverso

Posuit Elizabetha JAY

Uxor mœstissima.

Beneath is interred all that was mortal of the Rev. James Ashley, 22 years rector of this Parish; a man whose admirable and highly cultivated powers of mind were only equalled by the generosity and goodness of his heart; who after a life spent in a conscientious discharge of the sacred duties of his profession, though worn down with continued affliction, which he bore with christian fortitude, calmly resigned his soul into the hands of his maker, Aug. 7th, 1806, aged 68 years.

## CHAPEL.

Here is also a chapel belonging to the general baptists, it stands on the right hand side of the turnpike road leading to Long Sutton. The Rev. W. Burgess, who died in Dec. 1813, was for many years the officiating minister; he was a worthy man, and his moral character was said to be without a single stain. This gentleman was also celebrated as an Engraver; he and his son have published views of many of the churches in this part of Lincolnshire, also of Lincoln and Ely cathedrals, &c. which possess great merit.

## THE SCHOOL.

The school was endowed by Mrs. Mary Deacon of Peterborough, by a deed bearing date Sept. 30, 1727, in which she bequeathed to certain Trustees, a house and 16 acres of land, lying in Holbeach, for the purpose of paying a Schoolmaster for teaching twelve poor children, whose respective parents are not worth in real and personal estates 50l. at the time the children are admitted into the school.

The children are to be taught to read, write,

and cast accounts, and are chosen by the Trustees.

The full number of the trustees is nine; the Rector of Fleet is always one, and the owner of Mr. Deacon's estate of Peterborough, situate in Fleet, whether he be an inhabitant or not, another; and the others are to be elected out of the most respectable inhabitants of Fleet. The names of the present trustees are the Rev. R. Dods, T. Seawell, Esq. and Messrs J. Wrickley, R. Johnson, T. Manton, W. Rayment, and W. Sharman. The present very able and respectable master, Mr. J. Coop, was elected Nov. 28, 1806. The school-room was formerly in the vestry of the church, but a new one was erected in the Year 1813, on the north side of the church, large enough to hold one hundred children.

#### MODERN STATE.

Thomas Seawell, Esq. is Lord of the Manor of Fleet dominorum, and Mr. Jonathan Andrew of the Manors of Fleet Harrington, and Fleet Fitzwalter. The parish contains about 6000 acres, the average rent of which is from 30 to 40 shillings per acre. The soil is various, consisting of sand, loam, and clay, the average quality of

which is very good. The principal proprietors of land are the Duke of Somerset, Sir Jos Banks, Mr. H. Freemantle, Esq. T. Seawell, Esq. Mr. W. Stanger, and Mr. H. Bates. The poor rates are generally about 12s. 6d. in the pound. The tithes are subject to be taken in kind, but the present Rector accepts a composition in lieu of them.

The common was inclosed by an act, past in the Year 1794.

The fences in this parish are principally ditches, though here are many fine quick hedges.

Sir Jos. Banks, Bart., P. R. S. has a decoy here for catching wild fowl; it is near to a place called the *Lots*. In the winter season a great quantity of wild fowls are taken, and sent to supply the London and other markets.

In Fleet marsh, T. Seawell, Esq. has a rabbit-warren, which produces great numbers, and which are generally disposed of either in the neighbourhood, or at the nearest markets.

The land in this parish is low, and the present drainage is bad; so that it is not so valuable as the neighbouring parishes.

The turnpike road called Hargate, leading from Spalding to Tydd, passes through the north-end



of the parish; it was begun in the Year 1764. Before this road was made, travelling here was very dangerous to passengers. Hence the following verse.

"Be you early, be you late,

"Be aware of Fleet Hargate."

Stukeley thinks that this road, as well as *old Spalding gate*, is of Roman origin.

## HOLBEACH.

HOLBEACH, or as it was formerly called Old-beche, took its name from an *old beach*, near which the town was built.

Holbeach is a small market town in the wapentake of Elloe, in the parts of Holland, about seven miles from Spalding. The market is, on Thursday, and here are fairs, on the 15th of May, the 17th of September, and the 10th of October. It is a mart governed by the statutes of Lynn Mart, April and October.

*Domesday Account.*

In *Holebech* (Holbeach) is soke of this manor eight carucates of land and six oxgangs to be taxed. The King has there twenty-six sokemen and five bordars with eleven ploughs, and eighty acres of meadow. This soke is estimated at seventeen pounds, besides the above mentioned number.

In the same *Holebech* (Holbeach) and *Copelade* (Whaplode) there are five carucates of land to be taxed, which Earl Alan held; they are now in the King's possession.

Berewick. In *Holobech* (Holbeach) and *Copolade* (Whaplode) Earl Algar had one carucate of land to be taxed. Land to six oxen. Berewick in *Flec* (Fleet) Earl Alan has it, but the King's servants claim it for the use of the king. There are three villanes with three oxen in a plough.

Soke. In the same, Earl Algar had thirteen carucates of land and six oxgangs to be taxed. Land to nine ploughs and two oxen. The soke belongs to *Gudenay* (Gedney). Earl Alan has five carucates of this land. Landric holds it under him. He has there two ploughs and twenty-nine villanes with five ploughs, and eighty acres of meadow. It is worth eight pounds. This is recovered as belonging to the King.

**Manor.** In *Holeben* (Holbeach) and *Copelade* (Whaplode) St. Gutlacus had and has one carucate of land to be taxed. Land to six oxen. There is now one plough in the demesne, and three villanes with half a plough, and twelve acres of meadow. Value in King Edward's time twenty shillings, the same now.

**Manor.** In *Holebech* (Holbeach) and *Copelade* (Whaplode) Alestan had two carucates of land and two oxgangs to be taxed. Land to twelve oxen. Wido has there one plough, and four villanes and one bordar with one plough, and ten acres of meadow. Value in King Edward's time one hundred shillings, now eight pounds.

Six carucates of land which the King's servants claim in *Holebech* (Holbeach) lay in the King's manor of *Gadenai* (Gedney.) Earl Alan now has them of the King's gift for one manor.

"In this town formerly flourished the ancient families of Fleet, Daeres, Harrington, Barrington, Welby, and Moulton."

An ancient guild of Corpus Christi stood near Barley pit, where is now a house once belonging to Moses Stukeley, who owned the estate. John de Kirkton founded a hospital in his own messuage, by licence of King Edward the III. dated Novem-

ber 16, for a warden, chaplain, and fifteen poor people; he endowed it with several lands in Holbeach, which he held of the abbot of Croyland, who by licence permitted the same to be annexed to this hospital of All Saints in Holbeach, for which he paid 20l. this formerly stood on the ground now occupied by the Chequer Inn, opposite to the church. I remember (says Stukeley) the old stone work and arched doors and windows with mullions, which were taken down when the house was rebuilt by my father; many of the carved stones were also laid in the foundations of the houses which he built near the bridge: *see Dugdale's Monasticon.*

The old cross in the market place was pulled down 1688. In 1283 Thomas de Multon Lord Egremont obtained a market and fair for Holbeach October 3d. in the 27 of Henry III. at Windsor, and probably built the market cross.

A brass seal was discovered here under some ruins; on one side was the figure of a man, on the other three cocks and a porcellis. Also some years ago, a brass box was found fifteen feet deep in the earth; it was inclosed in a wooden one, and contained some ancient silver coins and manuscripts: The coins were sold by the finder to a traveller; the writings he burnt be-

cause he could not read them, and the box he sold for old brass to a person who disposed of it to Mr. Samuel, a Jew, in Lincoln.

In the year 1696, digging in Mr. Adlard Stukeley's garden, they found a brass seal; a man in long robes with two escutcheons; on one three cocks, on the other a porcullis, the legend *Sovrabla Deus oler*. In the Year 1698 an iron spur was found with a very long shank.

The Rev. Maurice Johnson of Spalding, in a letter to Dr. Stukely, (see *Reliquiæ Galeanæ* pt. 2. p 93) says "your own parish Holbeach affords one remarkable article in the parochial charge, where the last year the churchwardens paid 4l. 6s. for the destruction of the urchins or hedgehogs at but one single penny a piece, and the present officers have paid above 30l. on the same account already, the vast flocks of cattle in this noble parish and some coney boroughs, have drawn those creatures from all parts hither, as one would think."

#### THE CHURCH

is a large handsome building, consisting of a nave, ailes, chancel, porch, and spire steeple; and the north porch has two circular towers,

with embattled parapets at its extreme angles. The chancel is paved with black and white marble, and here is a good painting at the altar-piece, representing Christ instituting the Lord's Supper. "Christ our passover is crucified for us, therefore, let us keep the feast."

In the walls of the chancel are several marble monuments, one of which is erected to the memory of Samuel Richardson Esq. who died in 1736; another to Sigismund Richardson, Esq. who died in 1747; and another to Mr. Philip Ashley, who died in 1794.

In the south aisle is one to the memory of Adlard Squire Stukeley, Esq. who died 1768, and another to Sarah Stukeley, who died in 1730.

In the church-yard is the following curious inscription on a grave stone.

*Redeem the Time.*

In memory of Mary the wife of John Middleton, who departed this life August ye 8th 1722, she'd 20 young teeth after 72 years old, and at 76 her corpse was laid in mould.

*The following was extracted from the register book:*

"In ye north aisle of this church, near to the chancel stands an ancient monument erected in

memory of Sir Humphrey Littlebury\* as appears only from the arms engraven thereon. I imagine he was slain in the wars between the house of York and the house of Lancaster. Also in the middle aisle, before the reading desk, there is a brass plate, with the portraiture of a woman, but the characters are almost worn out; to perpetuate which, read as follows: *Orate pro anima Domine Johanne Welby, quondam Filie Richardi Leake Militis nuper Uxoris Tho. Welby Armigeri: Obiit XVIII die mensis Decembris Anno Dom. MCCCCLVIII. Cujus animæ propitiatur Deus.* Wm. Jepson, Vic.

"In this church (says Stukeley) formerly were organs and fine painted glass." There is, however, at this time (1814) neither organ nor painted glass.

Here are the arms of the Holbeches, vert, six escallops argent, three, two, one. Also those of the Littleburys; upon his shield is his coat, argent, two lions passant, gardant, gules.

\* This monument is now removed to the west end of the north aisle; it is a large stone effigy of a man, lying in a horizontal position, the sculpture pretty good.—Humphrey Littlebury, who lived at Penny Hill, near Rips Place, was superintendant of the works to the abbey of Croyland.

In 1520 a new organ cost 2l. 8s. 8d. The organ was taken down in 1568; also, in 1453, W. Enot of Lynn, epi. and Henry Nole of Holbeach, gave the saints' bell. Another guild of St. Thomas, another of our Lady. The vestry on the south side of the choir was taken down in 1567. There was formerly a chapel dedicated to the Virgin Mary at Holbeach Hurn, near the ancient seat of the Littleburys; it was standing in 1515. There was also another chapel standing thereabouts, dedicated to St. Nicholas, and another in Wignall's Gate, near Holbeach Hall, by the river side, dedicated to St. Peter. About 1719 I saw (says Stukeley) many corpses dug up in the yard at making a ditch there. There was also another in the fen ends.

The church is dedicated to All Saints; it is a vicarage, valued in the king's books at 20l. 5s. 10d. Patron, the bishop of Lincoln.

#### SCHOOLS.

A free grammar school was founded here by a licence from king Edward III. who granted certain lands for its support.—This endowment appears to be now lost; the school room was probably at the west end of the church. Another



school was founded here by George Farmer, Esq. of St. Andrew, in the county of Middlesex, about the year 1670. This gentleman left lands and tenements in Holbeach and Weston, which now let for 139l. per ann. The management is vested in nine trustees;—the master must be either a M. A. or B. A.; and the children are to be taught what is deemed most useful for their future destination in life.

A very spacious school-room is now (1814) erecting, and the school will, in future, be conducted on an extensive scale.

This town is famous for being the birth-place of Henry Rands, alias Holbech, who was brought up in the abbey of Ramsey, and afterwards took the degree of doctor of divinity at Cambridge. He was constituted suffragan of Bristol to Latimer of Worcester 1487, made dean of Worcester 1541, translated to Rochester in 1544, and from thence to Lincoln in 1547. This bishop was one of the compilers of the Liturgy. He was well skilled in the learning of those times, and particularly in the Hebrew language, in which the English literati, at that time, (according to Erasmus) were particularly deficient. He compiled an Hebrew lexicon, which was very correct

for the times he lived in; and John Pitts complains that Robert Wakefield, the first Hebrew professor at Cambridge, converted it, without acknowledgment, to his own use. He died A. C. 1557.

*William Stukeley*, whose name and memory are respected by every true lover of English antiquities, and whose literary disquisitions will be always considered curious, and therefore interesting, to a certain class of readers and amateurs of books, was a native of this town. He was descended from an ancient family in this county, and was born here November 7th, 1687. After receiving the first rudiments of his education under Mr. Edward Kelson, in the free school of this town, he was admitted of Bennet College, Cambridge, where he made medicine and botany his peculiar study. Taking a degree in physic, he removed to London in the year 1717, where, on the recommendation of his friend Dr. Mead, he was elected a fellow of the Royal Society, and was one among the distinguished number who, about that time, revived the Society of Antiquaries. To the latter he acted many years as secretary. He was also made a member of the College of Physicians, and be-

came one of the censors. After residing in London a few years, he retired to Grantham, in Lincolnshire, at which place he married and settled. Afflicted with the gout during the winter, it was his custom to travel for his health in the spring or summer; and in these journeys he acquired a particular and zealous love of antiquities. This is manifested by the researches and observations which are contained in his valuable work, "*The Itinerarium Curiosum*." Finding his health inadequate to the fatigue of his profession, he turned his view to the church, and was ordained at Croydon, July 20th, 1730. In the October following he was presented to the living of All Saints, in the town of Stamford, and was afterwards Rector of St. Peter's, and Master of Brown's Hospital, in the same place. He had the offer of several better livings, which he declined. He was presented with the living of Somerby, by the Duke of Ancaster, who also appointed him one of his chaplains. About the time of these promotions, he published an account of *Stonings*. At the instance of the Duke of Montague, he resigned his preferments in the country, and, in lieu of them, accepted the Rectory of St. George's, Queen Square, London. He was seized

with a paralytic stroke, which terminated fatally the 3d of March, 1765; when, by temperance and regularity, he had attained his seventy-eighth year. Thus ended a valuable life, sedulously spent in endeavouring to illustrate the obscure remains of antiquity. His early writings presaged what might justly be expected in maturer years, and the lovers of antiquarian studies were not disappointed. He had a sagacity peculiar to great genius, joined with unwearied industry. But in his investigations he appears too partial to a favourite hypothesis, and too fanciful in his description for the impartial enquirer after truth. His character has been given by his friend, Mr. Peter Collinson, and printed in the Gentleman's Magazine for the year 1765.

On 16th of July 1745 died at Holbeach, Mr. Samuel Trotheringham, one of the people called quakers, but no bigot, a man of considerable fortune, and eminent for his learning in general, as well as mathematicks, more particularly algebra, and the doctrine of fluxions and chances, (though no gamester)! he was the first man in England, who invented a clock with two minute hands, one shewing the true time, and the other the apparent time, at all seasons of the year,

according to the eccentricity of the earth's orbit, and obliquity of the ecliptic, as settled by Dr. Flamstead; which was made by Mr. John Berridge, late of Boston, now of London: he was affable, and charitable, of an engaging conversation, and courteous behaviour, to people of all persuasions. *Gent. Mag. July 1745.*

## MODERN STATE.

The Lords of the Manors are Samuel Tunnard, Esq. of the Manor of Holbeach,\* and W. Butt, Esq. Manor of Holbeach Lord D'Acre. The principal proprietors of land are the Duke of Somerset, Lord Castlereagh, and W. H. Freemantle, Esq. The parish contains about 21000 acres, the average rent of which is from 30 to 40 shillings per acre. The soil is of various kinds, and the whole length of the parish is nearly 20 miles. The fences are partly hedges and partly ditches, and the soil in some parts is extremely fertile.

The tithes are liable to be taken in kind, but they are paid by composition.

The town is only small, but in the marsh, and

\* The crown also claims the paramountship of Holbeach.

in almost every other part of this extensive lordship, we meet with very fine large houses, occupied by the farmers many of whom live in great opulence.

From the ancient churchwardens' accounts in Holbeach, before the time of the Reformation, from anno. 1453, many curious remarks may be made, in relation to prices of things, wages, superstitious customs, old families, and the like: a specimen of which is here annexed for the amusement of our readers.

*A Booke of the stuffe in the Cheyroke of Holbeach sold by Chyrchewardyns of the same according to the injunctyons of the Kynges Ma-  
gestie.*

		d.
An. dui. M. cccc. xlvij <sup>a</sup> . First to		
Antony Heydon the trynite with		
the tabernacle.....	ii.	iiii.
It. to W. Calow sholder the taberna-		
cle of Nicholas and Jamys.....	vi.	viii.
It. to Wm. Davy on tabernacle of		
our lady of pytye.....	iiii.	

	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
It. to Wm. Calow the younger on other tabernacle of our lady....	iii.	vi.
It. to Antony Heydon the ymage of the Antony.....		xx.
It. to Humphry Hornsey on sygne		vi.
It. to Antony Heydon on other sygne and a lytyl tabernacle.....		xx.
It. to Wm. Calow the younger the tabernacle of Thomas Bekete..	iiii.	viii.
It. to Wm. Davy the sygne whereon the plowghe did stond.....		xvi.
It. to John Thorpe a chyst in St. Jamys chapell.....	ii.	
It. to Lincone howld woode.....		iiii.
It. to Nicholas Foster the banke that the George stode on.....		iiii.
It. to Antony Heydon ij alters ....	ii.	viii.
It. to Wm. Stowe ij lytyll tabernacles		viii.
It. to Henry Elman on lytyll taber- nacle .....		ii.
It. to John Thorpe for Harod's coate		xviii.
It. to Wm. Calow the younger all thapostyls coats and other raggs	viii.	iiii.
It. to Henry Elman for vii baner clothes.....	ix.	iiii.

	s.	d.
It. to Antony Heydon on blew clothe .....		ix.
It. to Smithes on pece of howlde saye .....		iii.
It. to Richard Richerson the crosse and other gydys .....	ii.	iii.
It. to Mr. Byllyshy ij tablys .....	iii.	iiii.
It. to Antony Heydon for the coats of the ij kyngs of Coloyne ....	v.	iiii.
It. to Humphry Hornasey the cany- pye that was born over the sacra- ment .....		xii.
It. to Wm. Calow thelder and John Thorpe iiij owlde pantyd clothes vi		viii.
It. to Antony Heydon on wood can- dlestyke .....		iiii.
It. to Wm. Callow the younger on lytyll bell .....		vi.
It. to Antony Heydon on other lytyll bell .....		vi.
It. to Wm. Dasy for the tabornacles that stode at the end of the hy alter .....		viii.

l. s. d.

Sum. iiii. ii. iiii.



s. d.

*A. D. m. cccc xlvii.*

It. to Wm. Calow the younger on rod of iyron .....	iiii.
It. to Robt. Gyffon for ij barra of iyron .....	v.
It. to Antony Heydon xx. score and x hund. of latyn at iis, and xid. the score .....	lxix. xi. ob.
It. to Richerd Richerson ij lytyll tabernacles .....	viii.
It. of John Suger for the chyrche load ..	viii.
It. of the burial of Mr. Byllyshy ..	iiii.
It. of John Mays wyffe for the Dracon	iii.
It. of Alys Boyds e bt to xps cor- pys gilde .....	ii.
It. for on bell .....	lxxviii. ii.
It. for seyten vestments and trashe it the chest in frinete quere sold to Davy .....	xxxiii. iiii.
It. of Wm. Burnit for pilows .....	xvi.
It. of Wm. Galow the younger for eyrne .....	xx.

*l. s. d.*

*Sm. totalis xxviii. iiii. iiii. ob.*

More superstitious ornaments of the church  
were sold in queen Elizabeth's time, 1560.

## WHAPLODE.

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**WHAPLODE**, in the wapentake of Elloe, and parts of Holland, is a village about 2½ miles west of Holbeach. This town is ancient, and it is distinguished as having been an appendage to the abbey of Croyland, by the names Cappelade, Quappelade, and Quaphlode; the word lade, or its equevalent lode, seems to imply that one of the principal outlets from Croyland waters, was by this cape, or headland, and hence the name of the place, Cappelode.

Whaplode, in its original state, was inhabited by a few fishermen, who had erected their huts on this eminence, for the purpose of carrying on their daily employments of fishing and fowling with more convenience than they could otherwise have done by coming from a more distant situation. For this privilege some acknowledgment was made annually, or perhaps oftener, to the abbot of Croyland for the time being, as lord paramount of these domains; and, as a proof of this statement, we may observe that the principal

Manor in this parish still retains the name of *Whaplode Abbots*. As the inhabitants of this cheerless spot were manifestly of the lowest order of mankind, it became necessary, towards their mental improvement, to imbue their minds with the principles of religion and morality; for, in all ages of the world, this has been the most effectual polisher of a barbarous people. To effect so useful and desirable a purpose; one of the early abbots of Cloyland erected a small chapel for divine worship, and although we have no authentic records of the time when it was built or the materials of which it was constructed, yet there is little doubt but that it was originally formed of wood, and covered with thatch, as Spalding and many others in the same jurisdiction are known to have been. When the waters began to retreat, and dry land appeared in this neighbourhood, it became the residence of people of more eminence, such as the Irby (Lord Boston) and Maynard families, and the wooden chapel was then taken down, and the present stone church erected in its room. King John when on his march from Lynn to Swineshead a short time previous to his death established a toll at Heth-beach bridge, which is still taken of all persons

passing over it (excepting the fishermen of Whaplode and Fleet) during one fortnight before, and one fortnight after Michaelmas, in every year.

In the appendix to Gough's history of Croyland, is an account of the ill treatment of a monk the abbot's steward, sent by the abbot of that place to Whaplode, to prevent the inhabitants from cutting down some trees, near the church, which belonged to Croyland abbey; the poor fellow was roughly handled, and was very near being murdered.

In the year 1439, violent rains broke down the banks, and drowned Whaplode common. Stukeley says, I have been told that at Theophilus Grant's house in Whaplode, near Gorham's holt, aqueducts of clay, one let into another, have been dug up.

#### THE CHURCH

was built, and the vicarage appropriated to the abbot of Croyland, in the year 1268, and it is the most ancient church in this neighbourhood. It is of Saxon architecture, and having been frequently enlarged, is become one of the largest in this flourishing and populous district. Part of the church is well pewed, and, excepting the

seats on the north side, the whole is in good condition; the pulpit is good, but the cloth which covers it is extremely shabby. Here is a large stone font, lined with lead. The chancel is neat, but contains not a single seat for the communicants to sit on!

In the south transcept, near the west end, is a monument, without any date, erected to the memory of Sir Anthony Irby and Alice his wife, whose recumbent effigies are well executed. About this monument are six effigies of children, but in a very mutilated state; over the whole is a very heavy stone canopy, surmounted with a stone shield and crest. The canopy is supported by ten composite columns, which are now giving way under the pressure of the weight with which they are loaded. The iron railing with which it is surrounded defends it from external injury.

Near this monument hangs a knight's helmet, over which a banner is displayed, the device of which exactly corresponds with the stone shield.

In the upper and south windows are these coats of arms. Barry of six azure and argent; Azure, a bend gules, charged with three roses argent; Argent, two lions passant gardant gules,

*Littlebury.* In the east window of the north chapel, *Littlebury*, and Or, a fess between two chevronels gules; and Sable, a fret argent; *Harrington*: Azure, on a bend gules, three roses argent, as before.

The steeple stands completely on the outside of the south side of the east angle! but a communication with it and the body of the church has been lately made by a door-way, which has been broken through the side wall, near the S. E. angle.

The five bells in this steeple are hung so as to turn, when ringing, the contrary way round to any others we have ever seen. The church is dedicated to St. Mary; patron the king; it is a vicarage, valued in the king's books at 16l. 14s. 0½d. The Rev. P. Fisher, D. D. master of the Charter-house, rector of Elton, Huntingdonshire, and incumbent of a stall in Salisbury Cathedral, is the present incumbent.

#### THE SCHOOL, &c.

In the year 1708, Elizabeth Wilson left a small estate, which now lets for 12l. a year, to the schoolmaster for the time being, to teach as

many of the poorer sort of children to read, as the salary amounts to at twopence per week. The school-room adjoins the church.

An ancestor of Lord Boston, built six alms houses, for six poor widows, with an allowance of twopence a week to two of them;—and from the same source, thirteen twopenny loaves are given, to as many poor persons, who attend divine service in the church, every sunday from the beginning of November to the end of April. This donation only occurs once in two years.

#### MODERN STATE.

The Lord of the Manor of Whaplode abbots, is the Rt. Hon. Lord Eardley; of St. John of Jerusalem, the Rt. Hon. Sir Joseph Banks, as Lessee of the crown; of Whaplode Hagbeach, W. H. Freemantle, Esq. and Selina his wife; of Whaplode Kirk Fee, the Rev. Mr. Johnson, D.D. of Whaplode Knevitte, T. Foster, Esq.; and of Whaplode Pipwell, or Pipewell, Mr. W. Smith. Part of the Manor of Ashweek lies in this parish, which belongs to his Grace the Duke of Somerset. The parish is now (1814) under a survey, of course the *exact* number of acres cannot be ascertained, but it is known to contain *about* 11000.

acres, of every variation of quality, the soil in some places being strong clay, and in others silt. Many parts of this parish consist of fine rich land, capable of producing a last of oats on an acre, or of feeding an ox and two sheep. The general mode of managing the arable land is, two crops and one fallow. The average rent is 40 shillings an acre. The fences are ditches and quickset hedges. The tithes are compounded for at so much per acre.

The earliest account upon record of any tithe endowment, relative to this parish, is in an instrument made by Hugh bishop of Lincoln and Pope Honorius, in favour of the convent of Croyland. This must have taken place a short time before the year of Christ 1200; as the above bishop of Lincoln died in that year. The next account is the endowment of the vicarage, by Richard Gravesend, formerly bishop of Lincoln, who was consecrated in 1258. This endowment leaves to the convent of Croyland, the tithes of wool and lamb, flax, hemp, and corn in the shock. All other tithes, of whatever description, are distinctly given to the vicar.

At the reformation, the great tithes were given to the Governors of Oakham and Uppingham



schools, and they are the present impropiators. The principal proprietors of land in this parish are the lords of the manors. The parish rates, in 1803, amounted to 789l. 6s. 10½d. at 3s. 1d. in the pound.

#### WHAPLODE DROVE

Is an hamlet to Whapfote, about 6 miles E. N. E. from Croyland. Here is a chapel dedicated to St. John Baptist; it is a curacy (not in charge) and is endowed with lands of the annual value of 400l. but it has nothing to do with tithes of any kind.

The Rev. J. Blundel, rector of Croyland, is the present incumbent curate.

Several clusters of houses are scattered about in different parts of this parish, the principal of which are, one at the fen ends, about 3 miles from the church, called St. Catherine's; there is also another, about the same distance from the church, on the road to Fosdyke Wash, called the Saracen's Head, from the circumstance of two lions having each of them the Saracen's Head for a sign: this place contains as many inhabitants as Whaplode Drove.

The turnpike road from Holbeach to Spalding passes through Whaplode, and here is a daily post.

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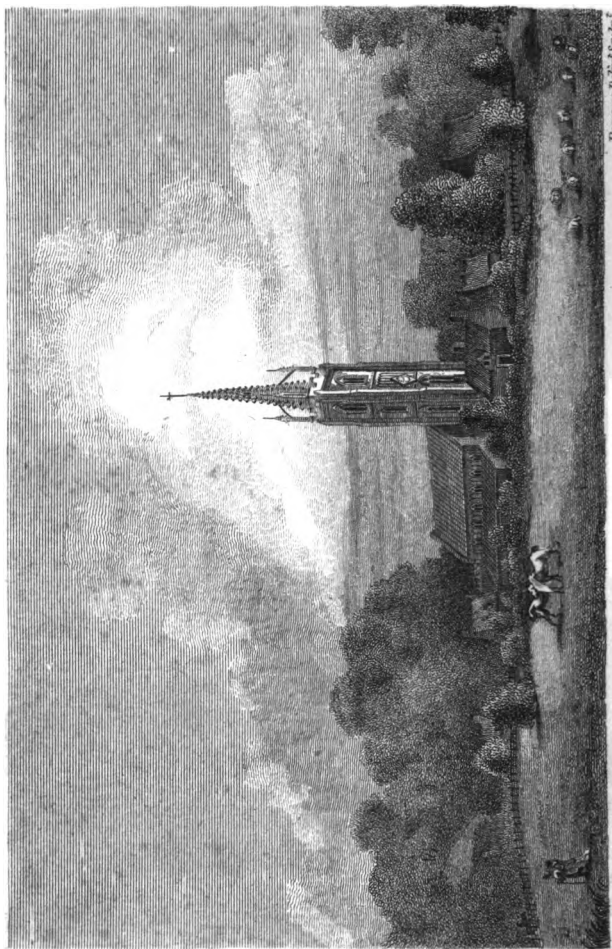
## MOULTON.

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MOULTON, which probably took its name from a *mill* in its vicinity, is a neat village in the wapentake of Elloe, in the parts of Holland, about four miles west from Holbeach.

According to the best authorities, Moulton began, from a desolate waste, to rise into something like a village, about the year of Christ 1100, under the direction and jurisdiction of Thomas de Multon, lord of Egremont and lord of Holbeach. This account is confirmed from the circumstance of this nobleman serving the office of high sheriff of the county of Lincoln from the year 1106 to 1109;—one of his ancestors also obtained a market for Fleet, &c. King John. This baron resided at Moulton, in a house which is





*Bygone Days & Scenes*

now down, but which formerly stood in what is called Hall grounds, belonging to the Rt. Hon. Lord Eardley. These grounds have been moated round, and large quantities of stones have been dug up here; there is no doubt but that this place has been fortified, and, most probably, in order to defend its owner from the abbots of Croyland, who were mostly at variance with the Moulton men, on account of certain boundaries between them, called Alderlaud. It appears also, from the Spalding Society Minutes, (see vol. i. p. 248) that Thomas de Multon, in the year 1274, was a tenant to the Spalding priory, and that he was obliged to compound with the prior, John I. for his venison killed, the herbage, and butter made in his park at Moulton. The family of Multon continued here till the year 1336, when it became extinct for want of male issue; after this, Margaret, daughter of Thomas de Multon, lord of Burgh, Gillisland, and Holbeach, married Ranulph D'Acre, lord of Drum-bough castle. Sir Ralph D'Acre, lord of Holbeach, lived here in 1470; and it should seem that the last of this line left no male issue, but three daughters, one of whom married a Fitzwalter, another a Harrington, and the other died

unmarried. In consequence of this, one third of the estate was divided between Fitzwalter and Harrington, a moiety to each; and the manors are now called Fitzwalter, Harrington, and the moiety of Dominorum.

Several of the Multon family were called *Thomas*, and one of these obtained a market and fair for Holbeach, 37 Henry III. (1253). It was the father of this baron who gave the church of Weston to the convent of Spalding (vide vol. i, p. 241.)

"Moulton Hall (says Stukeley) whose ruins I have seen, was the seat of Thomas de Multon, lord Egremont, a great man in these parts; his name is among those of the barons who signed Magna Charta."

Here is a place called *King's Hall*, but how it came by that appellation, we have not been able to ascertain.

In a green Lane, in this parish, stands a small stone, [called *Elloe Stone*, which gives name to this hundred; it stands about the middle of it. This was formerly the main road across the country, now called *Old Spalding Gate*.

"Old men (says Stukeley) tell us that here was formerly kept an annual court, I suppose a

convention *sub dis*, of the adjacent parts, to treat of their general affairs: a wood hard by is called Elloe Stone wood."

At Moulton was found an oblong<sup>7</sup> prismatic piece of beryl, or river chrystal, in form of a cantharius, supposed by some persons to be an *amulet*, Dr. Woodward supposed it was a magical glass,\* and some others have thought that it was a British ornament for horse trappings, when set in tin, like one which Sir Hans Sloane had.

Mr. Johnson showed it to the Society of Antiquaries, in the year 1736. At the same time he showed a copper military ring divided into eleven oval divisions, in the center IHS, to remind the wearer to say ten pater nosters, in the same manner as a Maltese ring had ten round knobs, and a crucifix in the centre: one of these was found in the vicar's garden.

Roman vessels and urns, of fine white and red earth, were found in ploughing at Woods, three miles south of Moulton, in the year 1721. They were dug up near Ravensbank, and several of

\* Similar to the one described by Aubrey, when he says "the magicians now use a crystal sphere, or pearl, which is inspected by a boy, or sometimes by the querent himself." Vide *Miscel.* p. 129, where it is engraved.

them were afterwards in the possession of Mr. Hardy of Nottingham. Dr. Stukeley had an urn found within ten yards of this bank.

"In the year 1683 the parishioners of Moulton, upon pretence of beautifying the church, and by virtue of an order from the deputy chancellor, set up the images of 13 apostles, St. Paul being one, and the Holy Ghost in form of a dove over them.

After this, they petition Dr. Barlow, the bishop of the diocese for his approbation. He denied their petition, hereupon the chancellor annulled the order of his deputy, and the images were removed or defaced. Upon which the persons concerned, appeal to the prerogative court, the bishop was cited by the dean of the arches, to shew cause why he suffered such images to be defaced. On this occasion his lordship wrote a breviat of the case, wherein he proved, from many authentic records, injunctions and statutes of Edward VI. Elizabeth, James, &c. and also from the book of homilies, that images in churches, painted on cloth or wall, are unlawful, repugnant to the Christian religion, and contrary to the articles of the church of England. Upon reading this case the prosecution



against the bishop was immediately stopped." *Old Whig*, Sept. 30, 1736.

On the 9th of Dec. 1765, a sudden and unexpected tide inundated the salt marsh and common at the northern extremity of this parish, and drowned 2092 sheep, 7 beasts, and 13 horses, belonging to the inhabitants of this place.

#### THE CHURCH,

with Moulton chapel, is valued in the king's books at 28l. 13s. 4d. Patron, the Rev. M. Johnson. It is dedicated to All Saints, and is a vicarage. This structure, which is remarkably handsome, was built about the year of Christ 1300, and the beautiful spire at the west end, is of a more modern date; it contains a peal of 5 bells, the tenor was cast so late as the year 1806. The inside is well pewed, and it has lately been fresh painted, and otherwise ornamented by the present churchwardens. In the west end is a very handsome window, which has a grand appearance from the middle aisle, by viewing it over the singing-gallery. The font is curious, and several scripture pieces are painted on its sides. On one is a representation of Adam and Eve, and the serpent with the apple in its mouth; on another

Pharaoh and his hosts are drowning in the Red Sea. Here are only two mural monuments, both of which are in the middle aisle. One is

Sacred to the memory of William Corby, who died the 9th Dec. 1768, aged 67. Prudences Corby, relict of the above, who died the 30th June, 1793, aged 87. William Corby their son, who died the 21st June, 1778, in the 32nd year of his age.

Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord.

The other is

Sacred to the memory of Alice, the daughter of Henry and Alice Boulton, late of Stixwold, in the county of Lincoln, who was born Sep. 1st, 1722, and died Dec. 6th, 1784.

On the floor in the chancel:

Here lyeth the body of Mr. Robert Heath, Vicar of this place, who departed this life May 8th, Anno Dom. 1665, aged 42 years. Here lyeth the body of Mrs. Mary Heath, the wife of Mr. Robert Heath, who departed this life April the 7th, Anno Dom. 1703, aged 63 years.

On the floor, at the east end of the church:

Johannes Haerxi funere dignus ampliari hinc in Domine requiescit, 1760.

In the middle aisle :

In a vault beneath this stone lie the remains of John Hardy, Gent. born Feb. 25th, 1709, died Nov. 26th, 1792. Also, on his left side lies Alice Tatam, she died Nov. 22d, 1786, aged 9 years ; and also John and William Tatam, who died infants, his grandchildren.

Another :

Beneath this stone lie interred the remains of Mrs. Ann Tatam, the widow and relict of Mr. William Tatam, and daughter of John Hardy, Gent. who departed this life the 3rd day of February, 1807, aged 57 years.

Another :

Edward Hunnings, Dec. 18th, 1733, aged 36 years, and one infant son. Elizabeth the daughter of Robert and Elizabeth Butter of Spalding, merchant, and wife to the above Edward Hunnings and Charles Holland, both of this parish, Nov. 14th, 1780, aged 71 years. Frances Susanna daughter of James and Elizabeth Sneath, of Spalding, and granddaughter to the above Edward and Elizabeth Hunnings, an infant.

Another :

Under this marble was buried, February the 26th, 1763, the Rev. John Chapman, master of

the free grammar school in Moulton, aged 67. On his left hand was buried, June the 30th, 1751, Elizabeth his wife, aged 51. And, on her left hand was buried, November the 4th, 1749, Ann their daughter, aged 24.

Another:

Martha, wife of Edward Hunnings of Boston, in this county, and daughter of Matthew and Martha Clarke of this parish, grazier, December 11th, 1787, aged 26 years.

In the south-west corner:

Here lyeth the body of John Rea, Gent. who departed this life October the 29th, 1676.

#### MOULTON CHAPEL,

In the parish of Moulton, is at a considerable distance south of the town, and about 6 miles N. E. by N, from Croyland. Here are a few straggling houses, and an octagonal chapel; a chapel not in charge to the vicar of Moulton, who is the patron. Over the door is the following inscription:

DEO R. F. S. S.

ECCLESIAE ANGLICANÆ

EX VI. REF. RESTIT F. D.

A. S. H. 1722.

## THE SCHOOL, &amp;c.

John Horrox, of pious memory, founder of the free grammar school in Moulton, did, in his last will bearing date September the 19th, 1560, give certain lands to the said school for ever, to the value of 80l. per ann. and certain lands to the poor of Moulton for ever, now let at 19l. 2s. 8d. per ann. which the pious care and management of the succeeding feoffees have purchased the yearly value of 5s. more to the use of the said poor. The benefaction board, from which the above was extracted, also commemorates several other donations left to the poor of this parish.

The donation to the free school, at this time, consists of 268s. 1r. 7p. which was valued by the commissioners at 261l. 10s. 10d. but it makes about double that sum. The several donations belonging to the poor amount at this time (1814) to 81s. 1r. 31p. valued at 76l. 9s. 9d. but this is only half what they make.

Mr. John Kinderley, engineer, who projected and carried into execution the cut leading to Wisbeach river, called Kinderley's cut, was bu-

ried in Moulton church-yard ; according to the inscription on his tomb, he died in 1702.

#### MODERN STATE.

The lord of the manor of Fitzwalter belongs to the Rt. Hon. Lord Boston ; that of Harrington to the Rt. Hon. Lord Eardley, with a moiety of Dominorum to each of them. Here are also the manor of St. John of Jerusalem, which belongs to the Rt. Hon. Sir Joseph Banks, and Goddards, which belong to Mr. Henry Holland of Moulton. The manor of Spalding and its members, belong solely to Lord Eardley. The tithes were exonerated at the time of the enclosure, which took place in 1799. The parish contains 11143 acres, which let, on an average, at 40s. per acre. The soil in this parish varies, being part clay and part silt ; the clay soil is the best, and is fit for either ploughing or grazing. The general mode of cultivation is, to plough a few years, and then lay down with seeds ; or else, to fallow once in three years, with a crop of cole-seed ; which, in general, is very good. Part of the parish produces good hemp and flax, and some of it is very rich grazing land. The fences of the new inclosure are, generally, quick

or thorn hedges; the south of the parish is principally fenced with ditches. A narrow screed of land in this parish runs westward up to Brother-house, in the parish of Croyland; Moulton has also the privilege of taking fresh water from the River Welland, which, in dry seasons, is of essential service to the inhabitants.

## WRANGLE.

WRANGLE is a village in the wapentake of Skirbeck, in the parts of Holland, about nine miles N. E. from Boston. It is within the liberties of the Duchy of Lancaster.

“ Wrangle (says Stukeley) an *ab A. S. Wear lacus*, and *hangel arundo*, *lacus arundinibus obsita* ?”

### *Domesday Account.*

In Weranghe (Wrangle) are ten carucates of land to be taxed in the soke of Drayton. Land

to five ploughs. Seven sokemen have there one plough.

**Manor.** In Werangle (Wrangle) Adestan had two carucates of land to be taxed. Land to one plough. Wido has it, and it is waste on account of the flowing of the sea.

In this parish are two hills, moated round, on which houses have formerly stood, and part of the foundations may now be ascertained. One called *King's Hill* stands near the common, the other, called the *Ivory*, is on the border of Friskney parish, and this latter, in the year 1676, was in possession of the heirs of Sir John Dineley, Knt.

About the same time Sir Charles Croft Read, Knt. had considerable possessions in this parish; he owned Wrangle Hall, now in the occupation of Mr. Render, but this hall and farm now belong to St. Bartholomew's Hospital, in London, to which it was left either by Sir Charles or one of his descendants.

Thomas Woodcock, Esq. was lord of this manor in 1676; this gentleman was owner of several lands, &c. here, as *West-croft*, *King's-hill*, and *Woodtoft*, but the manor is now in the hands



of the heirs of Rebecca Wright, and at their decease it reverts to John Rooper, Esq. or his heirs. In the reign of James the first the manor of Wrangle belonged to the king, who let the fishing sands opposite this parish, in Boston deeps, one for 40d. another for 6 shillings, and another for a noble.

Wrangle had formerly a haven, and it came to within half a mile of where the church now stands. Tradition says that here was formerly a market, and that it was kept on a piece of ground called the thorough-fare, and also that the haven came up very near to this place.

The following curious document proves that the manor of Wrangle belonged to Queen Elizabeth:

*To the Rt. Hon. Sir Francis Walsingham,  
Knt. Chancellor of her Majesty's Court of  
her highneses Duchy of Lancaster:*

Humbly sheweth unto your honor, your pore and daily Orator, John Stephenson, of Wrangle, in the County of Lincoln, her majesty's farmer of all the demesne, or demean lands, of her highneses Mannor or lordship of Wrangle aforesaid, part of highneses duchy of Lancaster. That whereas her majesty by her highneses lres

patente and unde the seale of her highnes duchy of Lancaster, bearing date about the tewe and twentyte day of Novem. in the twente the ninth yere of he majesties raigne, amongst other things in the said lters patente conteyned, did grant and demise unto your said orator, a certaine pasture and pischary called the mere, otherwise Wrangle mere, and the sceae and the dytches and fisheries of Fossett and as prell of the demesnes, or demene lands of her highnes said manus of Wrangle, and which hath allwaise so reputed known and taken, and always continued in the possession and occupation of her majesties farmers who always peeved and took the pffites thense in such manner as the times and seasons of the yere would pmite and suffer them, that is to say, sometymes by fishing, sometymes by takeing the pffite turbarye, sometimes by grasing of her parkes. sometymes by brovage or agistment of cattell, sometymes by such other wayes and means as the times and seasons did afford unto them, yet nowe so it is, may it please your Honor, one Jn. Goodricke, Jn. Woodrofe, Jn. Hobson, and Simon Wattson, have of late entered into the same, ptending title to their claiming the same by color of comon, and have not

only themselves entered threerein, but also by certain practices confederating them selves together, wyth divers others have stirred the rest of the inhabitants of the said towne of Wrangle to enter into the same, and to claim the same as common belonginge to the said toun, whereby your said orator is not only likely to be debarred threufe out of the same, being leased unto him by her majesties lres patent aforesaid, and to lose the pffite and commodities thereof durence the time of his saide leas, to his greate loss and hinderaunce, being unable otherwise to pay unto her highnes the rent resseved upon her gracious said lease, but also her majesties likely to be disherited of the same for ever, without speedy remedy be provided, therefore in tender consideration whereof, may it therefore please your honor to grant unto your said orator, her majesties most gracious writ of privy seal unto her highnes court of duchy camber, at Westminster, to be directed to the said Jn. Goodricke, Jn. Woodrofe, Jn. Hobson, and Simon Wattson, commanding them, and every of them, att a certaine daye, and under a certaine paine thereby to bee limited, psonally to appear before your honor in her majesties court of duchy chamber

at Westminster, then and there to answer to the premises, and to avoid such further orders therein as to your honor shall seeme meet and convenient, and your orator shall daily pray to God for your happy life long to continue.

#### THE CHURCH

Is a Gothic building, but much lighter and handsomer than many others in this neighbourhood; it is supported by some slender octagonal pillars. The pulpit appears to be old, but it is beautifully carved, and is made of oak. The font is supported by an octagonal pedestal, on an ascent of three steps. In the tower steeple are six bells. Several windows in the north aisle contain painted glass; in the one at the east end,\* there are some human figures at prayer, and some Latin inscriptions;—the colours are, some of them, very brilliant.

The singing gallery was given by Mr. Francis Goodrick, in the year 1778.

The church is dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul; it is a vicarage, valued in the king's book's at 9l. 18s. 6½d. Patron, the Rev. R. Wright, who is the present vicar.

The living was formerly a rectory, and belonged to the monastery of Waltham Abbey.

We noted the following inscriptions.

In the floor in the chancel :—

Here liethe ye bodys of John Reed sumtime marchant of Calys, and Margaret his wyfe, the wiche John decessyd ye XXIIII daye of October the yere of our Lord MCCCCC and III, the said Margaret decessyd ye XXIIII day of March, yere of our Lord MCCCCC and III.

They for man, when ye winde blows,

Make the mill grind,

And eu on thy nounge soul have,

Thou in mind that those,

Geuys what thy hand yt shall thou finde,

And yt thou leuys thy executors, comys  
far be hyude

Do for your slefe while yt have space

To. pray thee of mcy and grace, in heaven  
to have a place.

This is found the edge of the stone ;—the inhabitants here have a tradation that this John Reed was a great outlaw and a robber.

In the south wall of the chancel is a monument, and close by it two recumbent figures, one a man in armour, the other a woman ;—

these figures are cast, at a kind of composition,  
and display, no very good taste. On a brass  
plate is the following inscription: *Johannes Read  
eques aureus, uerig. Xianus cirenarcha pndens  
pacisq, amaton, dux militaris, magus in hisse  
partibus multum dilectus, multumq, desideratus  
abiit non obiit 12 die Novembris annoq, uirgi-  
nei partus, 1626, postquam summa in laude ser-  
agenta, et quing. complisset annos.*

A worthy gentleman of good parts,  
As had of rich and pore the love and hearts,  
Hath here his corpse, the case and outward side  
His sould in heaven, with X<sup>t</sup>, who for him died.  
Foul-mouthe'd base envy, say it what it can,  
He was a worthy, honest, right good man;  
Whom love did link, and naught but death  
dessever,

Well may they be conjoined and lye together.  
Like turtle doves they lived, chaste pure in  
mind

Few O too few such couples we shall find.  
Example they have left for after times.

To shun, of marriage state the common crimes,  
Dame Anne Read, daughter of Sir John Garret,  
Kt. Id. Maior of London, erected this monu-  
ment, to the pious memory of her, much loved

and beloved husband Sir John Read, Knight.  
On the top are the arms and helmet.

Against the north wall of the chancel is a mural monument, to the memory of the Rev. Richard Baily, M. A. and vicar of Wrangle, who died the 30th Dec. 1775, aged 64 years.

A heart to feel the pleadings of distress,

An eye to pity, and a hand to bless;

Does to the world, if these demand a tear,

Reader that art, bestow the tribute here.

Under the singing-gallery, in the floor:

William Erskine, vicar of Wrangle, May the 1st, 1705, aged 54.

On the floor of the north aisle,

Is a stone to the memory of John Wibby, who died in 1704, and Sarah his wife, who died 1710.

Also, of Elizabeth wife of John Wibby, Jun. who died 1710. Christopher, son of John Wibby,

Jun. died 1715. John Wibby died 1738. Also, of Susanna first wife, and Susanna second wife of the Rev. R. Wright; this latter was the daughter of Mr. John Wibby.

#### THE SCHOOL, &c.

was founded in the year 1555, by the Rev. T. Allison, vicar of Wrangle; he left lands in the

parishes of Leake and Wrangle for the maintenance of two men and two women, called members of the Bede-house. To this donation there have been several additions made by others, and the whole now amounts to 130*l.* per annum. The Bede people have a weekly allowance of one shilling. According to Mr. Allison's Will, the bede members were to go to Leake and Wrangle church alternately, in the forenoon and afternoon of every day, and there repeat certain prayers prescribed by the Will; but this religious ceremony has been long since dispensed with. Also one of the Bede men, who could plainly read Latin and English, was to read the same prayers, three times every day, in a little oratory, or chapel, on the premises where the Bede houses stand. Beside this, he was to be *master*, and teach the Latin and English languages, not only to the children of the parish, but to any person whatever who might be desirous of learning those languages.

Here are also three cows always kept on the premises for the use of the Bede members.

They have also given to each of them at Christmas, five shillings in lieu of five yards of white cloth, at one shilling per yard, which was to



have been their outer garment, and, according to the donor's will, each garment was to have been ornamented with a red cross on the shoulder;—this grotesque dress has long been laid by as out of fashion.

The Bede-houses stand on an eminence, called *Joy's Hill*, on the left-hand side of the road leading from Leake to Wrangle; at the back of these houses the [old] sea bank went between these two last-mentioned parishes.

A little past the Bede-houses, on the road to Wrangle, is a neat *Methodists' Chapel*, which was built by the late Mr. John Gilbert, for the use of dissenters of that denomination.

#### MODERN STATE.

THE Lords of the Manor are John Cooper, Esq. the Rev. W. Wright, Clerk, and Plummer, Widow and Jane Wright, spinster, and John Barberston, Edward Wright, and Mary Wright. The number of acres in this parish amount to 6251, the average rent of which is 45s. per acre. The soil is part clay and part salt, and the coast is part of it moory. Part of the land is very rich, and is fit for either corn or grazing. The rivers are mostly ditches. The tithes were

exonerated on the enclosure of the common, which took place about three years ago. The principal proprietors of land are, Mrs. E. Chaplin, the lords of the manor, the Rev. R. Wright, Mrs. M. Buckworth, and Welby's heirs.

## LEAKE.

LEAKE is a small village in the hundred of Skirbeck, in the parts of Holland, about 8 miles N. E. from Boston. Leake signifies a watery marshy place, says Stukeley; it is from the Dutch word *leck*, and signifies a breach, or hole which lets out water.

### *Domesday Account.*

In Leche (Leake) are twelve carucates of land to be taxed in the soke of Drayton. Land to ten ploughs. Thirty-two sokemen, and thirty villanes, and fifteen bordars have there eleven ploughs, and twenty-six salt pits, and thirty-four

acres of meadow. Of this sokc two of the Earl's vassals have two carucates, and therein two ploughs, and one bordar, and fifteen salt pits, and ten villanes with one plough.

In an extract from the parish books, made by the Rev. Jacob Conington, at the time he was vicar of this church, in 1869, it is said, "That Leake steeple was begun to be builded A. D. 1490, and was finished A. D. 1547, so that it was in building 57 years. The sum of money received by the churchwardens, during all the time of the building thereof, amounted to 350*l.* 14*s.* 10*d.* or thereabouts." This was taken from the accounts in the church chest at that time, but those accounts are now lost.

On a hill near the *Floors* a light-house formerly stood; the haven came up close to this place.

The house now occupied by Mr. Brooks is moated nearly all round, and has been entirely so; it was formerly called *The Great Chauntry*. This has evidently been a religious house, from the various religious relicts that have been observed here within the memory of some of the oldest inhabitants. Mr. Brooks found a stone font in the moat, a few years ago, but it is now

destroyed. This house may have been a chapel of ease to the present church, but of this we have no certain proofs. The last *Master of the Chantry*, or as he was called *Chaplain*, was Thomas Paynson, and this was in the year 1529.

Near the low road leading from Benington to Wrangle, about a mile and a half nearly east of the church, is an ancient stone building, called the *Moat House*. This is said to have been a religious house, but there is scarcely any thing now left to establish the fact, or to inform us what it has been; here are no records respecting it; but it is *probably* older than the present parish church, and was a place of religious worship, and this is in some degree corroborated by the following circumstance;—an acre of land, adjoining and belonging to the church-yard, belongs to the person who holds the *Moat House* farm.

In 1600 this place was in the possession of the heirs of Mr. Thomas Brown, but Lord Gwyder is the present owner. The following account was extracted from an *Act-book*: "In Brighthelm field a messuage, known by the name of Leake Moat House, and forty acres of pasture, between the Lands of — Derby towards the south, and

lands of W. Erskine towards the north." This was in 1690.

The Moat House has been much larger; the walls are very thick, and the windows small, so that it has rather a gloomy appearance within. In one of the chambers are *four* coats of arms, on a board over the fireplace; but the emblazoning being gone, it is not an easy task to make out to whom they have belonged. One is something like the arms of Smith of Elsham. (See Yorkes Union of Honor.) Another chamber is wainscoted, and over and round the fireplace is some curious carving in the oak;—beautiful foliage and human figures, embossed and gilt, must have had a very grand appearance. An old rusty basket-hilt sword, and a kind of horse pistol, are the only moveable antiquities which now find a place in this venerable pile. It is at present covered with thatch instead of lead, and the porch, or former entrance, is transformed into a cellar.

At a very short distance from the Moat House, on the right hand side of the low road leading to Wrangle, is a house called *Derby Hall*, which no doubt took its name from its possessor, Derby, who formerly lived here. In

the gable end is a coat of arms, which appears to be brick, a chevron and three leopards' heads crescent, which are not very distinguishable. The building stands partly in the parish of Leake, and the other part in Leventon.

The following account of the vicars, &c. and masters of the great Chauntree, was communicated by Mr. R. Plant, who has been clerk of the parish more than five and thirty years.

Thomas Colvil, vicar, ..... 1450.

Thomas Paynson, capelanus, ..... 1450.

Allan Read, vicar, ..... 1462.

Thomas Colvil, rector, ..... 1460.

Thomas Colvil, vicar, died, ..... 1470.

John Colvil, vicar, ..... 1490.

John Green, vicar, W. Curtis, priest, and

Richard Robins, master of the great

Chauntree, ..... 1490.

Thomas Paynson, capelanus, ..... 1470.

Sir W. Curtis, capelanus, ..... 1515-17.

Thomas Paynson, capelanus, ..... 1521.

William Curtis, capelanus, ..... 1525.

John Green, vicar, ..... 1527-28.

Thomas Paynson, capelanus, ..... 1529.

Nicholas Stevenson, curate, ..... 1560-61.

Thomas Brown, vicar, was born at Bray-

and was inducted into this vicarage at 33 years of age.....	1596.
Anthony Wilson, vicar, .....	1616.
Edward Heywood, vicar, .....	1631.
William Wright, vicar, .....	1644.
Henry Conington, vicar, .....	1648.
William Wright, vicar, .....	1658.
Francis Lawson, curate, .....	1660.
Jacob Conington, curate, .....	1671.
Jacob Conington, vicar, .....	1693.
Richard Baily, vicar of Wrangle, official pro tempore, .....	1720.
Richard Kirls, curate, .....	1721.
Richard Baily, curate, vicar of Wrangle, ..	1724.
Skinner Baily, curate by sequestration, ..	1728.
Skinner Baily, vicar, .....	1729.
John Parker, vicar, P. Hacket, curate, ..	1784.
George Hogarth, curate, .....	1765.
George Harrison, curate, .....	1767.
George Harrison, vicar, .....	1777.
Thomas Arnold, curate 3 months, .....	1794.
Richard Wright, vicar of Wrangle, curate, ..	1794.
R. Wright, vic. of Wrangle, cur. by seques.	1795.
R. Holgate, vicar, R. Wright, curate, ..	1796.
Wilson Banks, curate, .....	1811.
John Butt, vicar, W. Banks, curate, ....	1812.

The following is an acrostic by the Rev. Jacob Conington, vicar of Leake, who died 1710:

I ncluded sleeps, quite spent in's race,  
 A n old weak trumpeter of grace;  
 C onfined to silence, till th' alarms  
 O f lowdest trump sounds to arms!  
 B lest, when both soul and body'l be  
 C onjoined, and raised by th' potent three,  
 O h! may we not their sacred will  
 N eglect to practice or fulfil,  
 I n veil of tears, or mount of joy,  
 N ew hymns of praise our tongues employ.  
 G rant, Lord, our tongues may bear their parts,  
 T o sing in concert with our hearts.  
 O ur friend thus pray'd while living here,—  
 N ow sings his part in yonder sphere.  
 V ncontrold stand some popish tricks  
 I n thirteen hundred sixty six,  
 C ontrived the painful wretch to starve,  
 A nd largely for the lazy carve;  
 R ectors were then new nam'd, and bore  
 O f Leake ere since the style of poor;  
 F aint-hearted Vicars, sans recruit,  
 L eaves made their lot, instead of fruit.  
 E nforced mute to stand oft times  
 A midst oppressions lowdest crimes,



K ept duty crapt, if mendicant,  
 E ntangled or ensnar'd through want.  
 That charity's monstrous all must say,  
 Which robs St. Peter, Paul to pay.

The antiquity of the following document respecting the endowment of the vicarage of Leake, entitles it to attention:

*Dotatio Vicariæ de Leek.*

Tempore Domini Johannis Rockingham olim Episcopi Lincolnæ, qui cœpit preesse Ecclesiæ cathedrali beatæ Mariæ Virginis Lincolnæ 7mo. die Kal. Julii 1303.

Portione vicarii pertinente dictæ Ecclesiæ de Leek salvâ deditâ pariter excepta, quam quidem portionem in summâ petitionis infra scriptæ de fructibus ejusdem Ecclesiæ percipiendum volumus, ordinamus decernimus et declaramus debere consistere in perpetuum.

Imprimis ne oriatur materia dissensionis et discordiæ inter dilectos filios custodem et Collegium Capellanorum unius Cantariæ infra clausum Ecclesiæ nostræ Lincolnæ factæ et ipsum vicarium ordinamus quod Vicarius qui pro tempore ibidem fuerit ad dictam Vicariam per dictum custodem et collegium præsentatus et ad eandem admissus ad omnia opera dictæ Ecclesiæ incumbentiæ et

subeunda percipiat singulis annis de fructibus Ecclesiæ de Leek aut dictæ quadraginta marcas Sterlingorum per manus custodis et collegii ad quatuor anni terminos per æquales portiones persolvendas, viz. ad festum sancti Michaelis Archangeli decem marcas, ad festum natalis Domini, decem marcas, ad festum Pascuæ decem marcas, ad festum veræ annunciationis sancti Johannis Baptistæ decem marcas sine delatione ulteriori. Et dictus vicarius qui pro tempore fuerit in eadem omnia onera ordinaria et etiam extraordinaria pro rata suæ portionis subiet et perpetuo supportabit, refectione Cancelli dictæ Ecclesiæ duntaxat excepta quam ad dictum custodem et Capellanos dictæ Cantariæ volumus et ordinamus perpetuis temporibus pertinere.

Item volumus et ordinamus statuimus et discernimus quod Vicarius dictæ vicariæ qui erit pro tempore habeat in perpetuum infra Rectoriam dictæ Ecclesiæ Mansionem congruam et sufficientem ubi perpetuo habitabit.

Potestatem autem portionem dictæ Vicariæ addendi, diminuendi et si quid in permissis obscurum vel ambiguum contigerit illud declarandi et interpretandi supplendi et corrigendi no-

his successoribus suis et Capitulo nostro Lincolniae quoties opus fuerit expressere servamus. Quorum omnium testimonium Sigillum nostrum presentibus ut appensum, dat quoad consignationem apud Bougden. 6to die Junii, anno Domini 1366 et nostrae consecrationis 4to.

Hæc copia extracta fuit regesterio Domini Episcopi Lincolniae et examinata 23to die Maii A. D. 1688. Sumptibus propriis Jacobi Conington cleri cei et Ecclesiae dictæ Vicarii.

Johani Walker Notar publicus.

#### THE CHURCH

Is an ancient gothic structure, with a low tower steeple, containing five bells. The font is octagonal; and supported by an octagonal pedestal; it is a neat chancel, and the body of the Church is well pewed. It is a discharged vicarage, valued in the King's books at 13l. 6s. 8d. Patron, the Governors of Oakham School, Rutland; the Church is dedicated to St. Mary. The oldest Register is the following;—Elizabeth Crauforth was baptized the 18th. of Dec. 1575; from which time the Registers are perfect. In one of the south windows in the chancel, is a

recumbent marble figure of a man in armor, which has not however escaped white washing ; It is not known who it is intended to represent.

In the chancel floor are the following inscriptions.

To the memory of Eliz. daughter of Rich. Johnson of Ripingale, wife of Mr. R. Gilbert of Leverton who died in 1732 aged 35.

Also one to the memory of R. Gilbert Esq. late of Leverton, who died in 1760, aged 70 years.

Another to Mrs. Eliz. Blisbury, mother of Mrs. Eliz. Gilbert, who was interred in 1720 aged 55.

On another ;—Here lyeth the body of Mr. Dymoke Derby, interred Jan. 26. 1701 ; Dorcas Derby his eldest Sister, interred on his right hand Dec, 31 1701 ; Eliz. wife of Mr. Rich. Parlabeau his youngest Sister, interred on his left hand.

Feb. 14 1701 ; Mary, daughter of the said Richard and Eliz. Parlabeau, laid upon her mother's feet Feb. 19, 1701.

John Derby, younger Brother to the said Dymoke, interred in St. Laurence Church yard, in the City of Norwich, Aug. 2. 1701. All

these persons died of the small pox.

Reader prepare, death will spare none alive,

Of seven of one blood are slain 5.

Deborah Parlabeau, and John Ampleforth surviving.

Under the singing gallery, on a mural monument

In a vault near this place, lies the body of the Rev. Geo. Harrison, minister of Leake 29 years, who died Nov. 30. 1796, aged 75 years. Also three children, Joseph aged 6, John Crouchley aged 20, and Kitty aged 15. Likewise one grandchild, Maria Evison, aged 2. Mrs. Harrison died at Liverpool and was interred Dec. 10. 1801, in Warrington old Church, Lancashire.

In the floor under the singing gallery;—Jacob Conington Clerk, minister of Leake 48 years and four months, interred Feb. 4. 1719, aged 71 years. Also Abigail his wife, interred Nov. 19. 1730, aged 77 years.

#### MODERN STATE.

The lord of the manor of Leake is the Rev. Charles Gery in right of his wife, The manor house is now occupied by Mr. Baston, it is called soke of Skirbeck, and part of the honor.

of Richmond. The number of acres in this parish, excluding the fen allotments, amount to 5753, which let on an average for 35 shillings per acre. It is a fine rich soil, some of which is silt, but the Ings are, principally, clay. The fences are mostly ditches. It is excellent grazing land, and very good arable. The fen allotment amounts to 1471a. 3r. 32p. The principal proprietors of land are the Rev. C Gery, F Johnson Esq. Mrs. M. M. Buckworth, F. Chaplin Esq. Col. Elmhirst, and Mr. F. Dixon.

## LEVERTON.

LEVERTON, "*Leofric oppidum*"; he was a potent man (says Stukeley) thereabouts at the time of the Norman's coming, and gave to the town much common;—his deed of gift is now in possession of the Rev. and worthy Vicar, Mr. Wm Falkner, which I have seen". This deed of Leofric, we are sorry to say is now lost.

Leverton is a small village in the wapentake of Skirbeck and parts of Holland, about six miles N. E. from Boston.

*Domesday Account.*

In Leverton are twelve carucates of land to be taxed in the soke of Drayton. Land to as many ploughs. Twenty-five sokemen and fifteen villanes and twenty-four bordars have there twelve ploughs. There is a priest and a church, and sixty acres of meadow. Of this soke two of the Earl's vassals have two carucates of land and three oxgangs, and have there three ploughs at work,

The following persons appear to have been rectors of this parish, having signed the several terriers, as such, with the annexed dates, in the Registry Courts at Lincoln.

Henry Peacham, .....	A. D. 1605
Edward Greathead, (thus signed) ....	9 mber
Francis Bowman, .....	1638
John Whiting, (buried 11 Oct. 1689)....	1649
R. Edwards, .....	1691
Edmund Pinchbeck, (no date) .....	
Wm. Falkner, (buried 21 Dec. 1727) ....	1708
Rich. Falkner, (buried 14 Feb. 1780 Æt 74)	

Henry Linton,—North Mediety ..... 1784

Samuel Partridge, M. A. South Mediety .. 1784

This is a true extract taken from the Registry Court at Lincoln, the 3d. of Nov. 1800, by the Rev. J. Caparn the present Rector of Leverton.

#### THE CHURCH

Is dedicated to St. Helen, of whom Wheatly relates the following Legend, *vide* *pa.* 58.

“The 3d. of May is celebrated as a festival by the Church of Rome, in memory of the invention of the Cross, which is said to be owing to this circumstance. Helena, the mother of *Constantine* the Great, being admonished in a dream to search for the Cross of Christ at Jerusalem, took a journey thither with that intent; and, having employed labourers to dig at Golgotha, after opening the ground very deep, she found ~~three~~ *three* Crosses, which she concluded were the Crosses of our Saviour and the two Thieves, who were executed with him;—but being at a loss to know which was the Cross of Christ, she ordered them all three to be applied to a dead person.

Two of them the story says, had no effect, but the *third* raised the body to life, which was an



evident sign to Helena, that *that* was the Cross she looked for."

Now at the east end of this Church, over the chancel window, which is a very fine one, is a large ancient Cross, and upon the adjoining vestry are two other Crosses, somewhat smaller, but apparently of the same date, and order; these were probably designed to be emblematically descriptive of the above traditionary Legend.

The height of the tower of this church, from the ground to the top of the parapet at the western extremity, is 55 feet, and, upon the lead of it, is the following inscription; "The church and chancel were new covered in 1728, John Abraham, Freeman Marston, Church Wardens.

In this parish formerly were two distinct rectories, called the north and south medieties, and the tithes of the whole parish were equally divided between the two Rectors. It had also two separate parsonage houses, and tradition says two Churches. On the 16th of May 1800 an act of parliament was passed for the consolidation of the two medieties;—and on the 24th of May 1810, an act was also obtained for the inclosure of the parish.

The cover of the Chalice, or sacramental cup has a curious device engraven upon it; viz. a *lever* and a *ton*, evidently denoting, in hieroglyphic characters, the name of the village, *Leverton*. Above these emblematic figures is the date which is 1509.

Here is a very beautiful *font*, standing on an octagonal pedestal. The Church is well pewed and is altogether, very neat

The Church is in a perfect state, having at no remote period received a considerable repair, from which cause, neither the body of the Church nor the steeple, present (externally at least) any field for the observation of the antiquary; the chancel however makes him ample amends, giving a good specimen of ecclesiastical architecture of the fourteenth century. Adjoining to it, on the south side, is a chantry, now used as the parish vestry, an object of no inconsiderable interest for his contemplation. On or within the south wall of the chancel, are three stone stalls of most exquisite workmanship, to describe the beauties of which the pen seems not to possess an adequate power. A beautiful engraving of these stalls was given in the last Volume of the Topographical Cabinet.

from a drawing by the late W. Brand Esq. For a great length of time this respectable object of antiquity had received repeated applications of quick lime, whitewash, or yellow ochre, as best agreed with the churchwarden's ideas of cleanliness, and beauty, until it became screened from the eye of common observers.

From this obscure and degraded state it was recovered a few years ago by the discernment and taste of the present worthy Rector, the Rev. J. Caparn, under whose direction it has received a careful and complete dressing.

In the chancel floor, on a flat stone, is the following inscription.

Here lyes the body of Eliz. daughter of Thos. Danvers of Upton and Calthorp, in com. Oxon Esq. who by Nicholas Dymoke of north Kyme in com. Lincoln Esq. her first husband, had issue Sir Edward Dymoke, Kt. who performed the office of champion at the coronation of King Charles the II. she died about the year 1640.

On a square brick are three H's in memory of Captain Hart, late of Boston.

It is a rectory valued in the King's books at 15l. 8s. 8d. Patron the Rev. J. Caparn, the oldest register is in 1675.

## MODERN STATE.

The Lord of the manor is the Rev. Charles Gery. The parish contains about 3000 acres, exclusive of the fen allotments, which is 555a. 4r. 15p. so that the total quantity of land is about 2555a. 3r. 15p. which lets on an average for 45 shillings per acre.

The soil, in the west side of the parish, is clay; the east side is fine grazing land. The fences are mostly ditches. The principal proprietors of land here, are Abm. Sheath Esq. of Boston, Mr. Johnson, Col. Elmhirst, W. Ingelow Esq. of Boston, Mr. Burton, Jn. Yerburch Esq. and Mr. Hallam.

The tithes were exonerated on the inclosure of the fens.

The commencement of the present century produced the accession of upwards of 390 acres of rich arable and pasture land to this parish, from the commercial and enterprising spirit of A. Sheath Esq. of Boston, who undertook to erect a new bank, nearly three miles in extent from north to south, on the eastern part of the marsh nearest the sea, at about the distance a half a mile from the former sea bank.

This great local and national improvement cost upwards of 5000*l.* and was completed in 1801, ever since that period, the land thus inclosed has been productive of excellent crops of wheat, oats, &c.

It is generally admitted that *that* man is a benefactor to his Country, whose inventive genius can make two blades of grass grow, where only one grew before;—surely not less praise is due to him whose expensive projects have been thus successfully carried into effect, and where waves only succeeded waves with every flowing tide for centuries past, has introduced the plough. By this fostering parent of fertility, thus properly directed, he has called those sterile sands into vegetable life; which in the language of the Royal Psalmist, have since stood so “thick with corn that they may laugh and sing.”

## BENNINGTON

A small parish in the wapentake of Shirbeck, in

the parts of Holland, is  $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles from Boston, and one south of Levertow. Stukeley says that the towns ending in *ington*, *ingham*, are so called as lying upon a Mead, or *Ing*; hence Bennington probably came from By-*Ing* town, as being adjoining to the *Ings*.

*Domesday Account.*

Berewick and soke. In *Berington* (Bennington) two carucates of land and two oxgangs to be taxed. Land to three ploughs. Ten oxgangs are in land, and one carucate soke of this manor. There is one plough in the demesne, and three sokemen and one bordar have one plough, and twenty acres of meadow.

In *Benington* (Bennington) Earl Alan claims ten oxgangs of land, but the jury of the wapentake say it belongs to William de Waren's manor of *Carletun* (Carlton) and Earl Harold his antecessor had it so.

"Benington was the jointure of *Clemencia* the second wife of *Ranulph Blundevil* earl of Chester, who was divorced from his first wife, Con-

This nobleman son and heir of Hugh Kivelock was the sixth Earle Palatine of Chester, as also Earle of Lincoln. He had two wives, first Constance, the only daughter and heir of Conan, Duke of Brit-

tsure, because the King much frequented her company, which was such an offence, and uneasiness to him, that the King himself allowed it and consented to it.

How this manor passed into this family of the earl of Chester, we do not find; but that it was not given them by the Conqueror Domesday book assures us; where we find that Wm. De Warren afterwards made earl of Surrey by King Wm. Rufus, having accompanied King Wm. I. in his expedition into England, and fought valiantly for him against Harold;—he being victor and soon after King, conferred upon him, among other lordships in other parts of the realm, this of Bennington and Fishtoft a small village at the mouth of the Witham. *Dr. Fuller* tells us that no mice nor rats will harbour at Fishtoft, inasmuch that Barns built half in this parish and half in another, the side that stands in Fishtoft, shall be free from them, and the other annoyed

taine, with whom he had the Dutchy of Britaine, and Earldome of Richmond, his second wife was Clemencia, the Sister of Geoffrey de Fulgers, or Fulgerijs, a noble man of Normandy, but had no issue by either of them, leaving his four sisters as heiresses unto him. This Randolph was in great esteeme in the times of King Henry the second, King Richard the first, King John, and King Henry the third, he died Anno 1199. (*York's union of Honour.*)

with them, which seems something extraordinary and too strange to be true; however tis thus far true; it passes for such among the vulgar.

(*Magna Britiannia*-)

#### THE CHURCH.

The Church is a handsome and respectable gothic building, kept in excellent repairs, and very neat.

The living is a rectory, valued in the king's books at 33*l.* 3*s.* 11*d.* The Church is dedicated to All Saints, Patron the Hon. Geo. Hobart.

The tower steeple contains six very musical bells, being the best in this neighbourhood.

The font is octagonal and stands on a flight of steps, supported by an octagonal pedestal. It is covered with sculpture, the design of which had very evidently an allusion to the dedication of the Church, all the saints being carved in the various compartments, except the east face where the Sculptor has thrown two divisions into one, and with the impious liberties of these times has attempted to personify the Deity! There is no date &c on this curious piece of antiquity, whereby one might ascertain its age, but from the style of ornament, a conjecture is



bazzarded that it was erected about the middle of the fourteenth century.

Formerly there was a great deal of painted glass in the windows of this Church, among which, on one pane, was a fine head of *William of Wainfleet*; but this venerable relic, was stolen only a few years ago, by a plumber who was employed to repair the windows. Another fine head is in possession of R. Waldgrave Esq. but it is not known who it is designed to represent. Mr. Waldgrave purchased it for the sake of preserving it from demolition. In one of the windows is a figure of the virgin and child.

Many of the windows in the north and south aisles have straight tops or arches. The living formerly belonged to Sir W. Ellis, who presented it to the family of Hobard Earl of Buckinghamshire.

In the Church yard on a gravestone is the following inscription: Sacred to the memory of Mr. W. Purtil, shopkeeper of this parish, who died Oct. 25, 1727 Æt, 67.

Bequeathing his estates for the endowment of a school, and amply providing for the maintenance of a schoolmaster, two poor men and two poor women, belonging to this and the adjoining

parish of Leverton; for ever, and denominating the charity, which this perishable stone can but feebly record, *Bennington Bede*.

#### MODERN STATE.

The lord of the manor of *Bay-hall* or Bennington, is Robert Waldgrave Esq. The parish contains 2400 acres, which lets on an average for 35 shillings per acre, fen allotment 530a. 2r. 10p.

The soil near the sea is mixed, sand and loam, and the best mode of cultivation is Turnips, Barley, Seeds, and Wheat. The low lands are clay and loam, and the mode of cultivation is Beans and Wheat. The fences are part hedges and part ditches. The tithes are paid by composition. The principal proprietors of land are D. Lance Esq. A. Sheath Esq. Mr. Jn. Ealand, Rob. Waldgrave Esq. Dr. Johnson and the Mrs. Buckworths.

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## BUTTERWICK.

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BUTTERWICK is a small village in the wapen-

take of Skirbeck, in the parts of Holland, about 4 miles nearly east from Boston.

Here are few or no ancient buildings of any note, in a pasture, a little way S. W. of the church. are some foundations, but nothing is known respecting them; the pasture is called *Sempering Garth*.

At the east end of the town, where there is now a large pit, was formerly, in the memory of man, a large hill, with a stone Cross about 10 or 12 feet high, on the top of it.

Butterwick may boast of being at one time the residence of at least one man of learning. Thomas Grainger, minister of this place, published more than two hundred years ago, a small quarto volume, which was a paraphrase on the *Ecclesiastes*. He called himself *a minister of the word*. This place was also the residence of a respectable family of the name of Packharnis.

#### *Domesday Account.*

Manor. In *Butruic* (Butterwick) Wulward had twelve carucates of land to be taxed. Land to twelve ploughs. Wido had there two ploughs, and thirty-six sokemen with nine carucates of this land, and six villanes and ten bordars having

fifteen ploughs. There are two churches and two priests, and one hundred acres of meadow. Value in King Edward's time, and now, ten pounds. Tallaged at one hundred shillings.

Soke and berwick. In *Butrenic* (Butterwick three carucates of land to be taxed. Soke and inland in *Ostone* (Owston.) Land to one plough. One sokeman and six villanes have there one plough, and one mill of four shillings.

#### THE CHURCH

Is a very ancient small gothic building, a kind of patched edifice, partly of brick and part stone, and seems to have been repaired so often, that little or none of the original is left. It is a vicarage valued in the King's books at 8*l.* 4*s.* 2*d.* Patron, Lady Dryden. It is dedicated to St. Andrew. The font is ancient and curious; it is supported by stone pillars. Here is a neat singing gallery, and the steeple which is modern, and built of Brick, contains 5 musical bells.

We noted the following inscriptions.

In memory of Elizabeth wife of the Rev. Mr. Joshua Pinchbeck, who died Sep. 17. 1743, aged 44.

Also John, son of Joshua and Elizabeth.

Pinchbeck, died August 28. 1714, aged 3 years.

Also the Rev. Jos. Pinchbeck B. A. who died June 28. 1764, aged 52 years.

In the Church yard is a tomb to the memory of The Rev. Edward Brown, Prebendary of York, Rector of Kirk Sandal in that County, and Master of Butterwick School, he died Feb. 26. 1802, aged 65.

Concerning a large Sycamore tree which now (1814) stands in this Church yard, the following account was extracted from an old register.

"In the year of our Lord, one thousand six hundred fiftie and three,

Then in the church yard was set a sycamore tree,

It was given by John Bennet, then Clark, freely and without let.

And by Wm. Michallis then Churchwarden was the tree set.

Whoever, therefore, shall presume this tree to cut down,

Let them remember Butterwick ancient renown  
How that formerly over Frieston it hath borne sway,

But now it is turned the quite contrary way,"

## THE SCHOOL, &amp;c.

The free grammar School was endowed by Anthony Pinchbeck Esq. of this Parish, about the year 1664, who liberally endowed it with Lands in the several Parishes of Fishoft, Butterwick, Leverton, and Friskney, now let at about 200l. per annum, and will be considerably augmented by the recent inclosure.

While most other Seminaries of this Description (by a too rigid Pertinacity to original Rules) afford but little or no advantage to those justly entitled to the benefit of them, too much praise cannot be bestowed upon the Trustees and Feoffees of this School for their zealously adopting that mode of Education so particularly consistent with the present State of Society, by which laudable Plan, the poor Inhabitants have the happiness of seeing their Children educated in whatever may be useful in common life, while the more wealthy of them may, if they please, have theirs instructed in the learned languages and every liberal branch of Science.

## MODERN STATE.

The Lords of the manor of Frieston and Butterwick are the heirs of the late Henry Ward Esq.

The parish contains about 1388 acres of land, the average rent of which is 40 shillings per acre. It is nearly equally divided into grazing, meadow and arable. The mode of cultivation by the plough, is, generally, two crops and one fallow, but with variations. The fen allotment is 354a. 1r. 34p. The fences are mostly quick-set hedges. The soil in most places is a rich loam, but in the fens it is clay. The farms are of a moderate size, and are chiefly occupied by the owners, the principal of which are, Mrs. Hubbert, Mr. Hanson, &c.

## FRIESTON.

FRIESTON is a very pleasant village in the wapentake of Skirbeck in the parts of Holland, about 3 miles E. from Boston.

### *Domesday Account.*

Soke. In *Fristune* (Frieston) twelve carucates of land to be taxed. Land to as many ploughs.

Twenty sokemen and twenty six villanes, and fifteen bordars have there fifteen ploughs. Two vassals of Wido's have five carucates and one oxgang of this soke, and they have there two ploughs and a half, and five sokemen and twelve villanes having one plough and a half.

At this place was the ancient barony of Croun, or Credon, given to Guy de Croun by Wm. the Conqueror, with whom he came into England. He had also another seat at Burton Crown, near Sleasford, so called from him, as it is now called Pedwardyn from his decendants; beside this he had lands in Ashby, Ravendale, Wade, and Bli-ton, co Lin. 29 W. I. as appears in domesday. He possessed no less than 60 Lordships. The priory of Spalding being refounded about this time, by his countryman Ivo Talbois, he gave to it one carucate of land, lying in that town; *Histoire de Sable pa. 138.*

Guy de Croun, in obedience to divine inspiration, gave a certain parcel of his estates to GOD, and St. Nicholas, for the soul of King William and Maud the Queen, and for the soul of William, that the Lord would grant him success in his reign, and bring him to a good end; and one carucate of land in Spaldingue, with the ap,



purtenances; his wife, all his sons and daughters, and brothers, consenting to it, for the good of his own soul. He likewise gave ten carucates of land in Pinchbeck, to the abbey of Croyland, and two carucates in Spalding to the same abbey. To Guy, or Wido de Croun, succeeded Godfrey de Croun, who was the first prior of Frieston, Alan Croun, Baron Croun, brother to Godfrey was in great favor with Henry I. to whom he was great steward of the household. In his country, at Frieston, he was called Alan open doors, because he kept so great a house. (*Lelands itin vol. 7.*)

This man founded the priory of Frieston, for Benedictine monks, and made it a cell to the abbey of Croyland, anno 1142, where his brother Godfrey was abbot at that time. Alan was buried at Croyland abbey, on the south side of the high altar. *Vide the Monasticon, Iugulphus and Dugdale's Baronage.*

Maurice Croun, the son of Alan, succeeded his father in 1150. He was made keeper of the Castle of Ancennis by Hen. II. and governor of the provinces of Anjou and Main, and he was also one of the plenipotentiaries on the part of the King, in the treaties between him and Philip

the august King of France.

Guy de Croun, the son of Maurice, accompanied Rich. I. in his voyage to the holy land anno 1192, and was present at the treaty between him and Tancred, King of Sicily. He confirmed to the nuns of Haverholm, pasture for nine score sheep in Bloxam fields, even to the bounds between them and the abbot of Grelle.

Petronilla, the daughter of Guy de Croun, married William Lonchamp, and their son Sir Henry de Lonchamp died in March 1274, and was buried in Swineshead Abbey; but his heart at Burton Pedwardin, before the altar, in the chapel of the virgin mary.

There is (says Leland Itin. vol. 8) a great Fee gately'd about Boston parts, by the name of *Petronille de la Corone*, dowghter by Lykelehode de la Corone foundar of Frieston Priorye, and buried at Croyland.

This Fee is now paid to the lord Rosse, but the Richmunt Fee is greater there. There is also another Fee, cauld Pepardyne; and that the lord Linsey had: and the owners of these Fees be lords of the town of Boston." Petronil had lands in Holbeach and Quaplode, and in Weston. (*Inquis Elho I. Ed. III. scod milit 42.*

*offic arm. pa 32.)*

Alice, the grandaughter of Petronilla, married Roger Pedwardin, and this family, the Vaux' the Lord's Ros, and the Markham's, who were their descendants, resided here many years. The scite of Roshall, where the barons Ros lived, is in the parish of Fishtoft. *Stukeleys Itin.*

Wm. de Ros married Margery, one of the co-heiresses of Giles de Badlismere, lord of Chillham. Their descendants were the barons Ros; and the Manors earls of Rutland, married an heiress.

Walter Pedwardin married Thangharat, sister to Thelwell Llewellyn, prince of Wales, he lived in the castle of Brampton, in Wigmoreland. To him succeeded Roger Pedwardin the II, who built the church of Burton Pedwardin, and St. Mary's chapel there, being on the north side, but the south aisle together with the chapel of St. Nicholas, was rebuilt at the same time by the parishoners. This was done in the year 1340. Sir Roger Pedwardin, his son, died in 1368, he obtained a bull for 530 days pardon, for all benefactions towards the church and chapel at Burton.

Robert de Vallibus came into England with

William the Conqueror, and he was succeeded successively by William de Vaux, Robert and Oliver; John de Vaux owned the manor of Frieston, and certain lands in Boston, by gift of his mother in *feodo talliata* ob. 1288: his daughter Maud was married to Wm. lord Ros, mentioned above.

In hiliary term 12 Ed. 2. the abbot of Croyland came into the Exchequer, by Friar Orgar de Freston his Comoigne and Attorney in that behalf, and pleaded that he was unjustly and unduly amerced as a baron &c.

Frieston is a straggling village, and about a mile north of the church is a place called Altost-end, or more commonly Altar-end; here is a Public house, and several good farm houses, in which some of the most respectable farmers reside.

The sea formerly came very near to Frieston, but it has now receded to about the distance of two miles and a half; at this distance nearly east of the church lies

*Frieston Shore,*

Which is a bathing place of considerable note; here are two good Inns, the Coach and Horses,

kept by Mr. Plummer, and the Anchor, kept by Mr. Cook. These Inns are pleasantly situated near the sea bank, and, in the summer season, are much frequented by invalids from the counties of Leicester and Nottingham, who come to bathe and drink the salt water, and receive (or at least fancy they receive) much benefit from so doing. Being only about five miles from Boston, many of the inhabitants of that rich town, also resort hither in the bathing season, and especially on what is called the tide sundays, to relax their minds a little from the monotonous uniformity which a constant attendance on the same business naturally imposes. From these Inns we have a good view of the Norfolk coast, and the ships which are almost constantly passing at the distance of three or four miles, perpetually vary the scene, and prevent that sameness which otherwise would be very disagreeable.

#### *The Priory.*

Was founded for a Prior and some black monks, in the year 1142, by *Alan de Crown*, *Muriel* his Wife, and *Maurice* his Son, and dedicated to St. *James*. These gave the Churches of *Freston*, *Butterwyke*, *Fost*, *Warnburn*, and

*Burton*, with all the Profits, Customs, and Emoluments thence arising, to *St. Guthlac* in *Croyland*, to be a Cell thereto for ever.

The east end of the present Church belonged to the Priory, which extended eastward to a considerable distance; and as the foundations are still visible, the scite may be traced. Part of the offices still remain, on the south side of the church, and form the residence of John Linton Esq. whose ancestors have lived here for a considerable length of time, and by planting clumps of trees, shrubberies &c. have converted it into a most delightful spot.

The following is a List of the Priors of Frieston, as far as we have been able to make them out.

Godfrey de Crouu brother to the founder	1148
Maurice de Croun son of the founder	1191
† Roger of Croyland	1236
John de Kyrton	1274
Thomas Kyme of Friskney	
Peter de Windon de Boston	1360
Allan de Pedwardine	1384

† He wrote the life of Thomas a Becket.

*Richard Upton .....	1407
Robert de Greslei .....	1427
§ John de Wisbeach .....	1454
.....	1476
Richard Slefurth .....	1527

## THE CHURCH.

Which has been built at different times, is partly gothic, and partly saxon, and displays a very bad taste, by mixing gothic and saxon arches, and columns of various orders, all in the same building. On the south side of the chancel is a kind of chantry, with a bason cut in stone in the wall, for holy water. East of this is a large place which appears to have belonged to the priory, but it is now of no use but to hold lumber, such as coals, old wood &c. The font has a curious covering of fret work, and is very handsome; it is octagonal, and stands on a flight.

\*Thomas Overton Abbot of Croyland, was succeeded by Richard Upton, who had for ten years before been Prior of Frieston, *Tanner*. He was elected Abbot of Croyland in 1417, and died the 15 of May 1427.

§ Another account says that John de Wisbeach, Prior of Freston, was elected to succeed Abbot Lytlington Abbot of Croyland about the 14 of Feb. 1469-

He died Nov. 19 1476. This prior obtained from the Pope a Bull to allow the eating of meat in Lent.

of three steps. In the chancel floor are the following inscriptions.

One to the memory of the Rev. J. Linton, late vicar of this parish and Butterwick, who died in the year 1782, aged 60 years.

Another to D'arcey Linton, who was accidentally killed at Goree in Africa.

Another to the memory of John Linton, Clerk, who died Jan. 6. 1773, aged 88 years.

In the middle aisle, is one to the memory of W. Fydell, Alderman of Boston, who died in the year 1731, aged 80 years.

Also one to the memory of Joseph Fydell, Alderman of Boston, who died 1731, aged 44 years.

Also another to Isabella wife of W. Fydell, interred in 1747, aged 88 years.

#### THE SCHOOL, &c.

In the year 1728, a Mr. J. Holden left two acres of land in the Ings, for a Schoolmaster, or Dame, to teach the poor children of this parish to read, and if no Master or Dame be found, or the School not kept up in Frieston, the parish of Fishtoft may claim it for the same purpose. Also in 1727, Mr. B. Morfort left 20s. yearly, to be paid out of a piece of land lying in Frieston,



for the same purpose. Beside which the parish pays about 10l. annually.

Here is also a Bede, and four poor people have 8l. per ann. paid to them weekly, out of the vicarage of Fishtoft.

#### MODERN STATE.

The lords of the Manor of Rooshall, otherwise the Manor of Frieston and Butterwick are the heirs of the late Henry Ward Esq. of the two Manors of Coupledye Hall, Mr. P. Plummer; of Poynton Hall, Mr. P. Pall; of Peachy Hall, Mrs Allice Liuton. The number of acres in this parish, excluding the fen allotment, is 4440 which lets on an average at 45 shillings per acre. The soil, in the north of the parish is silt and loam, in the south it is clay and loam. The fences are mostly Quick hedges. Very fine grazing land, and suitable for most kinds of grain. The tithes were exonerated on the inclosure of the fens. The poor rates in 1803 were 4s. 10d. in the pound. The fen allotment is 1019a. 0r. 28p.

## FISHTOFT.

FISHTOFT is a very small village in the wapentake of Skirbeck in the parts of Holland, about 3 miles E. S. E. from Boston.

"The Lord Monteville had a goodly great and ancient Manor place at Fischetoft, a mil from Boston; it is now a yn ruine, and belon-  
gid' to the Lord Willoughby and now to the Duke of Southfolk. The Lord Montevill's lands cam partely by heyree Generall to the Bekes and thens by heyre General to the Willoughby's.

'The scite of Roushall where the barons Ros lived is in the parish of Fishtoft." *Leland's Itin.*

The Manor house in which the Mountevill's and Willoughby's lived, is now down, it stood on the ground where Mr. W. Whiston's house now stands, at the distance of about half a mile north of the church. Rooshall is also down;—the present Rooshall is in the parish of Frieston.

The abbey of Croyland had a pension of eight pounds a year, from the church of St.

**Guthlac at Fishtoft.***Domesday Account.*

In *Toft* (Fishtoft) are three carucates of land to be taxed in the soke of Drayton. Land to three ploughs. Seventeen sokemen have there five ploughs and a half, and twenty acres of meadow.

Manor. In *Toft* (Fishtoft) Adestan had nine carucates of land to be taxed. Land to as many ploughs. Wido has there three ploughs, and one sokeman and nine villanes and one bordar having four ploughs. There is a church and a priest, and one mill of ten shillings, and sixty acres of meadow. Value in King Edward's time eight pounds, now ten.

**THE CHURCH**

Is a very substantial gothic structure, built by the abbots of Croyland, and dedicated to St. Guthlac, whose whole length figure is in a niche at the west end of the steeple. It is a Rectory valued in the King's books at 18l. 6s. 8d. Patron, the Rev. John Simpson.

Here is some curious fret work on entering the chancel; the font is octagonal, and stands

on a flight of three steps; the church is well  
pewed, and is altogether, very neat. The parish  
chest in the vestry, is very ancient; it is well  
fortified with iron hoops, and three strong  
locks; it was once very thick, but the worms  
have made their way quite through it, and it is  
fast mouldering to dust.

We noted the following inscriptions.

In the chancel floor,

Near this place lieth the body of Mrs Prudence Kyme, who departed this life Oct. 22. 1718, in the 63 year of her age.

Also here lieth the body of Mrs Alice Kyme, who departed this life June 2 1723, in the 32 year of her age.

In the Church-yard

Interred here lies Anne  
The wife, of Bryon John  
son durieing life, the 25.  
day of November, in 68  
he lost this member.

Again,

Now Bryon is laid down  
by Anne, till God doth  
raise them both again.

Mr Byron Johnson of Fishtoft. departed this

died the 19. of January, and was buried the 22, 1668.

#### THE SCHOOL, &c.

Here is a small endowment for a master to teach the paupers in this parish; the Lord of the manor, some years ago, gave upwards of 9 acres of land, which let now for seven pounds a year, and the money is paid annually to the school-master.

#### MODERN STATE.

Buxton Kenrick Esq. is the Lord of the manor, which is called Fishtoft with Hiptoft. The number of acres is about 3661, which lets on an average at 50 shillings per acre. The fen allotment is 529a. 3r. 16p.. The soil is principally strong clay, and is very good for producing wheat and beans; near the church is some very good grazing land. The fences belonging to the old inclosure are mostly ditches, but the new inclosure is fenced by quick thorn hedges. The tithes were exonerated by land in lieu on the inclosure of the fens.

The principal proprietors of land are B. Kenrick Esq. Mr. J. Mowbray, Mr. J. Physick's,

heirs, Rev. J. Simpson, Dean and Chapter of Westminster, Mr. W. Waite, Mr. W. Whiston, S. Calthorp Esq. Messrs Gee and Clark, &c.

## QUADRING.

QUADRING is a small village in the wapentake of Kirton, in the parts of Holland, about  $7\frac{1}{2}$  miles N. N. W. from Spalding.

In this place there are no ancient Abbeys Halls &c. except one old mansion, late the residence of W. Stukeley Esq. which was purchased a few years ago by the present proprietor Mr. W. Musson.

In a hamlet to Quadring called Quadring Eau-dyke, was once a chapel, but it is now down, and has been for a great number of years: when it ceased to exist cannot at present be ascertained.

### *Domesday Account.*

In *Quadheueringe* (Quadring) inland of this manor, one carucate of land to be taxed. Land

at one plough. Malger has there eight villanes with one plough.

**Manor,** In *Quedhaveringe* (Quadring) Tur-chil had one carucate of land to be taxed. Land to one plough, also with sac and soke, except two oxgangs over which the Earl has the soke. Guert a vassal of the Earl's, holds this land, but the jurors of the wapentake know not by what right. There are three villanes, and six acres of meadow, and two salt pits of twelve-pence. Value in King Edward's time ten shillings, the same now.

Alured de Lincoln claims of Earl Alan one carucate of land in *Quedhaveringe* (Quadring.) The jury of Holland accord it to the same Alured, because it was his antecessors, and he was seized thereof in the time of Earl Ralph.

#### THE CHURCH:

Is a very old gothic building, dedicated to St. Margaret, it is a discharged vicarage, united to the vicarage of Wigtoft, and is valued in the King's books at 10l. 1s. 3d. Patron the Bishop of Lincoln.

In this church there is a very-curious ancient font, with eight faces, on which some fanciful

devices are cut, there is also a latin inscription, but the persons name cannot be made out.

“Pray for the soul of———who caused this font to be erected.”

On a marble monument, on the north side the chancel, is the following inscription.

Here lies the body of Edward Brown Gent, who dyed the fifth day of Jan. 1737,

In the sixty sixth year of his age.

He delighted in being a father to the fatherless, and them who had no friend; which good offices he always discharged with great integrity. He was a hearty well wisher to the establishment in church and state, and showed it on all proper occasions.

He built a house, which with some land there-to adjoining, he settled for ever, for the master of the Charity school of this town to live in. He died much lamented by all who where so happy as to know him, but more especially by his most dutiful and affectionate daughter, who caused this monument to be erected to his memory.

On a brass plate in the middle aisle is a latin inscription to Bristovius Brown who died 3rd. Jan. 1685.



On a mural Tablet at the east end of the north aisle. Here lyeth the body of Mrs. Mary Harryman, wife of John Harryman Gent. who departed this life Oct. 12. 1712, aged 68 years.

Also near this place lieth the body of Richard Harryman Gent. Interred Nov. 16. 1719, *Ætatis* suæ 48.

On another. Here lyeth ye body of John Harryman Gent. who had two wives and by them 21 children, of which number he left only 7 at his death. He dyed Oct. 2. 1708, *Ætatis* suæ 74.

#### THE SCHOOL.

Here is a charity School founded by Thomas Cowley Esq. of the Wykes, in the parish of Donington, in the year 1721, with a salary at that time of 10*l.* per ann. And Edward Brown Esq. an inhabitant of Quadring, approving of this charity, gave about 17 years afterwards a house for the master of the School to live in, with some land thereto belonging for ever.

Which house together with forty pounds a year is the salary now given to the present master, Mr. R. Naylor.

## MODERN STATE.

The lords of the manor are the Trustees of Cowley's charity; Benjamin Smith Esq. for the manor of Wykes, and also for the manor of Monks Hall. The parish contains about 4000 acres of land, the average rent of which is 35 shillings per acre. Soil, a mixture of sand and clay, and is good both for grazing and tillage. The fences of the old inclosure are hedges, of the new, ditches. The tithes are exonerated by land in lieu.

The principal proprietors of land are, The Lord Bishop of Lincoln, The Rev. Wm. Holmes Mr. W. Musson, Mr. John Caswell, Mr. Thomas Duckett, Mr. W. Cropley, and Mr. R. Baldwick. The parish rates in 1803 were 3s. 9d. in the pound.

The above information was received from Mr. W. Crane of Quadring.

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**BROTHERTOFT.**

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**BROTHERTOFT** is in the wapentake of Kintore

also in the parish of Kirton, in the parts of Holland, about five miles N. N. W from Boston. Tradition says that this place was originally inclosed from the fens by a grant to two brothers ; hence the name, Brother-Toft.

This hamlet formerly belouged to the Duke of Newcastle, then to Sir Sampson Gideon, then to Sir C. Frederic, who sold it to John Cartwright Esq. who has lately sold it off in separate farms.

Brothertoft house, which is an elegant mansion, at a short distance west of the chapel, with the farm belonging to it, being about the fourth part of the lordship, is now the property of Thomas Gee Esq. of Boston.

Before the inclosure of Holland fen, and at that time, Brothertoft contained fifty two houses and a considerable number of inhabitants ; but, since that period, they have been on the decrease. To the people of this neighbourhood, the inclosure of Holland fen appeared in the most odious light—it took from them what they esteemed their rights and privileges, and left them as they thought, poor, miserable, and destitute of the common necessities of life. They had hitherto lived a kind of predatory life, kept a few geese, and some of the most opulent a

few sheep, and perhaps a cow, or a mare which once a year brought them a foal;—but they had had freedom to range over a large track of land which they had hitherto considered to be their own property. A life of laziness is generally preferred; and fishing, and shooting and otherwise catching wild fowl, may be called amusement rather than labour. Hence, like the Aborigines of north America, they lived a kind of lawless life, almost in a state of nature, and their ideas, wild as their native fens, were not very easily subjected to reason or control. About the year 1768, when the inclosure of Hollaud fen was about to take place, the inhabitants of Brothertoft, as might be expected, were among the first to oppose it, and the fences that were put down in the day-time, were, for a long time pulled up during the succeeding night. Several riots took place (vide Kirton) much mischief was committed, and some lives were lost; in a house now occupied by a person of the name of Ogleby, Captain Wilks, who had been employed by Sir C. Frederic, was one night shot in the face through the window; some of his teeth and one of his eyes were knocked out, but he afterwards recovered. The shot rebounding

from the fire place, frightened some other men in the room, and a person of the name of Hammond crept under the bed to hide himself, at the same time believing and crying out that he was shot also, which was afterwards found not to be the case.

It is no easy task to convince ignorant people that what may appear injurious to themselves, may still be for the benefit of the public at large; with respect to the inclosure of Holland fen, many who had used every effort to oppose it, lived afterwards to see their own folly. One man in particular, who had gained only a scanty subsistence by fishing and fowling, and whose character was not of the first rate for respectability, after the inclosure had taken place rented land, and accumulated much wealth. He died lately possessed of property to the amount of from fifteen to twenty thousand pounds; and had for many years been respected by all who knew him.

#### THE CHAPEL.

Is a small place consisting of one aisle and a chancel, but no steeple; a single bell hangs in a kind of cupola just above the roof, and the rope

descends into the vestry.

The chancel is only separated from the nave by some railings. When the chapel was built, we have not been able to ascertain: here are some good stone saxon arches over the windows which are evidently not modern, but they may be part of the ruins of some other building, for the other parts appear not to be very ancient. It is nearly all built of brick, and the roof is covered with flat tiles. In the chancel is a part of a Piscina. Here is a good plain stone font, which has the following inscription on the eight faces "This erected by Thomas Palmer and other ministers." In the chapel are no monuments nor any inscriptions on the floor. The oldest register is March 17. 1757. It is a chapel not in charge to the vicarage of Kirton. Patron T. Gee Esq. The chapel is private property, and the minister, at this time, has an annual stipend of 30l. a year, which is raised by subscription, by the parishoners.

#### MODERN STATE.

Thomas Gee Esq. of Boston is lord of the manor. The parish contains about 880 acres of land, the average rent of which is 45 shillings

per acre. The fences are quick thorn hedges, and the soil a rich loam upon either silt or clay. The principal proprietors of land are T. Gee Esq. T. C. Gerordot Esq. C. Dashwood Esq. Mr. John Burrell, and Mr. G. Beedham. The land here is very proper for gardens, of which there is a good number. Here is but a small portion of grazing land.

This being a rich soil, the whole was bought by Major Cartwright, about 25 years ago, for the purpose of growing woad. The temporary houses, built of sods, and thatched, as well as the lofty ranges of frames for drying the woad when in balls, are all removed. Also the different machines used in manufacturing the woad, and the different farming utensils invented by the Major and Mr. Amos, have all been removed.

The octagonal ends of Brothertoft house, were built by Major Cartwright.

Not more than 50 years ago, when the drainage of these parts was not so good as it is at present, Brothertoft, and the lands between that place and Boston, were frequently overflowed, in the winter, season, and one wide expanse of water with here and there a bush or a house,

was all that could be seen.

The turnpike road from Boston to Swineshead, and the intersecting Roads leading to the adjacent villages, were covered with water to a considerable depth, of course they were dangerous for travellers to find, and the villagers brought their goods to Boston market in boats;— they could boat up to within a short distance of the bridge, to a place called Rose-gath corner, near the brewery belonging to Messrs Gee and Clark.

There is perhaps no part of England in which improvements have been more repaid than in this district, the land which lately was little better, in many places, than swampy bogs, is now become firm and dry, and the roads, at every season of the year, are passable, and at most times very good. The soil in all this neighbourhood, is extremely fertile and valuable, producing excellent crops of corn of almost every kind, while some of the grazing land is capable of fattening the largest sheep and oxen; and all these blessings may be attributed to the genius of the present age, which has been fertile in improvements, as well as indefatigable in executing large projects, by which means the necessary



comforts of life have become more plentiful, and the general state of society considerably ameliorated.

A complete drainage was the only desideratum that was wanting in these and the adjacent fens, and this has now been effectually accomplished, under the direction of that able and experienced Engineer *John Rennie Esq.* who has made use of proper means to convert miry bogs into firm arable and grazing land.

*The Chapel in Holland Fen.*

Holland Fen, to the N. W. of Boston, from which it is distant 10 miles and upwards, is a tract of land, containing about 22 000 acres, and inhabited by a population of more than 8700 Souls. It is not situated in any single Parish, but is divided and allotted to eleven different Parishes, called the Holland fen towns. When the drainage and inclosure of it took place, more than 40 years ago, which converted an unwholesome swamp into productive Land, no provision was made for the erection, and endowment of a Chapel for the use of the Inhabitants, who were at too great a distance from their respective parish churches to be able to attend.

divine service. That defect, however, has within these few years been happily supplied by a Subscription, begun by the late Rev. Dr. Charles Beridge, and his Nephew the late Rev. Basil Bury Beridge, successively Patrons and Rectors of Algarkirk; and since augmented and completed by various Benefactors, among whom may be mentioned the following. The Lord Bishop of Lincoln, Mrs. Hutton, Duke Street, Westminster, the Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Twigge, Derby, Mr. Wm. Weeks, Pelham's Lands, the Mercer's Company, London, Rev. Mr. Swan, Vicar of Kirton, Rev. Mr. Partridge, Vicar of Boston, with several others of the neighbouring Clergy and Gentry, and opulent Farmers in the Fen. With this Subscription, the Trustees appointed under a deed executed by the late Basil Bury Beridge, Patron and Rector of Algarkirk, and enrolled in the Court of Chancery, have been enabled to erect a Chapel, to purchase Land, and to make provision for a resident Minister; to the great benefit and accomodation of the Inhabitants of this very populous district. The Chapel is situated in the parish of Fosdyke, near to the bank of the north Forty Foot Drain, and is a neat structure in the Gothic style; it was begun

in the Spring of the year 1812, was consecrated by the Bishop of Lincoln on Sunday the 5th. of July following, and was completed and opened for divine Service, on the 20th. of September of that year.

A resident minister, the Rev. Joseph Mossop, has been appointed by the Bishop of Lincoln, who had the first turn of presentation; but the appointment rests hereafter with the Rector of Algarkirk for ever.

A parsonage house is still wanting, which, from the insufficiency of their funds, the trustees have not yet been able to supply.

We were favoured with the above account by the Rev. Dr. Hutton of Sutterton.

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## FOSDYKE.

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FOSDYKE is a small village in the wapentake of Kirton, in the parts of Holland, about 6 miles nearly S. E. from Kirton.

Fosdyke was so called from the Fossway, cast

up by the Romans, which, touching upon the borders of this parish, goes on to Lincoln, where it finishes its course. It was near this place that King John lost his baggage &c. as before mentioned.

About the 21st. of James the I. Sir T. Middlecot, of Boston, founded 10 alms-houses in this parish, for the benefit of 9 poor women and 1 poor man, called the master. The women were not to have been married, but this rule is now broken through.

If a sufficient number of eligible persons cannot be found Fosdyke, Algarkirk comes next, and afterwards the parish of Kirton.

#### ◆ THE CHURCH.

The old church which was similar to that at Algarkirk, was taken down, on account of its ruinous state, and a new one built, partly out of the old materials, about the year 1756. The new church is a neat little structure, with a low tower steeple, containing one bell. The old church had ~~six~~ bells, but four of them were sold to help to defray the expences of building the new one. The present church contains a neat altarpiece representing the wise men pre-

senting their gifts to the infant Jesus; here is also an octagonal font, very beautifully carved, with angels in the compartments, and a pyramidal cover of handsome fret work.

It is a chapel, not in charge, to the rectory of Algarkirk, Patron, B. Beridge Esq. and dedicated to All Saints.

Thomas Torry was buried on the 9 of March 1756, being the first corps that was buried since the rebuilding of the church. Geo. Golling and Eliz. Dickinson, where the first couple that were married.

#### MODERN STATE.

Charles Chaplin Esq. is Lord of the manor. The number of acres in this parish is 1760, the average rent of which is 40 shillings per acre. The soil is clay, and the fences are mostly ditches. It is liable to tithes. The principal proprietors of land are, the heirs of the Rev. B. Beridge, Lord Geo. Cavendish, John Milnes Esq. and Rob. Carter.

#### FOSDYKE BRIDGE

On the 14th. of May 1841, the Royal Assent was given to an Act for erecting a Bridge over

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the River Welland at Fosdyke Wash, and also for making a publick way over the bare sands at that place.

The whole work is from a design of J<sup>r</sup>. Rennie Esq. and it is patronised by the Rt. Hon. Sir Joseph Banks.

The money for carrying this very laudable plan into execution, is raised by a company of Gentlemen, who, by act of Parliament, act under the name of the company of Proprietors of the Fosdyke Bridge. The Bank on the east side of the river, upon which is a spacious Road, was begun on Jan. 4th. 1813, and completed, very much to the credit of Mr. F. Pinkerton the contractor, Jan. 3rd. 1814.

The bank is situated 20 chains east of the embanked part of the river Welland; it extends from the foot of the bridge 42 chains south across the sands, and terminates at the Moulton embankment, where it enters the great road leading into Cambridgeshire, Norfolk, Suffolk &c.

The average perpendicular height of the bank, is 12 feet, and the road on its top is 40 feet wide; its side towards the east, slopes 5 to 1, and, on the west 4 to 1, making an average base of 148 feet. The slopes are covered with

marsh flags, which, in the Summer Season, look most beautifully green, and when the tide is over the marsh, flowing on both sides the bank, it has a grand and pleasing appearance. The road on the bank is well covered with chingle, with a post and rail fence on each side, and the whole is in every respect calculated to ensure the safety and accomodation of Passengers.

The Bridge was begun Oct. 21st. 1815, and was to have been finished by May 1st, 1818; but, from several unforeseen obstacles, it is not yet quite completed.(May 11 1814.)

The Bridge is built of English Oak, of very large dimensions, but from the plan on which it is constructed, and the arrangement of the timber, its appearance is extremely light; which reflects the highest credit on the taste and judgment of the engineer.

The Bridge has eight openings, three of which are 30 feet wide, two 29, and three 27. Two of the 27 feet openings are placed on the side next Fosdyke, in order to place the middle opening in the most convenient situation for navigation.

The Bridge is supported by nine Piers, each consisting of six Oak Trees. The trees for the Piles are not sawn, but driven down perfectly

whole, and are driven from 20 to 22 feet into the bottom of the river, in the following manner, the three Piers which separate the 27 feet openings, are each 30 feet long, and 18 inches in diameter, those which separate the 29 from the 30 feet openings, are 42 feet long, and 19 inches diameter; the middle Piers are trees of the same dimensions, but here double the number of trees are placed in each Pier.

The Piers are secured by 4 pieces of timber, one foot square each, placed two on each side the Pier, directly opposite each other, and are very ingeniously let into the piles, and the piles into them, and secured by iron screw bolts, passing through each pile; by which means the six piles in each Pier are connected as it were into one. On the top of each Pier is a cell 15 inches square, into which the heads of the piles are framed.

The middle Piers have each two cells of the same size, which are most securely bolted together, to receive the weight of the draw leaves which act upon them. On the top of the cells are placed, at proper distances, 8 Oak caps 10 feet long each, which are firmly bolted to the cells. On the top of these caps the joists rest,



extending over the openings. The caps and Joists are properly secured together by bolts; the whole bridge is covered with three inch Oak planks, well spiked to every joist.

The length of the bridge is about 100 yards, and its width 22 feet, from which is taken a foot path; 4 feet wide, which is separated from the road by a kirk of oak.

The fencing on each side the Bridge is with king posts and braces crossing each other in the Centre of every pannel, which has a very neat and airy appearance.

The Road way over the middle opening, which is moveable for the admission of Vessel's masts, consists of two draw leaves, meeting each other in the centre of the opening; they form the segment of a circle whose radius is 39 feet, and will have a very grand effect. These leaves are each secured to a cast iron axis, which moves on plumber blocks, and are raised from an horizontal to a perpendicular position, by a rack wheel and pinion the radius of the rack wheel which is fastened to each leaf, is 8 feet, the pinion is 1 foot diameter, and works in a cast Iron frame, which stands on the Bridge, and is wound up with perfect ease by a common Winch.

The leaves have each 6 ribs, or principal timbers, which form the joists for the middle opening, and extend backwards from the axis, 12 feet, to the underside of which is fixed a piece of cast iron, of sufficient weight almost to counterbalance the draw leaves.—The planking and fencing precisely the same as that on the standing part of the bridge.

Mr. Smith favored us with the preceeding description, and account of Fosdyke Bridge.

This bridge will be a very great accommodation to the inhabitants of the surrounding parishes, especially to those on the east side of the Welland, who wish to attend Boston markets. It also opens a direct and safe communication, at all times, between the principal Towns in Lincolnshire and those in Cambridgeshire, Norfolk, &c. and will be found not only a general convenience, but a general benefit to all this part of the country. The road from Fosdyke to Boston, it is expected will pass through Sutterton, and a Coach is also expected to run from Boston, through Cambridge, to London.

*Account of the late high tide.*

On the 10. of November, 1810, being the day

before the full moon, a high tide was expected, in addition to which, a strong north east wind had blown the whole of the day; these combined circumstances produced on this coast a tide which rose higher than any that had ever been remembered by man, or than ever had been recorded in history.

The storm at Boston, from five to seven o'Clock in the evening, was violent, and much damage was done to the shipping in that port; the sea banks in many places were overflowed, and in others they were broken, boats and pieces of wreck were carried over them, the newly made banks in the Salt marshes were swept away, the greater part of the country was inundated, houses were washed down, stacks of hay and corn were destroyed, several human beings perished, and the number of sheep, beasts, and horses that were drowned was immense.

The scene which presented itself on the ensuing morning to the inhabitants of Boston, was terrific; towards the east nothing was to be seen but the tops of bushes, amid the wide sea of water which covered the fields as far as the eye could reach.

During the night the distress of some of the

inhabitants on the sea coast had been extremely great; the water rushing into their houses on a sudden, extinguished their lights and fires and forced some of them into their upper apartments, and some who had no chambers in their houses, lay, in their wet clothes all night on their cupboard shelves, or clung to the rafters in the roof, till aid could be procured;—one young woman at Fosdyke was drowned, while milking, a poor woman at Kirton, 85 years of age was drowned in her bed, and a young man at Fishtoft was drowned when attempting to save his father's sheep.

The Devastation was so great, that many people were distressed, and the total amount of the loss sustained by the different persons in the neighbourhood, was estimated, on a very moderate computation, at 30 000l.

To remedy as much as possible, the distresses occasioned by this dreadful calamity, a very liberal subscription was entered into by the land holders, and other opulent gentlemen, by which means much relief was afforded, and the total ruin of many respectable individuals also prevented.

The parishes which suffered most in this

neighbourhood were, Surfleet, Fosdyke, Algar-kirk, Sutterton, Kirton, Frampton, Wyberton, Boston, Skirbeck, Fishtoft, Frieston, Butterwick, and Bennington, and the amount of the relief given, to all these parishes, was upwards of 3457l.

The height of the tide was ascertained in Boston, by this among other circumstances; formerly the water had flowed into the church, and covered the floor as far as the screen, but on this occasion it covered the whole floor of the nave, up to the steps in the chancel. Also from a *mark* on the west end of the steeple, the tide was found to have risen higher by four inches and a half, than any former tide had ever been known to rise.

It is acknowledged that the superior height of this tide, was occasioned among other circumstances, natural to the production of tides, to the confined space which the water had to spread itself into, as it were, on account of the banks which have at different times been made to inclose the contiguous marsh land.

Had not many of these banks given way, it is probable that a great part of the town of Boston would have been drowned; for, although the banks did many of them break, and suffer the

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water to spread into the adjacent fields, yet in several parts of the town, the water was two feet deep.

(Any person who may be desirous of further information, is referred to a small Pamphlet published on the occasion, by the Rev. S. Partridge, Vicar of Boston.)

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## WESTON

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WESTON is a small village in the wapentake of Elloe, in the parts of Holland, about 4 miles N. E. from Spalding;—it is in the Duchy of Lancaster.

This place took its name from being the most westerly of all the towns east of the Welland; hence *west town*, or *Weston*,

Here, says Stukeley, is the stately chapel of Wykeham, the villa of the rich Priors of Spalding, built by Clement de Hatfield, prior, who died anno 1318.

William Littleport built the church, which was appropriated to the priory of Spalding.

After the abbey at Croyland had been burnt, in the time of Ingulphus, Juliana, a poor woman of this place, is said to have given a large quantity of thread, to make the monk's vestments withal.

*Domesday Account.*

In *Westune* (Weston) and *Multune* (Moulton) soke of ten carrucates of land and one oxgang to be taxed. Land to as many ploughs and oxen. Twenty-six sokemen and thirty-one villanes and twenty bordars have there twenty ploughs.

Soke. In *Westune* (Weston) and *Multune* (Moulton) fifteen oxgangs of land to be taxed. Land to fifteen ploughs. Six villanes have half a plough there.

*The Church,*

Is a neat gothic building, consisting of a nave, north and south ailes, a chancel and tower steeple. It is a vicarage, not in charge, of the clear yearly value of 50 pounds; Patron the king. It is dedicated to St. Mary.

## MODERN STATE.

The Right Honourable Lord Eardley is Lord of the manor. Sir John Trollope is also Lord of a small manor, but no Courts have been held on it for several years.

The parish contains 7000 acres of land, by estimation, the average rent of which is about 28 shillings per acre.

The soil is in some parts silt, in others silt mixed with clay, in others, clay alone.

It is suitable for Wheat and Oats, and is good feeding land.

The fences are, generally ditches. About 400 acres are tithe free, the remainder is liable to tithe in kind.

The principal proprietors of land are, Lord Eardley, and Sir John Trollope.

*Deeping Fen.*

Deeping Fen lies to the eastward of Deeping, and is in the wapentake of Elloe in the parts of Holland. It formerly was Common and belonged to several parishes, and was drained and inclosed by a company of gentlemen called Adventurers. About the year 1595, Thomas Lovell Esq. undertook the drainage of these lands, for



which he was to have had one-third part, if he effected the business in a certain specified time, which was to be five years. Many commotions succeeded, and Lovell lost large sums of money, by which he was nearly ruined; and the business was at length finally completed by a company of Gentlemen who afterwards undertook it, and who were called Adventurers. The *taxable* lands in 1800, amounted to 10033 a. 1r. 6p; and the whole of the fens contain 302 81a. 1r. 24p.

According to Mr Ward, who was Clerk to the trustees for inclosing this district—"It belonged to several parishes, and is partly holden by persons who are free from drainage expences, by the nature of their building; and all the land is free from every other charge of assessment, and from land taxes and ecclesiastical demands. But though there is no poor assessment, relief is granted by the adventurers to some poor persons who do properly belong to the district of taxable land, which expence is mixed with the account of monies expended in supporting the work. But as to the free lands, which are about one-third part of the whole, every separate farmer maintains his own poor, without any connection with others.

I suppose there are not a great number settled upon them, for being aware of the peculiar burden, I believe they make such contracts for hiring, as to avoid, as much as possible, having people on them. I have sent below a copy of the clause in the act of parliament, relative to the maintenance of our poor, which will shew the foundation of that business, and is all, I believe, in any part of the act respecting it, viz. 16. and 17. Charles II. p. 37. 'But all and every the inhabitants that may hereafter be upon any part of the said third part, or upon any part of the said 5000 acres, and are not able to maintain themselves, shall be maintained and kept by the said trustees, their heirs, and assigns, and the survivor of them, and never become chargeable in any kind, to all, or any of the respective parishes wherein such inhabitant, or inhabitants, shall reside or dwell; any statute or law to the contrary, whereof in any wise, notwithstanding.' The qualification is, being holder of 200 acres, or upwards.

There is no church in the district; the inhabitants go to the neighbouring towns to church, and many of them to different Dissenting Chapels.

## POPULATION RETURNS.

*For the parts of Holland, in the year 1811.*



### WAPENTAKE OF KIRTON.



Algarkirk .....	587
Bicker .....	541
Brothertoft .....	112
Donington .....	1528
Extra-parochial .....	118
Frampton .....	628
Fosdyke .....	301
Gosberton .....	1301
Kirton .....	1531
Skirbeck Quarter .....	237
Surfleet .....	679
Sutterton .....	860
Wigtoft .....	555
Wyberton .....	353



### WAPENTAKE OF SKIRBECK.



Bennington .....	385
Butterwick .....	240
Fishtoft .....	293
Frieston .....	801

Leake .....	922
Leverton .....	387
Skirbeck .....	477
Wrangle .....	843
Town of Boston .....	8113

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WAPENTAKE OF ELLOE.

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Cowbit .....	351
Croftland .....	1713
Fleet .....	639
Gedney .....	1113
Gedney Hill .....	265
Holbeach .....	2962
Luton, or Sutton St. Nicholas .....	614
Moulton .....	1273
Pinchbeck .....	1662
Spalding .....	4330
Sutton St. Edmund's .....	433
Sutton St. James's .....	307
Sutton St. Mary's .....	1801
Tydd St Mary's .....	629
Weston .....	406
Whaplode .....	962
Whaplode Drove .....	855
Deeping Fen .....	463

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## PART II.

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### OR THE DIVISION OF KESTEVEN.

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Kesteven, called by Ethelward *Ceostefne Silva*, situated in the southern part of Lincolushire, is bounded on the north east by the Witham, which separates it from Lindsey; on the east by the division of Holland; on the south by the Welland, which separates it from Northamptonshire: and on the west by parts of Nottingham, Rutland, and Leicestershire.

The Wapentakes, in this Division, are ten, *viz.* Aswardhurn; Aveland; Bettisloe; Boothby, high and low divisions; Flaxwell; Grantham; Langoe, first and second divisions; Lovedon;

Ness; and Winnibrigs and Threo. These wapentakes contain seven market towns, and 181 parishes.

Kesteven, being diversified with hills and valleys, with woods and rivers, and excellent springs of water; the soil also in many parts being rich; it may be pronounced to be a most delightful situation;—here bounteous nature spreads her abundant stores, and here the beauteous landskip charms the senses;—amid a vast variety of objects, the delighted eye swims in extacy, while the soul melts into gratitude on contemplating such scenes—gratitude to the Divine Being whose wisdom shines in his works, and whose parental care and goodness may be traced in the ornaments of his Creation.

The south eastern part of this division was formerly a forest, and the eastern a fen. Dugdale says (*Vide* *ps.* 194 *Hist. of Imbanking &c.*)

“Of what extent the forest, was in these parts of the province, and possessed by Leofrike, Earl of Mercia, I am not able to say: but it appears, that King Henry I. for the pleasure of hunting, doing much hurt to the commonwealth, by enlarging of forests (as his brother King William Rufus had done), did afforest these Fens between

Kesteven and Holand, viz. from the bridge of East Deping (now Market Deping) to the church of Swaiston, on the one side ; and from the bridge of Bicker, and Wragmere stake, on the other side which metes divided the north parts, and the river of Weland the south ; excepting the fen of Goggisland, in regard it was a sanotuary of holy church belonging to Croyland abbey : which fen the Monks of that house, having licence from the said King, did chose, for their own use, making the ditches about it bigger than ordinary, for the avoiding of discord.

And being thus made forest, it continued so, until King Henry the Third's time, who in the xivth. year of his reign granted unto all the inhabitants within the same, that it should thenceforth be deafforested by these subsequent bounds, viz. in length on the one side, from Swaytone to East Deping, as Kares dike extends itself, betwixt Swaytone and East Deping. And, in length, on the other side towards Holand from the bridge at Spalding. And, in breadth, on the one part, from that great bridge at Spalding, to East Deping. And, on the other side, from the land of Swaytune, unto the bridge at Bikere.

So that all the lands, marshes, and turbaries,

within those precincts, were thenceforth to be quit of waste and regard".

Many parts of Kesteven contain Noblemen and Gentlemen's seats, and the parts about Bourn, Elton, Rippingale, and Denton, abound with wood. Here are also a variety of springs of excellent water, some of which are medicinal, though but little used; it is much to be wondered that the opulent inhabitants of the division of Holland, do not go once in the summer to drink the water of some of the spas in Kesteven; and bathe in their cold baths, for this would certainly be as beneficial to the health of the hollanders, as the drinking of salt water and sea bathing is to the people of Kesteven, who, many of them, visit the sea shores in holland every summer, and say they find much relief by so doing. One reason may be that at these spas in Kesteven, there are no genteel accommodations for visitants; and another, that the waters having not yet been analysed by the faculty, they do not think it safe to recommend them; else one might be led to suppose that a journey from the flat parts of Holland, to the romantic hills of Kesteven, up which if the patients were enjoined to walk at 6 o'Clock every morning, to drink a pint of water



and occasionally to bathe, it could not sorely fail to be as useful to any human being as drinking quarts of sea water, and bathing in that element.

.....Pauci dignoscere possunt  
Vera bona, atque illis multum diversa.

*Juvenal.*

## STAMFORD.

Stamford is a very ancient market Town, in the wapentake of Ness, in the parts of Kesteven, situated on the great north road leading from London to Scotland, at the distance of 46 miles nearly south from Lincoln, 89 N. by W. from London, and 108 S. by E. from York. Being at the Southern extremity of Lincolnshire, it stands on the north bank of the river Welland, which separates it from what is called *Stamford Baron*; and this latter place is in the county of Northampton.

Stamford is not more than a furlong distant, east-

ward, from the old roman road, or Herman Street. This Town was, by the Saxons, called *Steinford*, i. e. Stone-ford; since which time it has sometimes been called *Stauford*, but more commonly, of late, *Stamford*.

Mr Foster observes, that the roman way which goes on from Caister, near Peterborough, to Lincoln, crosses the Welland at the south west corner of this town, where is a stony ford, at the bottom of Nun's lane, from whence he supposes the Town took its original name in the Saxon language, viz. *Steinford*.

According to tradition, Stamford was built 863 years before the birth of Christ, by Bladud a king of the Britons, who, himself being a philosopher, endeavoured to establish schools in this town, similar to those at Athens; and having invited hither several of the most learned men, any were to be met with, the learning of the heathens flourished at this place to the time of King *Lucius*, who was the first that embraced the christian faith here, by the preaching of *Fulgatus* and *Damianus*, sent into Britain by *Eleutherus*, bishop of Rome. After this, Stamford became equally eminent for christian learning, contained 8 religious houses, 18 parish churches,

and 3 chapels; the people of the neighbouring nations sent hither their sons to be educated, and the university continued to spread around the benign influences of learning and virtue, for several centuries; but at length the mists of heresy began to thicken, the heretical opinions of the Arians prevailed, and the university was dissolved by the decree of *Gregory* bishop of Rome, about the year of Christ 727.

Concerning this tradition, the poet Hardinge has the following lines —

“ Stamford he made, so callyd to thys day,  
In which he made a Universite,  
Hys noble Clerks, as Merlyon doth sey,  
Had Scholers fell of great habillite,  
Studieng over all affayre to unite,  
In all the seven liberal science,  
For to purchase wisdom and sapience.”

John Ross, the Warwick Antiquary, who lived towards the latter end of the century in which Hardinge wrote, informs us that King Bladud, who in his youth was a student at Athens, brought with him from thence, learned men, and placed them at Stamford, near the fens, where he founded a University, which continued till the time of St. Augustine, A. D. 597, at whose sug-

gestions Pope Gregory interdicted it, on account of the heresies there disseminated. But, in this instance, the credit of Ross is lessened by quoting the authority of Hardinge. (*Jo. Ross Antiquarij Warwic. Historia Regum Angl. edit. T. Hearn. Oxon. 1745, p. 23.*)

In addition to these authorities for the existence of a University at Stamford, we have the Tradgedie of Bladud, printed in the "First part of the Mirror for Magistrates" (1575. fo. 43.b.) and written by J. Higgins. In these verses the ghost of Bladud says;—

" Then was I chose king of this land,  
And had the crowne as had the rest :  
I bare the scepter in my hande,  
And sworde that all our foes opprest.

Eke for because the Greekes did use,  
Me well in Grece at Athens late ;  
I bad those foure I brought, to chuse  
A place that I might dedicate

To all the Muses and their artes;  
To learning's use for evermore ;  
Which when they sought in divers parts,  
At last they found a place therefore.

Amidst the realme it lies well nigh,  
 As they by art and skill pid prove :  
 An healthfull place not low nor high,  
 An holesome boyle for their behove.

With water streams and springs for wtiles :  
 And medowes sweet, and valeyes grene :  
 And woods, groaves, qnarries, all thing else  
 For studentes weale, or pleasure bene.

When they reported this to me,  
 They prayde my grace that I would builde,  
 Them there an Universitie,  
 The fruits of learning for to yelde.

I builte the Scholes like Attike's then,  
 And gave them landes to maintayne those  
 Which were accounted learned men,  
 And could the groundes of artes disclose.

The towne is called Stamford yet,  
 There stande the walles vntill this daye :  
 Foundations eke of scholes I set,  
 Bide yet (not maintained) in decaye.

Whereby the lande receavid store  
 Of learned clarkes long after that, &c.

Stowe relates that Bladud, the son of Budbadibrass, built Stamford, and made it a university, which was suppressed by the bishop of Rome in St. Austins' time.

According to these accounts the town and university of Stamford were built above a hundred years before the foundation of Rome, which is not at all probable; Cæsar, who was in Britain 800 years after the time in which the above events are said to have taken place, tells us, that the Britons, in his time, wore the skins of beasts, and died their bodies with woad; that the inland inhabitants seldom sowed any corn, but lived on flesh and milk, and that they called a wood, surrounded with a bank and ditch, a town!

Foster also observes that if Stamford was a place of such note, at such an early period, how are we to account for its not being mentioned by Nennius in his catalogue of british cities. Nor does any Roman author mention either town or city as being in this place;— the Itinerary is quite silent, and Ptolemy, in his geography of Britain, mentions only two cities belonging to the Coritani, viz. *Lindum*, and *Rata*: the first of which is Lincoln, the second, by all antiquarians, is thought to be Leicester; and what further corroborates this opinion, is, that no remains of Britons or Romans; no encampments, no pavements, no coins, have ever been found here, but what were either Saxon, or Norman.

• It is quite needless to enter into the dispute, concerning the early period at which a university is said to have been first founded at Stamford; at that time learning was at a low ebb, all over the world except in Greece, and the state of this island was then not at all suited to literary pursuits. The whole is but a tale, or as Leland says, "This is like a dreme".

Respecting the *christian* university, Camden says, in King Ed. III's reign, a university for liberal arts and sciences was begun here, which, the inhabitants looked upon as their greatest glory. The occasion of establishing it was this; there happened to break out some hot disputes at Oxford, between the Students of the north and south, which so disturbed the studies of both parties, that great numbers of them withdrew from thence, and settled in this town. The King being acquainted with these disorders, ordered the Students, by his proclamation, to return again to Oxford, which they accordingly did, and so an end was put to this university, which was so lately begun; and from thenceforward it was provided by oath, that no Oxford man for the future should profess at Stamford."

The author of *Magna Britannia* thinks that

there was an university here before the time of Edward III. because here as he observes, still the remains of two colleges called *Black hall*, and *Brazen-nose*, on the gate of which latter, there is a brazen-nose, and a ring through it, like that at Oxford; and it is evident that this college did not take pattern from Oxford, but Oxford from this; for Brazen-nose college in Oxford was not built before the reign of Henry VII. whereas, this is allowed to be as old as the time of Edward III. And as the Students from Oxford removed thither, and staid only a short time, they cannot be supposed to have been the builders of those places; nothing could be a greater inducement for them to go thither, than the Knowledge that it was once a university, and that they should find colleges ready to receive them, already built to their hands". (*Mag. Brit.*) Notwithstanding all these authorities, doubts will naturally arise, for it is a well known fact that some authors have been fond of recording wonderful things, and often upon slight grounds. Mr. Blore, in his account, of public Schools and Hospitals in Stamford, p. 7. justly observes that, "If we descend from the fabulous history of these renowned Princes, Bladud and Lucius,



towards times of which we have much more accurate information, we shall pass through many centuries without obtaining another glimpse of this university: for though I believe (say he) the Monasteries were in this, as well as in every other part of the Kingdom, the earliest seminaries of literature, yet, if the silence of the Conqueror's survey may be received as admissible negative evidence, there was not, even for some years after the middle of the eleventh century, a single monastic foundation in this town, or any establishment indicative of public provision for the culture of letters."

Foster very justly observes that there never was, strictly speaking, a university here, for this requires the supreme authority for its incorporation, which Stamford never had. Peck avoids mentioning this, and so fond was he of placing a university here, that his book has for its title, *Academia tertia Anglicana*, that is, the third English university.\*

\* Harrington, the author of *Drunken Barnaby*, in one of his journeys to the north, mentions Stamford and its university in a sarcastic manner. It seems that Stamford was then noted for beggars, for he says;

To Stamford came I, where I find  
Purses are sold of every kind,

"Peck, in his *Antiquarian Animals* of Stamford, (lib. ix.) seems inclined to consider Henry de Hanna, Warden of the White or Carmelite Friars in Stamford, and Provincial of his order in England, who died amongst the Carmelites at Stamford, on the 4. of the Calends of December, (21 Nov.) 1299, as the first promoter of the establishment of Schools there, after the Conquest: and is desirous to have it thought that the Gilbertine School was an imitation of Hanna's example. It must be confessed, however, that Peck's opinion seems not supported by evidence or argument, and that the earliest authentic notice which can be produced, of the existence of a School at Stamford, under a regular establishment, is in the licence granted by John D' Alderby Bishop of Lincoln, in the year 1303, for the performance of divine Service by a Chaplain, either secular or regular, in the Chapel of St. Mary, within the manor of Mr. Robert Luterel (Rector of Irnham) in the parish of St. Peter,

Purses there are, that cut a flash,  
 Purses in plenty but no cash,  
 As many vermin as crawl o'er me,  
 So many beggars are before ye.  
 Where are the Schollars, Proctors, Fellows, College &  
 They've into purses cramm'd their former knowledge.

Stamford; which manor Luterel had given to the Prior and Convent of Sempringham in Lincolnshire, of the Gilbertine order, expressly for *the reception of scholars to be instructed in divina learning and philosophy*, for the augmentation of that Convent.

And it seems highly probable that the Stamford schools had, about, or soon after the time of that foundation, attained considerable reputation; for near to the year 1300 lived John Repingale, a native of Lincolnshire, and Friar of the house of Carmelites in this town, who had taken a Doctor's degree in divinity at Cambridge, and was a man flourishing under the encomiums of piety and learning, and one who, by the study of virtue, sought not his own advantage only, but likewise, by his very learned Sermons, promoted the travel of many in the road to spiritual perfection; so that it has been affirmed of him, that he as a public professor, for several years read and explained the master of the sentences to a well frequented auditory, with good applause; and that in all school disputes, he was much esteemed for the subtlety of his wit, the soundness of his learning and the ripeness of his judgement. (Peck, lib. X. pa. 2.)

At this time also flourished W. Whetely, who has been surnamed (by Leland) Boëtianus, from the pains he took to explain the book of Boëthius. He was a man of excellent skill in humane literature and liberal arts, acquired by long study under the best tutors at Oxford, and improved, by society and conversation with learned men, after his preferment to the parsonage of Yatesbery. He erected Schools at Stamford, for which he wrote a book (now in MS. in Pembroke Library, Cambridge; and at Merton College Oxford) beginning "*Hominum natura multipliciter est*"—and ending, "Here endeth the book of Boëthius touching the discipline of Scholars, after this sort ordered and compiled by a certain Master who governed the Schools at Stamford, in the year of our Lord 1309," in which he intermixed much discourse relative to University customs, the taking of Degrees, founding of Lectures and other matters of Academical Government. (Peck, lib.x.p. 2.—"Pitts.")

Cotemporary with the two former, we find W. Lullendune, Warden of the White, or Carmelite Friars in Stamford; who, about the year 1315, was appointed provincial of that Order in England, Cyprus and the Holy Land, and who

wrote sermons, lectures in divinity, and commentaries on St. Matthew's Gospel; which Leland tells us, "remain abundant testimonies of his erudition." He died, as is conjectured, about the year 1319, and was buried amongst the brethern of his own Order at Stamford. (Peck, x. 14. "Pitts.") And about the same time lived Walter Heston, a native of Stamford, of the Carmelite Order, who had taken the degree of Doctor in Divinity at Cambridge; "a person so universally beloved for the uprightness of his manners, and so remarkably knowing both in sacred and profane discipline, that he sometimes taught Philosophy, and at other times Divinity, as a Master and Professor in several monasteries of his own Order, and at length for his prudence and other virtues, was chosen Prior of his own house at Stamford." And nearly at the same time lived John Burley, a Carmelite, "who was brought up a scholar from his very cradle, and who adorned the Monastery of Carmelites at Stamford with his profound learning," and was buried there amongst those of his own Order, in 1382 or 1333. (Peck, ix. 49. and xi. 6.) And John Rodington, a Franciscan amongst the Grey Friars at Stamford, who was instructed in Philo-

sophy and Divinity at Oxford, and afterwards improved himself by study at Paris; and who “shone amongst those of his own age with the titles of virtue and erudition,” and died (the Provincial of his Order,) at Bedford, in 1348. (Peck, x. 23.—“Leland, Bale and Pitts.”)

After such an assemblage of men of eminent learning, to raise the reputation of Stamford as a seat of literature, and with the certainty that Schools had for some years been established there, it is not at all wonderful, that, on the breaking out of a violent quarrel at Oxford, between the northern and southern Scholars, in 1333, a great number of Masters and Students retired to Stamford.

The members of the University of Oxford, alarmed for their credit by this secession, applied to the King through their Chancellor Robert Stratford (afterwards Chancellor of England) and the congregation of their Masters, to obtain the authority of Pope Benedict XII. for suppressing the concourse of Scholars to Stamford: (Peck, xi. 11.) but the King imitating the example of his valiant grandfather, preferred the exercise of his own sovereign authority to the assistance of the Pope, and on the 2d of August, in the 8th Ed;

ward III. 1334, directed his own writ to the Sheriff of Lincolnshire (J. de Trehampton) reciting that Masters and Scholars had in consequence of dissensions retired from Oxford to study at Stamford; and commanding him to proceed to Stamford, and there to proclaim *a prohibition for any person to study or perform scholastic exercises elsewhere than in the Universities*, on pain of forfeiting all which they were capable to forfeit. (Rym. Fæd. iv. 621.)

This prohibition, decidedly shows that Stamford was not then considered as an University: though it does not appear to have had the effect of completely suppressing the Schools: for the King, on the 28th of March following, (9th Edward III.—1334) issued another proclamation (from Nottingham) by which it appears, that several of the Masters and Scholars, holding the prohibition in contempt, had, afterwards, continued to study at Stamford and to perform scholastic exercises there, to the disgrace of the King and the manifest dispersion of the University of Oxford; so that for the suppression of their resistance to his authority, he had ordered the Sheriff of Lincolnshire to seize their books and goods in Stamford; which last proceeding had

not had the effect of dispersing them, for that the Master and Scholars still, by default of the Sheriff in the performance of his duty, continued their exercises at Stamford as before; and that special command was therefore given, to William Trussel, to declare the prohibition at Stamford, to the Masters and Scholars there, and to return their names immediately to the King for their punishment: and in this service the Sheriff was commanded to be assisting, with an assurance from the King to the seceders, that the latter should have redress before his Justices for any injury done to them at Oxford. (*Rym. Fæd.* iv. 618.)

Trussel, in pursuance of this authority, took an inquisition at Stamford, on the Feast of St. James, by which it appears that a great number of persons had contumaciously resisted the king's commands.

Selden intimates, that the prohibition of scholastic Exercises at Stamford was carried into effect by the King's presence on the occasion and if that were really the case, it should seem the Professors and Schollars at Stamford continued refractory for more than two years after the last prohibition; for we do not find the King



at Stamford until the 3d. of June 1337, from which day he kept his Court there (after his journey to York) until the first of July following: (Rym. Fœd. iv. 761—770.) and indeed according to Camden, the Schools of Stamford continued to flourish until the rage of Civil Wars between the houses of York and Lancaster, when the northern soldiers stormed and ravaged the town with fire and sword.

And after the contests between Stamford and Oxford, the former appears still to have been the residence of several learned men, though their connection with the Schools cannot be ascertained with certainty. Amongst these was John Replingale, who was living in 1350, and buried here: a man noticed as famous in his time: (Camden's Britannia,) and William Folville, a Franciscan, not uncelebrated for many titles of erudition, who died in 1384, and who was buried here amongst the Monks of his own Order.

Henry of Huntingdon says that the Picts and Scots having ravaged the country as far as Stamford, were there defeated by Hengist, when Vortigern the king of those parts gave him lands in Lincolnshire for the maintenance of himself and his men. As this battle was fought in the

year 449, it proves that Stamford is a very ancient place; however some historians suppose that the battle was fought on the ground where Stamford was *afterwards* built, but in support of this there seems to be no direct testimony.

Wulphere's charter to Peterborough Minster, is dated A. D. 640, and if this charter be genuine, it not only proves that a town was here at that time, but also that the country round about it was well inhabited, and the Saxon towns numerous. However Edgar's charter A. D. 972 is indisputably authentic, and at that time we find it was a *market* town. Leland says that it was a Borough town in Edgar's reign, which begun in A. D. 659, and Ingulphus informs us that there were Terms held at Stamford in his time.

About the year 1017, Canute king of Denmark invaded England with a powerful army, and among other devastations, laid waste the town of Stamford.

The walls round this town were very likely built by the Danes, who, when they had taken the town, erected them as a defence against the Saxon inhabitants, who were sure to retaliate as soon as they found an opportunity. What a

miserable picture does the history of all ages exhibit! War, repine, and plunder, have at all times constituted the most prominent scenes in the terrible drama which mankind have always acted on the stage of the world;—and although we in this age of knowledge, may designate our ancestors, a few centuries back, as barbarians, yet a little scrutinizing will show us, that as we act the same parts we are not much farther advanced in real civilization than they were.

“Leland says there were 7 principal towers in the walls of Stamford, to each of which the freeholders were allotted to watch and ward in the time of need; but, according to Speed’s map of the town, there were 4 other less forts, which makes the total number eleven. The remains of one of the 7 principal bulwarks, a little above St. Peter’s gate, towards the north, is very apparent; at the top of it were loop-holes to shoot arrows through. Two of the larger, towards the river, were called *Beesfort*, and *Holm* towers; three others towards the north, east, and west, were called *White-tower*, *Carp tower*, and *North-bulwark*. Beside these, the town was defended by 7 principal, and two postern gates;—the larger were St. Paul’s gate, St. Gorge’s, Bridge

gate, Gledgate, St. Petersgate, Scogate, and Newgate. One of the postern gates, 'joined almost to Bridge gate, towards the east; the other led towards Tenter meadow, which Speed calls the Water gate.'" (*Harrod's Hist. Stamford.*)

### *The Castle.*

Harrod thinks that the Castle was built by the Danes, soon after they had destroyed the town in A. D. 870. In this battle (see Algarskirk) the stout Knight Harding of Ryall was one, who with all the Stamfordians, because they were brave fellows, and fit for active service, resolved to keep the centre, as being the most convenient situation from whence they might assist either wing, as circumstances might require.

The Saxon Chronicle, and Henry of Huntingdon, speaking of its being afterwards taken by Edk Ironside, in 942, say it had been a long time in their possession; hence we conclude that the Danes had a garrison in it, which they withdrew, and demolished the Castle when they were before conquered by King Edward, Surnamed the Elder.

This monarch had a sister named Elfbetla, who was married to Etheldred a Mercian Earl; the

lady had a martial spirit, and Leland says that she, as well as the King, had always a large army in the field; that she frequently routed the Danes, erected new towns, and fortified them.

Huntingdon writes that she built a town or two every year, for 7 years together.

Leland, and Matthew of Westminster, agree in observing that in A. D. 914, she rebuilt the Castle of Stamford, on the *north* bank of the Welland; but she had scarcely left it, when the Danes retook it. Her husband however, (according to the above Saxon chronicle as well as Marianus, Scotus, and Florence of Westminster) built a Castle on the *south* side the river,\* attacked the Danes in the other Castle, forced them to surrender the town, and to acknowledge his sovereignty. This was A. D. 922.

The Castle on the north side the river, stood by the north road, where the Nun's farm now is. Edmund Ironside divided the Kingdom with On-

\* Edward the Elder built a very strong castle on the south side the bank, called now Stamford Baron, as Marianus has it; this was destroyed in the war between Steven and Henry II, and the very ruins of it are no were to be met with, to point out to us the place where it stood. The book at Peterborough relates Eleanor the wife of Edward I. after the conquest, erected a house of Nuns, on the scite of this Castle. (See *Howgrave* pa. 9.)

laf, a Danish Prince, and yielded to him the cities of Lincoln, Leicester, Nottingham, Derby, and Stamford, and from this time these five cities were called, by way of eminence, Fishburgenses; but, in 942, he retook them, and they remained in possession of the Saxons until the invasion of Swaine King of Denmark, to whom they readily submitted. Their inhabitants were probably Danes, or of Danish extraction, which would account for the lenity shown them, for the army in other places committed the most desperate ravages, burning the houses and carrying into captivity the inhabitants of about 18 towns and villages in this neighbourhood.

This invasion took place in 1013, and hence the reader may perceive when the Castle was in the hands of the Saxons, that is of the English, and when in those of the Danes. The latter held it till the death of their last King in 1041, when the English again possessed the Kingdom, but, in 1066, the Normans conquered the whole island, and at that time this place of course, with all others, fell into their hands.

When Henry Plantagenet, afterwards Henry II, waged war with Stephen, in A.D. 1152, he, says Huntingdon, the third time laid siege to

Stamford Castle; twice before he had been repulsed, but now, after taking the town, those who kept the Castle sent messengers to Stephen, who was besieging Ipswich Castle, desiring him to come to their assistance; but as Stephen would neither come himself, nor send supplies, the Castle soon surrendered to Henry, who marched directly to Nottingham, and soon took it because those who held the Castle there had set it on fire.

In the reign of Richard III. Stamford Castle was overthrown, and demolished, and the materials were employed to repair the White Friary. The hill, on which it stood, was cast up by hands, for, by digging, the earth plainly appeared to be artificial, not lying in natural layers.

#### *The Carmelite Friary,*

Or White Friary. stood a little way east from St. Paul's gate, where the road divides for Ryall and Uffington. From the extent of the walls which are yet standing, this structure must have been large, and, according to tradition, it was magnificent; it was famous also for its church, and steeple, the latter of which was similar to that of All-Saint's church. Speed says that it

was founded by Edward III. but there is indisputable evidence that it existed in the 13. Edward I. and the Friars had an ample confirmation of privileges in the 11. Edward II. They had also grants from Edward III. in the 7 and 10. years of his reign, and the arms of that monarch, still remain over the gateway of this house, and may be considered as a venerable monument of Antiquity. This Friary was surrendered on the 8. of October 1539 by its prior. In 1598. the scite was in the possession of the Lord Treasurer Burghley at his death, and it is now the property of the Marquis of Exeter, his lineal male heir.

*The Grey Friars,*

Or Friars minor, was situated on the outside of St. Paul's gate, on the right hand side of the road leading to the White Friary, or to Deeping. The outward wall of the inclosure is now standing, (and bears evident marks of Antiquity) whence we may perceive that the monastery and its adjuncts occupied a considerable portion of ground. All that remains of this building, is a plain back gate in the south front. William Earl Warren became possessed of the manor of Stamford in 1205, and gave, after the interdict of



the kingdom by the Pope, in the 9. of King John, one culture of 5 acres *without the east gate* of Stamford, from his demesne, to bury the bodies of the dead and for making there an hospital and house for the Friars and Paupers. This is no doubt the foundation of the Grey Friars in Stamford; for there is no other situation *without the east-gate*, which answers to the above description. Thomas de Holand, first Earl of Kent, who died the 28. of Dec. 1362, was buried in the chapel to this Hospital, as appears by the Will of his widow Joan the Fair Maid of Kent, where she desires to be buried in this chapel, near the grave of Thomas earl of Kent, her first husband. Fuller in his history of abbeyes gives the following account of the surrender of this Hospital.\*

For as much as the warden and freers of the house of St. Frances, in Stamford, comenly call-

\* The first Lord Burghley in his Diary, says, that on the 5. of Aug. 1566 Queen Elizabeth was entertained at his house at the Grey Friary, because his daughter Ann was suddenly seized with the small pox at Burghleigh. Hollingshed and Stowe relate that on Corpus Christi day, in 1402, the *Devil* entered Danbury church in Essex, at evening service, and greatly frightened the congregation, and that he came in the likeness of a Grey Friar, with a tempest and thunder, which broke the Steeple, and scattered half the chancel abroad.

Y

the Gray-Freers, in Stamford, in the county of Lincoln, doo profoundly consider, that the perfection of christian lyving dothe not consist in the doine ceremonies, verying of the gray coote, disgeasing our selfe after strainge fashions, decking and beekyng, in gurdyng our selfes with a garde full knotts, and other like papistical ceremonies, wherein we have been moost principally practyced and misselyd in times past: but the very tru waye to please God, and to live a tru christian man, wythe owte all ypocrasie, and fayned dissimulation, is sincerely declayryd unto us by our master Christe, his evangelists and apostles. Being minded hereafter to followe the same; conformyng our selfe unto the will and pleasure of our supreme hedde under God in erthe, the king's majesty; and not to follow henceforth the superstitious traditions of any forincynal potentate, or poore, withe mutual assent and consent; doo submytt owr selfes unto the mercy of owr said soveraygne lorde. And with mutual assent and consent, do surrender and yelde up unto the hand of the same, all owr said house of St. Francis in Stamforde, comenly cally'd the Grey Freers in Stamforde, with all lands, tenements, gardens, meadows, waters,

pondyards, feedings, ~~pastures~~, ~~comens~~, rents, re-  
versions, and all other ovr interest, ryghtes and  
tythes, aperteygning unto the same; mooste  
humbly besecchyng his mooste noble grace, to  
dispose of us and of the same, as best schall  
stone wythe his most graciouse pleasure. And  
farther, freely to grant unto evry one of us his  
licence undre wretyng and seal, to change ovr  
habites into secular fashion, and to receive such  
manner of livyngs as other secular priests comen-  
ly be preferry'd unto. And we all faythfully  
schall pray unto almighty God long to preserve  
his mooste noble grace, wythe encrease of moche  
felicitie and honor.

And in witness of all and singuler the premiss-  
es, we the saide warden and covent of the Grey  
Freers in Stamforde, to these presents have put  
our convent seal the yeght day of October, in the  
thyrtythe yere of the raigne of owre mooste so-  
verayne king Henry the yeight.

Factum Johannes Schemy, *Gardian*.

Per me Fratrem Johannem Robards.

Per me Johannem Chadworth.

Per me Richardum Pye.

Per me Johannem Clarcke.

Per me Johannem Quoyte.

Per me Johannem Jarman,

Per me Johannem Young.

Per me Johannem Lovel.

Per me Willielmum Tompson.

The scite was granted to Charles Brandon Duke of Suffolk, but the Lord Treasurer Burghley died possessed of it in 1598, and it is now the property of the Marquis of Exeter.

*St. Leonard's Monastery*

Of Benedictine or Black Monks dedicated to St. Leonard, stood about a quarter of a mile east of Stamford.

The building was begun about the year 658 at the same time with Peterborough minster, but finished before it. St. Wilfrid the elder, afterwards bishop of York, founded it, and it was the oldest conventual church in all South Mercia. Wilfrid being educated at Lincoln gave it to the Benedictine monks of that city; he died at Oundle in 709 aged 75\*.

In 1082 William the conqueror and William Kairliph bishop of Durham rebuilt it, and they

\* *Wilfrid* brought two musicians out of Kent called James, and Stephen, who introduced notes and singing into the churches of the north of England, which were used before only in Kent, to which county they were brought from Italy by *Adrian* the seventh abbot of St. Austin's monastery in Canterbury.

gave it to the priory and convent of Durham, to make a cell for the monks of that monastery; it was endowed, with lands called the manor of Cuthbert's fee, which also belonged to the cathedral church of Durham, for this was dedicated to St. Cuthbert,† and the monks were likewise Benedictines.

The side aisles are both destroyed, which when standing made the front as broad again, and must have been a beautiful piece of work. It was also above as long again as it now is, and even then beyond the nave stood the steeple in which hung the bells, and on each side that were the cross aisles; beyond the steeple, stood the choir, so that, what now remains is not the fifth part of the original building, and yet it is a good part of the nave of the church. It must have been gloomy from the narrowness of its windows, and these were made more obscure by the painted glass, but it was enlightened by a great number of lamps, which were continually burning.

Sir Henry de Stamford, who was elected

† Cuthbert was archbishop of Canterbury, and flourished about 750; he introduced burying in churches and churchyards which before was not permitted.

bishop of Durham, resided here during the latter part of his life, which ended in 1320, and he was buried in the choir before the high altar; he was born on St. Leonard's day, elected bishop on St. Leonard's day, and buried in St. Leonard's church; after his burial a light was seen shining on his grave like a sun beam.

Cells were used as a nursery for young monks where they were sent to study under their seniors; also as a punishment for those who were banished from their principal houses; also for the recess of eminent persons, who, being ill-treated by the king, pope, or their own monasteries, chose to leave them and live here in retirement, as the above Henry of Stamford did.

The abbot of Groyland had 8l. per annum out of this priory.

In Speed's map of Stamford there is mentioned a Nunnery on the road to St. Leonard's, but nothing of this is now known.

"A Priory of Benedictine monks (says Tanner) Cell to the Monastery of Durham, dedicated to St. Leonard. It was valued at 25l. 1s. 2d. per annum, by Dugdale, and at 36l. 17s. by Speed, and granted 5. Edward VI. to Sir W. Cecil. It is now a farm house, belonging to the

Earl of Exeter, and with the small manor adjoining, is still called *St. Cuthbert's Fee*."

(*Tanner's Not. Mon.*)

### *The Dominicans.*

The monastery of the Dominicans, or Black Friars, was situated on the left of the road leading from St. George's-gate, to Tenter meadows. There are no remains of it now, but part, if not the whole of the church, was standing about the year 1600; its steeple was a strong quadrangular tower. Peck imagines this house to have been founded by William de Fortibus, the second Earl of Albermarle, because, one, if not more of his posterity, was buried here; this is in conclusive evidence, for though Thomas, one of his Grandsons was buried here, William, another Grandson, was buried in the church of the Friars Prachers at Oxford; and that church was certainly not founded by de Fortibus. Whoever might be the founder, it is certain that this hospital existed here at a very early period; for beside the burial here of Thomas de Fortibus, about 1241, we find that William de Pavelli, by his will in 1243, gave in a legacy of 2 shillings to the Friars Preachers at Stamford;

also that Emma, the wife of Sir Geoffrey de St. Midard, Lord of Osgothby in Lincolnshire, was buried here in 1278. The site was granted to Rob. Bocher, and David Vincent, in the 38. Hen. VIII. It belonged after the dissolution to the family of Cave, and afterwards to the Cust family, but it is now the property of Lord Brownlow, as heir to the latter family.

*The Augustine or Austin Friary.*

The Austin Friary, was on the outside of St. Peter's gate, on the left side of the road leading to Leicester, on the west bank of the Welland. The building was a square, each side being 80 yards in length. Mr. Foster says that he saw pillars, and a window dug up; and Alderman Feast, in 1712, procured leave of the Earl of Exeter, to dig stones to build a barn, and many of these stones were curiously carved with figures of birds, beasts, fruits and flowers.

A seal was also dug up finely engraved, with this inscription—*Sigillum Domini Thome Dei Gratii Elphinesis Episcopi*. That is, "the seal of Thomas by the grace of God bishop of Elphin". It was in possession of John Maddison Esq. of Ketton.



Another seal was found as large as a half-penny, representing the bust of a bearded man with this inscription, "Sigillum Hugonis Capellani", round the border.

One Fleminge a very rich man of the towne of Stamford in Lincolnshire, was the first founder, as it is said, of the Augustine Freres in Stamford, in the west suburbe, hard by Saint Peter's gate. An Archidiacon of Richemond was the performer of it. (*Leland's Itin. VI. p. 27.*)

Richard Warner was the last prior, who with five Friars surrendered this monastery to Hen. VIII. Oct. 6. 1539. The scite was granted, 6. Edward VI. to Edward Lord Clinton, and the Lord Treasurer Burghley died possessed of it in 1598; it is now the property of the Marquis of Exeter,

Fuller says that the friars of this order were esteemed great and able disputants, and are still remembered for their excellency at Oxford, where the act performed by the candidates for their masters is called the keeping of Austins.

There were many more orders of Friars, but at the council of Lyons it was enacted that there should be but four orders of mendicant or beg-

ging Friars, and these were the four of which an account has been given.

Ross says that there were three sorts of poverty among them, one, which was the greatest, was to have nothing either of their own or in common, this was that of the Grey Friars; another was to have nothing of their own, but something in common, as books, clothes, and food, this was that of the Black Friars; the third was to have something of their own and something in common, but only necessities, such as food and clothes; this was that of the White and Austin Friars.

The difference between a monk and a friar is this, the first is one whose monastery is endowed with lands for its support, but a friar is one whose monastery has rarely any more land or estate than the bare situation of the house and gardens, and they lived by the daily alms of the people in the neighbourhood, and if any part of these alms was left at night, they gave it to the poor, who attended their gate for that purpose, and the friars themselves trusted to providence for the morrow.

*Brazen-Nose College,*

Which Peck contends, is an earlier foundation than Sempringham Hall, retains its name to the present day. Its existence in an early part of the reign of Edward III. is ascertained, and the style of what remains of it agrees, in point of antiquity, with that period. Whether this was attached to some of the monastic foundations in the town, or an independent establishment, we are left in total ignorance, though it seems not very improbable, that it was attached to the Franciscan Friars, from the scite of which it is separated by a lane only. It is situated on the south side, and at the east end of the street now, called St. Paul's Street, immediately within the walls of the town; but nothing remains of the original structure more than an arched gate-way of stone, of very deep mouldings, supported by clustered shafts; and having, until about A. D. 1811, on the wicker door, a brazen-head, from which was appendant an iron ring, by way of knocker. According to Wood, this College was furnished with a large refectory or hall; and Peck tells us he was informed by Alexander Morris, (living in 1725) one of the workmen

employed in taken down the refectory, that it was a strange wide place with a fire-hearth in the middle, such as were common in the halls of Colleges; and that there were many little rooms about the house, with stone stairs leading to them. It was taken down in 1668, by order of the Corporation, whose property it then was, and a new house was erected on part of the scite which was for some years used as a school of industry, and has since been occupied as a common work-house; but the estate was sold about five or six years ago to James Hurst, Esq. the present proprietor. When the Hall was taken down, it is said the gate-way was placed rather forwarder towards the street.

#### *St. Leger's Hospital.*

There was an Hospital of this name in Stamford, in the reign of King Stephen, who gave to it an acre and a half of land out of the demesne of his Manor of Stamford, (Testa de Nevill 346.) This Peck seems to confound with another Hospital, founded here by Earl Warren in the reign of King John. (Peck, lib. vii. p. 7.) In what part of the town the Hospital of St. Leger was situated, or what description of persons it

was devoted to receive, or what became of its possessions, is not known.

*Peterborough Hall; and Vaudey Hall.*

Peterborough Hall it is believed, was in the fee of the Abbot of Peterborough, and on the south side of the river Welland; but no information has been found to ascertain the scite of it. There is as little certainty as to the scite of Vaudey Hall; but if we are to believe with Peck, that all the houses in the town of Stamford which bear marks of antiquity, are remnants of Colleges and Halls for education, the town must have been full of them.

*Black Hall.*

Wood informs us that "near All Saints was lately standing a house of great antiquity, called Black Hall, belonging to which there was a kitchen formerly standing, which, in its structure, shewed evident marks of antiquity:" and Peck says, that it "stood north-west of All-Saint's Church, hard by the steeple, and was lately known by the name of the Talbot Inn. I think it highly probable, however, that Wood's description applied to that building facing the

south door of All-Saints' Church, which Peck on the authority of Mr. Richard Walburg and other circumstances, believed to be Peterborough Hall. The latter, by Peck's description, was a fair large room, in which Mr. Rollo, curate of St. John's (of whom Peck was a pupil) kept his school feast. It had a large window like a church-window, at the north end, in which there was much stained glass, particularly a cock in two or more places, such as Peck had seen often repeated in the church of St. Martin, which was the Church of the Abbots of Peterborough. It is so highly improbable, however, that the Abbots of Peterborough should have had their Hall for the reception of pupils within the fee of the Lord of the Castle of Stamford, instead of having it in their own proper fee on the south side of the river Welland (tenacious as those Abbots appear to have been, of a distinct jurisdiction from that which prevailed in the town north of the Welland) that I cannot persuade myself to the opinion of Mr. Peck and Mr. Walburg, but must refer the structure called Black-hall, which was taken down about twenty years before Peck published, to some other connection than dependency on the Abbey of Peterborough. (*Blorc.*)

*Carmelites' School.*

This is said to have been on the east side of the Rectory House of St. George's, and to have been pulled down by the Earl of Exeter, about the year 1720: but some little of the ancient structure still remains, and in particular, a very small oriel window, now blocked up. It was the residence of Mrs. Jane Cecil, the Lord Treasurer Burghley's mother, in the reign of Elizabeth, and the houses on its scite are now occupied by Mr. Cole, Mrs. Allin, and Mrs. Pilkington.

*(Blore's account of charities in Stamford.)*

*Sempringham Hall.*

It is well known that the manor of the Prior of Sempringham, in which the hall of the Gilbertines was situated, was to the westward of St. Mary Bennewerk, and that the hall was in the parish of St. Peter; I am inclined to think (says Mr. Blore) that the house now occupied by Mr. Reesby, baker, on the south side of the short street rising towards St. Peter's hill from the east, is part of the Gilbertine school. The arched doorway of stone, forming the entry to Mr. Reesby's house, is very ancient, and much like the entrance to a College or Hall.

This hall was founded in 1292 by Rob. Luttrell, rector of Irnham, for the education of those youths who were designed for Gilbertine monks at Sempringham, and therefore he gave them to the Prior and Convent of those monks, who promised to keep a number of Students here for the increase of their monastery — and for their maintenance, Robert Luttrell gave them lands in Stamford, Cottesmore, Ketton, and Casterton.

“Robert Lutterell, rector of Irnham, 20. Edward I, gave the Mannor House, which he had in the parrish of St. Peter here, to the Priory of Sempringham, whereupon here was settled a small Convent of Gilbertine Cannons, Students in Divinity or Philosophy. This is the most early certain account of the University at Stamford.”  
(*Tanner's Not. Mon.* )

*Browne's Almshouse, or Hospital.*

WILLIAM BROWN, a wealthy merchant of the staple of Calais, whose family had been long resident in the town of Stamford, having erected a Chapel and divers buildings for the reception of Chaplains and poor persons, in the parishes of All-Saints and St. Andrew in Stamford, obtained letters patent from King Richard III, on the



27th Jan. in the 2d. year of his reign (1485,) which were the same day confirmed in parliament, for establishing an Almshouse for a Warden, being a secular Chaplain and a Confrater, also a secular Chaplain to celebrate divine service and pray for the good estate of the King and Queen, during their lives, and for their souls afterwards, and for the good estate of William Brown and Margaret his wife, during their lives, and for their souls afterwards, according to the ordinance of the founder; which Almshouse was to be called "The Almshouse of William Brown in Stamford in the county of Lincoln;" and which Warden and Confrater and their successors were to be called "Wardens and Confraters of the Almshouse of William Brown of Stamford, in the county of Lincoln;" and were to be a body corporate, and to have a common seal; and power to purchase lands and to sue and be sued: and for the support of this Almshouse, and of the Warden and Confrater, and of divers poor of each sex, and for other works of charity, the founder was enabled to grant to the Warden and Confrater and their successors, estates of the annual value of fifty marks above reprises, not

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held of the King in capite, notwithstanding the statute against alienations in mortmain.

Before this work was completed, however, William Browne, the founder, died; having by his will, dated the 17th Feb. 1489-90, and proved in the Prærogative Court of the Archbishop of Canterbury, in the month of May, 1489, appointed Margaret his wife to be his executrix: who was also dead in January, 1489-90, when her will was proved in the Prærogative Court: and afterwards Thomas Stokke, Clerk, her brother, though he had renounced his executorship under her will, obtained letters patent from King Henry VII. on the 28th Nov. in the 9th year of his reign, (1493) which were, the same day, confirmed in parliament, for the establishment of this charitable foundation, with similar powers to those contained in the patent of King Richard III, but with directions that the prayers should be for the good estate of King Henry VII. and Elizabeth his Queen; Reginald Bray, Knt. and Catharine his wife; Thomas Stokke, Elizabeth Elmes and William Elmes, whilst living, and for their souls when dead; and especially for the souls of William Browne and Margaret his wife.

Pursuant to the authority contained in the last-mentioned patent, Thomas Stokke, Clark, on the 5th February, 9th Hen. VII. (1493-4) conveyed to John Cotton, the Warden, and William Haukyn, the Confrater of this Almshouse, and their successors for ever; the Manors of Swafeld and North Withome in Lincolnshire, and other tenements, of the value of thirty pounds per annum, at that period.

This establishment continued, under the patent before mentioned, until the time of King James I. who, on the 4th of May, in the 8th year of his reign, (1610) by other letters patent, re-founded the Almshouse, by the name of "The Hospital of William Browne of Staundford, in the county of Lincoln, of the foundation of James King of England;" and directed that it should consist of a Warden, Confrater, ten poor and needy men advanced in age, and two poor and needy women, advanced in age, who were thereby incorporated by the name of "The Warden, Confrater, and poor persons of the Hospital of William Browne in Staundford, in the county of Lincoln, of the foundation of James King of England:" and also directed, that, in case of a

vacancy by death, resignation, or removal, of any Warden, Confrater, poor man, or woman, of this Hospital, the place should be supplied within fourteen days by the dean of Stamford and Vicar of All-Saints in Stamford, for the time being; or, in case of default in their appointing, within that period, then within fourteen days afterwards, by the heir of the founder, William Browne, for the time being; or, in case of default in such heir appointing, within that period, then within fourteen days following, by the Alderman (now Mayor) of Stamford, for the time being; or, in case of default in such Alderman appointing, within that period, then within fourteen days following, by the Bishop of Lincoln, for the time being; or, in case of default in the Bishop's appointing, then, successively by the Dean of Stamford and Vicar of All-Saints, and by the others, in rotation as before.

Each of the twelve poor people in the Hospital now receives five shillings weekly;—each of the ten poor men has a suit of clothes and a gown of blue cloth yearly;—and each of the women has a gown and petticoat yearly. They are provided with fuel.

The Hospital, which was finished by Stokke, (1495) stands in that part of the town called the Beast-Market, and consists of a Chapel and an Audit-Room, and of apartments and lodgings for the Warden, Confrater, poor men and women. The building is of stone, and the front is a good specimen of the plainest style of architecture which prevailed at the end of the fifteenth century; and the entrance porch is particularly handsome. The Chapel which is within the parish of St. Andrew, annexed to the parish of St. Michael, was consecrated by the Bishop of Lincoln, on the 22nd of Dec. 1404, and an annual payment of 6s. 8d. is made from the Hospital to the Vicar of St. Michael's, in satisfaction of his parochial demands. There is a great deal of stained glass in the windows of the Chapel and Audit-Room: and in a window of the Cloisters, and amongst the arms are those of Browne—*Sable*, three wallets or hammers, *Argent*, impaled with *Elmes—Ermine*, on three bars *hampettè Sab.* fifteen elm leaves, *Or*; and of *Elmes* impaled with *Iwarby—Ermine*, a cross *Sable*. And in the Cloisters is an inscription on a brass plate, in latin, which has been thus translated—

" This structure now does many rooms contain :  
 May it for ever flourish and remain !  
 'Twas built the old and helpless to support,  
 For poor, not rich, to be a happy port.  
 He whose kind views look'd far beyond his day,  
 By this, we trust, wash'd all his sins away.  
 The glory of his country, and this town ;  
 Tho' dead, his deeds record the name of--- **BROWN.**  
 In this my house, if you my mem'ry prize,  
 Direct your daily offerings to the skies."

The seal of the Hospital represents a crowned man, sitting under a rich Gothic canopy, with a crucifixion before him; and beneath his feet the half length of a man, whose hands are closed in the attitude of prayer; and under the latter are the arms of Elmes; the whole inclosed by this legend;—

**Sigillo : comune : domus : stemmatiz-  
 rie : Staunford'.**

*(Vide Blome, ut supra.)*

### THE CHURCHES:

Stamford once contained fourteen Parish Churches; viz. St. Clements, St. Mary's Bennewerk, St. Peter's, St. Andrew's, Trinity, St. Paul's, St. Stephen's, St. Thomas's, St. Michael's, Cornstall, Great St. Michael's St. Mary's, St. George's, All-Saint's, and St. John Baptist's.

Beside the above there were St. Benet's Chapel, and St. Mary's in the Gannoc street, close to Sempringham Hall; with some others of which we have been unable to obtain any information.

Only five now remain; —some of the other nine were destroyed, or burnt, in A. D. 1461, by the northern soldiers, the number was again reduced at the time of the dissolution of monasteries, and by an act of Parliament made in 1547, they were further reduced to five. In the time of Papacy the monks used to officiate in the churches belonging to their parishes, and when the monasteries were dissolved, the parishes which had a livelihood belonging to them, were united for support of the future ministry, and those that had nothing were ruined.

*St. Clement*, stood near the gate called Sco-gate, which, while it was standing, was called Clement's gate. In the reign of King John, Lord Langvale gave this church to the Nuns of St. Michael, and they used to present the vicar.

*St. Mary's Bennewerk*, stood just within Peter's gate, on the north side, in a little close. The parish which it stood in, was also called Bennewerk, and the street the Gannoc; before

the church yard stood a College, or Hall, belonging to some of the students at Stamford. This church was destroyed by the northern soldiers, and the parish was then united to St. Peter's, the gate also changed its name from West-gate to Peter's gate. It was a rectory, and the Prior and Chapter of Durham presented, for it was appropriated to them.

*St. Peter's*, which was a rectory, stood on a green spot on the south side of Peter-hill, and, as appears from Domesday book, belonged to Hamilton; in this book it is said that the King had a carucate of land in St. Peter's parish, and half a carucate in All Saints. The parsonage house is just opposite the scite of St. Peter's church, and in it the vicar of All saints usually resides. From Domesday also it appears that St. Peter's parish was not in Lincolnshire; and as Rutland was not made a county until the time of Henry III, what is now Rutland being then part of Nottinghamshire, and part of Northamptonshire (Henry III made it out of these shires and gave it to his brother Richard, King of the Romans.) St. Peter's must have been in one of these counties, and most probably in Nottinghamshire. Great part of Rutland and



particular Hamilton church soke, to which St. Peter's church belonged, was part of Nottinghamshire, and if St. Peter's parish was not in Lincolnshire, Brederbost, Bennewerk, and Broadheng, could not be in Lincolnshire, because they all lie between St. Peter's parish and the County of Rutland.

Broadheng is so called from its breadth, and banks over hanging the river.

In A. D. 1267, about sixteen towns in Nottinghamshire were made part of the county of Rutland.

Also about A. D. 1289 Gerald de Normanville, of the county of Rutland, on his Daughter's marriage with Geoffrey de Mar, gave her, for her marriage portion, 100 shillings of rent in Emsingham, before a great number of witnesses, as they went to celebrate the nuptials in St. Peter's church, Stamford, by the following curious instrument, which was read aloud at the church door.

"Gerald de Normanville, to all his men and friends, as well present as future, greeting. Know all, as well present as future, that I Gerald de Normanville, have granted and given to Geoffrey de Mar, with Mary my Daughter, in

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franc marriage, an hundred shillings of rent in the town of Empingham; to wit, in one mill, 71s. in three men, 3s. in Alan, 3s. in William son of Ponne, 3s. in Ralf by the water, 3s. and one carrucate of land with a toft and it's proper appurtenances, 20s. Witness Jurdan de Humaus that I have given to the same Geoffry, Mary my Daughter, with my assent, at the door of the church of St. Peter of Stamford, the abbat of . . . . min, Gregory, and Geoffry the canon Richard de Pec, Geoffry de Normanville, Hugh de la Mare, and Geoffry his brother; William de Choenneres, John de Normanville, Matthew his brother, William de Moquin, Hugh de Baenburc, Geoffry de Normanville, and Simon his Brother; Hugh de la Mere, and Robert of Wyrcestre Reynald son of Martin, with Herebert his brother; Gilbert son of Wacc, Simon his Brother; Richard son of Turoid, Hugh and Henry his sons, Alan son of Noel.”\*

*St. Andrew's*; the situation of this church is not known.

*Trinity, and St. Stephen's*, stood without the

\*The feudal customs, says Dalrymple, reduced the sex to almost a state of insignificance; the woman offered by the lord to his vassal, sometimes waited whole days in the church, till her man had either conquered his repugnance or compounded for it.

walls, at the east end of the town, and were destroyed by the northern soldiers; the parishes first united to each other, and afterwards both, with St. Andrew's, were joined to great St. Michael's.

*St. Paul's*, stood at a little distance within St. Paul's gate; the remains of this church have, for many years, been converted into a Free School.

On the verge of an arch, in the north wall, behind the wainscot, is the following inscription—  
"Hic jacet Eustachius Malherbe Burgincis Stamford; in a deed of 1326, mention is made of a mill that had belonged to this Malherbe, which stood not far from St. Leonard's.

*St. Thomas'*; the situation of this church is not known, it was probably destroyed by the northern soldiers.

*St. Michael's Cornstal*, stood in the street leading to St. George's gate, which, at that time was called Cornstall gate; this church was demolished by the northern soldiers, and the parish was afterwards united to that of St. George. In 1230, a deed mentions, that one Clement, the rector of this church, sold the vicar of Makesey a house in Cornstall Parish, which

stood between one of Ernald de Castreton, and one of Gilbert de Clive.

There was also a chapel, and village, at Bredcroft, as appears in some old deeds, which mention the selling or giving away some houses and dove-cotes there. Bredcroft mill is mentioned in deeds of 1304 and 1441. Leland says, that, in the reign of Henry VIII, the Sessions for Rutland were kept at Bredcroft. Those malefactors who were condemned there were executed at Tinwell Gallows, for Bredcroft is in Rutland, and the Gallows stood between Tinwell and Empingham. The Hall, or Session's house, stood about a quarter of a mile on this side the wash, on the northern bank of the mill river; the foundations may still be traced. Leland also says that Bredcroft was so called from the Bakers selling bread in it; for all the town bread was baked in a public oven there. Ovens formerly were built on the outside of towns to prevent fire. Bredcroft, in an old deed, is mentioned as being in St. Peter's parish; this was perhaps after Bennewerk parish had united with that of St. Peter.

*Great St. Michael's Church.*

Is an ancient building in which the north and

south chancels, being run out somewhat farther than the north and south aisles, give it the shape of a cross. The deep descent into it on all sides, the plainness of the building, and its being nearly in the centre of the town, with so large a yard, are all indications of its being very old. It had formerly a small wooden tower, which contained four very small bells. When this wooden tower was taken down, a stone coffin was found under it. Croyland Abbey used to receive annually twenty shillings from this church, and the patronage probably belonged to that abbot. About 1705 the eastern end of the choir, or middle chancel, being ruinous, it was taken down, and rebuilt by the parishoners; in the wall many pieces of sculpture, and broken images, were found, which had been thrown in to fill up the interstices, and this circumstance shows that it had been repaired with the ruins of some other religious house, and when the parishes of St. Andrew and St. Stephen were united to this parish, the churches were probably used for this purpose, since their materials were ordered to be made use of, either to repair it, or to mend the bridges, or high-ways, as the commissioners might think fit.

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In this church have been many inscriptions, and much painted glass. On the north side the communion is an inscription to the memory of Dr. C. Wilson and his mother; he died in 1728, aged 49. Here are also many marble and other monuments, but not of sufficient consequence to claim particular attention; Cap. A. Armstrong, who, after many years spent in the service of his country, and who also published a map of Lincolnshire, was buried here, but not a stone tells where he lies. St. Michael's is a discharged rectory, with St. Andrew's vicarage, and St. Stephen's rectory united, valued in the King's books at 8l. 14s. 2d. Patrons, the King, as Duke of Lancaster, *one* turn, the Mayor, Alderman and capital Burgesses of Stamford *one* turn, and the Marquis of Exeter *two* turns. (*Eaton's Thesaurus.*)

### *St. Mary's Church.*

Is an ancient building, with a plain spire steeple, containing 6 bells; just where the spire begins to contract, the four Evangelists are placed, at the four corners, under canopies. The Prior and convent of Durham were the patrons of this.

church, and had the adtowan of it, it standing in St. Cuthbert's Bee.

At the upper end of the middle choir, there is an ancient monument of curious workmanship, but without either arms or inscription. A man lies in armour with his wife by him. It is Sir David Philips, who fought against Richard III at the battle of Bosworth field. This Sir David founded a chantry in this church. In the middle aisle, lies William Hickman, Alderman, who gilded this roof.

In the Cotton library is the following account of some expences towards this church in 1427:

	<i>L.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Expended in mending the bells, . . .	0	6	0
Paid for . . . . and iron, . . . . .	0	1	2
Wax bought to make two torches, . . .	0	15	4
A chain, . . . . .	0	0	7
Paid Thomas Harpmaker for making the schafte, . . . . .	0	8	4
And for making two torches, . . . . .	0	1	10
Glue, . . . . .	0	0	11
Red lead, . . . . .	0	0	2
In charges for bringing the schafte, . . .	0	0	8
A bell rope, . . . . .	0	0	8
Pro Nersis for the schafte, . . . . .	0	0	1

	<i>L.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
A little rope, .....	0	0	2
For..... pl <sup>o</sup> . [plumber perhaps]	0	3	4
Cloth for the schaffe, .....	0	0	11
Writing, .....	0	0	2
Given the Players, ....	0	0	0
For hanging the towel, .....	0	0	4
Thred for the canopy, .....	0	0	1
Mending the books, .....	0	0	10
For hanging the napary and towel	0	0	5
Leather for the bell ropes, .....	0	0	2
Victuals for Richard [the] carver } and brother Rowsby, .... }	0	0	5
Given to a certain carpenter a } carver, to inspect the rood loft }	0	0	0
[Solut, vignario] of John Whitside,	0	0	9
Paid Thomas [the] glazier for men- } ding the church windows, .... }	0	5	0
Paid John [the] roper for a bell rope,	0	0	11
Paid him for ahothor rope, .....	0	0	10
Thred bought for the vestments, ..	0	0	1
Paid Agnes Yonge and others, ....	0	0	10
Paid Thomas Basse for a Bawdryck,	0	0	6
Paid Richard [the] carver, .....	1	10	0
For a little bow for a bell, .....	0	0	4
Wax for the common light, .....	0	4	0
	<u>3</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>10</u>



N. B. The torches were large wax candles either to carry in procession, or to be set on the high altar, or before the crucifix, or some image.

The shaft, or spire, was an ornament to adorn some image or shrine of a saint.

The players were those that acted some religious story out of the Old or New Testament, on Corpus Christi day, which was also the grand day both for such plays and also for such processions.†

It appears from the will of Wm. Bruges Esq. garter king at arms, that the parishoners had a treasury of jewels and vestments to be used on this occasion.

The canopy was set over the high altar, over a little box of gold, silver ivory or chrystal, containing the consecrated host, which was carried in procession with the canopy over it, to the parishoners in their last sickness.

† These scripture stories were termed Mysteries, and were the first Theatrical performances in England, after these succeeded others called Moralities, in which Virtues and Vices were introduced as persons, then came Histories, which had much Of the old Mysteries in them, or else imitated them.

The first Comedy was written in 1551, and called, *Gammar Gurton's needle*.

The first regular Tragedy was *Gorboduc* written in 1563, by lord Buckhurst, in which dumb shows preceded every act. (*Harrod p. 126*)

The priest, brother Rowsby, attended the carver to direct him in making some image or ornament; he was afterwards parson of St. Clement's and died in 1466.

The rood loft was a gallery which every church had between the nave and chancel, so called from the rood, or image of the crucifixion in it, which had also the image of Mary on its right hand, and that of St. John on its left; during divine service, these had large wax candles burning before them, but when it was over, a curtain was let down before them.

Many of the common people had at this time no surnames, but were known by their trades.

St. Mary's is a discharged vicarage, valued in the King's books at 4l. 18s. 9d. Patron the Marquis of Exeter.

### *St. George's\* Church.*

Was rebuilt about 1450. by W. Bruges, the first garter King at arms, at his own expence; it

\* St. George, the tutelar saint of England, was a Cappadocian, and a Colonel in Dioclesian's army; he suffered death for the christian religion in 290.

When Robert son of William the Conqueror laid siege to Antioch, then in possession of the infidels, and which place was about to be relieved by them, St. George, with a red cross in his banner, and a prodigious army clothed in white attending him, were seen descending

consists of a nave, north and south aisles, and a tower steeple, in which are 4 bells. This church was formerly exceedingly rich, both in antiquities and jewels; of the former, were the portraits of St. George, and Edward III, with all the 25 first Knights, with their bearings and surcoats in the chancel window. In the east window were Edward III, the Black Prince, and Henry of Lancaster, all kneeling before St. George. In the windows on each side the choir were 25 Knights, not one of whom outlived the King, who at different times installed 29 more, and the number never exceeds 26, including the sovereign. In the left side of the middle window of the north aisle, is St. Catherine with her wheel in her

the distant hills, which caused the enemy to fly, and was the occasion of his gaining the city. This was about seven hundred years after his martyrdom, and this assistance to Robert, dubbed him the tutelar saint of England. His slaying the Dragon was derived from *Bellerophon* and the *Chimera*, which was anciently an emblematical device of the sun and its influence,—when the worship of the sun ceased, and that of Angels was introduced, St. Michael and the Dragon imitated his contest with Satan—when the worship of Angels ceased and that of Saints succeeded, then it took the name of St. George, our Patron saint. The order of the garter was first called the order of St. George. Rastel, in his chronicle, informs us that when Richard I was at the siege of Acre, only 36 Knights stood before him, and these he caused to wear blue leathern thongs about their legs; and this was the origin of the order of the Garter.

hand, and under her a man and woman kneeling, with a label over them, inscribed—

*Sancta Katherina† ora pro nobis.*

In the right hand light is St. Margaret, and under her two persons, with a label over them inscribed.—

*Sancta Margareta‡ ora pro nobis.*

In several other windows, are many figures and inscriptions, which are supposed to be as old as the church. The jewels were also chiefly the gift of W. Bruges, consisting of curious silver vessels, rich images, and fine vestments, which he gave while living, but the donations mentioned in his will dated 26. Feb. 1449, were both numerous and magnificent.

In this church is David Cecil Esq. of Stamford, who was high Sheriff for Northamptonshire, in 1542 and 1543; he was also Grandfather to the first Lord Burghley.

Some of the paintings mentioned by Peck are still to be seen in the windows, particularly that of our Saviour blessing the elements, by Langton.

† St. Katherine was an Egyptian, and suffered death by a wheel filled with iron spikes, being rolled over her body.

‡ St. Margaret lived at Antioch, and was beheaded in A. D. 278.

St George's Rectory, with the Rectory of St. Paul's united; is valued in the King's books at 5l. 3s. 11d.  $\frac{1}{2}$  Patron, the Marquis of Exeter.

### *All-Saint's\* Church*

Is a beautiful large fabric, consisting of three ailes and two chancels, one at the end of the south aile, the other at the end of the nave.

The steeple is embattled at the tower, and the spire is crocketed all the way up. Butcher says it was built by the same William Brown who founded the Bead house by the market Cross, but tradition says it was built by John Brown, eldest son of John and Margaret Brown, who were buried at the upper end of the north aile.

A gilded brass Plate was fixed near the spot with a latin incscription, which may be thus translated. " Pray for the souls of John Brown Merchant of the staple of Calais, and Margaret his wife; John died 26. July 1442, and Margaret 22.

\* The Emperor Phocas having taken the Pantheon from the heathen Romans, dedicated it to the honor of *All Martyrs*, these in process of time were called *All-Saint's*, and a day set apart for them by the church, which is the first of November.

Stukeley and Bishop Cumberland, were both vicars of All-Saints church.

Nov. 1460, on whose souls may God have mercy.

Who builds a church to God, and not to fame,  
Will never mark the marble with his name.

William Brown, who built the Bead house, and his wife lie here— their figures in large brass plates, on marble, in St. Mary's chapel, where the alter formerly stood, represents them with folded hands, as in the attitude of praying.

His head is bare, and over it is engraved on a scroll "X. me spede" (Christ me speed) Over hers, "Dere lady help at nede"

Underneath are two latin incriptions, not worth the trouble of reading.

In the south chancel is a marble monument, in memory of Thomas Truesdale, who lived in the same house that Mr. W. Brown had formerly lived in, and who also founded a Hospital in the same town; his wife Elizabeth was daughter of Joha Tooley Gent. of Boston.

In the same chancel, on a blue marble slab, with the figure of a woman in brass, is an inscription, in latin, to the memory of Margaret Elmes, who died 1. August 1471.

The marble font is deemed a great curiosity.

About the year 1170, Aschard of Stamford, who was patron of this church, gave it to the Nuns of St. Michael.

All-Saint's vicarage, with the rectory of St. Peter, is valued in the king's books at 12l. 7, 8½. Patron, the king one turn, and Mr. Rogers two turns. (*Ecton's Thesaurus*.)

*St. John's Church,*

Is a neat building consisting of a nave, north and south aisles, three chancels, and a tower steeple, in which are 4 bells,

This church was rebuilt in A. D. 1450. In the windows is a great deal of painted glass, and for a description of the figures, see Harrod's History of Stamford.

In the middle chancel is a blue marble stone, with a latin inscription, to the memory of Henry Sargeant once rector of this church, who died 24 June 1497.

In the south chancel on a brass plate, is an inscription to the memory of Nicholas Byldysden, and Kataryen his wiffe, she died A. D. 1499.

The Rectory of St. John's with that of St. Clement's is valued in the King's books at 8l. 8s. 6½d. Patron, Marquis of Exeter.

Staveley says that the Saxons generally built their churches with a descent into them, but the

Normans with an ascent ; hence, when we meet with one of the former, we may judge it to be very antique. The oldest churches are small and low, with no steeple, having only a small arch at the west end, to hang the bells in, the ropes of which go through holes in the roof into the middle aisle.†

The form of churches at first, as well as now, says Wheatly, was oblong, to resemble a ship, we being tossed up and down in this world as a ship by the sea ; they were also always divided into two parts, as at present, viz. the nave and the chancel, the latter standing at the eastern end, and divided from the nave by neat rails called *Cancelli*, from whence it had it's name ; the priest only entered this, and used to perform the whole church service in it, for reading desks were not established till the beginning of the reign of James I, (about 1602.) the chancel being then judged too far off for the whole congregation to hear the minister, who had begun to speak English instead of Latin

By the acts of the 34th and 35th of Henry VIII, the New Testament in English was forbidden to be read by women, apprentices, journeymen, and serving men.

The canonical hours of the Catholics are 7 ; that at Six o'clock in the morning is called the *Prime*, that at Nine the *Terce*, that at Twelve the *Sext*, that at Three in the afternoon the *None*, that at Six the *Vespers*, Nine the *Complines*, Twelve the *Matins* and *Lauds*. Though they generally add the Ninth to the Sixth hour, having both offices then.

The *Scripture Saint's* days are called Doubles ; then at their *Matins* they have three Nocturns, (i. e. nine psalms and nine lessons) and two Antiphones.

The Pope's saint days are termed Semi-doubles, and have three Nocturns also at *Mattins* and one Antiphone.

On *Simples* they have one Nocturn of twelve psalms and three lessons.



Country Feasts, or Wakes, are usually kept on the Sunday after the Saint day, whose name the church bears; formerly they were kept on the day itself. They were called Wakes because the people used to keep awake, saying prayers, and singing hymns, all the night preceding the Feast. They were established by Pope Gregory the great, A. D. 600, in imitation of the ancient Agapœ, or love Feasts, and were kept in sheds made of the boughs of trees, placed round the church, and lasted eight days.

Spelman derives the word Wake from the Saxon *Wak*, which signifies drunkenness, and a modern observer would probably think this to be the true derivation—for religion has not the least to do with them, whereas drunkenness has a great deal.

### *Doomsday Account.*

In the time of King Edward the royal borough of Stamford paid tax for twelve hundreds and a half, for the army and navy, and for Danegeld.

On Ferias or common days the same service is used as on Simples, excepting the commemoration.

A Nocturn consists of three psalms and three lessons, excepting on Simples and Ferias, when it contains twelve psalms and three lessons.

B B 3

There were there, and are, six wards, five of them in Lincolnshire, and the sixth in Northamptonshire, which is on the other side the bridge; and it still pays all customary dues with the others, except gable and toll, which the Abbot of Peterborough had and has. In these five wards, in the time of King Edward, there were one hundred and forty-one mansions, and half a mill, which paid all customary dues; and there are as many at present, except five which are waste on account of the work of the castle.

In these wards are six mansions which in the time of King Edward paid all customary dues, but at present they pay nothing. Brand has four and Ulchetel the son of Merewine two.

In these wards are seventy-seven mansions belonging to sokemen who have their own lands in demesne, and who may chuse a patron where they will; over whom the King has nothing else except the pecuniary punishment of their faults, and heriot and toll, and one mill of thirty shillings, which he took from Eustacius de Huntingdon. He was one of the sokemen.

In Stamford, in the time of King Edward, there were twelve lagemen, who had sac and soc in their own houses, and over their vassals; ex-

cept geld and heriot, and forfeiture of their bodies of forty ores of silver, and except forfeiture for theft. They have the same now, but there are only nine. One of them has seventeen mansions under him, and half a mill of fifteen shillings. Another of fourteen mansions, one of which is waste.

A third, two mansions. A fourth, two mansions and a half. A fifth, five mansions. A sixth, four mansions. A seventh, three mansions. An eighth, one. The ninth, three; but Hugh Musard took two to himself.

In these wards there are still twenty two mansions, and two churches, with twelve acres of land of the value of fourteen shillings, which Ernuin the priest had in the time of King Edward. And Ezi had one mansion. Eudo Dapifer has there twenty-three mansions. The King, as superior, had all customary dues from them, but has not now.

In the same town Azor had, in the time of King Edward, seven mansions, and half a mill. Gunfrid de Cioches now has them. To these belong seventy acres without the town.

Edward Cilt had fourteen mansions and seven.

ty acres without the town. Countess Judith now has them.

Queen Editha had seventy mansions, which lie in Rutland, with all customary prestations, beside what the bakers paid. To these belong two carucates of land and a half, and one plough is employed, and forty-five acres of meadow without the town. King William now has it, and it is worth six pounds a year: in the time of King Edward four pounds.

The Abbot of Peterborough had and has in Stamford ten mansions belonging to Lincolnshire and one mill of forty shillings, and five shillings from houses and from eight acres.

Lewin had nine mansions Alured now has them. Lewin had likewise one mansion subject to all customary payments, which Wide de Rembudcurt now has untaxed.

Fastolf had one free church under the King, with eight acres.

Albert had one church of St. Peter, with two houses of the abbots, and half a carucate of land which lies in *Hemeldone* (Hambleton) in Rutland, Value ten shillings.

The King has six hundred acres of arable land, without the town, in Lincolnshire.

The lagemen and burgesses have two hundred and seventy-two aeres, without customary payment.

In the time of King Edward, Stamford paid fifteen pounds; at present it is let for fifty pounds. For all dues to the King, it now pays twenty eight pounds.

#### OWNERS OF THE TOWN.

Dugdale says that in 1155 Richard lord Humet, constable of Normandy, obtained of Henry II. the lordship of Stamford, the borough castle, and all appurtenances, excepting what belonged to the abbot of Peterborough and Wm. Lanvalei, and that he had the gift also of Ketton, and Duddington lordships, but Wakerly then belonged to Lanvalei whose son was a great benefactor to the nuns of St. Michael in Stamford.

Richard Humet was sheriff of Rutland from 1164 to 1180, his son Wm. Humet, lord of Stamford, about 1203, gave the said nuns some of his land in Bredcroft, by a deed in the possession of the earl of Exeter, his seal represents him armed cap-a-pee on horseback in full career, a drawn sword in the right hand, and a shield on his left arm.

King John made him justice of England, but on some pernicious advice which he gave him in Normandy, he fled, and when he returned to England, his majesty seized his lands with the town and castle, and about 1206, gave them to Wm. earl Warren, whose ancestors were earls of Warrena a town in Normandy, who for no loss of their lands could be brought to adhere to the kings of France.

This earl was the fifth of the name of William, and beside the manor of Stamford, he gave him the manor of Grantham, and the castle and honour of Eye in Suffolk, to make him amends for the loss of his lands when Normandy was conquered by the French, but he was not to tax the inhabitants of Stamford without the king's precept.

In 1215 he got this monarch to sign Magna Charta at Runnimeade, yet in his wars with the French king's son, he deserted him, whereupon John ordered him to deliver up his castle at Pevensey. In 1220 he was sheriff of Surry, in 1232 he paid Henry III. three hundred marks for leave to marry his daughter to Hugh de Albini earl of Arundel, a minor.

He had then sixty two knights fees in the rape

of Lewes, and thirty and a half in the rape of Pevensey.

In A. D. 1238, in consideration of a goshawk given to Simon de Pierpont, he procured leave for himself and heirs to hunt the buck, doe, hart hind, fox, goat, cat, or any other beast in Pierpont's lands in Sussex; he gave the nuns of St. Michael forty shillings per ann. out of his mill at Wakefield, and died May 26, 1240.

### *The Bull running.*

Tradition says that this W. Warren, as he was standing on his Castle walls in Stamford, and looking on the meadow, saw two bulls fighting for a cow, a butcher to whom one of the bulls belonged, happening to come into the meadow just at that instant with a large mastiff, set the dog on his own bull, who drove him into the town, which he no sooner entered, than all the dogs, both great and small, followed him; the bull, now rendered furious by the noise of the people, and the fierceness of the dogs, ran over every one that chanced to be in his way; this brought other butchers, and more people together, who made such a clamour, that it reached the earl in his castle, who mounted his steed

and rode to see the occasion of it, when he was so much delighted with the tumult the bull made that he gave the meadow in which he saw him fighting as a common to the town butchers, to feed their cattle after the first grass is eaten, on condition that annually, on that very day, they should find a mad bull to continue the sport; which day was just six weeks before Christmas day, and the meadow is still called castle meadow.

Mr. Butcher says that the night before the great and important day, the butchers at their charge having procured the wildest bull they can get, put him into a stable or barn, belonging to the chief magistrate, and, the next morning, proclamation is made by the bell-man throughout the town, that no person, on pain of imprisonment should offer any violence to strangers; but as the town is a great thoroughfare, and it being then term time, a guard is appointed to let passengers pass through it without hurt or molestation, that no one is to have any iron on his club or staff when he pursues the bull; when the proclamation is over, and the shops and gates are shut, the bull is turned out of one of the



chief magistrate's house, and then men, women, and children of all sorts and sizes, with all the dogs in the town, run promiscuously after him, spattering dirt with their clubs on each others faces, so that one would think them to be so many furies started out of hell."

After the death of the above William earl Warren, Henry III. "kept the town &c. of Stamford from John his successor, fourteen years, giving them to his own son Edward I. who gave them to John, who in 1247 married Alice, half sister to Henry III. and was one of the chief captains in his army at the battle of Lewes, when the king and his son Edward were taken prisoners by the barons; the barons got a grant of all his lands excepting the castles of Rigate and Lewes, but after his Majesty had got the victory at Evesham he regained them, and the abbot of Peterborough was forced to give him 100l. to get out of his hand his manors of Castor, Tinwell, and Thurlby.

\* Henry III being poor, mortgaged the town of Stamford to William de Valence, a Poictoven, and when his son Edward married Elcanor daughter to the King of Castile, he settled on them Ireland, Gascony, Wales, Bristol, Stamford, and Grantham, hence it is that *Potter* and *Baker* say that our King's eldest son is Prince of Wales. He also gave 120 acres of land to William de Havering to find *straw* for his bed-chamber.

There is a deed of his for protecting the nuns of St. Michael's, in possession of the Earl of Exeter, with his seal, on one side are his arms, Cheque, Or & Azure; on the other himself on horseback, the horse instead of mail being covered all over with Cheque, his shield, contrary to custom, on his right arm, with his arms upon it, his body without armour in a long robe reaching to his feet, and fastened by a girdle to his waist.

In 1270, having a trial in Westminster hall with Alan lord Zouch, after reproachful words they came to blows, when he and his followers, being privately armed, they assaulted lord Zouch in open court, wounded him, and killed his father; after this he fled to his castle at Rigate in Surrey, and refusing to submit to be brought to trial, Prince Edward took some forces with him, and went to his castle, when, being persuaded by the earl of Gloucester, and lord Henry son of the king of the Romans, he went out to meet the Prince, and implored mercy, when, says Tyrrel, he was fined 5000*l.* to the king, and 2000*l.* to lord Zouch, and he, and fifty of his followers who were found guilty, were sentenced to walk from the Temple to Westminster hall, and to

make oath that they had not acted so from malice, but from sudden passion.

Lord Zouch soon after died of his wounds.

At the coronation of Edward I. earl Warren, with several more earls, and the king of Scotland, let loose five hundred horses, for those, to keep who could catch them; when Edward returned from Gascoigny, he entertained him so nobly at his castle at Rigate, that he forgave him a thousand marks out of the above fine.

In 1207, he gave the burgesses of Stamford leave to choose their chief magistrate, but with this condition, that he should be sworn either before him or his steward, as appears from a manuscript abstract of several charters of Stamford, dated June the 11th, 1677. The place in which he was sworn was that in which the court leet is now kept.

In 1277, Edward, by the statute of *Quo Warranto*, commanded those who held lands and tenements of him, to show by what right they held them, that they might return to him by escheat, and then be redeemed;—this was an arbitrary measure which did not succeed, for, says Holingshed, “When this earl, who was greatly beloved by the people, was called, perceiving that no one

spoke against those proceedings, he, on being asked by what right he held his lands, suddenly drew an old rusty sword, and told the justices that he held them by that instrument, and intended to defend them by the same, for, says he, William the Conqueror did not conquer England alone, but our ancestors helped him to conquer their lands with the sword, and with the same will I defend them against all who would take them from me, and thus this measure was put a stop to by the courage of one stout man,"

On December 15th 1286, says Stowe, he lost his son William in a tournament at Croydon, who was by the challenger intercepted and cruelly slain, leaving his lady Joan big with child, who was delivered of John, his son and heir, on June the 20th following.

In 1296 he and the earl of Warwick beat the Scots, pursued them eight miles, slew ten thousand, and retook Dunbar castle.

In 1296 he was made governor of Scotland and on September 11th, fought them near Sterling, but was defeated with the loss of six thousand men, for lord Cressingham imprudently passing over the bridge, when the Scots found as many had come over as they could conquer they

closed it up, so that they should neither return nor any more come to their assistance.

Sir Marmaduke Thweng, who had first passed it, having driven a wing of the enemy and chased them a long way, perceiving the distress of the English, returned with a few, in order to repass it, and actually cut his way through, and saved his company, but one of his nephews was wounded, having his horse killed under him.

Lord Cressingham being slain, the Scots bore him such malice that they flayed him, earl Warren leaving Sir Marmaduke in Sterling castle, with promise of assistance if he wanted it, rode so fast to Berwick, that when his steed was put into the stable, he never tasted meat more.

The earl died September 27th 1303, after he had been earl of Surry fifty-four years, and was buried in Lewes abbey; his soul was prayed for all over the kingdom by the king's orders: one of his daughters was married to Baliol king of Scotland.

John his grandson succeeded him as earl of Surry and lord of Stamford, and before he was of age, Edward I. † offered him his niece Joan to wife, and he married her.

† In 1774, 467 years after the death of Edward I, his coffin was opened — he had on, a gold and silver tissue.

In 1315 the bishop of Chichester excommunicated him for adultery, whereupon he went to him with some armed men, four of whom threatened the bishop, but the bishop's men fell upon them and took both them and the earl and put them in prison.

He was divorced this year on pretence of a former contract with Maud de Nereford, a Norfolk lady, though it was on mutual dislike; he had no children by his wife, but allowed her 740 marks per annum, and made the king his heir.

The year after he obtained a regrant of some of his possessions in favour of John de Warren, son of this Maud his concubine, and his heirs male, and in default of such heirs to the right heirs of himself; with the remainder to the king and his heirs.

From the above John, the son of Maud, are

robe, under one of velvet, both fresh. The jewels about him were very bright, in one hand he had a sceptre and dove, in the other a sceptre and cross, which was five feet long — he had a crown on his head, and his hands and face were entire; he measured in length six feet two inches. Here was pomp nearly in dust! — When Edward ravaged Scotland, he brought from Scone the stone on which the Scottish Kings had, previous to that time, been crowned. It was fixed on a chair in Westminster, and our Kings sit on it at their coronation — the stone is 22 inches long, 13 broad, and 11 thick, of a blue color, with red veins.

descended the Warrens of Poynton of Cheshire.

In 1317 Alice Dacy, wife of the earl of Lancaster, being at Canford, in Kent, was forcibly carried off by a knight of earl Warren's family to his castle at Rigate, but as they were carrying her, between Haulton and Farnham they perceived some banners at a distance, which, though they belonged to some people going in procession round the fields, yet thinking they belonged to the earl of Lancaster, they fled and left her alone, but returned on perceiving their mistake; and brought with them a little lame and deformed man, called Richard de St. Martin, who affirmed himself to be her husband; averring that he had been contracted to her and had carnal knowledge of her, which she also openly confessed, so that she who was a rich heiress, and had hitherto born an unblemished character, was now looked upon as a lewd infamous woman, and her husband dishonoured, which occasioned a divorce.

In revenge, the earl of Lancaster demolished earl Warren's castle of Sandal and Wakefield, and wasted all his manors on the other side of the Trent.

In 1330 the farmers of his tolls at Stamford

demanded tolls for waggons, carts and horses, passing through Bernack, Wothorp and Wittering, which belonged to the abbot of Peterborough but they were fined for so doing.

In 1345, he assisted Baliol, king of Scotland at a great expence, so that he conferred on him the earldom of Strathern.

In 1345 he married Isabel de Houlond, though his former countess did not die till 1361, for she outlived the earl.

In 1346 he settled on Maud his concubine, for her life, the castles, towns and manors of Koppinsbury and Sandak, the manors of Wakefield, Hatfield, Seuresby, Brethmell, Fishlake, Dewbury, and Halifax, and after her death, to John and Thomas his sons by her and their heirs male, with remainder to his right heirs.

His seal affixed to this deed represents him in a gown, sitting in a chair, holding a hawk in his left hand, with this inscription, *Sigillum Comitis Warenie, et Strathernie et Comitis Palatii*. On the reverse he is on horseback, a sword in his right hand, and a shield, with his arms on it on his left, with this inscription, *Sigillum Johannis Warenie & Surreye, Domini de Cromfield & Yale*.



By an indenture the same year between Edward III. and him, it was agreed if he had a child by his wife Isabel, that the child, whether male or female, should be married to one of the blood royal, but if he had no issue by her, then all his castles, manors, lands and tenements in Surry, Sussex and Wales should devolve to one of his majesty's own sons, but on condition that such son and his heirs should bear the name, honour and arms of Warren, and that Isabel should have for life all the above possessions, save the castles, which the king might bestow on any of his sons, allowing her a reasonable equivalent.

On June 30th 1347, he died aged sixty, without lawful issue, and was buried according to his will in Panerass church in Lewes, under a raised tomb near the high altar, leaving his sister Alice, wife to the earl of Arundel, his next heir in blood.

By an inquisition, taken after his decease, he was found to die possessed of the following lands.

The manor of Tyburn in Middlesex, the manors of Stamford, Grantham, and Great Paulton in Lincolnshire, the castle of Lewes, the lordships of Cokefield, Clenton, BRIGHTHELMSTONE, ROTTINDEN, HOUNDERDEN, Northess, Radmild, Keymer,

Middleton, Allington, Wroth, Pycomb, Piddighow, and Seford in Sussex.

The town and castle of Rigate, the manors of Dorking, Bokeland and Bechesworth in Surrey. The manors of Towbridge, Winton, Winterbourn, and Ambresbury in Wiltshire. The castle of Acre, and the manor of Beeston, the manors of Gyningham and Middlewood, with the hundreds of Malbow and Brother Cross in Norfolk. The manor of Medmenham in Buckinghamshire, the manor of Canelford and Slape-wick in Dorsetshire.

The manors of Comingsbury, Hatfield and Wakefield, in Yorkshire, the manors of Henstring and Chanton in Somersetshire.

In 1227 William de Bohun was created earl of Northampton, and soon after had a grant of the castle, manor, and town of Stamford, with the lordship of Grantham, in reversion (for earl Warren was to hold them during his life) also the manor, and castle of Pottingay, and the castle, and manor of Ougham, with several other manors.

His surname was called Bohun; which in the Norman language, signifies a beard, because he wore a long beard when he came over with the Conqueror, contrary to the Norman custom.

This William was a most valiant soldier, for in 1215, in a battle with the French, near Mowbray, says Holinshed, "The French General Charles de Blois, and William de Bohun, fought so long with hand-strokes, that day, that no man but a liar could give more praise to one than the other.

Three times being both weary, they withdrew to take breath, and then fell to it again, with spear and shield, sword and target, but the French being routed, the right worthy and stout Charles de Blois, was forced to fly, after many had been slain on both sides.

In the famous battle of Cressy, Edward † made three divisions of his army; the first was com-

† Edward III. claimed the crown of France, because his mother was the French King's daughter; but the French chose for their Monarch the French King's brother, and contended that it was right according to the Salic law. Edward insisted that this law extended only to females themselves, and not to the male descendants of females. This being a new case, occasioned much bloodshed, for our monarch at that time possessed as much territory in France as the French King did.

In this reign, the counties in England allowed their members in Parliament four shillings a day — cities, and boroughs allowed theirs two. The case is now altered.

Voltaire says that Jeffry, who was the first of the name of Plantagenet, and father to Henry II, was so called from his being fond of wearing a sprig of broom in his bonnet. The Plantagenets were generally tall, and the Stuarts low of stature; all of both names were bad Kings. The Stuarts derived their name from one Walter, who was steward to King Malcolm.

manded by the Prince of Wales, the second by Bohun, and the third by him-self. The battle was won by the English. The next day another great army came against them, who, not knowing of the defeat of the French on the proceeding day, intended to plunder them, but Bohun, and the earl of Norfolk, after a long and terrible fight, routed and chased them nine miles, and killed two thousand of them. Soon after this, while the English were repairing the bridge of Poissy, an army of French opposed them, when Bohun after killing a thousand, drove them away. At the siege of Calais, he kept the coast, and beat off the small boats that endeavoured to relieve the besieged with provisions, and when the French Admiral advanced to its relief, he put him to flight also when the French king came by land with the same intent, he with the Duke of Lancaster, attacked them in the rear, and slew many.

In 1352 he conquered the Scots, and took the castle of Lolluban with other fortresses; he died September 16th 1369 without issue, when

Edmund Langley, fifth son of Edward III. became lord of Stamford, yet, when he was only six years old, his father had granted him all earl Warren's castle, manors and lands beyond Trent, with the castle and manor of Fotheringay.

In 1362 he was created earl of Cambridge, and the next year obtained a grant in fee of the castle, manor, and town of Stamford, and manor of Grantham.

In 1373 he married Isabel one of the king of Castile's daughters.

In 1376 he was made constable of Dover castle, and lord warden of the cinque ports.

In 1389 a friar accused him of treason to Richard II, when his brother Thomas of Woodstock, afterwards duke of Gloucester, rushed into the king's bedchamber, and swore he would kill any one who laid treason to his charge, nor did he except his majesty.

In 1386 Richard II. created him duke of York.

In 1309 his eldest son Edward was created earl of Rutland, and had a grant of the castle, town, and manor of Oakham, with the sheriffalty of Rutland, and soon after he was made constable of England.

In 1392 his youngest son Richard earl of Cambridge, who was the king's godson, killed lord Clifford.

In the same year his wife Isabel died a great penitent; being very vain, and somewhat wanton in her youth; he then married Joan the earl of Kent's daughter.

In 1307 being at Stamford, he ordered his steward's and bailiffs officers to see that nobody injured the nuns of St. Michael's.

In 1308 his brother the duke of Gloucester was smothered at Calais by private orders of the king to the earl of Nottingham; when the murderers told him it was the king's pleasure that he should die, he replied, if so it is welcome; therefore after a priest had confessed him, they made him lie on a bed, and held another over his mouth till he expired, Roger Denys and Cöck of the chamber holding down the sides, and three others at the same time kneeling and praying for his soul.

He was the king's uncle, and a well-meaning man, but of too hot and fiery a disposition for his majesty to brook.

In 1390 his eldest son was created duke of Albemarle, † Richard II. made the duke of York

† In the reign of Richard II, the fashionable folks wore shoes of such a length that they could not walk in them without fastening the toes to their knees, which they did either with silver chains, ribbands, or lace.

The present age is wiser. The ladies also, in the above reign, wore two pyramids on their heads, on each side. *Parodin* describes them as rising an ell above the head, in form of a spire or steeple, having sharp tops, to which were fastened pieces of crape, which floated loosely down their backs — these were as becoming as their shoes.

governor of Ireland, yet he deserted him, favoured the duke of Lancaster, and proposed the deposing of Richard in parliament.

In the first parliament of Henry IV. lord Fitzwater and twenty more lords accused his eldest son Edward of being the cause of his uncle the duke of Gloucester's death, and threw down their hoods as gages to prove it by combat.

He replied, that if the duke of Norfolk said so, he lied, and would prove it with his body, and threw down another hood, which he borrowed: but the duke of Norfolk was then in banishment, and dared not return, however Edward was adjudged to lose the title of the duke of Albe-marle, retaining that of the earl of Rutland only, and many of his possessions were taken from him, and many of the commons also would have put him to death, for he was extremely disliked, whereupon he with other degraded lords, conspired the death of Henry IV. to which they bound themselves by an indenture.

Going to dine with his father, with the counterpart of this indenture in his bosom, his father perceiving it, wanted to know what it was, but refusing, his sire insisted upon and took it from him, when seeing what it was, he in great rage up-

braided him with treason, for he had become surety for him in parliament, he therefore immediately rode to Windsor, to inform his majesty ; Edward seeing his danger, rode directly another way to the king, and alighting at the castle, ordered its gates to be locked, telling the porter that he must carry the keys to his majesty, and approaching him he fell on his knees, imploring mercy, and revealing the whole conspiracy, obtained a pardon, the father came soon after with the indenture, he died the year after, and was buried near his wife at Langley.

Beside Stamford, he had the manors of Yarwell, Nasington and Southorpe, and was lord of Tividale.

The above Edward, being twenty six years of age, succeeded him as lord of Stamford, and was very shortly restored to his former possessions, and the title of duke of York, yet his own sister, lord Spencer's widow, accused him of an intention of murdering the king, by scaling the walls of Eltham by night, the Christmas before, when his majesty lay there, and if any knight or esquire would fight him for her, she would consent to be burnt if he was conquered.

One of her esquires, called William Maidstone,



cast down his hood, and profered combat with the duke, who cast down his, and accepted the challenge, but he was sent to the tower, yet set at liberty the year after, when many thought he had been dead in prison.

In 1414 his brother Richard was created earl of Cambridge, and with other noblemen was beheaded the year after, without the north gate of Southampton, for conspiring the death of Henry V.

Edward commanded the van of the army at the battle of Agincourt, where there were only 9000 English, against 140,000 French; a little before the battle, mounting a hill, he sent David Gam, a welch commander, to reconnoitre the enemy, who told him that there were enow to be killed, enow to be prisoners, and enow to run away; this the duke told the king, who rode forth to view them, when the duke advised him that the night before the battle he should order each man to fix a stake in the ground, sharpened at both ends, to keep them off, which was done; he also desired to be in the front of the battle, and was so, where by much heat and crowding, being a fat man, he was smothered to death on October 25th 1415, and buried at Fotheringay.

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Edward leaving no issue, he was succeeded as lord of Stamford by his nephew Richard son of Richard earl of Cambridge, lately beheaded, who was only three years old, and created duke of York the next year, and on the death of Edmund Mortimer, earl of March, this Richard Plantagenet was found to be his next heir, and from thence sprung his future pretensions to the crown; † he was when a youth made Constable of England; Speed says he never was a true subject to Henry VI. and was a most subtle man.

He was made regent of France, and sent word to the French king, that he was come to fight him, if he would come out of his entrenchments, but as he refused, he passed a river to force him, and the French withdrew in the night; he followed them, but they still declined fighting.

In 1448 he was made lieutenant of Ireland for ten years, and gained great favour with the Irish.

† The Yorkists were the true heirs to the throne, for this Richard was a descendant of the third son of Edward III, whereas the Lancaster line descended from his fourth son. The Poet says—

" During this hurly burly strife,  
Were murdered many a mother's child,  
And many a lord bereaved of life,  
And noble house with blood defiled."

*Flodden Field.*

In this contest above 100,000 men were slain in twelve attles !!

The duke of Somerset succeeding him as Regent of France, Sir Davy Hall, one of York's captains, defended the city of Caen against the French king, but a stone shot into it, happened to fall between the duchess of Somerset and her children, which so affrighted her, that she persuaded her husband to surrender the town.

In 1450 Cade's rebellion was set on foot by York's friends, to sound the people's minds, for Cade called himself Mortimer the duke's cousin.

The next year the duke himself raised an army to oppose his sovereign, under pretence of removing evil counsellors, but on promise of redress, if he proved his charge, he disbanded his army and yielded himself to Henry, and took an oath never to oppose him; yet, in 1453, having gained the Nevils to his side, viz. the earl of Salisbury and his son the earl of Warwick, he obtained absolution from the Pope of the oath he had taken.

The king was in St. Alban's, which was defended by lord Clifford, so strongly, that he could not force it for a long time, but Warwick and his men broke in by the side of the garden in Holywell street, between the sign of the key and the Chequer—these sounded a trumpet and

shouted a Warrick! a Warrick! when about noon, York and Salisbury broke in, at three different places, and tore up the barriers, when a most bloody battle ensued.

All the king's Captains were killed; the Duke of Somerset was slain under the sign of the castle, and near him lay the earl of Northumberland, with many other Noblemen.

To save himself from a shower of arrows, the king fled to a poor man's house, but he did not arrive before one had pierced his neck. York being told where he was, hastened to comfort him, when the king begged of him to order his men to put an end to the murderous business, which was immediately done.

York took the king to Westminster, when one of the king's men assaulted one of the earl of Warwick's men, who sorely wounded the aggressor and then fled;—the king's servants waited for the earl as he was returning in his barge from parliament, and attacked him with swords, spits, and fire forks, when, after many of his men were hurt, he escaped in a wherry, and hastening to Yorkshire, set all again in a blaze.

In 1459 York's son Edward earl of March, afterwards Edward IV, while his father was in

Ireland, fought the king at Northampton, took him prisoner, and the tower of London was delivered to the earl.

York being at Sandall in Yorkshire, came out of the town with 5000 men against the Queen's army, consisting of 18000, not perceiving their number—after he had got to some distance from the town, two bodies of men in ambush, closed and prevented his return, when in half an hour he was killed; this happened on the 30th of December. Lord Clifford ordered his head to be cut off, and putting a paper crown upon it, sent it to the Queen, who was very merry with it.

Clifford observing York's youngest son, a boy about twelve years of age, retiring from the field with one of his father's chaplains, followed, and stabbed him to the heart, as he knelt for mercy, fear having deprived him of speech

This lord killed so many, that he was afterwards called butcher. York's head, with those of other slaughtered nobles, was set on the gates at Pomfret, and his body was buried there, but afterwards it was removed to Fotheringay.

Edward earl of March, his eldest son, now became lord of Stamford, who on the Candlemas-day following, with 23,000 men, met his enemies

near Mortimer's cross, not far from Hereford, when three suns appearing to join in one, gave his men courage, and he gained the victory with the slaughter of 3,800 of the enemy, for which reason, says Holingshead, he gave the sun for his badge.

In these times travelling was extremely dangerous without a pass from the nearest army, for there were three in the kingdom at once.

Edward gave the castle and town of Stamford to his mother Cicely, duchess of York; \* after her decease it remained in the crown, till the reign of Elizabeth, she granted them to Wm. Cecil first lord Burghley, who was a great favorite of queen Elizabeth, and an honor to his country. From him they descended to Ann daughter and coheir of William earl of Exeter, who married Henry Grey, created earl of Stamford by Charles I. He died 1673, and, his son dying in his life time, he was succeeded by his grandson Thomas, who dying 1718-20 without issue, the title went to Harry, son of John, the third son of the first earl, who dying 1730, was succeeded by his son Harry, who died May 30.

\* This lady lived to see *three* of her children crowned, and four murdered — she was buried at Fotheringay.

1768, and was succeeded by his son George Harry Grey, Earl of Stamford, and Warrington, Lord Grey of Groby &c.

In 1747, the earl of Exeter purchased all the lands in this town which belonged to the Earl of Stamford.

*Remarkable Events.*

In A. D. 449, the first battle which the Saxons fought after their arrival in Britain, was at Stamford, where, says H. Huntingdon, the Picts and Scots fought with spears and lances, but, when the Saxons furiously fell on them with their axes and long swords, they immediately fled.

In September 870, Stamford was destroyed by the Danes, who at the same time murdered all the monks that remained in Croyland and Peterborough abbeys, and burnt the abbeys themselves to the ground.

Ingulphus says that the younger monks of Croyland having cast their rich vessels into the abbey well, and seeing the blaze of the towns in Kesteven, fled in hast, leaving the old monks, who were all slaughtered.

In 922, King Edward the elder gained a vic-

tory over the Danes on Wittering heath. Several Saxon coins have been found in an entrenchment on the side of Burghley park, which entrenchment ran down to Southorpe rill.

In 1128, The Saxon Chronicle, and Hugo Candidus, relate, that as soon as a certain wicked abbot had got possession of the abbey of Peterborough, a great many persons both heard and saw a multitude of great black deformed hunters, that had with them black saucer-eyed fierce dogs, and that they rode on black horses and black stags, both in Peterborough park and in all the woods between Peterborough and Stamford, that the monks heard the sound of the horns in the night, and that this lasted all Lent.\*

In 1189 at midlent fair, says Knighton, a multitude of young fellows, who had enlisted to go to the Holy Land, pillaged the Jews, and killed several of them, while the rest got into the castle, and with difficulty escaped.†

The townsmen and those who came to the fair

\* Such tales as these were once believed to be true; and things equally as strange, and as false, are believed by the multitude in A.D. 1814. Credulity, when supported by Ignorance, will, it seems, always bring Absurdity to perfection.

† The Jews arrived first in England in the reign of W. the Conqueror about A. D. 1068,



were so far from opposing this outrage that some joined them; one John who was the most busy fellow in it, went to Northampton and left part of his money in his landlord's hands there, who, in order to keep it privately, murdered him, and,

In 1189, they were robbed and persecuted in several places, and at York, many destroyed themselves.

The Jews having, for safety, retired into the castle, it unfortunately happened that the governor went out of the fortress, and, on his return, was refused admittance because they feared he had entered into an agreement to deliver them up; on this account they were besieged by an immense multitude; and, being at length reduced to the greatest distress, held a council, in order to devise what measures it was best to adopt. They had already offered an immense sum of money to ransom their lives, but it had been rejected. In this extremity a foreign rabbin who was come into England for the purpose of instructing the Jews, stood up, and harangued them in the following words: "Men of Israel, our God, whose laws I have prescribed to you, commands that we should always be ready to die for these laws; and now, when death looks us in the face, we have only to choose whether we should prolong a base and infamous life or embrace a gallant and glorious death. If we fall into the hands of our enemies, at their will and pleasure, we must die; but our Creator, who gave us life, did also enjoin that with our own hands, and of our own accord, we should devoutly restore it to him again, rather than await the cruelty of an enemy." Many of the Jews acceded to the dreadful counsel of the rabbin; but the rest would not agree to his proposal, therefore, they withdrew, and chose rather to try the clemency of the christians. The rabbin having directed that those who possessed the greatest firmness of mind should first cut the throats of their wives and children, Jorenis began the execution by performing that barbarous act on his

when it was dark, threw his body out of the town where it was found in the morning, and known, but the landlord escaped by flight.

In 1194, there was a tournament between Wansford and Stamford.

In 1197, it was commanded that after midlent-fair at Stamford, no one should sell any cloth of less width than two ells within the lists.

In 1200, Hugh bishop of Lincoln died at London, and in bringing his corpse from thence to Lincoln, says Capgrave, four wax candles being carried by children, neither wind nor rain were able to extinguish them, and when they came to Stamford, a shoemaker bowing his head under

own wife and five children. The example was followed by the rest of the masters of families, and the rabbin himself cut the throat of Jocenus, as a peculiar mark of honour which he chose to do him above the rest. In the mean time, those Jews who had chosen life, laboured to extinguish the flames, at day-break they appeared on the walls, and in the most lamentable manner told the horrid catastrophe of their brethren, as a proof of which fact, they threw the mangled bodies over the wall. The christians pretending to be moved by their solicitations, obtained possession of the castle, but they were no sooner entered than they massacred every one of those poor creatures, who to the last moment cried out for baptism. W. of Newbury says, that five hundred men, with their wives and children, had taken refuge in the castle, and therefore, more than two thousand persons must have perished in this horrible carnage. !!

the bier, says Matthew of Westminster, after thanking God for letting him have the honour of setting his shoulder under so holy a man, begged that his soul might that night be with the soul of the good bishop; he then went home, confessed himself, made his will, received the sacrament, and died presently after.

In 1215, Easter-week, a numerous army and above forty Noblemen, assembled here to oppose king John; there were 2000 knights in this army, and it marched through Edmondsbury to London.

Among other acts of oppression, the king, says Knighton, had just before been guilty of the following acts of injustice.

A baron, by name Eustace de Vesci, having a beautiful wife, who lived in the country, his majesty dining with Eustace at court, and observing his ring, told him that he had got just such a stone, and that he should like to have it set exactly like his;—after procuring the ring, he sent it to his wife, in her husband's name, conjuring her to come to him immediately, if she would see him alive; she instantly set forward, but happening to meet her husband on the road, the plot was discovered, and he imposed a common

harlot on the king, who, the next morning, told Eustace that he had slept with his wife, and that she was a very pleasant bedfellow; but when Eustace told his majesty the truth of the matter, he was so exasperated that he threatened to murder him, and he only escaped by flying to the north.

Robert Fitz Walter, another baron, had a daughter as handsome as Eustace's wife, and as he could not prevail over her chastity, he sent a person to Duninow, where she lived, with orders to poison her, which he did in a poached egg.

However by his charter at Runimede, the June following, he dispersed this storm.

In 1227, Richard, earl of Poitiers and Cornwall, having quarrelled with his brother, Hen. III. collected an army and drew many nobles to his assistance at Stamford, among whom were the earls of Chester, Gloucester, Warren, Hereford, Warwick and Ferrars; these sent a haughty message to the king, and insisted on his making his brother amends, and restoring Magna Charta: his majesty meeting them at Northampton, peaceably finished this contention.

In 1290, The Jews growing odious by their avarice and usury, their synagogues at Stamford

and Huntingdon were profaned, says Leland, and their furniture and noble libraries sold by outcry; there were then 15,060 of them expelled the kingdom: their houses and bonds, says Hollingshed, were confiscated, but they had a licence to take with them all their money and moveables.\*

Many of the richest hired a ship, on which they put on board their treasure; when it had got to the mouth of the Thames, the master of her cast anchor till the ebb left her on dry land, then, walking with the Jews on shore for recreation, he stayed till he was privately informed that the tide was coming, he then hastened to the ship into which he was drawn by a rope.

The Jews not knowing this till some time after

\* King John tormented them for their money; one of them being obstinate, and refusing to ransom himself, the King ordered that he should have one of his teeth drawn every day till he complied; — on the seventh day, says Stow, he gave 10,000 marks of silver.

Henry III took from a rich one at York, 24,000 marks at one time; before this he had at different times plundered him of 30,000 marks of silver, and 200 of gold.

In 1274, those who lent money on interest, were ordered to wear a breast-plate, to signify that they did so.

From 1291 to 1655, they were banished the Kingdom, but, in this year, Oliver Cromwell restored them by a treaty with Manasseh Ben Israel.

cried to him for help, but he told them that they should cry to Moses, who had conducted their ancestors through the red sea, for he was sure if they did so, he was able to assist them—they cried indeed! but as Moses did not think proper to assist them, they were all drowned, for which many of the mariners were hanged. A Tournament was held this year at Stamford.

1291 Nov. 28th Eleanor queen of Edward 1st, attending her husband in his journey to Scotland, died at Hareby near Lincoln.

Some remains of Samford cross, called Queen's cross, were left in 1646, but in the civil war it was quite demolished; it stood about 240 yards north of the gate called Scogate.

Butcher says that she founded a nunnery at Stamford, which might be that mentioned in Speed's map.

In 1309, A Parliament was held here.

In 1326, Knighton says that Isabel, queen of Edward II. assembled here many prelates, earls, barons and nobles, who informed her that they could not permit her to go to the king.

In 1327, Edward III. was at Stamford and Oundle; the abbot of Peterborough spent in presents to him 34l. 7s. 4d.

In a Parliament held here April 24, it was enacted that 100 marks per month should be assigned the deposed king Edward II.

In 1332, An Act of Parliament passed here in favour of foreign merchants trading to England.

In 1337, a parliament was held here;—Edward III. being here, he on June 25. confirmed Albini's grants to Newsted hospital, at the bridge of Wasse, i. e. Guash.

On July 12. he was here also, when he signed an agreement with the earl of Hainbault, which was dated at Stamford.

In 1377, Richard II. held a great council of war here about an expedition into France, when Stamford and Leicester were, at their own expense, to fit out a barge called a ballinger.

In 1382, Richard II. held two councils here, one to punish the Londoners, and to debate about a war with France, for the Londoners had not only refused to lend him 1000*l*. but almost killed his messenger, a Lombard; he therefore signed an order dated at Stamford May 25. this year, to the justices at Westminster, to arrest the mayor, and sheriffs, with some of the wealthy citizens, on which John Hinde the mayor was sent to Winsor castle, one of the sheriffs to Walling-

ford, and the other to Odiham castles; the citizens were committed to other prisons, and it was determined that the Londoners should have no mayor, but one of his majesty's knights, to rule them, their privileges and liberties to be revoked, and their laws abrogated.

The other council was to suppress the Wickliffites. These councils were held at the White Friary, where the king lodged.

In 1465, Edward IV. came here, being the year after he had incorporated the town by letters patent, and he was entertained by the alderman John Brown.

After the battle of Toote coat fight, which happened this year, (see Bourn) his majesty ordered that the town should bear the royal arms on a shrocoat, i. e. Mars, three Lions passant gardant. So, impaled with the former arms of the earls Wurrens, viz. Checkey, Saphire and Topaz.

The army of Margaret queen of Henry VI. commanded by Andrew Trollop, says Stow, destroyed Stamford, Grantham, Peterborough, and all the towns quite to St. Alban's, and that too sparing neither churches nor religious houses, but took away every thing worth carriage, as though they had been Turks, and not Christians.



The towns near to Croyland carried their most valuable things thither, and that town escaped their fury.

All the vagabonds in the country herding in a great body afterwards, did as much mischief as the soldiers.

Leland says that these soldiers burnt much of Stamford with it's records and privileges.

Camden relates that they broke into the town, and destroyed every thing with fire and sword, and that it never recovered it's former dignity.

Peck says that it then lost all it's old records and charters, and that they destroyed Bennewerk, Cornstall, St. Thomas's, St. Stephens' and Trinity churches, with All Saints' church in St Martin's, and that the town probably suffered more for belonging to the house of York.

In 1532, Henry VIII, came through here in his progress to Lincolnshire, and was entertained by the alderman, Henry Lacy, and as other towns presented him with money, on his return, this also gave him 20l.

In 1539, Henry VIII. passed through Stamford again, in his journey to York.

In 1558, The town Hall over the bridge was built, by the Alderman John Houghton.

In 1565, Queen Elizabeth passed through, in her progress to Lincolnshire, and died at the White Friary, when, as soon as she left the house, it fell to the ground.

In 1602, king James, on his first leaving Scotland, passed through here March 24, when the alderman and his bretheren attended him on horseback, riding on their foot cloths, and the common council in their gowns.

October 10th a plague began and remained a year, when in All Saints' parish there died of it 19 and 7 fled, 16 in St. John's 10 fled, 27 in St. Michael's 11 fled, 12 in St. Mary's 15 fled; Butcher says that 713 died, taking in St. Martin's, perhaps.

In 1633 Charles I. in his journey to Scotland, where he went to receive the crown of that kingdom, passed through in state, the alderman on horseback bearing the mace before him, and the first company on horseback also in their robes upon their foot cloths.

In 1643, Charles I. and his Queen, after staying two nights at the earl of Westmorland's at Apethorpe, passed through, the alderman bearing the mace before them.

In April 1641, a great rain and high westerly

wind made the Welland flow half way up to St. Mary's church, it filled the lower rooms of the Bead-house, in St. Martin's, with those of the George Inn, and drowned some of the horses in the stable, the walls and roof of one of which were thrown down, and a horse might have swam all over the yard, all the lower rooms of the Water street were filled, cattle, timber &c. were carried away, yet no human beings lost their lives.

About the end of July another plague began, and continued till the March following, with great mortality; it was imagined that between 5 and 600 perished, for on account of the civil war, the registers were not punctually kept.

In 1642, Charles I. was here in his way to York, and issued a proclamation against the papists.

The renowned parliamentary general, Oliver Cromwell, marched to Stamford after taking Croyland and plundering Peterborough minster, near which, as his horse was mounting a step, he fell, and rising struck Cromwell's head against the lintel of a door, with such violence, that he was carried to his house almost dead.

In 1644, Potter says, that, on July the 19th. Cromwell stormed Burleigh House,

In 1648, June 7th there was an insurrection of the royalists at Stamford under the Rev. Dr. Hudson.

Between 1653 and 1672, was the interval in which the Stamford Half-pence were coined, for during this period, not only towns, but private persons, made their own half-pence and farthings, which were called tokens, as copper money was extremely wanted in exchange, but after the above date, Government took the coinage into it's own hands.

The tradesmen kept sorting boxes, with several divisions, and when a quantity of any man's or corporation's tokens were collected, they then took them to be exchanged for silver.

The Stamford Halfpenny was of copper, about the size of a six-pence, and very thin; on one side were the town-arms, with this inscription around them,

A STAMFORD HALFPENY TO BE,  
On the reverse was a wool-pack with these words  
round it,

e  
CHANGED BY Y OVERSEERS.

I have also in my possession (says Mr Lowe) a tradesman's token very much worn, this is less than the corporation halfpenny, and made of brass, on one side may be distinguished a coat of arms and the word THOMAS, on the reverse are the words, IN STAMFORD 1650, round R

T M in the center.

In 1658, Another jail by the bridge, the serjeant's house, and the dining room adjoining the town hall, were built.

In 1696, King William passed through. and, 1697, Mr. Yarnold of St Alban's obtained a grant from the corporation, to convey water by engines from the river to a cistern at the market-cross, in order to supply the town with water, the reversion of which he sold to Mr. Feast, who perceiving the work would prove very expensive, contrived the present conveyance from the spring at Wothorpe, and at proper places fixed fire-cocks, to prevent the breaking of the ground, and cutting the main pipes on any such melancholy occasion as fire.

In 1722, Doctors Coleby, Wilson, Denham, with Mr. John Hepburn a surgeon, erected a cold bath for the use of the public at an easy expence.

In 1726, a fire broke out in Scogate, which in two hours destroyed in buildings, corn, hay and implements in husbandry, to the amount of 1000*l*. and had not the wind blown from the town, it would have been in the utmost danger. We shall now proceed to the modern institutions.

*Truesdale's Hospital.*

“ THOMAS TRUESDAL, of Stamford, an Attorney of extensive practice, who by a life of beneficence, had done honor to his profession; by his will, dated on the 20th October, 1700, founded an Hospital in the town of Stamford; for the maintenance of six ancient poor men of the parish of All-Saints and St. John, in Stamford, and endowed it with estates in lands, tenements, and titles, in Moreton, Baston and Stamford, in the county of Lincoln; which at the time of his death, (the 23d Oct. 1700,) were of the annual value of 32*l*. 9*s*. 4½*d*. : and, thereby, vested those estates in trustees and their heirs; in trust to provide lodgings upon part of the premises, situated in Scogate, for the poor men who were the objects of his charity; to pay to each poor man two shillings and sixpence weekly; to provide for each of them a cloth gown or suit of cloth yearly; to keep the premisses in repair;

to satisfy them-selves for their trouble; and to apply the surplus money (if any, after bearing the charges abovementioned) in the purchase of coals, to be equally distributed amongst the poor men." (*Bloré.*)

"The poor had 2s. 6d. but now have 3s. 6d. weekly, and clothes made for them every year.

A nurse was last year put upon the establishment at 3s. 6d. per week to attend them, which was to be her whole employ. A chaldron of coals is allowed and sent in to each person, and more if they are ill. They have an apothecary by the year, without any expence to them, and they go to one or other of the churches in the town every morning. (*Harrod.*)

#### *Snowden's Hospital.*

RICHARD SNOWDEN, Clerk, Minister of the Church of St. John in Stamford, by his will, dated on the 20th of May, and proved in the Consistory Court of the Lord Bishop of Lincoln on the 27th of December, 1604, gave his, lands, messuage, houses and tenements, after the decease of his wife, unto *seven poor widows of three-score years of age*, to be taken out of Stamford for ever, by the Alderman of Stamford for the

*time being*, to have seven pence a week paid to them for ever, so long as the world endureth.

The Alderman was then the chief officer of the Corporation of Stamford, as the Mayor is at present; and the Mayor is now invested with all powers which were anciently in the Alderman by prescription or charters; and has, therefore, the patronage and management of this Hospital, exclusively of the other members of the corporation.

And there was a further donation to this Hospital by the will of Mrs. Mary Torkington, widow, dated the 10th of January, 1768, who gave and bequeathed to the Mayor and Aldermen of the Corporation of Stamford, and to their successors for the time being, the sum of Ten Pounds, to be paid them within twelve months next after her decease, by her Executor.—In Trust, nevertheless, and to the intent and purpose that they the said Mayor and Aldermen should, as soon as might be thereafter, put and place out the said sum of Ten Pounds at interest, upon good security; and the interest, and proceed thereof, for ever, give, pay and dispose of, to and for the only use of the poor of St. John's Collis, situate and being in Scogate, in



Stamford aforesaid, which she willed should be paid them in equal shares.

John Warrington, of Stamford, Gent., by his will dated the 23rd of May, 1807, and proved the 6th of May, 1807, gave to the Trustees or Managers for the time being of Snowden's Hospital or Almshouse, in Scogate, in the parish of St. John, Stamford, Sixteen Pounds per annum, to be by them paid to eight poor widows, receiving the benefit of that Hospital or Almshouse, by half-yearly payments, as the same shall be received by them; subject nevertheless to any deductions which may be made by the Trustees for the time being of his will, by virtue of any powers to them therein reserved.

There are now *eight* aged women supported on this foundation, who have lodgings on the south side of Scogate, westwardly from Truesdale's Hospital.

Mrs Rebecca Chamberlin, widow of Mr W Chamberlin of the borough of Stamford, draper, by her will gave to the Mayor and Aldermen of Stamford 200l. to be applied to charitable uses, and applied one fourth of the income thereof to be paid to the poor women or inhabitants of St. John's Callis, by which name she designated

Snowden's Hospital;—the Mayor and Alderman invested the donation in the purchase of four hundred pounds Stock, in the three per cent. consolidated annuities, from which the poor in Snowden's Hospital, became intitled to three pounds per annum, being a fourth part of the interest of the donation. (*Blore.*)

### INCOME of SNOWDEN'S HOSPITAL.

	<i>L.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Snowden's Rents, .....	55	10	0
Mrs. Torkington, .....	0	10	0
Warrington's Donation, .....	16	0	0
Mrs. R. Chamberlin's, .....	3	0	0
	<hr/> L75 0 0 <hr/>		

### *Williamson's Hospital.*

Mr. GEORGE WILLIAMSON having, when living, permitted certain poor persons to reside rent-free in a certain house divided into several small houses, situated on the south side of the street leading to St. Peter's gate, in Stamford, in the united parish of All-Saint's and St. Peter, in Stamford: and having by his will, dated 6th of Dec. 1768, and proved in the Prerogative Court

of the Archbishop of Canterbury, on the 28th of January, 1769, devised his messuages, warehouse and cellars, with their appertenance, in the White Meat-market, in Stamford, to his wife, Mrs. Sarah Williamson, in fee; subject to the payment of three several annuities of 4l. to Thomas Pulford, 4l. to Mary Price, and 40s. to Bridget Kinderley, for their lives respectively all which annuitants are dead: and having given the messuage or tenement, then divided into several tenements, occupied by six poor widows, situated and being on St. Peter's hill in Stamford aforesaid, with the appertenances, then late the estate of Mr. Theophilus Buckworth, to his wife in fee: Mrs. Sarah Williamson, surviving her husband, by bargain and sale, dated the 8th of August, 1770, and enrolled in Chancery on the 14th of September following, vested those estates in Trustees, to the intent, that for ever thereafter six poor widows should be permitted to occupy the houses on St. Peter's hill, and that the Trustees should, from time to time, supply the places of such widows, in case of vacancy by death or otherwise, by the admission of others out of the parishes of St. Michael, All Saints, St. John and St. George, in Stamford. And as to the houses

in the White Meat-market, the Trustees were directed out of the rents thereof, (after the annuities should be discharged,) to keep the houses occupied by the widow in repair, and to apply the surplus for providing fifty chaldrons of sea coal yearly, to be sold to the poor of Stamford in winter, at the summer price; and to apply the surplus, if any, to the benefit of the poor widows, deducting ten shillings yearly, as an allowance to themselves, at settling their accounts.

*James Hurst*, of Stamford-Borough, Esq., who died in 1487, and was buried in St. Michael's Church there, on the 21st of June in that year, by his will bequeathed to this Charity the sum of Twenty-five Pounds, to which a sum was added in 1793, and therewith one hundred pounds four per cent. annuities purchased for the increase of the funds thereof.

*Mr. John Warrington*, by his will, dated the 23rd. of May, 1806 and proved in the Prerogative Court of the Archbishop of Canterbury on the 6th of May, 1807, left Fourteen Pounds per annum, secured amongst other charities, by one thousand eight hundred pounds, four per cent. consolidated annuities, to be paid half-yearly, by his Trustees, *Mr. Jeremiah Belgrave*, Alderman

of Stanford; Mr. Jonathan Miller, of Market Deeping; and Mr. Thomas Lowth, of Wittering, and their successors, to be chosen as therein mentioned, for ever.

*St. Peter's or All-Saints Hospital or Callis.*

This is a very poor structure, situated immediately below the church-yard of the ancient church of St. Peter (near the castle) in Stamford, long since destroyed, in the angle formed by the junction of the two streets, one leading from the Sheep pens to St. Peter's hill, or the church-yard of St. Peter, and the other leading from the White-Meat-market, near All-Saint's Church, to the same place; Harrod says he should not learn who gave this Callis, and stated that in his time it contained apartments for twelve women, who had each of them 2s. 8d. annually, on midsummer day, and a like sum on the feast of St. Thomas, the 21. of December.

The Hospital is so certainly in the ancient parish of St. Peter, that it has very improperly acquired the name of All-Saints Hospital or Callis.

Captain John Wylthore gave 10l. to the poor of Stamford, to be disposed of as his Executors

should think fit, who paid it into the hands of the Corporation, and directed the interest to be for the use of this Callis. And if this be the John Wyldbore, Gent. buried in St. George's church who died on the 3rd of November, 1674, this may be considered as the earliest donation.

This appears in the Corporation list.

William Chamberlin, a capital Burgess of Stamford, gave by Will, in 1702, twenty pounds, the interest of which to be distributed yearly amongst such poor as shall live in that house called the Callis.

Mr. John Palmer, Alderman, by his will, dated 1707, gave 30l. to be put out, the interest of which should be given to the poor of the same Callis.

Mrs. Mary Torkington, of Stamford-Borough, in the county of Lincoln, widow, by her Will, dated the 10th of January, 1763, gave and bequeathed to the Mayor and Aldermen of the Corporation of Stamford, and to their successors for the time being, the sum of twenty pounds, to be paid them within twelve months after her decease, by her Executor thereafter named; in trust nevertheless, and to the intent and purpose, that they the said Mayor and Alderman, and their

successors for the time being, did and should as soon as might be hereafter, put and place out the said sum of twenty pounds at interest, upon good security, and the interest and proceed thereof, yearly and every year, for ever thereafter, give, pay and dispose of to and for the only use of the poor of All-Saint's Callis, on St. Peter's hill, in Stamford aforesaid, which she willed should be paid to them in equal shares and proportion.

John Warrington, of Stamford, Gent, by his Will, dated the 23rd of May, 1806, and proved the 6th of May, 1807, already noticed, gave the sum of twenty-four pounds yearly, to the Trustees or Managers for the time being, of All-Saints Callis or Almshouse, on Peter hill, in the parish of All-Saints, in Stamford, to be paid by them to twelve poor widows, receiving the benefit of the said Callis or Almshouse, by half-yearly payments, as the same should be received, out of £1,000l. stock, three per centum consolidated annuities, standing in his name in the books at the Bank of England, and by his will given to Jeremiah Belgrave, Jonathan Miller and Thomas Lowth, his Executors and Trustees, for this and other purposes.

And Mrs. Rebecca Chamberlin, widow, who died in 1797, by her will, already noticed, (p. 329,) left to the Mayor and Aldermen of Stamford, 200*l.* to be put out at interest, and a fourth part of the produce thereof to be paid to the poor women or inhabitants of All-Saints Callis, which she, as well as others, erroneously state to be in the parish of All-Saints:—and the Mayor and Aldermen having invested this donation in the purchase of four hundred pounds, three per centum consolidated annuities; a fourth part of the produce thereof, amounting to three pounds per annum, is added to the revenues of this Hospital.

	L.	s.	d.
Wyldbore, .....	0	10	0
Wm. Chamberlin, .....	1	0	0
Palmier, .....	1	10	0
Torkington, .....	1	0	0
Warrington, .....	24	0	0
Rebecca Chamberlin, .....	3	0	0
	<hr/>		
	L31	0	0
	<hr/>		

There have of late been, and now are, seven poor women in this Hospital.



**ALDERMAN HOPKIN'S HOSPITAL,**  
*Or St. Peter's Gate Callis.*

**Mr. JOHN HOPKINS**, Alderman, of the borough of Stamford, in his first mayoralty, terminating at Michaelmas, 1770, originally proposed and promoted the erection of this Hospital, which is a neat stone building of two stories, consisting of eight rooms, on which the four on the ground-floor have their entrance from the front towards the west; and the four rooms of the upper story have the entrance to each of them separately by a flight of steps to a landing on the east side. This building is situated on the south side of the road from Stamford to Uppingham, on the scite of part of one of the ancient gates, which formerly were the entrances to the town through the walls by which it was surrounded.

The total expence of this building is stated to have been 365*l.* 6*s.* 6*d.*

	<i>L.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
The Corporation contributed the scite of the Hospital, and	70	0	0
The Earl of Exeter the Gar- dens, and .....	50	0	0
Mr. Whitley's company of Co- medians gave the fruits of a			
<b>VOL. II.</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>c</b>	

L. s. d.

Performance at the Theatre,	95	6	6	
And Mr. Hopkins paid himself,	150	0	0	
				365 6 6

And he also paid the yearly deficiencies to  
make up the weekly payments in his time, 20 15 8

And Mrs. Catherine Gibson, late of St. Martin's, Stamford-Baron, gave 200l. to promote the endowment of this Hospital, which produced 4l. 10s. per cent. per annum, in 1785, when Harrod wrote, and it is now said to be secured on the Black Sluice Drainage. And there were in Harrod's time two subscriptions from the two Borough Members, at Five Guineas each, annually : and the payment to each of the eight rooms being then 1s. per week, amounted to 20l. 16s. per annum, and consequently exceeded the partly precarious income by 1l. 6s. which made the amount of the deficiency which Mr. Hopkins had made up to that time.

And by the will of Mrs. Rebecca Chamberlin, widow, who died in 1797, as already stated, this Callis became intitled to one fourth part of the income of 200l. by her given to the Mayor and Aldermen at Stamford, to be put out at interest, for the benefit of this and other charities ; which sum of 200l. having been invested in the purchase

of 400l. three per centum consolidated annuities, the fourth part of the produce, or 3l. comes amongst the inhabitants of the Hospital.—Vide p. 829.

**RADCLIFFE'S SCHOOL,**  
*Or the Free Grammar School.*

**WILLIAM RADCLIFFE**, of the Borough of Stamford, who had served the office of Alderman, (in those days Chief-Magistrate of the town and head of the Corporation,) in 1495, 1503, and 1512, and died about the year 1530; made provision by his Will for the establishment, in the town of Stamford, of a SCHOOL, in which Poor young Children and Infants should be taught freely in Learning and Manners, without Salary or Reward from their Parents.

The pious design of the founder was ratified by an Act of Parliament in the reign of King Edward VI., (1548) which vests the estates, given by the Founder, in the Alderman of Stamford, (who has been by subsequent charters converted into a Mayor) and his successors for ever; “to the intent that he shall find an honest, able, and sufficient learned Man to teach freely within the

same town of Stamford all such Scholars as shall from time to time resort to the School-house, for teaching such Scholars ; " and shall pay the profits of those Estates to the Master ; which Master shall be appointed by the Alderman (now Mayor) for the time being, with the advice and consent of the Master of St. John's College, Cambridge.

And the Act of Parliament directs that the trade, form, and manner of instructing and teaching to be used within the School, shall be allowed and approved by the Master of St. John's.

By a Charter of King Charles II. all manner of goods, grants, demises, and other powers, interest, and authorities whatsoever concerning pious or charitable uses, which before were vested in the Alderman of Stamford, are thenceforth vested in the Mayor, Aldermen, and capital Burgesses, and under that authority, the Mayor for the time being has since assumed the management of this Trust.

The yearly revenues of this School appropriated to the support of the Master, were for some years before, and up to Lady-day last, (1812) upwards of 260l. and from that day they are upwards of 360l.

Besides the provision for the support of the

Master of this School, there are eight Scholarships in Clare Hall, Cambridge, founded by Thomas Earl of Exeter, in 1613, to which the Scholars educated in this School have a preference before others of equal merit: and Mr. Thomas Truesdale, of Stamford, by will, in 1700, left 50l. the interest of which is to be applied by the Mayor of Stamford to the use of free-born Scholars belonging to this School, and going thence directly to the University.

The yearly rental of the Estates belonging to Radcliffe's School A. D. 1809, amounted to 361l. 6s. 0d. (*Vide Hore ut supra*)

#### WELL'S SCHOOL

*Called the Petty School.*

EDWARD WELLS of Stamford, Shoemaker, by his Will, made in 1694, gave to the church and parish of All Saints in the town of Stamford, his freehold dwelling-house, with the lands and appertinences: In trust, " that the yearly rent and benefit arising thereof, should faithfully and duly be employed towards the maintenance of a *Petty School within the said parish; for such children as should be poor and free-born within the said town; to the full and complete number of*

*so many as the rent of the said house and land should discharge their teaching for; for their virtuous education and bringing up in the fear of God, good literature and means. "*

The property thus devised, consists of a messuage, malt-house, out-building, garden and appertinances, in the united parish of All-Saints and St. Peter, in Stamford, on the south side of the Street between St. Peter's Hill and St. Peter's Gate; being in length of front, on the north, about one hundred and eight feet, two inches; and on the south, towards the Back-lane, sixty-one feet, ten inches; and being in length, from St. Peter's-Street to the Back-lane, one hundred and twelve feet and one inch; with three acres of land in the open fields of Stamford; the whole of which property is now let, at the yearly rent of ten pounds.

#### THE BLUE-COAT SCHOOL.

This school had its commencement about the year 1704, and the Corporation was amongst its first encouragers, by providing a School-House and lodgings for poor children, and by a contribution of 60*l.* (in three years' subscription) which with 790*l.* contributed by divers well-disposed persons of the town and neighbourhood,

and other sums subscribed annually and otherwise, became a fund for the maintenance of the School and Scholars.

Out of these subscriptions, an estate at Hogsthorpe, near Alford, in the county of Lincoln, was purchased, which estate (since the inclosure of the open fields, &c. of Hogsthorpe) consists of a house, barn, stable, and granary, and of seventy acres of land, all in Hogsthorpe, and part thereof near to the house now occupied by Joseph Eldon. The precise time of the purchase, or the persons to whom, or the uses or trusts to, or upon which, it was conveyed. (*says Mr. Blore*) I have not been able to discover.

The rent of this, when Harrod published (1784) was 36*l.* per annum, and it so continued until Michaelmas, 1796. From the latter period the rent was increased to 56*l.* per annum: and it continued at that rate until 1806, when it was raised to 95*l.* per annum; which is the rent at present paid, clear of taxes and repairs of every description.

The managers had, in 1785, arising from various benefactions, 370*l.* placed out at interest: but for the inclosure of Hogsthorpe, 250*l.*, part of that sum in the hands of the Marquis of Exe-

ter, was called in, and 120l. stock, the remainder of it was sold out, so that there is now no other stock in money, than 59l. three per cent consolidated annuities, given in 1802. by John Glenn, formerly a scholar in this School, in gratitude for the education which he had received in it—an example worthy to be recorded. It is also to be remembered, to the credit of the inhabitants of Stamford in general, that a liberal annual subscription has been for many years past raised towards the support of this institution.

Harrod, (p. 55.) speaking of this foundation, states it to be for *twenty-four children*, wholly maintained and lodged in the School; but in (p. 375.) he says, that in 1794, it was for *thirty-six boys*, who were clothed, and taught reading, writing, and accompts. From the 31st August, 1807, to the 14th Nov. 1808, there were *thirty boys* in the School, and from the latter period to the present, there have been *forty boys*. They are admitted at ten, and permitted to continue in the School until fourteen years of age. They are taught reading, writing, and arithmetic, and each of them receives yearly, a blue cap, a blue coat, waistcoat, and breeches, two shirts, two



stocks, (or neck-cloths) two pairs of stockings, and two pairs of shoes.

When John Carey had the charge of this School, the salary was 20 pounds a year, and a chaldron of coals: when Samuel Woods was appointed Master, the salary was raised to 30*l.* per annum, and a chaldron of coals; and since the number of boys admitted has been increased to forty, the salary has been advanced to 40*l.* per annum, and the allowance of coals to the Master has been discontinued.

The house on the scite of Brazen-nose College, was originally provided by the Corporation for the reception of the Master and Scholars, but the Stewards of the School now rent for the use of the Master, a small house and School-room on the north side of St. Paul's Street, under the Marquis of Exeter, or his Trustees, at three pounds per annum.

#### *Government of the Town.*

Ieland says that "Stamford was previledged in the days of Edward IV. for a borough as concerning a place in parliament, and as much privilege has been given to it saving privilege for

treason, as hath been given perhaps to any town in England,"

Edward the fourth in the first year of his reign A. D. 1461. by his charter, directed to George Chapman, the first incorporate alderman, and others, both of the upper and lower bench, then called the comburgesses and capital-burgesses (being then the first and the second twelve, as they are more particularly named in the said charter; but since enlarged by a later charter, to the alderman and twelve comburgesses, and to the number of twenty-four capital burgesses) did incorporate the said town, both in name and deed, by the name of the alderman and burgesses of Stamford; and hereby gave, or rather confirmed unto the same, many great and profitable privileges. As to be freed from the sheriffs' jurisdiction; and from being put on inquests out of the town; to have the return of all writs: to be freed from all lords lieutenants; or their deputies, in respect of taking of musters, as touching the militia of the town; making the alderman for the time being the king's immediate lieutenant within his liberties and jurisdiction; and to be, within the same, the second man in the kingdom. To have one, or more, mace, of gold or

silver, at his choice, to be carried before him, for his greater honour and dignity. And to have a common seal at arms.

And the king also granted to the town further to do and execute within the same and liberties thereof, ut ab antiquo usu fuerunt, as of antient time they had been accustomed; which makes it evident that this charter is but a new confirmation of more ancient privileges.

But our antient immunities appear no otherwise, than scatteringly here and there, upon the tower roll; little better than mere circumstances, yet pregnant evidences, of more antient privileges. So that, at this day, we can shew none, under any authentic warrant, beyond the first year of the reign of king Edward IV. But since the obtaining of this first charter, the same hath been confirmed by divers inspeximus from all the succeeding kings and queens that have been sovereigns to the time of king Charles, and many new grants added, as the monday-market, the three fairs of Simon and Jude, Green-goose fair, and St. Jame's fair, The town having formerly but the friday market and the great Midlent Mart, the profits of which only belong to the lord, but these latter to the corporation.

By a latter inspeximus, there was granted to the alderman and burgesses, to hold a court of pleas of all actions real, personal, or mixt, to the value of 40l. And to hold sessions and goal delivery for all criminal actions perpetrated and done within the liberty; high treason and petit treason only excepted, By the first charter of Edward the fourth, the alderman and burgesses may purchase lands; sue and be sued, by the name of the alderman and burgesses; and have granted unto them all fines and forfeitures in sessions, and the goods of outlaws and felons. And besides these many other immunities, to no purpose here to be related.

This town hath a power to send up two burgesses to every parliament.

In 1603 King Charles II. made Stamford a Mayor Town, granting a new Charter with additional privileges, confirming all former ones.

William Azlack was the first Mayor chosen out of 13 Aldermen, beside which there are twenty four Capital Burgesses. The Alderman and Burgesses continue their places for life, unless they be removed for some misdemeanor, by the major votes of the Mayor, Alderman, and Capital Burgesses, of which the Mayor must be one. (*Howgrave.*)

*Modern State.*

The great north road leading through this town, from London to Scotland, with the almost continual passing and repassing of Coachès, Stage, waggons &c. create much bustle, and the perpetual influx of strangers, adds considerably both to its trade and its wealth.

Being situated in a hilly part of the county, in the centre of a rich and beautiful district, it is nearly surrounded by Gentlemen's seats; and Burghley house, which is not more than a mile distant, with the park, which comes up quite to the town, contribute much to the interest, beauty, and convenience of this place.

The entrance into Stamford, both from the north and south, being by a gentle declivity, is rather handsome, and the whole town contains many ancient buildings, the former grandeur of which is still apparent, mixed with modern buldings which do honor to the taste of the present age. Including St. Martin's, Stamford consists of six parishes, and as many churches, which are so situated that in some points of view they have the appearance of a single Cathedral. Stamford and St. Martin's are under different urisdictions, the former being divided from the

latter by the river Witham; they are also in two separate counties, St. Martin's being in Northamptonshire, and the line of separation is supposed to be in the middle of the bridge.

### *Town-Hall.*

In the year 1776, an act passed for widening the road from the north end of the bridge to a gate called Scogate in Stamford when the corporation agreed to pull down their old hall, which stood over the north end of the said bridge, together with several other houses, on condition that the trustees should build them a New Hall, being that now standing near St. Mary's church.

The two fronts are built of Stamford stone, and the whole building is divided into twenty two apartments. The great room is 52 feet long, 25 wide, and 19 high. A guard room, house of correction, and a gaol, are included in the twenty two apartments.

"The gate, which was the old prison was taken down, and a new prison built at the town hall. One good room for debtors in the keeper's house; for other prisoners, two cells 10 feet by 8, and 7 feet 6 inches high: the window in each only 2 feet by 5 inches: and a bridewell

room 16 feet by 8; the window here also is too small, being only 2 feet by 1ft. 8 in."

### *The Theatre*

Is situated in St. Mary's street, which was begun to be built in the year 1768 and finished in the year 1768. The expences of erecting this edifice amounted to 806l. at the joint cost of Mr. Ascham Clark, and the late Mr. James Whitley, but it is now the property of Mr. Gosli.

It is built after the manner of the London Theatres, is capable of containing a large audience, and is reckoned the completest place of it's size in the kingdom.

It measures 34 feet by 37 on the outside walls.

### *The Assembly Room*

Situated near the Play House, is very spacious, measuring within the walls in length 75 feet, breadth 30 feet, and the height, from the floor to the extremity of the arched ceiling, 20 feet.

It was built about the year 1725 by Mr. Askew Kirke, a dancing-master, at the expence of 1000l. or upwards, but it is now the property of the Earl of Exeter.

## FAIRS.\*

**CANDLEMAS** Fair is held on the Tuesday before the 13th of February, for Horses and Stock of all sorts.

**Monday before Midlent** for Horses only.

**Midlent Monday** for Stock of all sorts, it continues a fortnight for all sorts of Haberdashery, &c.

**Monday before May** the 12th for Horses and Stock.

**Monday after Corpus Christi**, for Horses and Stock.

**St. James's, Old Stile**, August the 5th, for Horses and Stock.

**St. Simon and Jude, Old Stile**, November 8th, Horses, Stock and Cheese.

The Market is kept on monday and friday.

\* Strutt thinks that fairs had their origin from some try feasts, for hawkers and pedlars first came, then other tradesmen set up stalls in the church-yard to supply the number of people assembled from the adjacent villages; these Sunday fairs were not entirely abolished till the reign of Henry VI. when royal charters were granted for fairs to be held only in towns where magistrates resided, in order that they might suppress the tumults that frequently happened. In 1617 all sorts of diversions were allowed and encouraged on Sundays after the afternoon service, but in 1643 the parliament abolished these also.



*Miscellanies.*

The time appointed for the Races has, for many years past, been the Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday in the second week in June.

The Stand was built in the year 1700 and is an elegant and well contrived edifice. It measures 40 feet by 18 on the outside walls, and commands a view of the whole of the race ground. From the town to the stand is about a mile and a half.

The Cock-Pit was built in the year 1725, by Browlow Earl of Exeter, father of the present earl, and is situated at the George-Inn in St. Martin's. It is built of freestone, in an octagonal form, in each side of which are two niches arched which render it ornamental: the roof is also arched round, and delicately ceiled. It measures forty feet over, is computed to hold near five hundred persons, and is reckoned one of the completest buildings of the kind in the kingdom.

On Friday Feb. 13th, 1752, the sails of the Black Smock Windmill without the western end of the town, were broken from their stays by the violence of the wind, and by the rapidity of the friction the upper part of it was blown down.

windmill was burnt, on the same day, to the ground.

Around the corporation seal, on which are engraved the town arms, is the following inscription.

SIG: COMMUNE. BURGI: STAMFORDI: :

### *The Post.*

When not retarded by the Weather, arrives from the South between Twelve and One in the Afternoon, and arrives from the North about Ten in the Morning.

No Post arrives from the South on Mondays, nor from the North on Saturdays.

No post sets out for the south on Saturdays, nor for the North on Mondays.

Before we quit Stamford we shall give a short account of *St. Martin's*; for though it is not in the same county, yet it is so closely connected with the town that it necessarily forms a part of it.

### SAINT MARTIN'S.

PECK says he does not find that *St. Martin's* ever was walled, but yet that it was defended by

five gates, and a castle; —if there were no wall, one might be led to question the use of gates.

The *first* gate was in water street, formerly called Est by the water—it stood at the end of that part where the houses are in double rows.

The *second* was at the opening leading towards Burghley, by the Butts.

The *third* was between St. Giles's hospital and the main street, it stood on the highest ground in the parish, and so was called Highgate, and the Street from it was called High Street.

The *fourth* was against St. Martin's church, leading towards the Nunnery.

The *fifth* was at the south end of the bridge, over which was afterwards built a small chapel.

The *Castle* was built in 922, by Edward the elder, as a check upon that in Stamford belonging to the Danes; this stood where the Nuns' farm now is, on the edge of the Roman north road where it crossed the river; for as there was then no bridge, and the whole river undivided ran there; this being the pass into the south, was the properest place for a garrison.

There was a mint for coining here in Edgar's reign, and perhaps before, which was a royalty

granted to the abbot of Peterborough, who was lord of this parish, the above mentioned in 972 confirmed this privilege to the abbot, as did afterwards Tustil one of the Saxon monarchs, and the Pope also in 1145.

Edgar's charter says, We Edgar do grant to the monastery of Medeshamstede the perpetual privilege of a market at Stamford. This Mr. Park supposes to have been only a confirmation of that privilege before granted by king Athelstan.

In Domesday, there is the following description of this parish.

The same William holds two hides and half, a virgate more or less, in Stamford. And abbot Benedict purchased of him. These lands in all is five carucates. There are here seventeen villans, with a priest and four bordars, who have four carucates. There are eight acres of meadow formerly the sanctuary belonging now for forty. It is now held of them. See in king Edward's time.

Anciently St. Martin was always called Stamford beyond the bridge, on Stamford south of the Watland, the first station of Stamford-Baron, being so late as the year 1165, and the origin of this name might be from it's being part of those

lands which the abbot of Peterborough held per Baroniam, to distinguish it from Stamford which was always called the King's Borough.

Who Benedict was we cannot find, but Leoric was abbot of Peterborough, and being a favourite of king Edward, held also four other abbeys, viz. Burton, Coventry, Croyland and Thorney.

St. Martin's in Domesday is mentioned as being the sixth ward belonging to Stamford, and is said there to have been in Hantubescire:

It appears from the above extract that there was only one priest, because St. Martin's church was not then built, he therefore belonged to All Saints' church, which stood in the Water street, and was destroyed by the northern soldiers, but as the parish grew more populous, St. Martin's church was built, and then All Saints' parish was divided into two.

About 1174 William Waterville abbot of Peterborough purchased all St. Martin's, and redeemed with money fourteen houses with the ground belonging to them in Stamford, which a certain knight claimed as his inheritance.

In 1189 Richard I. granted to the abbot of Peterborough all St. Martin's with the adjacent

lands and mills, the churches of St. Martin's and All Saints in the said parish, the monastery of St. Michael, the hospital of St. John and St. Thomas, the house of the Holy Sepulchre and St. Giles's hospital.

St. Giles's hospital stood at the upper end of St. Martin's on Spital hill (the word Spital being only an abbreviation of Hospital:) it had a chapel belonging to it, with lands to maintain a chaplain and several poor lepers, but the founder, and the time when it was founded are unknown.

All the churches and hospitals that were dedicated to Egidius \* or St. Giles, always stood very nearly, or quite out of the towns, probably because the leprosy was an infectious disease; in the old Testament we read of the lepers being expelled the community of the Jews, and there were formerly a great many Jews here, who were a very leprous people. †

\* St. Egidius or St. Giles, was born at Athens about the year 700, and coming to France, was made Abbot of Nismes.

† The leprosy was once so frequent in England, that there, was scarcely a town of note, but what had a leper house belonging to it, yet, what is very extraordinary, the disease is nearly now vanished from Europe. Its disappearance, by medical men, is attributed to the frequent use of the diuretic herb tea, and the wearing linen next the skin;—the ancients were ignorant of tea, and by wearing woollen next the skin, the perspirable mat

In an inquisition taken about 1220, it is said that the king had alienated from the lordship of Stamford, five acres of land, and given it to this house of lepers; which was also called the Hermitage and St. Leonard's.

In 1300 the abbot of Peterborough gave William Pontyn of Stamford the wardenship for life, on condition that he three times a week supplied the chantry in its chapel; keep up the building, of the house, and be at all other charges of it as was of old time accustomed.

In 1328, when Adam Boothby lord abbot of Peterborough visited this and other religious houses in and about St. Martin's, we find that Sir Walter de Bernack was the warden.

St. Pulcher's, or the house of the holy sepulchre, was a house of regular canons, of the order of the holy sepulchre, whose business here was to entertain pilgrims and knights, as they journeyed to and from Jerusalem, when they went to visit the sepulchre of our Saviour there; the knights accompanied the Pilgrims as a guard.

St. Pulcher's joined the south side of the George Inn, but by whom or when founded, is e-

ter, by long lodging in it, became noxious, and stopping up the pores of the skin, prevented insensible perspiration &c.

qually unknown, the first mention of both these houses is in the deed abovementioned of Richard I.

Where the bead-house now is, there was, about the year 1174, an hospital erected, dedicated to St. John the Baptist, and St. Thomas a Becket, by Brand de Fossator, and one Seward, for the reception of poor travellers, who were relieved with bread, beer, meat, and lodgings, as they passed by, while some monks, and other poor constantly resided there, the monks performing divine service. The abbot of Peterborough was their patron, and Pope Alexander III, received the house under his protection. It extended to the George Inn.

Richard Humet Lord of Stamford, and Bertram de Verdun, his ward, gave to it a large piece of land, on which the present Bead-house stands, with the orchard and George Inn, which Inn once belonged to the abbot of Croyland. In the church yard belonging to it, Siward built a handsome church—the chapel before this, stood over the gate across the bridge.

In 1299, Hugh Clisseby, vicar of All-Saint's in Stamford, was its warden, and through his mismanagement, it was reduced to such poverty, that he petitioned the abbot of Peterborough to



resign; the abbot permitted him, and gave the wardenship to Sir Robert, rector of Northburgh, who held it only four months, and then Clisseby was restored; and as the abbot had taken from the house, for fear of imbezzlement, books, jewels, brazen and wooden utensils, chests &c. he ordered these to be restored also to him. However when the abbot was dead, Clisseby returned to his evil courses, on which account he was deposed by the succeeding abbot. The bishop of Lincoln and others, interceding for him, he was restored, but not before he had taken an oath to behave better in future, and tying himself down to several articles.

On part of the ground on which this hospital stood, William lord Burghley, lord high treasurer of England, in 1597, after he had finished his stately house of Burghley, erected an hospital in St. Martin's Stamford-Baron, in the same year, and endowed it with an 100l. yearly, issuing out of the lands of Cliff-Park, to be employed in the maintenance of a warden, and twelve poor men. The warden to be allowed three-shillings a week and the twelve poor men, each of them two shillings and four-pence. The house to be repaired out of the said 100l. a year; and the warden

and twelve poor are to have every year a new gown, and each of them a load of wood; and if after this provision is made, any overplus remains, it is to go towards the maintenance of such poor prisoners, as shall be in the jail of Stamford.

All St. Martin's being part of Rockingham forest, Robert Lindsey abbot of Peterborough, with other knights and freemen, in the ness of Peterborough, about 1214, gave king John twelve hundred marks to have it and some other places disforested;—John's Charter is to this purport—

“ We have granted to the abbot of Peterborough, and the monks, and the tenants, who have lands and tenements in the ness of Peterborough, within the following bounds, to be disforested.

All the land that lies between the rivers Nen and Welland, as they meet in Croyland, and from Wansford as the great road extends to Stupendestan, without the town of Stamford, and from Stupendestan to the nunnery, in a straight line as far as the Welland, and also the nunnery itself.”

In 1224 Henry III. confirmed this grant and added fourteen mansions in Stamford.

What Stupendestan means cannot be ascertained.

*St. Martin's Church,*

Was first erected between, 1133 and 1147, by Martin de Vecti abbot of Peterborough, who dedicated it to the saint of his own name, on the same spot on which the present church stands.

In 1156 Wm. Watervill abbot of Peterborough, gave it to the Nuns as the charter expresses, "that they might have and possess it to their proper uses, and that out of the profits of it, they may be more plentifully sustained."

But by way of acknowledgment, they were to pay annually ten shillings to Peterborough minister and ever after this gift, the nuns always present ed a vicar to it.

In a letter from the bishop of Lincoln, dated 1289, it appears that the vicar paid yearly two marks to the nuns, on condition that if the chapel of Burghley, in his parish ought to have service performed in it, they should be at the charge of it.

About 1390, in an old manuscript, mention is made of a custom time out of mind of the parishoners male and female, who belonged to St. Martin's gild, assembled in this church every Martinmas-day, where after service was performed, and prayers put up for their bretheren, sisters, and

all benefactors, they met in a drinking room called St. Martin's gild-hall.

They had a bull to be used and sold for the profit of the fraternity; by this account, says Mr Peck, it appears that the brethren and sisters of St. Martin's gild, had always a bull-running on Martinmas-day, a diversion for which the good people of Stamford, continues he, have a particular fondness.

In the reign of Edward VI. this mixture of bull running tippling and popery was suppressed along with all other gilds, by order of government; there had been an intention of suppressing them as long ago as the reign of Richard II. as they were thought to be nurseries of conspiracies and treasons against the government.

Opposite to the church there was formerly a chapel called Mary Magdalen's chapel.

The present church was built by Bishop Russell and others in the reign of Edward IV.

At the upper end of the north chancel stands a neat piece of work, being a cenotaph, if we consider it as erected to the memory of Richard Cecil esq; father of the lord treasurer Burghley, for though the effigies of the said Richard is here set up, yet his body was not buried here, but

at St. Margaret's Westminster; and a monument, if we consider it as erected to the memory of Jane wife of the said Richard, her body lying buried in the vault under this chanseel just by her son the lord treasurer's coffin.

#### THE INSCRIPTION.

In happy memory of Richard Cecil, Esq; and Jane his wife. The said Richard was of the robes to King Henry 8. and K. Edward 6. he deceased the 19 of May 1542, & is interr'd in St. Margaret's Church in Westminster. He was Sonne to David Cecil of Stamford Esq. High Sheriff of the County of Northampton in the 23. & 34. Years of Kinge H. 8. & is buried in St. George his Church in Stamford.

The said Jayne was Daughter and Heire of Wm. Heckington of Bourne in the County of Lincolne Esq. She lived 87 years, whereof she continued a Widow 36 Years. She deceased the 10th of March 1587. She was a very grave, religious, virtuous, and worthy Matron; and delighted exceedingly in the works of Piety and Charity. She was crowned with much Honor and Comfort, & (by God his great blessing) she lived to see her Childern and her Childern's Children, to the fourth & fift Generation, and that in a plentifull & honorable succession; being a happy Mother of that most Honorable Sir Wm. Cecil Knight of the noble Order of the Garter, Lo: Burghley, lord high TREAS. of England, who lyeth here by her.

Margaret was first married to Roger Cave of Stamford Esq. of whom is descended Sir Thomas Cave; and after to Ambrose Smith of Boxworth Esq.

Elizabeth was first married to Robert Wingfield of Upton Esq. of whom is descended Ser Robert Wingfield of Upton Knight; and after to Hugh Allington Esq.

Anne married to Thomas Whyte of Tuxford Esq. of whom is descended John Whyte Esq.

Under an arch, between the middle and north chancels of the same church, is erected a curious monument of touch, porphyry, and other marble, set off with rich embellishments; on the north-side whereof is a Latin inscription, thus rendered by Mr. Peck.

Sacred to God most good & great, & to memory, The most honorable & far renowned lord, William Cecil Baron of Burghley, lord High Treasurer of England, President of the Court of Wards, Knight of the most noble order of the Garter, privy counsellor to the most serene Elizabeth Queen of England, &c. & Chancellor of the University of Cambridge, under this Tomb awaits the second coming of Christ: who, for the excellent endowments of his mind, was first made privy counsellor to Edward the sixth, king of England; afterwards to Queen Elizabeth: Under whom, being intrusted with the greatest & most weighty affairs of this kingdom, & above all others approved; in promoting the true Religion, & providing for the safety & honour of the commonwealth; by his Prudence, Honesty, Integrity & great services to the nation he obtained the highest honors; & when he had lived long enough to nature long enough to glory, but not long enough to his country, quietly fell asleep in Christ.

He had two Wives, Mary, sister of Sir John Cheek, of whom he begat one son, Thomas, now Baron of Burghley; and Mildred, daughter of Sir Anthony Cooke, who bore to him Sir Robert Cecil Knight, privy Counsellor to Queen Elizabeth, and President of the Court of Wards; Anne, married to Edward earl of Oxford; and Elizabeth, to William Wentworth, eldest son of Baron Wentworth.

Against the north wall of the chancel (below the monument of Richard Cecil Esq. and Jane, his wife) is a most stately tomb of white and grey marble, erected for John earl of Exeter and Anne his lady, daughter of William earl of Devon. A work, in it's principle figures surpassing almost any thing of the kind perhaps in the kingdom.

*The Nunnery,*

Was situated on the ground whereon the castle had stood, and was called Little Wothorp; the abbot of Peterborough was antiently Lord of the manor.

This nunnery was of the order of St. Bennet, and was also often called the convent or priory of St. Michael, from the name of their church.

It was founded in 1156, by William Water-vill abbot of Peterborough, who also built a church there for them called St. Michael's; he collected forty virgins, but their number probably increased: they were to be subject to the abbots of Peterborough, who put in the nuns, prioress and prior. They acknowledged their subjection by paying every Michaelmas a noble to the abbot for mending their books. Water-

ville, gave them the revenues of St. Martin's church; this donation was made before witnesses in St. Michael's church in Stamford; he also gave them the thirds of the revenue of St. Fimin's church at Thurlby, for which they paid annually a noble of silver, half at Easter and half at Michaelmas, to Peterborough abbey, and they henceforth always presented a vicar to this church, but now the provost and fellows of Eton college present the vicar.

In 1170 Richard Humet, lord of Stamford, gave them St. Andrew's church in Stamford, at the request of William de Colville baron of Bytham; this donation was made in the hall of Stamford, and the nuns alway afterwards presented a vicar to this church.

William Humet, his son, gave them annually ten marks out of this lordship.

Achard of Stamford gave them All Saints' church in Stamford, and they ever after presented a vicar to it.

About 1190 lord Hamon Pêche gave them the tythes of St. John's church at Corby.

About 1195, Ascelina Waterville gave them half the revenue of Upton chapel, for the use of their kitchen; she also gave them the third of



the above Corby church and five bovates of land in Corby field near Swafeld wood, towards keeping the anniversary of her death.

Her married sister Matilda de Diva gave them more of the above chapel and church; she gave her maid Adelicia de Capeni a bovat of land and some houses in Corby, which the maid after gave also the nuns. Ma'ilda's seal to this donation is in the possession of the earl of Exeter, and represents a whole female figure standing, holding a flower in her right hand; a robe falls from the crown of her head behind her feet, with this inscription round the verge, "Sigillum Matildois de Diva.

William Humet's wife Lucy gave them half a mark of silver out of her lands at Bredcroft towards keeping the anniversary of her death; she afterwards gave them another half mark out of Bredcroft: the original deed is in the possession of the earl of Exeter.

King John gave them yearly a load of thorns, or dead roots out of his forest at Cliff.

In this king's reign lord Wm. Langvale gave them St. Clement's church in Scogate.

Hugh, son of the above Maud de Diva confirmed his mother's grant to them.

Notwithstanding all these gifts, in 1226 they were poor, for in this year the bishop of Lincoln, in consideration of their poverty, as he expresses himself, confirmed them in all their possessions.

In 1228, Richard brother of Henry III. sent letters of protection to the sheriff of Rutland in their behalf.

Wm. earl Warren lord of Stamford, who died in 1240, gave them 40s. every Michaelmas, out of his mill at Wakefield, for the use of their kitchen.

Another lord Hamon Roche, who died in 1242, gave them more of Corby church; this deed is in the earl of Exeter's hands.

About this time Alice de Waterville widow, gave them a virgate of land with a toft and a croft at Ashby in Northamptonshire, worth eight shillings a year, for the keeping of the anniversary of her and her daughter Cecily's death.

The original of this deed and the seal too, are also in the hands of the same earl.

In 1284 they were fallen into extreme poverty, and as alienations and appropriations of parish churches were iniquitous and shameful, so when the bishop of Lincoln confirmed them in

their share of Corby church, he apologizes for it by saying that he grants it to their tearfull cries, with which they continually weary him, and to their great poverty, which almost extends to the misery of extreme want.

In 1296 three of the nuns were excommunicated for laying violent hands on another nun in the same House, called Emma of Eston, i. e. Easton.

In 1539 their house was dissolved.

There are several traditions both of the beauty of the Nuns' church and the stately remains pulled down, says Mr. Peck, in the memory of man.

The man who threw down the first stone was killed, and another had his leg miserably shattered.

Nuns were usually consecrated by the bishop or prior, who covered them with a veil, the abbess, on pain of excommunication, not daring to attempt it.

Formerly twenty-five, but now twelve years of age are thought sufficient for them to take upon them their vow. On the day of their admission, they were dressed in their richest apparel, presented to the bishop with music playing, and ta-

pers burning before them, and all other imaginable pomp and splendor. But when they arrived at the altar they were stripped of all their glorious clothes, and 'tis almost impossible to imagine what haste some of these young creatures made to put on themselves the habit of a nun; that done, the bishop put on the veil and generally expressed himself in these words, AUDI, FILIA &c. which are so well translated, says Mr. Peck, by our old despised English poet, John Hopkins, that I beg leave to insert them.

O daughter, take good heed,  
Incline and give good ear;  
Thou must forget thy kindred all,  
And father's house most dear.

Then shall the king desire  
Thy beauty fair and trim;  
For why, He is the lord thy God,  
And thou must worship him.

to which the people saying, Amen, the veil is cast over her, and the religious women and virgins present saluted and embraced her. After which, the bishop praying for and blessing her, she was conducted to her cell.

The lands of this nunnery reverting to the crown, were, by Queen Elizabeth, granted to William Cecil, baron of Burghley in, whose posterity it still continues.

In 1396 Edmund duke of York lord of Stamford, being at Stamford, granted them letters of protection, which deed, with a curious impression of his seal is in the hands of the earl of Exeter.

*Wothorpe.*

In 947, Turketill, king Edted's lord chancellor, gave the manor of Wothorpe to the monks of Croyland, so that the abbot of Croyland was lord of the manor, and it was called great Wothorp, to distinguish it from Little Wothorp, where the Nunnery stood.

The Latin description of it in Doomsday book is thus translated by Mr. Peck.

*Doomsday Account.*

In Wothorp S. Guthlao had and hath one hide and an half towards paying tax, the whole is two carrucates, one carrucate is in demesne and eleven villanes and eleven bordarers with two carrucates. There are three acres of meadow and one mill, which are let for five shillings. but are worth forty shillings. In the same book is mentioned that the abbot of Peterborough held two hides of land here of the abbot of Croyland.

and Richard Humet lord of Stanford half a hide,

In 1109, Joffrid, abbot of Croyland, sent three monks here, to whom he gave the whole village, several acres of land, a water-mill, and the fishery of the pool, and of his whole river also fourteen natives in the village, and all the lands that they possessed &c. so that there was soon a small monastery here, being a cell to that of Croyland; one of these monks, viz. the prior, was a very learned person; they frequently preached to the Stamfordians against Judaism, taught their youth, and procured contributions for rebuilding Croyland abbey lately burnt.

As there was a college here called All Saint's college, which, at it's suppression, was valued at 11. 19s. 4d. perhaps this was the cell of these monks.

There was about the same time a small Nunnery here of the order of St. Benedict, but a great plague raging in England in 1349 killed several, and the prioress and all the rest of the nuns, save one, died, so that it soon after fell into great poverty, and for these reasons, in 1354 it was united to the Nunnery at Little Wothorpe.

Thomas Holland earl of Kent, and Joan his

wife were the patrons of these nuns of Great Wothorp; both these were buried in the Grey Friary.

There was a village with a parish church there, and the church belonged to them, so that after the union of this priory with that of Little Wothorpe the revenues of that church and of the old priory belonged to the latter, but these were obliged to find a minister to perform duty in it, and the bishop of Lincoln ordered that the above revenues should be applied only to the use of the sick in the infirmary of the house; and to buy provisions for the cook, and for no other purpose whatsoever; how long the church remained is unknown, but perhaps till 1540, as there was then a small village here.

The mansion house here was built by Thomas Cecil first Earl of Exeter, which had a little walled park, and though the house is not very small, (for after the restoration it was large enough to hold the duke of Buckingham and his family for some years) yet so mean did it appear in comparison to the other, that its founder pleasantly said that "he built it only to retire to out of the dust, while his great house of Burghley was a sweeping."

## BIOGRAPHY.

George Gascoigne, an old English poet of considerable merit, died at Stamford—he was born of an ancient family in Essex, and was son and heir of Sir John Gascoigne, who disinherited him, but for what reason is not assigned by Whetstone his Biographer. He received the first rudiments of his education under a clergyman of the name of Nevison, and afterwards removed to Cambridge, as he himself informs us in his “Steele of Glass”.

On leaving College he removed to Gray's Inn, in order to study the law. In his youth he wrote several amatory poems, which he afterwards included among his youthful follies, and sorely lamented the mischief they might occasion. While at Gray's Inn, he gave himself up to a fashionable life, and was obliged to sell his patrimony, on which account he entered into the army, and prompted by the hope of gaining laurels in the field of battle, he embarked for Holland, to fight for W. Prince of Orange against the Spaniards. He acquired considerable reputation but a quarrel with his colonel retarded his career. Having distinguished himself in several actions he was at length taken prisoner, and sent to



England. In the summer of 1575, he accompanied queen Elizabeth, in one of her stately progresses, and wrote for her amusement, in the month of July, a kind of mask entitled, "The Princely pleasures of Kenelworth Castle" but it was not performed. At his residence at Walthamstow, according to Whetstone, he wrote, soon after his return from his progress, the "Steele-Glasse," the "Glassee of Goverment," the "Delicate Diet," a "Book of Hunting," and the "Doom's day Drum," which last was published after his death. He left other peices behind him, some of which were published in various collections, but without his name.

He enjoyed the esteem of his poetical contemporaries, and the patronage of Lord Grey of Wilton, the earl of Bedford, Sir Walter Rawleigh, and other persons of distinction. His biographers following the Oxford historian, have hitherto placed his demise at Walthamstow, in 1578; but Whetstone, on whom we can rely with more certainty, informs us that he died at Stamford in Lincolnshire, Oct. 7. 1577. He had perhaps taken a journey to this place, for change of air, with his friend Whetstone; who was with him when he died, which he did, so calmly, that the

the moment of his departure was not perceived. He left a wife and son behind him, whom he recommended to the favor of the Queen, but with what success, or what afterwards became of them, is not known. The registers of Stamford, and Walthamstow, have been examined without success. His age, at the time of his death, is not known; but it could not exceed forty years. His death was brought on by a disease which was occasioned by chagrin and disappointment, and these were probably heightened, or aggravated by penury. His works are scarce, which accounts for his being neglected by modern readers—else in every thing he wrote he discovers the power and invention of a poet, a warmth of sentiment tender and natural, and as a satyrist, if nothing remained but his “Steele Glasse” he may be reckoned one of the first. A few years ago a pamphlet entitled “A remembrance of the well-employed life and godly end of George Gascoigne esq. who deceased at Stamford in Lincolnshire 7. Oct. 1577, reported by George Whetstone,” was discovered in the collection of a deceased gentleman, a Mr. Voight, of the Custom house, London, and was purchased by Mr. Malone. It consists of about thirteen pages, in small quarto,

black letter, and contains many particulars that were not known by his former Biographers.

“Robert Johnson, the Son of Maurice Johnson, Mayor of this Town, was born here. He was educated at Cambridge, and beneficed at Luffenham in Rutlandshire; where tho’ he did most of his charitable Actions, yet tis an Honour to this Place to be the Birth-place of a Man of such a publick Spirit. He found, when he entered into that County, that there was a great Want of Schools, for the pious Education of Children; and to remedy it, he set himself earnestly at Work, and by his artful Persuasions, so insinuated himself into the Hearts of the wealthy, even the greatest Misers; that although he found none, he left as many Free-Schools in Rutland as there are Market-Towns, particularly at Oakham and Uppingham, where he erected good Buildings, and settled good Endowments on them. But lest his charitable Disposition should be less esteemed, because in these Things he dispensed other people’s Charity, and not his own, (tho’ Time and Labour is a great Expence) he was as beneficent as the most charitable that he met with, for he was a considerable Benefactor to Emanuel and Sidney Colleges in Cambridge; to

which last, he gave four Exhibitions, to be bestowed in Part of Maintenance upon as many Scholars, which came from his Free Schools; founded two Hospitals in the same County, and gave a Stipend to the weekly Preachers at St. Paul's Cross, London; and tho' never dignified higher than Archdeacon of Leicester, he left a thousand Pounds a-year to his Posterity. He died about the Year of our Lord 1616. (*Magna Britannia.*)

## MARKET DEEPING.

Market Deeping, or East Deeping, as it was formerly called, is a long straggling Town, in the wapentake of Ness, in the parts of Kesteven, about 12 miles from Spalding, and 8 from Stamford, on the road leading from Spalding to London.

*Doomsday account.*

*Land of Alured of Lincoln.*—In *Estdepinge*

(East-Deeping) four oxgangs of land to be taxed. Land to half a plough. Soke of this manor. Six villanes and two bordars have there one plough and a half, and twenty acres of meadow, and one fishery of five pence.

*Land of Geoffry of Cambrai.*—III Manors. In *Est-Deeping* (East Deeping) Elmer and Erneber and Fredgist had three carucates of land and six oxgangs, to be taxed. Land to as many ploughs and oxen. Two vassals of Geoffry's have there two ploughs, and nineteen villanes and four borders having seven ploughs, and ninety-three acres of meadow. Value in King Edward's time, and now, one hundred shillings. Tallaged at thirty-five shillings.

In the same St. Peter de Burg had five sokes upon five manors of two carucates of land and six oxgangs to be taxed. Land to as many ploughs and oxen. Two vassals of Geoffry's have there one plough and a half, and twelve villanes with three ploughs and a half, and one fishery of twelve pence, and seventy acres of meadow. Value in King Edward's time sixty shillings, now fifty. Tallaged at twelve shillings.

"On the most southern parts of Kesteven lies Deeping fen, which is now at least ten miles in breadth.

The most ancient account that I have met with is about the beginning of Edward the Confessor's reign—Egelric, who had been a monk at Peterborough, but who was then Bishop of Durham, made a firm causeway of wood and gravel over it, from Deeping to Spalding, for the advantage of passengers. Elrichrode (says Ingulphus) a most costly work, but of extraordinary necessity, which now doth, and as long as it shall last, will bear his name.

At that time, part of this province was a forest, as well as a fen, and possessed by Leofric Earl of Mercia; for he was then Lord of Brunne and the adjoining marches. From Leofric it descended to Hereward his son, by whose daughter and heir Turfrida, it came into the possession of Hugh de Evermuc, Lord of Deeping. Richard de Rulos married the only daughter of Hugh; he was chamberlain to Wm. the Conqueror. The only daughter and heir of Richard de Rulos married Baldwin Fitz Gilbert, and his only daughter was married to Hugh de Wake. Hugh became, in her right Lord of Deeping and Bourne,

and was principal Forester to King Henry III. for his whole forest of Kesteven. Richard de Bulos, above mentioned, greatly improved these parts, by tillage and breeding of Cattle, and took in and inclosed a great part of the common fen adjacent, and converted it into meadows and pastures.

He likewise enclosed the lands from the chapel of St. Guthlac eastward to Car-dyke, and beyond Car-dyke to Clay-dyke without Cranmore, excluding the river Welland with a mighty bank, because every year almost all his grounds, lying near that river, were inundated by it, for which reason this place is called Deeping; meaning a deep meadow.

Upon this bank, he erected many Tenements and Cottages, and in a short time it became a large town; to each house he allotted gardens and arable fields. By thus banking out the river he reduced those deep lakes, and unpassable fens into fruitful fields, and pastures; and converted the most humid parts into pleasure gardens. Having brought the soil into a fertile condition, he next converted St. Guthlac's Chapel (which the monks of Eroyland built, when the place where Deeping now stands was theirs,) into a

Church, the place being now called Market Deeping. By thelike means of embanking and draining, he also made a village dedicated to St. James, in the very pan of Pudlington, and by much labour and expence, reduced it into fields, meadows, and pastures." (*Dugdale on Embankment.*)

The bridge at East Deeping, now market Deeping, was one boundary of the forest which was made by King Henry I. for the pleasute of hunting, and the distressing of his subjects; the boundary passed to Swayton Church on one side, and from Wragmere stake, and Bicker bridge, on the other, which metes divided the north parts, and the river Welland the south; except Croyland, which the monks possessed, having a licence from the King. It was not disforested till the 14 of King Henry III. (A. D. 1230.)

The following is from the records of Croyland.

"In the dayes of William the Conqueror, Richard of Ruloes, being married to the daughter and heir of Hugh de Ever, (Evermue.) lord of Burne and Deeping, attempted to inclose parte of the common feun, to enlarge his towne of Deeping; which hee did not performe, untill hee had given to Ingulphus abbot of Croyland xx



markes, to obtayne his good will and lycence for the same. The said king William did confirme to Croyland the charter of king Edredus, A. D. 1114. King Henry the I. did confirme to abbott Galsaidus the charter of king Edredus, and did grant unto him and his successors a larger privilege then any before him; the same was after confirmed by king Stephen, Henry the Second, and king John; alsoe by Henry the Third in the eleventh yeare of his raigne.

In the 15 yeare of the raigne of Henry the Second, it doth appear by the record, that there was a suite betweene the abbott of Croyland and Baldwin Wake, concerning the common of Goggisland; which at last was recorded in this manner: that is to say, "That the said Baldwin Wake at Lincoln before Jeffery bishopp of Ely and others did remise and quit-clayme from him and his heirs for ever all right and title which hee clayned in the marish aforesaid to the abbott and his successors for ever, with certaine reservations mentioned in the like case of Hugh Wake; viz. in the eighteenth yeare of the raigne of Henry the Third, the abbot of Croyland Henry Longcamp, and Hugh Wake the lord of Deeping, men at controversie for the said Goggisland

where, in the record it is extant, did come in suite against Hugh Wake, to know by what right or title hee claymed the impounding of cattle in Goggisland; as alsoe, that hee did not observe the conditions of agreement made betweene Baldwin Wake, grandfather to the said Hugh; and the said abbott; and, after manie treaties concerning the same matter betweene the said parties, it was agreed betweene them at Lincoln before the abbott of Bardney and others in this mauner (*viz*, according to the words of this record): "*Quód predictus Hugo remisit, et quietum clamavit de se et herebidus suis, eidem abbati et successoribus suis, et ecclesie sue de Croyland, totum juris et clamei quod habuit in predicto marisco, cum pertinentiis, in perpetuum; salvâ tamen eidem Hugoni et hereditus suis, et hominibus ipsorum, communâ pasture in eodem marisco ad omnimoda animalia suachasimâ et rechasianda, sine impedimento ipsius abbatis et successorum suorum recipiend'.*"

In the reigne of Richard the Second, at the parliament holden in the 13th yeare of his raigne, 1390, a perambulation was granted for the finding out of the bounds betweene Holland and Kesteven, and the inquisition taken before

Robert de Willoughby and others at the Stone Crosse super le Bridgelyke; in which perambulation the bounds of Goggisland are set out by the jury in the behalfe of the abbey of Croyland. It may bee objected, that, in the dayes of the king, Thomas Holland earle of Kent being lord of Deeping, they did impound the abbott's cattle at West Deeping; and did amerce him in their courts, that they did fish in divers waters belonging to the abbott; and many other matters may bee alledged, too long to write, which in the record may appeare: but they are recorded for notable injuries committed against the abbott; insomuch that the inhabitants of Deeping were threatened by the earle of Darby, then lyeing at Peterborow, to have their houses burned, and themselves slaine with the sword as enemies to the peace of the king, had they not humbled themselves to the said earle, and produced pardons. All which in the record is set out at large; alsoe many extraordinary facts committed, insomuch that they are recorded for their outrages to be "*populi innati furoris*;" and that they are "*diabolico instinctu seducti* &c.

The like objections may be made in behalfe of John earle of Somersett, lord of Deeping a-

gainst abbott John Littlington abbott of Croyland, in the dayes of Henry the Sixth, all which are likewise recorded for injuries; and the earle himselfe, being made duke, did write a letter by his steward of Deeping, that noe occasion of injuries should be offered to the abbott and his ministers, as in the record more plainly appeareth.

It is not to bee found in the record, that Deeping did ever make any just challenge of common in Goggisland, or did ever shew good evidence to keepe the same (as the saying is) staffe-holding; but onely that they have taken common with the abbott, as hee hath done in Deeping fenn, which in continuance of time hath growne to a custome; notwithstanding the said abbot for his owne common in the said Deeping fenn had many grants to shew, as before is rehearsed; but Deeping none at all for common in Goggisland."

In the 18 Edward I. Henry abbot of Croyland, and his monks, were impleaded by Thomas Wake of Lydel, Lord of Deeping, for fishing at East Deeping, in his fishery, and for throwing down a certain bank in his fen there, which the said Thomas had made for the safe guard of his

fen, against the fresh water. The abbot pleaded that the manor of Deeping belonged to him<sup>b</sup>, and that he had fished as the said Thomas had alledged, because he had a right so to do. But notwithstanding this answer, the abbot was, by Jurors, found guilty both of the trespass in fishing, and of breaking the bank, to the damage of the said Tho. Wake no less than 400 marks.

In the 40 Ed. III, the lady Blanch Wake complained to the King, that, whereas she was possessed of the fen called Deeping ea, as parcel of the manor of Deeping, which she held in Dower of the inheritance of Joan, at that time wife to Edward the Black Prince.

That the waters of the said fen could not proceed in their proper course, by reason of certain flood-gates &c. newly made upon these streams.

Probably from an earlier record:—*for* Maunor de Brune, a valiant soldier in the time of the Saxons, gave to the abbey of Croyland "The manor of Deeping, with 200 houses 400 cottages, and 2 churches." This grant was confirmed by Beored King of Mercia, in a charter dated the 8, of the Kalends of August A. D. 866. About 10 years afterwards, Beored seized the manor, with its appurtenances, and gave them to a person called Langfar who was named, from the office he held, "Pametrarius regis", who lived to a great age, and left the manor to his two daughters. Turketyl wanted to purchase it for the use of Croyland abbey, but they would not part with it.

and likewise by breaches in the banks, &c. and the King appointed jurors to examine, and make amendment thereof." (*Dugdales Embankment.*)

From the Wakes, as mentioned above, the manor descended to the Estotevilles, eminent men, and of great interest in these parts. In the time of Edward the II. the inheritance came by marriage to Edward Woodstock, earl of Kent, youngest son to Edward the I. His granddaughter Joan, the fair maid of Kent was heir to this manor, and carried it to the crown, by her marriage with the black Prince.

"Johanna Wake held, in time of Henry III. in Deeping Barholm and Stow, a fee of the king in capite, of the ancient feofment." William Albinaco held in Deeping, the eight part of a knight's fee in capite of the king, of the ancient feofment. Johanna Wake also held of the abbot of Burgo, and the abbot of the king of the old feofment. Also Wide Wake was enfeofed in half a knight's fee. Ralph de Wasprey, and Andrew de Byrham in half a fee." (*Testa de Neville.*)

In the year 1402, William Wyting of Deeping was pardoned for breaking down two crosses, which had been set up between Holland and

Kesteven, by five of the King's Justices, on the appointment of king Henry IV.,

*The Castle.*

A mile from Deeping Market, says Leland, is the ruins of a castle called Maxey, whereof sum parte standith yet. It was be all lekelyhood the Lorde Wakes House. Of late days it apparetynid to the Countes of Richmond, King Henry the 7. Mother.

The Lady Margaret, Courtes of Richmond, had a survey and inquisition taken at her Castle of Maxey, for ascertaining the bounds between Holland and Kesteven, whereby those of the neighbouring Commons were also ascertained. Being Lady of Deeping manor, and acting as a commissioner of Sewers, she did great service to this part of the country.

Maxey castle is now (1814) a farm house, built of stone, and covered with slate—it is about three quarters of a mile from the bridge at Market Deeping, and is in Northamptonshire.

*Town Hall.*

The Town Hall is an old stone building, at the west end of High Street, adjoining to church

street, but when, and by whom it was built, we cannot now ascertain.

Just opposite is the manor house, which is now an Inn, known by the name of the "Bertie's Arms," and here the Courts are kept.

### *Fairs and Market.*

The market day is on Wednesday, but it is only small. The Fairs are 1. on the second Wednesday in old May, 2. last Wednesday in July, 3. on old Michaelmas day,

### *The Priory.*

Here was a priory, which is now the parsonage house, it is near the east end of the church. The hall or entrance has a remarkable stone vaulted dome, with a stone arched door way. The other part of the house is more modern.

### *The Church.*

Is a very neat gothic building, consisting of a nave, north and south aisles, a chancel, and tower steeple, containing six bells. In the chancel is a Piscina, and two plain stone Stalls; in the south wall is a marble monument, to the memory of the Rev. Andrew Barradale, who died in



1706. In the east end of the north aisle, is a tablet to the memory of William Goodale, who died April 9, 1716, aged 110. At the age of 50, he married Hannah his wife, who was then 25 years of age, and had issue by her, 15 Children, at his death his youngest son was 30 years of age. Hannah his widow died April 21, 1723 aged 62 years. On the south side the nave are some clustered pillars and gothic arches, on the north side saxon arches. Here are also side galleries, and a neat singing gallery. The font is octagonal and neatly carved.

The church is dedicated to St. Guthlac, it is a rectory valued in the king's books at 16l. 1s. 8d Patron the king.

#### MODERN STATE.

The lords of the manor are the king, and the earl of Lindsey. The parish contains about 1401 acres of land, the average rent of which is 40 shillings per acre. The fences are thorn hedged. The tithes exonerated. The soil is a good dark loam mixed with scapy clay. Mr. W. Collyer is Lessee under the king.

Here is no endowed School, but 15 guineas are given annually to a Master for teaching 12 poor boys.

## ST. JAMES'S DEEPING.

ST. JAMES'S DEEPING is contiguous to Market Deeping, lying in the same right line, eastward of it.

The history of this place is nearly included in that of Market Deeping. A small chapel was erected here by the monks of Croyland, which was afterwards converted into a parish church.

### *The Priory.*

Tanner says, here was a cell of Black monks to Thorney Abbey, whereunto it was given by Baldwin fil. Giselberti A. D. 1139. St. James was the tutelary Saint of this small priory, which as parcel of Thorney was granted to Thomas Duke of Norfolk 32. Henry VIII. (*Not. Mon.*)

Here was, according to Dugdale, a priory of Benedictines, founded by Baldwin Wake, and given to St. Mary's and to the church at Thorney by his grandson Baldwin, to be held free from all secular service, only reserving a pension of two

marks a year, to be paid to the church of St. Guthlac, by the hands of the prior of St. James, in Deeping. Pope Innocent III. confirmed this grant, with a prohibition for any hereafter to infringe upon the privileges granted in this Charter, without incurring the anger of Almighty God, St. Peter, and St. Paul. Dated the 16. of the Calends of Jan. 1198, in the first year of his Pontificate.

### *The Church,*

Is a very fine structure, part of which is ancient, and of different orders of architecture. It consists of a nave, south aisle, a chancel, and spire steeple. The original church here, was built by the monks of Croyland, at an early period. Between the nave and south aisle, are some saxon arches, supported by fine clustered pillars, neatly ornamented. In the chancel wall, are some saxon arches and clustered pillars the openings between which are walled up.

We noticed a few monuments, one in memory of William Wymondesold and Frances his wife, another to the memory of J. D. Hogard Esq. Another to the memory of Thomas Hogard Gentlemen, who died in 1794, Another to S. Sharp Gentlemen, also one to Mr. W. Buck.

The font is large and curiously carved. In the South aisle are some curious old oak stalls, very ancient; here are but few pews, the pulpit is neat, and the whole being a large building it is extremely difficult to preach in. \* At the west end is a neat singing gallery, and a school is partitioned from the east end of the south aisle.

The chancel appears to be part of the old original church, it contains several saxon arches wall ed up, and being in a dilapidated state, it appears altogether to be very ancient. The church is dedicated to St. James, it is a discharged vicarage, valued in the king's books at 5l. 7s. 11d. Patron Sir T. Whichcote.

#### MODERN STATE.

The Priory is now down, and, on its scite, a good farm house has been built out of the old materials; it stands on the north side the church. in the same pasture, N. W. of the church, are two tumuli.

At a corner of the road, at a small distance south of the church, is an old stone cross, which

\* This church has been proverbially called "Kill Parson"—the present worthy and much esteemed Curate, the Rev. Mr. Mossop, is, however, an exception, and we trust will long continue to be such.

has been, and is yet, handsome. The base is about 4 yards square, and its sides are ornamented with shields, and compartments.

The king is the Lord of the manor, Sir Thomas Whichcote is also Lord of another manor, and Messrs. Smith and Laxton, are lords of the manor of Wakes and Dean. The parish contains about 3703 acres of land, the average rent of which is 40 shillings per acre. It is not liable to Tithes. The fences are thorn hedges, lately planted, and the soil a good dark loam. The principal proprietors of land are Sir T. Whichcote, Messrs Smith and Laxton, Samuel Graves Esq. &c

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## WEST DEEPING.

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West Deeping is a small village about 2 miles west of Market Deeping, and six east of Stamford.

*Doomsday Account.*

**Manor.** In *West-Deeping* (West-Deeping) Azor had two carucates of land and a half to be taxed. Land to as many ploughs. And Elmer had two carucates and a half of the same land to be taxed. Land to as many ploughs. Geoffry of Cambrai has there ten villanes having three ploughs, and four mills of forty shillings, and one hundred acres of meadow, and eight acres of coppice wood. Value in King Edward's time eight pounds, now six. Tallaged at ten shillings.

Frog Hall which stood near the present manor house, a little way east of the church, is now down; all that remains of it is a stable near the road leading from West Deeping to Maxey Castle, called Constable lane, but now stopped. The manor house has been very large, and moated round; the moat is nearly perfect at this time, and the house is large; the situation is low and swampy. It was probably the residence of Thomas Holland, earl of Kent, who was lord of this manor in 1388.

“ When the abbot of Croyland could not prevail with Thomas Holland earl of Kent, Lord

of the manor of West Deeping, to desist from encroaching upon his and the prior of Spalding's estates, he applied to Henry earl of Derby, son of John of Gaunt, who was then in the wars in Spain, imploring him to mediate with the earl of Kent, that he and his ministers should cease to harrass the abbot and prior, and their and his father the Duke's tenants in Spalding, at least till the Duke's return into England, and to suspend all further prosecution till that time, that they might be better able with his aid to defend their rights. With this the earl of Kent complied, trusting that the Duke would never return, but in 1389 he did return, and obtained of the King, and had an inquest taken of perambulation, and the metes and bounds of Holland and Kesteven taken by Knights of both parts, and fully and legally determined and ascertained. Notwithstanding this, in 1390, the Deepingers renewed and enlarged their encroachments, on which account the abbot applied again to the Duke, who interposed in parliament in his favor, complaint being made, against the earl of Kent by the people of Holland; and in 1392 the King sent a writ to John of Repyngale, steward, and John of Holland receiver of the said earl of

Kent, in the abbot's behalf; this quieted the business for a while, but during the time it was in debate, Sir N. Clifton, Kt. another steward to the earl of Kent, instigated the Deepingers, and other men of Kesteven to make an insurrection. (vide Spalding p. 258) Henry earl of Derby being then at Peterboro' and being earnestly intreated for his assistance, armed his own and the Duke's servants and tenants, and joining the prior of Spalding, they jointly drove the Deepingers from Croyland, and out of the parts of holland, at which time the outlaw (vide Spalding ut supra) being executed, it so frightened the Deeping men that they submitted to the earl of Derby. The winter following the abbot of Croyland preferred his bill of Complaint to the King against the earl of Kent, who within a week preferred two against the abbots of Croyland and Spalding, one against each, on the reading of which, the whole house of Lancaster stood up, and the Duke thus addressed the King. " My dread sovereign, some of the things here now read, very nearly concern me and my freehold, for which (God guiding) I ought to stand up as long as I live; and when I shall be dead, I will that my son, to whom they will hereditari-



ly devolve, do support them with all his might, and by no means suffer injustice to be done".

The king undertook this quarrel, as he did that of Mowbray Duke of Norfolk's appeal of treason against Henry Earl of Derby and Duke of Hereford, a little before the Duke of Lancaster's death; and having adjudged him to banishment for a term of years, the king himself took possession and disposed of the estates, for the recovery of which, Henry returned and proving successful, obtained the crown, and became king of England.

Thomas Holland was half brother, by the mother's side, to Richard II. he was earl of Kent and lord of Wake and Lydel. His daughter Margaret married John Beaufort earl of Somerset, who was son of John of Gaunt, by Catherine Swinford \* before marriage; he was made legitimate in the 20. Richard II.

About 30 years ago (1814) a toll was taken for every Carriage, Horse, Beast, &c. passing through the town, for the purpose of keeping the

\* Catherine Swinford was daughter of Paen Roet, a Gascoigne, and widow to Sir Hugh Swinford, a Lincolnshire Knight. By John of Gaunt she had 4 children.—Catherine and her daughter Joan lie buried in Lincoln Cathedral

bridges over the Welland in repair; the bridges are in the old road leading to Ancaster, and were lately rebuilt by the crown.

In A. D. 1807, some men digging in Deeping Common, found a human skeleton, at about 16 inches below the surface of the earth, and near it an earthen pot, containing a great number of Roman Coins;—some of them were Coins of Augustus, Tiberius and the first Claudius, consequently more than 1700 years old, but the irregularity of the coins towards the exergue, made it difficult, by the legend, to determine what they were. Around the head of one is the following.

IMP. C. VICTORINUS. P. AUG.

In all of them, the impression of the head was exceedingly correct, and the matrices in which they were struck, we may venture to pronounce, must have been equal, in the beauty of their finish to any of the present day.

#### *The Church.*

Is a neat gothic building, consisting of a nave north and south aisles, a chancel and spire steeple containing 4 bells. In the chancel are three plain stone stalls, and a Piscina. The pillars are round, supporting gothic arches. Here are

some very old oak stalls, on which are carved different coats of arms, as the freemasons arms the three feathers of the prince of Wales; a Saltire &c.. The pulpit is neat, and here is a good singing gallery. In the S. W. corner is a fine stone font, with coats of arms on the several compartments; one of which is the arms belonging to the priory at St. James's Deeping.

Here are some good monuments; on one is an inscription to the memory of Richard Figg, gent, who died in 1722, aged 84 years. Another to the memory of Richard Figg, gent. who died in 1785, aged 64.

The church is dedicated to St. Michael, it is a rectory valued in the king's books at 2l. 17s. 11d. Patron. the king.

#### MODERN STATE.

The king is Lord of the manor. The parish contains 1246 acres of land, the average rent of which is 35-shillings per acre. The fences are thorn hedges. The principal proprietors of land are the king, Mr. Dove, and Mr. R. Figg.

#### *Biography.*

At this Place was born Dr. Robert Tighe. He

was bred in the University of Oxford, and afterwards became Archdeacon of Middlesex, and Minister of Allhallows, Barking, London. He was an excellent Textuary, and profound Linguist, and was on that Account employed by King James I. in Translating the Bible, tho' it must be as an Assistant, for his Name is not in Dr. Fuller's Catalogue. He died about the the Year 1620, leaving to John Tighe Esq. his Son, of Corby in this County, an Estate of 1000l. per Annum. (*Mag. Brit.*)

The deplorable Condition of Mr. Priestland, and his Family, who was Rector of this parish, is one of the most remarkable Instances of the Cruelty of the rebellious times against the Episcopal Clergy. He was a Man of exemplary Sobriety, and other Virtues, but was forced to fly from his Cure by one Thorp, an Innkeeper of this Town, at the sign of the Crown, (whom he had a little before saved from the Gallows) because he heard, that Thorp had got a Warrant from Sir Anthony Erebury, a Justice of Lincolnshire, to seize him. After his Flight, his Living was sequestered, and Thorp, with a Parcel of rude Soldiers, came on Christmas Eve in the Evening, and turned out of Doors his

Wife and five Children, not suffering them to take so much as a Bed along with them, to lie on in that sharp Season. In the Barn they continued till near Harvest, and had a Bed allowed them there after some Time, but then, being forced to remove, they betook themselves to the Belfrey, and lived there some time upon the People's Charity. The Sequestrator, Mr. Maplesden, should have allowed them a fifth Part of the Living, but would not, till Mrs. Priestland made her Case known to Oliver himself, and then the Lord Claypool paid her, but lost most of his Money, notwithstanding Mr. Maplesden held three Livings at that Time worth near 400l per Annum. In the Time of his Sufferings, Mr. Priestland sold his Paternal Estate, melted down his Plate, and when the Times were more settled, taught a School, to maintain his Family, till the Restoration of King Charles II. when he was replaced in his Rectory, but it was so dilapidated and ruin'd that it was worth little to him the eight Years he lived after, and his Widow, after his Death fell into great Trouble about Dilapidations. (*Mag. Brit.*)



END OF VOL. 2.



## ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS.

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Beside the account already given (in vol. I.) respecting Swineshead, we have been favored with the following, from Mr. Root, who obtained the particulars from Mr. Geo. Hydes Sen.

In the Fold pasture, now occupied by Mr. Ellis, there was formerly a large Hall belonging to Thomas Woolmer Esq. with a large range of Land, and a coach road down to the great Tithe Barn, and where the said Barn now stands was a large Swan pool, belonging to the aforesaid Gentleman,—he gave some lands to the Vicar of Swineshead. There was a large stack of chimneys standing, about eight years since belonging to the said Hall. The pasture is very hilly, at this time. There was formerly a lane nearly opposite to the Black swan called by the name of Crowson-alley, leading to a River called the old south Eau, and there are stone steps down into the said river. There was also a River called Hubbard Syke, but now called the Sceath and there is a large Farm adjoining to it, called

## ADDITIONS AND

Sykemouth Farm, occupied by G. Holland Esq. of Wigtoft, the aforesaid river went from Kyme river, and emptied itself into Swineshead old south Eau, and the old South Eau emptied itself into Bicker Haven, now called Wigtoft marsh. There were three stone Bridges over the old South Eau, in the parish of Swineshead, the first was a large Stone Bridge in the north end, near to Mr. Marsland's House, called by the name of Beacon Toft Dam, near to Canneby Hill; there were steps down the river near the Bridge, for the conveniency of loading or unloading Boats. The second was a Stone Bridge near to Mr. Musson's house, joining to Shopman's Wharf, and the aforesaid Wharf came up to Swineshead market place. The third was a stone Bridge, about a Quarter of a Mile lower, called Bullock's Bridge, near to the stump Cross, and it is supposed that the Stones with which Swineshead Church was built came up the old South Eau in boats. In Swineshead Drayton was a House called Ball Hall, and there was a very large Barn upon the Premises, but it was taken down last summer (1813) and the Hall being in a very ruinous state, it was taken down this Spring 1814, it was late the Property of Sir

## CORRECTIONS.

Gilbert Heathcote, but now of Mr. Wm Ingall.

Since the publication of Brothertoft, the Author has been furnished with further particulars of that place, serving to illustrate more of its antiquity.

Tradition affirms that Brothertoft, or what was originally called Toft, was formerly a *Vaccaria* to the abbey of Swineshead, as Toft Grange was to that of Revesby; for which purpose it was very suitable, being so much elevated as to be not subject to the floods that frequently throughout the winter, overspread the fens.

The Chapel is said to have been erected about the year 1600, and that the greater part of the materials were the ruins of a dilapidated Chapel of ease to the parish Church of Conningsby, which had stood on an elevated piece of ground about a quarter of a mile N. E. from Langrick Ferry, at a Place where formerly had been a hermitage.

The following extract from the works of John Taylor, the water Poet, writer in 1640. may at least amuse the reader, though there is no reason to believe the truth of his picture of the then Brothertoft, since it does not appear to have



## ADDITIONS AND

been ever subject to tythes or the repairs of bridges, or to have been governed as stated by the Poet.

"On Goosetoft, now called Brothertoft in Lincolnshire"—

### *The Water Poet's description of Brothertoft.*

"In *Lincolnshire* an ancient towne doth stand,  
Call'd *Goosetoft*, that hath neither fallow'd land,  
Or woods, or any fertile pasture ground,  
But is with wat'ry Fens incompast round.  
The people there have neither horse nor cowe,  
Nor sheep, nor oxe, nor asse, nor pig nor sowe;  
Nor coeage, canals, whig, whay, buttermilke or cheese,  
Nor any other lining thing but geese.  
The parson of the parish takes great paines,  
And tythe geese onely, are his labours gaines;  
If any charges there must be defrayed,  
Of impositions on the towne is myd;  
For subsistans, or fifteenes for the king,  
Or to mended bridges, churches, any thing,  
Then those that haue of geese the greatest store,  
Must to these taxes pay so much the more.  
Nor can a man be raise'd to dignity,  
But as his geese increase and multiply;  
And as men's geese doe multiply and breed,  
From office unto office they proceed.  
A man that hath but with twelve geese began,  
In time hath come to be a tythingman;  
And with great credit past that office thorough,

## CORRECTIONS.

(His geese increasing) he hath bin headborough.  
Then, (as his flocks in number are accounted,) Vnto a constable he hath bin mounted;  
And so from place to place he doth aspire,  
And as his geese grow more hee's raised higher.  
Tis onely geese there that doe men prefer,  
And 'tis a rule, no goose, no officer."

So long as the Common continued open, it was the annual custom for the Fen-reeves to assemble on the 8th of July O. S. and drive to Brothertoft such sheep as were found in their wool, and to levy a fee of four pence per head on such as belonged to persons having no Common-right, at which time commenced, and continued for a week, the feast, or festival, called *Toft drift*.

On this occasion Brothertoft was the resort of thousands of Persons from Boston and the surrounding Villages for whose accommodation about 30 large Booths were erected, where Ale, and Provisions were vended, while many hundreds were entertained, during the week, by the open door hospitality of the Inhabitants. A

Anciently the Booths were erected on the West of Brothertoft, but, from about the year 1740 they were fixed on the East.—

## ADDITIONS AND

11. At this period many of the Inhabitants, had risen to what was then thought, opulence, — possessing at least 100 Sheep with some horned cattle and horses, and milking from 2 to 8 Cows—

The mansion house already mentioned, was built by Mr. Thomas Saul, the founder of the Baptist Chapel in Boston, whose Son completed the building at his sole expence; the father having acquired at Brothertoft a handsome fortune, by the staple commodities of the fens,—Feathers, Wool, and Wild-fowl.

The whole annual rental of Brothertoft, while in the Newcastle family, was only about 120l. under conditions by which the tenants were bound to all repairs.

Page 150, Line 12 Vol. 2. For Leofric. read Leofricii.

155. Last Line but one, for Rev. J Caparn, read “the King and the Rev. Sam. Partridge in alternate turns.”

156. Line 5. For 2555 and read 3555.

18. For arrable read arable.

157. 10. For expensive read expansive.

**corrections.**

**In page 101 &c. in the account of Bennington,  
for Waldgrave, read Waldegrave.**

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