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## ARCHÆOLOGICAL NOTES ON THANET.

THE ancient Celtic, or British, name of this Island, is extremely expressive. Asser, in his *Annals of the Exploits of Alfred*, and Florence of Worcester in his *Chronicle*, both of them, in describing the events of A.D. 853, tell us that Thanet was, by the Britons, called *Ruim*.<sup>\*</sup> The *Chronologia* of St. Augustine's Abbey, likewise, under the date A.D. 694 describes a charter, given in that year, as "Carta de terra iiii aratrorum in Thaneto Britannice *Ruym*," etc.<sup>†</sup>

The Gaelic word *Ruimne* meant "a marsh;" and Isaac Taylor says that the name of Romney Marsh is derived from *ruimne*. He would, probably, tell us that a trace of Thanet's ancient title (*Ruim*) still lingers in the word *Ramsgate*; for he says that the name of Ramsey, in the Fens, is derived from the Gaelic word *ruimne*, a marsh.<sup>‡</sup> Certainly no name could have been more fitting and descriptive, for a large portion of the Isle of Thanet, than this of *Ruim*, which was applied to it by the ancient Britons.

The tangible traces, discovered from time to time, of inhabitants in Thanet, form a continuous chain which reaches back beyond the commencement of the Christian era. The ancient Celtic inhabitants, or Britons, have left us much more tangible traces than the mere echo of the name by which they called this island. Flint knives, chisels, and adzes of stone, have revealed their former presence at Rams-gate, and around Reculver. Bronze celts bear witness to their occupation of Minster, and of Garlinge near Margate. At the latter place no less than twenty-seven celts were found together, when a sea-gate was dug, through the cliff, in the year 1724.

<sup>\*</sup> "Insula quæ dicitur in Saxonica lingua *Tenet*, Britannico autem sermone *Ruim*."

<sup>†</sup> C. Hardwick's edition of *Historia Monasterii Sci. Augustini Cantuariensis*, page 7. *Decem Scriptores*, column 2234.

<sup>‡</sup> *Words and Places*, fifth edition, page 237 (note 2).



## THE ROMANS, AND THE PORT OF STONORE.

Roman remains have been found at Dandelion at Margate, at Ramsgate, at Minster, at Osinghelle in St. Lawrence, at Broadstairs and elsewhere. It is quite clear that during the period of Roman sway in Britain, Thanet was widely occupied.

Soon after those rulers of the ancient world acquired supremacy in Britain, we find repeated mention of "*Portus Rutupensis*, the name given by the Romans to the estuary, which then separated the Isle of Thanet from the mainland."\* Mr. Planché draws a graphic picture of this estuary's mouth, as we may suppose it to have appeared, during the palmy days of Roman Richborough (*Rutupice*). "We may descry the Belgic Briton in his wicker coracle, paddling over to the Isle of Thanet, divided from the mainland by the sea, at that point nearly a mile in breadth, and studded with trading vessels from Gaul, Greece, or Phœnicia."† In the third century, a Roman writer, C. Julius Solinus, mentions Thanet by the name which it bears at present.‡ We thus know what the Romans called this island, let us seek to discover at what port in the island they were accustomed to land.

As the two Roman *Castra*, of Richborough and Reculver, were both on the mainland of Kent, this inquiry becomes interesting. Surely some town on the Thanet side of the estuary must have been then in use? The plural form of the name *Rutupice* suggests the existence, in *Portus Rutupensis*, of a second town, which naturally would be situated on the eastern shore, as Richborough stood on the western bank, of the estuary.

We know, from the discovery of Roman remains, that the Imperial race occupied Ramsgate's§ East Cliff and West

\* Planché's *A Corner of Kent*, p. 1; Lucan's *Pharsalia*, vi. 67; Juvenal's *Satire*, iv., 141; Ausonius's *Parentalia*, all quoted by C. Roach Smith, *Antiquities of Richborough*, pp. 4, 5, 10, 11, 13.

† Planché, *Ibidem*, p. 18.

‡ Cap. xxiv.; *Collect. Rer. Mom.* Berolini, 1864, p. 114. Battely's *Antiquitates Rutupine*, p. 9. Lambarde's *Perambulation of Kent*, sub voce *Tanet*.

§ Hicks' 'Roman Remains in Ramsgate,' *Archæologia Cantiana*, XII, p. 14.

Cliff, were buried at Osinghelle in St. Lawrence, and inhabited Cliffs End,\* where the parishes of St. Lawrence and Minster meet. Yet these places can scarcely be said to have been within the *Portus Rutupensis*. There was, however, on the eastern shore of the estuary, an ancient town called Estanore or Stonore in Thanet, which formed that island's port. Lewis says (p. 132) that it was itself an island, but if not, it stood upon a long peninsula, which projected from the south-eastern extremity of Thanet, and was undoubtedly the original port town of the Island. Sandwich, on the opposite shore, which gradually superseded Stonore, is first heard of in the seventh† century (Somner says the tenth),‡ but not until the eleventh century had it become "the most famous of all the ports of England."§ In all probability, Stonore and London had both been small British ports, which the Romans developed. The connection between them was very ancient. Ammianus Marcellinus|| (lib. 20) tells us that the Deputy Lupicinus, embarking at Boulogne, sailed over to Rutupiaë, and so to London. This was the usual course; the port for London was the twin-towned port of Rutupiaë. Of its twin towns the first seen by ships sailing from the European continent to London would be Estanore, or Stonore, on the eastern shore, which they would pass before they touched Richborough, on the western bank. We would identify Stonore as the *Lundenwic* which is mentioned in a charter granted by King Edbert (Æthelbert II) to Sigeburga, Abbess of St. Peter's and St. Paul's monastery in Minster, circa A.D. 761.¶ Somner quotes two instances in

\* At the Annual Meeting of our Kent Archæological Society, in 1877, Mr. Bubb of Minster exhibited Roman remains which were found by the late Mr. Petley near his house at Cliff's End. One large *amphora*, which held six or seven gallons, was six feet in circumference at its widest part, and within it were three other vessels. One was a glass bottle, another was a Samian *patera*, and the third was an urn containing calcined bones. They were found midway between Mr. Petley's house, and the boundary stone of Minster parish.

† Planché, *Corner of Kent*, p. 34.

‡ *Roman Ports and Forts in Kent*, p. 15.

§ *Æmma* [Ælfgivæ] *Regine Encomium*, edit. Paris, A.D. 1619.

|| Quoted fully by O. Roach Smith, *Antiquities of Richborough*, p. 7.

¶ "Id est, duarum navium transvectionis census, qui etiam juris nostri erat in loco cujus vocabulum ad Serræ; juxta petitionem venerabilis abbatissæ Sigeburgæ ejusque sacræ conversationis familiæ, in monasterio sancti Petri quod situm est in Insula Tenet; sicut a regibus Merciorum, Æthilbaldo vide-

which *Lundenwic* is mentioned as the port used by St. Boniface on his missionary journeys, to and from the continent of Europe.\* He identifies Lundenwic with Rutupium or Richborough; saying, of the Saxons, that "rejecting the wonted name of this place *Rutupium* they renamed it *Lundenwic*."† He further alleges that the Danes changed the name into Sandwich. It seems however to be more probable that Lundenwic was Estanore, the other twin-town of the Roman Rutupia. The city of London has never claimed any jurisdiction over, or connection with, Richborough or Sandwich; but it has claimed ancient rights in Estanore. In the year 1090, as W. Thorn's *Chronicle*‡ informs us, the Corporation of London claimed jurisdiction over Stonore, as a seaport subject to the city of London.§ The King and his justices decided against London, and found a verdict in favour of the rights of St. Augustine's Abbey. This legal suit and its result seem to leave little doubt that *Lundenwic* was Stonor (*Estanore*), not Sandwich. The latter Port belonged to Christ church, Canterbury, and St. Augustine's had no rights whatever in Sandwich. On the other hand, grants of *Lundenwic*, made by Æthelbert and Offa, are recited in a charter belonging to St. Augustine's Abbey, (which succeeded to the possessions of Minster Abbey). To St. Augustine's Abbey, as the King's Court decided, the Stonore rights belonged in A.D. 1090. Stonore and Sandwich seem to have been rivals in the middle ages. The ferry rights between the two towns belonged to Christ Church, and in 1127 some tenants of St. Augustine's were sued because they used another ferryboat.|| In 1266, men of Sandwich burnt two of the abbot's mills, one at Stonore, the other at Hepesflete.¶ Fourteen years later, the abbot complains that Sandwich men injure his sea wall, between Stonore and Cliffs-end, by forcibly digging up the materials, and carting

licet clementissimo et rege Offan, longe ante concessum est tributum in loco cujus vocabulum est Lundenwic." Thomas of Elmham's *Hist. Mon. Si. Augustini*, p. 322.

\* Somner, *Roman Ports and Forts*, pp. 12, 13, quoting Willibald's *Vita S. Bonifacii*, p. 354. Edit. Ingolstadt, 1608.

† *Ibidem*, pp. 18, 19.

‡ *Decem Scriptores*, col. 1793, line 30.

§ Boys' *History of Sandwich*, p. 656; Somner's *Ports and Forts*, p. 14.

|| *Ibidem*, pp. 553-4.

¶ *Ibidem*, p. 659.

them away, thus endangering his Minster manor.\* The "ancient city" of Stonore (so it is called in a Sandwich manuscript written more than three centuries ago), continued to be frequented until late in the fourteenth century. Louis, the Dauphin of France, when he came to England to contend with King John, landed at Stonore in May, 1215. King Edward III came to Stonore in 1359 and took up his quarters there, in the house which Robert Goverils had lately possessed.† There, on the 11th of October, he delivered up the Great Seal, to its temporary custodian, with all customary ceremonial. Not until the 28th of that month did he embark on board the Philippe of Dartmouth, and depart. Edward III seems therefore to have dwelt for a week or two in the Isle of Thanet on that occasion.

The old town of Stonore was called "Old Sandwiche" by some ignorant people, says Leland‡. It enjoyed an annual fair of five days' duration, and likewise a weekly market, the former granted by Henry I in 1104, and the latter by King John.§ It suffered from marine convulsion in 1365, when a great inundation of the sea from Cliffs End to Stonore nearly destroyed the town; and all the levels or marshes, between Canterbury and the sea, were in danger of being overflowed.|| In 1385 it was burnt by the French.

Although Leland said that nothing remained, in his time, but the ruin of Stonore Church, and Hasted avers that in his time (1790) there were but three houses in the parish, and no church; yet, in May 1648, there was at Stonore one Peter Vanderflaet,¶ who sent £100 to an impostor, at Sandwich, who falsely personated Charles Prince of Wales, son of Charles I.

Upon the whole, I think there is much evidence to support the contention that Estanore, or Stonore, existed for centuries before Sandwich was heard of; and that this lost town was used, if not founded, by the Romans as their port

\* Boys' *Hist. Sandwich*, p. 660.

† *Ibidem*, p. 669.

‡ Leland, *Itinerary*, vii. 127.

§ Hasted, *History of Kent*, x., 415.

|| Boys' *History of Sandwich*, p. 669. Dugdale's *History of Imbanking*, p. 44. *Rot. Pat.* 39 Edward III, part I, memb. 19 dorso.

¶ Boys' *History of Sandwich*, p. 714.

on the Thanet side of the estuary. I cannot entertain the slightest doubt that this lost town of Estandore, or Stonore, was identical with Lundenwic.

#### SAXONS IN THANET.

Admirers of our Saxon ancestors, very justly, speak with some enthusiasm respecting Thanet, as the landing place of the first Saxon conquerors. But were these Saxon conquerors the first Saxons in Thanet?

Discoveries made in the cemetery at Osinghelle\* (or Osengal), when the South-Eastern railway was cut through it, support very strongly the idea that colonies of Teutonic tribes, or "Saxons," had become domesticated in Kent under the Roman rule. This cemetery, at Osinghelle, contained a large number of Saxon interments, but amongst them was a Roman coffin of lead, a pair of bronze scales, a set of weights formed of Roman coins, and other Roman relics. These go far to prove that, on the site of the mediæval parish of St. Lawrence, midway between its church and Manston Court, a population of Roman citizens and of Teutonic colonists must have subsisted side by side. Mr. Thomas Wright was strongly of this opinion.† The Romans seem to have made use of Teutonic mercenaries to defend their "Saxon shore," on both sides of the Channel; and these mercenaries were not merely soldiers, but colonists who brought families with them. Mr. Latham adopts the suggestion, originally put forward by Zeuss, which traces to these "*læti*" the origin of the Kentish term *lathe*. That

\* Richard de Osingehelle paid Romescot in St. Lawrence in the thirteenth century (*Cotton, MS.*, Faustina A. L., fol. 22b.)

† *The Celt, the Roman, and the Saxon*, chap. xiii., p. 386.—"It seems certain that in some parts . . . the transition from Roman to Saxon was gradual, and that the two races mixed together. At Canterbury, Colchester, Rochester, and other places, we find Roman and Saxon interments in the same cemetery; and in the extensive Saxon burial-ground at Osengal, in the Isle of Thanet, a Roman interment in a leaden coffin was met with. The result of the discoveries which have been made in the researches among the Saxon cemeteries, has been to render it more and more probable that the Saxons were gradually gaining a footing in the island, before the period at which the grand invasions are understood to have commenced."

name, applied to divisions of this county, is not known in any other part of England, and it may well be derived from the "*terræ læticae*" which, says the Theodosian Code, were lands apportioned to the *Læti*, who colonised them.\* The word *Læti*, is but a Roman form of the German word *leute*, people;† and its use by the Romans seems to have been analogous to the ancient Jewish use of the word Gentiles. The Thanet cemetery opened at Osinghelle gives tangible proof of the existence here of the Teutonic *Læti*, side by side with the ruling Romans.

When that Imperial race deserted Britain, the "Saxons" seem to have perpetuated the remembrance of Roman roads, and of Roman "*aulæ*," by retaining the name of each as a *Street* or a *Hall*. In Thanet such traces of Roman civilization are till embodied in the names, Dun Street, Reading Street, Monkton Street, Tattell Street, Spratting Street, Sole Street, Smock Street, Westgate Street, and perhaps in White Hall in St. Lawrence, Upper Hale and Lower Hale in St. Nicholas or Birchington.

Although the majority of names in Thanet are undoubtedly Saxon, yet we find but few place-names in the island which can be traced to Saxon *patronymics* as their origin. When we have named Garlinge, Birchington, Halling Court, Osinghelle, Ellington, and Newington, we have probably exhausted all the Saxon patronymic names in Thanet; and of these six some are doubtful. Spratting Street I take to be a modern corruption of the surname Sprackling; and Reading Street was probably Riding Street, a bridle path. The Saxon cemeteries however enable us to prove continuous occupation here, from and after the cessation of the Roman rule. The Osinghelle cemetery, as we have already seen, was in use in the fifth century, before the Romans left, and it must have continued in use during a long period subsequent to their departure; for the number of Saxon graves, excavated in the chalk, was very large. Coins (Saxon *scættæ*), found among the numerous graves

\* Latham's *Handbook of the English Language*, 4th edition, pp. 81, 82.

† Taylor's *Words and Places*, 5th edition, p. 95, note.

opened at Sarre, prove that the Sarre cemetery was in use during the seventh century, as late as the years A.D. 653-6;\* that is to say, within twenty years before Dompneva founded Minster Nunnery. Who then were the "Saxons" that lie buried at Osinghelle and Sarre? Were they exclusively the companions and descendants of those who, landing at Ebbsfleet in A.D. 449, are called the Jutish or Saxon conquerors of England—or were there also buried here many older colonists, of Teutonic race, who had been peacefully settled in Thanet for many years before the landing of Hengest? The testimony of Osinghelle Cemetery, with its Roman interments among the Saxon graves, seems to prove that the latter suggestion is the truth. This fact need not lessen our interest in Thanet as the landing place of Hengest. Yet we should regulate our enthusiasm, by bearing the fact in mind, when we read such stirring words as these of Mr. J. R. Green:—"It is with the landing of Hengest and his war-band, at Ebbsfleet, on the shores of the Isle of Thanet, that English history begins. No spot in England can be so sacred, to Englishmen, as that which first felt the tread of English feet."†

#### THANET'S INSULATION.

The water which separated Thanet from the mainland was called the *Wantsum*, and its north mouth had the name of *Genlade*. Lambarde in his *Perambulation of Kent* says,‡

"Beda hath mention of a water in Kent, running by Reculvers, which he calleth *Genlade*. This name was afterwards sounded *Yenlade*, by the same misrule that *geard* is now *yard*; *geoc* now *yoke*, etc. . . . I read in Bedae's . . . fifte booke, chap. 9, that Reculver standeth at the Northe mouthe of the water *Genlade*, which is the one mouthe of Wantsume, by his owne description. . . . That water which now sundereth the Isle of Greane from the hundred of Hoo, hath two such mouthes, . . . the one of which

\* Rev. Daniel H. Haigh in *Archæologia Cantiana*, VIII., 172.

† *History of the English People*, chap. i., sect. 2, p. 7.

‡ Edition of 1596, page 257.

opening into the Thamyse is called the *North Yenlet*, notable for the greatest oysters and flounders; and the other receauing the fall of Medway, is called *Colemouth*."

The father of Kentish History thus reminds us that the name of *Genlade* (corrupted into *Yenlade* and *Yenlet*) was common to the northern mouths of two streams, which separated the Isles of Grain and Thanet, respectively, from the adjacent mainland. For the meaning and derivation of this name *Genlade*, we must look to a modern authority, in preference to Lambarde. One of the best guides in such matters is the Rev. W. W. Skeat, Professor of Anglo-Saxon at Cambridge University, who says:—

"The Anglo-Saxon *genlade* or *genhlade*, means a *discharging*, or the disemboguing of a river into the sea, or of a smaller river into a larger one. More literally still, it is a *gain-loading* (i.e. an unloading), and is derived\* from the verb *lādan* or *hlādan*, to load or lade."

The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle tells us what use was made of this *Genlade*, or North Mouth, of the Wantsum. That Chronicle, for the year 1052, narrates how Harold, and his father (Earl Godwin) with a great fleet, went from Dover to Sandwich; "and then they went to North-mouth, and so toward London; and some of the ships went within Shepey and there did much harm."

This *route* to London, from Sandwich, is known, with certainty, to have been that customarily used. So common was it that either Stonore, or less probably Sandwich, was sometimes called Lundenwic; and the whole water-way between Sandwich and London was occasionally spoken of as the Thames. The Corporation of London, as we have seen, at one time claimed jurisdiction over Stonore, as a seaport subject to the City of London. Any minute and detailed mention, however, of the salient points in this marine *route* to London, shewing that its course ran between Thanet and the mainland, and expressly mentioning its passage out at North-mouth, is extremely rare. Scarcely any other description is to be found, so full as that above quoted, from the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle *ad annum* 1052.

\* *Archæologia Cantiana*, Vol. IX., p. 114.



This almost complete absence of such full description, during the long period of thirteen, or fourteen, centuries for which that route was in use, arises from the universality of the custom, and from its being well known to all contemporaries, so that no other route suggested itself to their minds.\* When however we remember this, we can see allusions to the fact in more general statements.

Stow, the chronicler, says that in A.D. 1269, the river Thames being frozen, from St. Andrews-tide to Candlemas, merchandize from Sandwich was obliged to be taken to London *by land*, instead of by sea.† Here we find an allusion to a casual interruption of the customary marine route, through the Wantsum and North-mouth. In the 48th of Ed. III (1374-5) Commissioners (named Belknappe, Dygge, and Horne) were appointed to survey the banks "betwixt Gravesend and Shepey, and thence to *Reculvre and so to Sandwich, Dovor, &c.*"‡ Here is a most evident allusion to the customary route for ships from London, to go in at Reculver and come out at Sandwich, having sailed between Thanet and the mainland.

The entire course of this route, as far as Northmouth,

\* Isaac Taylor's notes upon the names of places which lie upon the borders of Thanet are so useful that we quote them in his own words:—

"The ISLE OF THANET was formerly as much an island as the Isle of Sheppey is at the present time. Ships bound up the Thames used ordinarily to avoid the perils of the North Foreland by sailing through the channel between the island and the mainland, entering by Sandwich and passing out by Reculver near Herne Bay. SANDWICH or 'sandy-bay' was then one of the chief ports of debarkation; but the sands have filled up the 'wick' or bay, the ancient port is now a mile and a half distant from high water mark; and the ruins of Rutupiae now Richborough, the port where the Roman fleets used to be laid up, are now surrounded by fine pastures. EBBSFEET which is now half a mile from the shore was a port in the 12th century, and its name indicates the former existence of a 'tidal channel' at the spot. The Celtic name of DURLOCK, more than a mile from the sea, means 'Water lake,' and indicates the process by which the estuary was converted into meadow. This navigable channel, which passed between the Isle of Thanet and the mainland, has been silted up by the deposits brought down by the river Stour. STOURMOUTH (the name, be it noted, is English, not Anglo-Saxon) is now four miles from the sea, and marks the former embouchure of this river. CHISELET, close by, was once a shingle islet (*chesolaa*); and five miles farther inland, the name of FORDWICH, the 'bay (*wic*) on an arm of the sea (*fiord*),' proves that in the time of the Danes the estuary must have extended nearly as far as Canterbury. Beyond Canterbury is OLANTIGE, anciently Olantige, whose name shews that in Saxon times it must have been an island." *Words and Places*, 5th edition, pp. 236-237.

† Furlley's *Weald of Kent*, ii., 111.

‡ Rot. Pat. 48 Ed. III, part i, M. 30 dorso. Dugdale's *History of Imbanking*, p. 45.

was technically within the liberty of the town or port of Sandwich. Sir Stephen de Pencestre, Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports from 1267 to 1283, made an official perambulation of the boundaries, attended by the mayor and other officials. The record of the route and of the boundaries runs thus :\*—

“First, beginning at the Stone Cross, at the west part of the town, near the causeway or common road between Sandwich and Ech, which cross is within the liberty; and from thence going along *close by the river side, to Northmouth*, everywhere by the line of high water mark, at spring tide; and then returning along the other margin of the river on the opposite side, through Sarr and Boxley in Thanet, to the shore at the passage directly against the cross of Hennebergh; and from that cross straight on the opposite side to the sea; and thence along the sea shore to Stonore, including the whole town of Stonore and the marshes within Hennebergh which are within the precinct of the liberty aforesaid; and on the other side of the river, crossing over to Peperness, and thence to a stream that runs into the river called the Gestling, by the *thief downs, where persons condemned within the liberty are buried alive*; and so going along that stream to a marsh called Holbergh, belonging to the lord of Poldre,” etc., etc.

The mention of the stipulation that *high water mark at spring tide* should form the boundary line, reminds us of the nature of such tidal estuaries as the Wantsum. Their beds being to a great extent flat, not shelving until the mid channel is approached, a vast expanse of them lies dry for many hours in the day, and the distance between high water mark and low water mark is often very great. This is alluded to in King Cnut's grant of the Port of Sandwich to Christ Church Canterbury, in A.D. 1023.† It defines the limits of that convent's rights, to extend on both sides of the river (from Peperness to Mearcsflete) to such a point on shore as could be reached by a small axe, thrown from a vessel afloat at *high water*, when it could come much nearer to the shore than it could at low water.

Sandwich attained its importance as a port, solely from

\* Boys' *History of Sandwich*, p. 536.

† Kemble's *Anglo-Saxon Charters*, No. 737.

its position at the mouth of the Wantsum estuary. When that estuary began to be difficult for navigation, Sandwich began to decay. The nature of the estuary may perhaps be understood better by comparison with estuaries now in existence. Take for instance the river Swale, an estuary which flows between Shepey and the mainland. It is crossed by ferries at Harty and Elmley, and at low water its channel is very narrow, yet at high water it has a breadth of at least three-quarters of a mile, and in some parts is much wider. A very great, important, and heavy traffic is borne by it; yet at some states of the tide, daily, a light ferry boat cannot approach near enough to hard ground for passengers to embark, and they are carried on men's shoulders into the boat. During the greatest portion of each day, for miles, those creeks or channels are dry, by which at flood-tide heavy and valuable traffic is carried to and from Faversham, Sittingbourne, and Milton.

These points must be borne carefully in mind when we come to enquire at what period the Wantsum estuary became impassable for navigation. When Thomas of Elmham, in or about 1414, drew and coloured the map of Thanet, which he prefixed to his History of St. Augustine's Abbey, he represented the Wantsum as being still a continuous stream, from Sandwich to Northmouth, although he depicts such a scene, at Sarre Ferry, as may now be found needful every day on the navigable river Swale, at the Ferries of Harty and Elmley. He shews the ferry boat standing in shallow water, and a passenger being carried to it on a man's shoulders. Seventy years elapse, after Thomas of Elmham's map was made, and we find written records of the state of the Wantsum, in the year 1485. The Act of Parliament, sanctioned by Henry VII, which permitted the erection of a bridge at Sarre Ferry, especially stipulates that it must be constructed "of suche resonable length, hyght, and large space betwene the arches therof, so that botes and lyghters may pass to and fro, under the same, at any time hereafter, when the water shall happen to encrease and be sufficient for such botes or lyghters to passe there." At that time, it appears that the ferry boat at Sarre could still

be used for about one hour each tide, at high spring floods. The description given in the Act of Parliament is so interesting that we will quote it, as printed by the Rev. W. Campbell in his *Materials Illustrative of the Reign of Henry VII.*, p. 184.

"Forasmuch as the Isle of Tenet, in the county of Kent, lying upon the high see on the east and north parties thereof, and to the ryver of salt water ledyng from a place called Northmouthe, joinyng to the see, to a place within the said shire called Sarre, and from thence to the toune and haven of Sandewich in the shyre, and so forth to the see on the west and south parties of the said isle, out of tyme of mynde hath be closed and invironed with the said see and ryver, at which place called Sarre, by all the said tyme hath be had and used a passage and a ferry, called Sarre Ferry, over the said ryver, by a boate called a ferryboate, oute of the said isle into the countrey of the said shyre of Kent, next adjoynyng, and from thens into the said isle, for all manner of persones, beastes, corne, and other thinges to passe and be conveyed att all seasons to and fro the same isle and countrey. . . .

"It is so nowe that by the chaunge of the cours of the see whiche hath fortunied, in yeres late passed, the said ryvere at the said place called Sarre, where the said fery and passage so was had and used, is so swared, growen, and hyghed with wose, mudde, and sande, that nowe no fery or other passage may be there, nor in any other place nygh adjoynyng and conveyent, to nor fro the said isle by bote or otherwise, butt onely at high sprynge flodes, and that not passynge an houre at a tyde to the greate hurte and impoverysshement of the possessioners, landholders, and owners, and inhabitants of the said isle and cuntrey."

We observe that this Bill, passed in 1485, says, "the change of the course of the see hath fortunied in years late passed;" it was therefore a recent change, and we may fairly infer that the "years late passed" would not extend beyond a quarter of a century. Thus we may well believe that during the reign of Henry VI and up to about A.D. 1460, the river Wantsum was tolerably navigable. The ferry boat at Sarre, as Twine tells us, was a horse-ferry boat, not a mere little rowing boat for pedestrians.\* Yet,

\* *De Rebus Albioniois*, p. 27: "Hippagine parata, portitor vehebat volentes transmittere."

even in 1485, this horse-ferry boat could be used there at high spring floods for an hour; and in the reign of Henry VIII, after Sarre Bridge had been built, Leland testifies that "at Northmuth, where the Entery of the Se was, the Salt Water swelleth yet up, at a Creeke, a myle and more toward a place cawled Sarre, which was the commune Ferry when Thanet was full iled."\* John Twine, in his treatise, "*De Rebus Albioniciis*," which was published in 1590, after his death, by his son Thomas, laments over the submersion of *Lomea*, Earl Godwin's once fertile land,† now called the Goodwin Sands, and over the annexation of Thanet to the mainland. Yet, he adds, although "Thanet has been changed from an isle into a peninsula, or Chersonesus, there are eight worthy men still living who have seen not only the smallest boats, but larger barks, frequently pass and repass between that isle and our continent."‡ He describes the Wantsum as having been about half-a-mile wide, with two horns or heads opening into the sea, one near Reculver, the other near Richboro'.§ As Leland tells us that, even in the reign of Henry VIII, the salt water ran from Northmuth more than a mile towards Sarre, so he mentions one great cause of the stoppage of the sea at the other end of the estuary. Speaking of Sandwich he says, "The Caryke, that was sonke in the haven in Pope Paulus tyme, did much hurt to the haven and gether a great bank." This Paulus must have been Paul II (1464-71), not as Hasted says, Paul IV, for he did not become Pope until 1555, during Queen Mary's reign. Boys alludes to this "Caryke," when he tells us that in the first year of King Richard III, a Spanish ship lying outside Richborough was (by the mayor of Sandwich) ordered to be removed.|| Thus everything tends to shew that not very long before 1485 had the waterway of the

\* Leland's *Itinerary*, Appendix to 7th volume of *Collectanea*, tom. iii. Lewis's *History of Tenet*, p. 140.

† *De Rebus Albioniciis*, pp. 24, 27.

‡ *Thanatos enim nostro ferè euo, ex insula facta est peninsulæ sive Chersonesus, superantibus adhuc octo fide dignis viris, qui non modo cymbas minutiores, verumetiam grandiores nauculas, onerariasque measse ac remeasse inter insulam & nostram continentem, frequente navigatione vidisse se aiunt*, pp. 25, 26.

§ *De Rebus Albioniciis*, p. 26.

|| Boys' *History of Sandwich*, p. 678.

Wantsum been much interrupted. This view is corroborated by the fact that Cardinal Morton was the first Archbishop who took advantage of the subsidence of the Wantsum, by enclosing with sea-walls the saltings in and near Sarre.\* The old and curious proverb respecting Tenterden Steeple points to the same period. There is no satisfactory solution of the supposed connection between Goodwin Sands and that steeple; nor between it and the decay of Sandwich Haven. It is however certain that there must have been some *coincidence of time*, between the erection of that steeple, and the change in Sandwich Haven. Mr. Hazlitt quotes the proverb in this form—

Of many people it hath been said  
That Tenterden steeple Sandwich haven hath decayed.†

To the period of decay this proverb certainly gives a good clue, and that clue points to the period, already mentioned, which intervened between 1460 and 1485. Tenterden Steeple was in course of erection during 1462, as we are informed by the wills of Thomas Petlesden, and others, made in that year, by which bequests were left to the cost of its building. In the year 1467 we observe another evidence that the waterway, though still continuous from Sandwich to Northmouth, was becoming difficult of navigation. In that year an order was served on the Archbishop of Canterbury, on the Abbot of St. Augustine's, on John Isaac and on Herbert Fynch, requesting them to remove their weirs, groynes, and kidel-nets, which were in the King's river, from Sandwich Haven to Northmouth (Boys' *Sandwich*, p. 675). Thus we may fairly consider that the entire waterway was open until 1450 or 1460, but that it became, gradually from that period, less and less navigable.

\* Hasted, *History of Kent*, vol. x. p. 158.

† *Archæologia Cantiana*, IX. 142; *Lottery* of 1567; Kempe's *Losely Papers*, 1836, p. 211. Bishop Latimer, Fuller the historian, Leland, and Dr. Plot all quote the proverb respecting the Goodwin or Sandwich.

## MINSTER COURT.

The Court, or Manor House, of Minster Manor, occupies the site of Edburga's Monastery of Saints Peter and Paul, as Thomas of Elmham informs us.\* Upon his map of Thanet, drawn about A.D. 1414, he marks this site as being not far distant from St. Mary's Church, to the north-east of it. The sole reason of his mentioning this place with any minuteness of detail, was his desire to defend the Augustinian stories, respecting the translations of St. Mildred's body, against the sceptical statements of the monks of St. Gregory, who declared that every one of the details set forth respecting St. Mildred and Minster Abbey were mere fabrications. Elmham therefore felt bound to shew that everything was quite clear, and that all dates and details were perfectly known. Thus, he declares that St. Mildred's body, having been translated from St. Mary's Nunnery to this new site, dedicated to Saint Peter and Paul, remained here more than 300 years. As, according to him, her remains were translated to Canterbury in A.D. 1030,† he thus assigns the foundation of this monastery, of Saint Peter and Paul, to some year slightly anterior to A.D. 730. In order that he may utterly confound the Gregorians, he clenches his statements by declaring that when he wrote, in 1414, the shrine (*feretrum*) in which St. Mildred's body had been entombed, from A.D. 730 to A.D. 1030, was still "apparent" here, even in A.D. 1414! That nothing may be lacking from his circumstantial statement, he imparts to us the fact that the Abbess Edburga, a little before A.D. 730, placed St. Mildred's body here in a new sarcophagus, on the north side of the presbytery.‡ He was fully prepared

\* "Templum apostolorum Petri et Pauli, quod nunc est in manerio, ubi usque in præsens feretrum, in quo plusquam trecentis annis jacuit est apparens." *Historia Monasterii Sci. Augustini Cantuar.* edit. C. Hardwick, p. 218.

† *Ibidem.* Chronologia, page 25. *Decem Scriptores*, column 2246.

‡ *Hist. Mon. Sci. Augustini*, p. 219: "Beata vero Edburga, immensas gratias agens Deo, inclytam glebam a priori domicilio sanctæ Mariæ et sepulchro sustulit, et in novum apostolorum templum transposuit, atque in aquilonari parte presbyterii in novo sarcophago recondidit." These words, I find, are quoted almost *verbatim* from the older work of Gotselinus, "*Vita Sæcæ Mildredæ*," Harleian MS. 3908, folio 34 b.

for doubts which might be expressed respecting the possibility of any building, or monument, surviving the ravages of time, and of the Danes, from A.D. 730 to 1030. He distinctly states that the monastery of St. Peter and St. Paul was burned by the Danes, and that the last Abbess Selethrytha with all her nuns perished in the flames, about A.D. 830, or 840. He declares that during those 300 years (730 to 1030) scarcely any man had dared to remain in the island of Thanet on account of the Danish ravages; therefore, he says, it is not matter for wonder that no vestiges of the ancient buildings have remained to modern times. In fact, he says, the original edifices, not only of ecclesiastical but even of domestic or "vulgar" buildings, have disappeared.\* These facts, however, simply increase the sanctity of Saint Mildred. While all other buildings and monuments disappeared, during the long period of desolation, when there was here neither Abbey, nor Abbess, nor Nuns, yet the shrine and remains of St. Mildred were always preserved; in fact, he avers that the tomb still remained, when he wrote, in A.D. 1414. Unfortunately, readers in the nineteenth century, while readily believing Elmham's statements respecting the utter destruction of domestic and ecclesiastical buildings, between A.D. 730 and 1030, will not easily credit the miraculous exception, which he was so anxious to establish; but which his contemporaries, the monks of St. Gregory, so emphatically denied.

It is utterly vain to suppose that any visible vestige remains of the buildings which were erected here about A.D. 730, but which were burnt and desolated about A.D. 830, or 840. When King Cnut gave the manor of Minster and the body of St. Mildred to St. Augustine's Abbey, in A.D. 1027, his charter mentions no buildings whatever. Without doubt the Abbot then made the Court, or Manor house, a habitable building. If there be here visible any pre-Norman masonry, it must be ascribed to the Augustinian monks of the eleventh century.

What lies beneath the surface of the ground is quite

\* *Hist. Mon. Sci. Augustini*, p. 220.



another matter. In dry summers, long lines of yellow turf appear upon the verdant lawn of Minster Court. These extend themselves parallel to the main building (which contains the living-rooms of the house) between it and the high road. They thus indicate foundations of walls, that formed a building the length of which ran from west to east, and extended eastward from the, existing, ruined stair turret, on the south west, to the further portion of the lawn. Tradition has called these unseen foundations, traces of the church of the monastery of Saints Peter and Paul; and Lewis has marked them with dotted lines, upon the engraving of Minster Manor House which he gives opposite page 71, in his *History of Tenet*.

We have said that to Thomas of Elmham we are indebted, for the identification of the site of the convent dedicated to Saint Peter and Paul. He wrote after William Thorn, whose confused statements\* would have left us utterly unable to distinguish between the sites of the two convents; one dedicated by Dompneva to St. Mary, about A.D. 670, and the other dedicated, by Edburga, to Saints Peter and Paul, about A.D. 730. Thomas of Elmham likewise disentangles, for us, the vague and unsatisfactory statements of Thorn respecting the Abbesses. Thorn mentions five Abbesses; Dompneva, Mildred, Edburga, Sigeburga, and Seledritha; and then he leaps over two hundred years, saying that he can find no mention whatever of the Abbesses who succeeded Seledritha, until the eleventh century, when Sweyn, father of King Cnut, destroyed all Thanet and Leofrima the Abbess here.† This statement has misled Lewis, who, endeavouring to amalgamate it with the more veracious

\* Illa ecclesia quam construxit beata Edburga, in honorem Apostolorum Petri et Pauli, in quam post aliquos annos transtulit corpus beatæ Mildredæ totum integrum et incorruptum, et illud ad partem aquilonalem in feretro collocavit, est inferior pars versus occidentem capellæ manerii nostri de Menstre, in qua sepulcrum ejusdem virginis apparet. Quæ ecclesia immediate est conjuncta capellæ beatæ Mariæ virginis, quam beata Dompneva, ut super legitur, fieri procuravit (Thorn's Chronicle in *Decem Scriptores*, column 1908).

Ipsa vero Dompneva . . . construxit cœnobium virginale, videlicet manerium de Menstre et superiorem partem capellæ in eodem manerio quam in honore beatæ Mariæ virginis S. Theodorus archiep. dedicavit (*Ibidem*, col. 1907).

† Thorn's *Chronicle* in *Decem Scriptores*, column 1908.

history of Thomas of Elmham, states that when the fifth Abbess Seledritha was burned circa 830, or 840, with her nuns, one named Leofrima was saved, and becoming sixth Abbess was captured by Sweyn the Dane in A.D. 978 or 1011.\* Thus at the top of his page, Lewis mentions that Seledritha became the fifth Abbess in A.D. 797, and yet in the middle of the same page, he says that a sixth Abbess, in A.D. 978, or 1011, was saved from the fire in which her predecessor perished! By Thorn's confused statements, Lewis is thus misled into giving to one of these ladies a life of more than 200 years' duration. Thomas of Elmham corrects all this; he states, distinctly, that there were but five Abbesses at Minister: their number being exactly the same as that of the wise virgins in the parable, whom doubtless they so greatly resembled.† We cannot doubt that after the middle of the ninth century, there was neither Abbess, nor Convent, nor Nuns in Minster.‡ For one hundred and fifty years or more the sites of the conventual building were desolate.

The origin of Thorn's statement may be traced thus. The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle narrates that in September, A.D. 1011, between the Nativity of St. Mary and St. Michael's

\* Lewis' *History of Tenet*, p. 57., see also pp. 58 and 20.

† *Hist. Mon. Sci. Augustini*, p. 226. Harum itaque matrum monasterialium numerus in Thaneto, numero quinque prudentum virginum accipientium oleum in vasis suis, cum lampadibus, respondebat.

‡ The ninth century was a period of terror, destruction, and desolation for the people of East Kent, and especially for Thanet. In A.D. 823, Baldred king of Kent was driven from his little realm, and the men of Kent submitted to Egbert King of the West Saxons. The Danes "those vultures of prey" plundered Shepey in 832. In the following years they fought with King Egbert in the west. When he died in 836 Egbert's son, Æthelwulf, made his own son Æthelstan King of Kent, Surrey, and Sussex; and, two years later, the Danes slew many men in Kent and other counties. In 839 they slew great numbers in Gwentawic, Rochester and London. According to the Saxon Chronicle, and Fabius Ethelwerd, the Danes wintered in the Isle of Thanet, in 851, for the first time. Asser and Florence of Worcester are clearly incorrect in writing Shepey instead of Thanet. All these chroniclers, with others, agree that, in 851, 350 Danish ships came into the Thames mouth (that is Sandwich Harbour and the Wantsum estuary) and proceeded to destroy Canterbury and London. They add that king Æthelstan, and Ealhere, the earl or ealdorman, destroyed many of the Pagans at Sandwich, and took nine of their ships. Fabius Ethelwerd gives the additional information that many battles were fought in the same year (851) against the Pagans in the Isle of Thanet which, says he, has very fruitful, though not large, cornfields. In 853, as all chronicles declare, the earls Ealhere and Huda carried on war, vigorously, against the Pagan army in Thanet; but they were both slain. In 855 the Danes wintered in Shepey. In 864-6 having wintered in Thanet they laid waste the whole of the east coast of Kent.

Mass, the Danes besieged and entered Canterbury. There they captured Archbishop Ælfeah, Ælfward the King's steward, the Abbess Leofrune, and Bishop Godwin. With this narrative agree the Chronicle of Melrose, and the Annals of Waverley. Florence of Worcester, Simeon of Durham, and Gervase narrate additional particulars. They say that the city of Canterbury was set on fire; that Almar, or Elmer, Abbot of St. Augustine's, was allowed to depart, but that Godwin, Bishop of Rochester, and Leofruna, Abbess of St. Mildrith's Monastery, were taken prisoners, together with countless people of both sexes. These statements are copied by all the later historians. We at once observe that the original narratives make no mention whatever of Minster, no mention of Thanet, no mention of the Monastery of St. Mary, no mention of the Monastery of St. Peter and St. Paul. The earliest chronicles simply state that Canterbury was burnt, and that in Canterbury a certain Abbess, named Leofrune, was taken prisoner; the later chronicles add that she was Abbess of St. Mildred's Monastery; none of them suggest that she had any connection with Thanet, or with Minster, or with the Monastery of St. Peter and St. Paul there. Gotselinus, in his Life of St. Mildred, mentions no Abbess after Seledritha. Thomas of Elmham is therefore a wise historian, when he refuses to regard this Leofrune as an Abbess of Minster Monastery. He declares that at Minster there were but five Abbesses; and that Seledritha, the last of them, became Abbess in A.D. 797. His less accurate predecessor Thorn, when claiming Leofrune, who was captured at Canterbury, as an Abbess of the Minster Monastery, of St. Peter and St. Paul, confesses that he can find no mention of any Abbesses who intervened between her and Seledritha during one hundred and fifty years.

Gotselinus, in his *Vita Sæc. Mildrethe*, enumerates the successful efforts of Seledritha (the last Abbess) to restore her Nunnery to its pristine glory, in words which are quoted with sufficient accuracy by Thomas of Elmham.\* The results thus achieved were, however, destroyed, he says, by

\* *Hist. Mon. Sci. Aug.*, p. 221, § 31.

the ravages of a pagan army, with a huge Danish fleet, overwhelming all Thanet and much of England. In addition to the words used by Thomas of Elmham, which are mainly quoted from the Life of St. Mildred, Gotselinus adds, "the waves of this pagan army closed over the apostolic ship of the virginal temple of St. Mildreth,"\* which was thus drowned and destroyed by its ravages. Gotselinus does not, like Thomas of Elmham, § 32, fix the exact date or year when this occurred, but he describes at far greater length the end of Seledritha, her nuns and her priests clad in their sacred vestments, all of whom shut themselves up (in the Conventual Church apparently) and died together. When, in course of time, some fugitive inhabitants of Thanet returned to their island, they rebuilt their own dwellings, but from the monastic ruins they were unable to construct anything better than a small parish church. Not until St. Augustine's Abbey became owners of the manor was any considerable restoration effected.† Of the buildings existing when the Abbot came to steal away the body of St. Mildred for translation, in A.D. 1030, Gotselinus speaks thus: "Ælfstan . . . in Tanetum beate Mildrethe *hospicium* . . . die pentecostes peruenit."‡ On the next page he says that with a chosen band of monks and knights the Abbot "gloriose Mildrethe ecclesiam tanquam suam capellam intrat. Hostia intrinsecus diligenter obfirmat et quasi cuncta sibi in manus data exultat."

On a later page Gotselinus describes the ruinous state of the "templum Apostolorum Petri et Pauli" after William the Conqueror had ordered Thanet to be laid waste.§

\* *Harl. MS.* 3908, folio 54<sup>a</sup>, and *Cotton. MS.* Vespasian B. xx., folio 169<sup>a</sup>, "ipsamque apostolicam nauim uirginalis templi beate Mildrethe suis fluctibus operit."

† "De hinc conuenientes tecta monasterii beate Mildrethe restaurant; quod tamen ad pristinam dignitatem nequaquam ultra conualuit; sed quod pridem ter uiginti aut amplius sanctimonialium pollebat caterua, deinceps duorum aut trium clericorum plebeia erat parrochia. Jamque ibi hesperie Mildrethe factum [est] vesperie ut apud amantissimum patronum Augustinum renascenti surgeret soliferum mane." *Harl. MS.* 3908, fol. 55<sup>b</sup> (wherein [est] is omitted after "factum"), and *Cotton. MS.* Vespasian B. xx., fol. 170<sup>b</sup>.

‡ *Harl. MS.* 3908, 62<sup>a</sup>; *Cotton. MS.* Vesp. B. xx., 174<sup>b</sup>.

§ *Ibid.*, 3908, 72<sup>a</sup>; *Ibid.*, Vesp., 180<sup>a</sup>. Jusserat prior Willelmus rex totum uastari Tanetum ne foret presidio imminenti exercitui Danorum. Hinc illud sacratissimum Apostolorum Petri et Pauli ac uirginei monumenti

At Minster Court the principal remains now existing are clearly those of the Norman Manor house, as renovated, in the reigns of Henry IV and V, by Thomas Hunden, Abbot of St. Augustine's. His initials, flanking the arms of the Abbey, are still to be seen over the north door, or principal entrance of the house. Other examples of his work are the good transom'd windows, each of two lights, which remain in the east and west walls of the western wing, on the ground floor. By their position, they are at present hidden from observation more than they deserve to be, but the modern architect, who designed the new windows of the house, took those of Abbot Hunden as his model; although he did not reproduce them very accurately. In Abbot Hunden's windows, the two lower lights, each 2 ft. 11 in. high, are trefoiled, while the two lights above the transom, each 2 ft. 9 in. high, are five-foiled. Each light is 1½ ft. wide in the clear. Probably Abbot Hunden put on the present, king-post, roof of the main building (the north limb); but, no doubt, it has been repaired, and altered, since his time.

When we walk above the tie-beams of this roof, and reach the eastern gable of the house, we see a late Norman window, with shafts supporting a round moulding. Through it, as a door, we can step out upon the leaden roof of a lower adjunct to the main building. This Norman window in the gable reminds us that Abbot Hunden simply re-arranged, and repaired, an older Norman building. When we examine the main, or northern, limb of the house, we find clear evidence that it was originally only one room deep. Its north and south walls seem to have been, externally, exactly alike. High up in each there were four Norman windows; below them runs a Norman stringcourse, and between the windows there were four shallow Norman buttresses. There were, no doubt, Norman doorways in exactly the same places where the existing doorways now stand. Several of the windows and buttresses still remain, and

*templum uetustate & rarioris plebis negligentia iam erat desolatum; atque ad omnem celi iniuriam disruptis tegulis patebat detectum, sacrumque, pauimentum pluuiæ grando nix ac parcellosus impetens palustrem reddebat lacum.*

anyone, who is familiar with the western face of Monks Horton Priory, will recognize the similarity of appearance which must have existed between these two buildings, in the twelfth century. It is likely that this north limb of Minster Court was erected between A.D. 1150 and A.D. 1175.

When we turn to the western wing, we see that there, probably, some older work is before us. In the eastern face of this wing we find no large round-headed windows, in the upper story; but we see that light was originally admitted through small rectangular openings (not very much larger than slits) which had flat lintels formed of large, but thin, unwrought sand-stones. These openings or windows have been, long ago, blocked up, and modern windows have been inserted. Four hundred and fifty years ago, Abbot Hunden found it needful to insert his transom'd, two-light, windows in the lower story.

At the south end of this western wing are the remains of a large tower or turret which projects eastward considerably beyond the level of the west wing. Before describing it we must notice a blocked-up Norman doorway, in the east wall of this wing, which stands adjacent to the turret. This doorway has a flat wooden lintel, above which is a semi-circular head, filled in with wrought stone. Close beside the northern jamb of this doorway there is, about four feet from the ground, a very small Norman window, its round head formed of one stone, and its external aperture being but nine inches wide. Above the south jamb of the adjacent doorway, there are, in the angle formed by the turret and the west wing, some few quoin stones which suggest the idea of "long and short work," but they are too few to dwell upon.

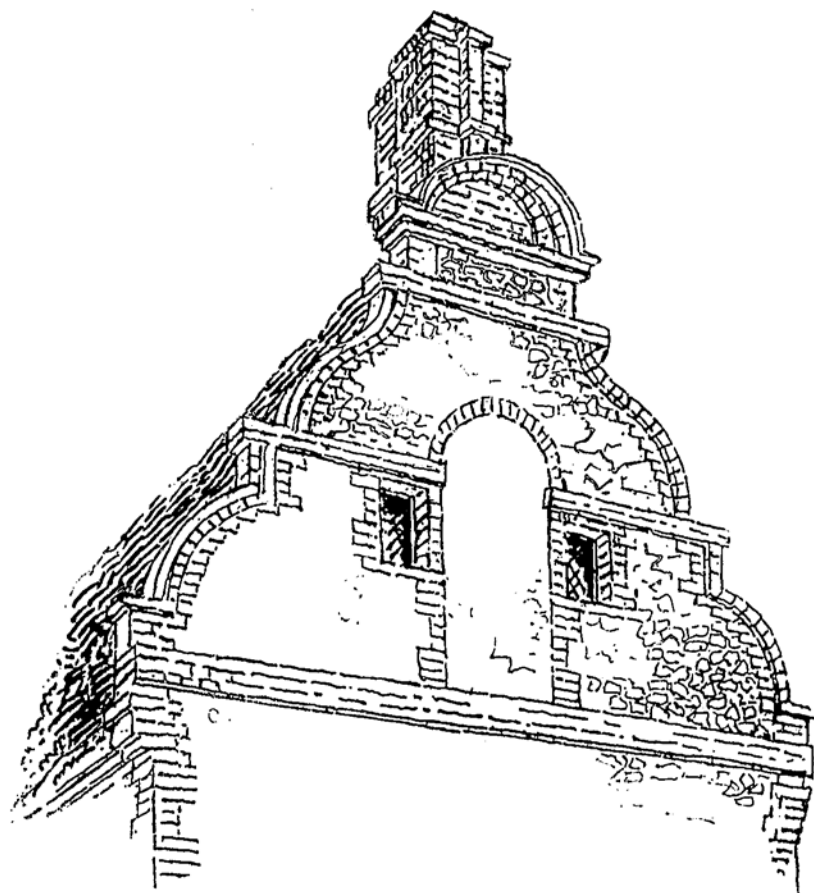
Entering the west wing, we find that the blocked doorway, with its wooden lintel, was the entrance to a vaulted passage of three bays (the western of the three is half destroyed). The little window, beside the doorway, is deeply splayed, so that its internal aperture is much larger than its external opening. The Norman groining is of the simplest kind possible, formed of round arches intersecting, without ribs or bosses. The supporting piers are doubly recessed.

The height of the groining from the floor is about 9 feet 11 inches; the spring of the arches is about 5 feet 1 inch from the present floor, and their span is about 7 feet. Possibly this vaulting may have been erected late in the eleventh century. Its principal portion now forms a wine cellar. On the exterior of the western wall of this wing, of the building, Mr. Hussey tells me that he, many years ago, saw traces of something like herring-bone masonry.

The south-west turret or tower, has contained a circular stair, in its eastern end. The stair-turret was lined with smoothly hewn white stone. The newel and steps are completely gone; possibly the newel, and fragments of the stairs, form part of the turret staircase at St. Mary's Church. On the eastern wall of Minster-Court turret are the traces of an external Norman arcading; and in the centre of the existing arch of this arcading there is a very small Norman window, the round head of which is formed of one stone. There is no tradition or record of any bells here; nor could any of the existing bells in St. Mary's Church have come hence. The oldest of the church bells is inscribed "HOLY MARE (sic) PRAY FOR VS;" not, as I supposed, *Sancta Maria ora pro nobis*.

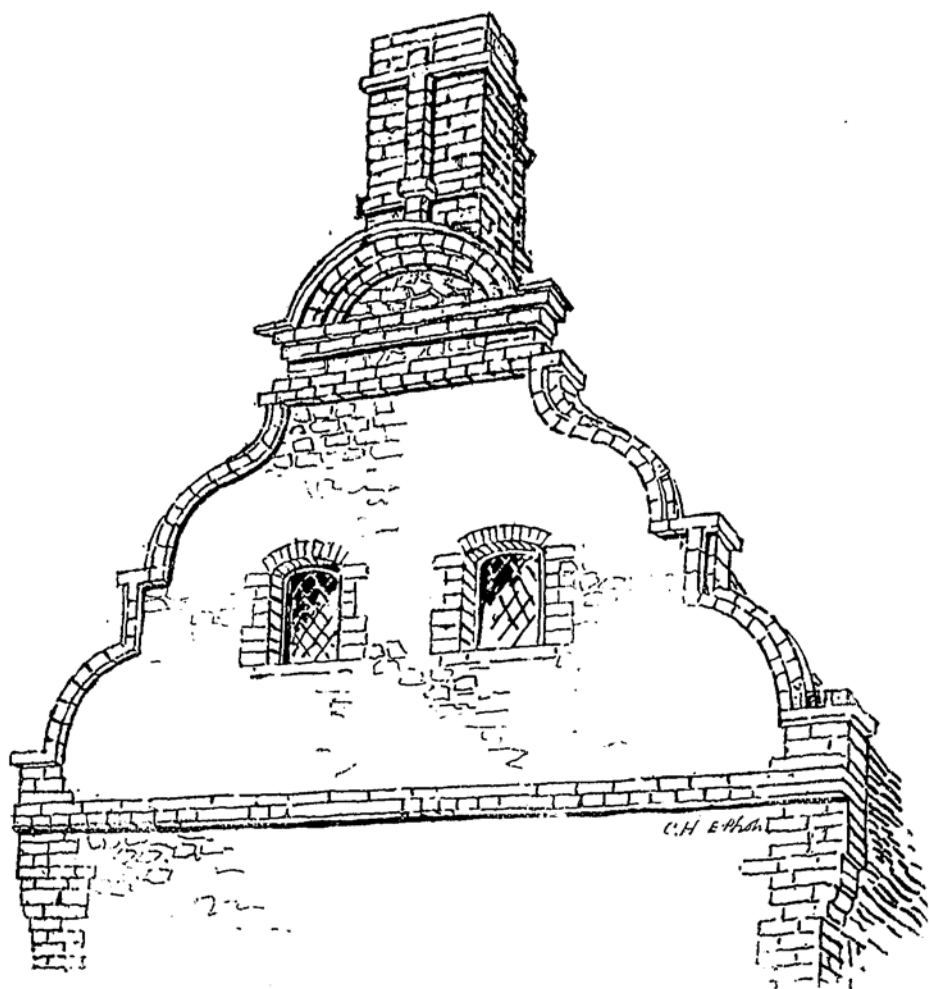
On the western side of this tower or turret, we find erected as an arch in the garden, a sixteenth century chimney piece, brought, it is said, from the Refectory, and, over it, a remarkable Norman carving in stone, which seems to represent St. Augustine in the act of benediction. This came out of the interior of the building at some time, and is very early work.

On the western side of the ruined tower, or turret, are traces of masonry in alternate courses, of flints and rough local stone. Lewis's engraving represents the southern face of this tower as exhibiting a similar construction (in alternate courses of flint and other stone) upon its whole surface. The ivy now covers that masonry. Undoubtedly this tower is of early date, and I am inclined to ascribe it to the first half of the eleventh century. We are, however, very much in the dark with regard to buildings of pre-Norman date. It is not improbable that the earlier masonry, of the tower



GABLE END IN READING STREET, THANET.





GABLE IN READING STREET, THANET.

and turret, was cased and ornamented in the Norman period, as the mural arcading, and the fair lining of the stair-turret appear to be later work.

Being the court-house, and the receiving-house of so large and wealthy a manor as that of Minster, this building was probably the most important house in the Isle of Thanet, from the eleventh to the fourteenth century. Its ancient barn, 352 feet long, was not entirely destroyed until A.D. 1700, when lightning consumed its last remnant.

In Minster village there are several houses, built of brick in the time of Charles II or of William III, which have such prettily curved gable ends, as were characteristic of the Caroline reigns in England. Perhaps there is no part of Kent which retains, within an equally small area, so many examples of these graceful gables, as does the Isle of Thanet. The ingenuity and taste of Thanet architects seem to have produced a great variety of designs for such gables by means of trifling additions, and small variations of detail. Through the generous kindness of Mr. J. P. Seddon, of 1 Queen Anne's Gate, Westminster, we are enabled to illustrate several varieties of these pretty Thanet gables of the curved type. Near Minster Vicarage, is an old house with two such gables, which bear the initials, in iron, R. K., and the date 1693. As the lane in which this house stands was called Kennett's Lane, there can be no doubt that the initials R. K. are those of Robert Kennett, who at that period was a large ratepayer in the parish, being assessed on one hundred and fifteen acres of land. When the house passed from Kennett to Thrum the lane became Thrum's Lane. We have no engraving of this Minster gable end, but the annexed plate, given by Mr. Seddon, shews a gable in Reading Street of somewhat similar character. The house inhabited by Dr. Harris in Minster has a similar gable; and the White Horse Inn, close to Minster churchyard, shews two such gables, one bearing the initials R. K., which are believed by Mr. Bubb to be memorials of Robert Knock, of Durlock Lane, who lived in the time of William III and Queen Anne, and was rated for one hundred and twenty acres of land.

One of the old parish Account Books, purchased and brought back to Minster by Mr. Bubb, contains several entries of interest. One receipt, enclosed in the book, is probably unique, it reads thus:—

“Agvst the 18<sup>th</sup> 1654.

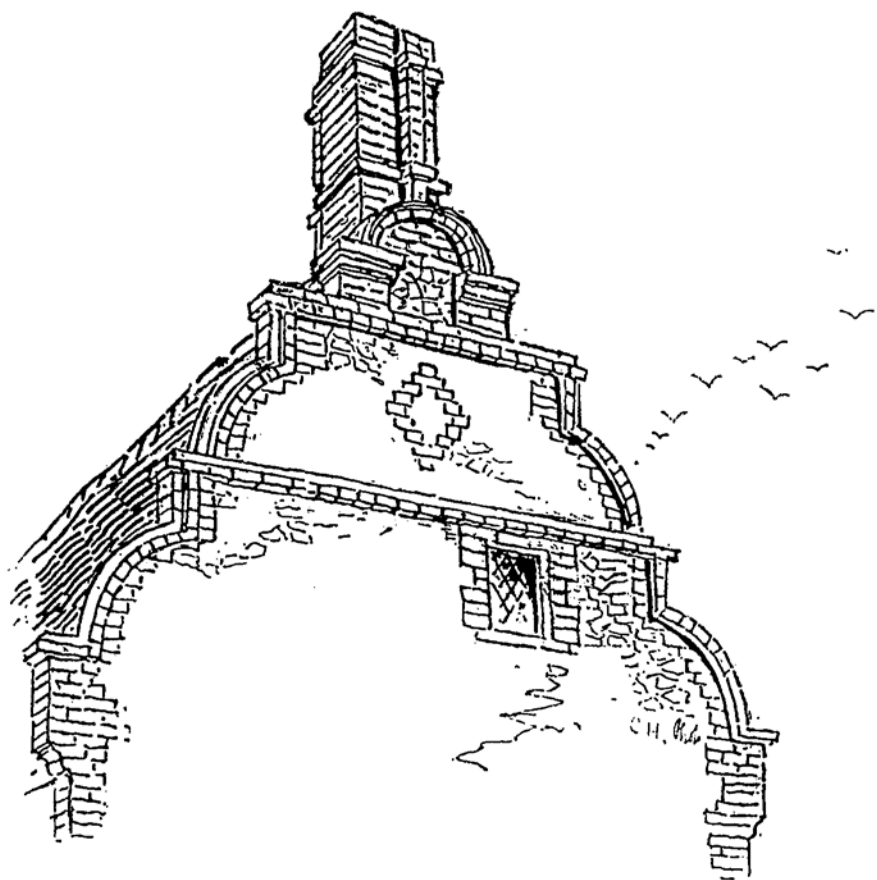
“Reseved of Robert Hymmerden one of the Church wardenes of Minster for the Shreves nobelles for fover yeres dv at mikellmos 1654 one yer for gorge Cvrtis his Esqeer and for Thomes fllode his Esqeer and for barnet Hide his Esqeer and for John Erell of Tenet hi shreves of Kent I say reseved the som of six and twenty shilenges and Eyth pence I say reseved by me henry peeke bayle.”

The writing of this receipt is extremely difficult to read. It refers to the sum of six shillings and eight pence (which was the value of the coin called a *noble*), to be paid annually by the parish of Minster, to each High Sheriff of Kent. This receipt covers the four years during which George Curtis of Chart Sutton (1651), Thomas Floyd of Gore Court in Otham (1652), Bernard Hyde of Bore Place, Chidingstone (1653), and Sir John Tufton, Earl of Thanet (1654), served the office of Sheriff. Perhaps no similar receipt has been preserved. The bailiff Henry Peeke was not peculiar in his repetition of the words “received” and “I say;” in receipts of that period, this curiously emphatic form is very frequently used. It seems to have been a stereotyped phrase of this kind—“*Received . . . . I say received . . . . I say received by me.*”

The Assessments for the Poor were levied both upon land and upon income, the latter being called an “ability rate.” In May, 1613, the rate on land was at 2s. per score of acres, and the ability rate was such that William Binge paid £2 18s. 0d. for five hundred and eighty acres, and 7s. 6d. for “ability.” In 1614 the marsh land was rated at 20d. the score acres, and the upland at 10d. the score, for the first half year, when the ability rate was half that of the previous year; but for the second half of 1614, the land was rated at 1d. per acre for marsh, and  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per acre for upland, the ability rate being larger than in the previous half year in the proportion of five to three. In 1618 the parishioners were rated on their ability simply, while the



GABLE END IN READING STREET, THANET.



GABLE END AT READING STREET, THANET.

outdwelling ratepayers were charged  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per acre for marsh, and 5d. per score acres for upland. In 1619 all paid 1d. per acre for marsh and  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. for upland, in addition to an ability rate. This method of rating continued for several years. In April, 1630, the ability rate was at 15d. per £20 of revenue, but in the following October it was at a groat in the pound for yearly revenue in the parish. Two rates on land per annum formed the average, but in 1626 there were four, and in 1631 there were six rates. During 1630 and 1631 there seems to have been a grievous dearth of corn. So great was the scarcity that the parish officers were obliged to purchase wheat and barley, which they sold to the poor at reduced prices. On the 14th of Nov., 1630, they bought twenty-one bushels of wheat at 5s.  $5\frac{3}{4}$ d., and the same quantity of barley at 4s.  $0\frac{1}{2}$ d., but they sold the wheat to the poor at 4s. a bushel, and the barley at 3s. The scarcity increased, so that on the 26th of January, 1631, wheat was bought at 6s.  $10\frac{3}{4}$ d. the bushel, and sold at 6s., 5s. or 4s. according to the poverty of the recipient. The price paid for wheat on the 20th of February was 7s. 6d. the bushel, but it was sold to the poor exactly as before. On the 20th of March 8s.  $10\frac{1}{2}$ d. per bushel was paid for wheat; in April the overseers bought five seams of wheat for £15, and five of barley for £9 5s. On the 26th of April they bought, of Peter Ambrose, twenty bushels of wheat at 70s. per quarter, and the same quantity of barley at 40s. per quarter. The height of the scarcity seems to have been reached when, on the 12th of May, 1631, they bought five quarters and one bushel of wheat at 72s. the quarter, and four quarters three bushels of barley at 40s. Hitherto they had uniformly sold wheat to the poor at 6s., 5s. or 4s. the bushel; but of this dearest purchase some wheat was sold to one person at 7s. the bushel, which seems to indicate that the poorer middle class had been reduced to extremity as well as the ordinary poor. The parish lost £10 12s.  $4\frac{1}{2}$ d. upon this purchase of wheat and barley in May. On the 16th June the price of wheat had gone down to 58s. the quarter, and the parish lost only £2 4s.  $10\frac{1}{2}$ d. upon 40 bushels (together) of wheat and barley. Yet, at the end of

June, they lost £2 18s. 3d. upon the same quantity, bought at the same price. On the 25th of July they bought only nineteen bushels of wheat at 50s. the quarter, and lost £1 9s. 9d. upon the sale of them. It is strange that Mockett had heard nothing of this dearth. He gives, in his *Journal*, pp. 11, 12, the prices of wheat for a great number of years, but omits all mention of the year 1631, and of the entire first half of the seventeenth century. His tables shew that only in three of the years named by him did the price of wheat equal that paid by Minster overseers in June, 1631. He says that in 1596 the price was £4; in 1597, £5 4s.; and in 1662, £3 14s. per quarter.

This dearth during the end of 1630, and throughout the first six months of 1631, was productive of tumults in Kent. On the 6th of May, 1631, John Hales wrote from Tunstall to his father Sir Edward Hales, in London, saying:—

“Mr Thornbury of Milton says that the women there, and at Sittingbourne, are so outrageous as except some speedy course be taken mischief is feared. They band together, fifty or sixty, and rail at Mr Dowle and his colleague. If they meet with barley meal in a boat, they throw it away, saying they must have better stuff.”

The latter statement, shewing that the authorities proffered barley, for bread, to the poor, is illustrated by the accounts of the Minster overseers, who bought, in general, as much barley as wheat. On the 11th of May corn riots occurred in Milton, Faversham, Canterbury, Herne, and Whitstable. No doubt the liberality of the Thanet overseers prevented such outbreaks in this Island. The scarcity had been anticipated. In May, 1629, a Royal Proclamation forbade the export of corn from England. Twelve months later we hear (12th of April, 1630) that Dover market lacked wheat, to the evil of the poor, on account of the export from Margate and Sandwich. One Rickeses, a Dutchman at St. John's in Thanet, had transported three hundred quarters of wheat since the previous Michaelmas. Yet he refused to furnish two quarters in the score for relief of the poor.\*

\* *Dom. State Papers*, Charles I, vol. cxliv., No. 47.

The Minster overseers seem to have assisted the poor first with fuel. On Aug. 27, 1626, they bought for the poor four loads of wood (save four faggots) for 39s., and paid 4s. for carriage of the wood from the waterside. In Dec., 1630, they bought four bushels of coals at 8d. a bushel, half a chaldron for 11s. 2d., and half a load of wood for 5s. 6d., in addition to 36s. paid for "wood for the poor and for the carriage of it."

These Parish Accounts speak continually of the old Kentish measure called a "tovet" or "toffet," which was equivalent to a peck. In 1626 we read twice of a tovet of coals costing 6d. In 1628 one tovet of wheat cost 1s. 6d. A tovet of barley cost 1s. 3d.

In 1632 the largest ratepayers in Minster were Stephen Hunt (401 acres), John Turner (383), Edward Harnett (383), Wm. Skinner (371), Daniel Pamflett (281), Roger Omer (248), and Ed. Fuller (229).

In 1673-4 Minster was taxed for two hundred and eleven hearths or chimneys, in seventy-six houses; and eight other houses of poor persons were excused. The largest payers were Daniel Pamphlet, for ten hearths; Thomas Fuller, for nine; William Jenkins, for eight; and Thomas Russell, for six. Stephen Barbet was then bosholder.

#### Powcy's.

This farm's name is derived from that of a family, which possessed the land nearly 570 years ago, and from which came an Abbot of St. Augustine's. At Michaelmas, 1310, Thomas Poucyn and his wife Margeria, acquired 30 acres of land in Minster, 10s. of rent, 2 hens of rent, and the moiety of a messuage there.\* Richard le Sherreve, son of Robert le Sherreve of Sheriff's Court, was the person from whom Thomas Poucyn obtained livery of those lands. In the following year he and his wife acquired further possessions in Minster. At Martinmas, 5 Edward II, Richard Deryng and Richard de Chelesfeud granted to them 2 messuages,

\* *Kent Fines*, 4 Ed. II, No. 139.



120 acres of land, £8 of rent, and four hens of rent.\* This grant was limited in respect of future possessors. The heirs of Thomas Poucyn by Margeria, his wife, were to enjoy the reversion; but if Margeria had no heirs by him, this property was to pass to Johanna, wife of Baldwin Paas, and to her heirs. Probably Margeria and Johanna were sisters, and coheiresses of this Minster property; they seem likewise to have jointly inherited a messuage and 24 acres of land in Hackington and Westgate, Canterbury.†

In 1313, on the morrow of St. Andrew the Apostle, Thomas Poucyn and his wife Margeria, for themselves and for Margery's heirs, made over to Ralph Abbot of St. Augustine's, and to his Church, for the sum of £20, 17 acres, 3 roods of land, and 6 acres of pasture in Minster.‡ This transaction, I believe, marks the date of their son's admittance into St. Augustine's Abbey, as a monk. Twenty-one years later, the younger Thomas Poucyn was elected Abbot of St. Augustine's, in succession to Abbot Ralph,§ and was formally "blessed," or admitted to his high office, at the Court of Avignon on the 2nd of the Ides of June, 1334.§ Thorn's *Chronicle* (column 2067 in X. *Script.*) tells us the cost of his journey. Starting on 4 Kal. April he reached Avignon on the Vigil of St. George; the expenses of these three weeks and three days amounted to £21 18s. 11d. He spent at Avignon £98 4s. 5d. On St. Lawrence's Day he started to return home, and the return journey cost £28 0s. 8d. Not long, however, did Abbot Poucyn enjoy his dignified position; he died on the Feast of St. Augustine's Translation, Ides of September, 1343, and was buried in the Abbey Chapel, at the Altar of St. Katherine, beneath a stone bearing his effigy|| sculptured in brass. On his tomb were these words:—

Est abbas Thomas tumulo presente reclusus  
Qui vite tempus sanctos expendit in usus  
Illustris senior, cui mundi gloria vilis  
L.V. a primo pastor fuit huius ovilis.

Thorn's *Chronicle*, chap. xxxviii. col. 2081.

\* *Kent Fines*, 5 Ed. II, No. 190.

† *Kent Fines*, 5 Ed. II, No. 192.

‡ *Ibidem*, 7 Ed. II, No. 327. Thomas of Elmham's *History of St. Augustine's Abbey*, page 60.

§ Thomas of Elmham's *History*, p. 63.

|| *Ibidem*, p. 64.

His father's house, "Powcy's," must have been a considerable mansion. Archbishop Reynolds granted to the elder Thomas Poucyn permission to cause Mass to be celebrated in this house. Hasted states that, about a hundred years ago there stood, beside "Powcy's" house, a small grove of oaks, the only oak grove in the Isle of Thanet.\* He mentions the existence, formerly, of a gate-house there, at the entrance to the court before the mansion.† I find that, in 1330, Thomas Poucyn was one of the gentlemen appointed to collect, for the King, a Subsidy of one twentieth, which had been conceded to Edward III on the 8th of February, in the third year of his reign.

The Kent Fines for the fourth year of King John, shew that in November 1202, Joan, widow of Richard Pucin, had a freehold in Stalisfeld.‡ In the year 1277, Robert Poucyn became Proctor, at the Pontifical Court, for Christ Church, Canterbury, in succession to John of Battle, whose Italian debts he paid.§ About the same period, Robert and Alexander Pucyn were Proctors for Prior Ryngmer.|| Another of the family is heard of in 1298, when Richard de Wilmington conceded to Thomas Pucyn,¶ and Joan his wife, a messuage, and 116 acres of land, in Muncleton, in Tanet; part to remain to the heirs of Thomas, part to the heirs of Joan, and a third portion (after Joan's death) to Henry, son of John de Maneston. Probably Thomas Poucyn, husband of Margeria, was a son of the last-mentioned Thomas and Joan; he seems to have obtained his property in Minster by marrying the coheirress of a Minster gentleman. It is just possible that Richard Sherreve may have been the father of his wife Margeria.

Hasted failed to trace the history of Powcy's further back than the time of Edward III, when, he says, it belonged to the family of Goshall of Ash. If so, they must have acquired it soon after the death of Thomas Poucyn, father of

\* Hasted's *History of Kent*, x., 226.

† *Ibidem*, p. 282.

‡ *Archæologia Cantiana*, III, 217.

§ *Historical Manuscripts Commission*, Fifth Report, p. 451; *Ch. Ch. MS.*, *Scrap Book*, C. 9.

|| *Ibidem*, p. 438; *Ch. Ch. MS. Scrap Book*, C. 8a.

¶ *Lansdowne MSS.* 268, p. 270.

the Abbot. Perhaps Poucyn left a daughter who married a Goshall. As his son, the Abbot of St. Augustine's, died in 1343, this is not an improbable suggestion.

#### SALMESTON.

The interesting architectural remains at Salmeston, or Salmanston, Grange, within the parish of St. John's (Margate), are of at least three periods, the Early English, the Decorated, and the Perpendicular. Possibly a trace of Norman work remains in a small vaulted passage, on the ground floor.

The earliest external portion projects from the eastern face of the existing house, and shews a pointed gable having in its head a lancet window between two small circular openings; in the middle story, is a central window of one light with cinquefoiled head; and on the ground floor are two small lancet windows, one on either side of the existing doorway. In each of the north and south walls, of this projecting limb of the building, there is a lancet window in the upper story. When we enter this Early English building, and ascend the stairs, we find that all the interior fittings are of much later date than the outer walls. In an upper room on the west side of this part, there is in the north wall a curiously carved mantelpiece of stone, which may have been constructed late in the fourteenth century; a carved wooden beading of the seventeenth century has been inserted around it. The upper portion of the stonework, which is castellated, has three projecting turret-like ornaments, six or seven inches long, one in the middle, and one at each end. These ornaments shew, each of them, five sides of an octagon, surmounted by castellation, and terminating below in a small boss of four oak leaves. The arch of the fireplace (beneath the castellated mantel) is of an ordinary character, with simple mouldings on the jambs, and triangles in the spandrels of the head. The late wooden beading is inserted outside the jambs, and beneath the mantel.

Looking from the window of this western room we see,

immediately opposite to us on the west, the Decorated east window of the chapel. Descending into the dwelling house, we find on the ground floor a wine cellar, formerly a vaulted chamber or passage, the vaulting of which in three bays is plain, and of early character, perhaps of the twelfth century.

Proceeding to the chapel, we see that its architecture accords well with the date of its consecration. In the Register of Archbishop Reynolds I have discovered, on folio 150<sup>a</sup>, the record of a commission, issued on the Nones of November 1326, empowering Peter "*Episcopus Corlaniensis*" to dedicate the newly built chapel in the manor of Salmeston, Thanet; where, runs the record, another chapel, as it is said, was anciently dedicated. This dedication of Salmeston Chapel took place just eight years after an attack had been made, upon the buildings of the manor house, by numerous tenants of Minster Manor, in December, 1318. They set fire to the gates, and caused the resident Augustinians, William Biholte and William de Middleton, to remain with their servants, shut up within Salmeston Grange for fifteen days. The attempt to burn the house failed, but the assailants burned the trees, and the farming implements, which belonged to St. Augustine's Abbey.\*

The chapel, now used as a barn, we approach upon its north side, and we enter through its north-west window, observing the blocked-up doorway beneath us, a little to the west, as we enter by the window. The exterior of the chapel may be roughly stated as being *about* forty feet from east to west, and twenty-one feet from north to south. It had no aisles, and there was no architectural division or distinction between the nave and chancel. The whole building is of one uniform height and width. The east window (now bricked up) is of three trefoiled lights (the cusps being large); in its head are three elongated quatrefoils; and above its arch is a label terminating in well carved heads. On each side of it, but below the level of its sill, there is in the east wall a large stone bracket, well moulded but of

\* Lewis, *Hist of Tenet*, p. 105. Thorn's *Chronicle*, X *Scriptores*, col. 2034. Hasted, *History of Kent*, x., 334.

simple design. In the south wall is a piscina, within a graceful ogee'd niche, with trefoiled head. Opposite, on the north, is an Easter Sepulchre with a cusped arch, cinquefoiled or sevenfoiled, surmounted by a label of the roll moulding. In each of the north and south walls there were two windows, each of which had two trefoiled lights, surmounted by a quatrefoil, as tracery, in the head. They have labels, which are returned at their ends, and look later in style, but may not be so. The west window was more graceful than these side windows, although its design was similar, having two trefoiled lights with a quatrefoil above. On the interior, north and south of the spring of the west window-arch, are two well carved representations of human heads, not cut off at the chin, but shewing the neck. The king-post roof, of three bays, has two well moulded tie-beams, the ends of which rest upon stone brackets, carved, somewhat in the same way as the projecting brackets in the east wall, with a tau-shaped moulding. The king-posts are octagonal, and their caps and bases are well moulded. The wall-plates are likewise moulded. There were two small doorways, with returned labels, and continuous chamfers, one in each wall, north and south. Beneath the east end of the chapel, there is a small crypt, entered by an external door below the east window.

At present there is a passage, near the east end of the chapel's south side, by which we can pass, through what was a window of the chapel, into an adjunct of the Hall or Refectory, which runs nearly parallel to the chapel, but lies to the south-east of it.

Passing round, outside, through the kitchen garden, we enter this Hall, which was erected by Thomas Icham, Sacristan of St. Augustine's, about A.D. 1389; when the Hall with adjacent chambers cost 100 marks.\* This building had two stories, and was about sixty feet long, by twenty-five feet broad. The line of the floor, which divided it into two stories, can be clearly traced on the walls. As we enter

\* Thorn's *Chronicle, Decem Script.*, column 2196. Item fecit novam aulam apud Salmiston cum cameris, prec' O. marc. Hasted, *History of Kent*, x., 334; xii., 209 note.

(through the south wall) we observe that there was, at this south-east corner, a doorway into the upper floor close to the east wall, and below, westward of the upper door, there was a doorway to the ground floor. Of the upper doorway the eastern spring of the arch still remains; of the lower doorway the western jamb can be traced. Within, the upper story was probably the principal room of the mediæval house. It had, on the south side, two pretty windows, each of two trefoiled lights, and there were stone window seats, one on each side. The west window had two lights, trefoiled, with large cusps; and in the head, above them, was a trefoil. Its jambs, externally, are moulded with a continuous half-round moulding; there is a hood mould, or label, springing from well carved human heads. Traces of the fireplace in the upper story are to be seen in the north wall, somewhat westward of its middle point. About the middle of that north wall, there was a window of a single light, and east of it was the north door of this upper room. There seems to have been in the east wall a window of one trefoiled light, high up in the gable. The wall-plates of the king-post roof are handsomely moulded. The east gable, and its western fellow, are externally finished with two rows of very thin red tiles, so placed that only their narrow edges appear.

In the lower story of this hall, very few traces of fittings remain. It was evidently a low dark room. It had one door near the south-east corner, and another in the north wall, about midway between its east and west ends. West of the north door, was a single-light window. No doubt there were small rectangular windows in the south wall of this basement story, but their traces are not easily found.

On the south-east of the hall, and contiguous to it, was a smaller building, likewise of two stories, entered through the south-east doors, already described, of the hall and its basement. This outer, southern, building, now unroofed and ruined, was, speaking roughly, about thirty-nine feet long, by fifteen feet broad. In its lower story were rectangular windows, with wooden lintels, and well-splayed sides, one on the east wall; one, or two, on the south; and one in the

west. A curious ruin of masonry, on the north, may possibly have been a fireplace.

In the upper story of this outer, or southernmost, building (now open to the sky) there were, in the south wall, two windows rather square in outline, and widely splayed. In the same wall, near its west end, was a fireplace of yellow moulded bricks, which can still be seen.

In the Middle Ages, the Abbots of St. Augustine's seem to have been frequently at Salmanston. Many of the Abbey charters are dated from this place. Here also the Abbots received the homage of their superior tenants. Hither, on April the 18th, 1448 (26 Hen. VI) came William Sandyr, and did homage to George, Abbot of St. Augustine's, for half a fee in Westgate, which had come into his possession as the heir of his deceased brother John Sandyr.\*

Here also, were received all the Rectorial Tithes of St. John Baptist's parish, so that Salmeston was frequently called Salmeston Rectory. On the 2nd of May, 1597, the Archbishop of Canterbury let Salmeston Rectory on lease, to Henry Finch of Canterbury, at an annual rent of £38 10s. 1d., but the advowson and timber were exempted from the lease. In addition to the rent of £38 10s. 1d. the lessee was to give yearly to each of 24 poor persons of Thanet 9 loaves, and 18 herrings; to distribute annually 12 blankets to the poor; to give twice a week, during the three months intervening between the Feasts of the Invention of the Cross and of St. John the Baptist, on Mondays and Fridays to each and every poor person of Thanet coming to Salmstone a dish of peas; to deliver annually to the Vicars of St. John's, St. Peter's and St. Laurence 2 bushels of wheat a piece, and to pay to the Vicar of Minster 10s. per annum.†

Two hundred and forty one years ago, the Parliamentary Commissioners made a survey of this place. The record of it is preserved in the Archiepiscopal Library at Lambeth, in *Parliamentary Surveys*, volume ii. 157. It describes the "Rectorie of Salmestone Grange" as consisting, on the 27th

\* *Black Book of Canterbury*. Cotton MSS. Faustina A. I. fol. 36a.

† *Dom. State Papers, Elizabeth*, vol. cclxxvii., No. 101.

of May, 1647, of (i) a mansion house of stone, tiled, containing 12 rooms (six above and six below stairs); (ii) an old chapel, then used as a barn, built of stone and tiled; (iii) a fothering yard, on the east side of the house, fenced partly with mud walls, and partly housed; wherein stood two fair barns; one of them was tiled and contained 8 bays with 2 coves, the other barn was thatched and had 4 bays with 2 coves; (iv) one stable and hen house, thatched, together with a well-house and fother house upon the said yard; (v) one granary, tiled; (vi) one Pound, in the east end of the said yard, called the Bishop's Pound, with mud walls, wherein the Parishes of St. Peter's, St. John's, and Birching-ton, upon occasion of trespass, impound their cattle; (vii) 48 acres of glebe, partly chalk, partly loam, abutting upon land belonging to the heirs of Mr. Richard Norwood, and of John Tomlyn, towards the east. (viii) Also the Tithes. All this rectorial property was then in the occupation of Sir Edward Scott, Knight of the Bath, and Robert Scott, Esq., by lease from George, Archbishop of Canterbury, dated 17th June, 1629, at a yearly rent of £38 10s. 1d. The Commissioners estimated that the full worth of this property was £520 per annum.

The existing dwelling house, which is contiguous to the Early English portion of the Grange, has no features of interest, although it is by no means a new building. A good water-colour drawing of the chapel hangs in the Library of St. Augustine's College, at Canterbury, and there is in *Bibliotheca Topographica Britannica*, No. 45, a poor engraving (plate xii. fig. 2, p. 171) which shews the whole of the buildings as seen from the south west.

## RAMSGATE.

The old parish church of St. Lawrence, which attained its present large size about A.D. 1200, not much after that date, nor much before it, suggests to any thoughtful observer the presence of a considerable population at that early period. Ramsgate, and Manston, were undoubtedly the two



hamlets in which that population dwelt. Both of them are of much more ancient origin than many persons suspect.

Ramsgate is heard of repeatedly in the thirteenth century, and appears to have been a comparatively populous place. In the Ringslo Hundred Court during Edward I's third year (1274-5) complaint was made that Christina de Remmesgate and others had stopped a common road at Remisgate.\* During the same reign we find that among the persons who, in one year, paid Romescot, in the parish of St. Lawrence, no less than six took their names from this place; they were the heirs of Martin de Ramisgate, Stephen de Ramisgate, Bartholomeu de Ramisgate, Baldwin de Ramisgate, Johanna daughter of John de Ramisgate, and Clement de Ramisgate.† Another payer of Romescot here was John son of Adrian de Elinton, so that, more than six centuries ago, Ellington (now the property of Mr. Wilkie) was an estate from which a family took its name. The total number of persons who in one year paid Romescot in St. Lawrence parish, during the reign of Edward I, was 141. Amongst them were Richard de Osingehelle, John de St. Lawrence, Gervase de Maneston, Cecilia de Manneston, Paulinus de Maneston, and James son of Luke de Maneston.‡

In the other Thanet parishes, the payers of Romescot, in the same year of Edward I's reign, were in St. Mary, Minstre 138, in St. Peter 163, in St. John the Baptist 208. Probably, as each of these units represents the head of a house, we may obtain an approximation to the population of each parish if we multiply these totals by 5.

As illustrative of the size and position of Ramsgate during the reigns of James I and Charles I, we give the following Returns, which are preserved among the *Domestic State Papers* in the Public Record Office.

A Muster Rowle contayneing the names of the soldiers armed men . . . . Dry pikes halberts and bills of *Ramsgate* and *Sarre*,§

\* *Furley's Weald of Kent*, ii., 162. (Hundred Rolls, 3 Ed. 1).

† *Black Book of Canterbury*; *Cotton. MSS.*, Faustina, A. I., folio 22.

‡ *Ibidem*. § *Dom. State Papers*, James I., vol. cvii., No. 12.

two members of the Town and Port of Sandwich in the County of Kent viz<sup>t</sup>:—

RAMSGATE.—*Light Horse furnished.* Robert Sprackling.

*Armed Men furnished.* Robert Sprackling, Esquior, fower, John Eason, Stephen Sampson, Richard Basset, Robert Allen, John Ivers, John Coppine jun., Will'm Walker, two, Will'm Saunders sen., Robert Hawkes. 14.

*Musketiers furnished.* Robert Sprackling Esquior fower, Stephen Sampson, Abdia Coppine, Thomas Coppine jun, [Zacharias Spencer, Thomas Coppine sen, William Mockenes, Richard Basset, Roger Coppine, John Jervis, John Coppine, Edward Trever, Paul Wastell, Nicholas Spencer, William Walker. William Coppine, William Saunders sen : William Saunders jun<sup>r</sup>, Thomas Coppine, two, Thomas ffairman, Stephen Golding, Oliver Read, William Hawkes, John Covell, Roger Eason, Richard Huffam, Henry Martine, Paul Hewit, George Curleing, John Coppine sen, William ffairman. 35.

*Dry Pikes furnished.* Thomas Coppine, William Mockenes, Nicholas Spencer, Paul Beere, William Knowler, Roger Bonner, John Garret, William Basset, John Davison, Nicholas ffairman, Griffen Holland, John Wraith, William Knowler jun, Alexander Coppine, George Morse, George Longe, Thomas Usher, Robert Davies, John Sea, William Ivers, George Bennet, Richard Barham, William Basset, Edward Pannell, Thomas Emptage. 25.

*Bills.* Alexander Longe, Richard . . . . George . . . . , Thomas Reason John Eason jun, John Bonner sen, Richard Parkins, John Moore, William Coppine, 9.

SARRE.—*Armed men furnished.* Nicholas Henaker, Joell Sollye.

*Musketiers furnished.* Nicholas Henaker, Joell Sollye, Abraham Widdet, Robert Widdet, Edward Chilton maior.

*Drye Pikes furnished.* Stephen Peirs, Abraham Widdet, Robert Butcher. 3.

*Bills furnished.* John Jasper, William May, Stephen Sollye, Thomas Allen, 4.

Musketts xxxix

Corslets xvi

Dry Pikes xxviii

Bills & (sculls?) xiii

} 96

The names of all the *able seafaring men* at RAMSGATE, March 1623,\*

Georg Corlyng	Roger Esson	John Esson
Nickcolas Spenser	John Dauison	Thomas Copen
Roger Copen	George Longe	Harve Jenken
Stephen Gouldyng	Roger Bonard	Mathyas Allen
Edward Trener	Wylliam Evers	John Fayermane
Rychard Huffume	Antonye Hayles	Edward Conard
Robert Barbar	Robert Copen	Rychard Basset
Tho <sup>s</sup> Copen	Thomas Dauison	Wylliam Wastell
Nickcolas Farermane	Rychard Sander	Georg Benett

\* James I, vol. cxl., No. 66 (March 1623.)

Wylliame Copen	Zacary Napultone	John Rossell
Wylliam Fayerman	Antonye Knouler	Thomas Corlyng
Wylliame Sander	Rychard Marten	Nickcolas Boken
Wylliame Knouler	John Moryshe	Rychard Evers
Thomas Roffe	Thomas Fayermane	
Robert Dauye	Harye Fayermane	

RAMSGATE.\*—A note of the names of all the *Shippes Barkes* and *vessels* w<sup>th</sup> their burdens and the names of all the owners and p<sup>t</sup> owners Oct<sup>r</sup> 1626.

1. Imprimis the BLISSING of 56 tonnes. Owners Henrye ffayerman Tho<sup>s</sup> ffayerman, Widdow Culmer; William Evens.
  2. The SPEDWELL of 18 tonnes. Owners John Esson sen<sup>r</sup> & John Esson jun<sup>r</sup>
  3. The ALIVANT of 24 tonnes. Owners Robert Sprackling Esquire, Richard Bassett, Griffin Holpam.
  4. The THOMAS of 24 tonnes. Owners Thomas ffayerman sen<sup>r</sup> & Thomas ffayerman jun<sup>r</sup>.
  5. The ROGER of 20 tonnes. Owner Steven Goldinge.
  6. The MARYE AND FRANCIS of 22 tonnes. Owners William Knowler, Anthony Knowler, Tho<sup>s</sup> Deveson, Richard Martyne.
  7. The PRIMROSE of 22 tonnes. Owner Richard Sanders.
  8. The WILLIAM & ANNES of 30 tonnes. Owner William ffayerman.
  9. The GRAYHOWND of 8 tonnes. Owners W<sup>m</sup> Coppin, Widdow Holt.
  10. The MARYE of 22 tonnes. Owner Richard Huffum, William Coppin, Robert Coppin.
  11. The NIGHTINGALE of 26 tonnes. Owner William Sanders.
  12. The PRIMROSE of 20 tonnes. Owners George Bennett Richard Huffum.
  13. The MAYFLOWER of 16 tonnes. Owner Paule Wastell,
  14. The MARY & JOHN of 18 tonnes. Owner George Longe Tho<sup>s</sup> Curlinge
  15. The VINYARD of 26 tonnes. Owners Will<sup>m</sup> Evens, Widdow Culmer
  16. The ELIZABETH of 20 tonnes. Owners George Curlinge, Steven Goldinge.
  17. The MARY FORTUNE of 45 tonnes. Owners Nicholas Spenser, Vincent Underdowne.
  18. The RICHARD of 16 tonnes. Owner Rich<sup>d</sup> Barber, Will<sup>m</sup> Coppin, John ffayerman.
  19. The GIFFE of GOD of 18 tonnes. Owners Tho<sup>s</sup> Coppin Widdow Moskanesse.
  20. The JAMES of 18 tonnes. Owner Richard Bassett,
  21. The NICHOLAS of 16 tonnes. Owner Roger Esson.
- Masters, 20.  
Common Men, 28.

Another illustration of the condition of Ramsgate more than two hundred years ago, is found in the copper tokens issued by its tradesmen for the convenience of their customers, during the Commonwealth. One farthing token

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\* *Domestic State Papers*, Charles I, vol. xxix., No. 28, iv. (October 1626).

bears the name of "Richard Langley of Ramsgate 1657," with the initials of himself and his wife, R. P. L., and the figure of a man making candles. Another is inscribed "Clement March at Romansgat in Thanet 1658, C. M. M.," and bears the representation of a cheese knife. There was likewise a halfpenny of "Hen. Holdred in Romansgat in y<sup>e</sup> Isle of Tennet." Mr. Bubb of Minster possesses examples of all these Ramsgate tokens.

## ST. LAWRENCE.

We must not suppose that the first Church of St. Lawrence was of such a size as that which has existed from A.D. 1200 to the present time. There can be no doubt, that a smaller church stood on the same site during the twelfth century.\* The only indications however by which we could trace remains of that earlier church are the mural arcades which ornament the tower. These arcades, each consisting of five round-headed arches, with small shafts, may indicate that the tower was built before that enlargement was effected which resulted from piercing the church walls, with pointed arches, in all directions. Nevertheless, there are no sufficient grounds upon which to hazard a conjecture, respecting the shape and size of the church in its smaller form. The tower of St. Lawrence church is said to have been much injured by lightning, on the 26th of August, 1439.† I am somewhat inclined to think that the tower of St. Peter's church was the victim on that occasion; but my conjecture may be erroneous.

This church seems to have attained its present form *circa* A.D. 1200, that is to say, during the last quarter of the twelfth century, or a little later. It was originally one of

\* In Mockett's *Journal*, p. 9, it is stated that in A.D. 1062, St. Lawrence Church was built "as a chapel to Mynster," but there is no authority given, or known, for such a statement. On the same page Margate Church (St. John's), is said to have been built in A.D. 1050.

† Dr. Bekington's Diary—"Die Mercurii 26 Aug. 1439, relatum insuper est quod campetile ecclesie Sci. Laurencii in Insula Tenedos vi fulminis hujusmodi et tonitruu incendio et ruina assumptum erat." Nicolas, *Acts of the Privy Council*, v. 386.

the three chapels-of-ease appendant to the mother church of St. Mary at Minster. It seems however to have obtained a cemetery of its own about the year 1275. Although it has a central tower, it is not cruciform, as the transepts do not project beyond the north and south aisles of the nave and chancel.

The nave, with its arcades (each formed of three pointed arches) is of the style called Transition from Norman to Early English. It has no round arches, although the exterior of the tower shews on two sides (east and south) mural arcades of round-headed arches. In the south arcade of the nave, two of the pier-caps are ornamented with human heads, at their south-west angles, as in the north arcade at St. Peter's, and south arcade at St. Nicholas.

The tower, which is central, stands on four pointed arches. The eastern arch bears, on its west face, a moulding of the Norman chevron pattern. Its piers are shafted. The southern arch has, on one of its pier-caps, a "gagged" human head, from the mouth of which issues a bridle rein, ending in foliage, like two such bridled heads at St. Nicholas Church. Engravings of the most ornate of these chancel arch pier-caps are given in the *Journal of the British Archaeological Association*, iii., 49, from drawings by Fairholt, made in 1848. I fear, however, that some curious details, shewn in the engravings, were not originally here.

The Chancel arcades (each consisting of two pointed arches) are purely Early English. Their piers have, at the angles, shafts with foliated caps. On the south side, at the east end, in the *sacrarium*, there is an additional arch; it is pointed, plain, lower than those in the arcades, and has its eastern pier deeply splayed. The intention of this slanting splay was to enable the high altar to be seen from the south chancel.

In the south wall of the high chancel, there is a trefoiled niche, with a piscina. In the south chancel is a piscina beneath an ogee arch, well moulded.

The roof of the nave has two tie-beams and octagonal king-posts with moulded caps and bases. The chancel has a barrel or waggon roof, of which the timbers are now

visible. In the north chancel are three rude tie-beams and king-posts, unmoulded, eastward of the tower. Part of the ceiling roof of the north aisle occupies the apex of the arch between it and the north chancel. That arch springs from tassel-like corbels, the south of which has been cut away for the convenience of persons who, fifty years ago, used to ascend the gallery stairs, then existing beside it. Formerly broad galleries on the north side, and at the west end of the church, occupied a great portion of the space; that on the south side was narrower; all have been happily swept away.

At the east end of the north chancel the wooden screen of the vestry is panelled with tall, broad, five-foiled arches; upon three of which may still be traced outlines of the figures of saints. In this north, or Manston, chancel are three monumental brasses. One, of a knight in full plate armour, wearing the collar of SSS around his neck, commemorates Nicholas Manston "armiger," who died in 1444. Another (now affixed to the vestry screen) representing a woman wearing a butterfly head-dress, commemorates his daughter, Juliana St. Nicholas, wife of Thomas St. Nicholas. She died in 1493. The third, probably, bore the effigy of Eleanor Haute, wife of Nicholas Manston. Its slab still retains three shields, which bear the arms of—1. Haute, 2. Manston, impaling Haute, and 3. Manston's issue, quartering Haute.

In the south-west corner of the south chancel is a mural monument to Robert (son of Nicholas) Sprakling. He died in 1590. In the north-east corner of that chancel is the old round-topped parish chest, bound with seven bands of iron. The parish books of assessment date from 1582, and are kept in the vestry.

In the high chancel is a flat stone, commemorating Adam Sprakling, Esq., of Ellington, who was hanged at Sandwich in 1652 for the murder of his wife (Catherine Lewknor). Although he was hanged, his body lies buried beneath the communion-table, and his property was not confiscated. The family of Sprakling was settled in Thanet before the thirteenth century, and the name of "Elinton," their seat in the parish, is older still.

In the south chancel is a quaint epitaph for Frances Coppin, wife of Thomas Coppin of Westminster, and daughter of Robert Brooke, of Nacton, Suffolk:—"My dear wife on a journey into these parts was by death intercepted at Manston, ultimo Sept. 1667, ætat. suæ 45."

The hatchments on the nave walls are numerous. They commemorate—

1. John Murray, fourth Earl of Dunmore, who died in 1809.

2. Lady Catherine Stewart, Countess of Dunmore, his wife, who died in 1818. They were the parents of Lady Augusta Murray, who married the Duke of Sussex. Her son, Sir Augustus D'Esté, is buried in a mausoleum within this churchyard.

3. The first Lord Truro, whose second wife was Lady Augusta Murray's daughter, he died in 1855.

4. Elizabeth Baroness Conyngham (sister of the Earl of Leitrim), who died in 1816. She was the mother of the first Marquess Conyngham.

5. John Pettit (3 eagles crowned).

6. Samuel Winter (arms chequy).

7. The father of the Rev. G. W. Sicklemore (3 sickles).

8. Argent, a fess indented Gules, beneath 3 lions.

9. Jolliffe (of South Woodhouse), 3 hands on pile, etc., etc.

10. Gules, 2 bars vairy, blue and white.

11. Garrett (*Argent*, between two flanches, a lion rampant Sable.)

12. In the south chancel is Mr. Austin's hatchment.

There are several memorial windows of modern stained glass, by Hughes and Ward (in N. aisle and at west of S. aisle), by Barnett or Barton, an Irish maker (the Vintem window in the north chancel), and by Clayton and Bell (on north-west and south-east).

In the south chancel wall is a mural slab, carved in high relief, by T. Woolner, with the recumbent figure of Mrs. Froude (wife of the historian), daughter of Mr. J. A. Warre. She died in 1874.

At *Nether Court*, in St. Lawrence, the residence of the Rev. G. W. Sicklemore, a large room on the ground-floor is

panelled throughout with embossed leather. The pattern, embossed in high relief, represents festoons of flowers and of fruit, mostly gilded, but occasionally depicted in their natural colours. Amidst these festoons fly gilded cupids, and some butterflies. The ground colour of the leather is a rich brown.

For many years the whole of these handsome leather hangings lay securely hidden beneath wooden panelling, which was placed over them; they are therefore in perfect preservation. Each panel has, at present, a narrow border or frame of wainscot. There is a *dado* of wainscot, about four feet high, around the room below the leather panelling.

Very few rooms in England are now completely hung or panelled with leather; Mr. Sicklemore's very large and perfect example is therefore extremely valuable and interesting. The artistic merits of the design and of the colouring are great; the grouping being extremely graceful. Probably the hangings were manufactured about the time of William III. In the seventeenth century Cobham Hall contained hangings "of cloth and guilt leather" in two rooms, while in two other rooms were leather carpets.\* Heavy leather curtains are still sometimes found across doorways of Continental churches.

In Mediæval times there was here an Upper Court Manor as well as a manor of Nether Court. Cyriac Petit, writing in the reign of Henry VIII, said that Nether Court Manor was a Knight's Fee mentioned A.D. 1347, in the Assessment for Knighting the Black Prince, in the following terms:—"Of Master Nicholas de Sandwich, for one fee which the Lord Nicholas de Sandwich held of the Abbot of St. Augustine's in the parish of St. Lawrence in Thanet, 40s."† Nearly a century previously the similar entry made in 38 Hen. III ran thus:—"Symon de Sandwich holds in Menstre one Knight's fee and a quarter, from the Abbot of St. Augustine's."

The traces of Upper Court have nearly disappeared, but in 38 Hen. III it seems to have been held by John de St.

\* MS. Inventory (A.D. 1672) in a book at Cobham Hall, pp. 91, 92, 93.

† *Archæologia Cantiana*, X., 115.



Lawrence. Afterwards Ralph de St. Lawrence held it, but in 20 Ed. III it belonged to John de Criol.

When the hearth or chimney tax was assessed in 1673-4, St. Lawrence was entered as West Borough, and two hundred and fifty-three hearths were taxed in one hundred of its houses; while the occupants of one hundred and seven other houses were excused because they received parochial relief. In Ramsgate two hundred and thirty-four hearths were taxed in ninety-two houses; and the houses of seventy-three poor people were excused.

#### PARTISANS OF WAT TYLER, AND OF JACK CADE.

The men of Thanet seem always to have been bold, and tenacious of their rights. Before the Manor of Minster became the property of St. Augustine's the tenants thereon had been accustomed to do suit and service in their own "Halimot," or Manor Court, at Minster. The Abbot of St. Augustine's, however, caused them to come to the Abbey Court at Canterbury, not in a body, but by four of their number as representatives, under pain of forfeiting 6s. 8d. for default. In 1176 the tenants disputed their liability to go to Canterbury and brought the matter to trial, but the case was decided against them. Again, in 1198, the tenants brought their case before the King's justices at Westminster, but were again non-suited. After 120 years more had elapsed, they were bolder. The Abbot distrained, in 1318, for many rents detained, and then the whole of the tenants rose *en masse*, 600 in number. They besieged Minster Court, Salmestone Grange and Olives-end manorhouse, and remained together for five weeks. The ringleaders were punished. Lewis tells the story in his *History of Tenet*, pp. 104-105. After reading such records of their temper, and their actions, we are not surprised to find that men of Thanet took a prominent part in the misdoings which characterized Wat Tyler's rebellion, in June, 1381. On Trinity Monday, June the 10th, John Reade of Thanet was one of the mob which forcibly

assailed, in Canterbury, the house of William Medmenham. They broke into his house, and trampled upon, or feloniously carried away his goods and chattels to the value of £10.\* Court rolls, and books of account connected with manors and with the king's taxes, were the especial objects of their search, and such muniments the rebels destroyed, wherever they could find them. In addition to his residence in Canterbury, William Medmenham had a dwelling-house in Thanet, at Manston, within the parish of St. Lawrence. Consequently, on Thursday, June the 13th,† being the Festival of Corpus Christi, proclamation was made, in the Church of St. John, in Thanet, that all men ought to unite in going to the house of William Medmenham, to pull it down, to fling out the books and rolls found there, and to burn them with fire. Further, it was declared that if they could find William Medmenham, he should be killed and his head be cut off.

William, a chaplain officiating in the church of St. John in Thanet; John Tayllor, sacristan of that church; and John Bocher the church clerk; were propounders of this proclamation, by commission from John Rakestraw, and Watte Tegheler. They and their abettors Stephen Samuel, John Wenelok, John Daniels, and Thomas Soles, compelled a levy of the county around, to the number of 200 men. They proceeded to the hamlet of Manston, broke open Medmenham's house, ransacked his chambers and chests, burnt the Rolls which related to the King's Taxes, and the Rolls of the office of Receiver of Green Wax for the county of Kent, and carried away goods and chattels to the value of twenty marks.‡ The rebels ordered a tax to be paid, for maintaining their proceedings against the lordships, throughout the whole Isle of Thanet, excepting the tenants of the Priory of Christ Church and the franchise of Canterbury.§

On St. John Baptist's day, June the 24th, the rebels were still at work. On that day, at St. John's parish, William Tolone (perhaps the chaplain abovementioned), John Jory, Stephen Samuel, William atte Stone junior, and John

\* *Archæologia Cantiana*, Vol. III., 73.

† *Ibidem*, 76.

‡ *Ibidem*, pp. 72. 73.

§ *Ibidem*, p. 72.

Michelat, raised a cry that no tenant should do service, or custom, to the lordships in Thanet, as they had done aforetime, under pain of forfeiting their goods, and of losing their heads.\* Furthermore, no tenant should suffer any distress, to be taken, under similar penalties.

Thus we see that Thanet was convulsed, by the rebels, for about one month. The Castle at Canterbury was seized, and the sheriff captured therein on the 10th of June; the Gaol at Maidstone was broken open on the 11th; and on the same day, the Green Wax Roll of the King was destroyed in John Colbrond's house, at Wylmington, near Wye. On the 12th of June the rebels mustered at Blackheath; Archbishop Sudbury was murdered on the 14th; and Wat Tyler was killed by Lord Mayor Walworth on the 15th of June; yet we find the rebels in Thanet continuing in arms until July.

William Medmenham seems to have been the steward of some considerable manors, as well as one of the King's Receivers of "Green Wax" estreats. In 1389 (12 Ric. II) we find John Umfray of Canterbury entering into some transaction, of purchase or sale, with William Medmenham of the Isle of Thanet and Isabella his wife, respecting tenelements in Canterbury, Minster, St. Lawrence, and St. Peter's.† MANSTON, the hamlet in which Medmenham dwelt, was in the Middle Ages a somewhat populous place. It gave name to a numerous family, called "de Mannestone," who probably resided at Manston Court. The ancient building there, still in existence, which has generally been described as a chapel, is really the ruined shell of a two-storied dwelling. The back of a mediæval fireplace, formed of masses of thin tiles, is still visible in one of the walls of the upper story; and below there are small mediæval windows.

The subject of Rents and Services seems to have been a constant source of disputes and discontent in Thanet. Half a century, or more, after Wat Tyler's rebellion, another crisis occurred. Lewis has fully recorded its circumstances in his *History of Tenet*, page 106, and has printed the

\* *Archæologia Cantiana*, III., 71. 72.

† Kent Fines, 12 Ric. II. Lansdowne MS. 307, folio 63a.

terms of composition agreed to by the tenants in A.D. 1441, together with a complete list of their names, in his Appendix of "Collections," page 29. Therefore we need not do more than mention the matter here, and give the names of some of the more prominent of the Abbot's tenants, in the Manors of Minster and Hengrave. Among them (on June 1st, 1441) were

Sir Nicholas Wotton of Sheriffs Hope, John Daundelyon, Thomas Northwoode, Thomas Northwoode senior, Thomas Northwoode of Flete, and . . . of Henry Northwoode; Roger Manston and William Manston; William Petyt: W<sup>m</sup> Aldelond; William Humfrey; Thomas St Nicholas; John Septvans; Richard Culmer; William Saundre; Tho<sup>s</sup> Loverik; John Chirch or Chiche; Peter Atte Stone; Thomas Paulyn of Stone; Richard Notfeld; Edmund Wykes; William and Nicholas Gotyslee; John Berton; John Cantes.

The purport of the Composition seems to have been that the tenants were not to be distrained on for rents and services which they used to pay, but instead of them, they were thenceforward to pay 6½d. for every acre of land called Corn-gavil, and 3d. for every acre of the land called Pennygavil land. Defaulters who did not appear at the High Court held at Canterbury, close to St. Augustine's, were to forfeit 12d. instead of the former large penalty of 6s. 8d.

The causes of local discontent having been removed, by this Composition with the Abbot, the attention of the Islanders seems to have been turned to national concerns, of wider interest.

Mutterings of discontent were heard in Thanet, for at least two years, before Jack Cade's rebellion broke out. In the year 1448 a prisoner, in the gaol of the Prior of Canterbury, made a confession to Roger Twisden, the Prior's bailiff. In it he declared that a neighbour of his, in Thanet, spoke treasonably against the King, and against his Queen, Margaret of Anjou, who at that time had no child. The language of the Thanet peasant represented that the King had no right to bear the *fleurs de lis*, nor the ship, on his coin called a "noble;" and that the Queen had no right to be Queen of England. Were he a nobleman, he said, he would

unite with others in "putting down" the Queen, because she bore no son, and there was no prince in the land. The man who spoke in this way was also said to clip the current coin of the realm; when he got a broad penny he was in the habit of paring such a penny with his knife, and putting the parings into a cup. The same man was accused of taking, by night, sacks of wool, which he carried to a creek in the marsh, and sold to Frenchmen who came from Dieppe.\*

This indication of feeling in Thanet, prepares us for the fact that when Jack Cade's rising commenced, in May, 1450, several leading men in Thanet joined him. Among them were Thomas Tarry and John Rychefeld, constables of Ryngslow Hundred, William Manston, Thomas St. Nicholas, John Septvans and John Malyn,† all of whom survived, to be pardoned in July. As the Constables of the Hundred were among the rebels, it may safely be inferred that the men of Thanet were summoned to Cade's standard with all legal form; and no doubt as many "mustered" as would have done so for a lawful enterprise. Mr. W. D. Cooper's sketch of the rebellion, printed in *Archæologia Cantiana*, Vol. VII., is very interesting, and should be consulted. The Kentish men were alone when they encamped for the first time on Blackheath, on the 1st of June; but men of Sussex and Surrey had joined them before they made their second march to Blackheath, on the 2nd of July. Next day they entered London and were joined by men of Essex. They beheaded Lord de Say, and the Sheriff of Kent, Crowmer, on the 4th of July, but on the 5th the citizens of London, who had suffered from pillage, rose, and fought Cade's followers on London Bridge. This practically put an end to the rebellion. On the 6th of July negotiations for pardon were entered upon, and Cade's "Bill of Petitions" was accepted by the Chancellor (Archbishop Kempe) and Bishop Waynflete. Amongst the numerous points mentioned therein we find a complaint respecting "the returns of amerciements called the Green Wax." Thus we see that some of those feelings

\* *MS. at Christ Church Canterbury*. M. 239.—5th Report, p. 455, of *Hist. MS. Commission*.

† *Archæologia Cantiana*, VII., 268, 270. *Patent Roll 28 Hen. VI*, part 2, memb. 13 *et seq.*

were still at work which had influenced Wat Tyler's followers, and had caused Thanet men to assail and force Medmenham's house at Manston, because it contained "Green Wax Rolls."

Of John Rychefeld (one of the Constables of the Hundred) we know nothing, but William Richefeld seems, by his will, to have left certain goods as a legacy out of which to provide an Antiphonary for the chapel of Hothe, in Reculver parish.\* In 1511 this had not been done, and one result of Archbishop Warham's visitation, held in that year, was an order that the churchwardens of Reculver should provide such an Antiphonary.† The other constable, called Thomas Tarry, who united in the Composition with St. Augustine's in 1441, was probably a man of some weight and force of character. We find that, one hundred years after this rebellion, his name still clung to a road which formed one of the boundaries of Ramsgate. The bounds of the Cinque Ports' liberty at Ramsgate in 1560 were thus recorded:—"The sea lyeth on the east side of our liberties, and on the south side from the sea towards the west, a way called Thomas Tarye's way, leading by a close called Nynne Close, and so leadeth by a close called Beysaunts, and so down through Ellington, etc. etc."‡

John Malyn, who was of Monkton, made his will in 1464, and left to Holy Crosslight in Monkton Church two bushels of barley; to St. Mary's light, to the Little Cross light, and to the light of St. Mary Magdalen, 1 lb. of wax apiece.§

#### ST. PETER'S CHURCH.

This handsome church has a nave of five bays, with north and south aisles, which were built when architecture was undergoing a transition, from the Norman to the Early English style; a chancel with north aisle of three bays, and a south chapel of one bay, both of the Early English period; and a western tower, probably of the Perpendicular period,

\* Archbishop Warham's *Register*, fol. xlv<sup>a</sup>.

† *Ibidem*, fol. lxij<sup>a</sup>.

‡ Boys' *Sandwich*, p. 832. Hasted, x., 388.

§ Lewis, *Hist. Tenet*, p. 35.

at the end of the north aisle, to which it opens by a pointed arch.

In the nave we find some evidence to shew that the present building was formed by enlarging\* a smaller church. In the south arcade of the nave, the middle arch is pointed, and its piers are, simply, portions of wall, left standing when, for the purpose of adding an aisle, this arch was pierced in the solid exterior wall. The appearance of this pointed arch, in the midst of an arcade of round arches, suggests that this enlargement of the church was effected *about* A.D. 1180, or 1185. Oddly enough, we find that John Mockett, of St. Peter's parish, in his *Journal*, published in 1836, ascribes the building of this church to the year 1184. On page 9, he says, "A.D. 1184 St. Peter's Church, Isle of

\* Mr. G. E. Hannam, assisted by Mr. Bubb, kindly measured the building ; and to them I am indebted for the following list of dimensions of St. Peter's Church, taken June 15th, 1878 :—

	Ft.	In.
Height of the tower .....	75	6
"    Battlements of ditto .....	2	8
To the top of side turret .....	3	6
<hr/> Total height .....	<hr/> 81	<hr/> 8
Inside top of tower, south to north .....	20	6
"    "    east to west .....	20	2
Inside of tower at bottom, south to north.....	14	4
"    "    east to west .....	15	4
The base of the tower is nearly square, measuring outside from north to south.....	23	10
Total length of inside of church, east to west .....	127	10
Length of chancel.....	54	4
Width of chancel .....	19	3
Total width of inside of church .....	54	2
Width of Norwood Chapel .....	17	4
Width of north aisle.....	15	8
Width of south aisle.....	12	0
Width (of bays) between the pillars varies from 11 ft. 6 in. to 11 ft. 9 in.		
Circumference of pillars on north side .....	7	11
Ditto on south side .....	8	11
Thickness of crown of arches .....	2	11
Height from floor to top of crown of arches .....	14	11
Height from floor to wall plate of roof.....	18	1
Thickness of wall, south side .....	2	3
"    "    north side .....	2	4
"    "    at west end .....	2	8

The church was partially restored in 1859, Rev. Saunderson Robins being Vicar, and G. E. Hannam and Edward Mockett churchwardens.

The present roof of nave and two aisles was restored 1872, J. P. Seddon being the architect.

Thanet, built as a chapel to Mynster." Where he obtained his date I do not know, but I consider that for the period of *enlargement* of this church, it is tolerably correct. I cannot however believe that a church of such size, and with such a peculiar arrangement of the south arcade, was the first church ever built upon this site.

With the exception of the piers of the pointed arch, all other piers in the nave-arcades are round columns, with caps and bases of the usual square outline, commonly found with round arches. The eyes of persons entering the church, by the south door, naturally rest chiefly upon a pier in the north arcade, which stands just eastward of the line of passage, between the south and north doors. The capital of that pier, and of it alone, is enriched with carved representations of human heads, at its southern angles. These heads are very similar to those which ornament a capital at St. Nicholas Church, and not unlike two others on caps at St. Lawrence. The ornaments upon the other pier-caps are of the simple scalloped pattern.

The existing chancel arch is modern. On the south side of the chancel, the aisle or chantry of one bay, is probably the base of an Early English tower. It opens to the chancel by a pointed arch, the northern edge of which bears a roughly wrought ornament of dog-tooth pattern, and its southern edge is worn, as if by the action of a bell-rope, in two or three places. This chantry, or old tower-basement, opens to the south aisle by a pointed Early English arch, and it is highly probable that, as at Birchington Church, and many other places, so here, the Early English tower stood at the east end of the nave's south aisle. That position for a tower was frequently adopted, in Kent, during the thirteenth century. Eastward of this tower or chantry, there are two windows in the south wall of the chancel; there is also a piscina under a large pointed arch, and a *sedile* of simplest form, a stone bench with one elbow.

The north aisle of the chancel opens to it by three Early English arches, with rude rectangular piers. Between the first and second arches, reckoned from the nave, there appears, above their common pier, a doorway, which no doubt



led to the rood-loft. We must therefore suppose that the rood-screen stood eastward of the first bay of the chancel, thus cutting off from it what is now the south chancel, which I believe to have been originally the base of a tower. This fact strongly supports my supposition. Upon the north side of the sacrarium there is a double aumbry.

The roof of the chancel is coved; and wooden ribs, with carved bosses at their intersections, divide it into large panels, which have in modern times been decorated with painting. The cornice or wall-plate is handsome, and its wide hollow moulding is ornamented with carvings of foliage and roses. It seems to be a work of the fifteenth century. The windows throughout the church seem to have new tracery and new mullions.

The lofty tower, 78 feet 2 inches high, situated like that of St. John's Church at Margate, at the west end of the north aisle, seems to be of the fifteenth century. Its western window, which Sir Stephen Glynne pronounced to be of the Curvilinear style, was probably inserted in 1827 as a restoration (see Mockett's *Journal*, p. 108). It has on its north side an octagonal turret three and a half feet higher than the tower. Mockett, in his *Journal*, p. 109, states that in 1580, the church steeple was injured by an earthquake; that in 1705, the top of the church steeple was new leaded; that in 1777 a new fourth bell was put up by Elijah Mockett; and in 1798, a new tenor bell\* by John Mockett and T. Paine. The church clock, he says, was purchased in 1802, by subscription, and cost £103. In 1827, the belfry window was replaced at a cost of £57 17s. 10d. The top of the steeple was, in 1813, fitted up as a telegraph, to convey messages to other stations which passed them on to the Nore, where the ships of war were lying. A lieutenant and three men were stationed at St. Peter's, and were on the watch from sunrise until twilight. Mockett says (p. 69) that their signals were very amusing to the inhabitants.

The north doorway of the church is blocked up; ex-

\* On page 51 of Mockett's *Journal*, he says the set of bells, completed in 1798, weighed: Treble, 6cwt. 3qrs. 0lbs.; second, 6cwt. 0qrs. 24lbs.; third, 7cwt. 2qrs. 16lbs.; fourth, 9cwt. 2qrs. 0lbs.; fifth, 11 cwt.; Tenor, 14cwt. 3qrs. 0lbs.

ternally its arch had Early English ornament of the nail-head pattern.

In the centre of the north chancel there is a low altar tomb, in memory of Manasses Northwood of Dane Court, who died in March 1636. The slab of Purbeck or Bethersden marble is ornamented with six shields of arms, in addition to the circular inscription and shield in its centre. Four of these carved shields seem to record the chief alliances of the ancient and eminent family of Northwode, of Milton next Sittingbourne, and of Shepey; while only two, those at the eastern end or base of the slab, relate to Norwoods of Thanet. The absence of colour makes it difficult to identify all the coats of arms, but the carved shields are as follows:—

1. (South-west) *Northwode* of Milton, impaling "paly wavy of six."
2. (N.W.) *Northwode* with a label, impaling paly of six, on a bend 3 eagles displayed (*Grandison*).
3. *Northwode*, impaling a fesse *ermine* between 6 annulets.
4. *Northwode*, impaling a lion rampant, over which a saltire engrailed is superimposed.
5. *Norwood* of Dane Court, impaling 3 garbs within a bordure semeé of annulets (*Kempe*).
6. *Norwood* of Dane Court, impaling a chevron between three buckles.

The shield of the Norwoods of Dane Court has, in its dexter chief, a wolf's head erased, added to the simple shield (a cross engrailed) of the Northwodes of Milton. Shield No. 5 is probably intended for that of Alexander Norwood, who married Joan, daughter of — Kempe, and widow of Roger Howlett. Manasses Norwood was the third son of Alexander and Joan. Probably the sixth shield was that used by Manasses himself, who married Elizabeth Badcock. As there is no evidence, whatever, of the connection supposed to exist, between the Norwoods of Dane Court and the Northwodes of Milton, I believe that the four shields bearing reference to Northwodes, and their ancient alliances, were carved on this tomb in allusion to the fact that Manasses Norwood purchased the Manor of Norwoods in Milton, which had been the chief seat of the ancient

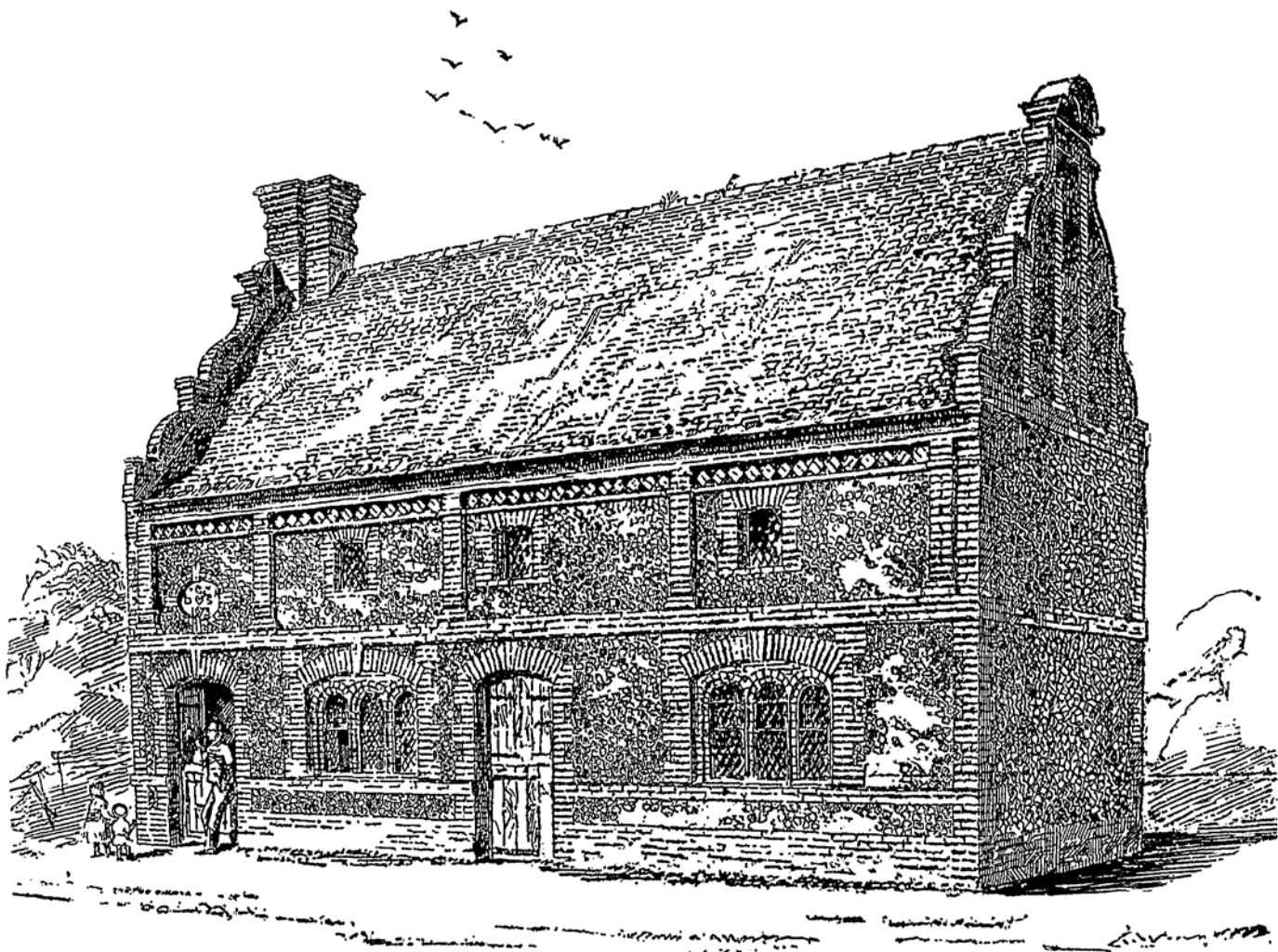
family of Northwode. The official Court Roll of Milton Manor, written in 1631, states that Sir William Tufton purchased from Sir Thomas Norton, knight, the Manor of Milton Chasteners (otherwise called Norwoods Manor) and 485 acres of land, which formed a portion only of the entire estate. The whole Northwode estate, sold by Sir Thomas Norton, comprised 991 acres. Before 1631 Sir William Tufton sold 310 acres, part of his purchase, together with the seat of the Manor of Milton Chasteners *alias* Norwoods, to Manasses Norwood *armiger*, Richard Norwood gentleman (son of Manasses), and Alexander Norwood (son of Richard) and their heirs. Undoubtedly, Manasses Norwood made the purchase from a desire to connect himself with the great family of Northwode. From the addition of a canton, bearing a wolf's head, to the old Northwode shield, it is evident that the Heralds considered there was not full proof of the direct descent of this Thanet family from the great Milton family. Nevertheless, the tomb of Manasses Norwood bears four shields which appeared upon the tombs of the ancient and greater family.

The fact seems to be that the Thanet family was settled in this island at a very early period. I find, in 1327, the name of Richard de Northwode in the Subsidy Roll for Ringslow Hundred. As there was a Northwood on the border of St. Peter's parish,\* and as there likewise was, in Whitstaple, a village called Northwode† (unless indeed Northwode was the original name of Whitstaple itself), we can understand that the Thanet family may have sprung from either of these places. At all events, in 1441, no less than four of this family held lands in Thanet under St. Augustine's Abbey. Among the tenants who were parties to the Composition, made in that year, between the Abbot and the tenants were Thomas Northwoode, sen., Thomas Northwoode, heirs of Henry Northwoode, and Thomas Northwode de Flete.‡ In 1494 Alys, widow of Richard Norwood,

\* Mockett's *Journal*, p. 151.

† 38 Hen. III. "Will's de Wilton tenet villatam de Northwode que dicitur Whitstaple" *Archæologia Cantiana*, XII., 204).

‡ Lewis' *Hist. of Tenet*. Appendix, pp. 29, 30.



MILTON PLACE, BROADSTAIRS,

of St. Peter's, made her will, and bequeathed money to each of those lights in the church of which she had hitherto been a supporter.\*

Mockett, on page 138 of his *Journal*, by a curious error, says that he found in St. Peter's churchyard a tombstone inscribed in memory of William Norwood, and dated 1122 (DDCXXII); but upon a subsequent page, 209, he corrects his mistake and gives the true date, 'William Norwood's tomb 1622.' The date was probably CIODCXXII. How this William was related to Manasses we do not know. Mr. J. D. Norwood of Ashford, who has investigated the genealogy of the Dane Court family, finds no evidence enabling him to rightly place William Norwood, who died in 1622. He has discovered the will of Manasses, whose tomb is in this church. The will is dated 11th September, 1634. He describes himself as being then resident at St. Paul's in Canterbury.

An inscribed brass plate commemorates Richard Culmer, carpenter, and Margaret his wife. He is said to have died on the 6th of November, 1434,† or probably in 1435. Among his bequests was one for the benefit of St. Peter's poor, who were to share on Good Friday the rent of six acres of land lying at *Brodsteyr Lynch*. Another bequest was directed to the improvement of the roads at *Collyswood* and *Hayne*; for which purpose Ric. Culmer ordered 2½ acres of his land at Collyswood to be sold. He had purchased that land from Richard Gotisley.

Richard Dumpton was named by Culmer as one of his feoffees. This name (Dumpton) still clings to a house and small property in the parish of St. Peter's.

The Culmer family had always much influence at Broadstairs, and seem generally to have used it well. To that family the modern watering-place of Broadstairs, undoubtedly, owes its existence. The foundation of the place may be traced to the means of access to the shore, afforded by the works, and at the cost, of the Culmer family, more

\* *Hist. of Tinct.*, 116 Noto.

† Mockett's *Journal*, pp. 53, 172 and 209; but Lewis gives the date incorrectly as 1485 (Appendix, p. 90) although, on page 92, he gives the will of Ric. Culmer as bearing date 6th January, 1434.

than four hundred years ago. In 1440 (as Mockett tells us\*) a gateway to the sea at Broadstairs was built by Mr. Culmer; and in 1460 (he adds) Broadstairs Pier was built by Mr. George Culmer. In 1564 Broadstairs Pier and the road to it was, according to Hasted, and to Mockett,† the fee estate of the Culmer family. The inhabitants, adds the latter, numbered 186 in that year. Hasted says there were then 98 inhabited houses in Broadstairs. In 1616, Lord Zouch confirmed the decrees or regulations for Broadstairs harbour; these decrees gave to the Pier-wardens authority to meet annually in the Vestry of St. Peter's church, to choose pier-wardens for the following year.‡ In the church is a monument to Daniel Culmer who died in 1690.‡ The house called Milton Place, in Broadstairs, was probably built by him for his own residence. It bears the initials D. & S. C., and the date 1673. Through Mr. Seddon's generosity we are able to give two illustrations of Milton Place, which seems to have acquired its present name from Mr. Milton, who married a Culmer heiress. John Culmer was interred in St. Peter's churchyard in 1709.‡ An Act was passed through Parliament, in 1792, for the repair and the rebuilding of Broadstairs Pier,§ and in 1798 Sir John Henniker, at his own expense, repaired the archway to Broadstairs Gateway and Pier.|| Sir John Henniker had a summer residence in Broadstairs at that time.¶ Probably the Gateway, repaired by him, was that which Mr. Culmer built A.D. 1440. Some short distance above it stood the little chapel of St. Mary of Bradstow, to which, as Lewis tells us,\*\* sailors used formerly to shew respect, by lowering the top-sails, as their vessels passed it. There is no evidence whereby to decide whether this chapel was erected by Culmer, together with his Gateway, or whether the chapel was of greater antiquity. There was at Broadstairs an ancient windmill which, in 1657, was occupied by William Gray, to whom, in that year, Richard Mockett sold 16 quarters of wheat at 41s. 6d. In the same year R. Mockett began harvest on the

\* *Journal*, p. 109.

§ *Ibidem*, p. 31.

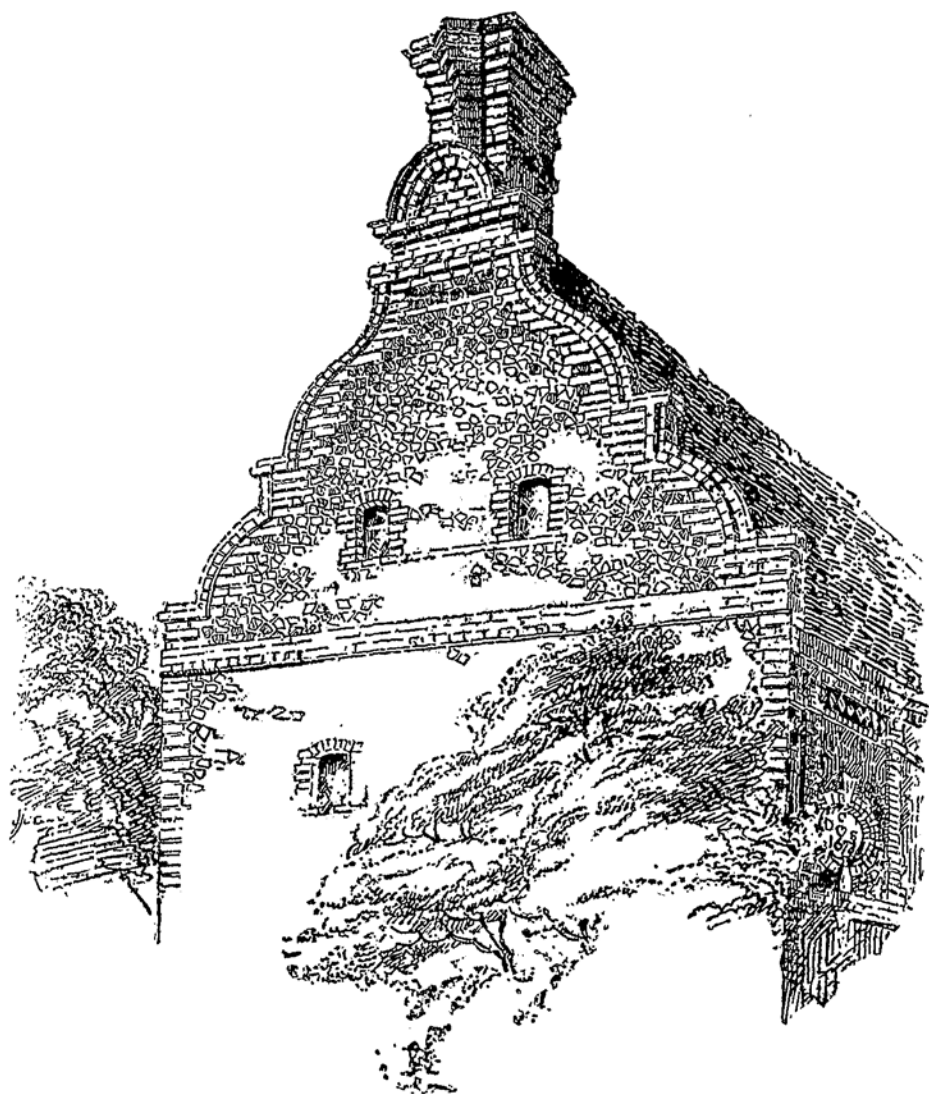
¶ Hasted, *Hist. of Kent*, x., 364.

† *Ibidem*, p. 5.

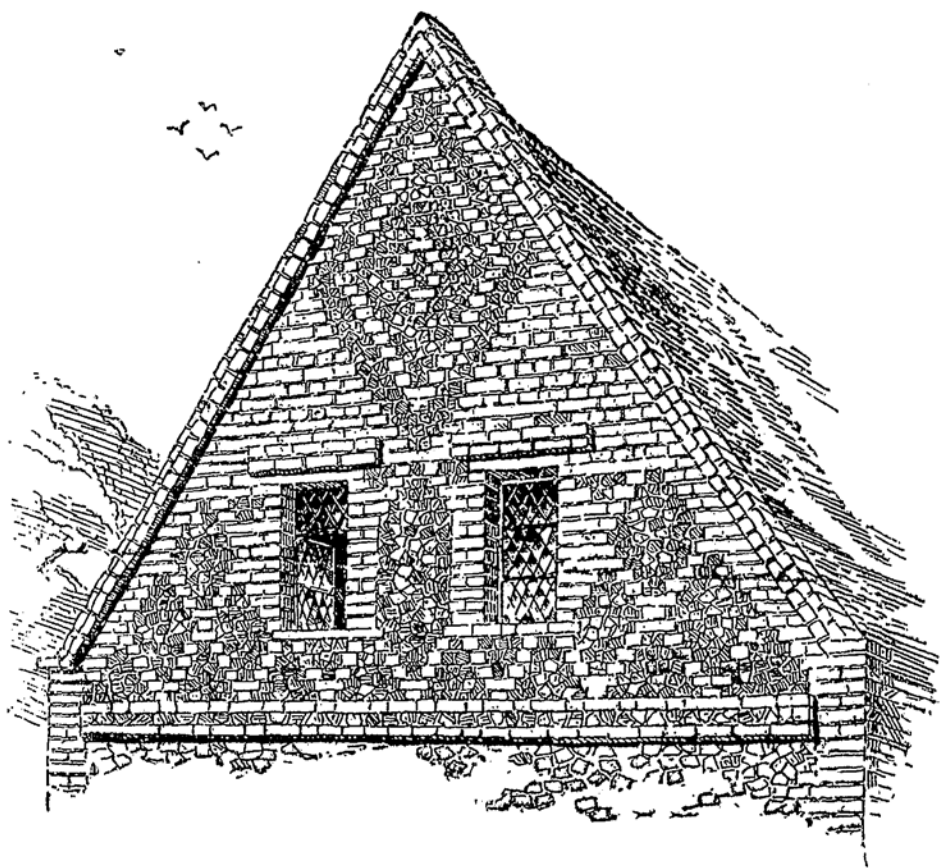
|| *Ibidem*, p. 51.

‡ *Ibidem*, p. 209.

\*\* Lewis' *Hist. of Tenot*, p. 119.



GABLE AT MILTON PLACE, BROADSTAIRS.



DIAPERED GABLE IN HIGH STREET, BROADSTAIRS.



21st of July.\* There is in High Street, Broadstairs, a house built about the time of William III, with a gable prettily diapered in bricks and flints. Mr. Seddon supplies us with an admirable illustration of it.

John Mockett in his *Journal* states that, in 1831, the footpath from Broadstairs to Stone and the North Foreland was first converted into a carriage road.†

Lewis in the Appendix (pp. 87 to 91) to his *History of Tenet* gives *in extenso* the inscriptions upon several monuments in St. Peter's church; and Mockett in his *Journal*, pp. 208-210, prints a long list of persons whose tombstones appear either in the church or in the churchyard.

I will mention but one more; the brass plate commemorating John Sacket, who died 24th February, 1623. The inscription is given in full by Lewis (*Appendix*, p. 91). The Sacket family seems to have been settled in St. Peter's Parish for several centuries, and their name still clings to a place called Sackets Hill in the northwest portion of the parish. On the Subsidy Roll written in 1327 for the Hundred of Ringslow, I find the names of William Saket and John Saket, assessed for considerable sums.‡ During the following century another member of this family, John Sakett, making his will on St. Thomas' day 1444, bequeathed the sum of £5, which was then in the hands of Nicholas Underdown, for the purpose of purchasing three ornamental altarcloths, to decorate this church. These were not for one altar, but, as the erroneous custom of the Middle Ages multiplied altars in honour of various saints, so here in St. Peter's Church, there were several altars. Amongst them, three were dedicated in honour of St. James the Apostle, St. Mary of Pity, and St. Margaret. For each of these altars John Sakett directed his executors to purchase a covering (*tres pallas pro dicta Ecclesia pro tribus Altaribus*) with the five pounds which he bequeathed.§

Among the Domestic State Papers are many which illustrate the condition of St. Peter's Parish during the seven-

\* Mockett's *Journal*, p. 26.

† *Ibidem*, p. 137.

‡ Lay Subsidy, Kent, in Public Record Office, 12<sup>3</sup>/<sub>10</sub> memb. 13<sup>a</sup>.

§ Lewis' *Hist. of Tenet*, p. 115 note.

teenth century. In the *Muster Roll*, October 12th and 13th, 1614, we find that St. Peter's furnished 25 corslets. Amongst the inhabitants bound to furnish them were, John Thatcher 1, Silvester Tirrett 1, Richard Culmer 1, Thomas Fleete 1, James Boykett 1, Thomas Craft (of Bromstone, probably) 2, Manasses Norwood gent. 3, John Sackett sen. 2, Edward Dyer 1, Robert Norwood 1, Anthony Norwood 1, etc. etc. (*D. S. P.*, James I, vol. lxxviii., No. 72).

In March 1623, the returns shew that in St. Peter's parish dwelt ninety-five mariners and seafaring men, between the ages of eighteen and sixty years. (*D. S. P.*, James I, cxi., 64.)

The following returns are given *in extenso* :—

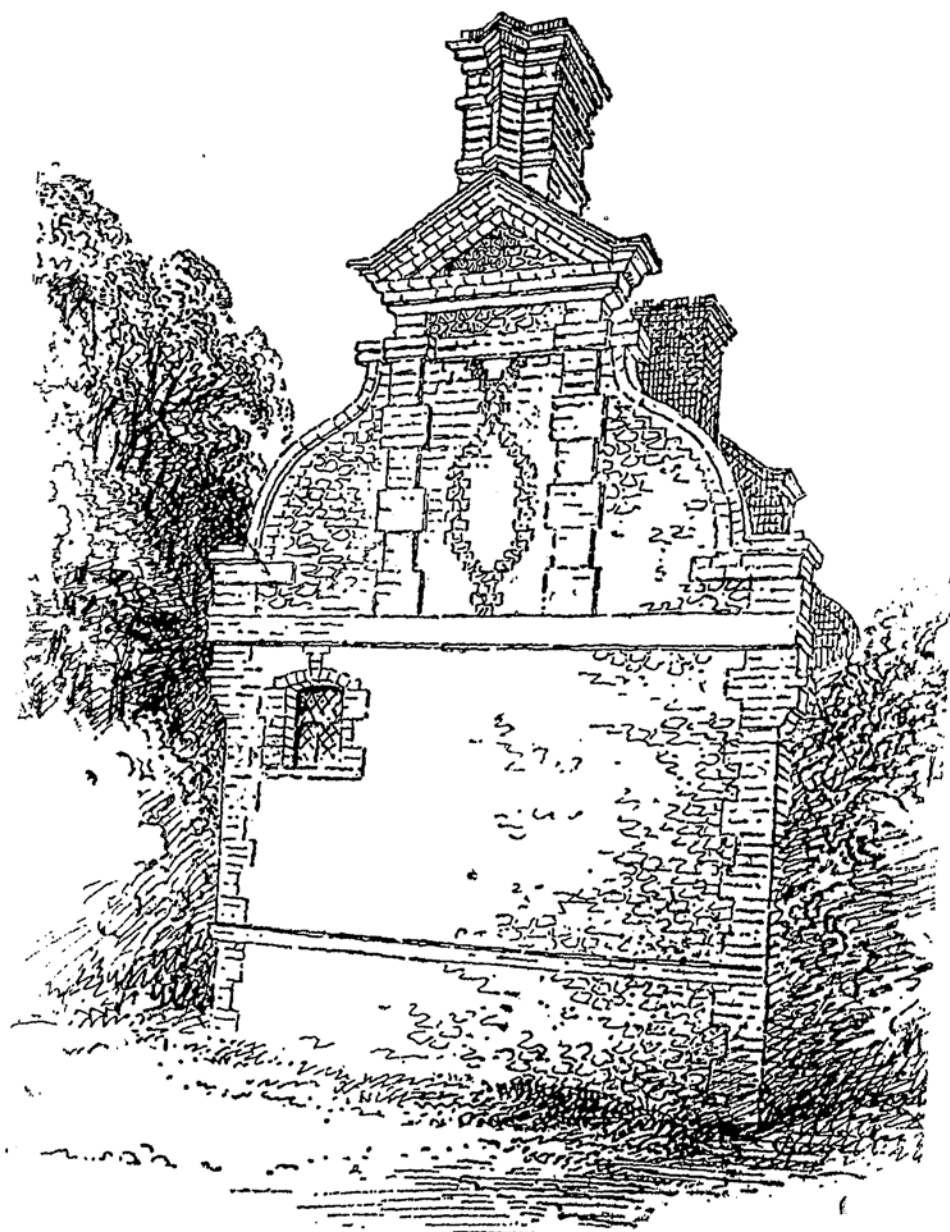
ST. PETERS.\* A true and perfect List of all the Souldiers which were Billeted in the parishe of St<sup>t</sup> Peters in the Isle of Thanet in the Countie of Kent from the 22 day of Januarie 1627 vntill the 29 day of July 1628, they beinge of Sargeant Mayor Dawsons Companie, they beinge billeted 27 weekes.

MANASSES NORWOOD Esquire (Billeted) Bartholomew Leper 27 weeks. And Leiftenant Rogers, came one y<sup>e</sup> 30<sup>th</sup> of Januarie & he removed the 14<sup>th</sup> of March. And Leiftenant Moone came into his rone and continued vntill there removall.

<i>Residents.</i>	<i>Soldiers billeted.</i>
Thomas Croft	John Carllie 27 weekes
William Sackett	William Gunne 27 weekes
George Marley	Richard Moninges 27 weekes
Symon Croft	Andrewe Oliuer 27 weekes
John Russell	George Pittes "
Richard Pawlen	James Sparrowe "
Michael Pawlen	fraunces Dickson "
Edward Wild	Robert Prentice "
Robert Read	Richard Sharpe "
George Baldocke	Isaac Archard "
Nicholas Samson	Thomas fflake "
John Hall	Thomas Taylor "
Gulford Culmer	Robert Waad "
William Norwood	John Joyce "
Michael Norwood	Henry Church 27 weekes

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\* *Domestic State Papers*, Charles I, vol. cxiii., No. 59, II.



GABLE IN READING STREET, THANET.

A note of twelve Souldiers w<sup>ch</sup> were Billeted at St Peters in the Isle of Thanet for ffive dayes w<sup>ch</sup> were of Sargeant Mayor Dawson Companie.

Robert Davies, Charles Miller, Christopher Harson, Thomas Smith, Joseph Dakines, James Taylor, Thomas Taylor, fraunces Raynes, John Waad, Henry filde, John Alline, Henry Skinte.

The Muster Roule\* of the Select Compani in the parishes of St Johns St Peeters and Burchington in thyle of Thanett in the County of Kent containeing the names of the Captain officers and souldyers of the same.

Paule Cleybrooke, captaine, esquire

Manasses Norwood, Liuetenant, gen.

William Cleybrooke, ensigne, gen.

Richard Gosby } Sargants

Thomas Crafte }

Henry Jones clerke

Nathaniell Waighyll Drummer

*Corsletts.*

John Cocklinge	Richard Hallett	Nicholas Norwood
Peeter Swynford	Henry Stedman	Edward Adderfull
John Sharpe	Henry Pett	John Smyth
John Hodges	John Pynck	William Symons
Samuell Legate	Robert Edinger	Henry Penny
George Pett	John Wyther	Adam Coosin
John Tomlyn	William Tomlyn	Thomas Boyes
Elias Arnold	Richard Reynolds	John Adye
Thomas Poole	Thomas Nashe	Thomas Kempe
Robert Gore	John Sackett	William Reynoldes
John Pannell	Robert Gusson	James Nicholas
Alexander fletee	Edward Wyle sen.	Henry Careys
Nicholas Owenden	Henry Graunt	William Colman
George Totenham	James Boykett	John Smyth
Thomas Kennytt	William Graunt	John Austen
Robert ffurman	Robert Norwood jun <sup>r</sup>	John Johnson
Robert Vincle	Edward ffuller	Richard Maye
John Greenstreete	Thomas Emtage	Daniell ffreind. 60.
Nicholas Woolman	Thomas Smyth	
Edward Wytherden	George Marley	

*Musquets.*

Gylbert Dod	Abdias Peerce	Heugh Johnson
William Payne	Thomas ffuller	Zachary Byllinghurst
Thomas Wheatly	James Jones	John Martin
Henry Pannell	Daniell Pamphett	John Laminge

\* *Domestio State Papers*, James I, vol. cviii., No. 9.

*Musquets.*

William Laminge	John Smyth	John Sprackling
Anthony Curlinge	Mathew Jinkinson	John Phylpott
Paule Graunt	Robert Yonge	Edward Start
Zachary Ranshorne	William ffantinge	Robert Graunt
John Elsetter	John Hewes	Nicholas Dawson
Richard Polin	Rowland Shurth	Thomas Norwood
John Pantry	William Sackett jun <sup>r</sup>	Lewis Maxsted
George Abbott	James Stone	Michael Norwood
William Spryngett	Andrew Langly	George Wytherden
William Sackett sen <sup>r</sup>	John Thurlo	James Weste
Richard Muzred	Edward Jinkyn	Richard Gee
John Goodwyn	William Samson	William Vffington
Edward Toddy	Roger Laminge	John Ayers
William Hinchawe	Thomas Elwood	John ffoxe
Austen Lushenden	Jeremy Samson	Richard Mockett
Symon Owery	George Baldocke	Edward Colman
Thomas Brooman	John Cullmer	Vincent Underdowne
Michael Greedier	Robert Reade	Mathewe Cantis
John Prince	John Stone	William Norwood
Robert Wythers	Michael Polin	Thomas Cullmer
John Gosby	William Chiles	William Jordan
Robert Pearce	Thomas ffeete	Richard Colman
William Alexander	Gylford Cullmer	Robert Cavell
Henry Collmer	Valentine Cocklinge	Robert Cwimiell ? 80

Waggons two.

Waggoners { Robert Reade.  
                  { Robert Edinger.(Signed) PAULE CLEAYBROOKE, Capt.  
Apryll the first 1619.April 2<sup>nd</sup> 1619.\* The Generall, or nott Selectted, Companie etc.

Valentine Pettit, gent., captayne

William Parker, Liuetenauntt

Thomas Busher, Ensigne

Richard Culmer } Sergeants  
Andrew Sweetinge }

John Bennett Drummer

Coursletts 30

Musketts 76

Dry Pykes 60

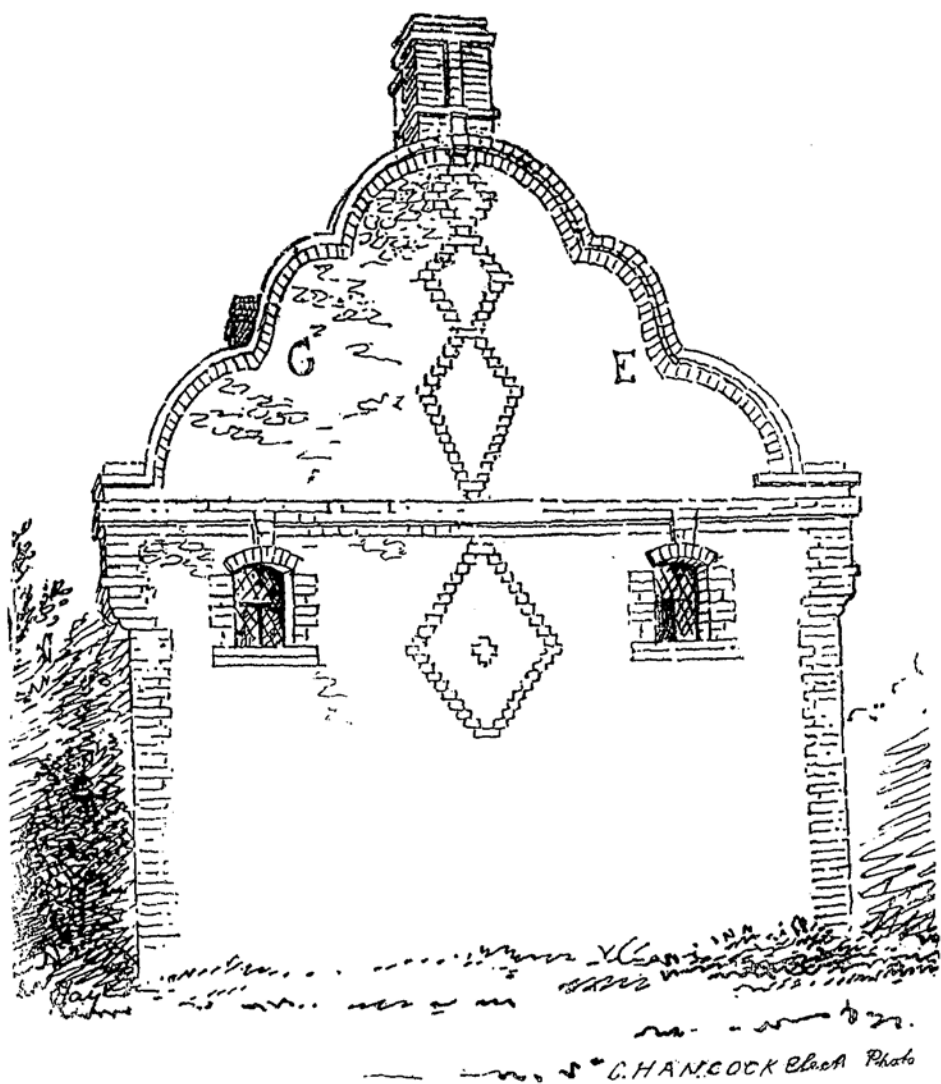
Among the items of intelligence recorded by Mockett respecting St. Peter's parish are these: In 1662 trainbands

\* *Domestic State Papers*, James I, vol. cviii., No. 10.



TWO COTTAGES IN READING STREET, THANET.

C HANCOCK *Electronics*



GABLE IN READING STREET, THANET.

were formed into companies, and those at St. Peter's were under the command of Messrs. Underdown, Mockett, and Witherden;\* in 1786-7 umbrellas were used by three or four persons in St. Peter's;† in 1789 the Isle of Thanet harriers were kept at St. Peter's;‡ and in 1833 the very ancient house called the *Crown and Thistle* was pulled down, and rebuilt, in the village of St. Peter's.§ From its name we may suppose that this "ancient house" was built during the reign of James I.

Mockett records, as do Lewis and Hasted, the theft of the church plate and the consequent gift made on April 15, 1688, of the communion plate now in use, by Mrs. Lovejoy of Callis Grange; Nicholas White was then the vicar, and the churchwardens were Robert Witherden and George Carter.||

At the place called Kingsgate, Charles II and his brother James, Duke of York, landed on the 30th of June 1683. There had previously been there a gate called Barth'lem's or St. Bartholomew's Gate, henceforward it was called Kingsgate. Inscriptions narrating the incidents of the King's landing, and of the change of name, were placed upon the gate, but it was entirely washed away by the sea in March, 1819.¶

There are in Reading Street several houses of the time of William III, which have the pretty gables, so plentiful in Thanet. We are indebted to Mr. Seddon for the annexed illustrations of those houses. One of them bears the initials G. E. These plates enable us to see how varied were the forms of these pretty gable ends. Any readers who are well acquainted with Thanet will remember several such gable ends in High Street, Ramsgate; in St. Lawrence, not far from the church; in High Street, Margate; and many in Birchington, some of them bearing the initials of those who built them.

\* *Journal*, p. 16. † *Ibidem*, p. 21. ‡ *Ibidem*, p. 31. § *Ibidem*, pp. 164, 165.  
|| *Ibidem*, p. 52. ¶ *Gentleman's Magazine*, vol. xci., part 2, pp. 319, 320.



## CALAIS GRANGE, IN ST. PETER'S.

*Callis Court*, or *Calais Grange*, is evidently a building of the fifteenth century, probably of the reign of Edward IV, but for how many centuries it has been known by this name does not appear. Thorn in his Chronicle (written in the fourteenth century) says that it was an ancient property of St. Augustine's Abbey. No doubt this small Court-house was erected as the centre and seat of the minute estate which comprised fifty-nine acres of land, and two-thirds of the great tithes of St. Peter's parish.\*

William Caleys appears as witness to a charter in the thirteenth century.†

An early schedule of the "Gabulum de Mergate"‡ contains the name of *Adam Calisun* and partners 12d.; this probably was in the reign of Edward I.

In the Subsidy Roll of 1 Ed. III (1327), I find the name of *Robert Caleson* entered as liable for 18½d. in Thanet. Descending to the sixteenth century, the Birchington registers record that Thomas Callis, of St. Peter's parish, stood as sponsor for a child named Cavell on the 25th of February, 1579. Thus, as the surname of a family in Thanet, the name Caleys or Calisun can be traced back for six centuries at least. Probably the small estate derived its name from that family. There was likewise a harbour called Cales Harbour within the limits of the manor of Downbarton. On behalf of Queen Elizabeth, as lady of that manor, wrecks of the sea, between Popehead Gate and Cales Harbour, were claimed for her, by Henry Paramore, Esq.§

By the generosity of Mr. John P. Seddon, the well-known

\* John Mockett's *Journal*, p. 86, thus describes the St. Peter's tithes:—

	Acre.
Callis Grange corn tithes, including 40 acres of glebe	1154½
Vicarial tithes .....	526½
Salmstone Grange takes tithes of .....	170
Newland Grange takes tithes of .....	744
Total acreage of St. Peter's parish.....	<u>2594½</u>

† *Cotton. MSS.*, Claudius D. X., fol. 118 b.

‡ *Ibidem*, Faustina A. I., fol. 13 a.

§ *Domestic State Papers*, Elizabeth, vol. cxcv., No. 108.



CALLIS GRANGE, THANET.

architect, we are enabled to give an illustration of the front of Calais Court, or Grange, shewing the pargeting on its upper story. This plate is valuable, because the pargeted plaister has been destroyed since the drawing was made. Its ornamentation consisted of two large representations of the sun in its glory, and between them a geometrical device, such as we find used upon floors in painted glass and illuminations of the second half of the fifteenth century. The house has been much altered of late years, but in one of the bedrooms we can still see a tie beam and king-post of the original roof. This beam has beneath it two curved braces, each with two wide hollow mouldings. The king-post is octagonal, with moulded cap and base. It is evident that the room to which it belonged was open from the ground to the roof, and probably the existing building originally consisted of little more than one such large room or hall. Probably some portions of the original building have disappeared.\*

In the seventeenth century the house was remodelled, as we learn from a piece of wood on which a date is carved.

Behind the house, but within four or five feet of it, there is just below the surface of the ground, but covered with boarding, the entrance to a series of four or five small subterranean chambers, excavated in the chalk. They were

\* John Mockett's *Journal* gives (p. 175) some interesting statistics respecting the sums paid by lessees for the Calles Grange Corn Tithes of 1670 acres of land. After Mrs. Lovejoy's death, in March 1694, the estate was let by auction to W. Emptage, at £185 16s. 8d. per annum, the price of wheat being £3 per quarter. Subsequently the rents and fines paid by lessees were as follows:—

Date.		Annual Rent. £		Average price of wheat per quarter.			Fine paid to Dean and Chapter. £
				£	s.	d.	
1702	...	180	...	2	0	10	144
1709	...	180	...	3	9	7	140
1716	...	180	...	2	0	5	140
1723	...	180	...	1	12	10	175
1730	...	200	...	1	9	4	217
1737	...	200	...	1	13	6	
1765	...	270	...	2	3	1½	292
1777	...	451	...	2	8	10	292
1790	...	630	...	2	16	0	
1797	...	700	...	4	0	3	730
1804	...	785	...	5	5	0	612
1818	...	996	...	5	16	0	1123
1822	...	602	...	3	11	0	789
1828	...	608	...	2	15	0	858
1835	...	552	...	2	5	0	608

clearly used as cellars or store places, and may possibly have done much service in the days of wholesale and systematic smuggling, or in storing corn during troublous times of dearth.

#### MONKTON.

Mr. MacLachlan's interesting account, of the Manor and Church of Monkton,\* should be consulted by all who desire information respecting them. Some mediæval inhabitants of Monkton were formerly remembered in Sandwich, and in Canterbury, as benefactors. John Malyn of Monkton, who in 1450 was one of Jack Cade's followers, is enrolled among the benefactors of the Carmelite monks at Sandwich. By his will made in 1464 he left to them forty pence.†

Another Monkton worthy was not only generous himself, but his generosity kindled and directed that of others. Libby Orchard of Monkton Court provided, in his will, for the clothing of certain poor people at Canterbury. His idea was taken, as a model, by Sir Roger Manwood, chief baron of the Exchequer, who died in 1592. In his will, Sir Roger directs his executors to provide every year, on St. Andrew's Day, for six good and honest poor folk *such gowns, caps, and shoes as by the testament of Libye Orcharde, late of Monkton, deceased, were given to sundry poor about Canterbury.*‡ The memorial brass of Libby Orchard, mentioned by Mr. MacLachlan as having been inserted upon the stone slab which commemorated a priest of the fifteenth century, is not named by Lewis in his *History of Tenet*. Hasted, who wrote eighty years after Lewis, notices the memorial as being then in Monkton Church, but gives its date incorrectly, as 1680 instead of 1580. In the church of St. Mary Magdalen at Canterbury, an inscribed brass plate was seen by Mr. Somner, which commemorated Sybell, widow of Libby Orchard, late of Monkton Court in Thanet, she died in 1586.§

Doubts having been expressed respecting the actual

\* *Archæologia Cantiana*, XII., p. 273.

† *Boys' Hist of Sandwich*, p. 178.

‡ *Ibidem*, p. 266.

§ Hasted, xi., 242, note.

Christian name, of which "Libby" was the contracted or "pet" form, it is interesting to see the name written at full length in the Birchington Registers. There I find it recorded that at the baptism of a child on the 19th of March, 1572, the godparents, or sponsors (*susceptores*), were Richard Crispe, *armiger*, *Lebeus Orchard*, and the wife of Henry Crispe, gentleman. When his wife acted as sponsor at Birchington Church, on the 26th of September, 1576, Mr. Orchard's name is again entered at length in the register. The names of the sponsors on that occasion are thus recorded in Latin, "*Thoma Parker de Mouncketoun, Lactantius Cole, et uxor Lebbei Orcharde.*" After the death of Lebbeus Orchard his widow is named as a sponsor at Birchington on 22nd of April, 1562, as *Sbella Orchard vidua*.

There is in Monkton Church a brass plate in memory of the wife of the above-mentioned Thomas Parker; it is thus inscribed:—

"Here lyeth byried the body of Margaret Parkar who had two husbands. I. George Robinsonn gent: by whom she had issue divers children. II. Thomas Parkar gent. by whom she had no issue. y<sup>e</sup> sayd Margaret Parkar deceased y<sup>e</sup> 11 of Mar. An'o Dni. 1607 and in the 88 yeare of her naturall age."

In the left hand corner of the bottom of the plate are these enigmatical letters "V<sup>e</sup> M." As this inscription is imperfectly given by Lewis, it seemed well to record it here. Thomas Parker dwelt in Gore Street, Monkton.

Considerable interest attaches to the memory of one of those sinecure rectors, of Monkton, whose presentation to the rectory, by Archbishop Baldwin, caused so much litigation in the twelfth century. The "Canterbury Letters," printed by Professor Stubbs in his *Memorials of Richard I*, give many details respecting the matter.

The first dignitary whom Baldwin nominated to Monkton Rectory was a canon of St. Paul's, named Henry de Norham-tune. He held the Prebend of Kentish town from 1181 to 1192, and founded the hospital of St. Paul. In the year 1187 Pope Urban besought the Archbishop to restore Monkton Rectory to the Priory of Christ Church, but he pleaded

in vain. On the 11th of August, 1191, the cause of the Priory against the Canon H. de Norhamtune was tried at Windsor,\* but without any decisive result. The King seems to have been favourable to the Archbishop's nominee. On Norhamtune's death, the dignitary nominated as his successor in Monkton Rectory, by Baldwin, was a man of great influence and usefulness. Simon Fitz Robert† de Welles (son of Robert de Wattelai), called also Simon Sywell, although very serviceable to the diocese of Wells, of which he was archdeacon, and to Chichester, of which he was bishop from 1204 to 1207, was twice placed in a false position in the diocese of Canterbury. The Rectory of Monkton, which he was summoned to give up in January 1199, or else shew cause to the contrary in the Court at Westminster on the 10th of May,‡ was ultimately left in his possession for life. It was, however, stipulated that he must pay an annual pension of ten "*aurea*" to the vicar appointed by the Prior.§ He was not so fortunate with respect to the church of Faversham, to which he was appointed by King John about the year 1201. The monks of Faversham, who claimed the patronage, opposed the admission of Simon de Welles, and a riot ensued. The King was enraged by their resistance, and sent soldiers, who, having pulled out the monks by their ears, kept possession of Faversham Church, for Simon and the King. This unseemly squabble was ended by the wisdom and influence of Archbishop Hubert, the Chancellor. He persuaded the King to withdraw his claim, and thus Simon lost the preferment of Faversham. He had, however, great favour with the King, and was Provost of Beverley, Guardian of the Fleet Prison, and Vice-Chancellor of the Kingdom (under the Archbishop, who was Chancellor), as well as Archdeacon of Wells and Rector of Monkton. When he became Bishop of Chichester, he obtained from King John the advowson of Bapchild in Kent, for the Dean and Chapter of Chichester, to whom it had been previously promised, but not conveyed.

In 1674, when the hearth tax was gathered in Monkton,

\* *Memorials of Richard I*, p. 342.

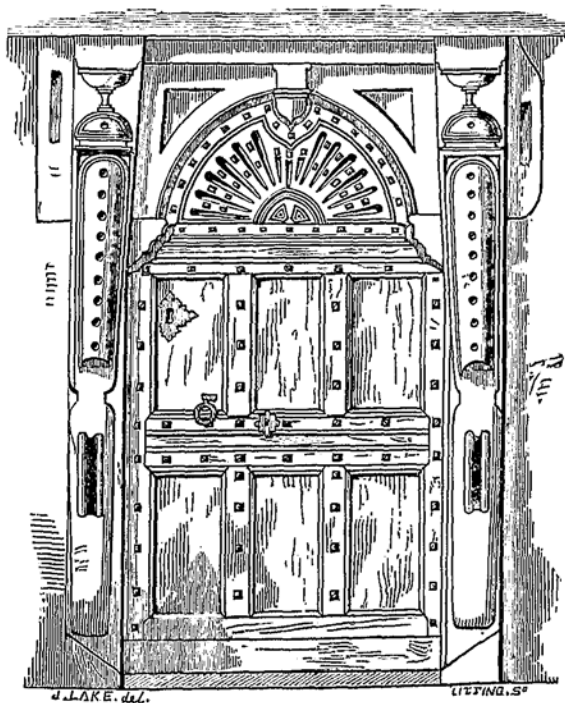
† *Ibidem*, p. 472.

‡ *Sussex Archaeological Collections*, xxii., pp. 179-81.

§ Decision, dated Nov. 6, 1200, *Memorials of Richard I*, p. 513.

thirty-one houses there were taxed for ninety hearths, and three houses were, from poverty, exempted. The largest houses in "Moun-ton Parish" seem to have been those of William Rooke, Esq., nine hearths; Mr. Henry Paramore, eight hearths; Mr. Henry Crispe, seven hearths. Six hearths were charged to each of the four following gentlemen,—Mr. Roger Taddy, Stephen Dunston, Matthew Cantis, and Richard Goldfinch. Valentine Cantis and Thomas Parker were each of them taxed for five hearths. William Smith was the "bosholder."

Monkton Court is an old building, but from it most of the characteristic features have disappeared. The ancient Vicarage Farm, occupied by Mr. Collard, retains much of its original mediæval appearance, but it will probably soon be pulled down. Mr. James Lake, of Monkton, has kindly sketched for us an Elizabethan door, which now appears in a cottage near his Hoo Farm, in Minster.



COTTAGE DOOR NEAR HOO FARM, MINSTER, THANET.

## ST. NICHOLAS AT WADE.

CRUMP FARM, in this parish, is not mentioned in any of the histories of Thanet; it was unnoticed by Lewis and by Hasted. Yet the house is ancient; its foundation walls are three feet thick, as Mr. Bubb informs me, and in its cellar are niches and windows which may be three or four hundred years old. When the Kent Archæological Society visited St. Nicholas in August, 1877, Mr. John Dadds kindly welcomed such of the members as desired to see the inscription over a mantelpiece in one of the rooms. The date, 1634, is painted in red figures between sundry ornamental scrolls. The central ornament is not unlike a stag's head with a goblet standing between its horns. The whole is surrounded by a simple scalloped border painted in red and blue. The chief interest lies in the date, as there is no artistic merit in the painting. The mantelpiece over which it is inscribed surmounts a huge open fireplace of the olden time.

Mr. Robert Bubb first drew the Society's attention to this inscription, and stated his opinion that the house itself was more than a century older than the date, 1634. The name of the farm, when compared with the record of Archbishop Warham's Visitation, held in 1511, enables us to verify his suggestion. Crump farm is, clearly, so called from the name of a previous occupant; but that name is almost unknown in the parish records. The period when the name was known there may be gathered from the following entries, in the Register of Archbishop Warham, dated Sept. 11th, 1511:—

Compertum est, that wher'as oon Dauid Crompe, Wardeyn somtyme of the said church [*S<sup>t</sup> Nicholas*] had xiii<sup>c</sup> weight and lx of lede that was belonging to the said church, and soo conuerted hit to his vse, and at his departure in his last will and testament willed his executors to restore it agayn to the churche, or ells the value of the same. John Duklyng and the wif of the said Dauid Crompe beyng executors withdrawith it, and will not see it paid (*Register*, fol. xlvii. a).

In response to this presentment at the Visitation, we



read that, on the 7th of December, 1511, appeared William Crump of the city of Canterbury, and said that he had not administered any goods of David Crump deceased; but David's widow, who had since died, and John Duklyng of London were the executors (folio lxij. a.)

We gather from these entries that this house was named Crump Farm, from the family which occupied it at the close of the fifteenth century; and that the last of the name here was David Crump, who had been churchwarden. He and his widow were both dead before 1511, and his nearest relative seems then to have resided at Canterbury.

Frost's Farm, in this parish, is by Lewis said to have been "*anciently* parcel of the estate of the Paramors." Hasted follows with the more careful statement that this "was the early residence of the family of Paramore." It seems to me to be evident that Lewis's statement is quite erroneous, and that the Paramores did not reside in St.



CHIMNEY AT FROST'S FARM, ST. NICHOLAS AT WADE.

Nicholas parish before the reign of Queen Elizabeth. The farm is obviously named from previous occupants, and we find in Thanet, during the year 1441, John Frost, whose name is enrolled amongst those of the numerous persons who then held land which belonged to St. Augustine's Abbey.\* From his family the farm was named. But even his name was slightly changed in form from the original name of the family, which seems to have been Forst, rather than Frost. Amongst the witnesses to charters connected with Thanet we find John Forst and Stephen Forst, in 37 Hen. III (1253), together with Robert de Ramesgate;† John Forst is named, with Robertus dictus Vicecomes, in 1266; and Stephen Forst, with D<sup>s</sup> Reginaldus Vicecomes, and Robertus Vicecomes, in 1268.‡

The north chancel, within St. Nicholas Church, belongs to Frost's Farm, and what is the oldest monument therein? A brass in memory, not of a Paramore, but of Valentyne Edvarod and his two wives. He died in 1559, and his widow Joan (an heiress of Haslehurst) married as her second husband Thomas Paramore. The monumental brass of Valentine Edvarod occupies the place of honour on the floor of Frost's chancel, and there can be little doubt that Edvarod occupied Frost's Farm. Probably an Everard had married a Frost heiress. Upon the north wall (not in the floor) are two monuments commemorative of the Paramores. One of them records the fact that Thomas Paramore (who married the widow Edvarod) "*lived in this Parish xxxiii yeres and dyed the ix day of October 1593 and in the 67th yere of his age.*" This very unusual record make it quite certain that Thomas Paramore did not come to reside in St. Nicholas parish until he was in the 34th year of his age. The date of his arrival was probably October, 1560. Comparing this date with the death of Valentine Edvarod, in February, 1569-60, we may safely infer that Thomas Paramore came to reside in St. Nicholas because he had married as his third wife, or was about to marry, the widowed heiress Joan Edvarod, who survived until 1574, and bore him his first children, Henry

\* Lewis, *History of Tenet*, Appendix, p. 29.

† Cotton. MSS., Claudius D. X., fol. 118<sup>a</sup>.

‡ *Ibidem*, fol. 117<sup>b</sup>, 118<sup>a</sup>.

and Joan. With this inference, that the Paramores were not settled at Frost's or in St. Nicholas before 1560, agrees the grant of arms made to them. Not until the year 1585 did Cooke, Clarenceux King at Arms, grant to Paramour of St. Nicholas his coat:—*Azure*, a fess embattled between three estoiles *or*. Crest:—A cubit arm, vested *azure*, cuffed *argent*, the hand *proper*, holding an estoile of six points wavy *or*.\* Thomas Paramore married a fourth wife after the death of Joan in 1574. His son by the fourth wife was named Thomas. The house at Frost's was built, or refaced, by Thomas Paramore, who married Joan Everard. One gable end bears his initials, T. P., and part of the date, which probably was MDXC. or MDLX. Both his sons, Henry and Thomas, seem ultimately to have migrated to Monkton. The son named Thomas was, I believe, the benefactor who, by his will, in 1636 or 1637, left money to endow a school for poor children at St. Nicholas.

In the Parliamentary Survey of the rectory buildings at St. Nicholas we find this description of them, dated May 27, 1647:—"One barn of eight bays, and a cove, covered with tile; one stable, thatched; a fothering yard (part walled with a mud wall and part severed with boards) in reasonable repair. The occupier is Daniel Harvey, Esq., or his assigns. There are twelve acres of glebe (chalky land) abutting to land of Averie [*Savin*]. The tithes amount to £213 per annum. The original rent reserved to the Bishop is £40. The chancel of the church is in reasonable good repair."†

St. Nicholas Church, which contains specimens of the four principal styles of architecture, has been admirably described by Mr. Joseph Clarke, F.S.A.‡ The exquisite arches of latest Norman transition work, the Early English details in the chancels; the glorious decorated work of the tower (S.W.), which is open to the south aisle and to the nave; the Decorated windows and wooden screen work; the Perpendicular north arcade and aisle, with the late clerestory, have all been elaborately illustrated by Mr. Clarke. Upon

\* Planché's *A Corner of Kent*, p. 380, note.

† Lambeth MSS., *Parliamentary Surveys*, vol. iii. (C), p. 108.

‡ *Archæologia Cantiana*, Vol. XII., p. 19-26.

the pulpit's "reredos," which supports the sounding board, is inscribed the date 1615, with the initials of two churchwardens I. S. and E. E. No doubt the latter letters stand for Edward Emptage; but I cannot say for whom the letters I. S. were intended.

In 1674 thirty-four persons in St. Nicholas paid the hearth tax (on 94 hearths), and four were, from poverty, excused. The largest houses were those of Mr. John Cullen twelve hearths; Robert Smith seven hearths: Thomas Bridges, two houses, one with six, the other with five hearths; Edward Bridges, five hearths; Mr. John Finch four hearths. In All Saints Burrough seven persons were taxed for thirty hearths; the principal houses being those of Mr. Edward Philpot, seven hearths; Mr. Moses Napleton, seven hearths; Robert Grant, five hearths. In Sarre, seventeen houses contained forty-seven hearths. Of these, seven hearths were charged to William Sawyer, and six to W. Earethorne. John Bing was the "bosholder" of St. Nicholas, for the year during which that tax was gathered.

#### BIRCHINGTON.

Birchington is the only parish in Thanet, that could be supposed to derive its name from a Saxon family which settled there; and even with respect to this name it may be doubted whether there was a family of *Birchingas*, or descendants of Birch. Undoubtedly, however, this place was occupied at a very early period.

One relic of its early inhabitants, found here, many years ago, was a Saxon coin called a *scætta*, of the reign of ÆPA, King of Mercia, who was slain in A.D. 642. An engraving of this ancient coin is given by Mr. Roach Smith in the first volume of his *Collectanea Antiqua*.\*

Upon many maps of Thanet we see Epalds Bay marked, in Birchington. This is clearly a Saxon name, and, *if the maps are correctly marked*, it should have some claim, I think, to be identified with the *Ippelesfleet* mentioned in Gotselinus'

\* Vol. i., plate xxiii., fig. 3.

*Life of St. Mildred*, as the port into which her ship, on one occasion, came.\*

For several centuries Birchington has been a limb of Dover, one of the Cinque Ports. Consequently it was under the jurisdiction of a deputy appointed by the Mayor and Jurats of Dover. In the year 1526, the Corporation of Dover received, from the various "limbs" of that Port, contributions towards the cost of its suit for the discharge of a subsidy. Amongst them it enumerates "*The Deputy of Birchington and Goresend* 16s. 8d."† The mention of two names suggests the existence of two distinct quays, or landing places, one in Birchington village, the other at the outlying hamlet of Goresend. When both are mentioned, sometimes one is named first, sometimes the other, but in many cases Goresend is not mentioned at all, it being evidently a mere outlying hamlet of Birchington. For instance, in June, 1523, we find mention of one list of Jurors in the five ports, including "Mergate and St. Johns, St. Peters and Byrchyngton," while another list names Mergate and St. Peters, Goresende and Byrchington.‡ The ancient map of Thanet, drawn *circa* A.D. 1414, does not mention Goresend, although it names both Berchingtone and Wodecherche, and marks a church at each of them, as well as at "All Saints."

On the 18th of March, 1565, certain special commissioners made a return of the number of boats, population, houses and officials in the members and limbs of the Cinque Ports. They do not mention Goresend, but they state that Birchington was under the government of the Mayor and Jurats of Dover, that it contained forty-two inhabited houses, and had neither ship, nor boat. In or about the year 1584 Vincent Underdown, deputy of Birchington, certified that there were but three fishermen at that place, all of whom were in the

\* Jam uirgo domini angelico ductu et felici cursu patriam attigit et puppis currens in portum uirginalis insule qui ippelesfleot dicitur successit, *Harl. MSS.* 3908, 22<sup>b</sup>; *Cotton. MSS.*, Vespasian B., xx., 156 a.

† *Egerton MSS.* (Brit. Mus.), 2092, fol. 276, 9th of April, 1526. From St. John's, 13s. 6d.; from St. Peter's, 13s. 6d.; from the Deputy of Mergate and St. Johns 26s. 8d.; from the Deputy of St. Peters, 16s. 8d.; from the Deputy of Birchington and Goresend, 16s. 8d.; from the Wardens of Folston, 46s. 8d.; from the Mayor and Wardens of Faversham, 40s.

‡ Brewer's *Letters and Papers of Henry VIII.*, vol. iii., part 2, p. 1290.

habit of sailing from Margate. They were Henry Brabsonne, Ralphe Linche, and Stephen Knighte.\*

The number of men composing the select and general bands in the Cinque Ports was returned to the Secretary of State about A.D. 1572. The totals shew from St. John's, St. Peter's, and Birchington, together, 170 men in the select band; and 204 in the general band.†

In 1620 the deputy of Birchington incurred the displeasure and wrath of the Lord Warden. He had allowed passengers from the continent to land at Birchington without taking the oath of allegiance to James I. Sir Henry Mainwaring, Lieutenant of Dover Castle, sent for him on the 12th of December, and he was committed to prison. However, fourteen days after, Sir Henry wrote to the Lord Warden asking for the deputy's release because he had erred from ignorance.‡

Great precautions and vigilance were required in those days, and the inhabitants were called to furnish men and arms, as the annexed muster roll will shew:—

MUSTER ROLL, § Oct. 12th and 13th 1614:—

BIRCHINGTON.

			Corslets.	Muskets.	Light horses.
Sir Henry Crisp, Knight	...	...	4	4	2
Rich. Harters, gent.	...	...	2	2	1
Edw <sup>d</sup> Knight	...	...	3	3	1
W <sup>m</sup> Daward	...	...	1	1	—
Robert Seath	...	...	1	2	—
Vincent Underdown	...	...	1	1	Dry Pike 1
Willyam Foord	...	...	1	2	—
Robert Cawvill	...	...	1	1	—
Henry Culmer	...	...	1	—	—

Corslets 17.

In the unsettled state of relations with neighbouring nations precautions of many kinds were necessary. The following

\* *Domestic State Papers*, Elizabeth, vol. clxxv., No. 86.

† *Ibidem*, vol. xxi., No. 115.

‡ *Ibidem*, James I, vol. cxviii., Nos. 23 and 51.

§ *Ibidem*, James I, vol. lxxviii., No. 32.

list of soldiers billeted in Birchington shews who the inhabitants were, while it affords an illustration of the state of affairs:—

BIRCHINGTON.\* A tru List of the names of all such Soldiers as were lately billeted in Birchington in the Isle of Thanett & also the names of such persons vpon whom they were billeted & the tyme of theire Continuance there, viz. from Jan. 22 1627 vntill Mar. 8, An. eodem 6 weekes full:—

The names of y <sup>e</sup> Billetters.	The names of y <sup>e</sup> Soldiers billeted.
S <sup>r</sup> Hen. Crispe, Knight	Lieutenant Chauntrell & John Little
Henry Couluer }	William Benson
Nicholas Sayer }	
John Seely }	Thomas Mansfield
Henry Hayward }	
(These 4 remayned there but one weeke).	
Richard Coleman	Sergeant Peele
Vincent Underdowne	Robert Moore
Thomas Kerby	John ffrost
Mathias Cantis	ffrancis Patricke
Thomas Culmer	Gregory Burgesse
Daniell ffriend	Andrew Lanar
Robert Cauell }	Nicholas Morris
Arnold Peper }	
Paul Elnor }	Ralphe Wilde
John Cocke }	
Widdow Ambrose }	Richard Stone
Widdow Appleton }	
Solomon ffinus }	Henry Purchas
Jeffery Reade }	
Edward Coleman }	Walter Griffin
William Coleman }	
William Jordan }	William Morgan
John Crumpe }	
Richard Gilbert }	

All these 12 for 6 weekes.

The whole number of Soldiers billeted there are 15 Soldiers & one Lieutenant, of wh<sup>ch</sup> 12 Soldiers were billeted there 6 weekes & the Leiuetant & 3 Soldiers but one weeke:—

The 12 Soldiers billettis for 6 weekes at iij<sup>s</sup> vi<sup>d</sup> a piece per weeke is xii<sup>li</sup> xij<sup>s</sup>.

\* *Domestic State Papers*, Charles I, vol. cxiii., No. 59, III.

The 3 Soldiers billets for one weeke at iij<sup>s</sup> vj<sup>d</sup> a peece per weeke is x<sup>s</sup> vj<sup>d</sup>.

The Leiuutenant's billett for one weeke at vij<sup>s</sup> per weeke is vij<sup>s</sup>

So the whole sume is xij<sup>li</sup> ix<sup>s</sup> vj<sup>d</sup>

There was continual contention respecting the rights to wreck of the sea. The Warden of the Cinque Ports claimed all wrecks within the limbs and members of those Ports; while the Lords of manors asserted their claims to wrecks within their manors. Thus, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth the Dean and Chapter, of Christ Church, claimed all wrecks from Pope head gate, *alias* Pope gate, to Westgate Bay in Birchington, in right of their manor of Monkton. Henry Crispe Esquire, in like manner, claimed wrecks from the mainland to low water mark, within certain of his land, in Birchington, called Brockmans.\* In 1602 the Judge of the Lord Warden's Admiralty Court investigated these various claims, and, amongst other items of information, we learn that the Lord Warden's advocate would not bring forward, as a witness, John Underdown of Birchington, because he answered wholly on Mr. Wotton's part.† Mr. Wotton claimed wrecks at the Hope at Cliffs End by Stonor and Pegwell, from Tarryes way to the liberties of Sandwich.

The Parish Accounts for Birchington, and those for the Ville of Wood, during the past 250 years, are still in existence. The "cess," or rate, levied upon the parishioners was of a comprehensive kind. It touched both land and income; realty and personalty. The land, in 1620, was assessed at 1d. per acre; how much in the pound was charged for "ability" rate I cannot discover. The effect however was, for example, that in 1620 Sir Henry Crispe knight, paid £1 0s. 6d. for 246 acres, and likewise £1 5s. 0d. for "ability rate." Henry Crispe, Esq., paid nothing for land, but was charged 6s. for ability rate. Thirty-six years later, in January, 1656, Henry Crispe, Esq., paid 13s. 4d. for "ability," while he likewise paid on 274 acres of land. At the same

\* *Dom. State Papers*, Elizabeth, vol. cxcv., No. 108.

† *Fifth Report of Historical MSS. Commission*, p. 140.



time Sir Nicholas Crispe, his son, paid 11d. for ability rate, and also paid for eleven acres of land.

In 1631, when a dearth of corn caused much distress, the parish officers of the Ville of Wood bought about twenty-four bushels of wheat, at prices varying from 6s. 3d. to 7s. 6d. per bushel, and sold them to the poor at 4s. per bushel. They likewise bought barley which was much cheaper.

What pestilence happened during 1644 we do not know, but in the parish account book we read, "This yeare the Parishe beeing visited with Godes heauye hande, there weare 3 assessments made and confirmed for the use of the sicke and poore of Birchington; the first was made July 6, 1644; the second was made August 31st, 1644; the third was made October 6th, 1644; whereof the third and last is heere onely registered."

Many of the entries in the parish accounts are of interest, but we can only notice very few.

				<i>s. d.</i>
1688			To the Sidesmen, and four bottles of Cider at the Visitation .....	3 10
1690	July	9	To the ringers, for the Victory in Ireland	10 0
	Sept.	9	To the ringers, when the King came from Ireland .....	6 0
1691	Aug.	16	To a chirurgeon's widdow, whose husband was kil'd at the Boyne, in Ireland .....	2 6
1691	Oct.	20	To the ringers, when the King was at Margate .....	7 6
1695	March	29	To the ringers, ringing for the Queen	2 3
	May	9	For three tovetts of hair .....	
	Sept.	22	To the ringers when the King landed at Margate .....	7 0
1696-7	March	17	For killing 2 pould cattts .....	2 0
		22	To the ringers, when the King was here	4 10
1697	May	28	To the ringers, when the King came to Quex .....	4 6
1698	April	12	For 6 dozen sparrows .....	1 0
			For Elias Hatcher, quaker, who will not pay his sess .....	4 0
			Paid for a wattle, to make a scaffold, when the church was pearged .....	1 0

		£	s.	d.
1698-9	(between 2 Easters) Spent when the King landed .....	10	0	
	For a dozen sparrows' heads .....		2	
	For killing a fox 1s., 5 hedgehogs 1s. 8d.,			
	For killing 125½ doz. sparrows .....	20	11	
1716	For killing 8 dozen of rooks .....	2	8	
172¼	For 21 hundred shingles for the steeple .....	5	5	0
	For putting them on .....	2	12	6
	For 798 foot of board .....	3	14	3
1729	Paid the Founders for casting and hanging the bells .....	25	0	0
1730	For 8125 shingles .....	7	16	3
	For laying them on .....	3	18	0½
	For 158 foot of board .....	2	12	8

When the Hearth or Chimney Tax\* was collected in A.D. 1673-4, George Ruck was the deputy of Birchington, and 230 hearths were paid for, by the occupants of seventy-nine houses. Poor persons, who inhabited twenty-seven other houses, were excused from payment, because they received parochial relief. Thomas Crispe, Esq., of Quex, paid the tax for seventeen chimneys in that house, and also for six others in his farm house. The largest number of hearths paid for by any other inhabitant was that of seven in the house of Richard Davidge.

The family of Kentis, or Cantis, or Canteys, of which two or more branches were living in Monkton when the Hearth Tax was assessed, had, in the middle ages, property in Birchington. For instance, at Martinmas, 1309, Amisius

\* The total number of hearths in Thanet in 1673-4 was as follows, and the total number of houses seems to have been 1142:—

St. John's (Margate)	552	hearths, in 174	houses (excused 100)
St. Peter's	393	"	168 " ( " 42)
West Boro' (St. Laurence)	253	"	100 " ( " 107)
Ramsgate ( " )	234	"	92 " ( " 73)
Birchington . . . .	230	"	79 " ( " 27)
Minster . . . . .	211	"	76 " ( " 8)
St. Nicholas . . . .	94	"	34 " ( " 4)
Monkton . . . . .	90	"	31 " ( " 3)
Sarre . . . . .	47	"	17
All Saints Boro' . . .	30	"	7

2184 hearths in 778 houses (excused 364)

Kentis, and Agnes his wife, obtained from Richard de de Subury, for £20, a messuage, in "Bircheton and Thanet," consisting of thirteen acres of land, and three acres of marsh with appurtenances.\*

## BIRCHINGTON CHURCH.

Birchington was, until recently, a chapelry appendant to Monkton Church; and, like a neighbouring chapel, which was appendant to St. Nicholas Church, it was dedicated to All Saints, or All Hallows. It is a singular circumstance that two chapels, situated so near to each other, should have had the same dedication. Both buildings are marked upon the old map of Thanet, which was made about A.D. 1414.

The three conterminous chancels, and the tower, of Birchington Church seem to have been built during the reign, either of King John, or of his son Henry III. Like many others, erected at that period, its tower stands at the west end of the south chancel. Crowned with a shingled spire, this unpretending tower though low, and without buttresses, is graceful in its proportions, notwithstanding its simplicity. Divided into four stages, it has in its second stage a small Perpendicular square-headed window with label, on the south side; in its third stage there are lancets, and in its fourth stage are four windows, each of a single light. On the interior the tower is open on three sides, having three plain Early English arches rising from impost.

The chancel has, on each side, a plain arcade of two Early English pointed arches, springing from simple impost, resting on wall-like piers. The north, or Quex Chancel, has, above its western arch, a western lancet window; which is a very unusual feature. Of the same age as the chancels and tower, is the Font. It is a plain octagon, supported upon one large central, and four smaller, round shafts. These smaller shafts are not completely beneath the basin; but, in the centre of the base of each alternate side

\* *Kent Times*, 3 Ed. II, No. 78. *Arch. Cant.* XI., 325.

of the octagon, there is a projection like one half of a circular cone, the base of which supports the outer half of each of the four small supporting shafts. The basin is original, the shafts have, apparently, been renewed.

The south doorway, which looks of Early style, is quite new, although old shaft-caps, found somewhere in the church, have been inserted in its jambs. The porch has four pretty little trefoiled lights, two on either side, each filled with coloured glass.

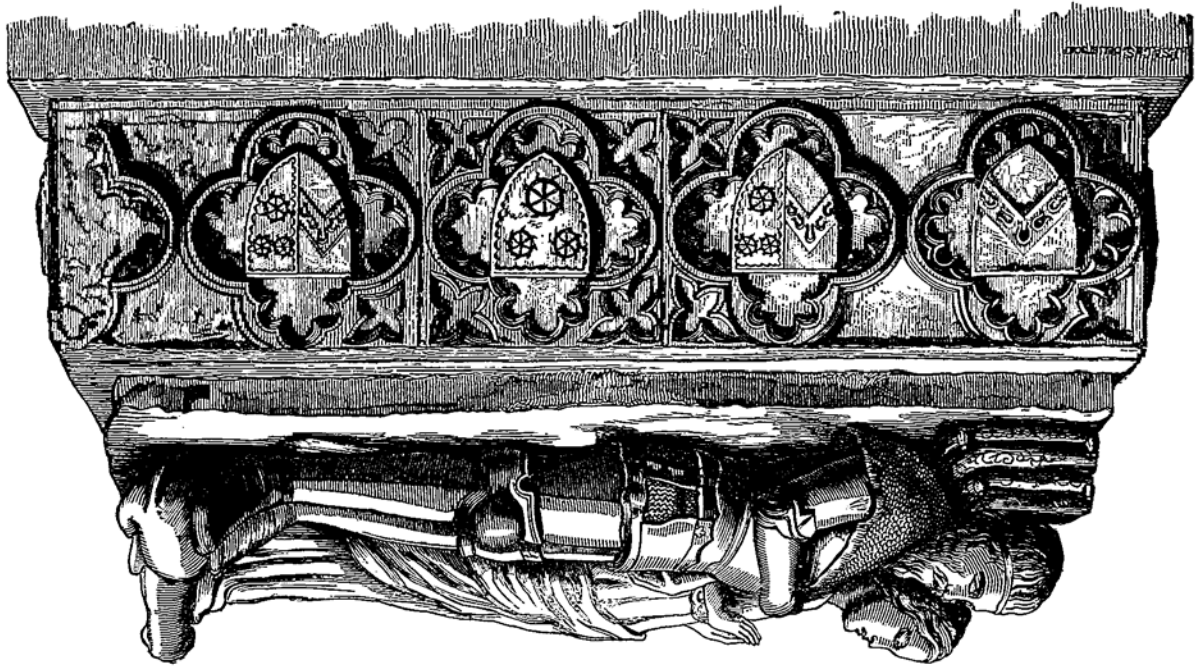
The broad nave of five bays, with its two narrow aisles, is of the Perpendicular style. The piers of the arcades are octagonal and have well moulded caps and bases; the arches are of two orders, each being widely chamfered. On the south side, the western bay is very peculiar, and shews a change of plan, or an inability to fulfil the architect's intentions. The south-western column, of the arcade, is larger than any other. Its plan is that of four clustered columns united, with semi-shafts at the points of junction. The arch which it supports is of three orders (instead of two), and at right angles to it, there is the spring of another similar arch which was intended to span the south aisle. The wall of the nave arcade, above this arch of three orders, is here thicker than the rest of the arcade wall, consequently there is a curious set off. In the south-west engaged pier there is, on the south side, a hole for a beam. It is not possible to state with certainty what the architect's intention was, but in all probability he proposed to erect a tower at the west end of the south aisle, similar (although far inferior) to the tower of St. Nicholas at Wade.

At present, between the west wall of the nave and the last bench, may be seen the curved and iron-bound cover of an ancient parish chest.

Part of the base of a fifteenth century rood-screen is preserved in the north chancel. Its panels were richly foliated; and above and below them ran pretty ornamental strings carved with quatrefoils and with diamond-shaped devices.

The monumental brasses, and mural slabs, are of considerable interest. Lewis in his *History of Tenet*, Appendix, pp. 21-7, gives, *in extenso*, the inscriptions on many of them.

(BIRCHINGTON CHURCH) TOMB OF SIR HENRY CRISPE AND HIS FIRST WIFE, KATHERINE SCOTT.



He copied them with commendable accuracy, but two of the inscriptions contain inaccurate statements respecting the families of ladies who became wives of the Crispes of Quex.

The monumental brasses represent, (i) John Queke, who died in 1449, (ii) Richard Queke, who died in 1459,\* (iii) Henry Heynys, vicar of Monkton, who died in 1523. There was until recently another brass, which commemorated Margaret Cryspe, wife of John Cryspe of Cleave, and upon it was engraved the figure of a "chrism'd" infant.

By the generous kindness of Mr. James Renat Scott, F.S.A., we are enabled to give an illustration of the altar tomb in the north chancel. Upon it are sculptured the life-size figures of Sir Henry Crispe and of his first wife, Katherine, daughter of Sir John Scott of Scot's Hall, in Smeeth. She was buried on the 9th of February, 1544-5; he survived her more than thirty years, married again, and was buried on the 24th of August, 1575. It is in connection with this lady, and with the wife of her son that the inscriptions make erroneous statements. Her son Nicholas Crispe, of Grimgill in Whitstaple, married, as his first wife, Frances Cheney, a daughter of Sir Thomas Cheney, of Shurland in Shepey, by his first wife Frideswide Frowycke. This lady was the sister of Henry, Lord Cheney, who died young without issue in 1587; she died on the 20th of November, 1561. The inscription erroneously describes her as a daughter of Henry, Lord Cheney. Upon her father's monument in the church of Minster, in Shepey, there is a shield, commemorative of this lady's marriage, bearing the arms of Crispe impaling those of Cheney.

In Birchington Church there is nothing else worthy of particular mention. The registers of baptisms, marriages, and deaths, are of considerable interest as they commence with the year 1538.† During the reign of Queen Elizabeth,

\* Dr. Sparrow Simpson in *Notes and Queries*, vol. xi., 340.

† The oldest parchment register now in existence is a copy made in the reign of Elizabeth from several original paper books. We read thus:—*Liber primus Capelle de Birchingetonne in Insula Thanet infra Com' Kanc' factus pro Ephameride eiusdem parochie incipiens a festo Sci' Michelis Archangeli An'o Dni 1538, etc. etc.* At the end of the Burials for 1552 we read:—*Hic est finis primi libri Ephamerides de Bircheington. Secundus inde liber per unam fatuam mulierem erat destructus 1564. Hic incipit tertius liber.*

the names of the sponsors at baptisms are entered from 1564 to 1588, they were again entered for a time during 1598 and 1605. The entries vary in form, thus:—

- 1564, 27<sup>o</sup> Februarii baptizatus erat Ricus filius Will'mi Crippes cuius susceptores Ric Hartwes, Rob<sup>t</sup> Graunt :—
1565. 14 Maii . . . . . susceptores Henricus Crispe gener. et Dorothea Crispe gener.
- 3 Octobris . . . . . susceptores Hen : Abram ; Domina Anna Crispe, etc.
1569. 26 Martii . . . . . compadres uxor Rici : Crispe, arm. et Jeanna Crispe.
1575. 17 Nov. baptizatus fuit Henricus filius Philipi . . . . . gener. cuius susceptores Johes Crispe gener. de Dover Raginoldus Knatchebull gener. et Domina Anna Crispe.
- 27 Sept. baptizatus erat Henricus filius Johis Crispe armig. cuius susceptores Willmus Crispe, Locumtenens Castri Dovorie, Joh'es Rooper gener. et Domina Anna Crispe.
1582. Februar. bapt. Rowland filius Hen : Crispe jun : gener. susceptores Ric. Crispe arm., Philip Broune senior gener. et Mag : Paramore sen.
1584. 26 Martii : baptizata fuit Lucretia filia Thome fferies cuius susceptores Camillo Zane, Veneciann' ; uxor Rici Crispe, arm., et uxor eius fratris Henrici Crispe.
1585. 25 Dec<sup>r</sup> baptizatus fuit Thomas filius Rici : Powell cuius susceptores . . . . Elizabeth filia Rici Crispe arm.
1614. Anna filia Henrici Crispe gener. renata 15 Januar. 1614.
1618. Henry filius Henrici Crispe arm. baptizatus fuit, non . . . .
- 1639-40. Jan<sup>y</sup> 15. Æolus filius Thomæ Baldwinne mercatoris et Graciæ uxoris eius (e parochia ecclesiæ Christi in Insula Barbadosæ in America) baptizatus Jan. 15, 1639 (natus vero Dec. 27 in nocte tempore tempestatis quæ maxima in the Downes).
1650. Anna filia Dni Nicolai Crispe militis et dominæ Thomasinæ Crispe baptizata 28 die Octob.
1652. Elizabeth the daughter of Sir Nicholas and Lady Thomasin Crispe baptized June 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- 1666-7. Anna daughter of Henry & Barberry Crisp baptized January 11<sup>th</sup>.
1668. Thomas son of Edwin & Frances Wyatt baptized June 25<sup>th</sup>

Among the Marriages are those of—

1545. Henricus Crispe armiger et Anna Haselherst 23<sup>o</sup> Julii
1550. Johes Blowfelde et Avicia Norwood nupti erant 5<sup>o</sup> Octobris
- 1551-2. Ricus Lea et Elizabetha filia Johis Crispe ar. nupti erant 19<sup>o</sup> Februarii.
1569. Philippus Browne et Anna Crispe nupti erant 23 Octobris.
1570. [should be 1576]. Henricus Browne ar. et D'na Anna Crispe vid. nupti erant 23<sup>o</sup> Decembris.
- [This entry is repeated under the year 1576. As Lady Anna Crispe did not lose her first husband until 1575, it is evident that this entry in 1570 is a copyist's mistake].
- 1573-4. Johes Crispe ar. et Maria Harlackenden gen. nupti erant 7 Februarii.

- 1574-5. Johes Crispe ar. et Elizabetha Rooper gen. nupti erant 23 Januarii.  
 [Probably there may be a copyist's error here also, as it is scarcely likely that John Crispe married twice within less than 12 months; his Harlackenden wife is said to have died in 1576].
1577. Edmondus Rooper gen. et Katherina Crispe nupti erant 10 Decembris.
1584. Edwardus Crispe gen. et Francisca Finche gen. nupti fuerunt 28 Junii.
1595. Willelmus Sprackling et Elizabeth Jackson nupti 6<sup>o</sup> Octobris.
1642. Simon Norwoode sibi duxit uxorem Jana Brookes Junii 23.
1644. John Norwood married Jane Friend July 24.
1652. John Hurst married Margaret Norwood of S<sup>t</sup> Peters April 6<sup>th</sup>.
1677. July 12<sup>o</sup>. Christopherus Clapham de agro Lincoln arm. sibi duxit uxorem Elizabetham filiam Tho : Cryspe de Queax armig.  
 Nov. 29. Christopherus Clapham arm. sepultus fuit.
1678. May 7. Christopherus filius Christopheri Clapham armig. & Elizabethæ uxor' bapt : fuit.

QUEX.

The estate and house called Quex was so named, because it had been the property of a family named Queke. The pronounciation of the name is shewn by the method of spelling it. In the Parish Registers we find it written Queax in 1747, in 1740, and in 1677; while in the parish account books for 1686 it was spelt Queakes. This fact may be of service to us when seeking to discover the origin of the family named Queke. It shews that the sound of the name in no way approximated to that of Quick; but that the second "e" maintained its full force. During the thirteenth century Robert le Queke was a payer of Romescot in St. Peter's parish.\* In 1415-6 John Quyek was, comparatively, a large taxpayer in Ringslo Hundred. Upon a subsidy roll for a fifteenth and tenth collected in 3 and 4 Hen. V, he appears entered as paying 6s. 8d., Joan Quyek is charged 6d., Thomas Queyk 4d., and Christiana Queyk 4d.†

The John Quyek who paid 6s. 8d. was, most probably, that owner of the Birchington estate who was buried within the north chancel of Birchington church in 1449, as his monumental brass still testifies. Richard Quek whose will is

\* Cotton. MSS., Faustina A. I., fol. 21<sup>b</sup>.

† In Public Record Office, *Queen's Remembrancer's Miscellaneous Books*, No. 7, folios 57<sup>a</sup> to 58<sup>a</sup>.



said to have been proved in 1458, although he is said to have died in 1456, may have been the son of John. Richard is supposed to have had a son John who was the last of his name, as his only daughter and heir Agnes Queke married John Crispe about 1485. The true armorial bearings of the Crispe family were, *or*, on a chevron *sable*, five horseshoes *argent*. The Crispes of Quex, however, seem to have borne another coat in priority to that. Latterly they bore four quarterings; the first was *ermine* a fess chequy; the second Crispe; the third Denne, *argent* on two flanches *sable*, two leopards' heads *argent*; and the fourth Haslehurst, on a fesse dancetté three leopards' faces, on a chief 3 trees *vert*. We may well assume that the chequy fess, on an ermine shield, which occupied the place of honour in their coat, was that of the family of Queke whose heiress brought the Birchington estate into their possession. This becomes still more probable when we know that Quek was another name for the game of chequers, which was played with pebbles or marbles upon a board that was divided into black and white alternate squares.

In the Visitation of 1619, the heralds say that John Crispe, who married Agnes Queke, was a scion of an Oxfordshire family which was seated at Stanlake. They trace him to be a son of Henry Crispe by his wife Jane Dyer of Rotherfield. This Henry was a son of John, who was a son of Henry, the son of William Crispe, of Stanlake.\* The first John Crispe of Quex is supposed to have died in A.D. 1500, but the appearance of that date upon the brass which commemorates him and his first wife, seems to suggest that the exact year has never been filled in; a blank had been left, wherein to engrave the units and tens that should have been added to shew the date of his decease. His wife Agnes is, on the brass, said to have died 6th of June, 1533;† yet in Hasted's copy of the Visitation, made in 1619, she is said to have died before her husband, and to have been buried in St. Augustine's monastery, Canterbury.‡

Their issue seems to have been a son and three daughters.

\* *Harl. MSS.*, No. 1548, fol. 25. † Lewis, *Hist. of Thanet*, Appendix, p. 21.  
‡ *Additional MSS.*, 5507, fol. 197—85.

The son, called John Crispe junior, of Cleve, was three times married. His first wife Margaret daughter of George Rotherham died on the 18th of May, 1508.\* His second spouse was Avice Denne, daughter and heiress of Thomas Denne of Kingstone, by his wife Agnes Asherst† or Exhurst.‡

Avice died on the 18th of February, 1518.§ He seems about 1526 to have married his third wife, named like his first spouse, Margaret. She died on the 12th of May, 1533.¶

She seems to have had a beneficial interest in the manors of Eton and Colnorton, Bucks, and perhaps they were her dowry. On the second of January, 1526, permission was granted to her and to her husband, that they might alienate those two manors to feoffees.|| His name was submitted to the king, for the office of Sheriff, in Nov., 1513, and in Nov., 1515, but not until Nov. 7, 1518 was he selected for the shrievalty. His name occurs amongst those who were in the Commission of the Peace for Kent in 1517, 1524, 1526, and 1528.¶ In 1525, Jan. 5, Christopher Morys of Sandwich wrote to Cardinal Wolsey, saying that he and John Crispe made search in Thanet for the cargo of a Portuguese ship, which ran aground. They found mace, cloves, and oil, and they alleged that 500 poor persons had gathered the pepper. A fleet of Frenchmen (said they) carried off whatever floated out to sea.

We observe that this John Crispe is described as Crispe of Cleave, which is in Monkton. His eldest son, John, is likewise described as being of Cleave, while Quex in Birchington seems to have been the residence of his second son, Henry, who made it a place of greater importance than it had ever been before. Perhaps Cleve or Clive Court was, originally, the chief possession brought by Agnes Queke to her husband John Crispe. At it the elder branch of her descendants remained seated for three or four generations. During the panic caused by the Spanish Armada, Richard Crispe of

\* Lewis, *Hist. of Tenet*, Appendix, p. 2.

† *Harl. MSS.* 1548.

‡ *Additional MSS.*, 5507.

§ Lewis, *Hist. of Tenet*, Appendix, 22.

|| *Patent Roll*, 17 Hen. VIII, part i., m. 25.

¶ *Rot. Pat.*, 9 H. VIII., part 1<sup>d</sup>, memb. 1<sup>d</sup>. Brewer's *Letters*, etc., temp. H. VIII, vol. iv., part i., pp. 195, 901; part ii., p. 2215.

Cleave was captain of the Light Horse of Kent, in 1588. He was the head of the family, and made his will in 1598. His only son was Sir Edmund Crispe, but he had three daughters; Elizabeth (married to Thos. Paramore, who died in 1601); Anne, and Margaret, who married William Proude.

Returning to John Crispe, junior of Cleave, whose mother was Agnes Queke, we find that the Visitation of 1619 declares all his children to have been the issue of his second wife, Avice Denne. In addition to their eldest son John of Cleave, they had two others, Henry and William. The latter became Lieutenant of Dover Castle, where he died in 1576, and was buried in the Castle Church. In the year before he died he lost his elder brother Sir Henry in August, and in the following month he acted as sponsor to that brother's grandson, who afterwards became the second Sir Henry Crispe. The Lieutenant of Dover Castle married first, Mary daughter of Avery Randall or Randolfe, post-master\* at Badlesmere, and by her had seven children, three sons, John, Edward and Avery, and four daughters, Amy, Frances, Sibella, and Anne. By his second wife Anne, daughter of John Brent, he had no issue.† His eldest son John Crispe of Ore in Sussex, married first, Catherine, daughter of William Knatchbull of Mersham, and secondly, Mary daughter and heir of Edward Gage of Bentley. She was the mother of his children, and she brought to him in dowry the manor of Wootton, Kent, which her father bought in 1589. Her husband sold it in 1606. Their son William Crispe was of Ore in Sussex, and their daughters were Mary, wife of Henry Wells of Purbeck, and Elizabeth, wife of John Harrington.

The Crispe who made his family renowned in Thanet, and who built a fine house at Quex, was Henry, the second son of the heiress Avice Denne, and a grandson of the heiress Agnes Queke. Before 1537 he married Katherine, a daughter of Sir John Scott, of Scot's Hall, Smeeth, but she died in 1545, and was buried on the 9th of February. She

\* *Additional MSS.*, 5507, p. 198.

† *Ibidem*, 5507, p. 197.

left one son Nicholas. Henry Crispe was a man of energy, who did not indulge in a long period of mourning, for on the 23rd of July in the same year, 1545, he married, as his second wife, Anne Haselhurst, daughter of John or George Haselhurst. During the year which followed his second marriage, he served the office of Sheriff; it was the last year of the reign of Henry VIII, 1546-7.

By what means he obtained wealth, whether by trade, or with his first wife Katherine Scott, we know not; but undoubtedly he was the rich man of the family, although but a second son. On the 5th of July, 1540-1 (32 Hen. VIII), he, and Robert St. Leger of Faversham, united in purchasing 24 thousand 6 hundredweight 1 quarter and 21lbs. of bell metal, parcel of the five bells which had lately hung in the belfry of Canterbury Cathedral.\* What they did with it we have no means of discovering.

Philipot calls Henry Crispe "*eques auratus; vir magni nominis sub Rege Hen. VIII.*" but he was not knighted by Henry, nor do we hear much of him in that reign.

In 1542, when a Loan to Henry VIII was subscribed by the gentlemen of England, Henry Crispe contributed £26 13s. 4d.† which was a large sum in those days. His elder brother John Crispe of Cleave does not seem to have contributed anything.

During the Reign of Edward VI, Henry Crispe was appointed to be one of the Church Goods Commissioners, who collected inventories of all church ornaments and furniture within the various Hundreds of Kent, which were sworn before them by the churchwardens.

At the close of Queen Mary's reign (April 4th-8th, 1558) Sir Henry Jernegan committed the care of the Kentish coasts to Sir Henry Crispe, Mr. Kempe, and Mr. Fynche.‡

Soon after the accession of Elizabeth, Sir Henry wrote to Thomas Wotton "touching the tranquillity of the Realm;" and so valuable were his suggestions that from Paul's Cray, Wotton, on the 5th of March, 1559, forwarded Sir Henry's

\* Battely's *Somner's Canterbury*, part ii., p. 24.

† *Archæologia Cantiana*, XI., 401.

‡ *Domestic State Papers*, Mary, vol. xii., No. 64.

letter to Cecil, the Secretary of State, as "of importance."\* On the 25th of the following June, we find the Marquis of Winchester writing to Cecil, that he will see £60 paid to Thomas Cockerell, and the remainder to Sir Henry Crispe.† Probably these sums were expended upon the defence of the coast, but there is no mention made of the object to which they were applied.

He is said to have been all powerful in the Isle of Thanet; "Regulus Insulæ" was an epithet applied to him. No doubt his position was one of importance, although at this distance of time we cannot well see how it was obtained. He was one of the Kentish "notables" whom Queen Elizabeth requested to meet at Dover the Margravine of Baden, Princess Cecilia, daughter of the King of Sweden, when she arrived in England early in September, 1565.‡

The Queen's castles and forts within the Cinque Ports were surveyed in 1568, and Sir Henry Crispe was one of those who made a return of the "decays" therein.§ After certifying, with other justices, in August, 1571, that search and watch for vagrants are duly made in the Lathe of St. Augustine,|| he went upon a strange expedition to Sandwich and Dover in the following October. They inspected with care all the freebooters in prison at those two places, and selected the best of them, probably to be enrolled, like the vagrants, in her Majesty's naval or military service. The remainder, or utterly worthless prisoners, were to be sent out of the realm.¶

Sir Henry Crispe was buried, in Birchington Church, on the 24th of August, 1575, and his altar tomb still remains in the north chancel. It may have been put up by himself, soon after the death of his first wife, as it bears no allusion to his second marriage.

\* *Domestic State Papers*, Elizabeth, vol. iii. No. 12. † *Ibidem*, vol. iv., No. 61.

‡ *Ibidem*, Elizabeth, vol. xxxvii., No. 28. In addition to Sir Henry Crispe, Sir Christopher Allen, Thomas Walsingham, Lady Hart, Lady Finch, Lady Norton, Lord Cobham, Sir Thomas Kemp, Thomas Wotton, Warham St. Leger, Richard Baker, Thomas Scott, and Nicholas St. Leger were to attend the "Lady Cecilia" at Dover.

§ *Ibidem*, Elizabeth, vol. xlv. No. 77.

|| *Ibidem*, vol. lxxx. No. 43.

¶ *Ibidem*, vol. lxxx., No. 61.

## NASH COURT CAVE.

In the garden behind Nash Court, there is a subterranean chamber, or series of chambers, excavated in the chalk. In the year 1782, as an inscribed stone in an adjacent wall informs us, the entrance to it was arched over, and covered with earth. The excavation, therefore, is not of modern date. When we descend into it we find that its plan has, originally, been that of a cross with equal limbs, the central portion being about seven feet square, and each of the four limbs being of the same dimensions. Access may have been obtained originally by means of a circular stair at the end of that limb which stands on the right hand of those who are entering. The existing entrance, however, is by means of a flight of steps which occupy the whole of one limb of the cross. The limbs are all vaulted in chalk, and at the springing of the vaulting they have plain string-courses, of Norman character. There are arched niches in the walls. This excavation may have been made as early as the fifteenth century, or it may be as late as the seventeenth. The only point which is certain is the fact that it has been closed for nearly one hundred years. Some suggest that it was intended for a secret oratory; others contend that it was simply a hidden cellar, probably used for smuggling. Among the other subterranean chambers excavated in the chalk, in Thanet, none are like this, symmetrical, cruciform, and constructed with good architectural features.