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A MONASTIC CHRONICLE LATELY DISCOVERED AT CHRIST CHURCH, CANTERBURY: WITH INTRODUCTION AND NOTES.

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INTRODUCTION.

THE recovery of any little bit of ore from old workings must always be a source of satisfaction to the miner; but his estimate of its value may not be the true one, since the knowledge that the ground has already been well explored tends to magnify in his eyes the importance of a small discovery. For similar reasons it is possible that the interest of the one now to be recorded is over-estimated by the present writer. It was certainly made in an unexpected quarter. The bound volumes of ancient MSS. preserved in the Cathedral library at Canterbury—unlike the vast miscellaneous collection of detached documents which until lately has only been partially open to students—have been well explored, and extensively drawn upon, by antiquaries and historians, from the days of William Somner to those of Dean Hook. Some of the volumes were described by Dr. Todd in the printed catalogue issued as far back as 1802, and others more recently by the late Dr. Sheppard in his Report to the Historical MSS. Commissioners in 1883. It was therefore somewhat of a surprise to the present writer to find, in one of these volumes, a short Christ Church Chronicle which had escaped the notice of previous explorers.

The volume in question is a narrow paper book of fifty-one folios, labelled C 14. The last fifteen leaves are filled with the weekly accounts of one John Bedow, dean of the seven priests who served the Almonry Chapel, for the year 1434; but the earlier part of the book is in another hand, and contains miscellaneous memoranda jotted down by a Christ Church monk, whose name does not appear. The writer probably held some official position in the monastery in the first quarter of the fifteenth century, and the entries he made in the book were no doubt valuable to him, and are of some interest to us, but need not be described in detail here, since I am concerned only with the Chronicle which has been inserted on the 20th, 21st, 31st, 34th, and 35th folios, and is in the same hand as the foregoing memoranda.*

The avowed purpose of the chronicler was to put on record the financial condition of the priory of Christ Church from the days of prior Henry of Eastry to those of prior John of Wodensberg, but his real object was to utter a panegyric on the financial talents of the latter prior, who—as he tells us—in little more than three years after his election managed to pay off all the debts incurred by his predecessors. In the case of the earlier priors he found the task too much for him, for in his list some of them are passed over without comment, or with the barren remark *Quid fecerit est ignotum*. Even when he reaches a period presumably within his own memory certain years are left entirely blank, and in some cases he seems to deliberately omit what he must have known. But these defects are to some extent compensated for by the occasional light let in on the very obscure history of the fourteenth-century priors, and by the additional information which the later part of the account supplies for dating some of the additions made to the conventual buildings by prior Chillenden.

The priors of Christ Church, Canterbury, were not only the heads of an important Benedictine house, but their

* In the Report of the Hist. MSS. Commission the book is merely described as "*Taxacio diocesis Cantuar* (early thirteenth century)," *Report IX.*, Appendix, p. 127. Reference to the bibliographical note at the end of this Introduction will shew how inadequate and inaccurate is this title.

influence extended at times to the remotest corners of the southern province. This was the case when, as guardian of the spiritualities of the see of Canterbury during a vacancy in the archbishopric, one of the suffragan sees happened to be also without a bishop, in which contingency the prior of Christ Church could hold visitations even in such remote dioceses as those of Hereford or St. David's. But, though their position amongst the heads of religious houses in England was in some respects unique, it is remarkable how very little is known about the personal history of the priors of Canterbury. It is true that the Chronicle does not add much to our knowledge, but where all is dark any little ray of light is welcome, and this the Chronicle does occasionally supply. Thus, for instance, although Robert Hathbrand was prior for nearly thirty-two years in the reign of King Edward III., little more than that fact was known, but he now comes into view as a courtly and magnificent prelate, who lived on the best of terms not only with the great nobles of the realm but with the king himself; and we are told that he had acted as tutor to two of the royal princes. It would be interesting to know which of the king's sons had the advantage of a Canterbury education. Walter de Burley, of Merton College, is said to have been Prince Edward's tutor, but it is possible that the prior of Christ Church may also have enjoyed this honour; and in that case veneration for the relics of St. Thomas of Canterbury was perhaps not the sole cause of the Black Prince's desire to be buried within the walls of the Metropolitan Church.*

Again, John Vynch (or Finch), who ruled the house from 1377 to 1391, has been little more than a name, but he now appears with a sort of halo of sanctity, for our chronicler describes him—in the words of the psalmist—as “a man of clean hands and pure heart,” wholly devoted to God's service. During Finch's priorate the economic condition of the convent was good, but the chronicler is at pains to inform us that this happy state of things was at least as much due to the worldly wisdom of the Treasurers—brothers

* Hathbrand was elected prior of Christ Church in 1338, the year of the birth of Prince Edward; he died in 1370.

William Woghope and Thomas Chillenden—as to the prayers of the good prior.

With the election of Chillenden to the priorate in 1391 the chronicler evidently enters upon a period within the range of his own memory, for he now records year by year the acts of the prior, including of course his constant building operations. The memory of Chillenden's passion for building survived even in the reign of King Henry VIII., for Leland calls him "the greatest Builder of a Prior that ever was in Christes Church." A complete list of Chillenden's building works is inscribed on the '*Compotus*' roll for the year of his death (1411);* and this list is more complete than that given in the Chronicle. But the value of the latter consists in the fact that the works enumerated are dated, and in some instances particulars are added which enable us to understand the nature of alterations which were previously somewhat enigmatical. Thus, although the Roll tells us that new lodgings were provided for the subsacristans, we get no clue from that source as to the new position chosen for their accommodation, or why any change was deemed necessary; whereas we now learn that these subordinate officials had of old time been lodged in the north aisle of the Church choir, where their chambers had grievously obstructed the way leading to St. Thomas's shrine, and that Chillenden fitted up a new lodging for them in a room over the Chapel of St. Andrew.

But of much greater interest than the above are the details given concerning the work carried out at the same period at the high altar and its surroundings. The Roll enumerates amongst Chillenden's works the making of "a new altar with a silver gilt Table, with the furniture of the Altars of Saint Elphege, and Saint Dunstan, and an image of the Blessed Virgin, with four angels of silver and gilt, and with a precious cup of gold with gems in the hand of the Virgin, for putting in the body of Christ, ascending and descending at pleasure."† From the Chronicle we learn

* Printed in Willis's Account of the Conventual Buildings of Christ Church, Canterbury, *Archæologia Cantiana*, Vol. VII., pp. 188, 189.

† Willis, *op. cit.*, p. 188, and Legg and Hope, *Inventories of Christ Church, Canterbury*, p. 110.

that the silver table weighed no less than 903 lbs., and cost £1204, while the carvers, painters, and gilders received £1020, presumably for the adornment of the altar-screen. Four years were spent upon the construction of this magnificent new altar-piece, and we are told that its glories were first displayed to the populace on the Sunday after the Feast of the Translation of St. Thomas (7th July) 1400, and that its dedication was the first official act of Archbishop Arundel after his return from exile. Mr. St. John Hope surmises that the new altar-screen was "a low stone wall . . . like that still standing in Westminster Abbey Church, extending across the presbytery."* But it should be noticed that neither the Chronicle nor the Roll mention the use of stone, and the Kalendar of Obits preserved at Lambeth states that Chillenden's work about the altars was of gold and silver, and of woodwork cleverly carved.†

Indeed, there are reasons for believing that, costly as the work was, it was rather of the nature of a restoration of something which already existed than the erection of something entirely new. Nearly a hundred years earlier we read of a costly altar-piece which the Prior and Chapter proposed to erect, and towards which Archbishop Reynolds offered to subscribe twenty pounds. There was some difficulty about getting the craftsman to carry out his contract, for, after having received ten marcs on account of work done from the monks of Christ Church, he appears to have tried to make a better bargain with some other religious house, conduct which elicited indignant letters of protest from both Archbishop Reynolds and Prior Eastry.‡ It is not certain whether eventually this altar-piece was erected or not, but, assuming that it was, I believe that a portion of it is in existence even in the present day. But to this I shall revert presently.

* *Op. cit.*, p. 109.

† "Maius vero altare cum duobus altaribus Sanctorum Dunstani et Elphegi opere argenteo et aureo, ac ligno sultiliter inciso decenter ornavit" (*Lambeth MS.* 20, fo. 210^b).

‡ Eastry Correspondence, IV. R. 27, R.R. 8, and IV. R. 38, Christ Church, Canterbury. The craftsman employed was one Jordan, described as *Pictor*, who was to receive for his work, when completed, an annual pension of twenty-five marcs.

Another notable feature in Chillenden's altar-screen was "a precious image of the Holy Trinity, with six Apostles of silver nobly gilt,"* the gift of Archbishop Courtenay. The figure of the Blessed Virgin, which served as the Pix, and the massive silver altar-table, are mentioned in the inventory of 1540 amongst the goods left to remain in the Church, but the table was sent to London by order of the Privy Council in the first year of King Edward VI.† The altar-screen, however, was still "rich and becoming" nearly one hundred years later, for Somner tells us that in his day, though shorn of much of its former glory, it was substantially much the same as when Erasmus saw it.‡

Somner lived to see the altar-piece still further defaced, for, amongst other sacrilegious acts perpetrated by Colonel Sandys's soldiers in 1642, it is recorded that "they defaced the goodly skreen of tabernacle work, behind the altar."§ But although grievously injured the screen was not entirely destroyed either then or during the troublous times of the Commonwealth, and when King Charles II. came back in 1660 one of the first works undertaken by the Dean and Chapter was the restoration of the dilapidated altar-screen. That some part of the mediæval work was still left is, I think, proved by the fact that Christopher Hartover of Deptford, to whom the restoration was entrusted, undertook in his contract to make "such additions of joined and carved work . . . as are now in any part wanting to the full completing and perfecting of the screen now standing and being, at the ascent at the east end of the Choir . . . as well for gold where gilding is to be used, as for colour, etc."|| Probably, however, it was not found practical to retain much of the

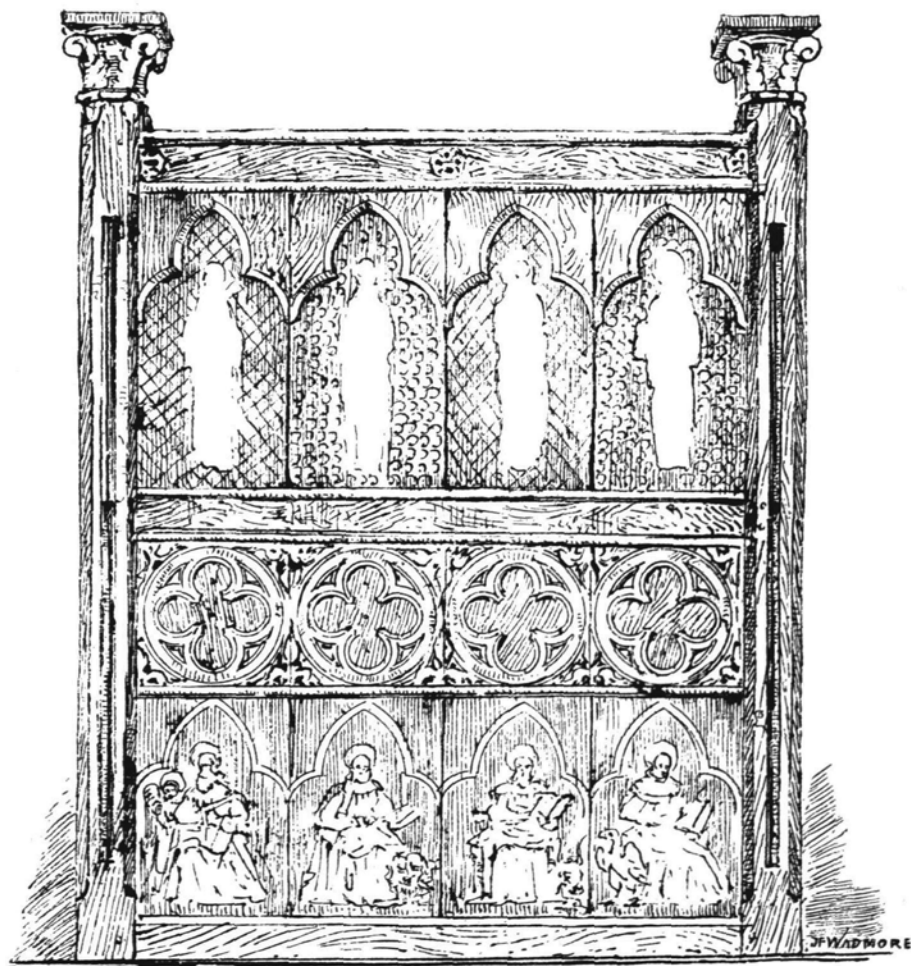
* "Item unam ymaginem Sancti Trinitatis preciosiorem cum sex apostolis argenteis et nobiliter deauratis ad tabulam summi altaris . . . Que quidem ymagines ad valorem CCCXL librarum appreciantur in presenti" (Register S., f. 23, quoted by Legg and Hope, *op. cit.*, p. 109).

† "To the Dean and Prebendaries of Canterbury to deliver the Silver table that stood upon their High Aulter, by indenture contayning ye weight of the same, to Sir Anthony Aucher" (*Acts of Privy Council of England*, New Series, vol. ii., p. 539).

‡ Somner, *Antiquities of Canterbury*, ed. J. Battely, p. 94. Somner's first edition of the *Antiquities of Canterbury* was published in 1640.

§ See a *Letter sent to an Honourable Lord by Dr. Paske, Sub-dean of Canterbury*, printed in London, 9 Sept. 1642.

|| Christ Church Register, No. 27.



· OLD · REREDOS ·

SAUSHAM Church KENT

FRAGMENT OF XIIIth CENTURY SCREEN-WORK FORMERLY IN
CHRIST CHURCH, CANTERBURY.

older work, since—judging from what can be seen of the screen in Dart's view of the Choir, published in 1726—it appears to be characteristic of seventeenth-century workmanship rather than of that of the fourteenth or fifteenth. Part of the mediæval screen is, however, I believe, still preserved in the Church of Adisham, where at one time it formed the reredos of the altar, but is now placed in the south transept. This interesting fragment of early carved woodwork is said to have been brought to Adisham from Canterbury by Archdeacon Battely, who was rector of the parish from 1678 to 1708.

An illustration of this curious piece of panelling was given in an Article by the late Rev. Montagu Villiers on Adisham Church—published in Volume XIV. of our Transactions—which is now reproduced upon the opposite page. The panelling measures 8 feet 8½ inches in height (to the top of the flanking pilasters) and 6 feet 9½ inches in width, and is divided into three tiers; in the uppermost are three trefoiled recesses, the backgrounds of which are ornamented with shallowly-sunk diaper work, and gilt. In the centre of each of these arched recesses are the holes of the rivets by which an image in high relief had been attached to the gilded background. The midmost panel is made up of four quatrefoils within circles, and the lowest panel, which was formerly plain, is now covered by a deal board bearing representations of the four Evangelists. These were probably painted in the seventeenth century, and, according to Mr. Villiers, were at one time fastened over the diapered background of the top panel. The flanking pilasters shew empty mortice joints in front, as though to receive another framework or a canopy. Possibly this may represent additions made to the thirteenth-century screen by Chillenden, and it may be that the images which once occupied the now vacant compartments were the silver ones of which we read in the Roll commemorating that prior's works.

Concerning the rebuilding of the nave the Chronicler tells us less than he might reasonably have been expected to do. The old Norman nave had been pulled down by Archbishop Sudbury, who re-erected at his own cost and charges the

western ends of the aisles.* The work was begun at the western end, doubtless to give immediate support to the Norman towers which were left standing. Since the Chronicle makes no mention of any work done on the nave when Finch was prior, it would seem that after Sudbury's murder in 1381 the work was at a standstill for ten years, and was recommenced by Chillenden in the first year of his priorate (1391). Nine years later—that is, in 1400—the new nave was apparently approaching completion, for in that year Archbishop Arundel contributed one thousand marks towards building the vault. Unfortunately the chronicler does not give the whole amount expended on rebuilding the nave. We only have figures for six years, during which period the total outlay for this work amounted to £2774 7s. 6d. Relating to other expenditure the chronicler supplies particulars for eight of the twenty years of Chillenden's term of office, from which we learn the total outlay amounted to no less than £13,056 11s. 9d., exclusive of repairs done on the manors of the priory, and of the ordinary maintenance charges of the house. It is not uncommon to use a multiple of twenty when comparing the purchasing power of money at the beginning of the fifteenth century with what an equal sum would buy to-day; but so high a figure is scarcely justified when we remember that one of the prime necessities of life, viz., wheat, averaged about six shillings and sixpence per quarter in the period under review, and that the price is not much more than six times as much in the present day. But, whatever standard may be taken, the figures mentioned above indicate such a lavish expenditure that it is no surprise to learn that Chillenden's successor found the Church very heavily in debt.

The new prior was, however, a man of business instincts. A new system of book-keeping was inaugurated, and although during Wodensberg's priorate additions were made to the conventual buildings—notably the completion of the new cloisters, which his predecessor had only commenced—he was able, in not much more than three years after his election, to clear off all liabilities. The chronicler is at

* “*Duas alas in parti posteriore ecclesie erexit sumptibus propriis et expensis*” (Somner, *op. cit.*, p. 22 note).

great pains to bring this out clearly by means of an elaborate balance-sheet, wherein he shews that, after the debt had been paid and the money in the hands of the several obedientiaries had been reckoned up, and a valuation made of the grain and building-stone remaining in stock, the Convent could shew to their credit a sum of £810 2s. 1½d. Wodensberg's success as a man of business impressed our chronicler very deeply, for he tells us that he knew of none who could equal him in this respect, and he regretfully adds that he despaired of ever finding anyone worthy to be his successor.

It only remains now to give a transcript of the Latin text, accompanied by a literal translation, to which some elucidatory notes have been added.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE ON C. 14. (Press mark Y. 7. 17.)

Size, 11¾ inches by 4½ inches.

Folios, 51 (paper).

Contents. Fo. 1. The assessments on the sees of the southern province for Peter's pence, as fixed by Pope Gregory V. in his second year, 997.

Fos. 2—8. Christ Church rents in the city of Canterbury.

Fos. 10—12. Proceedings in an assize of waste held by the bailiffs of the City of Canterbury, 1403.

Fos. 13—16a. Wages of the conventual servants.

Fos. 16b—20. Gifts (*exhennia*) due from the priory to the archbishop at Christmas and Easter.

Fos. 20b, 21. *Christ Church Chronicle*.

Fos. 23—25. Profits of the Almonry.

Fos. 26—28. King's tenths due from the priory in the year 1402.

Fos. 29, 30. Christ Church assessment for the expenses of the ambassadors sent to the Council of Constance.

Fo. 31. *Christ Church Chronicle*.

Fos. 32, 33. Assessment for the new sea-wall at Tenham.

Fos. 34, 35. *Christ Church Chronicle*.

Fos. 37—51. The weekly accounts of John Bedow, dean of the priests serving in the almonry chapel (1424).

[*Text.*]
[fo. 35a.]

De statu ecclesie post decessum antiquorum patrum et reverendorum dominorum priorum, de quibus experiri poterit in quo statu istam sanctam ecclesiam dimiserunt, est videndum, unde ab illo viro precippuo domino H. de Eastri qui prefatam ecclesiam xlvij annis strenuissime gubernavit ad presens, ut de ceteris taceantur inchoandum est, qui A° dñi m°ccc^m°xxxr°, A° vero Regis Edwardi iii° quinto in vigilia Ambrosii migravit a corpore et ecclesiam liberam dereliquit.¹

Post eum venit dominus Ricardus Oxyndenne, sed quid fecerit est ignotum.²

Tunc venit ille famosissimus dominus et duorum filiorum Regis alumpnus, Regi et proceribus regni acceptissimus dominus Robertus Hadebrand, qui prioratum in omni honore et magnificencia, honorifice et splendide gubernavit, qui postquam xxxii fere annis dictum prioratum magnis laboribus et expensis honorifice gubernasset, gloriosissime ievit in pace,

¹ Henry of Eastry's priorate marks a new era in the history of the priory of Christ Church. He was elected in 1284, at a period when the discipline of the house was much relaxed, owing to the inefficient rule of his predecessor Thomas Ringmere, who eventually resigned his office, and retired first to the Cistercian Abbey of Beaulieu in the New Forest and afterwards to a hermit's cell. Eastry was a man of great business capacity, whose reforms may still be traced in the monastic registers; indeed these, in the form in which they now exist, date from his days, the earlier registers having all been recopied during his priorate. It was for this reason that the Eastry era was fixed upon as a convenient date for commencing an account of the financial history of the priory.

A complete list of Prior Eastry's building-works is preserved,* and amongst them is the beautiful carved stone screen which incloses the Cathedral Choir. But the memory of these had grown dim during the century which had elapsed since his death, and our chronicler apparently did not have access to the record referred to,

* Christ Church, Canterbury, Register I., fo. 212, printed by Professor Willis in *Archæologia Cantiana*, Vol. VII., pp. 185—7.

[*Translation.*]

Concerning the state of the Church after the death of those ancient and reverend fathers the lord-priors, that is to say, an attempt to shew in what condition they left that holy Church. Passing over in silence earlier priors, let us start from the days of that distinguished man Dom. Henry of Eastri, and continue our account until the present time. He governed the aforesaid Church with the greatest energy for forty-seven years, and departed this life in the year of our Lord 1331, in the fifth year of King Edward III., on the eve of St. Ambrose's day [6 Dec.], leaving the Church free from debt.¹

After him came Dom Richard Oxyndenne [1331—1338], but what he did is unknown.²

Then came that very celebrated lord Dom Robert Hadebrand [1338—1370], tutor to two of the King's sons, and a man very acceptable to the King and to the nobles of the realm, who ruled the priory honourably and splendidly, living in all honour and magnificence, who after he had governed the said priory for nearly thirty-two years, with great labour and expense, departed in peace, covered with

for he passes over in silence Eastri's many benefactions to the Church and Convent. It is remarkable that the burial-place of such an eminent man is not recorded, but possibly the recumbent effigy beneath the window nearest to the transept in the south aisle of the choir may be Eastri's; at any rate the architectural style of the accessories of this tomb shew that it was erected at no great distance from the date of his death—1331.

² Again, reference to the Register (L) would have told the chronicler that the elaborate five-light window in the south wall of St. Anselm's Chapel was inserted in the days of Prior Oxenden (1336), and that he contributed the greater part of the cost.*

* "Memorandum quod anno 1336 facta fuit una fenestra nova in Ecclesia Christi Cant., viz. in capella SS. Petri et Pauli Apostolorum, pro qua expensæ fuerunt ministratæ" . . . £42 : 17 : 2. "Summa £8 : 13 : 4 data fuit a quibusdam amicis ad dictam fenestram. Reliqua pecunia ministrata fuit a Priore." (See Battely, *Appendix to the Supplement*, p. 1, in Somner, *op. cit.*)

[Text.]

sed in quo statu ecclesiam suam demiserit ignoratur, quia omnes revenciones ecclesie post tunc sint et diu antea ad manus Thesaurariorum devenerint, et in ipso anno mortis sue Conventus debebat Thesaurariis viz., Wilt Dove, et Gilberto Hamcherche per evidentiam compoti, eorundem ^{xxli} dcccclxxxviii^s xlviii^d ob. q^d. Et erat iste annus, annus Jubileus.³

Post eum venit dominus Ricardus Gylyngham qui . . . [blank].

Deinde dominus Stephanus Mongham, qui anno sue creacionis primo anno viz. Incarnacionis dominice mcccclxxvj^o invenit ecclesiam oneratam diversis creditoribus, ut plene patet in registro quem inchoavit ex relacione et fideli informacione, ut ibidem per diversa parcella et nomina creditorum Johis Molash commonachi et confratris sui tunc ecclesie Thesaurarii in ^{xxli} mcccclxxvj^s vii^s ii^d quod est in marcis mmlxxviii marc vii^d. Et sic invenit ita delreliquit [*sic*], quia in ipso anno creacionis sue primo migravit a seculo.

Anno dñi Milhimo ccclxxvii^o anno viz. sequenti tunc, post eum venit ille innocens manibus et mundo corde, venerabilis ac Deo devotus dominus Johes Vynch, qui ad ista onera supportanda qui sibi predecessor eius ut superius liquet dereliquit magis oracionibus et suorum confratrum W. Woghope

³ The exact nature of the change in the conventual book-keeping, which caused the chronicler some difficulty, I am unable to explain, since the Treasurers' Accounts for this period are no longer extant.

The principal additions or alterations to the conventual buildings which are connected with Hathbrand's name are the Master's Hall, on the north side of the infirmary, which is still in a good state of preservation, and forms part of the prebendal house nearest to the dark-entry, and the remodelling of the chancel of the Infirmary Chapel by the insertion of a new chancel-arch and large "decorated" windows. In order to strengthen the old Norman walls a new interior lining of flint work, about 18 inches in thickness, was now placed over the Norman ashlar work. Recently some of

[*Translation.*]

glory. But in what state he left his Church is not known, because all the revenues of the Church after that time, and for a long time previously, were paid into the hands of the Treasurers, and in the year of his death the Convent owed to the Treasurers, viz., to William Dovere and Gilbert Hamcherche, as may be seen in the account roll of the same, £990 18s. 4½*d.* And that year was the year of Jubilee.³

After him came Dom Richard Gylyngham [1370—1376], who . . . [*blank*].

Then Dom Stephen Mongham, who in his first year of his election, to wit, the year of the incarnation of our Lord 1376, found the Church indebted to divers creditors, as is fully set forth in the register which he began from the relation and faithful information of brother John Molash, his fellow monk, at that time treasurer of the Church, whereby when the various amounts and names of creditors were reckoned up the debts were found to amount to £1385 7s. 11*d.*, which is in marcs 2078 marcs and 6*d.* And as he found the Church so he left it, because he migrated from this world in the first year of his election.

In the year of our Lord 1377, that is to say in the following year, he was succeeded by that man of clean hands and pure heart, the venerable and godly Dom John Vynch [1377—1391], who for the support of the burden bequeathed to him by his predecessor, as stated above, wisely depended more on the power of prayer and the care and worldly wisdom

this fourteenth-century lining was removed by the masons engaged in repairing it, when the brilliant colours of mural paintings on the Norman wall were revealed. Only a small portion of the north wall of the chancel was uncovered, but the ancient paintings brought to light have since been copied in facsimile, and the Dean and Chapter have caused wooden shutters to be erected for their protection.

[Text.]

et T. Chilindenne⁴ sollicitudine sapienter mundiali quam sua yconomia specialius confisus dei gracia preventura (?) ecclesiam suam ab omni debito liberam dereliquit, et multa et magna edificia renovavit dormitorium viz. et cameras novas pro hospitibus et plura alia edificia collaudanda sicut concessit eius alumpnus T. Chylyndenne A^o i^o infra.

[fo. 35b.]

^{xx}
M^d q^d anno dni m^occc^{xx}j^o dominus Thomas Chylindenne decretorum doctor eximius creatus est in priorem, in die Sancte Juliane virginis a reverendo in Christo patre et domino Wiffo Courtenay Archiepiscopo Cantuariensis cum consensu totius Capituli A^o vero regni regis Ricardi ii^{di} a conquestu xiiii^o.

Hic anno sui prioratus primo fieri fecit introitum de capella prioris ad cameram eiusdem qui antea fuerat per scaccarium supra coquinam. Fecit etiam magnam cameram prioris de novo reparari cum fenestris caminis et cellura, et novam capellam in *le gloriet*, novamque domum vocatam *le panydchambre*, ad expensam cxx^{li}, et continuavit fabricam navis ecclie primitus per reverentissimum in Christo patrem et dominum, dominum, Simonem de Sudbury inchoatam ad expensam cccc^{li}.

Sm^a huius anni sine reparacionbus Maneriorum dxx^{li}.⁵

⁴ Woghope and Chillenden were the treasurers. It is recorded of the former, in an obituary written by Thomas Causton (Christ Church, Canterbury, MS. D. 12), that "he made the chamber called heven." This apartment still exists in the house of the seventh prebendary (now occupied by the Lord Bishop of Dover), and is still called by the same high-sounding name, while that beneath it is called 'Paradise.' This house is now known as "*Chillenden's Chambers*," but it might with at least equal propriety be connected with the name of Woghope or Finch.

The meaning of the last sentence in the above paragraph does not lie on the surface. I can only conjecture that it alludes to some reference made by Chillenden at a later date to the work done by his predecessor.

[*Translation.*]

of his brother monks, W. Woghope and T. Chilindenne, than on his own good management, and so by the preventing grace of God he bequeathed his Church (to his successor) free from all debt. He restored many great buildings, the dormitory, and new lodgings for guests, and many other praiseworthy buildings, as his pupil, T. Chylyndenne, allowed (?) in his first year below.⁴

Be it remembered that in the year of our Lord 1391, Dom. Thomas Chylyndenne, a distinguished doctor of the canon law, was made prior on the day of St. Juliana the virgin [22 May] by the reverend father and lord in Christ William Courtenay, Archbishop of Canterbury, with the consent of the whole Chapter, in the fourteenth year of the reign of King Richard II. from the Conquest.

In the first year [1391] of his priorate he caused a passage to be made from the prior's chapel to his lodgings, which hitherto had been reached by way of the Cheker over the kitchen. He also thoroughly repaired the prior's great lodging, putting in new windows, chimneys, and a ceiling, and built a house called the *panydchambre* at a total cost of £120. Also he went on with the rebuilding of the nave of the Church, which had been originally commenced by the most reverend father and lord in Christ, Simon of Sudbury, expending thereon £400.

The total of this year, without reckoning manorial repairs, is £520.⁵

⁵ In order to understand the nature of the first alteration it is necessary to remember that the prior's chapel was situated over the south side of the infirmary cloister where the Howley-Harrison library now stands (see Fig. 6). The prior's mansion, or camera, was on the east side of the north end of the passage, now known as the dark-entry (Fig. 5).^{*} The old way of getting

^{*} For the convenience of readers Willis's plans are here reproduced from *Archæologia Cantiana*, Vol. VII., shewing a ground-plan (Fig. 5) and a first-floor plan (Fig. 6), with the east at the top of the Plate.

[Text.]

Item A^o 11^o fecit dealbari totum chorum et totam ecclesiam superiorem, et cameras trium parvorum sacristarum, que tunc in ala boriali ecclesie in via viz. qua itur ad fferetrum Sci Thome multum inhoneste dictam viam accloyantes, et novam cameram pro eisdem sacristis fieri fecit supra altare Sci Andree cum novis fenestris ibidem, et alio honesto apparatu ad dictum altare ad expens' 1^l una cum continuacione fabrice ecclesie ad expensam DXXV^l v^s vj^d. ut in computo illius anni.

Isto anno inchoatum est novum hospicium in villa vocatum *le Cheker* ad expensam CLXXIII^l XIII^s III^d.

Summa huius anni ultra &c. DCCXXVIII^l XIX^s X^d.⁶

from the chapel to the mansion was through the door at the extreme east of the north wall of the chapel (Fig. 6, I), which led into the cheker building. The cheker was the counting-house of the convent, and in order to obviate the inconvenience which may have been sometimes caused by using it as a passage-room, Chillenden made another door at the north end of the east wall of the chapel (Fig. 6, F), and connected it with his lodgings by means of an enclosed gallery on the level of the first floor running across the western wall of the infirmary hall (Fig. 6, H), by means of which he could pass from his chapel to his lodgings in perfect privacy.

The prior's camera, with the gloriet (an apartment on the first floor at its north end), have long since been pulled down, but the mullions of the lower lights of the tall perpendicular windows inserted by Chillenden may still be seen on the east side of the dark-entry. Professor Willis, in his description of the conventual buildings (published in *Archæologia Cantiana*, Vol. VII.), does not mention the existence of a chapel in the gloriet. Another piece of new information is the fact that the infirmary kitchen was beneath the cheker. Willis places it on the east side of the infirmary hall (*Archæologia Cantiana*, Vol. VII., Plate 3, p. 199).

The 'panyd,' or panelled chamber, was a wainscoted room in the south aisle of the infirmary hall—on the first floor (Fig. 6, A, B, C). Willis says that it formed part of a suite of rooms allotted to the sub-prior. After the dissolution of the monastery these rooms were incorporated into the house of the twelfth prebendary. This house was pulled down about the year 1845, but it was standing

From Willis' Plans, Archæologia Cantiana, VII.

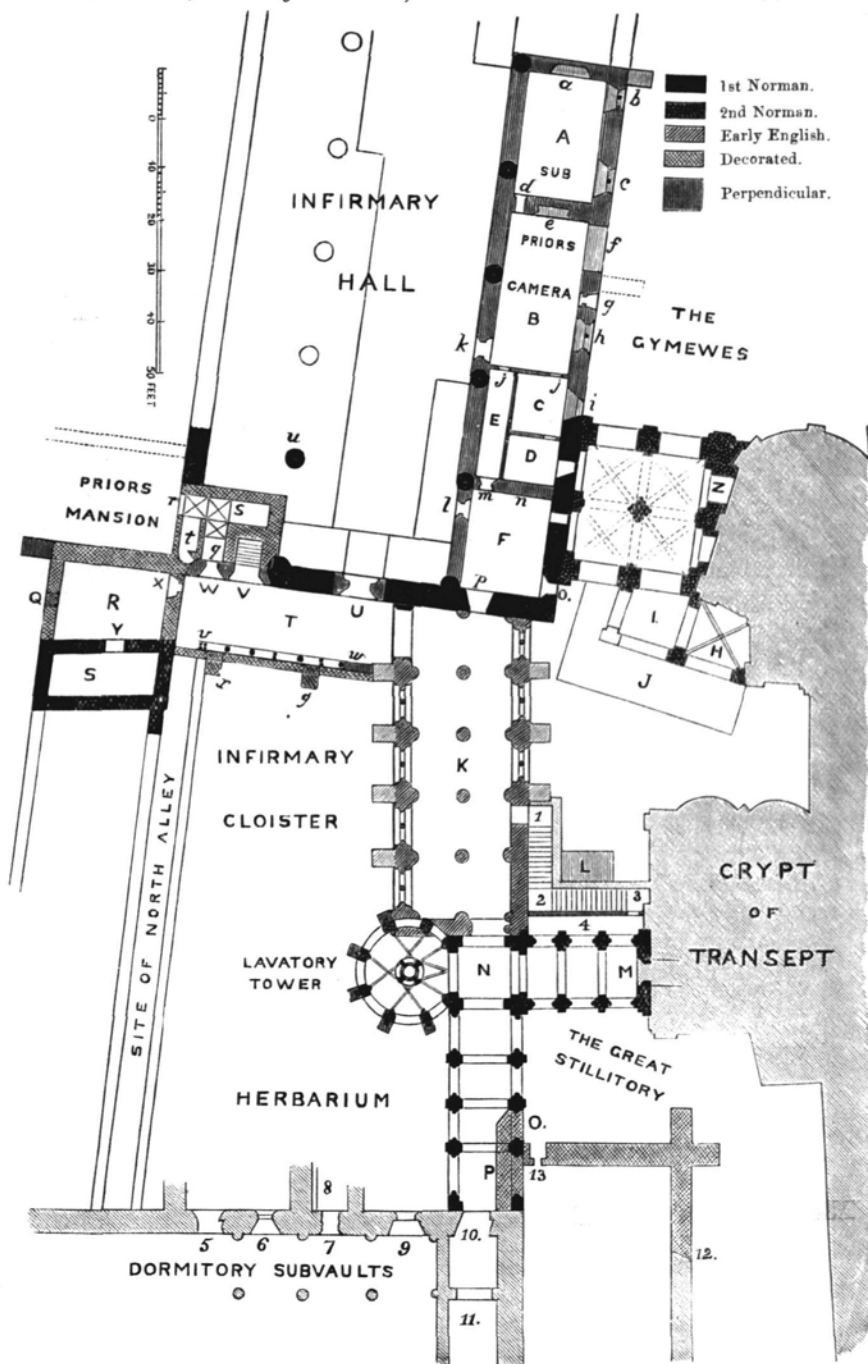


Fig. 5.—GROUND PLAN OF INFIRMARY CLOISTER AND SURROUNDING BUILDINGS.

From Willis' Plans, Archæologia Cantiana, VII.

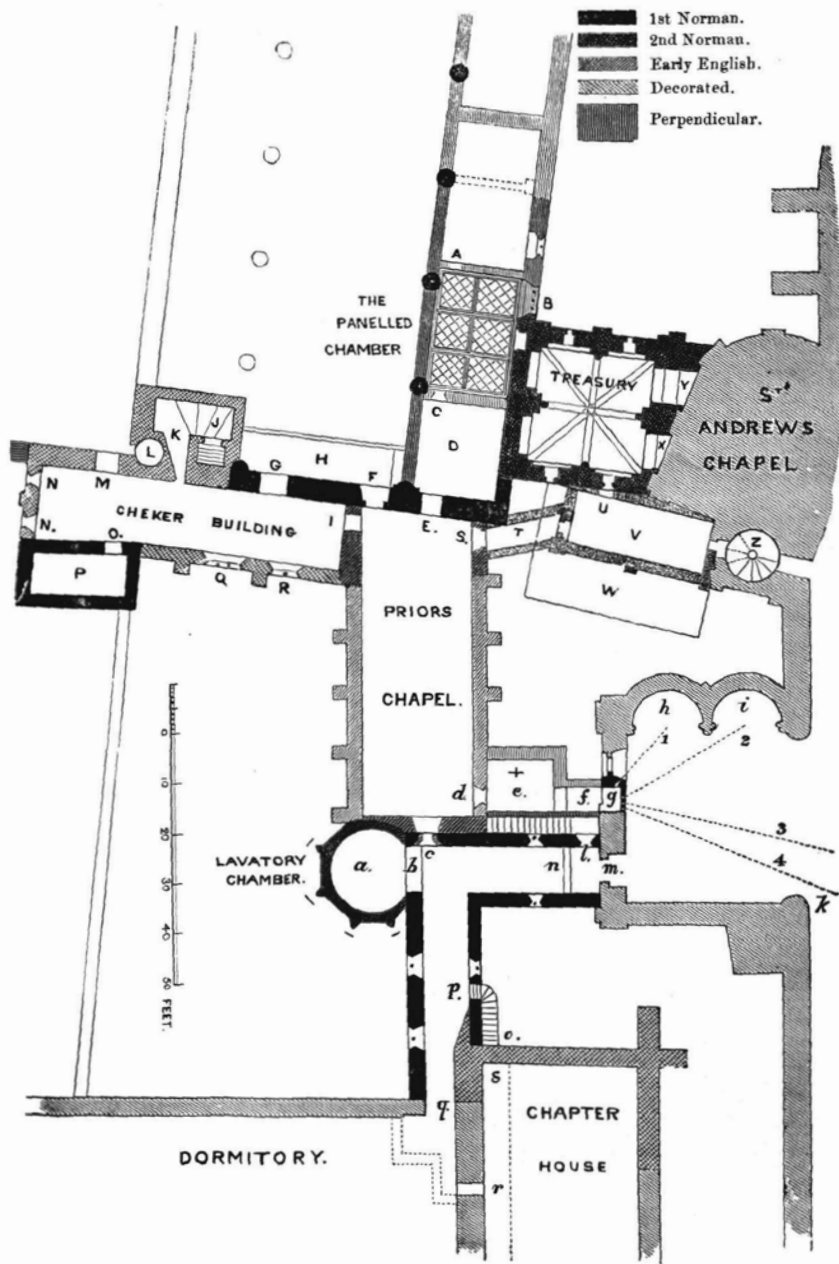


Fig. 6.—FIRST-FLOOR PLAN OF INFIRMARY CLOISTER AND SURROUNDING BUILDINGS.

[*Translation.*]

In his second year [1392] he caused the whole choir and all the upper part of the Church to be whitewashed, including the rooms of the three petty sacristans which at that time were in the north aisle of the Church, obstructing in very unseemly fashion the way, that is to say the passage leading to the shrine of St. Thomas. He caused new quarters to be provided for the same sacrists over the altar of St. Andrew, putting in new windows there and seemly fittings for the said altar at an outlay of £50, together with the continuation of the fabric of the Church at an outlay of £515 5s. 6d., as may be seen in the account roll of that year. In that year was begun the new inn in the town, called the Cheker, at an outlay of £174 14s. 4d.

The sum total for this year, not reckoning manorial repairs, is £738 19s. 10d.⁶

when Professor Willis made his survey. In his article, published some years later, he expresses regret that the 'panyd chamber' should have been sacrificed when the house was demolished. "It was," he says, "a beautiful specimen of the domestic architecture of Chillenden's period, eleven feet high, completely lined and ceiled with wainscot panelling. It had a handsome broad window (B), with four lights and a transom externally, close to the Treasury. A four-centred chimney-arch and chimney was placed west of the window against the Treasury wall" (*ut supra*, p. 58).

⁶ The whitewashing of churches was a practice by no means confined—as was once thought—to post-Reformation churchwardens, but was very commonly resorted to in mediæval times, no doubt partly as a sanitary measure. Nor was it necessarily devoid of artistic effect when properly applied. The chronicler does not give the cost of this piece of work, probably because, as a matter of fact, it was spread over two years. This we learn from the Sacrists' Rolls, from which source it also appears that the total cost of whitewashing the whole of the upper portion of the church, *i.e.*, all that lay to the east of the central tower, amounted to £19.

The position of the new accommodation provided for the subsacristans has been already pointed out. It only remains to say that "the seemly new fittings for the altar of St. Andrew" (*honesto*

[Text.]

Item Anno m^o adquisita est pars manerii de Selgrave que valet per annum x^{li} ad expens' de clvi^{li} xiii^s iiii^d ultra xx^{li} pro amortizacione. Et in isto anno adquisita sunt Tenementa Roberti Lytle in London ad expensam cccxxxiii^{li} vi^s viii^d ultra xxvi^{li} xiii^s iiii^d pro annua pensione dicti Roberti et uxoris sue ad vitam eorum, qui per vi annos et dimidium dicta pensio perceperunt, viz. clxiii^{li} vi^s viii^d et pro amortisacione dictorum tenementorum xl^{li} tum postquam omnia ista fueret persoluta, Dominus Rex pro defectu amortisacionis quem reperit contra ius suum male et negligenter actum, omnia tenementa supradicta fecit confiscari sed ex sua gracia speciali et ad humilem rogatum dicti prioris omnia integre restituit prout in patentibus in Cancellario plene patet.

Isto A^o inchoatum est novum opus collegii oxoniensis quod per iii^{es} annos duravit ad expensam cccxl, et pro chymmerhall adquisito xx^{li}.

Et continuatio fabrice novi hospicii ad expensam ccccli.

Et continuatio fabrice ecclesie ad expensam ccccxviii^{li} xv^s iiii^d in compoto illius anni.

Summa huius anni cum annis sequentibus ultra reparationes maneriorum mdccclxxii^{li} vi^s viii^d.⁷

apparatu ad dictum altare) probably refer to some ornamentation on the under side of the floor put in over the chapel. The floor was removed about forty years ago, but one of the Cathedral workmen, who remembers it *in situ*, tells me that it was 'faddled,' by which term he probably meant that the beams supporting it were moulded and carved on their under side.

The rebuilding of the Cheker inn, which occupied three years, cost in all no less than £867 14s. 4d. It was principally patronized by pilgrims to the shrine of St. Thomas, and is mentioned by the continuators of Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales* as the 'Cheker of the Hope.' But the popularity of "the holy blissful martyr" declined during the fifteenth century, so that the great outlay incurred in rebuilding the inn was not a particularly good investment. An inventory of the goods in the Cheker, taken in 1533, shews that its rooms were called by various names, such as the King's Chamber, the White Hart, St. George's Chamber, etc. A very considerable

[Translation.]

In his third year [1392-3] a part of the manor of Selgrave* was purchased. It is worth £10 a year, and cost £156 13s. 4d., in addition to the licence in Mortmain. Also in that year house property was purchased in London of Robert Lytle, costing £334 6s. 8d., besides the pension of £26 13s. 4d. by the year reserved to the said Robert and his wife during their lives, which pension they received in full during six and a half years, viz., £163 6s. 8d., and for the amortization of the said property £40. Then after all payments had been made our lord the King, on discovering a defect in the amortization deed which had been badly and carelessly drawn, contrary to his right, caused all the aforesaid property to be confiscated, but of his special grace, and on the humble entreaty of the Prior, he restored everything in full, as may plainly be seen in the patent rolls of the Chancery.

In that year the new work of the College at Oxford was commenced, which lasted for three years and cost £340, and for the purchase of Chymerhall £20. And the continuation of the building of the new inn cost £351.

And the continuation of the fabric of the Church cost £428 15s. 4d. in the account roll of that year.

The total for this year with the years following, beyond the repairs of the manors, is £1872 6s. 8d.⁷

portion of the old inn is still standing at the south-west corner of Mercury Lane.

7 Canterbury College in Oxford, founded by Archbishop Islip in 1362, was a small college designed for the higher education of the monks of Christ Church, Canterbury. It occupied the site of the present Canterbury 'Quad' at Christ Church, Oxford. From the list of Chillenden's works recorded on the Account Roll referred to above, it would appear that the alterations were extensive, and that (with the exception of the hall and two sets of rooms) the whole college was rebuilt in 1392-3.† From the building accounts kept by William

* In the parish of Preston-next-Faversham.

† "Exceptis aula et duabus cameris omnia edificia sunt de novo constructa una cum capella" (C, 166).

[Text.]

[fo. 34a.]

Itm A^o iiii^o prioratus sui reparata sunt tenementa prefati Roberti Lytle ad expensam dclxx^{li} et manerium de Chertham ad expensam cxxxiii^{li} vi^s viii^d; Et porta curie *le pentys* ad expensam cx^{li} novum caminum coquine conventus xiii^{li} vi^s viii^d; et reparacio Elemonsinarie de Monketon iiii^{xx}^{li} et adquisicio terre iuxta portam illius Elemonsinarie que valet per annum v quarterii ordeï, xx^{li}; et continuacio ffabrice ecclesie hoc anno dccvii^{li}; et ffabrica de le Cheker cccxlii^{li} et hic finitur fabrica illa.

Isto anno adquisitum est hospiciū vocatum *le Crowne* ad expensam ccccxxxiii^{li} vi^s viii^d; et pro amorttisatione eiusdem xiii^{li} vi^s viii^d; sed pro istis pecuniis idem Prior vendidit Johi Durward de Bockyng pro sua cantaria in ecclesia de Bockyng inperpetuum custinenda [*sic*] de manerio nostro de Bockyng pro perpetuo vii^{li} annue pencionis in dicto manerio persolvende prout in cirographis inde confectis plenius continetur.

S^m^a huius annis ultra reparaciones maneriorum cum pecunia etc. mmdxxii^{li} vi^s viii^d.⁸

Chart, Warden of the College, the late Dr. Sheppard was able to give the following description of the college: "There was the great gate, built of 'Taynton' stone . . . leading to the quadrangle, three sides of which were occupied by buildings . . . the upper stories were pargetted, that is, built of timber and covered with plaster impressed with fanciful designs, while the ground story was strongly constructed of Headington stone. The high gabled roofs were covered with Stonesfield slates."*

⁸ 'Le Pentys' was of course the covered alley or Pentise leading from the Green Court gate to the Celerer's gate. The southern end of this alley is still in good preservation. It is fully described in Willis, *History of the Conventual Buildings* (*Archæologia Cantiana*, Vol. VII., pp. 136—138).

The ordination deed of John Durward's Chantry is preserved (Register S., f. 427^b), and is printed in full in *Literæ Cantuari-*

* Camden Society, 1877, *Christ Church Letters*, pp. xii and xvii.

[Translation.]

In the fourth year [1393-4] of his priorate the house property of the said Robert Lytle were repaired at a cost of £670, and the buildings of the Manor of Chartham at a cost of £133 6s. 8d., and the court gate *le Pentys* at a cost of £110; a new chimney for the Convent kitchen £14 6s. 8d., and the repair of the Almonry at Monkton £80. On the purchase of land near the gate of that almonry, worth 5 quartes of barley a year, £20. And on the continuation of the fabric of the Church in this year £707, and on the building of the Cheker, which was completed in this year, £342. In this same year the inn called *le Crowne** was purchased at a cost of £433 6s. 8d., and for the licence in mortmain of the same £13 6s. 8d., but in order to raise these moneys the same Prior sold to John Durward of Bocking the customs of our Manor of Bocking to provide a pension of £7 a year payable for ever out of the said manor, for his chantry in the Church of Bocking, as is more plainly set forth in the cirograph drawn up at the time.

The total of this year, besides the manorial repairs, together with money (borrowed ?), is £2522 6s. 8d.⁸

enses.† From the deed we learn that Durward's Chantry was in the north part of Bocking Church, and that it was founded in honour of Almighty God, the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Nicholas, St. Katherine, and All Saints. At the altar of St. Nicholas (which apparently already existed in the Church) the Chaplain was bidden to celebrate Mass daily for the welfare (*salubri statu*) of King Richard II., Archbishop Arundel, the Prior and Chapter of Christ Church, Canterbury, the Lady Philippa Fitzwalter, and of the Founder and his wife, during their lives and for their souls, after their death, and for all faithful souls. The chaplaincy was endowed with a rent charge of seven pounds a year, and a house was provided for the chaplain on the north side of the churchyard, which house was to be kept in repair by the chaplain himself. On Sundays and the greater feast days he was to be present during Divine Service in the choir, clad in a surplice. On no account might he

* In the parish of St. Leonard's, Eastcheap, in the City of London.

† Edited by Dr. Sheppard for the Master of the Rolls. Vol. iii., p. 52.

[Text.]

Itm anno quinto sui prioratus circa ffabricam ecclesie
^{xx li} ccciii anno isto inceptum est opus novi altaris, et continuavit
 per quatuor annos sequentes dictum opus ad expensam operis
 lignei et pictura eiusdem et deauratione mxx^{li}, et pro factura
 aurifabrili tabule argenteae mccciii^{li}. Et ponderat dicta tabula
 dcccciii^{li} de Troye que faciunt in moneta Anglie mccciii^{li}
 Computandum pro ti de troye ii marc', sed pondus iste non
 fuerat aliene quesitum sed de ciphis reffectorii et jocalibus
 ecclesie et aliis fuerat congregatum etc.

Summa huius anni sine reparaciones maneriorum
 mmmddcccviii^{li}.

Itm anno vi^o sui prioratus circa perdonacionem ii^{or} corro-
 diorum viz. lxx marcarum et alterius x marcarum ut patet per
 patentem dni Reg' inde confecto quam perdonacionem dominus
 h(enricus) rex post conquestum iiii^{us} confirmavit xl^{li}, et in fab-
 rica ecclesie cccxxxiii^{li} vi^s viii^d. Isto anno obiit dominus Wiffr
 Courtenay Archiepus, et Thomas Arundel Archieps Eborac-
 ensis in Archiepm Cant' solempniter per viam Spiritus Sancti
 est (*electus*) [struck through] postulatus, que postulacio sibi per
 prefatum priorem in die sancti Laurencii Calisiis presentata
 est, et in crastino omnium (Sanctorum) Serenissimus dominus
 Ricardus Anglie Rex desponsavit Isabellam, filiam Regis
 ffrancie, ibidem in ecclesia Sancti Nicholai, quam desponsacio-
 nem solempnavit prefatus Thomas Eboracensis et postulatus
 Cant' cui Isabelle Regine dictus Prior xii pannos *de blank-*
damasch dedit ad expensam xl^{li}.

Isto anno appropriata est ecclesia de Godmersham in ex-
 cambium duarum ecclesiarum in London', ecclesie, viz. sci
 Michaelis in *Crokydlane* et ecclesia sanctorum Vedasti et
 Amandi ad expensam cum amortacione dicti rectoris ad
 manerium de Godmersham cxxl^{li}.

S^m^a ultra reparaciones maneriorum dcliii^{li} vi^s viii^d.⁹

be absent from his duties for more than thirty days in the year,
 and even for that amount of vacation he had to obtain special leave
 either from the patron or, in his absence, from the rector of the
 parish.

[*Translation.*]

In the fifth year [1394-5] of his priorate about the building of the Church £280. In this year the work of the new altar was begun, and he went on with said work during the four following years at a cost for the woodwork and for the painting and gilding of the same of £1020, and for the goldsmith's work of the silver table £1204, and the said table weighs 903¹¹ troy weight, which is worth in English money £1204, reckoning for the pound troy 2 marcs. But the weight was not taken outside [the convent], but was reckoned by weighing the table against the cups of the frater-house and other Church plate.

The total for this year, without the manorial repairs, is £3808.

Item in the sixth year [1395-6] of his priorate, for the discharge of two corrodies, viz., one of 20 marcs, and another of 10 marcs, as may be seen by the patent of our lord the King drawn up at the time, which discharge our lord King Henry IV. confirmed, £40. And on the building of the Church £333 6s. 8d. In this year the lord William Courtenay, the Archbishop, died, and Thomas Arundel, Archbishop of York, was solemnly (*elected*) [struck out] postulated Archbishop of Canterbury. And this postulation was delivered to him by the aforesaid Prior on St. Laurence's day at Calais. And on the morrow of All Saints the most serene lord Richard, King of England, married Isabella, daughter of the King of France, in the Church of St. Nicholas. And to Queen Isabella the said Prior gave twelve lengths (*pannos*) of "blank damask," costing £40. In this year the Church of Godmersham was appropriated (to the convent of Christ Church, Canterbury) in exchange for two Churches in London, viz., St. Michael's in Crooked Lane, SS. Vedast and Amand, at a cost, including the amortization fee, of £240.

The total, not including manorial repairs, is £653 6s. 8d.⁹

⁹ Corrodies were allowances for board, made either in money or kind. The pensioners who enjoyed this privilege either shared the

[Text.]

[fo. 34b.]

Itm A° sui prioratus vii° exulatus est prefatus Thomas Arundel Archiepus Cant' anno isto circa hospiciū London' lⁱⁱ; et circa fabricam ecclesie cccc^{li}; et circa vestimenta in vestiario hoc anno pelves, turibula, et aliis jocalibus diversis, que visui satis patent, una cum ^{xx}iiii albis vi Casulis et xii dalmaticis c cuppis et iii frontellis de viridi unius secte, et capa preciosa de rubro velveto ad expensam dix^{li} vi^s viii^d.

Summa huius anni sine reparacione maneriorum
DCCCLIX^{li} vi^s viii^d.

Itm A° sui prioratus viii° continuacio ffabrice ecclesie ad expensam [blank].

Itm A° prioratus ix° continuacio ffabrice ecclesie [blank].

common food of the convent or received fixed rations daily from the buttery or kitchen. Kings and bishops frequently made these demands on behalf of their retainers or dependents, and the tendency was to assume that when once granted the right to nominate became permanent. A copy of the charter of King Richard II., exempting the prior and chapter from any obligation with respect to royal corrodies, is enrolled in the Chapter Archives (Register S., f. 21^b), in which the king says that he forgoes his claim to appoint to these corrodies on account of his especial affection for the Church as the burial-place of his very dear lord and father, on condition that the prior and chapter should undertake to say a prayer at high mass after the collect for the day on the feasts of the martyrdom and translation of St. Thomas of Canterbury, and on the feast of St. Edward the Confessor, for the good estate of the king and queen during their lifetime and for their souls after their death; and on the anniversary of his (the king's) death should distribute to poor people as many groats as years the king had lived.

The casual mention of the fact that Archbishop Arundel was elected by way of the Holy Spirit (*per spiritum sanctum*) is interesting, as it was not the usual method adopted for the election of an archbishop, nor is it, I think, mentioned elsewhere that Arundel was elected in this way.

[Translation.]

In the seventh year [1396-7] of his priorate the afore-said Thomas Arundel was exiled. In this year £50 was spent on the inn in London, and £400 on the building of the Church. Also on vestments in the Vestry in this year, including bowls, censers, and other pieces of plate, which may plainly be seen, together with 80 albs, 6 chasubles, 12 dalmatics, 100 copes, and 3 frontals of green silk of one suit, and a precious cope of red velvet, £509 6s. 8d.

The total of this year, not including manorial repairs, is £959 6s. 8d.*

Also in the eighth year [1398-9] of his priorate the work of building the Church was continued at a cost of [blank].

Also in the ninth year [1399-1400] of his priorate the work of building the Church was continued at a cost of [blank].

The three methods of canonical election sanctioned by the fourth Council of the Lateran, held in the year 1215, were as follows:—

I. *Per spiritum sanctum*. When all electors are inspired to elect the same person and there is not a single dissident.

II. *Per scrutinium*. When votes are given either orally or in writing to persons appointed to receive them; in practice, a majority of two-thirds of those present was held to suffice.

III. *Per compromissum*. When the electors agree to delegate their powers to a small committee.

The last was the method most commonly resorted to for the election of an archbishop of Canterbury, and was the one adopted in the case of Winchelsey, Stratford, and Courtenay. It occasionally happened that only one compromissor was appointed, *e.g.*, Cardinal Wolsey acting as "compromissor totaliter" when the last Abbot of Glastonbury was elected, and the same thing occurred when the Chapter

* A list of the vestments and plate purchased by the Convent in Prior Chillenden's days is inscribed on the Compotus Roll, and is printed in Messrs. Legg and Hope's *Inventories of Christ Church, Canterbury*, London, 1903, pp. 105—107.

[Text.]

Item Anno prioratus sui x^{mo} anno regni regis h. quarti primo et anno dominice incarnationis m^occcc^{mo} dominica proxima ante festum translacionis S^ci Thome Martyris ostensa fuerat nova tabula magni altaris ad populum, et in eadem dominica reverendissimus in X^po pater et dominus d^{ns} Thomas Arundel Archieps Cant' consecravit in predicto altari magistrum Johem Bodlysham in e^pm Roffensis assistantibus sibi domino Roberto Braybrok, tunc London E^po, et domino Henrico Spenser E^po Norwic'. Et anno isto in die regressionis sancti Thome primo adiit ecclesiam suam Cant. postquam exilio est reversus, ordinavitque omni anno quilibet monachus ecclesie illo die in eius perpetuam memoriam reciperet unum nobile de fructibus ecclesie de Godmersham, quam ecclesie sue uniri et appropriari contulit; etiam ad ffabricam valte ecclesie M marc, continuacio ffabrice dicte valte ad expensam hoc anno [blank].

[No more entries occur until the fifteenth year of his priorate, but a space is left blank for each year, as though the chronicler intended to fill them up.]

[fo. 31a.]

Item anno sui prioratus xv^o et a^o regni regis Henrici quarti vi^o et anno mccccv reparacio nove sartrine ad expensam cccclv^{li}; et reparacio domus Capitularis ad expensam mvi^{li} xi^s xi^d, ut patet in Compoto suo per parcella isto anno, et pro novo stabulo domini prioris de novo faciendo

of Christ Church, Canterbury, appointed Dean Wotton to act as 'sole compromissor' at the election of Archbishop Parker.

The second method—*per scrutinium*—was and is the ordinary way of electing the Pope.

King Richard's marriage with Isabella of Valois is generally stated to have taken place on 1 November,* whereas the chronicle seems to date it a day later. But it certainly was celebrated some months before Arundel's enthronization (19 February 139⁹), so

* See Rymer, *Fœdera*, vii., 844.

[*Translation.*]

Also in the tenth year of his priorate, in the first year of the reign of H[enry] the Fourth, and in the year of our Lord's Incarnation 1400[-1], on the Sunday next before the feast of the translation of St. Thomas the martyr (July 7), the new table of the high altar was shewn to the people, and on the same Sunday the most reverend father and lord in Christ, the lord Thomas Arundel, archbishop of Canterbury, consecrated at the aforesaid altar Master John Bodlysham, bishop of Rochester, Sir Robert Braybrook, bishop of London, and Sir Henry Spenser, bishop of Norwich, acting as his assistants;* and in that year, on the day of the return of St. Thomas, his first action after his return from exile was to enter his Church of Canterbury; and he ordained that in every year each monk of the Church should on that day receive for a perpetual memorial one noble out of the profits of the Church of Godmersham, which Church he caused to be united and appropriated to his Church. Also he contributed 1000 marcs to the building of the vault of the Church. The work of building the said vault was continued at a cost for this year of [*blank*].

[The eleventh, twelfth, thirteenth, and fourteenth years of Chillenden's priorate have no entries against them.]

In the fifteenth year of his priorate, and in the sixth year of King Henry IV., and in the year 1405[-6], the restoration of the new tailor's shop cost £455, and the restoration of the Chapter-house cost £1006 11s. 11d., as may be seen by the detailed account set forth in the *Compotus* Roll for that year. And for rebuilding the stable

that Dr. Hook's assertion that the king was present at the enthronement in order to conciliate the archbishop, whose good offices he required in forwarding his suit for a papal dispensation for his marriage with a third or fourth cousin, is without foundation.

* The names of the Assistant-Bishops are not given in Bishop Stubbs, *Episcopal Succession in England*.

[Text.]

IIII^{xx}IIII^{li}; Reparacio novi granarii cum aliis . . . (?) et diversis reparacionibus in curia, cum introitu novo ad cameram domini prioris ccccxxvi^{li} xiii^s iii^d.

Sm^a huius anni sine reparacione maneriorum
MDCCCCIIII^{xx}II^{li} v^s III^d.¹⁰

[Only blank spaces left for the next three years.]

[fo. 31b.]

Item anno prioratus sui xix, A^o regni regis H. III^{ti}, ix^o anno dñi mcccviii^o isto anno de assensu domini Thome Arundel Archiepiscopi, et capituli, dimisit et tradidit administracionem omnium temporalium ecclesie alumpno suo Johi Wodenysberg ecclesie Elemosinario et ipse in sacrum concilium in Pisanum prefectus est primo die Aprilis, A^o supradicto. Et in die Sancti Bartholomei post creacionem Alexandri pape v^{ti}, qui fuerat de ordine minorum, apud Sandwicum aplicuit, et in crastino cum omni clero populique tripudio ad ecclesiam suam est reversus.¹¹

¹⁰ It is not easy to locate the *Sartrina*, or tailor's shop. None of the plans of the conventual buildings illustrating Willis's article shew it, but from the large sum expended on its restoration it is evident that it was a building of considerable size. It is possible, I think, that it was the long hall, called by Professor Willis the *second dormitory*, which stood parallel to the *necessarium* on its south side. I have never been able to discover any authority for calling this building the *second dormitory*. The monks' dormitory is frequently alluded to in the monastic records as the great dormitory, as well it might be, for it was a huge building 148 feet long and 78 feet wide, and amply sufficient for the sleeping accommodation of some four score monks. To the *necessarium* the cant name of the *third dormitory* was sometimes attached, but I can find no evidence that any building was called by the monks their *second dormitory*. Scarce a trace of the hall to which Willis gave this name remains to-day, but when he was making his plans—now more than fifty years ago—portions of its north wall were standing; and he notes that in the upper parts of the wall there were "late square-headed Perpendicular windows, with transoms disposed so

[Translation.]

of the lord prior £84. The restoration of the new granary with other . . . (?) and various repairs in the court, including a new entrance to the lodgings of the lord prior, £436 13s. 4d.

The total of this year, not including manorial repairs, is £1982 5s. 3d.¹⁰

[No further entries occur until the nineteenth year.]

Also in the nineteenth year of his priorate, being the ninth year of the reign of King Henry IV., and in the year of our Lord 1408[-9], with the leave of the lord Archbishop, Thomas Arundel, and of the Chapter, he demised and handed over all the temporalities of the Church to his pupil John Wodenysberg, the almoner of the Church, and set out for the sacred Council of Pisa on the first day of April in the year above mentioned. And on St. Bartholomew's day next after the consecration of Pope Alexander V., who had of the order of Friars minor, he landed at Sandwich, and on the morrow escorted by all the clergy and a dancing mob of layfolk he returned to his own Church.¹¹

as to receive light from above the roof of the *necessarium*."* These windows are evidence that the building in question was altered in the fifteenth century, and it is, I think, not unlikely that the alteration was effected when Chillenden rebuilt the *Sartrina*. With regard to the restoration or rebuilding of the chapter-house, Willis says "Chillenden's repair includes all the present windows and the roof."† The granary was on the east side of the Forren's gate, and portions of it still exist in the deanery stables. The new entrance to the prior's lodgings was doubtless the beautiful doorway in the dark-entry, decorated with rich panel tracery in spandrels. "This," says Professor Willis, "has time out of mind borne the name of the '*Prior's doorway*'—it enabled him to pass from his entry or the infirmary cloister straight to his hall and garden, or to the chambers above at the south end of that hall, and in the Cheker building" (see Fig. 5, W).

¹¹ Chillenden had represented the Chapter of Christ Church in the Roman Curia in the days of Prior Finch, and had succeeded

* *Archæologia Cantiana*, Vol. VII., p. 89.

† *Ut supra*, p. 19.

[Text.]

Item A^o prioratus sui xx^{mo} A^o r. r. H. iiii^{ti} x^{mo} anno
dñi mccccix [blank].

[fo. 20b.]

M^d q^d anno dñi m^occcc^{mo}x^o Regni vero Henr' quarti
xii^o iiii^o die Septemb viz. in die ordinacionis Sci Gregorii
(Septe 3) Pape, dñs Johs Wodnysbergh electus est et prefectus
in Priorem huius eccie a Reverendissimo in X^o patre et dño
dño Thoma Arundel Cant. Archiepo, et venerabili capitulo
huius eccie quo die debuerunt Prior et Capitulum diversis
creditoribus ut plene patet in cedula inde confecta et per
seniores eccie plene examinata dcccclxvi^{li} iiii^s i^d ob q^a Et
magistro Johi Gyls Canonico ecclesie Menevensis per unam
obligationem et aliis ut patet in compoto annorum sui
prioratus lxxvi^{li} xvi^s ix^d.

Sm^a tocius debet. mxlii^{li} xix^s x^d ob q^a.

in obtaining from Pope Urban V. a bull conferring on the priors of Christ Church, Canterbury, the privilege of using the pastoral staff, of wearing sandals, and of giving the blessing in divine service in the absence of the Archbishop. But at Pisa he represented not merely the Chapter of Canterbury but the King of England. His fellow ambassadors were Robert Hallam, Bishop of Salisbury; Henry, Bishop of St. David's; Thomas, Abbot of Jervaulx; the Earl of Suffolk; Sir John Colme, knight; and Richard de Conyngston, Canon of Lincoln. The English ambassadors entered Pisa in great pomp at the end of April, having two hundred horses in their train. On June 5th the Council declared that both the rival Popes, Benedict XIII. and Gregory XII., were schismatics, perjurers, and heretics; and after solemnly depositing them proceeded to elect Peter of Candia, Cardinal of Milan, who, on his elevation to the pontifical see, took the name of Alexander V.*

The new Pope had been a Franciscan friar, and one of his first official acts was to publish a bull granting his order uncontrolled power of hearing confessions and granting absolutions in every part of Christendom, a privilege very detrimental to the rights of the secular clergy. It is possible that the mentioning of the fact

* Labbe, *Concilia*, part ii., p. 2214, and L'Enfant, *Histoire du Concile de Pise*, vol. i., part ii., p. 70.

[*Translation.*]

Also in the twentieth year of his priorate, in the tenth year of the reign of King H[enry] IV., in the year of our Lord 1409[-10] [blank].

Be it remembered that in the year of our Lord 1411[-12], being the twelfth year of Henry IV., on the third day of September, viz., on the day of the ordination of St. Gregory, the pope, dom. John Wodnysberg, was elected and preferred to the priory of this Church by the most reverend father and lord in Christ the lord Thomas Arundel, archbishop of Canterbury, and by the venerable chapter of this church, on which day the prior and chapter owed to divers creditors, as may plainly be seen in a schedule drawn up at the time and carefully inspected by the seniors of the Church, £866 3s. 1½d. Also (they were indebted) to Master Gyls, canon of the Church of St. David's—by a bond—and to other persons, as may be seen in the account roll of the years of his priorate, to the amount of £76 16s. 9d.

The total of all the debts is £1042 19s. 10¾d.

that the new Pope was a Franciscan indicates the jealousy with which the older religious orders regarded this new privilege accorded to the friars.*

Chillenden died in 1411, in the thirty-fifth year from his noviciate, and Causton† states that before his death the prior had become so emaciated that his skin would scarce cover his bones. His life had certainly been a strenuous one, and his memory is writ large in the manifold additions and alterations made by him to the Cathedral Church and to the conventual buildings. He was buried under a flat stone inlaid with his brass effigy in the north aisle of the nave, but this was removed to the Chapter-house when the nave was repaved in 1780, and has, I think, since been placed in the north alley of the cloister; but its identity amongst several other memorial stones of similar character, bearing now only the matrices of their former effigies, cannot be easily determined. But of Chillenden it may be said at Canterbury, as of Wren at St. Paul's, London, "Si monumentum requiris circumspecte."

* Milman, *Latin Christianity*, vol. v., p. 460.

† Obituary of Christ Church, Canterbury, MS. D. 12,

[Text.]

Unde a die electionis prefixe prefatus dns prioratum istum bene, et laudabiliter, ac honorifice gubernavit, onera maxima et quasi importabilia sustinenda una cum predictis debitis usque in diem quo dñs noster dñs Henricus Chychele Archiepō immediate post suam inthronisacionem in ecclesia Cant. suam visitacionem metropolitica inchoavit viz. III die

[fo. 21a.]

Januariensis anno dñi MCCCCXIII^o regni vero dñi Henr' quinti secundo. Quo die completis compotis dicti dñi Prioris et per seniores ecclesie plene intellectis et examinatis, stetit prioratus quietus ab omni debito, et exoneratus ab omni ere alieno, unde conclusio ultimi compoti sui sequitur, et est talis.

Receptus proventium Prioratus anno dñi MCCCCXIII^o Regni vero dñi Henr' quinti 11^o, viz. a festo sci Mich A^o ipsius Regis primo usque idem festum A^o revolutum et anno regni sui 11^o MMCCCLXVII^{li} 1^d.

Sm^a MMCCCLXVII^{li} 1^d.

Expense ipsius anni MMDCCVII^{li} XIII^s 1^d et debentur CCXL^{li} XIII^s, de quibus in manibus diversorum ff(ratrum) et Bedellorum ut patet in compotis et visibus eorundem, de anno isto CCXIX^{li} XI^s v^d. Et condonantur super compot' per dominum Priorem XX^{li} II^s VII^d, et sic omnia equent anno isto

[fo. 21b.]

ultra omnia predicta debita soluta, et onera medio tempore incumbencia et sustentacionem annuam Prioratus, novum viz. opus claustrum per annos sui Prioratus ad DXL^{li} VII^s VI^d; reparaciones maneriorum per idem tempus DXXXVI^{li} XV^s IX^d; decimum domino Regi solute per idem tempus CCLVIII^{li} VIII^s; expensam ad adventum Regum et aliorum dominorum per idem tempus CCL^{li}; et pro vestimento blodio brudato cum Archangelis C^{li}; et vaseis argenteis in camera domini Prioris reparatis et de novo emptis per idem tempus CXXXIII^{li} VI^s VIII^d.

Sm^a onerum ultra debita primo die elections sueMDCCLXVIII^{li} XVII^s XI^d.Sm^a tota debita et onera MMDCCXI^{li} XVII^s IX^d ob q^a.

[*Translation.*]

Whence from the day of the above-named election the aforesaid lord governed that priory well and in a praiseworthy and honourable manner, bearing all its great and, as it were, overwhelming burdens, together with the aforesaid debts, to the day on which our lord, the lord Henry Chychele, archbishop, immediately after his inthronization commenced his metropolitical visitation, viz., on the 3rd day of January in the year of our Lord 1414, but in the second year of our lord Henry V., on which day when the accounts of the said lord prior had been made up and had been fully mastered and examined by the seniors of the Church, the priory stood free from all debt and unburdened by any loan. Wherefore the summary of his last account roll follows, and is after this fashion.

Receipts of the profits of the priory in the year of our Lord 1414, but in the second year of our lord Henry V., viz., from the feast of St. Michael in the first year of the same King to the same feast in the following year, being the second year of his reign, £2467 0s. 1d.

Total £2467 0s. 1d.

The expenditure of the same year is £2707 14s. 1d., and £240 14s. are owing (to the convent), of which sum there remains in the hands of divers of the brethren and of the bedels, as may be seen in their accounts and views for this year, £219 11s. 5d.; and £20 2s. 7d. are remitted by the lord prior; and so everything balances in that year. Besides the payment of the aforesaid debts there were also the various burdens accruing in the meantime and the annual maintenance charges of the priory, to wit, on the new work of the cloister during the years of his priorate £840 7s. 6d. was expended. On manorial repairs during the same period £536 15s. 9d. The tenth paid to our lord the King during the same period £258 8s. Expenses when the King and other lords came (to Canterbury) during the same period, £200. And for a vestment, the colour of blood embroidered with archangels, £100; and for the silver vases

[*Text.*]

Et sic magnis debitis solutis integre et oneribus supradictis supportatis, in tribus annis et modicum amplius Prioratum istum idem venerabilis dominus Prior strenue et sapientissimus gubernavit, dicta debita et onera tam incumbencia sapienter acquietando et ecclesiam suam ab omnibus oneribus et debitis quibuscunque gracie liberando. Discant igitur posteri huius viri venerandi sequi vestigia, quia nostris temporibus nec similis ei visus est et nescimus quem habebimus ex omnibus vel singulis sequentem. Et ecclesia ultra hec omnia sua magnifica opera et debita soluta, et omnia alia onera supportata, post compotum officiariorum auditorum remansit in manibus predictorum, ad festum sci Michis in annum futurum, viz. Anno regni regis Henr' quinti secundo, quo tempore prefatus eciam dominus de proventibus tocus prioratus computavit, viz. :—

In manibus Thesaurariorum CCCXIII^{li} VIII^s XI^d ob.

In manibus celerii ^{xx}IIII^{li} XVI^{li} V^d.

In manibus Sacriste XVII^{li} XI^s IIII^d.

In manibus Camerarii XII^{li} VIII^s I^d.

In manibus Granetarii vel in precium DLXIX q^{at} VII^{b3}
frumenti precium q^{at} VI^s CLXX^{li} XIX^s V^d q^a.

In manibus Bertonarii vel in precium de CCLXVIII q^{at}
VI^{b3} p^a bras' precium q^{at} V^s CXIX^{li} XIII^s X^d q^a.

In petra de Beyr et Came ^{xxli}(sic) IIII.

Sm^a stauri remanentis in annum futurum in manibus
officiarium et alibi omnibus debitis solutis et oneribus supportatis in claro DCCCX^{li} II^s I^d q^a.¹²

¹² This was certainly a very satisfactory state of things, though perhaps the figures would not have come out so well under the hand of a modern accountant. But a little arithmetical inaccuracy when working with Roman numerals is excusable, and need not greatly affect our estimate of Wodensberg's financial abilities.

[Translation.]

in the prior's lodgings, either repaired or bought new during the same period, £133 6s. 8d.

The total of the liabilities, besides the debts on the first day of his election, £1758 17s. 11d.

The sum total of the debts and liabilities, £2811 17s. 9½d.

And so all these great debts having been completely paid, and the aforesaid liabilities met in a little over three years, the same venerable lord prior ruled over the priory with great energy and wisdom, wisely paying off the said debts and pressing liabilities, and cleverly freeing his Church from all debts and liabilities whatsoever. Therefore let those who come after learn to follow in the footsteps of this venerable man, because in our days we have never seen his like, and we know not whom we shall have of all or singular to follow him. And the Church, when all his magnificent operations had been paid for, and the debts and other liabilities had been met, and after the accounts had passed the auditors, had in the hands of the aforesaid officials at the feast of St. Michael in the next year, viz., in the second year of King Henry V., at which time the aforesaid lord (prior) also took account of the whole of the revenues of the priory, viz. :—

In the hands of the Treasurers £313 8s. 11½d.

In the hands of the Celerer £96 0s. 5d.

In the hands of the Sacrist £17 11s. 4d.

In the hands of the Chamberlain £12 8s. 1d.

In the hands of the Granger, or in value, 569 quarters 7 bushels. The price of a quarter of wheat 6s. = £170 19s. 5½d.

In the hands of the Bartoner, or in value, 378 quarters 6 bushels 1 peck of malt at 5s. price per quarter, £119 13s. 10½d.

In Stone-Beyr (Bere) and Came (Caen) £80.

Total of the balance remaining in the hands of the officers and elsewhere after all debts had been paid and all liabilities met, a clear £810 2s. 1½d.¹²

DATE AND COST OF SOME OF CHILLENDEN'S BUILDING OPERATIONS.

- 1391.. The rebuilding of the nave, which had been in abeyance since the death of Archbishop Sudbury in 1381, recommenced.
1392. Canterbury College in Oxford, rebuilt at a cost of £340.
1393. The Pentise built; cost, £110.
1395. The Cheker Inn finished; total cost, £867 14s. 4d.
1398. The new Altar and Altar-piece dedicated; cost, £3428.
1405. The Sartrina rebuilt; cost, £455.
1405. The Chapter-house rebuilt; cost, £1006 11s. 11d.
1405. The Prior's doorway in the Dark Entry built.
- c.1414. The Cloisters finished by Prior Wodensberg, who spent £540 7s. 6d. on the work.