

THE EARLY HISTORY OF MAPLEDURHAM

THE  
OXFORDSHIRE  
RECORD SOCIETY



PRINTED FOR THE SOCIETY

1925



S.A. Ball  
Binfield  
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With best Wishes  
From Tom

From my Friend  
T.E. Davies



**The Oxfordshire Record Society**

GENERAL EDITOR: REV. F. N. DAVIS, B.LITT., F.S.A.

THE EARLY HISTORY  
OF  
MAPLEDURHAM

OXFORDSHIRE RECORD SERIES—VOL. VII



Oxfordshire Record Society

THE EARLY HISTORY  
OF  
MAPLEDURHAM

BY THE REVEREND

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SOMETIME FELLOW, DEAN, AND TUTOR OF KING'S COLLEGE,  
CAMBRIDGE; VICAR OF MAPLEDURHAM

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## PREFACE

MAPLEDURHAM is one of the few Thames villages still unspoilt. Although near to a great centre of population, it lies hidden away between the hills, the woods, and the river, linked with the main lines of traffic only by narrow and ill-kept lanes. Up stream and down stream, private roads connect it with or separate it from the outer world. And though a group of islands offer what might, in other localities, have been a tempting situation for a bridge, no bridge spans, or ever has spanned, the river at Mapledurham. The hopeful motorist has to reverse his engine and climb the hill again. So tiny is the village, that the visitor, after traversing its only street, has been known to ask where Mapledurham is. Artists of many generations know it, and its mill is quite as immemorial as Tennyson's elms. If the regular stateliness of its Elizabethan mansion impresses a few, not one in a hundred notices the far more impressive fragment of the ancient manor house which stands by its side, and certainly stood when Agincourt, and perhaps even when Crécy, was fought.

Yet this sleepy hollow may be made to yield some contribution to the history of early days. Noble families have come and gone, and left marks on the landscape which are less and less discernible, every decade that slips away. It is in the hope that these memories may not perish altogether, in the belief that the humblest hamlet of rural England may add something to the sum of our knowledge, that these imperfect records have been put together.

This is essentially a history of *early* Mapledurham. The date at which to close it (the purchase of the manor of Mapledurham Gurney by the Blounts of Iver in 1490) has



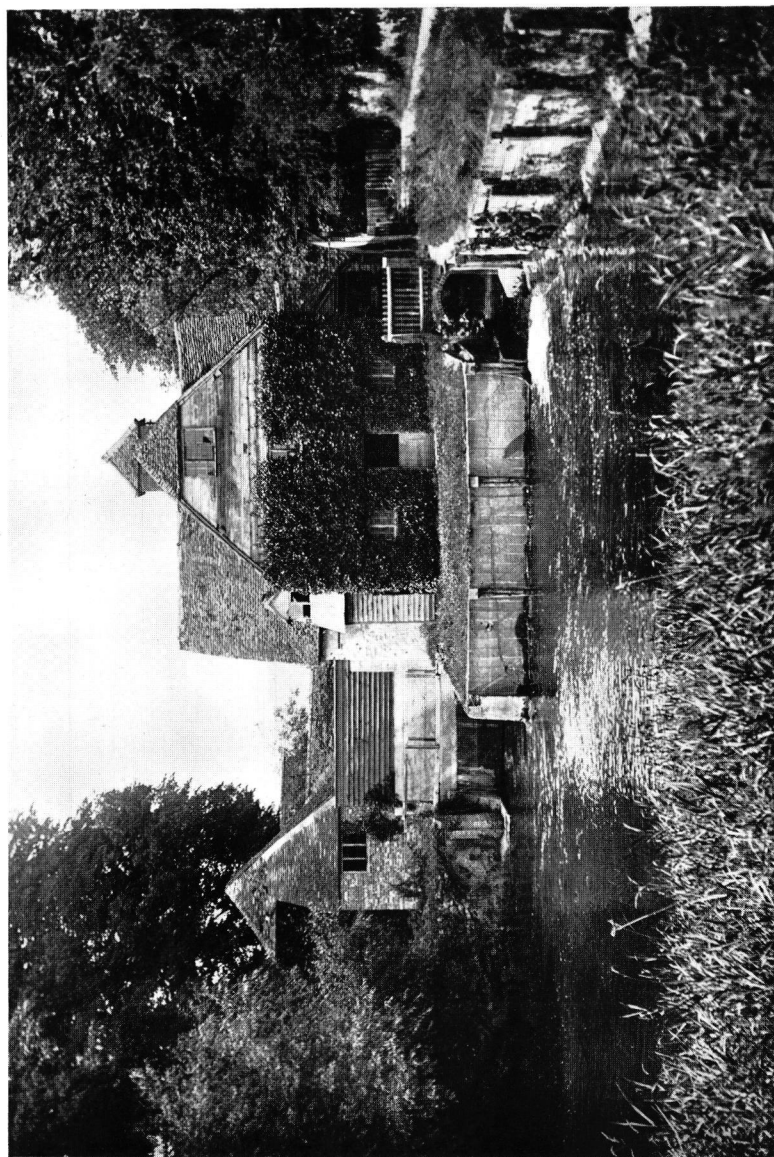
been chosen for two reasons. First, because the story of the Blounts has already been written by a member of the family, Sir Alexander Croke. Secondly, because to have included the centuries since that date would have made this book much too long. Still, the history of the Chazey manor has been brought down to the date of its acquisition by the Blounts, and the ecclesiastical history of the parish, in all respects a remarkable one, has been carried through to the present day.

My warmest thanks are due to Edward Riddell Blount, Esq., of Mapledurham House, who has permitted me to consult all the manuscripts and documents in his possession; to Dr. M. R. James, Provost of Eton, who has given me the run of the documents in the Eton Library, and always been ready to help with his unrivalled store of knowledge; to the Rev. Canon Foster, of Timberland, for much help with the Lincoln Episcopal Registers; to J. Challenor Smith, Esq., who has helped with the list of vicars; to B. Benham, Esq., of the University Registry, Cambridge, and J. Rose, Esq., of the Oxford Diocesan Registry, for the same reason; to the Rev. H. E. Salter, for many valuable suggestions; to W. J. Corbett, Esq., Fellow of King's College, Cambridge, and to many other Librarians, Bursars, Registrars, and Incumbents. Nor must I forget the special debt of gratitude I owe to my old tutor at Eton, Francis St. John Thackeray, whose list of Mapledurham Vicars, drawn up when he was eighty-six, has been a sound foundation on which to build that portion of the work.

A. H. COOKE.

MAPLEDURHAM,  
*Christmas Eve, 1924.*





THE MILL AND MILL-POOL

# CONTENTS

CHAPTER	PAGE
I. INTRODUCTORY . . . . .	I
II. THE WARENNES AND THE DE GOURNAYS . . . . .	7
III. THE BARDOLFS . . . . .	17
IV. THE BARDOLFS ( <i>continued</i> ) . . . . .	30
V. THE LYNDEN AND THE IWARDBYS . . . . .	43
VI. MAPLEDURHAM CHAZEY . . . . .	61
VII. THE CHURCH: HISTORY AND SUPPRES- SION OF THE ALIEN PRIORY . . . . .	82
VIII. THE CHURCH UNDER ETON COLLEGE. FURTHER HISTORY OF THE GLEBE. . . . .	108
IX. THE CHURCH, ITS FABRIC AND CON- TENTS. . . . .	120
X. THE CHURCH PLATE, REGISTERS, AND RECORDS. THE ALMSHOUSES. BENE- FACTORS . . . . .	142
XI. VICARS OF MAPLEDURHAM . . . . .	154
APPENDICES :	
1. Confirmation by William I of Grants to the Abbey of Bec . . . . .	181
2. (a) Agreement between the Nuns de Claro Rivo and Geoffrey de Chausey . . . . .	182
(b) Geoffrey de Chaussy the younger, Grant of a Lease to William Page . . . . .	183
3. The Metynge of the Brode Mede . . . . .	184
4. Mandate of Edward IV restoring Property to Eton College . . . . .	186
5. Leasing of the Broad Mede, &c., in 1480 . . . . .	187
6. Court Rolls (1416-93) . . . . .	188
7. The Common Fields . . . . .	194
8. List of Court Rolls at Mapledurham House . . . . .	200
9. Various Documents from the Blount MSS. . . . .	201
10. Genealogy of the Blounts of Mapledurham . . . . .	208
INDEX . . . . .	210



## LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

	PAGE
The Mill and Mill-pool . . . . .	<i>facing</i> vi
Remains of old Mapledurham Manor House . . . . .	28
Walter de Chausey's Grant to Philip son of Monis . . . . .	66
Chazey Farm-house, the Tudor Chapel at the end . . . . .	74
The Church, exterior . . . . .	82
The Church, from the Mill . . . . .	100
The Church, interior, showing the Bardolf Aisle and Arches . . . . .	120
The Font . . . . .	140
The Savill Flagon . . . . .	144
The Almshouses . . . . .	152
The Vicarage, from the South . . . . .	174
Grant of Geoffrey de Chausey the younger to William Page . . . . .	200

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTORY

THE parish of Mapledurham lies on the southern border of Oxfordshire, in the hundreds of Binfield and Langtree. The village itself is distant from Reading about three miles by private road, and about  $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles by public road, and is about  $3\frac{3}{4}$  miles from Caversham Bridge by river. The parish is bounded by the river for about  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles, from the eastern portion of the Hardwick estate in Whitchurch parish to a point about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  furlongs below Coombe Bank on the Berkshire side. Its greatest depth from north to south is about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles, from Norcot Scours to the northern edge of Green Dene wood. In shape it is a squarish oblong, with the village and church on the southern side. Whitchurch, the next riparian village, lies about two miles up stream. The area is, according to the tithe map, about 2,878 acres, the greater part of which belongs to the Blount estate. The population is, and has been for some time, about 500.

The name Mapledurham means 'the maple tree enclosure'. Strictly speaking, the word should be divided after the third, not after the second, syllable, *mapulder* (-dor, -dre) being A.S. for a maple-tree. In a grant by King Eadwig<sup>1</sup> to Wilton Abbey of land at Broad Chalke, Wilts., date A.D. 955, occur the words 'of ðan seaðe up on mapulder cumb', 'from the pond up to mapletree valley'.

In Kemble's Index<sup>2</sup> we find Mapelderhil, Mapolderhyrst, Mappeldrelea, Mapulderstede, and we may compare Mappedurwell, Mapelerton, Mapelherste, Mapeltrestede, Mapilton, besides Apuldrefeld, Appeltrefeld, Apeldorefeld, Appuldurcomb, some, if not all, of which derive from A.S. *apulder*, an

<sup>1</sup> Birch, *Cartul. Saxon.*, iii. 84 (917).

<sup>2</sup> To *Codex Diplomaticus Aevi Saxonici*.

## 2 EARLY HISTORY OF MAPLEDURHAM

apple tree. The doubled 'p' indicates stress on the first syllable, with a short *æ*, and the name is still so pronounced in the parish. There is or has been a Mapledurham in Cheshire, in Hampshire, Dorset, and Sussex.<sup>1</sup>

The following variations on the spelling of the name have been noted in various documents, both public and private: the date appended is the date of the first occurrence of the form.

Malpedreham	1086	Mapledorham	1552
Malpeldureham	1225	Mapledreham	1329
Malpeldurham	1334	Mapleduram	1709
Malpetream	early in 1200's	Mapeldureham	1346
Malpetrecham	1648	Mapledurham	1233
Malpeltreham	before 1170	Mapledyrham	1635
Mapeldereham	1278	Mapledyrrham	1553
Mapelderesham	1240	Mapledyrram	1582
Mapelderham	1209-35	Mappeldurham	1300
Mapeldoreham	1289	Mappeldirham	1646
Mapeldorham	1289	Mappledurham	1695
Mapeldreham	1086	Mapple Durham	1776
Mapelduram	1766	Mappull Dorram	1537
Mapeldureham	end of 1100's	Mapulder[gorneye]	1397
Mapeldurham	1234	Mapulderam	1447
Mapeldurum	1209-35	Mapulderham	1464
Mapele Durham	1721	Mapulderham	1239
Mapell Durrem	1674	Mapuldram	1375
Mapilderham	1431	Mapuldurham	1334
Mapildram	1438	Mapulldereham	1443
Mapildreham	1184	Mapultereham	before 1087
Maplederam	1650	Mapultreham	1081
Maplederom	1587	Mapylderam	1535
Mapledirham	1612	Mapyldoram	1603
Mapledoreham	1474	Mawple Durham	1585

The first appearance of Mapledurham on the stage of history is in the pages of Domesday Book, where it is the subject of a double entry. In Oxenefordscire, under the heading 'Land of William de Warene', the entry runs: <sup>2</sup>

'William de Warene holds Malpedreham of the king  
There are 7 hides there Land for 12 ploughs Now in the

<sup>1</sup> J. B. Johnston, *Place Names of England and Wales*; H. Alexander, *Place Names of Oxfordshire*, p. 150; Lady C. Russell, *History of Swallowfield*, p. 36 n.; Bosworth and Toller, *Anglo-Saxon Dictionary*.

<sup>2</sup> p. viii, no. xxii, and p. xi, no. xxxv, of the facsimile.



demesne 2 ploughs and 2 bondmen and 16 villanes with 8 bordars have 10 ploughs There is a mill worth 20 shillings and 10 acres of meadow It was worth in the time of King Edward and afterwards 8 pounds now 12 pounds.'

Three pages further on, we find :

'Land of Milo Crispin: The same holds Mapeldreham There are three hides there Land for 5 ploughs Now in the demesne 2 ploughs with 1 bondman and 7 villanes with 5 bordars have 3 ploughs There are 4 acres of meadow It was worth 100 shillings, now 7 pounds.'

These two entries refer to two distinct manors, the first, held by William of Warenne, is the manor afterwards, and still, known as Mapledurham Gurney ; the second, held by Milo Crispin, is that afterwards, and still, known as Mapledurham Chazey. In each of these cases, the second name is that of the family which once held the manor. Domesday, compiled before either the Gurneys or the Chazeys appeared on the scene, calls them both Mapeldreham, or by a transposition of consonants, Malpedreham. We never find the manors called Mapledurham Warenne, or Mapledurham Crispin. Mapledurham Bardolf once occurs,<sup>1</sup> as a variant for Mapledurham Gurney, recording the name of a family which held the manor for nearly a century and a half.<sup>2</sup> And once<sup>3</sup> Mapledurham Chazey is called Mapledurham Parva, to distinguish it from its more important and more extensive neighbour.

Though adjacent, and forming one ecclesiastical parish, these two manors lie in different hundreds, Mapledurham Gurney in the hundred of Binfield, Mapledurham Chazey in the hundred of Langtree. The dividing line between the manors follows almost exactly the boundary between the two hundreds, and touches the Thames at a point a few hundred yards west of what is now Chazey Farm, formerly Chazey

<sup>1</sup> *Cal. Patent Rolls*, Richard II, 1389, p. 164 (8vo edn.).

<sup>2</sup> Compare, for this second, or family name, Rotherfield Greys and R. Peppard ; Sibford Ferris and S. Gower ; Stanton Harcourt and S. St. John ; Stoke de Lisle, S. Lyne, S. Marmion, S. Basset, S. Talmage ; Crowmarsh Gifford, Kingston Blount, Minster Lovell, Nuneham Courtenay, all in Oxfordshire.

<sup>3</sup> *Rot. Hundred.*, ii. 42.

Court.<sup>1</sup> Binfield and Langtree, with Pirton, Lewknor, and Ewelme, form the five ( $4\frac{1}{2}$ ) 'Chiltern Hundreds' in Oxon. Ewelme Hundred is called in Domesday Book Besintone (Benson), and is always styled a half-hundred, possibly because the king's tun of Benson was exempted from the hundred jurisdiction. In Langtree no hundred courts were held, most of the manors and townships were exempt, as either belonging to the honour of Wallingford—e.g. Goring, Gatehampton, Ipsden, Northstoke, Whitchurch, Hardwick—or as owing suit at Ewelme. Mapledurham Gurney was considered to form part of Binfield, but rendered no service to the court there.<sup>2</sup>

For nearly five centuries after Domesday, the two manors maintained a separate existence, each under a succession of separate lords. In 1582 the owner of Mapledurham Gurney obtained Mapledurham Chazey by purchase. It thus becomes easy to trace the histories of the two manors, each along its separate line. Curiously enough, although they were both owned by families of repute and high standing, no marriage connexion was ever formed between them. Small disputes, incidental to landowners whose borders march together, will have to be recorded, but on the whole the relations between the two manors were cordial, and we shall often see the lord of one manor making arrangements to suit the convenience of the lord of the other.

The history of the larger manor falls into five distinct periods of ownership. We have

1. Mapledurham under the Warennes: circa 1066–circa 1080.
2. The manor passes, by the marriage of Editha de Warenne to Gerard de Gournay, to the de Gournays: circa 1080–1254.

<sup>1</sup> The Rev. H. E. Salter remarks to me: 'Though the manors are now in different hundreds, it may be noticed that together they form 10 hides, the normal size of a manor, and that at one time it must have been one manor. This explains why Mapledurham is one parish not two. When it became two manors the lord of Mapledurham Chausey must have obtained leave to transfer his manor to Langtree Hundred, just as South Stoke was transferred from Langtree Hundred to Dorchester Hundred.'

<sup>2</sup> M. T. Pearman, *Trans. Oxf. Archaeol. Soc.*, 1890.

3. By the marriage of Juliana de Gournay to William Bardolf the younger, the manor passes to the Bardolfs: 1254-1416.

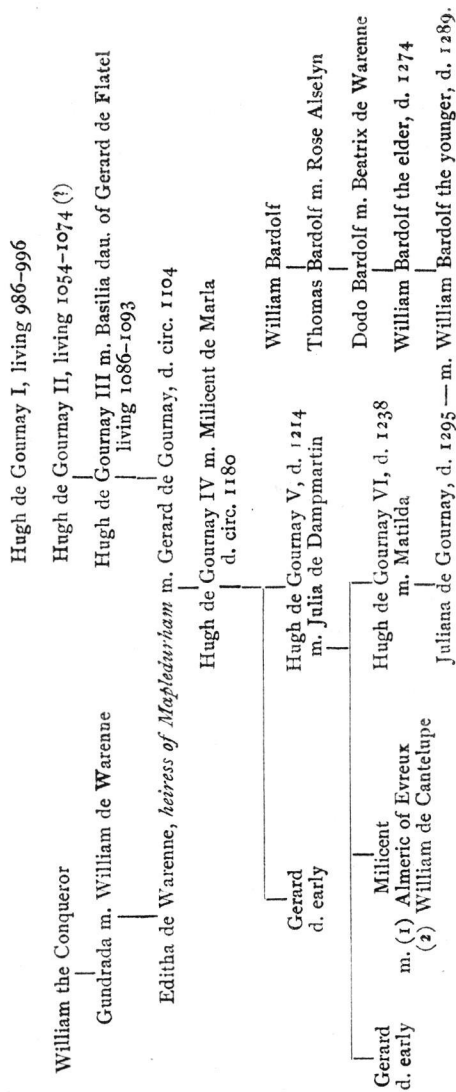
4. By the marriage of Margery Bardolf to Roger Lynde, the manor passes to the Lyndes and Iwardbys: 1416-1490.

5. The Blounts of Iver, Bucks., obtain the manor by purchase from the Lyndes: 1490—present day.

It will be convenient to take periods (1) and (2) together.



PEDIGREE OF THE WARRENNES, THE DE GOURNAYS, AND THE BARDOLFS



## CHAPTER II

### THE WARENNES AND THE DE GOURNAYS

WILLIAM DE WARENNE (d. 1088) was one of the most distinguished of the many Norman barons who came over with the Conqueror. So extensive were the grants made to him—in Domesday he is credited with 145 manors—that his possessions resembled more the dominions of a sovereign prince than the estates of a subject.<sup>1</sup> He held the high post of justiciar in the King's Court, was entrusted with the conduct of the final attack upon Hereward in the Isle of Ely, and was one of William II's leading adherents in his early struggle with the revolted earls. His son William, created by Rufus Earl of Surrey,<sup>2</sup> sided with Robert of Normandy in his invasion of England in order to dispossess Henry I, and lost his earldom in consequence, but it was restored to him in 1101 by Robert's intercession.

Editha (Ediva) daughter of the elder Warenne and of Gundrada, step-daughter of the Conqueror, married one Gerard de Gournay, and brought him as part of her marriage portion the manor of Mapledurham 'Gurney'. The de Gournays, five generations of whom held the larger of the two Mapledurham manors, were a powerful line of Norman barons, most of them Hughs or Gerards, who derived their name from Gournai-en-Brai, *chef-lieu* of the canton of that name, in the arrondissement of Neufchâtel-de-Bray, a department of Seine-Inférieure.<sup>3</sup> The little wood and village of Boschouons (*Boscus Hugonis*), just to the south of Gournai, still preserves the name of one of its over-lords.

<sup>1</sup> Burke, *Extinct Peerages*, p. 556.

<sup>2</sup> J. F. Bright, *History of England*, i. 50, regards his father as the first earl, but this seems doubtful.

<sup>3</sup> Thomas Stapleton, *Liber de antiquis legibus*, Camden Soc., vol. 34, p. cxvi (1846).

The earliest Hugh, Lord of Gournay, whose name has come down to us, was living between 986 and 996, but we know no more of him.<sup>1</sup> His son, or grandson, whom it will be convenient to call Hugh II, was one of the generals of the Norman army at the battle of Mortemer in 1054, and fought at Hastings in 1066.<sup>2</sup> A doubtful authority represents him as having fallen at the battle of Cardiff in 1074. His son, Hugh III, the first de Gournay who is known to have had tenure of land both in France and England, held manors in Essex at the Survey of 1086, and married Basilia, daughter of Gerard de Flatel. He must have been an early benefactor of the abbey of Bec in Normandy, for in William the Conqueror's confirmation of various grants made to that abbey by various persons in England (dated towards the close of his reign, see p. 83), the words occur: 'Concedo etiam ipsi cenobio quod illi Hugo de Gornaco dedit, scilicet in London quod ibi habebat de me, et in Essex ecclesiam de ffordham cum terra ecclesie et totam decimam.' He is said to have become a monk of Bec before 1093. Gerard de Gournay, his son and heir, by his marriage with Editha, or Ediva, daughter of William de Warenne, came, in her right, into estates belonging to her father both in Normandy and in England. Amongst these was the larger manor of Mapledurham, the de Warennes' sole possession in Oxon.

Gerard, in 1090, was a supporter of William Rufus against his brother Robert Curthose, and placed in the hands of the former his fortresses of Gournay and Gaillefontaine, with other strongholds in Normandy. He is known to have held Caister (now Caister) in Norfolk, and other manors in the same county. He visited the Holy Land on the first crusade, in company with his old opponent Robert of Normandy, and later on, accompanied by his wife, went on pilgrimage to Jerusalem, but died on the way, about 1104. She returned to Normandy and married Dru de Montceaux.

Gerard's young children were educated at the court of their great-uncle, Henry I of England. Of the eldest, Hugh IV,

<sup>1</sup> For the whole of this period, compare *The Record of the House of Gournay*, by Daniel Gurney, F.S.A., London, 1848 (priv. print.).

<sup>2</sup> *Battle Abbey Roll*, ii, p. 74.

the first Gournay of whom any direct mention occurs in connexion with Mapledurham, it is said that he was 'ab illo multum honoratus et dilectus'.<sup>1</sup> Orderic Vitalis tells us that he, 'quem Rex ut filium nutrierat, adultum militaribus armis instruxerat (had knighted) . . . proditoribus coniunctus est, et in dominum nutriciumque suum rebellare ausus est'. He married (1) Beatrice de Vermandois, granddaughter of Henry I of France, and (2) Milicent de Marla, daughter of Thomas de Coucy, one of the most powerful barons of France. Hugh IV, probably between 1130 and 1151,<sup>2</sup> placed some nuns of the Order of Fontevrault in a church built by him and his wife in a valley near Gaillefontaine (some 20 km. north of Gournay), known as the *Vallis prelii* or Vallée de la Bataille. The name is said to be preserved in the hamlet of la Bataille. The founders soon removed the religious to another house and church which they built on the bank of a rivulet called the *Clarus Rivus* or Clairruissel, on the opposite side of Gournay to la Bataille. Amongst other numerous endowments, Hugh bestowed on the nuns the advowson, &c., of the church of Mapledurham, and a rent-charge of 2½ marks at Caister in Norfolk. Fuller details of these gifts, so important in the history of the parish, will be given in Chapter VII.

Hugh IV died about 1180, at a great age, in the Holy Land; his wife Milicent survived him. Of his two sons, Gerard and Hugh, whose names are mentioned in the foundation charter of the nunnery of the *Clarus Rivus*, Gerard is said to have died in 1151. His brother, Hugh V, is recorded as paying, in 1180, a heavy fine for his lands in England and Normandy.<sup>3</sup> At an unknown date in the reign of King John a dispute broke out between the Gournays and the Prior of Southwark concern-

<sup>1</sup> Quoted by Burke, *Dictionary of the Landed Gentry*, 1846, p. 515, from Talbot de Bashall, Latin Pedigree in Whitaker's *Craven*, p. 25.

<sup>2</sup> The charter was confirmed by Hugh, Archbishop of Rouen, who held that office 1130-64. In it, mention is made of Hugh's son Gerard, who is said to have died in or before 1151.

<sup>3</sup> In 1180, under Norfolk and Suffolk, Hugo de Gornai renders an account of £119 12s. 4d. and one war-horse (*dextrarius*) as due to the treasury as a fine on his land, and in 1186 he is still a debtor for a large amount (*Pipe Roll Society*, xxix, p. 19).



ing the advowson of the church of Wendover in Bucks.<sup>1</sup> Hugh produced before the jurors who heard the case a charter of Henry II, to the effect that he, Henry, had confirmed to Milicent de Gurnaco all her dowry which her husband Hugh gave her, including certain property in Normandy, and the new land which Stephen gave Hugh de Gurnaco in augmentation, namely Wendover and Hoctona (now Houghton in Beds.), and all the land which Hugh's mother Ediva held in England.<sup>2</sup>

Hugh V married Julia de Dampmartin, and, as the companion-in-arms of Richard Cœur de Lion, was present at the siege of Acre in 1190. In the same year, Richard I confirmed to the monks of Bec all the grants made to them in Normandy by Hugh de Gournay.<sup>3</sup> Hugh's name appears as a witness to King John's charter to the monastery of St. Frideswide (now Christ Church) at Oxford,<sup>4</sup> dated 29 September 1199, and to many other state documents from 1199 to 1204.

In the French wars of the early thirteenth century Hugh's position, like that of many a baron who held lands both in England and France, became difficult, and almost of necessity he vacillated between the two sides, to both of which he owed allegiance. In 1202 a royal mandate of John orders Robert de Vetipons (Vieux-pont, Vipont) to 'set free without delay to our beloved Hugh de Gurnaco all the French prisoners taken in the war'.<sup>5</sup> Two years after, however, an angry order of the same king grants away 'all the lands in Norfolk and Suffolk which belonged to Hugh de Gornaco, *proditor noster*'.<sup>6</sup> When Philip Augustus finally gained possession of Normandy, Hugh V returned to England under safe conduct from John, who issued a decree in 1206 to the sheriffs of Norfolk and of other counties in which Hugh held

<sup>1</sup> Compare Lipscomb, *Hist. of Bucks.*, ii. 467.

<sup>2</sup> *Abbreviatio Placitorum*, i, p. 79. Compare *Great Roll of the Pipe* (J. Hunter), p. 24.

<sup>3</sup> Charter of 1 May, 9 Richard I.

<sup>4</sup> *Cartulary of Monastery of St. Frideswide*, i. 44 (Oxf. Hist. Soc., xxxi, 1896).

<sup>5</sup> *Rotuli Litterarum Patentium*, 1202, p. 15.

<sup>6</sup> *Rotuli Cartarum*, 1204, p. 116.

lands, to the effect that 'we have pardoned Hugh de Gornaco our ill will (*malivolenciam nostram*) which we had because he retired from our service; accordingly all the land in your bailiwicks of which he was disseised is to be restored to him without delay'.<sup>1</sup> Various other grants, both in land and in money, were made to Hugh V in 1206 and 1207.

Thus ended, in Normandy, the race of barons of Gournay. In England, amongst other manors, Hugh V now held, besides Mapledurham, Bledlowe<sup>2</sup> in Bucks., some restored manors in Norfolk (Caister, Cantley, and lands in Aylsham), also Houghton in Beds. and Waltham in Lincs., while in 1210 we find him paying a fine of 700 marks for Wendover. In 1214 he was made Sheriff of Beds. and Bucks., and all barons, knights, and free tenants in the same are enjoined to be intendent and obedient to him in all things.<sup>3</sup> In the same year we find John, 'at the instance and petition of our beloved and faithful Hugh de Gornaye, who feels himself *infirmirate gravari*', declaring that he has taken the homage of Hugh's eldest son Gerard for all the land of the said Hugh which Gerard inherits, saving to Hugh the possession and disposition of the same land as long as he lives.<sup>4</sup> Hugh, however, died 25 September 1214,<sup>5</sup> and was probably buried in the cathedral at Rouen. During his lifetime he had confirmed the gifts of his father to the nuns de Claro Rivo, Mapledurham amongst them, and had added further grants of his own.<sup>6</sup> No extant document bears on his connexion with Mapledurham, but he seems to have been on the whole a worthy possessor of that manor. When Hugh de Gurnay is said to hold one knight's

<sup>1</sup> *Rotuli Litterarum Clausarum*, 1206, p. 65.

<sup>2</sup> The abbey of Bec holds Bledlawe in frankalmoin of the fee of Hugh de Gurney (*Testa de Nevill*, 1216-, p. 245).

<sup>3</sup> *Rotuli Litt. Patent.*, 1214, p. 121.

<sup>4</sup> *Rotuli Litt. Claus.*, 1214, p. 172 b.

<sup>5</sup> The date is fixed by Hugh's obit day which was kept at the premonstratensian abbey of Belozanna in Normandy 10 km. north-west of Gournai, which he had founded in 1198 (see [Nichols] *Alien Priories*, i. 57), and which is referred to in the annals of the abbey of Dunstable. John's confirmation of Hugh de Gornaco's gifts to the abbot and canons of Belozanna is dated 1200 (*Rotuli Cartarum*, vol. i, part i, p. 33).

<sup>6</sup> The originals of these documents were in the archiepiscopal chancery at Rouen shortly before 1848, but have now disappeared.

fee of the king in chief in Oxon., the reference is probably to Mapledurham.<sup>1</sup>

We hear no more of his son Gerard, who must have died directly after his father. Hugh VI succeeds, and in November of the same year we have a note of payment by Hugh de Boves to the treasury of 200 marks on behalf of Hugh for a fine on the late Hugh's land in Bucks.,<sup>2</sup> and in April 1216 Hugh pays 50 marks fine for possession of his lands in Norfolk and Suffolk. Apparently he joined the barons in their revolt against John, and was still out of favour on the accession of Henry III, for in 1218 the sheriffs of Lincs., Norfolk, and Bucks. were ordered 'to give full seisin to William de Cantelupe of all the lands in their bailiwicks which belonged to Hugh de Gournay and are now in the hands of his son Hugh'.<sup>3</sup> These lands were not restored to him till May 1222. He must have been a man of small power of self-control, for in 1223 he again incurred the king's displeasure, and the sheriffs of Gloucester, Warwick, and Leicester were instructed to take into the king's hands all the lands of Hugh de Gornaco for the offence of attending a tournament without leave, 'quod nuper torneavit apud Bleadon', i.e. at Blyth in Notts., 'contra prohibitionem nostram'.<sup>4</sup> It may be he, or more probably one of the same name belonging to the western branch of the family, who in the same year lost all his land which was under the jurisdiction of the Constable of Bristol for the heinous offence of hunting in the royal forest without leave ('quod cucurrit in forestam domini regis').<sup>5</sup>

The originals of two charters affecting Mapledurham, and given by Hugh de Gournay VI, used to be in the chancery of Rouen. In the first of these, Hugh gives to the nuns de Claro

<sup>1</sup> *Testa de Nevill*, p. 134 (= *Book of Fees*, i. 103).

<sup>2</sup> *Rotuli Litt. Claus.*, 1214, p. 178. Hugh de Boves was of the Coucy family, from which came Milicent de Gournay, and he was cousin-german of Hugh VI.

<sup>3</sup> *Rotuli Litt. Claus.*, 1218, p. 349 b.

<sup>4</sup> *Rotuli Litt. Claus.*, 1223, pp. 545, 568. Henry's son Edward I was very strict with his nobles on this point: 'Ne quis sub forisfactura omnium quae Regi forisfacere possit, tornare, bordeare, iustas facere, aventuras querere seu alias ad arma ire presumat sine licencia Regis speciali' (*Calendar Patent Rolls*, Edward I, 1301).

<sup>5</sup> *Rotuli Litt. Claus.*, 1223, p. 528.

Rivo two acres of land, in addition to what they already hold, in lieu of the tithe of hay in his demesne land of Malpedureham.<sup>1</sup> The names of the witnesses<sup>2</sup> make it clear that the charter was delivered at Mapledurham. A further grant, of which a fuller account will be given in Chapter VII, bestows on the nuns the right of pasturing eight oxen on Hugh's demesne land of Mapledurham. The date of this latter deed is probably 1238.

Hugh VI certainly regained the royal favour before he died. In 1233 he was given two stags and ten hinds from Windsor forest to restock his park at Mapledurham,<sup>3</sup> and in 1234 he was granted protection while on the king's service in Brittany.<sup>4</sup> Unfortunately he was deeply in debt to the king, in spite of an allowance from the Exchequer of 40 marks a year, and a special gift of £50 to maintain himself while in the king's service. In fact some portion of his allowance was retained as a set-off against the debts he owed.<sup>5</sup> He is always very short of money, for in 1236 we find the king ordering the justices appointed to the custody of the Jews to put in respite the demands of David of Oxon., Aaron of London, Mosse son of Ysaac, Jacob Crispin, and others, for the payment of their debts, meanwhile they are not to charge Hugh any interest on them. The debts amounted to £220, and the king reduced the debt to 85 marks, the original sum borrowed.<sup>6</sup> A docu-

<sup>1</sup> 'Illas scilicet que iacent inter terram Ricardi de Aketune et terram predictarum sanctimonialium.'

<sup>2</sup> 'Radulphus filius decani, Ricardus de Aketune, Robertus clericus filius prepositi, Gualterius filius Willelmi, Simon de Buisson.'

<sup>3</sup> *Calendar Close Rolls*, Henry III, 1233, p. 277. A portion of the park at Mapledurham immediately in front of the mansion is called in an old map 'the Deer Course'. In the marriage settlement between Sir Richard Blount and Cicely Baker in 1595, provision is made for the maintenance of 200 head of deer in the park.

<sup>4</sup> *Calendar Patent Rolls*, Henry III, 1234, p. 51.

<sup>5</sup> *Liberate Rolls*, 1233, pp. 198, 221, 238.

<sup>6</sup> *Calendar Close Rolls*, Henry III, 1235, p. 152; 1236, p. 226. 'In the latter part of the twelfth century a special court, the Exchequer of the Jews, was erected for the purpose of regulating their affairs both fiscally and judicially. . . . As against the king they had no rights at all, and they could not grant a discharge of their debtors without the consent of royal officers.' W. Cunningham, *Growth of English History*, i. 187-8. Edward I, in 1279 hanged 267 Jews in London, and in 1290 he expelled all Jews from England. A grateful country gave him a large subsidy.



ment survives in which Hugh, as lord of Mapledurham, grants to Richard de la Lee a lease of the land and water of la Lee 'pro x solidis sterlingorum annuatim reddentibus (*sic*), unde meus homo legius est (is my liege man) et meus residens'. Unless the expression is a mere formula, Norman retainers were with Hugh at Mapledurham, for the deed opens, 'H. de Gornai omnibus hominibus suis de Malpetream francis et Anglis salutem'.<sup>1</sup>

Hugh VI died, probably at an early age, in the summer of 1238. He was buried at Langley Abbey in Norfolk, to which house he had been a benefactor.<sup>2</sup> A royal decree of that year orders that all men of the manor of Mapeldureham, knights and free, and others who hold of him, are to be obedient to his widow Matilda as to their lady. It is not known who Matilda was. Dugdale, on the authority of Testa de Nevile, states that his wife was Lucy de Berkeley, but the entry refers to a member of the Somersetshire branch of the family. William de Cantelupe, continues the decree, is to have the custody of the land and of Hugh's heir, a daughter named Juliana, and he pays a fine of 500 marks for so doing,<sup>3</sup> and assigns to Matilda as dower the manor of Mapeldureham.

William de Cantelupe the younger, steward of Henry III, had married Milicent de Gournay, widow of Almeric, Count of Evreux, and Hugh de Gournay VI's sister, and was therefore Matilda's brother-in-law. His brother Walter was representative of Henry III at the Court of Rome, and Bishop of Worcester 1236-66. Their father, William de Cantelupe, had been Steward of the Household and Sheriff of Cos. Warwick and Leicester in the reign of King John, and later of Herefordshire. The office of sheriff was profitable in those days, for the sheriffs, like the 'publicans' of old, farmed the taxes from the Exchequer, and collected them in detail afterwards.

William Cantelupe<sup>4</sup> the younger thus became the guardian

<sup>1</sup> Blount MSS., quoting *Fine Rolls (Chancery)*, 23 Henry III, no. 3.

<sup>2</sup> Taylor, *Index Monasticus*, p. 31.

<sup>3</sup> *Calendar Close Rolls*, Henry III, 1238, p. 88 (13 Aug.).

<sup>4</sup> The family is said to derive from Chanteloup near Coutances. The name of Cantelupe in the Delaware earldom has no connexion with the family.

of his niece Juliana, daughter and heir of Hugh de Gurnay, together with the custody of the child (*pueri*), when born, 'of which Maud (Matilda) says she is pregnant'.<sup>1</sup> Meanwhile, Hugh's debts still weighed heavily upon the family, and the Sheriff of Oxford was ordered (12 Aug. 1239) to put in respite a demand for £230 and half a mark, and two butts of wine, demanded from the manor of Mapledurham as owing to the king, 'that it may be discussed before the Barons of the Exchequer whether Matilda ought to answer therefor or not'.<sup>2</sup>

Nothing more is heard of the expected child, nor is it known what age Juliana was when her uncle became her guardian.<sup>3</sup> Matilda afterwards married Roger de Clifford,<sup>4</sup> of Bridge Sollers, Co. Hereford, who seems to have acted, during Juliana's minority, as lord of the manor of Mapledurham.

When the itinerant justices held in 1255, in the various counties, the inquests which are embodied in the Hundred Rolls of the early years of Edward I's reign, the verdict of the jurors of Benefeld (Binfield) was to the effect that 'Mapeldereham is of the fee of Gorney, and that, four years ago, malefactors came into the park of Mapeldereham, raised a disturbance and fled no one knew where. Then suspicion arose concerning some one who was named Nicholas de Mongewell,<sup>5</sup> and he gave to Sir Roger de Clifford, who is the lord of the vill and park, a falcon to have his peace ("dedit . . . unum espervarium pro pace tenenda").' The 'malefactors' did not confine their operations to Binfield Hundred, for there is a similar entry under Langtree, where the names given are Johannes de Cancia, 'the man of Nicholas of Mongewell', and Nicholas, chaplain of Mongewell, and 'Nicholas of Mongewell paid to the said Roger a fine of xx solidi for his man'.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Cal. Patent Rolls*, Henry III, 1238, p. 227.

<sup>2</sup> *Excerpta ex Rot. Finium* (C. Roberts), i. 328.

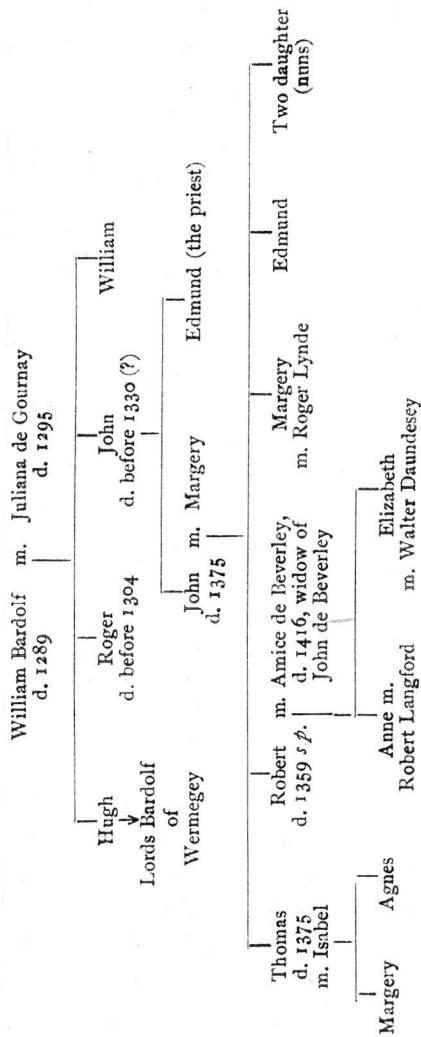
<sup>3</sup> One might guess her age as not above five or six; her father-in-law is still lord of Mapledurham in 1251, and she has married William Bardolf in 1254.

<sup>4</sup> Possibly great-grandfather of the Roger de Clifford who took part in the Lancastrian rising against Edward II, and was hanged at York in 1322.

<sup>5</sup> One mile below Wallingford and ten miles at least from Mapledurham by road.

<sup>6</sup> *Rotuli Hundred.*, ii, pp. 38, 42.

# PEDIGREE OF THE BARDOLFS



## CHAPTER III

### THE BARDOLFS

WILLIAM BARDOLF the younger, who married Juliana, heiress of Mapledurham Gurney, belonged to a distinguished Norman family which, though not represented in Domesday, is found in the Battle Abbey Roll, as given by Holinshed, Duchesne, and Leland. The family had large estates in Norfolk and Suffolk, and a William Bardolf was Sheriff of these counties in 16 to 20 Henry II. His son Thomas married Rose, or Rohais, daughter of Ralph Alselyn (or Hanselyn), and had a son Donn or Dodo Bardolf. This Dodo married Beatrix, daughter and heiress of William de Warenne of Wermegey, and had a son William, who figures largely in the history of the thirteenth century. He was under royal patronage, for there is a record dated 1231, granting him twenty tree trunks from Sherwood Forest to make beams ('ad merennium faciendum'). In 1254 he was employed to take £1,460 of state money to France, and deliver it to Alphonse, Count of Toulouse.<sup>1</sup> In 1257 he received the royal pardon for the death of three men, wherewith he was charged;<sup>2</sup> in 1258, at the commencement of the Barons' war, the important Castle of Nottingham was committed to him,<sup>3</sup> and in the same year he was appointed<sup>4</sup> one of the twelve nominees of the barons, who drew up the Provisions of Oxford, a proof that he was trusted by both sides. In 1261 it was notified that the king had made peace with the barons, and that they were not to be charged with anything, unless any one of fourteen commissioners, of whom William Bardolf was one, had not put his seal to the said peace within fifteen days.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Calendar Patent Rolls*, Henry III, 1254, p. 370.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 575.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 638.

<sup>4</sup> Adams and Stephens, *Select Documents*, p. 58: 'the Lord William Bardulf', i.e. holder of a barony by writ of summons to Parliament.

<sup>5</sup> *Cal. Patent Rolls*, Henry III, 1261, p. 195.

When the struggle between the crown and the barons under Simon de Montfort was renewed in 1264, William Bardolf was appointed<sup>1</sup> to keep the coast of Sussex at Pevensey, 'as a great multitude of aliens with shipping . . . is preparing to invade the realm', and the Cinque Ports were held for the barons. However, in the same year he was taken prisoner, with Henry III, at the fatal battle of Lewes, and from that moment we hear no more of him. He died in the later months of 1274, the inquisition<sup>2</sup> after his death being dated 5 January 1274/5. He held estates in Leicester, Sussex, Lincoln, Nottingham, Derby, and Norfolk.

At the time of his father's death, William Bardolf the younger had been married for at least twenty years. His eldest son Hugh was born in 1259, but he and Juliana de Gournay are spoken of as man and wife in a respite granted them in 1254, in respect of the same amount of money and wine as had been owed to the king by her father before her<sup>3</sup> (p. 15). Very possibly this may have followed immediately on their marriage. There is a record of a dispute with Sir John de Chaussy, lord of the adjacent manor, in 1272, over a right of common pasture, in which William was worsted, for 'Johannes bene deffendit quod Hugo pater Juliane non fuit in seysina de communi pastura'. The dispute seems to have been amicably settled two years later.<sup>4</sup>

The Rotuli Hundredorum of 1279, which were drawn up under the direction of Edward I in order to investigate the extent of baronial immunities, contain little, as regards Mapledurham Gurney, of real historical value. No such minute details are recorded of the land tenure in this manor as are given by the itinerant justices for the manor of Mapledurham Chausey (p. 69 f.). All that they tell us under the heading 'Hundred of Benefeld' (Binfield) is, that 'the Earl of Cornwall has view of frankpledge at Mapuldurham, but the jurors do not know from what time or by what warrant'. William

<sup>1</sup> *Cal. Patent Rolls*, Henry III, 1264, p. 347.

<sup>2</sup> *Cal. Inquis. p. mort.*, Edward I, vol. ii, p. 115.

<sup>3</sup> *Excerpta ex Rot. Finium* (C. Roberts), ii. 180.

<sup>4</sup> *Abbreviatio Placitorum*, i (fol. 1811), p. 184; T. Hearne, *Remarks and Collections*, vii. 132 f. (Oxf. Hist. Soc., 1906, vol. xlvii).

Bardolf holds the right of warren in Mapledurham, but as to this they are equally ignorant. They then give an anecdote which shows that certain officials, in those days, were somewhat lax in the performance of their duties.

‘They say that when William Blakeman of Mapeldurham Gurney was found drowned in Thames, and Fulco de Rucote, coroner in the county of Oxford, had been forewarned to come and view him : in his negligence he came not to view him, as it was his duty to do, but ordered Robert de Heydon, bailiff to the Earl of Cornwall, to cause the men of the aforesaid vill to bury the body, and so it was done without view of Coroner. And thus have many been buried without view of Coroner.’<sup>1</sup>

William Bardolf’s public career, although not of the same interest and importance as that of his father, shows that he played the part which devolved upon a great landholder of his day. He was summoned by writ to the muster at Worcester in June 1277, when Edward I in person led his expedition against Lewelin, Prince of Wales, and also to the musters at Worcester and Rhuddlan in 1282 for the second Welsh campaign, when North and South Wales were in full revolt. He acknowledged the services of four knights’ fees, performed by himself and three other knights, three for the inheritance of his father, and one for that of his wife. He was also summoned, after Lewelin’s death at Orewyn Bridge, to the muster at Montgomery in 1283, and to the Parliament at Shrewsbury, at Michaelmas in the same year, which settled the execution of David and the pacification of Wales. He was further bidden to appear with horses and arms at a military council to be held in 1287 at Gloucester under Edmund, Earl of Cornwall, then acting as regent for his cousin, to take measures for the suppression of the revolt of Rhys ap Meredith.<sup>2</sup>

In 1283 there is, perhaps in consequence of William Bardolf’s faithful service, an order to the treasurer and barons of the Exchequer, dealing graciously with the debts, still owing to the

<sup>1</sup> *Rot. Hundred.*, ii. 33. Fulco de Rucote, here named as Coroner, held by inheritance the whole vill of Magna Rucote (now Rycote near Thame) in the half hundred of Ewelme (*ibid.*, p. 757).

<sup>2</sup> *Parliamentary Writs* (Palgrave), i. 445.



king, of William his father and Hugh his father-in-law.<sup>1</sup> He died 1 December 1289, the inquisition after his death recording that 'Mapeldorham maner was his only holding of the inheritance of Juliana his wife in Oxon.; that he held it of the Earl of Warren by service of one knight's fee, and that it was said to be worth by the year in all issues ten pounds'.<sup>2</sup> In other counties, his holdings were those of his father before him. Castre (Caister) in Norfolk, with the advowson of two churches, from which Hugh de Gurney IV had endowed the nuns de Claro Rivo with a charge of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  marks, was said to be held by him of the inheritance of his wife Juliana. Hugh Bardolf his son is his heir, and is of the age of thirty years about the feast of St. Michael in 1289. Oliver, Bishop of Lincoln, was one of his executors.<sup>3</sup>

Lady Juliana, William Bardolf's widow, must have been given a life-interest in the manors she brought to her husband. She did homage for Mapledurham amongst them, the others being Castre, Caunteleye (now Cantley), Berlinges (now North and South Burlingham), and Strommeshagh (now Strumpshaw), all in Norfolk.<sup>4</sup> Her eldest son Hugh succeeded to his father's own estates, and became the progenitor of four generations of Lords Bardolf of Wermegey<sup>5</sup> in Norfolk, the barony being held by himself and then by writ of summons to Parliament. This, the principal line of Bardolfs, terminated in Thomas, Lord Bardolf, who was so ill-advised as to take part in the rebellion of the Percies, and who, 'after wandering from Scotland to Wales, and from Wales to France, and from France to Flanders, had returned to Scotland'<sup>6</sup> with the Earl of Northumberland to try one last raid. Defeated at the battle of Bramham Moor, on 19 February 1407/8, Hugh Bardolf died of his wounds, his body was quartered, and the head placed on one of the gates of Lincoln.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Fine Rolls*, Edward I, 1283, p. 184.

<sup>2</sup> *Calendar Inquis. p. mortem*, Edward I, vol. ii, pp. 468-9.

<sup>3</sup> *Fine Rolls*, Edward I, vol. i, p. 267. Oliver Sutton was Bishop of Lincoln 1280-99.

<sup>4</sup> *Calendar Close Rolls*, Edward I, 1290, p. 62.

<sup>5</sup> Now pronounced 'Rungey'.

<sup>6</sup> C. Oman, *Political History of England*, iv. 211.

<sup>7</sup> Vicary Gibbs, *The Complete Peerage*, i. 420.

Lady Juliana executed, no doubt in the early days of her widowhood, a deed granting to her three younger sons Roger, John, and William, in order of seniority, 'all her manor of Mapilderham', on condition that he who held it should 'render to her fifty pounds of silver yearly at two terms of the year'. This undated document, as well as the next, is witnessed by her two nearest neighbours, Sir John de Chause and Ralph de Herdewyk.<sup>1</sup> There is no evidence to show whether she continued to reside at Mapledurham till her death in 1295, or on some other of her numerous manors. The inquisition<sup>2</sup> after her death states that she held lands in Bucks. (Wendover and Bledlawe), Bedford, Sussex, and Norfolk, nothing in Oxfordshire. Directly after her death, her elder son Hugh granted, as he could well afford to do, to his two brothers Roger and John, in order of seniority, 'all that manor which is called Mapelderham Gournay . . . as in messuages rents arable lands meadows pastures woods hays waters mills ponds fish-weirs (*gurgitibus*) common pastures roads paths with all other services and demands as of freemen so of villans'.<sup>3</sup>

Sir Roger Bardolf must have died early, without male issue, for, in 1304, his brother, Sir John, as lord of Mapledurham, was granted the right of free warren on that estate, together with the right to hold a three days' fair at his manor of Halghton in Leicestershire.<sup>4</sup> He appears to have lived the life of an ordinary country gentleman of distinction. In 1311 he was 'supervisor of array' in the counties of Oxon. and Berks., and leader of the levies there, probably for the Scottish war against Robert Bruce, as the Sheriff was ordered to pay his expenses for marching to Roxburgh, and his commission and writ were tested at Berwick-on-Tweed.<sup>5</sup> In 1313 he was returned knight of the shire for Oxon.,<sup>6</sup> and attended Parlia-

<sup>1</sup> Blount MSS.

<sup>2</sup> Dated 6 November 23 Edward I (*Calendar Inquis. p. mortem*, Edward I, vol. iii, p. 226).

<sup>3</sup> Blount MSS. A curiously inaccurate note, in a later hand, is appended to this MS.

<sup>4</sup> *Calendar Charter Rolls*, Edward I, vol. iii, p. 43 (1304).

<sup>5</sup> *Parliamentary Writs and Writs of Military Summons*, F. Palgrave, ii. 479.

<sup>6</sup> The Sheriff of Oxon. notified that he was unable to distrain Sir John to

ment, obtaining his writ and expenses at the rate of 4s. a day, plus charges for going and returning.<sup>1</sup> In 1314 he was appointed a Justice of gaol delivery in Oxon. and Berks., and in 1317 was excused<sup>2</sup> the office of coroner for Oxon. on the ground 'that he cannot conveniently attend to the duties of the office, as he resides in the counties of Norfolk and Leicester for the greater part of the year'. It is difficult, and often impossible, in the case of a knight who does not hold land of the king in chief, in those early days, to discover even approximately the date of his death, which must therefore often rest on grounds of probability alone.<sup>3</sup> But it seems to have been this Sir John Bardolf, who, in April 1329, came to a mutual agreement as to right of way with his neighbour Sir John de Chausey the younger. Certain disputes, it appears, which had arisen between the two knights, were amicably settled as follows ('amicabiliter conquievire sub hac forma'): Sir John de Chausey, on behalf of himself and his heirs, granted to Sir John Bardolf and his heirs and his men, for ever, common right of way (*chasceam*) for driving his cattle all the year round from Chauseyford beyond the Landewes of Holeburgh as far as Charlegrove (apparently a meadow in the Chausey manor), in order to feed his cattle at the open season of the year, and to bring them back at the close season. In return for this concession, Sir John Bardolf granted to Sir John Chausey a certain road, beyond his own land and meadow, on which he might come with carts to carry things needful to his fish-weir as often as he had need ('ad necessaria carianda ad gurgitem suum quociens opus fuerit').<sup>4</sup> This last concession bears reference to the carriage of timber, osiers, &c., to repair or strengthen the weir which we know once existed close to Chazey Court.

get mainpernors for his appearance, the manor of Mapledurham being of the four hundreds and a half called Ciltre, which were in the jurisdiction of the bailiff of the honour of Wallingford.

<sup>1</sup> See note 6, p. 21.

<sup>2</sup> *Calendar Close Rolls*, Edward II, 1317, p. 402.

<sup>3</sup> T. Stapleton, in *Record of the House of Gurney*, p. 224, thinks he died before 1330, in which year his nephew Thomas appears to be seized of the entire manor of Halloughton, Leicestershire, of which manor uncle and nephew were joint tenants for life.

<sup>4</sup> Blount MSS., f. 22 b.

The first we hear of Sir John Bardolf the second, who was no doubt the son of the former Sir John, is in 1341, when his cousin John Bardolf of Wermegeye is given a licence to grant to John Bardolf of Mapeldurham and to others certain manors at a rent.<sup>1</sup> In 1344 Sir John Bardolf, knight, is not to be distrained by Henry de Greystok, the king's official, for his homage and fealty to the king, as he has done homage and fealty to him for the lands he holds of him in Wendover.<sup>2</sup> This looks as if he had recently succeeded. In the same year we find him concluding an agreement, of the nature of a fine, with John Rosen de Daylifford, who appears to be vicar of the parish, and John Loveday, in connexion with a conveyance of the manor.<sup>3</sup> It is conceivable that, as Sir John's wife Margery is mentioned in the document, the agreement is concluded upon their marriage. In the years between 1344 and 1375, his name frequently occurs, in matters of no great moment, but sufficient to indicate his continuance as lord of Mapeldurham. Thus he is made a prosecutor for the execution of recognizances,<sup>4</sup> an attorney for his cousin Lord John Bardolf of Wermegeye, going beyond the seas, and for his brother Robert, son of John Bardolf of Mapeldurham, going to Ireland;<sup>5</sup> he is on a commission of knights appointed to try a case affecting the manor of Piddington, Oxon.<sup>6</sup> In matters nearer home, he serves on a commission to investigate a complaint that the Abbot of Reading and certain monks have damaged a man's close and depastured his crops.<sup>7</sup> There is an interesting document<sup>8</sup> dated 13 February 1357/8, in which 'Johan Bardolf, seignour de Wirmegeye', bids all men know that we have appointed our 'trescher et bien aime Cosyn monsieur Johan Bardolf de Mapildurham dordeyner des noz rentz en le comite de Bukyngham et de assigner en notre noun Seneschel pour tenir les courts et de faire bailliffs pour coiller

<sup>1</sup> *Calendar Patent Rolls*, Edward III, 1341, p. 273.

<sup>2</sup> *Calendar Close Rolls*, Edward III, 1344, p. 331.

<sup>3</sup> Blount MSS.

<sup>4</sup> *Calendar Close Rolls*, 1349, p. 76.

<sup>5</sup> *Calendar Patent Rolls*, 1363, p. 377; 1364, p. 518.

<sup>6</sup> *Cartulary of Monastery of St. Frideswide*, ii. 106 (Oxf. Hist. Soc., xxi, 1896).

<sup>7</sup> *Calendar Patent Rolls*, 1349, p. 390.

<sup>8</sup> Blount MSS.

et lever les dites rentes ove les arrerages et releves et a seyser gardes mariages et eschetes et a totes autres choses faire qui appartient pour notre profit'. The confidence of one cousin in the other was evidently complete, but Sir John's duties do not seem to have been onerous, for in the Inquisition held after his death, Lord John's possessions in Bucks. are returned as 40s. of rent.

We catch a glimpse, too, of Sir John's relations, both pleasant and painful, with his neighbour on the Berks. side of the river. One of the Blount manuscripts, without date or witnesses, but clearly of this period, records the grant of a special licence by Sir Thomas de Hurskarl, lord of Purle,<sup>1</sup> to Sir John Bardolff and his heirs, 'to get sufficient from a chalk-pit (*de puteo calcis*) on my land at Purley to make and repair the bridge of ludmershe and the roadway in a certain lane leading from the said vill of Purley as far as the mill of Sir John Bardolf at Mapledurham Gurney, by which road the people of Berks. county of ancient time were and still are wont to cross to his mill, with reasonable and free ingress and egress to the said chalk-pit for his men, horses, and carts (*carectis*)'. John Bardolf and his heirs are granted a space of 12 feet on either side of the aforesaid bridge for the repairing of the same.<sup>2</sup> The old mill at Mapledurham, at which the lord's tenants were bound to have their corn ground, must have been resorted to for the same purpose by others in the neighbourhood, on both banks of the Thames. The mill at Whitchurch was three miles away, that at Caversham further still. It was in the lord's interest to attract custom to his mill, and so he was willing to incur the expense of road-making and bridge-making, even on another man's land. The road itself, which must have led along the right bank of the river from Purley village, has been swept away by the erosion of the current, which sets hard along that side, but the position of 'ludmarsh-bridge' is not to be mistaken. At a point nearly opposite the

<sup>1</sup> The village opposite Mapledurham on the Berks. bank, then situated close to Purley Church, now moved further inland, in consequence of floods.

<sup>2</sup> Blount MSS.

lower end of the long island below Mapledurham Lock, there is, especially in winter, a series of ponds and marshy depressions extending inland from the river edge, but bridged close to the stream by the present tow-path. This is clearly the 'lud' marsh, across which, in order to gain access to the neighbourhood of the mill, a solid bridge had to be constructed. An ancient map of Purley, dated 1786, calls the whole of this irregular meadow the Common Marsh.

The next transaction between the two lords is of a less friendly nature. On the Berks. side of the river, opposite Mapledurham, a series of rich flat meadows extend to the south and west for half a mile or more. The lord of Purley conceived the idea, in 1366, that an irrigating ditch, conveying the waters of Thames into the centre of this fertile district, would increase the weight of his hay crops, and proceeded to construct it accordingly. Unfortunately for him, the lord of Mapledurham owned the whole of the water of Thames, from bank to bank, even as Mr. Riddell Blount does in 1924, and considered that his mill was damaged by the water of Thames being drawn out of its right course. The matter was taken into court, and the Justices of the Common Bench at Westminster condemned Sir Thomas in two fines of 200 marks each, one of which was to be 'held for naught' if before a certain date he should 'cause the same ditch to be reclosed and filled in so that the water which wrongfully runs therein shall be driven back into its right course, and no damage nor impediment to the mill'.<sup>1</sup> The site of the ditch is still plainly visible, exactly as described in the bond for payment, at the western end of the great meadow fringing the river immediately above Mapledurham Lock, almost facing the western end of the glebe meadows on the Oxfordshire side.

Sir John Bardolf died in April 1375. Both he and his wife Margery were buried in the church of Mapledurham.<sup>2</sup> They left three sons, Thomas, Robert, and Edmund, and three

<sup>1</sup> Blount MSS. (recording a decision of the Justices of the Common Bench at Westminster).

<sup>2</sup> Robert Bardolf, in his will, desires to be buried there, 'ubi pater meus et mater mea sunt sepulti'.



daughters, one of whom was named Margery, after her mother, and the other two were nuns whose names are unknown. His will, which was proved in the church of Mapledurham on 15 April of the same year, before the Dean of Henley, commissary of the Archdeacon of Oxford, is a characteristic document. After bequeathing his soul to God, the Blessed Virgin and all Saints, and his body to be buried in the church of Mapuldram, he continues:

'I bequeath to Thomas my son and heir the principalities to the heir appertaining with all wooden, tin, and brazen vessels of my house. Also I bequeath to Margaret my daughter two cows . . . to each of my daughters the nuns<sup>1</sup> one mark of silver. Also I bequeath to Thomas Boteler my servant twelve rams five wethers and one ox . . . Also I bequeath to Sir John Rose, Vicar of Mapuldram, half a quarter of wheat and half a quarter of barley. Also I bequeath xs. to be placed and multiplied under the hand of any faithful man of the parish in corn or other merchandise for the maintenance of two torches for the lifting of the body of Christ,<sup>2</sup> and one wax taper before the Image of the Blessed Virgin and another before the Image of St. Margaret in the Church of Mapuldram aforesaid. . . . Also I bequeath to the Convent of Friars Minors of Radyng one quarter of wheat and one quarter of barley.<sup>3</sup> Also I charge (*onero*) my sons and executors under the blessing of God and my own that they bury me without arms and horses, nor provide any candles and lights about my body save only five wax tapers. And that they shall feed on the day of my burial<sup>4</sup> all and singular of both sexes old and young of the vill of Mapuldram. And that all things above said may be faithfully and quickly fulfilled I appoint as my executors Robert Bardolf and Sir Edmund<sup>5</sup> my sons and Thomas Boteler my servant.'

A very interesting 'Rentale manerii de Mapeldorham

<sup>1</sup> Probably of Goring, see p. 33.

<sup>2</sup> 'Pro elevacione corporis Christi,' i.e. at the elevation of the Host.

<sup>3</sup> The mendicant order of the Grey Friars, or Friars Minors, came to Reading in 1233, and obtained from the Benedictines, who occupied the abbey at the east side of the town, a grant of land, at the western end of what is now 'Friar Street', for their church. This they were erecting in 1306, having been granted by Edward I fifty-six oaks from Windsor forest.

<sup>4</sup> These funeral entertainments, were very common in early days, see p. 153.

<sup>5</sup> The younger son, as so often, takes Holy Orders.

Gorney', dated 17 Edward III (1343), survives among the Blount papers. Rents are paid on two, three, or four of the five *termini* of the year, the feast of St. Thomas (21 Dec.), the Purification (2 Feb.), Pascha (Easter), the Nativity of St. John the Baptist (24 June), and St. Michael the Archangel (29 Sept). First come the rents paid by freemen (*redditus liberorum*), of whom there are ten, one paying 17s. 3½d. in the year, one 16s., one 11s., two 10s. each, two 8s., two 2s., and one 10d. The sums collected are, at Purification 10s. 2½d., at Easter 26s. 4½d., at John Baptist 15s. 6½d., at Michaelmas 33s. 0½d., total £4 5s. 1½d. Then come the rents of the bond-tenants (*redditus nativorum*). Of these there are fifty-six in all, one of whom pays 10s. a year, one 6s. 8d., seven 4s. 8d. each, seven 2s. 4d., six 2s., and the remainder sums varying from 4s. 11d. to 4d. One, no doubt the smith, furnishes, in place of any payment in coin, twelve horse-shoes with nails, another, Alice Tournier, one coulter. These amounts add up, at St. Thomas, to 19s. 2d., at Purification 26s. 1d., at Easter 18s. 8d., at John Baptist 27s. 10d., at Michaelmas 44s. 7½d., total £6 16s. 4½d. Then comes an item 'de auxilio<sup>1</sup> Bondorum ad festum Sancti Martini' (11 Nov.), which is valued at 20s.

Next follow the rents of four pieces of water, which are collected three times a year, and amount to 13s. 4d., 10s., 5s., and 1s. respectively, total 29s. 4d. There is the aqua Brysthrich, which is the best, then the Mulewat', then the aqua Ratelar', and last the aqua Lovekyn, worth only a shilling. In 'Mulewat' we recognize the Mill water, where big trout are still occasionally caught, just below the weir, the other names look like the names of quondam tenants; one will be the water above the weir up to the boundary of the Hardwick estate.

The sum of all the rents, 'with the aid of the bond tenants', and the rents of the fishery (*piscarie*), is £13 10s. 9¾d. But Henry Wycestr' is in arrear 8s. (the whole of his yearly rent),

<sup>1</sup> Vinogradoff (*Villainage in England*, p. 293) explains this *auxilium* as an extraordinary tax paid once a year, distinct from rent, and levied in a round sum (as here), afterwards divided between the several householders.

Roger Walkelate is in arrear 6*s.*, both for the term of their lives, and a deduction of 2*s.* 9*d.* has to be made from the *auxilium bondorum*, because 'certain hold freely as it is found'; total deductions 16*s.* 9*d.* 'And so remains clear' £12 14*s.* 0 $\frac{3}{4}$ *d.*, a rental which, arrears included, agrees fairly well with the 20 marks at which the manor is valued at the death of Robert Bardolf, fifty-two years later, even though the Black Death has intervened.

Sir Thomas Bardolf, son and heir of Sir John Bardolf, can only have survived his father for two months at the most, and died without male issue. A document <sup>1</sup> dated 15 June 1375 provides for the dower of his widow Isabell out of the estate, and is drawn up, as usual in such cases, by the Sheriff of the County.

'Sir Thomas Blont,<sup>2</sup> knyth, Schreve of the Countye aforseid, hath indowyd Dame Isabell Bardolfe late Wyfe of Sir Thomas Bardolfe, knyth, late lorde of Mapulderham . . . that is to say, of and inne the thridde Parte of the mansione, videlicet, in a Chembere callidde Wilcotys Chambire, with all the Chambers therto enclosid ffrom the hall un to the grete yate, And also With a Stabull callid the Cheynes stabull with other ij howsis therto ajoyned, and the thridde pejone of the grete dovehouse With xx copull of conyngs and the thridde part of the ffysse Takyn in the bowkys at the myll.'

Besides this, she is given 'the thridde part of the Rentte' of the mill itself, and of the water pertaining to the manor (£3 2*s.* 2*d.*), and one-third of all the rents paid by freeholders and bondholders, all of whom are named (£3 18*s.* 0*d.*), which is rather more than a third of their rents in the rentale just dealt with, or rather less, if the *auxilium bondorum* is counted in. Then she is granted 'a thridde part of all demayne londis medowys and pasturys', each field being separately specified, its acreage, and 'hir part' so many 'acrys, prys ye acur iiij*d.*', her total share being valued at £1 18*s.* 4*d.* Some of these fields

<sup>1</sup> Blount MSS. A copy of the award is also given, not quite correctly in T. Hearne, *Remarks and Collections*, vii. 134.

<sup>2</sup> It is not known who this Sir T. Blount was. Croke (*History of the Croke (Le Blount) family*, ii. 348) is unable to place him.



REMAINS OF OLD MAPLEDURHAM MANOR HOUSE

can still be recognized.<sup>1</sup> She may have 'yerelye iij horse x Retherbestis<sup>2</sup> goyng with the lord's Cataile with vj Swyne and xx Ewys and xx weders goyng and pasturyng with the lordis Shepe. As for the parke she is a lowyd Every yere a dere and xx Coupull of Conyes and all fewell wode to her necessarye to be Takyn in a Wode<sup>3</sup> callidde Grenedene Wode.' This endowment, which is certainly on a liberal scale, is made 'with the asent and grement of the seide Isabell, and by ye avyse of Sir Edmonde Bardolfe, prest, unkull<sup>4</sup> to the forseide Sir Thomas Bardolfe and to Sir Robert Bardolfe'. A concluding note gives her 'Certeyn Londis, Shawys, Grovys, Crofts, Wodys, Lesuris and heggerewys callid Bardolfys Londis<sup>5</sup> lyinge by side Grenedene conteynyng in all 60 acris Grounde and more by Estimacion, yildyng by the yere xs. to the seid lord of Mapulderham Gornay'.

The 'mansion' mentioned in this award is the old brick and timber manor house, the greater part of which was pulled down when the present Elizabethan mansion was built on the same site by Sir Michael Blount in 1588. A portion, now used as an estate office and servants' rooms, survives between the new mansion and the river, to show what a picturesque building this manor house, the home of so many generations of the Bardolfs, Lyndes, and Iwardbys, must have been.

<sup>1</sup> It may be worth enumerating them all: Westfylde (130 a.), Michelden filde (40 a.), Stonycrofte (3 a.), Huntley's Hill and Croft (7 a.), Chalkepittefeld (26 a.), The Lordis Oxcrofte (16 a.), Trenchfilde (26 a.), Thropfilde (20 and 26 a.), Wolbys down Est filde and Doungefilde (40 a.), Small mede (not stated), Brode mede (10 a.). If the acres do not divide by three, she loses the fraction. The Wilcotes family belong to Great Tew.

<sup>2</sup> Rotherfield, the field of the cattle (M.E. *rother*, *rether*, an ox), is variously spelled Rutherfeld, Retherfeld, Rethfelde, Ritherefeld, &c. Compare Rotherhithe, Rotherford, Rotherham, and see H. Alexander, *Place Names of Oxfordshire*, p. 174.

<sup>3</sup> Directly north of the present Chazey Heath.

<sup>4</sup> And therefore a son of John Bardolf the elder.

<sup>5</sup> Bardolf's Wood (the country folk call it Bardell's) is still so marked on the ordnance map.

## CHAPTER IV

### THE BARDOLFS (*continued*)

AFTER the early death of his brother Sir Thomas, Sir Robert Bardolf, second son of Sir John, became 'Right Eyre unto the maner and lordeshippe of Mapilderham Gorneye'. Five years before<sup>1</sup> his death, John Bardolf had granted to his sons Robert and Edmund, the latter being then prebendary of Banbury, and to Robert Alisaunder of Congham, their heirs and assigns, the manor of East Barsham in Co. Norfolk. Edmund Bardolf, who no doubt was named after his 'unkull the prest', was appointed in 1369 to 'the prebend of Bannerbury in the church of St. Mary Lincoln' (i.e. in Lincoln Cathedral), and in 1375 he was presented to the church of Boyton in the diocese of Salisbury.<sup>2</sup> Thomas Bardolf during his brief tenure of the manor, had granted to his brother Robert 6 marks a year, which fell to him after the death of his father John Bardolf, from the manor of Hempton in Bucks., 'after the close of the life of Roger Wyclif'.<sup>3</sup>

Robert Bardolf, the last of the Bardolfs to hold Mapledurham, was certainly the most distinguished of his line. He received marks of the favour of two kings, and was esquire of the body both to Edward III and Richard II. His fine brass, mutilated but still impressive, lies on the floor of the chapel which he built as an aisle to the church of Mapledurham. A full description of this brass is given in Chapter IX. Unmarried when he succeeded, he became

<sup>1</sup> 11 March 1370, Blount MSS., f. 30.

<sup>2</sup> *Calendar Patent Rolls*, Edward III, 1369, p. 309; *ibid.*, 1375, p. 180. Le Neve (*Fasti*) calls him Edward by mistake. An Edmund Bardolf, probably the same man, was exempted from being put on juries, assizes, from being made mayor, coroner, escheator, &c., in 1364 (*ibid.*, p. 1).

<sup>3</sup> The grant is dated 28 April 1375, Blount MSS., f. 30.



the husband, probably in or after 1381, of Amice de Beverley, widow of John de Beverley, citizen of London and king's esquire.

Robert Bardolf in 1364, was ordered to Ireland, possibly to join the suite of Lionel, Duke of Clarence, author of the famous statutes of Kilkenny.<sup>1</sup> He took part in the French wars, on their renewal after the treaty of Calais, and in 1370 was paid<sup>2</sup> his expenses, amounting to £38. As king's esquire (*scutifer*) he was granted the portion of the alien prioress of Clairuissel in Normandy, in the church of Mapledurham, then in the king's hand on account of the war with France.<sup>3</sup> In 1377 he was associated with John Beverlee, George Felbrigge, and others, in an action before justices, which shows he was not yet married to John Beverley's widow.<sup>4</sup> A grant of £20 a year at the Exchequer for life, made to him by Edward III in 1371, was confirmed by Richard II in 1379/80.<sup>5</sup> In the following year he was appointed, as king's esquire, keeper or constable of Porchester castle, town, and forest, for life, his fees being fixed at 8*d.* a day in time of peace and 12*d.* a day in time of war, with a further allowance of a porter at 4½*d.* a day, an artiller at 6*d.*, and a watchman at 3*d.*<sup>6</sup> In 1382 he was granted, as king's knight, the residue of a fee farm of the manor of Hedyngton . . . 'without the north gate of Oxford', because retained to stay with the king for life.<sup>7</sup> And in 1387, the farmers of the same manor, the hundred of Bolynden, and the hundred without the north gate of Oxford, are to pay him and Amice his wife £17 a year.<sup>8</sup> We hear of him at various dates between 1386 and 1393 as justice of the peace in Oxon.,<sup>9</sup> and in 1388 in Berks. as well.<sup>10</sup> In 1392 he was nominated commissioner of array to resist invasion in Cos. Oxford and South-

<sup>1</sup> *Calendar Patent Rolls*, Edward III, 1364, p. 518.

<sup>2</sup> *Issue Rolls*, 44 Edward III, pp. 459, 473.

<sup>3</sup> *Calendar Patent Rolls*, 1376, p. 355.

<sup>4</sup> *Calendar Close Rolls*, Richard II, 1377, p. 534.

<sup>5</sup> *Calendar Patent Rolls*, Richard II, 1379, p. 435.

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*, 1381, p. 594.

<sup>7</sup> *Ibid.*, 1382, p. 140.

<sup>8</sup> *Cal. Close Rolls*, Richard II, 1387, p. 326.

<sup>9</sup> *Cal. Patent Rolls*, Richard II, 1386, p. 82; 1393, p. 284.

<sup>10</sup> *Cal. Close Rolls*, Richard II, 1388, p. 651.

hampton 'in case of war after the expiration of the present truce', i.e. that concluded with France, Castile, and Scotland for three years on 15 August 1389.<sup>1</sup>

Sir Robert Bardolf died without issue on Ascension Day, 20 May 1395. The jurors at the inquisition held after his death declared that he held no lands or tenements in his demesne as of fee or in service of the Lord the King in chief; that the manor of Mapledurham Gurney was held of the Earl of Arundel, by what service they know not, that it is worth by the year beyond reprises 20 marks,<sup>2</sup> and that they know not who is his heir. He left two step-daughters, Anne and Elizabeth Beverley, the former of whom married Robert Langford, the latter Walter Daundesey. It appears that in September 1394, Robert Bardolf had conveyed his estate of Mapledurham Gurney to Sir George Felbrigge, Roger Marchall, John Lynde, and John Cook of Wykham, and that they executed a reconveyance of the same to him and his wife for the term of their lives, rendering therefore yearly a red rose at the feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist.<sup>3</sup> The statement that the manor was held of the Earl of Arundel is due to the fact that in 1234 Hugh, Earl of Sussex and of Arundel, married Isabel, daughter of William de Warenne, Earl of Surrey. Another Earl of Arundel, born in 1285, was ward of John, Earl of Surrey, and married his second daughter Alice Plantagenet, or de Warenne.<sup>4</sup>

In his will, dated 2 May 1395, a copy of which is preserved in Somerset House, Sir Robert desires to be buried 'in a certain aisle (*ala*) of the parish church of Mapelderham Gurney, where his father and mother are buried'.<sup>5</sup> He was evidently

<sup>1</sup> *Cal. Patent Rolls*, Richard II, 1392, p. 92.

<sup>2</sup> A rent account, rendered by Simon Harries, collector, from Mich. 1391 to Mich. 1392, gives the arrears as xxxvijs. and the rents as xvij*li*. xijs. viij*d*. qu. But the outgoings amount to xix*li*. xij*d*. 'et sic debetur', i.e. the balance handed over is, viijs. viij*d*. qu. 'quos solvit domino' (Blount MSS.).

<sup>3</sup> *Cal. Inquis. p. mortem*, Richard II, 1397, p. 180. The conveyance and reconveyance, both of which are mentioned in the Inquisition, are in the Blount MSS.

<sup>4</sup> Vicary Gibbs, *The Complete Peerage*, i. 242.

<sup>5</sup> For the further history of this aisle, and for Sir Robert's legacies to Mapledurham Church, see Ch. IX.

a man possessed of much more worldly substance than his father. His legacies are numerous, and, for the time in which he lived, considerable. He leaves to the fabric of the church of Lyncoln xls., to that of St. Paul in London xs., to that of St. Swithun at Winton vjs. viij*d.*, to the Abbey church at Abingdon xxs., and xs. to the church of the monks at Westminster. He also leaves xxxiijs. iiij*d.* to be distributed on the day of his burying 'inter centum pauperes pueros innocentes' that they may pray for his soul and for the souls of certain of his relatives. And he has a kindly thought for his poorer tenants: 'item lego cuilibet tenenti in bondagio mansionem facienti in Mapelderham iijs. viij*d.*, ac eciam ad dividendum inter omnes nattivos tenentes pro dampnis in bladis suis prehabitis xl quarteria frumenti siliginei et ordeï et avenarum equaliter'. Perhaps a series of bad seasons had wrecked his villans' crops. He also leaves to certain honest priests, both secular and religious, to be chosen by his executors in London or elsewhere, in order that 5,000 masses may be said for his soul and the souls of his aforesaid relations as soon as possible after his death, xx*li.* xvjs. viij*d.* Masses therefore cost a penny each. To his sister Margery he leaves x marks, to his niece Margery the nun of Goryng xls., to his niece Agnes the nun of Goryng xxs.<sup>1</sup> He also leaves 'in auxilium liberationis prisonum de Newgate et alibi ubi necessitas maxime videatur', xx*li.*, and to John Lynde 'in auxilium maritagii sui' *L*li.** The rest of his goods he leaves to his wife Amicia, who, together with Roger Marschall, John Lynde, John Cook of Wykeham, and dominus Thomas [Forstall], vicar of Mapel-durham Gornay, are named his executors.

Sir Robert Bardolf gives one the impression of a strong and capable man, a good servant of his country, as well as a kindly and considerate master of his own demesne. He was not a statesman, like his great-great-grandfather, William Bardolf

<sup>1</sup> These nieces are probably the children of his deceased brother Thomas and Lady Isabel. Goring Nunnery was an Austin priory (St. Mary) founded by Thomas de Druval (temp. Henry I). In 1301 there were thirty-six nuns in residence, in 1445 only eight. In 1339 £5 apiece was paid for the annual support of two nuns sent to Goring from Burnham (Rev. H. E. Salter, *Victoria County History of Oxon.*).

the elder, but he was the trusted companion of two kings of England, and a faithful friend to those who looked to him for support. It seems a misfortune that he left no children, no male heir to take his place.

John de Beverley, Amice Bardolf's first husband, was valet<sup>1</sup> or esquire to King Edward III, who endowed him and his wife and their heirs with 'the manors of Butynhull (possibly Bucknell) and Godynton, Co. Oxon.', as well as with a rental of £25 a year from the farm of the manor of Hedynton.<sup>2</sup> The two esquires were evidently close friends; we find them associated in an action at law,<sup>3</sup> and Sir Robert was one of John de Beverley's executors. John de Beverley, who was clearly a man of original conceptions, died in 1380. By his will,<sup>4</sup> he expressed a wish to be buried in Westminster Abbey Church, on the south side of the tomb of his master, King Edward. He left cs. to the Abbey for his burial and for that of Amice his wife, and for masses, on condition that the monks of Westminster should come in procession to fetch their bodies for burial wherever they might die in London. Besides bequests to various orders of friars, to churches (including Stokehill), and to London hospitals, he left a bequest 'to four principal masters of grammar schools with sixty boys, to go, on 21st June, the anniversary of King Edward [his death], in procession round the king's tomb at Westminster, carrying a standard with a portrait of the king, and a Cross, singing a Litany, and saying, "Ora pro anima eius"'. His body was to be drawn from his *hospitium* in Cosyn Lane to the Abbey 'by two male asses, if they can be found', if not, by two horses. To Matilda his mother he left all his tenements and shops in the city and suburbs of London, except his *hospitium* in Cosyn

<sup>1</sup> For his 'good services' as king's valet, John de Beverley received £40 8s. 9d. a year. He was more than a valet, for £107 15s. 5d. is recorded as due to him 'for expenses of himself his men at arms and archers in the war'. Valets of the chamber were usually paid, temp. Edward III, at the rate of 12d. and 6d. a day. *Roll of Thomas de Brantingham for 1370*, F. Devon, 1835, pp. 35, 483.

<sup>2</sup> *Cal. Close Rolls*, Richard II, 1387, p. 326.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, 1377, p. 534.

<sup>4</sup> Dated London 4 May 1380, proved at Lambeth 11 August 1380, at Lydington 9 April 1381 (A. Gibbons, *Early Lincoln Wills*, p. 34).

Lane, and certain other houses which he gave to Amice his wife, whom he appointed one of his executors.

Amice de Beverley was thus fairly well off when she married Sir Robert Bardolf, probably not before 1381 or 1382. She was Amice de Buxhull, and was born in 1353, daughter of Sir Alan de Buxhull (or Boxhall), K.G., and younger sister of Elizabeth second wife of Roger Lynde of Mapledurham (see p. 45), and half-sister of Alan de Buxhull the younger, who was buried in Mapledurham Church.<sup>1</sup> It is strange to find this seigneuresse of peaceful Mapledurham connected, even though indirectly, with an event which caused a painful sensation throughout England.

Sir Alan de Buxhull, whose father died in 1325, when he was two years old, was son of Alan Bokeshull and Maud, tenants of a messuage called Buxhill in Sussex. He served the king on various occasions in France from 1355 to 1370, was appointed king's chamberlain in 1368, and was sent, with other commissioners, to swear to the fulfilment of a treaty with Scotland in 1369. In 1365/6 he succeeded Sir Richard de la Vache, K.G., as constable of the Tower for life;<sup>2</sup> he was also appointed keeper of the forests and parks of Clarendon, Brockhull, Grovell, and Melchett. On the death of the Earl of Stafford, he was appointed, in October 1372, the fifty-sixth Knight of the Garter.

The event which gave a terrible notoriety to his name occurred on 11 August 1378. Two English esquires, Robert Hawle or Hauley and John Schakell had captured and brought home from the wars in Castile, in 1367, a Spanish grandee and his son, and held the latter to ransom for a sum of 60,000 crowns, while they allowed the former to go home to raise the money. The father appealed for help to the King of Aragon, who enlisted the sympathy of the high Council of England. The esquires were ordered to abate their demands, but refused,

<sup>1</sup> Rawlinson MSS. B. 103, f. 70: *Pedigrees and Records* by Sir Richard St. George, Norroy, 1615, Bodleian Library, Oxford.

<sup>2</sup> For this post he received £100 a year, and he had a further £100 a year for 'good service to the king'. *Issue Roll of Thomas de Brantingham for 1370*, F. Devon, 1835, p. 70 f.

whereupon they were committed to the Tower. Escaping from custody, they took sanctuary in the Abbey of Westminster. By order of the Council, Sir Alan de Buxhull, lieutenant of the Tower, taking with him Sir Ralph Ferrers and fifty men, proceeded to Westminster to dislodge the two suppliants. At this point accounts differ slightly. One story says that, both being found at high mass, Schakell was enticed out under a pretext and slain, while Hawle remained in the choir and after resisting capture was put to death. Another version (the more probable) relates that Schakell was captured unhurt outside the choir, and that in the scuffle before the altar Hawle was slain, with his servant and one of the monks.

An outbreak of religious indignation followed this atrocious act, unparalleled since the murder of Becket. The Abbey was shut up for four months, Parliament was suspended, the Archbishop of Canterbury excommunicated the two chief perpetrators, who were fined £200 each, and only the power of the Duke of Lancaster shielded them from further punishment.<sup>1</sup>

Sir Alan died 2 November 1381 and was buried in Jesus Chapel under St. Paul's. The inquisition after his death found that Elizabeth, wife of Roger Lynde, and Amice, widow of John Beverley, were his heirs, the former being aged thirty, the latter twenty-eight, they being his daughters by his first wife, whose name was probably Bigwood. He married, after 1375, Maud, daughter of Sir Adam Francis and relict of John Aubrey; she gave birth to a posthumous son Alan,<sup>2</sup> born 22 June 1382. Soon after, Maud de Buxhull married John de Montacute, afterwards third Earl of Salisbury; in her will, dated 2 June 1424, she left a bequest 'Alano de Buxhull, filio meo'.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> G. F. Beltz, *Memorials of the Order of the Garter*, pp. 188-92; E. Ashmole, *The Institution of the Garter*, pp. 125-6; C. Oman, *Political History of England*, iv. 13-14; A. P. Stanley, *Historical Memorials of Westminster Abbey*, p. 366. Hawle was buried in the south transept of the Abbey; for a long time there was an inscription engraved on the stone where he was said to have fallen, and a brass effigy and inscription were placed over his grave.

<sup>2</sup> 'Alanus le Buxhull et Matilda uxor eius habent exitum Alanum de Buxhull posthumum et Elizabetham uxorem Rogeri Lynde et Amiciam nuptam Johanni Beverley.' Rawlinson MSS. B. 103, f. 176 b.



On the death of her second husband, Lady Amice became, in accordance with the reconveyance described on p. 32, seigneuresse of Mapledurham Gurney. Her neighbours at Mapledurham Chausy, Nicholas de Chausy and Margaret his wife, formally recognized her claim, and that of the other parties to the reconveyance, to the property. Why this recognition was necessary does not appear, but it is stated that in virtue of this acknowledgement of right, Amice Bardolf, John Lynde, John Cook of Wykham, and Roger Marschall agreed to pay, at Easter 1396, the sum of 100 marks of silver to the Chausys.<sup>1</sup>

About the same time (Feb. 1397/8) a release was concluded by Amice Bardolf and her co-trustees in favour of her nephew, John Lynde, son of her sister-in-law Margery Bardolf and Sir Roger Lynde, they renouncing their rights in the manor, and recognizing him as sole heir.<sup>2</sup>

Fortunately, the Roll of the first Court which Amice held as Lady of Mapledurham Gurney, 'on the Wednesday next before the festival of St. Juliana the Virgin [16 Feb.], 20 Richard II', is still extant. First, seven freemen acknowledge their rents and services and have attorned [yielded their homage] therefor to the Lady and done to the Lady fealty. It is commanded to distrain three absentees, but 'afterwards they came and attorned to the Lady and did fealty therefor to the Lady'.

Then, twenty-eight bond tenants and certain (unnamed) tenants at will have acknowledged their rents and services and have attorned, &c.

The Homage then present that the tenements of Thomas Swone, John Alewey, and Thomas Norton, and the grange of Thomas Blaklond are ruinous and broken down, and therefore each of them are in mercy (i.e. are fined), to the extent of *ij* *l.*, and commanded to repair them before the next Court, under pain of *x* *l.*

Also they present that Thomas Blakelond, John Helewys, William Lovejoye, and Edrich, tenants at will, have permitted

<sup>1</sup> Blount MSS., Documents Transcribed, p. 33.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid., p. 34.

their closes against the common land to lie open, to the damage of the Lady, and the tenants, therefore the same are in mercy to the extent of  $ij$ d. each, and nevertheless let it be amended before the next Court under pain, &c.

Concerning Richard atte Lee for Corbote upon him taxed for damage done in the corn of the Lady by the animals of the same Richard in Over-le.

The four afferers (assessors of the amount of fines) return the 'summa' as  $7s. 1\frac{1}{2}d.$ , whereof fines  $12d.$ , avesage (service due or done by tenants with beasts of burden)  $18\frac{1}{2}d.$ , perquisites  $4s. 7d.$ , cornbote two bushels of corn.

Another Roll, dated 7 May 1416, probably of the last Court held in Lady Amice's name, is given in Appendix VI.

This may be a good opportunity for saying a few words about the weirs, 'lokkes', and 'sewers' in the Mapledurham water. At an unknown date<sup>1</sup> in the reign of Richard II a presentment was made by jurors of the hundred of Langtree on the condition of the various 'lokkes' between Caversham and Wallingford. They report

'That Nicholas Chausey has a lokke and a sewer at Mapuldurhamchausey raised so high . . . and overfals that the meadows all round are flooded as in winter so in summer to the grave injury of the tenants ("tam tempore estivali quam yemali ad grave dampnum", &c.).

'That John Laward has a lokke and a sewer at Lawards in the water of Thames raised so high, &c.

'That Nicholas Carowe and Richard atte Lee have a lokke and a sewer at Purley in the water of Thames, &c.

'That Amisia Bardolf has a lokke at Mapuldurgorneye in the water of Thames raised so high, &c.'

The grievance here dealt with was not of recent date. King John promised, in Magna Charta, more than 150 years before, to abolish all the fish-weirs on the Thames and Medway, and throughout all England, but, so far as we know, made no attempt to keep his promise. The terms 'weir' and 'lokke'

<sup>1</sup> Blount MSS. and *Ancient Indictments*, File 100 m. 12. I owe this reference to the kindness of Mr. C. T. Flower, of the Record Office. The date is narrowed down to 1395-9, seeing that Amice Bardolf became seigneuresse in 1395, and the presentment is within the reign of Richard II.

(Latin *wara* and *gurges*) seem to be more or less synonymous, and imply an artificial barrier, carried across the whole or part of the stream, and formed partly of posts and balks of timber, partly of stakes and osiers, growing or intertwined. A 'sewer' generally but not always implies an artificial cut, designed to lead the water in a required direction, e. g. to a mill. Passage through the weirs was obtained by removing or raising, by means of a winch,<sup>1</sup> a section of the weir itself; this section was afterwards called the lock. 'When the water-level above the dam had drained down to something like that below it, the vessel was hauled through the opening, each passage of a lock involving, therefore, the equalization of levels in two adjoining reaches of the river. In the 17th century a few of these primitive "flash-locks", so called from the flash or flush of water which was liberated . . . were superseded by the present "pound locks", which impound a small quantity of water.'<sup>2</sup>

It can hardly be imagined that in the time of Richard II four solid obstructions, stretching from bank to bank, existed in a space of Thames water scarcely  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles long. At Chausey Court there never was a weir of this kind, but only bucks or buckies for trapping fish. The Chausey manor would naturally possess such contrivances, though there was never a mill there.<sup>3</sup> The 'lokkes' and 'sewers' of John Laward<sup>4</sup> and Nicholas Carowe and Richard atte Lee must

<sup>1</sup> A winch is mentioned in a lease of the Mapledurham mill and lock dated October 1726; it also served to pull barges through. The first lock at Mapledurham, in the modern sense of the word, was built in 1777, the present lock in 1908 (F. S. Thacker, *The Thames Highway*, pp. 222, 225).

<sup>2</sup> *Report of Inter-Departmental Committee on the Thames and Lee Conservancies*, 1922, p. 34. Three of these flash-locks still exist (1924) on the Upper Thames at Eaton Weir, King's Weir, and Medley Weir.

<sup>3</sup> The Thames Conservancy inform me that 'for centuries prior to 1900 there existed at the islands at Chazey Farm a set of Eel Bucks or Buck Weirs for catching fish. These Eel Bucks together with wattled Hedges were removed by the Conservators in 1900. There are no records to show that a lock (in the sense of a weir across the river) ever existed at that place'.

<sup>4</sup> 'Laward's lock' is casually mentioned once again, in a lease dated 20 November 1486, whereby John Avery of Purle grants to John Howe half an acre of arable land lying 'in the said Mapledurham Chawseys next to le lewyn called Wetelewyn, and one stycche of meadow lying near le lock called Lawardis lock' (Blount MSS.).

also have been fish-weirs, blocking the passage between certain of the other islands and one or other bank, and no doubt impeding to a certain extent the downflow of the water.<sup>1</sup>

Coming to later times, we find, prefixed to a poem by John Bishop (1585), a list headed 'Name and number of ye Locks and weares upon ye River Thames', among which are, '15. An old weare called Chawsey, being kept by one Wyllys. 16. Mawple Durham lock belonging to Mr. Michael Blunt'. John Taylor, the Water-poet, in his metrical petition to the Queen, in a book called *Thame Isis* (1632), speaks of 'Mapledurham, where stands three faulty and untoward weares'.<sup>2</sup> The reference is possibly not to three separate weirs, but to different sections of the single weir, which is very long and not straight.

Lady Amice Bardolf's widowhood seems to have passed without any notable incident. She died early in October 1416, at the age of sixty-three, leaving her body to be buried in the church of St. Peter at Westminster. After her father's ill-omened connexion with that Abbey, her decision seems surprising, in spite of the fact that her first husband had made provision for her burial there. The Inquisition held after her death states<sup>3</sup> that the manors of Butynhull and Godynton, which she and her first husband held for life by grant of Edward III, now revert to her grandchildren, Robert Langford, son of her daughter Anne Beverlee, and Sir Walter Daundesey, son of Elizabeth Beverle. Lady Amice also possessed the manors of Kedillington (now Kidlington), Cokefeld, and Mapledurham Gurney in the County of Oxon. The latter manor is said to be worth by the year ten pounds beyond reprises. This marks a further fall in its value since

<sup>1</sup> We have already seen (p. 22) that Sir John de Chaussy needed roadway for carriage to his '*gurgis*'. Ducange defines '*gurgis*' as '*locus in fluvio coarctatus seu ad construendum molendinum seu ad capiendos pisces*'. That it is used in old documents for the weir is plain. The Abbot of Oseney is summoned '*quod obstruxit cursum aque vocate Bakwater apud quendam gurgitem suum vocatum Kendelwere*'. Radulphus, Bishop of Bath and Wells, has, in the parish of Mark, '*duas gurgites Newere et Northwere de novo constructas per quas aqua . . . obstupatur*' (C. T. Flower, *Mediaeval Public Works*, pp. 120, 132).

<sup>2</sup> F. S. Thacker, *The Thames Highway*, p. 55.

<sup>3</sup> *Calendar Inquis. p. mortem*, Henry V, 1416, p. 23.

the time of Sir Robert Bardolf. She also held Chesham with Blakewellhall in Bucks., Mendelston in Herts., two manors in Stafford, and, in London, divers tenements and shops in Breadstreet <sup>1</sup> Ward in the parish of All Saints near the Walls, and a tenement in Cosyn Lane.<sup>2</sup>

Lady Amice's will,<sup>3</sup> which is dated 4 September 1412, and was proved 10 October 1416, is a long and interesting document. After leaving her body to be buried in the church of St. Peter at Westminster, where her first husband was buried, she leaves to the monks of that abbey 5 marks, and to a chaplain 5 marks for masses to be said for her soul and for the souls of all the faithful dead, for the year next after her death, at an altar near the tomb of St. Edward. Her bequests to the vicar and church of Mapledurham are given on p. 133. To her sister Elizabeth she leaves 10 marks.

'I leave', she continues, 'to William Lynde [her nephew, son of Roger Lynde and Elizabeth Buxhull] j best coverlet (*coopertorium*), j *testura* (the top furniture) and j *celura* (possibly the back furniture of a four-post bedstead), iij *ridell* (curtains) of the same colour, j pair of best sheets (*lynthiamina*), ij blankets, j matras, j kanevas, j basin (*pelvim*), j ewer, j quart pot, j silver potel pot, ij silver *chariours* (chargers), vj plates (*paropsides*), vj silver salt-cellars, ij bowls (*pecias*) with covers, and £10.'

To James Lynde, probably William's younger brother, she gave a similar bequest.

'I leave', she continues, 'to Johanna Merston, my maid (*famula*), ij red embroidered coverlets with white feet (?) in the middle, ij *testure*, ij *celure*, vj curtains of the same colour, now in London, j pair of *lynthiamina*, ij blanketts, j matras, j kanevas, j white coverlet with blue sheets (? linings, *scellis blodii*), j gown, j furr mantell with grey, j small chest bound with iron, ij large brass pots (*ollas enneas magnas*) now in London, j bassinet, j dish, all the coverings for my head, silk and linen (*de serico et linea*), vj small plates and vj silver salt-

<sup>1</sup> Leading from Cheapside into Watling Street.

<sup>2</sup> Leading from Upper Thames Street down to the river.

<sup>3</sup> P. P. C. Marche, f. 35.

cellars which used to be taken with me when I went riding in the country, and x marks.'

John Upsale, who appears to have been her head groom, is left all the furniture of a bed,<sup>1</sup> a second best horse, with saddle and bridle and all its *apparatus*, and in money 40s. To Sir Thomas Wolaston and Sir William Yonge, chaplains, she leaves 5 marks apiece. Every other yeoman valet (*valettus*) who stays with her till her death, is left 20s. Every woman servant in her livery (*recipienti vesturam valettorum*) is left 20s., every groom 13s. 4d., and every servant of a lower order 6s. 8d. To William and James Lynde are given in equal shares all her vessels of lead, brass, iron, and wood, and all her chests at Mapledurham and in her lodging (*ospicium*) in London, as well as 100s. to be distributed among her more indigent tenants at Mapledurham and Stokelile. After setting aside £40 for her funeral expenses (as to the funeral itself she gives no further directions), the residue of all her goods she leaves to be distributed, for her soul's sake, and the sake of all the souls above named, in works of mercy and repairing of roads where most needed, in repairing of poor churches, or celebration of masses, and in other works of charity. Her executors are William and James Lynde, Richard Merlowe [the Vicar], Johanna Merston, John Boteler, and John Cerne, a curious mixture of relatives and dependents,<sup>2</sup> while William Lynde and William Yonge, chaplain, are appointed their supervisors.

<sup>1</sup> Bequests of beds and bedding are common in early wills. Compare the will of Margaret, Countess of Suffolk, given in Rev. H. A. Napier's 'Swynecombe and Ewelme'.

<sup>2</sup> Her father, Sir John Bardolf, had similarly appointed as his executors two of his sons and his head servant, Thomas Boteler.

## CHAPTER V

### THE LYNDES AND THE IWARDBYS

THE death of Lady Amice Bardolf brought to a conclusion the Bardolf tenure of Mapledurham Gurney, which had lasted for at least 162 years, from about 1254 to 1416. Her heir presumptive, John Lynde, predeceased her, dying without issue 18 July 1400, and was buried in Mapledurham Church. Of Sir Roger Lynde, father of John and William Lynde the elder, we know no more than that he was the husband, first of Margery Bardolf, sister of Sir Robert, who must have died early, and afterwards of Elizabeth de Buxhull, elder sister of Lady Amice. He died 9 May 1407, and was also buried in Mapledurham Church.<sup>1</sup>

The De la Lindes date from the Conquest, and are said to take their name from Lynde between Lille and Hazebrouck. A De la Lynde held the manor of Bolebrooke in Sussex in the time of Edward I, and in 1260 or later a John de la Lynde was Constable of the Tower. There were Lyndes who held manors in Surrey in 1272, in Somerset in the time of Edward I, and in Dorset as early as 1165. A John de la Lynde fought at Agincourt in 1415. No evidence is forthcoming to show to which branch of the family Sir Roger Lynde belonged, or how he was brought into relation with the Bardolfs.

John Lynde's early death must have been a severe blow to his aunt, Lady Amice, who had made all arrangements that he should succeed her at Mapledurham. On her death, his younger brother William became lord of the manor. He had married Joan, daughter of Sir Hugh Annesley,<sup>2</sup> of Riddington,

<sup>1</sup> See further R. E. Lyne, *Notes and Queries*, Ser. 6, vol. iv, pp. 109-110.

<sup>2</sup> The Annesleys of Maidenhead were a Berkshire family, bearing the same arms as are now in the east window of Mapledurham Church, paly of six, argent and azure, a bend gules, charged with a mullet argent. Their pedigree is entered in the Heralds' Visitations of 1623 and 1665



Notts., probably in 1413. An indenture, 'donnée à Shiplake le seizième iour de Juyn lan le Roy Henry quynt primer', and looking very like a settlement incident on a marriage, binds William Lynde in the sum of £200 sterling to Philip Englefield and Richard Priour, of the County of Essex, uncles of Joan Annesley, for the sole and personal possession of the manor of Mapuldrum in the County of Oxenford, after the death of Amice Bardolf, seigneuresse of the same.<sup>1</sup> William Lynde also succeeded by entail, on his aunt's death, to the manor of Cheshambury in Bucks.<sup>2</sup>

The king appears to have confirmed to William Lynde, as lord of Mapledurham, the portion of the prioress and nuns de Claro Rivo in the church of Mapledurham which had been held by Robert Bardolf and his wife (p. 99). The only other extant documents which concern him here are a couple of conveyances. In the former of these, dated 22 January 1419/20, he conveys to his wife's uncles mentioned above and to three others his 'manor of Mapulderham Gournay, together with the park, mills, fishponds, waters, ponds, rents, reversions, villenages, customs, and service. The same day free and bond tenants do fealty to their new lords (*Court Roll*, 22 Jan. 1420, p. 200).

The same five feoffees reconvey the manor to William Lynde and Joan his wife and their male heirs in a similar conveyance, dated 27 February 1429/30.<sup>3</sup> Such conveyances and reconveyances of landed property were common at the time, and were probably made to avoid the incidence of certain forms of taxation, or with some similar motive. William Lynde died<sup>4</sup> 17 March 1438, leaving three children,

(W. Berry, *County Genealogies, Berks., &c.*, 1837). Francis Annesley of Bletchington, Oxon., was M.P. for Reading, for six consecutive Parliaments, besides being Master of Downing Coll., Cambridge (Coates, *History of Reading*, Appendix).

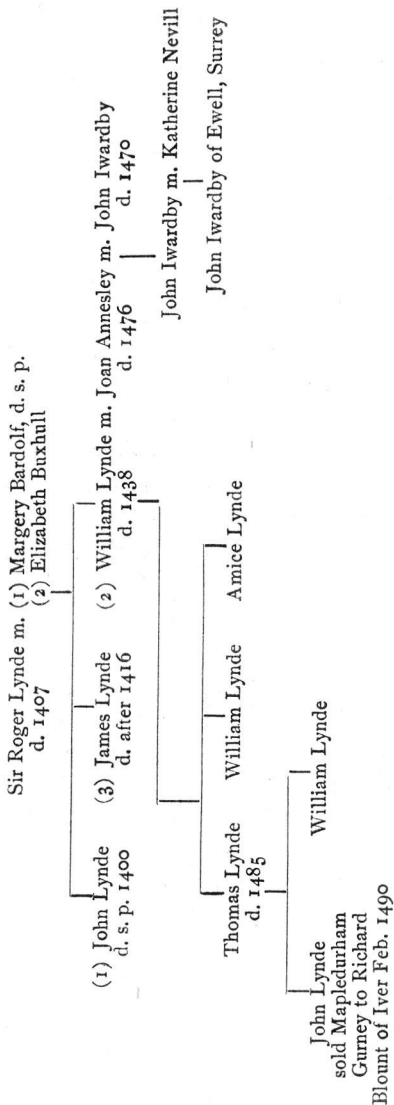
<sup>1</sup> Blount MSS.

<sup>2</sup> He was also tenant in tail of the manors of Chesham Bois in Bucks. and Stoke de l'Isle in Oxon.

<sup>3</sup> Blount MSS. and Documents transcribed pp. 40-1. Both of these deeds are witnessed, among others, by Thomas Chaucer, Sheriff of Berks. and Oxon. and sometime speaker of the House of Commons, lord of the manor of Ewelme, in which parish church he is buried with his wife Matilda. He died in 1434 and is thought to have been the son of the poet Geoffrey Chaucer.

<sup>4</sup> R. E. Lyne, *N. and Q.*, *ut sup.*

# PEDIGREE OF THE LYNDES AND IWARDBYS



Thomas, 'aged thirteen years and more', William, and Amice.<sup>1</sup> There is no evidence that he was buried in Mapledurham Church. Amice became the wife of — Mauntell and died 7 November 1497.

William Lynde, the second son, was evidently a man of enterprise and intelligence, and used his opportunities well. For some reason, possibly because he resided at Mapledurham and his elder brother did not, or was out of favour, he was granted, first for a period of seven years and afterwards for life, the portion in the church of Mapledurham which had been confiscated from the prioress and nuns de Claro Rivo, at a slightly higher rent than his father had paid, one of his duties being 'to keep up divine service and the accustomed works of piety'.<sup>2</sup> It is amusing to read, that in the preceding year 'William Lynde the king's servant' was granted 'the keeping of the king's ostrich, to hold himself or by deputy during the life the said ostrich, with all profits arising from showing the same'.<sup>3</sup> No doubt the ostrich was a more or less *rara avis* in those days, and some traveller may have presented Henry VI, then a lad of sixteen, with a specimen. Menageries were not uncommon, in early days, in the parks of great people. William of Malmesbury says<sup>4</sup> that Henry I had a menagerie at Woodstock, containing lions, leopards, lynxes, camels, and a porcupine. There was a 'menagerie' at Hardwick, close to Mapledurham, perhaps no more than an aviary, till quite a recent date.

William Lynde must have executed his responsible duties to the ostrich satisfactorily, for when we next hear of him,<sup>5</sup> in 1440, he is appointed, together with Master Robert Kent and William Waryn, 'to declare to William, bishop of Lincoln,<sup>6</sup> the king's design to found a college of a provost, fellows clerks and boys and poore and indigent scholars . . . in the parish church

<sup>1</sup> *Cal. Inquis. p. mortem*, Henry VI, vol. ii, p. 204.

<sup>2</sup> *Cal. Patent Rolls*, Henry VI, 1438, p. 284.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, 1437, p. 92.

<sup>4</sup> *De Gestis Regum Anglorum* (Rolls Series), ii. 485.

<sup>5</sup> *Calendar Patent Rolls*, Henry VI, 1440, p. 455.

<sup>6</sup> William of Alnewick, 1436-50. He had been Henry's tutor, a fact which may have predisposed him in favour of Henry's scheme.

of Eton near New Wyndesore'. Henry's educational projects were now taking definite shape, and, as a preliminary step, it was necessary to obtain the consent of the episcopal authority, whose jurisdiction then extended from the Humber to the Thames, to the foundation of a religious establishment within his diocese. The results of the envoys' mission were satisfactory. The Bishop welcomed the project with enthusiasm, and placed no difficulty in the way of the king acquiring the advowson of the Eton church and founding his school, provided that his own episcopal jurisdiction over it was secured.<sup>1</sup> The Papal Bull for the foundation of the College, issued by Pope Eugenius IV, and dated 28 January 1440/1, mentions our 'dilectus filius Willelmus Lynde' as 'procurator ipsius metuendissimi in Christo principis domini domini Henrici', and as 'procuratorium suum coram nobis exhibentem'.

These preliminaries being satisfactorily settled, William Lynde was, in 1441, appointed Clerk of the Works for the building of the king's College of St. Mary, Eton. He appears not to have held this post till the building was completed, but he obviously acquitted himself well, for, in 1445, he was appointed to the important and probably lucrative position of 'controller of the petty customs of the port of London . . . in remuneration for his labours touching the foundation, endowment, and construction of Eton College'.<sup>2</sup>

A period of some intricacy in the history of the manor of Mapledurham Gurney now begins. When William Lynde the elder died in 1438, he evidently left the manor, as Sir Robert Bardolf had done, to his widow for the term of her life. Joan Lynde, at least as early as 1441, possibly earlier still, married John Iwardby, who was probably the second son of John Iwardby, lord of Quainton, Bucks., and also, *jure uxoris*

<sup>1</sup> *Correspondence of Thomas Bekynton* (Rolls Series), ii. 273f. The Bishop of Lincoln's commissaries met the king's proctors on 13 October 1440, in the parish church [which stood to the south of the present burial-ground, close to the site of what was Mr. Luxmoore's house] and combined in declaring that that building should henceforth be styled a Collegiate Church (Maxwell-Lyte, *History of Eton College*<sup>2</sup>, p. 7).

<sup>2</sup> *Cal. Patent Rolls*, Henry VI, 1441, p. 494; 1445, p. 350.

Katharine, daughter and heir of Sir Bernard Missenden, lord of Great Missenden in the same county.<sup>1</sup>

The Iwardbys, three generations of whom were commemorated, and at least one generation buried in Mapledurham Church, were probably of Lincolnshire origin. There was a village named Iwardby in that county, and there were, in the middle of the fifteenth century, two prebendaries of Lincoln of that name.<sup>2</sup> The name is sometimes spelled Ewerby.

In marrying John Iwardby,<sup>3</sup> Joan Lynde evidently reserved the rights of her sons by her former husband to the manor of Mapledurham: they, and not her children by John Iwardby, succeeded. The exact date of the marriage is not known, but the pair are first mentioned as husband and wife, in two early rent rolls of Eton College dated 19 and 20 Henry VI, and as lords of the manor of Mapledurham Gurney, in a Sheriff's Inquisition, dated 25 April 1442, relative to 'a tenement called la Lee beneth Down' including a fishery in Thames water, from a meadow called Purlemede unto a field called Aldefeld, in which the jurors declare that the said fishery was originally held by the la Lee family of the grant of Hugh de Gorney (see p. 14), late lord of Mapledurham, by the rent of 10s. and suit of court. The atte Lee family appear to rest their title to the property upon a charter granted them by Robert, brother of Walter de Chaussy (somewhere about 1200), which charter is alleged to be a fabrication. The question was eventually

<sup>1</sup> The eldest son of this John Iwardby of Quainton, Nicholas Iwardby (d. 1462), married Elizabeth Hampton (d. 1466), and became the father of another John Iwardby of Quainton (d. 1474) whose wife was Joan Brudenell. Their son Richard Iwardby died s.p. 1510. See Lipscomb, *History of Buckinghamshire*, i. 395, whose view, that the John Iwardby of Quainton first mentioned above, was the son of John Iwardby of Mapledurham and Joan Annesley (Lynde), seems hardly borne out by the dates.

In the parish church of Great Missenden is a brass, dated 1436, to John Iwardeby and Katherine his wife, daughter of Bernard de Missenden, 'patron of the Abbey of Missenden' (*Royal Commission of Histor. Mon. England*, Bucks. S., p. 171).

<sup>2</sup> *Cal. Inquis. ad quod damnum*, 11 Edward III, p. 303 f.; Le Neve, *Fasti Ecclesiast.*, pp. 178, 234.

<sup>3</sup> A John Iwardeby was a king's officer at the Receipt of the Exchequer in 1427 and 1435; F. Devon, *Issues of the Exchequer*, pp. 403, 426.

carried to the Court of Common Pleas, where judgement was given, in default of appearance, against William atte Lee.<sup>1</sup>

A conveyance and reconveyance of the manor—the latter only is extant—similar to that recorded in the time of William Lynde the elder, appears to show that John Skernyng of Spetisworth, Co. Norfolk, was in legal possession of the property in 1454, when he released and quitclaimed it to Joan Iwardby and her son and heir Thomas Lynde.<sup>2</sup> The original deed here summarized is signed 'Skernyng J.', and the writer has appended, in his own (very bad) handwriting, the following note:

'And that this psend wrytyng a boveseyd and Reles be gode ffeythffull and Trew I the seyde John Skernyng in the xvij day off Decembre in the iiij yere off Kyng Edward the iiij have set to my seal and synyne manuel.'

In a further deed, dated 1 May 1454, John Skernyng, armiger, 'kinsman and heir of Sir John Bardolf', late lord of Mapuldurham Gurnay, declares that whereas Sir John de Chausey, formerly lord of Mapledurham Chausey, granted to the said Sir John Bardolf, 'my predecessor', the right of pasture for all his animals in all places in his manor wherever his own animals fed, with free ingress and egress (see p. 22), he, the said John Skernyng, has granted to John Iwardeby and Joan his wife, and to Thomas Lynde, her son and heir, the same rights as regards pasture, &c., which he himself enjoyed. What relation John Skernyng was to Sir John Bardolf does not appear, but the terms of the above deed suggest that Sir John (no doubt the second of that name) had made a temporary conveyance of his manor of Mapledurham to John Skernyng, no record of which is extant.<sup>3</sup>

Four interesting Court Rolls belong to the Iwardby period.

<sup>1</sup> Blount MSS., *De Banco Roll*, Common Pleas, Hilary, 27 Henry VI.

<sup>2</sup> Blount MSS., Documents Transcribed, p. 50.

<sup>3</sup> John Skernyng (the village of Scarning is in the Launditch Hundred of Norfolk) appears to have been connected with the Norfolk branch of the Bardolfs. In 1458 and 1461 he presented to the living of Spixworth (= Spetisworth), a manor held by the Bardolfs from 1199 to 1451, and in the reign of Edward IV he and his wife Margaret, with others, conveyed the manor of Frettenham to John Winter (Blomefield, *Hist. Norfolk*, vol. x).

They are views of Frankpledge, and fortunately three are for successive years. They are dated 23 October 1437, 7 May 1443, 2 June 1444, and 31 March 1445.

The first document, after the usual statement that Thomas Coke the tithing-man, with all the tithing, have given 'ad hunc diem de certo vjs. viij*d.*', gives a list of absentees who make default, all of whom are fined *ijd.* or *jd.* Certain repairs are necessary. Thomas Norton must repair a defective road called Cherscheland, and pay *ijd.* fine. John Geyler must do the same to a certain *Guttera* called Cakullescroft before next court, under a penalty of *xijd.* John Taylor at the mill has taken toll in excess, i. e. has retained in payment too much of the corn he has ground, and is 'in mercy'. Then comes a list, presented by John Alwey, taster of the ale, of people who have brewed and 'broken the assize': the fine for so doing is *ijjd.*, thus John Smyth, who has been guilty more than once, has to pay *ixd.* John Drayton and John Geyler are placed in assize of the lord king, i. e. are put on the jury of the manor, and take the oath.

In the Court of 1443 it is reported that a ditch at lakedyche is blocked up and must be repaired, and John Staunton and John Rowe have each to pay *iiijd.* A lane called Crypslane is overgrown with thorns (*concreta spinis*) for which Richard Astell is responsible, and must pay *iiijd.* The Court is no respecter of persons, for a certain lane called long lane [probably the present Pond Lane] and another called Holowlane [from the eastern end of the present avenue up through the woods], which belong to the lord of the manor himself, John Iwardesby, are grown over with branches of trees: he is ordered to clear them before the next Court under a penalty of *ijjs. iiijd.* There is still trouble about brewing, and Roger atte Lee, who was only guilty to the extent of *ijjd.* in 1437, is now fined *ijjs.* for twelve offences. And worse still, Agnes Wyncey's offences mount up from one to eight, and she is fined *ijjs.* Simon Rowe, who has not sent his ale to the proper officer to be tasted, is in mercy to the extent of *xijd.*

In 1444 there is renewed trouble with the *Guttera* called Cakulcroft, which is 'obstupata ad nocumentum', and John



Lovell has to see to it before the feast of the nativity of the blessed John Baptist, under penalty of iijs. iiij*d.* William Jory, who seems to have succeeded John Taylor at the mill is, like him, in trouble for excessive charges ('quod cepit tolnetum excessive'), and is fined iiij*d.* There is the usual trouble about the ale, and that hardened offender, Agnes Wynsy, has now seventeen offences to her credit, and must pay iijs. iij*d.* Roger atte Lee is still conspicuous with nine offences, and even John Raulyn, who is to be tithe-man next year, is mulcted in iij*d.*

When the 1445 Court is held, John Lovell has not yet unstopped the ditch at Caculcroft, and is in mercy to the extent of another iijs. iiij*d.* William Jory is still charging excessive toll at the mill, and suffers this time to the extent of vj*d.* There is still trouble over the ale. Roger atte Lee's name does not occur, but he seems to be sheltering behind Johanna atte Lee, probably his wife, who pays for eight offences with ijs. John Raulyn, who is the titheman, is fined iij*d.* for the same offence, and one is hardly surprised to read that he is removed from his office, and Richard alias John Botiller appointed in his place. With Agnes Wynsy there is a very slight improvement; this year she only appears for sixteen offences and pays iijs. Thomas Bertram is in trouble because he 'prostravit spinas et brul' domini apud Magnam Dene' [a wood still existing], and has fenced in one of the lord's rabbit runs (*semitam cuniculorum*); result, a fine of xx*d.*<sup>1</sup>

John Iwardby's name is recorded as justice of the peace for Oxon. from 1442 to 1452. In 1442 and 1446 he was appointed a commissioner in the same county to raise loans for the king.<sup>2</sup> He and his wife were granted, as lords of the manor, the portion of the church of Mapledurham, which had belonged to the prioress and nuns de Claro Rivo, and for the usual rent of £5. Their names appear, not only in the Roll of Parliament granting Mapledurham to Eton, but in a very early rent roll of the College.

A deed, dated 6 January 1451, is a release from William

<sup>1</sup> Blount MSS.

<sup>2</sup> *Cal. Patent Rolls*, Henry VI, vol. iv, p. 476.

Drover of Redyng to John Iwardyby and Joan his wife and the heirs of Joan of all his rights and claims in a Toft, two virgates of land, three acres of meadow, and half an acre of wood in Mapledurham Gornay, formerly held by David Breknock. The document,<sup>1</sup> which is drawn in the usual terms, concludes by saying: 'And because my seal is unknown to most, I have caused the official seal of the Mayor of the Town of Redyng to be affixed to this'. William Drover is mentioned<sup>2</sup> as entering on a lease for a cottage and garden, which he held of the Mayor and Burgesses of Reading in about 1450. The land surrounding, on the north and east sides, what is now Bottom Farm, is marked in the old maps of the Mapledurham estate as 'Drovers'.

John Iwardby, 'the elder squier' as he was called on his brass, died in 1470 and was buried in Mapledurham Church. A memorial window in the chancel, with a brass at its foot, both of which will be fully described in Ch. VIII, represented himself and his wife in attitudes of prayer. It appears that shortly before he died he resigned all his possessions into the hands of his own son John. 'Be it known', he says in his will, 'to all them yt be present or in time comming yt I John Iwarby thelder geve and graunt all the goods and cattell that I have and ought for to have or shall have in all this world to John Iwarby my sonne . . . and the said John my sonne willeth that I occupie the said goods during my life and after yt the said John my sonne shall pay . . . my debts, &c.' Signed 6 April in the ninth year of the raigne of King Edward the fourth.<sup>3</sup>

The succession to the manor of Mapledurham Gurney was secured, not for John Iwardby's son John, but for his stepson Thomas Lynde. Of John Iwardby the younger we know no more than that he married into the distinguished family of the Nevilles. His wife Katharine Neville was the daughter of Edward, Lord Bargavenny, grandson of John of Gaunt,

<sup>1</sup> Blount MSS., f. 27 b.

<sup>2</sup> *Reading Records* (GUILDING), i. 36. Simon Porter was Mayor of Reading in 1451 (Coates, *History of Reading*, Appendix).

<sup>3</sup> Rawlinson MSS. B. 103, f. 77 b.

Duke of Lancaster, by Elizabeth Beauchamp, heiress of the Despencers. Katharine Iwardby was therefore first cousin to Richard Neville, Earl of Warwick 'the kingmaker', whose father Richard Neville, Earl of Salisbury (executed in 1460), and Edward, Baron Bargavenny, were brothers. It seems strange that John Iwardby, a mere commoner, should marry a lady of such distinguished connexion. But there may be some significance in the fact that Richard Beauchamp, fifth Earl of Warwick, father of Anne Beauchamp, Richard Neville's wife, once lived at Caversham. Anne Beauchamp and Elizabeth Beauchamp (Katharine Neville's mother) were both daughters of Isabel Despencer by different husbands.

John Iwardby the younger, like his father, was probably buried in Mapledurham Church. A window in the chancel commemorated him, his wife, and a son named John who died in infancy, but the dates of their deaths are not known: see further, p. 127. Another son, also named John, married Saunchia, daughter and heir of Nicholas Carew of Beddington, Surrey, and from them is said to have sprung the Surrey branch of the family, one of whom was commemorated by a brass at Ewell in that county.<sup>1</sup>

Joan Iwardby did not long survive her second husband, dying 29 November 1476. The Inquisition, taken on 12 April in the following year, states that she held on the day on which she died the manor of Mapledurham Gurnay with the land and water of la Lee . . . for term of her life of the demise of Philip Inglefield and others. The said manor was held of the Earl of Warren by the service of a fourth part of one knight's fee, and it was worth by the year beyond reprises ten pounds. Thomas Lynde, next heir of William Lynde and Joan, is of the age of thirty years and more. She held no other lands or tenements of the lord the king in chief neither in demesne nor in fee.<sup>2</sup> She was buried in the church at Mapledurham and commemorated by a brass in the chancel, all of which has now perished except the inscription at the foot, which is now affixed to the north wall of the Bardolf

<sup>1</sup> Manning, *Oxford Journ. Monum. Brasses*, i, 287 f.

<sup>2</sup> *Cal. Inquis. p. mortem*, 16 Edward IV, p. 374 f.: Blount MSS.

aisle (p. 131). By her will, dated 18 May 1476, she bequeathed to 'Master Roger Gerye [vicar of Mapledurham 1437-84], my gostly father, my maser with eares that I drink in, on paire of beades of Corrale with beades of Golde'.<sup>1</sup>

The Annesley family must have kept up some connexion with Mapledurham after her death. In the Visitations of Oxford taken in the years 1566, 1574, 1634, and the gatherings of Oxfordshire 1574, mention is made of one 'John Stompe of Newnam in Oxon., gent. . . . maryed Bridgett, dau. of Henry Annesley of Mapledurham'.<sup>2</sup>

The impressions left upon the mind by the existing records relating to Thomas Lynde are not altogether favourable. In the year after his mother's death, 14 November 1477, Thomas Lynde of Chesham Bury, Co. Buckingham, esquire, alias late of Mapulderham Gorney, Co. Oxford, was granted 'a general pardon of all offences committed by him before 10 November last'. What the offences were, we are left to imagine; possibly he took the wrong side in the Wars of the Roses. His father William Lynde had been tenant in tail of Chesham Bois, and Thomas probably lived there, leaving his mother in possession of Mapledurham till her death. On 2 June of the same year 1477 he executed a deed conveying to Drugo Brudenell, Thomas Rokes, Thomas Ramsey, Roger Gery, Clerk, and John Felowe all his rights in the manor of Mapledurham Gurney.<sup>3</sup>

The Blount MSS. contain two official receipts for 'benevolences'<sup>4</sup> paid by Thomas Lynde on his Bucks. estates. The first, dated 28 October 1476, is for 'quadraginta solidos tres denarios', the second, dated 30 January 1476/7, is for 'quinquaginta unum solidos', 'de parte benevolencie sue', and the receipts are given 'in receptorio domini Regis apud Westmonasterium per manus ffitzherbert', the 'summa' being *iiijli. xjs. iiijd.*

<sup>1</sup> Rawlinson MSS. B. 103, f. 78.

<sup>2</sup> *Harleian Soc. Publications*, vol. iv, 1871, p. 336.

<sup>3</sup> Blount MSS.

<sup>4</sup> A benevolence was a forced loan or contribution levied by the Kings of England on their subjects. First so called in 1473, when it was astutely asked by Edward IV as a token of good will towards his rule. *Oxford Dictionary*.

In the same year Richard Salter, 'decretorum doctor', Commissary-general and Sequestator [sic] of Thomas, lord bishop of Lincoln,<sup>1</sup> in the archdeaconry of Oxford, writes to his well-beloved Thomas Lynde to the effect that 'forasmuch as Johanna Cumby of Mapledurham has died intestate, the administration of whose goods appertains to us as much by law as by custom, in order to satisfy her creditors, now that you have, as the law demands, taken an inventory of her property, we hereby commit to you, in whose faithfulness we have full confidence in the Lord, authority in our place (*vices nostras*) to draw up an account and discharge'.<sup>2</sup>

Early in the tenure of Thomas Lynde, a question as to right of way from Whitchurch to Mapledurham was submitted, at his request, to the Lord of the Honour of Wallingford. The road in question was, and still is in part, an ancient trackway, lying at the foot of the hills on the north side of the Thames, and well out of reach of the floods. When it reaches the Hardwick property it becomes private throughout that demesne, and when it quits that property eastward, and emerges upon what was then, and still is, the land of the manor of Mapledurham Gurney, it is the private property of the lord of that manor. Evidently the Whitchurch folk had put the road to its natural use as a means of transit between their village and Mapledurham, and to this Thomas Lynde objected. An Inquisition was held at Whitchurch on 24 July 1479 in virtue of the mandate of the most illustrious lord Edward, prince of Wales, firstborn son of the lord king, i. e. of the unfortunate boy, then eight years old, who afterwards became Edward V, and who then, as had become usual for princes of Wales, held the office of Lord of the Honour of Wallingford, to which Honour Whitchurch belonged. The twelve jurors declared<sup>3</sup> on their oath that in the field called Westfelde in Mapulderham Gurnay, adjacent to the Hardewyke field called Culnhousfelde<sup>4</sup> and to the road called Shypecote-

<sup>1</sup> Thomas Rotherham, bishop 1472-80.

<sup>2</sup> Blount MSS., f. 21.

<sup>3</sup> Blount MSS.

<sup>4</sup> Now Culmfield. Sheepcotlane must be the main road leading from the foot of Huntley's hill below Lily Farm into Mapledurham village.

lane in Mapulderham, there is no public road for wheeled vehicles, led or driven by the tenants of the aforesaid prince of Whytechurch ('non est aliqua via communis cum caretta ducenda sive fuganda pro tenentibus predicti principis de Whytechurch'), except by the leave of the lord of Mapledurham, obtained from himself. The said road is, however, a lawful road for horses ridden or driven with packs (cum pakkis) but not otherwise. The jurors conclude by carefully defining the course of the road. 'Ipsa via ducit a ponte de Walyngford per venellam vocatam Baconeslane et sic subter Mungewell courte Northestoke Southestoke et per Gatehampton Whitechurch Mapulderham et sic usque Causham Brygge et Reding.' This right of way, so far as the Hardwick and Mapledurham estates are concerned, is strictly maintained at the present day. Baconslane had been, nearly a century before, a subject of public investigation. A jury of Langtree Hundred, in the time of Richard II, presented<sup>1</sup> 'that Bacouneslane by Walyngford' is ruinous and flooded by default of the abbot of Crowmarsh Battle<sup>2</sup> and others'.

Two curious documents from the Blount manuscripts, undated, but obviously relating to this period, may be mentioned here. One is headed, 'This ys the metynge of the brode mede by twyxt Maystere Lynde the lorde of Mapulderham Gurney and the lorde of Chauseys Corte'; the other, 'This ys the boke to mete the lordys mede of Mapulderham'. The 'broad meadow' lay opposite Purley, along the north bank of the river, partly in the Gurney, partly in the Chazey manor. It is marked in the old maps, and varied considerably in size from time to time. It seems to have been the custom to measure out, perhaps every year, when it was put down for hay, how much of it was the portion of each of the two lords. This was done, not by dividing it into two large pieces, which might have meant that one or other lord got more than his share of the best ground, but by cutting it up into parallel strips of so many 'logges' in width. A logge was the same thing, more or less, as a rod, pole, or perch, usually  $5\frac{1}{2}$  yards,

<sup>1</sup> C. T. Flower, *Mediaeval Public Works*, p. 129.

<sup>2</sup> Now Preston Crowmarsh.

here, apparently, 16 feet and a fraction more. The general idea is that the lord of Mapledurham, no doubt in consideration of the size of his manor as a whole, receives as his share of the field twice as much as the lord of Chausey; when to Mayster Lynde is meted viij logge, to Mayster John Norys is meted iiij, while the lord of Mapledurham starts with an assignment of xxij logge and a gore which lie wholly in his territory. In the result, Mayster Lynde is allotted these 22 logge, two gores of size not mentioned, 92 logge, a gore of 4 logge  $9\frac{1}{2}$  feet, and 'Drover's acre'; Mayster Norys is allotted 46 logge, one gore of size not mentioned, and one gore of 2 logge  $4\frac{1}{2}$  feet and 2 inches.<sup>1</sup>

Thomas Lynde died 22 August 1485. An Inquisition was held at Witney (Writ 12 February 1486), in which the jurors reported<sup>2</sup> that the manor of Mapulderham Gurnay was not held in chief of the Lord the King, but was held of the Earl of Warren, by the service of one quarter of a knight's fee, and that it was worth by the year ten pounds. The jurors further report that Thomas Lynde had by his charter confirmed the manor to Sir Guy Fairfax, Richard Pygot, sergeant in law of the Lord the King, Thomas Fowler, Thomas Hamperdene, Thomas Restwold de la Vache, John Gyfford, William Danvers, and Thomas Ramsey. John Lynde was his son and next heir, and was of the age of twenty-four years and more.

A fragment of the above-mentioned charter seems to survive in the Blount MSS. It would appear that Thomas Lynde's first wife was dead, and that he was contemplating the possibility of a second marriage. The second wife was to be given precedence in the tenure of the manor, for her lifetime, over the two sons by the first wife, John and William, but no further rights. The fragment runs:

'... that the said Thomas Lynde therof shall take thysueze and profitz duryng his liff without empechement of Waste and after his decease to the use of the seid John or William in forme a fore seid and of their heirez males and fayling such issus the remainder therof to the right heirez of the seid

<sup>1</sup> These documents are given in full in Appendix III.

<sup>2</sup> *Cal. Inquis. p. mortem*, Henry VII, i, p. 80.



Thomas Lynde excepted that at the pleasyr of the same Thomas Lynde the said Guy and his said cofeoffees shall make estate of the seid manor of Mapulderham or parcell therof to eyny such person as shall be the Wyffe of the same Thomas. To be had to the same wyffe for term of her lyffe oonly the remayndyr therof after her decesse to the seid John Lynde or William Lynde in fourme aforesaid and the remayndyr therof to the right heirez of the seid Thomas Lynde. Also the seid Sir Thomas Dylling [whose name is not mentioned in the Inquisition] shal paie or do to be paid to the seid Thomas Lynde cc marks lawefull money of England to be paid in forme and maner here folowyng That ys to say at the sealyng of theiz indentures *Lli*. and at the day of the seid mariage *Lli* and at the feste of Seynt Martyn in Wynter now next to come after the date herof *xxli*.'

The arithmetic is not quite clear, but it is not likely that the marriage took place.

John Lynde, who succeeded to the manor, sold it to Sir Richard Blount of Iver, Bucks., on 1 February 1489/90.<sup>1</sup> He was afterwards one of the yeomen of the guard to King Henry VIII and died before 1521.<sup>2</sup> He left two sons, John and William, both of whom were buried at Stoke Lyne near Bicester.

The only surviving document of the time of John Lynde, other than those relating to the sale of the manor, is an indenture witnessing

'that John Lynde of Mapulderham Gurnay, gentilman, hath granted and let to ferme to Nicholas Ponde his park of Mapulderham with therbage pannage and all ye advantages of the same for term of the seid Nicholas lyfe paying yerele to the saide John Lynde and his heires ijs. iiij*d*. at too termes of the yere there usual'.

This may point to the establishment of a farm near the mansion similar to the present Park Farm, and possibly on the same site. The date of the indenture<sup>3</sup> is 20 May 1487.

<sup>1</sup> Blount MSS. The Conveyance merely states that the manor is sold 'for a certeyn some of money by the said Richard to hym payede'.

<sup>2</sup> R. E. Lyne, *Notes and Queries*, *ut sup*.

<sup>3</sup> Blount MSS., f. 7.

\* *obit*  
1506

# NOTES & QUERIES

EDITED By ERNEST W. DORMER,  
F.R.Hist.S.

*Correspondents are cordially invited to contribute to this column of Notes and Queries relating to Berkshire and the neighbouring counties.*

## THE CHAUSEYS OF OXFORDSHIRE

The Reading Holidays-at-Home proposals include another visit to Mapledurham, which is not only one of the most attractive of the Thames villages, but is easily accessible to the rapidly increasing population of Berkshire's capital town. I do not know whether any maples still flourish there—the experts assure us that the name is derived from this tree, and meadowland—but there is one part of the parish the origin of the name of which is not in doubt. There were anciently two manors, Mapledurham Gurney and Mapledurham Chazey (Chawsey); the latter is commemorated in Chazey Heath, and the name is derived from the family of Chaucy, or, in its French form, La Chaussée, who came from Pitou and, in turn, probably took their name from property in the Saumurois. It would seem that they settled in England at, or soon after, the Norman Conquest. There is a Richard de Chaucy who is referred to in connection with his manor of Mapledurham as early as 1194. Another branch of the family appears to have held land in the hamlet of Dean in north-west Oxfordshire at the end of the 12th century, and a Geoffrey Chaucy was at this time considering the question of the marriage of his daughter and heiress Margaret. From the CURIA REGIS Rolls for the Trinity Term of 1201 we learn that the father was proposing to give his daughter in marriage to Alan Martel with all his land in Normandy and his land in the hamlet of Dean in England. The legal agreement throws an interesting light on the father's financial position. It would seem that he handed over his land to his anticipated son-in-law on the understanding that Alan would marry Margaret within the space of six years. If in the interval a male heir was born to the father Geoffrey, or Alan failed to wed Margaret, then Alan was to hold the lands for sixteen years and return for one hundred and forty marks to be paid to the Jews to clear off Geoffrey de Chaucy's debts. The mortgaging of estates was apparently not uncommon in mediæval times. But things did not turn out as anticipated, for it was a Geoffrey Martel, and not Alan, who eventually wed Margaret, and there is a record that he himself had pledged to a Jew his father-in-law's holding in the hamlet lying in the Royal Forest of Wychwood. Although he lived at Dean it is probable that Margaret was familiar with the pleasant Thames-side village so near to Reading.

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## LOST

**L**OST July 8th, on 9.6 a.m. train from Midgham to London, or on Reading to London, 9-ct. Gold Chain BRACELET with inset St. Christopher, inscribed Bo.1341, Duna 35.1; sentimental value; reward. — Cavendish, Laughton Cott, Brimpton Common, Reading.

**L**OST.—Limp Green Leather Zip Fastener.

Brief extracts from Court Rolls of this period may be interesting.

12 March 1444. John Broune pays a fine of xld. and vj capons and Richard atte Lee a fine of iiij capons, probably at entering on a lease.

12 April 1445. Henry Croxford is fined iijd. for committing an assault on William Garby against the peace: William Garby is fined vjd. for assaulting Henry and drawing blood from him (*de eo extraxit sanguinem*).

27 April 1449. William Jory the miller is again in trouble for taking excessive toll of the corn he grinds.

10 April 1450. John Sullam is fined ijd. for letting branches hang over pasture land.

8 April 1460. John Noreys, armiger (lord of the manor of Mapledurham Chazey), is fined iiijd. for non-attendance at a Court.

6 May 1461. The jury present that a boar worth xijd. came astray since the last feast of St. Michael the Archangel, and was in the custody of the tithe-man. And afterwards came Richard Astall and took the said boar from the custody of the tithe-man without leave. Therefore he is in mercy to the extent of ijd.

(Same date.) Alice, the wife of Nicholas Baron came within the close of Philip at Well and broke his hedges and opened gates and caused the beasts to enter into the corn, and also took and carried away certain peas in the pods (*certas pisas in le coddas*), of the goods of the said Philip. She is fined vjd.

30 June 1462. Robert ffrewyn of Mapledurham Gurney in Co. Oxon., yoman, on 12 March, 2 Edward IV, broke and entered into the close and house of John Iwardby of Mapledurham aforesaid, and then and there being found feloniously stole x sheepskins, worth xxd., of the goods of the said John Iwardby. John Norys is again fined iiijd. for non-attendance.

(Same date.) The Abbot of Notley is fined viijd. for permitting hedges to lie open (*apud Canende*) to the injury of the lands of John Sulham and Rose Pynke.

Cases of heriot are frequent. In one court roll of 1479 there is record of xiijs. iiijd. value of one ox in heriot of John

Alwey, xiijs. iiij*d.* value of two horses in heriot of Roger Bartram, and xs. value of one ox in heriot of William Horn. The latest cases of heriot occur in a presentment of the Jury and Homage at the 'Courte Barand' of 7 July 1658. 'Wee present the death of Edward Kirsell since the last Courte: ffor the herreat wee know not whether it be due or not. Wee present Henry Wells deceased since the last Courte. The best live Good as hee died seased of upon the Living [is] due to the Lord of this Mannor in the name of an herreate.' Cases of breaking the assize of ale occur on almost every roll.

10 August 1463. Roger Bartram with the assent (*ex assensu*) of his mother Alice made insult on Stephen Brok, husband of the said Alice (*vjd.*), and drew blood on him contrary to the peace (*vjd.*), and also did there make a great hue and cry (*magnum hutesium fecit*) to the disturbance of the neighbours (*ijd.*).

(Same date.) John Berkshire, late of Mapledurham Gurney, violently (*vi et armis*) broke into and entered the close of Nicholas Montagu, and being then and there found feloniously stole one pair of sheets, value iijs. and one silver buckle (*j bocle argenti*) value ijs. from the goods of the same Nicholas.

Easter week 1479. Record of *xxd.* value of a horse received in heriot by Roger Gery.<sup>1</sup>

(Same date.) The Abbot of Notley is fined *viiij*d.** for trespass on certain tenants with beasts and horses, and is presented for not yet having repaired a hedge near Hyde Grove.

As curious as any is an entry a few years later (3 October 1508) when Thomas Pethe, clericus,<sup>2</sup> is fined *xxd.* for keeping a gelding (*qui custodit spadonem*) 'contrary to the custom of the manor'.

<sup>1</sup> Parson of Mapledurham 1437-84. Parsons, as well as lords of the manor, were sometimes given 'goods in heriot', see W. Kennett, *Parochial Antiquities*, Glossary, s. v. heriot.

<sup>2</sup> Parson of Mapledurham 1500-37.

## CHAPTER VI

### MAPLEDURHAM CHAZEY

IN the days immediately preceding the Conquest, Wigod, a noble thane who held high office under Edward the Confessor, was lord of the honour<sup>1</sup> of Wallingford, of which the manor of Mapledurham Chazey (to give it the name it afterwards bore) formed a part. He was sheriff of Oxon., and favoured the cause of Duke William, who, after the battle of Senlac and the unsuccessful attempt upon London, crossed the Thames at Wallingford, and was entertained there by Wigod. With King William's permission, Wigod gave his daughter and heiress Aldith, or Algitha, in marriage to Robert d'Ouilly, or d'Oily, one of the most distinguished of William's followers. Their daughter Matilda married Milo Crispin, third son of Gilbert Crispin, Baron of Bec, who already held all the manors which lay in the honour of Wallingford. Domesday Book records Milo Crispin as holding in Oxon. (to give them their modern names) the manors of Gatehampton, Great Haseley, Aston Rowant, Kingston Blount, Nethercote, Chalgrove, Rotherfield Peppard, Mapledurham [Chazey], Whitchurch, Stoke Basset, Newnham Murren, while various tenants hold land of him in Winnal, Somerton, Cowley, Draycot, Marsh Baldon, Chesterton, Upper Heyford, Henton, Adwell, Britwell Salome, Berwick Salome, Harpsden, Garsington, Watcombe, Cuxham, Alkerton, Swyncumbe. In Berks. he held the manors of Pangbourne, Clapcot, Betterton, Appleton, and Eaton, and lands in Sulham and Luckley. His connexion with Bec explains the fact, to be dwelt on in Chapter VII, that he gave the tithes of all the lands he held in England to that

<sup>1</sup> A 'honour' is defined as 'a seignury of several manors held under one baron or lord paramount'. Stephen, *Common Laws of England*, i. 215.

abbey. Milo Crispin died childless in 1107, and Brien Fitz-Count (*filius Comitis*), Matilda's second husband, became possessed of her inheritance.<sup>1</sup> The erary of the College of St. George's Windsor contains the original grant, with fine seal attached, from Matilda de Warenguefort with the assent of Brien her husband, to the Abbey of Bec, of Great and Little Okeburn in Wilts.; date before 1147. The Prior of Okeburn afterwards became the chief agent of the Abbey of Bec in England.

When Brien and his wife, in their later years, entered upon a religious life (*reddiderunt se religioni*) and surrendered their worldly goods, Henry II, in about 1154, seized the castle and honour of Wallingford and held them during his reign. His son Richard I gave the honour to his brother John, who seems to have held it during his own reign also. After John's death, Henry III gave it to his brother Richard, Earl of Cornwall, who held it for fifty years, from 1222 to his death in 1272, and bequeathed it to his son Edmund of Cornwall.

When Edmund died without issue in 1299, the honour reverted to his first cousin Edward I, who held it for the remainder of his reign. Edward II, in 1307, granted the whole Duchy of Cornwall, the honour of Wallingford included, to his favourite Piers Gaveston and his wife Margaret, sister and coheiress of Gilbert de Clare, Earl of Gloucester, afterwards creating him Earl of Cornwall. On Gaveston's execution by the Earl of Warwick in 1312, Edward II granted the honour to another of his favourites, Hugh Despencer, who married Eleanor, daughter of the Earl of Gloucester. After

<sup>1</sup> 'Wygodus de Walengheford tenuit honorem de Walingheford tempore Regis Haraldi et post tempore Regis Willelmi primi et habuit ex uxore sua quandam filiam quam dedit Roberto Doilli. Ipse Robertus habuit ex ea quandam filiam Mathillidem nomine que fuit heres eius. Milo Crispinus desponsavit hanc et habuit cum ea predictum Honorem de Walingheford. Mortuo Milone dedit dominus Rex Henricus primus predictam Mathillidem Briennio filio Comitis pariter cum hereditate sua' (*Book of Fees* [= *Testa de Nevill*], Part I, p. 116. But a comparison of the manors of the Honour of Wallingford as given in 1166 in the *Liber Rubeus* with the list in Domesday will show that the acquisition of d'Oilly manors occurred after 1086. This, together with the fact that Matilda de Wallingford lived until 1153 or 1154, shows that the marriage of Crispin and d'Oilly's daughter was subsequent to 1086.



Despencer's fall in 1321, or possibly earlier, the king bestowed the honour on his wife, Isabella of France, who held it until her son, Edward III, took it into his own hands after the execution of his mother's favourite, Roger Mortimer, in 1330.

Edward III, after retaining the honour for some while, bestowed it on his younger brother John of Eltham, Earl of Cornwall. When John died childless in 1334, the honour reverted temporarily to the Crown, but in the next year an Act was passed, which definitely settled the Duchy of Cornwall on the reigning king's eldest sons in succession. Upon the death of Edward the Black Prince in 1376, his widow, Joan Holland, was allowed to retain the honour till her death in 1385. During the reigns of Richard II and Henry IV, the honour again remained in the hands of the Crown. Henry V bestowed it on his new queen Katharine of Valois, in 1420, and she apparently retained it during her widowhood, and until her death in 1437. During the minority of their son Henry VI the honour was bestowed jointly on William de la Pole, Earl and afterwards Duke of Suffolk, and his wife Alice Chaucer of Ewelme. When de la Pole was murdered in 1450, his widow only retained it for a year, but it was regranted to her, and she held it at least till 1471. Her son John, now restored to power, and husband of Elizabeth Plantagenet, daughter of Richard, Duke of York, was granted the honour in that year. An Inquisition held in 1479 shows that the young Edward, son of Edward IV, was lord of the honour of Wallingford at that date (p. 55). It probably remained in the king's hands during the brief reign of Richard III, and in 1493 it was conferred by Henry VII on his eldest son Arthur, Prince of Wales, then a boy of seven. On his death it must have reverted to the Crown. An Act of Parliament of 1540 definitely separated the honour of Wallingford from the Duchy of Cornwall, and abolished it.<sup>1</sup>

When, and how, the family which gave its name to the lesser Mapledurham manor, became its holders, is not known. Tradition calls them Norman barons, and tradition is no doubt

<sup>1</sup> Compare J. K. Hedges, *History of Wallingford*, i. 225 f.; M. T. Pearman, *Oxford Archaeol. Soc. Trans.* for 1890.

so far correct, though the name of Chausey is not in the Battle Abbey Roll. But after Domesday, there is silence concerning the manor for about a century, at the close of which time we find the de Chauseys in possession.

M. Lainé<sup>1</sup> published in 1833 a *Généalogie de la Famille De la Chaussée: Seigneurs de la Chaussée, de Bournezeau, d'Ambrette, de Louen, du Lac, de Baincy, de Champmargon, du Pin-de-Rouvre, de Chantemesle, de Sehen, de Saint Prix, de Beaumanoir, en Poitou et en Flandre*. The house of la Chaussée (de Calceata in the Latin title), takes, he says, its name from an estate situated in Poitou, on the Saumurrois, three leagues SSE. of Loudun. He gives details, beginning at about 1350, of many generations bearing the name, and traces their descendants down to 1831. A manuscript note appended to a copy of the memoir, states that the first known scions of the family are William and Payen de la Chaussée, who, about 1126, witnessed the charter of a gift made to the chapter of St. Hilaire de Poitiers (Cartulary of St. Hilaire). There is nothing in M. Lainé's work to suggest any connexion of the de Chaussée family with England.<sup>2</sup>

In Artois, *estrée cauchie* (Picard dialect = *strata calciata*) often denotes villages situated on Roman roads.

In his *Calendar of Documents preserved in France*, Mr. J. H. Round records under date 1156-75, the confirmation, by Henry II, to the Abbey of Wandille, of 40s. a year which William de Calcia gave it by permission of William his son and Matilda his wife. A charter of Henry I gives to Mont St. Michel and the monks there serving God 12 librates of land in exchange for their two churches of Walegrava (Wargrave) and Calcia (Cholsey), which he has given to the Abbey of Reading in almon (1125-9). There is mention also of

<sup>1</sup> *Arch. Généalog. et Historiq. de la Noblesse de France*, vol. iv.

<sup>2</sup> The name of Chawsey is so uncommon that it is worth mentioning another instance of its occurrence in Oxfordshire. A certain Walterus de Chause (or Chausey), ballivus of Bogo de Clare, lord of the manor of Holywell, Oxford, is recorded, in 1285, as not allowing the coroner to view the body of a drowned man, and as having set up '*furcas* (gallows) *in Dominico suo S. Crucis*', on which he hanged a man for stealing a horse, and a woman for an offence not specified. *Oxford City Documents*, J. E. Thorold Rogers in *Oxf. Hist. Soc.*, xviii. 201, 211.

a William Calcensis, of William Calceius, of William Chalcheis, of Robert Calcensis and William his nephew, and of Roger de Calceto, sufficient evidence that the name took many forms in Normandy in early days.<sup>1</sup>

The first known feoffee to be associated with Mapledurham 'Chausey' is Richard de Chausi, whose name occurs in the 'Carta militum feoffatorum de honore de Waringeford' (1166) with this description: 'Ricardus de Ceaseza ij milites'.<sup>2</sup> These two knights' fees were for five small holdings, one of which was subsequently given to Godstow Abbey, while four remained in the hands of the Chausey family, the knight service being reduced by Henry II to  $1\frac{1}{2}$  fees. The fees were Mapledurham, one hide in Garsington,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  hides in Cowley, Alreley in Gloucestershire, one hide, and Clere Privet in King's Clere in Hampshire.<sup>3</sup> Milo Crispin in Domesday holds the first four manors; the fifth must have been given to the honour of Wallingford by the king, probably in exchange. About 1180 Henry II purchased Clere Privet from Manasses de Saluerville, who holds under Walter de Chausey, and sells saving the service 'of his lord Walt. of Chauseye'. This was the manor Henry gave to Godstow, remitting half a knight's fee to the Chauseys.<sup>4</sup>

The earliest Blount MS. which connects the name with Mapledurham is a grant of a virgate of land by Walter de Chausey (no doubt the son of Richard) and his son Geoffrey to Philip son of Ivon. The lease is sufficiently quaint to be given in full:

'Sciunt omnes tam presentes quam futuri quod ego Walterus de chauseia et ego Galfridus filius et heres prefati Walteri consensu et voluntate uxorum nostrarum matildis et marsilie concessimus philippo filio Ivonis et heredibus suis unam virgatam terre apud Mapeldureham quam Erewardus tenuit

<sup>1</sup> J. H. Round, *Calendar of Documents preserved in France*, A. D. 916-1206, pp. 60, 75, 76, 79, 82, 93, 259.

<sup>2</sup> *Red Book of the Exchequer*, i. 309 (Rolls Series).

<sup>3</sup> *Hundred Rolls*, ii. 39, 723, 778; i. 169.

<sup>4</sup> *Godstow Cartulary*, p. 168 (Early English Text Soc., 1905); *Book of Fees* (= *Testa de Nevill*), Part I, 118, 119: 'Galfridus de Chausi duos milites, set dominus rex adquietat inde dimidium militem per cartam suam' (date 1212).

cum omnibus pertinenciis suis libere et quiete ab omni servicio et ab omni consuetudine salvo servicio domini regis [i.e. military service] pro quinque solidis annuatim solvendis ad festum sancti Michaelis. Et pro hoc concessu et hac conventionione fecit prenominate philippus mihi Waltero et mihi Galfrido homagium [i.e. he has become "our man"] et mihi Waltero dedit duas marcas argenti mihi que Galfrido equum quendam et domine Matildi duos bizantos [probably a silver coin value two shillings] domine que Marsilie duos solidos his testibus: Ricardo filio Morini · Willemo Marmium.<sup>1</sup> Ruelendo le huscarle · Rob. de Chauseia [Walter's brother] · Ivone Morini · Rad. bruncoste · hamone · Gileberto supra pontem · hugone filio ivonis · Rob. armigero · Rob. hai · et jordano · Willemo filio siwardi · Rad. filio decani · Galfrido et Waltero filiis nothis · Ranulpho de causham · Rad. de Bernevilla · Thoma de kenetwida · Rogero de Newenham.'<sup>2</sup>

The consent of the two wives is interesting. The special presents of the two marks, the horse, two bezants, and two shillings, presents graded in value according to the importance of the recipients, form a good instance of the *gersuma* or fine paid to a feudal upon entering on a holding. The date of the lease is probably the last decade of the twelfth century.

To the same period belongs another grant of land, this time from Walter de Chausey to his brother Robert, equally quaint in language, and valuable as settling certain questions of geography. 'I, Walter de Shalseye have granted to Robert of Chalseye my brother the land of la lea which Richard held in Mapuldreham and a virgate of land which was of the ordinary in Mapeldreham and the meadow of Churlegrave with all their belongings "in bosco et in plano in pasturis in aquis in piscariis in viis in semitis", namely, that fishing which begins from a ditch called Calavresdike from bank to bank as far as the ditch called Aldefelde with the four islands of the fish-weir (*gurgitis*). . . . Paying to me and my heirs annually xij denarii on St. Michael's day or in the octave immediately

<sup>1</sup> The Marmions of Tamworth were the hereditary champions of England. A Robert Marmion, temp. Edw. I, made his sister Avice his heir, and married her to John, Lord Grey of Rotherfield, on condition that their children should bear the name of Marmion (*Battle Abbey Roll*, ii. 234). A branch of the family were lords of Checkendon.

<sup>2</sup> Blount MSS.

Sciant omnes tam presentes qm futuri qd ego walter de chauseria & ego Galfrido filius & heres  
pfati waldi consensu & uoluntate uxorum nra matildis & marie filie concessim philippo filio  
uicous & hntib; suis una uigata tre ap mapeldurelba qm exerau tenuit e omib; puenentis  
suis in bosco & in plano in pias & pasturis. in fennet & uis tenenda de nobis & hntib; nris  
libe & quiete ab omni seruitio & ab oi consuetudine salvo seruitio dñi regis; p qng; solidos  
annuat soluentis ad festum sei michaelis. Et p hoc concessu & hac conuencoe fecit pnomina  
philipp' in walto & in galfrido homagiu & in walto dedit duas marcas argentu in q; Galfrido  
equu quenda & dñe matildi duos brantof. dñe; & marie filie duos solidos. his cessib; Ricardo  
filio meum. Willm marmur. Ruelendo le hufcarle. Rob de chauseria. Joene moim. Rad  
brancofte. hamone. Gileto sup pont. hugoe filio uicous. Rob aringo. Rob bar & joedmo.  
Willm filio siwardi. Rad filio detani. Galfrido & walto filis noth. Ramusso de cūssham.  
Rad de bnerilla. Thoma de kenerwida. Rogo de mceynham.

WALTER DE CHAUSEY'S GRANT TO PHILIP SON OF MONIS

(Late 12th century)

following. And the aforesaid Robert in return for this gift has become my man, and has given me a breastplate and a ring of gold and a hawk in her first plumage.<sup>1</sup> I also permit the same Robert to grant that same virgate of land which was of the ordinary in any quarter he wishes with half the service that pertains to the land, namely for six denarii, unless it shall be in religion or in charity or in purchase.' Witnesses, amongst others, Gilbert and Walter Pippard, evidently early representatives of the family which gave its name to Rotherfield Peppard.

The 'four islands', now reduced to three, are probably those which lie off the holding, on the Oxfordshire side of the river, now called 'the Fisheries'. A fish-weir is known to have existed there, with trap-baskets to catch fish. It was removed by the Conservators in 1900, under an agreement with Mr. Darell Blount, when the present booms and piles were fixed.

Walter de Chausey was probably in possession of the fee as early as 1176. In that year he has to pay ten marks for an offence in the king's forest in Wilts., and the note is given, as regards five marks of this, *requiratur in Glocestersr*, and next year he pays this five marks in that county.<sup>2</sup>

His son Geoffrey must have succeeded him in the manor in or before 1194. Geoffrey's name is mentioned twice in that year, once in the case of a plea, again in a case of essoin, in the records of Berks., in connexion with one Odo de Karno.<sup>3</sup> He is associated with William Marmium, Peter de Bixe, Radulph de Mongewell, Richard Morin and others, on a jury appointed to try a case of disputed tenure of land in Stoke, Oxon., in 1199.<sup>4</sup> In the Pipe Roll of 3 John (1201/2) under 'Berchescira' a return is given of the fermes of the manors and other accounts of the honour of Wallingford. From a total of £35 due, one mark is deducted which was due of the fief of half a knight. Geoffrey de Chausey rendered

<sup>1</sup> *Accipitrem sorum*, literally a reddish hawk. A male fallow deer in its fourth year is called a 'sore' or 'soor': a reddish-brown horse is, in French 'saure', in English 'a sorrel'.

<sup>2</sup> *Pipe Rolls Public. Soc.*, xxv. 177; xxvi. 44.

<sup>3</sup> *Rotuli Curiae Regis*, i. 20, 96.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, ii. 67

account of six marks for two knights, but paid only five, being quit of one, remitted by the king because of the Abbey of Godstow.<sup>1</sup>

In or about 1225 Geoffrey de Chaussy concluded with the prioress and nuns de Claro Rivo the important agreement touching the performance of divine service at the Chaussy chapel, which will be dealt with more fully in Chapter VII. His wife Marsilia has already been mentioned.

Geoffrey de Chaussy the younger succeeded his father in the manor in or about 1238. In that year he confirmed his father's agreement with the nuns de Claro Rivo. Hugh de Gurney VI, possibly at an earlier date, had confirmed his father's grants to them, and added a further gift. Geoffrey's name<sup>2</sup> occurs in the verdict of the itinerant justices of 1255, attached to the Hundred Roll of Langtree:

'Geoffrey de Chaus' holds in chief of the lord of the honour of Wallingford iij hides of land in Mapledurham Parva at the service of half a knight's fee, and it is worth £10 a year, and he owes suit at the court of the honour of Wallingford.'<sup>3</sup>

The only other recorded act of this Geoffrey is the grant of a lease, undated, but valuable, because it gives the names both of his father and his eldest son:<sup>4</sup>

'I Geoffrey de Chauseya have given and granted to William Page in return for his homage and service that virgate of land with all that appertains thereto which William Le Juvene<sup>5</sup> [Le Jeune] of Mapelderham once held of Geoffrey de Chauseya formerly my father, Rendering yearly to me and my heirs thirteen shillings and four pence at the two terms of the year, that is to say six shillings and eight pence at the feast of the blessed Mary in March and six shillings and eight pence at

<sup>1</sup> Under the receipts of Henry of the Exchequer for carucage (probably a tax levied on plough-teams) in the honour of Wallingford (1220) we find: 'De Mapelderham xvijls. pro ix car.' (*Book of Fees*, Part I, p. 303). The Survey of 1086 gives eight ploughs.

<sup>2</sup> Possibly he is the dominus Galfridus de Chawesey who is a witness to a grant by Sir Henry de Peseia (dated between 1241 and 1264) of an *abacio* at Eston to the Abbey of Eynsham (Oxford Histor. Soc., xlix. 203).

<sup>3</sup> *Rot. Hundred.*, ii. 42.

<sup>4</sup> Blount MSS. The full text of the deed is given in Appendix II.

<sup>5</sup> There were Le Juvenes of Caversham, see *Rot. Hundred.* under Benefeld.

the feast of St. Egidins [1 Sept.]. In consideration of this grant and concession the aforesaid William has given me twenty marks, to my wife half a mark, to John my eldest son two shillings sterling as a *gersuma*.<sup>1</sup>

Among the witnesses are Robert de Mapledurham, Ralph de Herdwyck, Walter de Clevedon, and Robert of Goring.

In 1279, when the Hundred Rolls are completed, John de Chausy reigns in his father's stead :<sup>1</sup>

' Dominus Johannes de Chausy dominus ejusdem ville tenet in dominico suo duas carucatas terre et tenet dictam villam de domino honoris de Waling' pro servicio feodi unius militis integre',

and pays at the court of the same honour every month.

The full entry for Mapledurham Chausy is worth transcribing, especially as no similar entry, giving exact details of the various tenures, is found for Mapledurham Gurney. John Page's name occurs among the free tenants, but no mention is made of William le Jeune or of William Page.

The entry in the Rotuli Hundredorum for Mapledurham Chausy runs as follows (ii. 778) :

#### Customary services.

Gilbert le Crispe holds half a virgate of land and owes for rent xijs. and will find j man with a horse and cart to do carting from the feast of St. John Baptist to the feast of St. Michael [i.e. 24 June to 29 Sept.] except on feast days and Saturday or will do other work with j man at the will of the lord within the aforesaid time.

Richard de Stameswell holds half a virgate of land and owes xijs. of rent and services as above.

Eva Nobile holds half a virgate of land and owes xijs. of rent, &c.

Richard le Wyse holds j cottage and owes for rent iijs. and ought every second day or second week to work with j man throughout the year except on feast days and Saturday at his own proper costs.

William le Wyse, Thomas Gileberd, Ywud Walklin, each hold j cottage and owe iijs. of rent.

<sup>1</sup> Rot. Hundred., ii. 778.



Walter de la Lake holds one cottage and owes iijs. of rent, and he ought to work from the feast of St. Peter ad vincula [1 Aug.] to the feast of St. Michael on each day to [the hour of] nine or [each] second day at the will of the lord and at his own proper costs.

Robert Star holds j cottage and owes iijs. of rent and the services which Walter de la Lake [owes] And these vj cottars hold  $2\frac{1}{2}$  yard-lands<sup>1</sup> by the service aforesaid.

Free tenants of the same vill.

Richard de la Leigh holds free of the said lord of the vill one yard-land by the service of  $\frac{1}{2}d.$  of rent for all services save the king's foreign service so much as belongs.

John Page holds of the same freely one yard-land by the service of one mark of rent and suit at the lord's court and king's service so much as belongs.

Geoffrey of Frethorn holds one yard of land quit of all services save foreign so much as belongs to the said virgate.

Lucy de Vernai holds of the Prior of Walingford two yard-lands by the petty service of viijs. of yearly rent and the said Prior holds of the lord in pure and free alms [i. e. rent-free].

William Batail holds of Walter FitzRobert one yard-land by the service of ij*d.* of rent for all services save foreign service, and the said W. [holds] of the lord John mediately by the service of j*d.* of rent and king's service so much, &c.

Item Robert de la Dene holds of the aforesaid W. de Batail ij acres of the said virgate by the service of j*d.* of rent and king's service, &c.

Item there are in the same vill vj acres of meadow whereof the lord holds iiij acres in demesne and Richard de la Legh j acre and Geoffrey of Frethorn j acre.

Item the lord has a free fishery across the Thames for a length of one furlong.

And Richard de la Legh has a fishery on the Thames in length one furlong.

And the said lord with his free tenants and others pays scutage<sup>2</sup> for one knight's fee to the lord of the honour

<sup>1</sup> A yard-land is 'a bundle of mostly scattered strips in the open fields' = a normal virgate of 30 acres =  $\frac{1}{4}$  hide.

<sup>2</sup> Money payment in lieu of personal service in war, raised from knights' fees. A knight's fee, or *fief*, 'was supposed to be so much land as would suffice a knight to present himself and his retainers equipped for any emergency. Hence a knight's fee is a variable amount, generally 1-500 acres of cultivable land' (J. C. Cox, *How to write the history of a parish*, p. 42).

of Walingford when scutage is granted by the lord the king.<sup>1</sup>

A name which occurs not unfrequently in the records of the thirteenth century is that of Robert de Mapledurham. There were several of the name, but their relationship to one another and the position held by the family are uncertain. Robert de Mapledurham 'clericus', no doubt an early vicar of the parish, witnesses an agreement made by Geoffrey, lord of Mapledurham Chazey, with the nuns de Claro Rivo, about 1225. He also witnesses the sixth Hugh de Gurney's confirmation, in 1238, of his father's grant to the nuns, as well as Hugh's gift of further rights to them (p. 87). Another Robert of Mapledurham was appointed<sup>2</sup> sheriff of Berks. in 1234 and in 1236 is referred to as 'late sheriff of Berks.' Perhaps it is the same Robert de Mapledurham and Amabilis his wife who gave the king one mark for 'assisa capta coram Rege apud Wodestok' in 1250.<sup>3</sup>

The Mapledurhams appear to have resided in the hundred of Langtree, i.e. they belonged to Mapledurham Chazey and not to M. Gurney. This same Robert of Mapledurham is one of the twelve sworn jurymen for Langtree in the framing of the Rotuli Hundredorum of 1255 by the itinerant justices.<sup>4</sup> When, in 1261, Robert de Kenetwode and Alicia his wife convey to Henry de Sarum, chaplain, seven acres of land in Mapledurham, and a fishery in the water of Thames of the same vill, 'which formerly belonged to Robert of Mapledurham', there is good reason for believing that the land and the fishery were both in M. Chazey.<sup>5</sup> Yet another Robert

<sup>1</sup> There appears to have been another branch of the family in Oxon. in 1262, at which date John, son of William de Chausey, and Amice his wife, pay a consideration of half a mark to the sheriff (C. Roberts, *Excerpta ex Rot. Fin.*, ii. 371).

<sup>2</sup> *Cal. Patent Rolls*, Henry III, 1234, p. 44: 'Appointment during pleasure of Robert de Mapeldurham to the custody of the Co. of Berks... and mandate to those of the Co. to be intendent unto him as their sheriff.' Also *Cal. Close Rolls*, Henry III, 1236, p. 389. 'Berks.' includes Oxon.

<sup>3</sup> *Excerpta ex Rot. Fin.*, Henry III, 1250, ii. 85.

<sup>4</sup> *Rot. Hundred.*, ii, Oxon., p. 42. He holds the rank of knight: 'hoc est verdictum xij militum juratorum,' and Robert is first on the list.

<sup>5</sup> Blount MSS., Documents Transcribed, p. 10, quoting *Feet of Fines*, Oxford, 45 Henry III, no. 127.

de Mapledurham, convert or lay brother at Vale Royal Abbey, was appointed escheator in Co. Chester in 1283,<sup>1</sup> while in the Hundred Rolls of Edward I, William Ockyn is said to hold from Cristine de Mapledurham a house in Bucks., and to pay xij pence a year for it.<sup>2</sup>

How one or other of this name obtained for his two sons the farming of the payment of tithe to Lewes priory, is told on p. 101. And finally, a 'Johannes de la Dene de Mapeldurham', is mentioned in a brief to the sheriff of Oxon., dated 1300, as having, with others, disseised the abbot of Eynsham of his common right of pasture in Goring.<sup>3</sup>

In 1284/5, Sir John de Chausy is said to hold Mapeldurham Chausy of the Earl of Cornwall for half a knight's fee, and the same earl holds it of the king in chief.<sup>4</sup> This Earl of Cornwall is Edmund, son of Richard of Cornwall who was brother of Henry III. Edmund succeeded his father as lord of the honour of Wallingford in 1272, and received 6s. 8d. for 'fixed view' from Mappeldurham Gornay and £6 4s. 10d. for the same from various townships, amongst which is Mapelderehamchausee, as well as a knight's fee and a half held by John de Chauseye for Mapeldorham and Gersyngdon [Garsington] in Oxon.<sup>5</sup>

Sir John de Chausy died probably in January 1313. The writ for an Inquisition was issued 7 February 1312/13, and the report is dated 4 March. The jurors find that he held the manor of Mapelderham Chausy alias Mapeldoreham Chause of the king in chief as of the honour of Wallingford, by the service of one knight's fee, and that John his son, aged over thirty, is his next heir. It may be noted that the honour of Wallingford is said to be in the king's hand at a time when it was granted, first to Piers de Gaveston, and afterwards to Hugh Despencer, his disreputable favourites. 'There is', the

<sup>1</sup> *Fine Rolls*, Edward I, 1283, p. 184.

<sup>2</sup> *Rot. Hundred.*, ii, p. 355.

<sup>3</sup> H. E. Salter, *Cartulary of Abbey of Eynsham*, i. 346-7 (Oxford Histor. Soc., vol. xlix).

<sup>4</sup> *Feudal Aids*, iv. 154.

<sup>5</sup> *Cal. Inquis. p. mortem*, Edward I, vol. iii, p. 456, no. 604.

report continues, 'one capital messuage with a close there, and it is worth yearly 40*d*.' This must be the manor house, now Chazey manor farm.

'There are 9 score and 12 acres of arable land, worth by the year 32*s*., price by the acre 2*d*., and 10 acres of meadow, which are worth by the year 20*s*. And there is a certain pasture to be kept several between the feasts of Easter and St. Michael, which is worth during the time aforesaid 10*s*. And a certain Fishery put to farm, worth 20*s*. There are there 3 free tenants, rendering 39*s*.<sup>1</sup> And there are there 2 villans of woodlands, who render 36*s*. And there are there 2 [tenants] of half-yard-lands, who render 12*s*. And the works of the same villans in summer and autumn are appraised at 28*s*. 8*d*. Sum total of the extent<sup>2</sup> by the year, £10 3*s*.'

This return clearly indicates how small the acreage of the Chazey manor was, as compared with that of the Gurney manor. The latter, so far as the demesne land alone was concerned, amounted to 344 acres and more, when one-third of it was assigned to Lady Isabel Bardolf as her dower portion (p. 29); the Chazey demesne, as here defined, consists of 202 acres exclusive of the common pasture. Yet the actual value of the two manors, as expressed in their rental, is surprisingly close. Mapledurham Gurney, with 10 free and 56 bond tenants, showed, in 1343, a rental of about £13 10*s*. (p. 27), Mapledurham Chazey, with only 3 free tenants and 2 villans, is valued at £9 17*s*. 8*d*. (excluding 40*s*. for the manor house, for which no estimate is made in the Gurney rental). Again, the Gurney acres are valued at 4*d*. in Lady Isabel's dower, while in this return, 2*d*. is the value of the Chazey acre. This is surprising, because the Black Death, which occurred between 1312 and 1375, tended to depreciate, rather than increase the value of all land, and there is certainly, at all events in the present day, not much to choose, as far as value is concerned, between the lands, taken as a whole, of the two manors.

<sup>1</sup> This does not agree with the statement in the *Rotuli Hundredorum*.

<sup>2</sup> 'The "extenta" or Survey of a manor was the recorded result given by a body of jurors chosen from among the tenants. It contained an account of the whole condition of the estate' (W. Cunningham, *Growth of English History*, p. 218).

Of Sir John de Chausy the second very little is known. His name appears in the 'Returns of the Names of the Lords of Townships, &c., for the Purpose of effecting the Military Services ordained in the Parliament at Lincoln 9 Ed. ii' (1316),<sup>1</sup> taken shortly after the great defeat at Bannockburn.

'Liberty of the Honour of Wallingford, four hundreds and a half of Ciltre (Chiltern), in which are the Hundreds . . . of Benefelde, Langtree, Piriton, Leukenore, half the Hundred of Ewelme. Villa de Mapelderham Gorney with M. Chancy (*sic*). Domini Johannes Bardolf, Johannes Chansey' (*sic*).

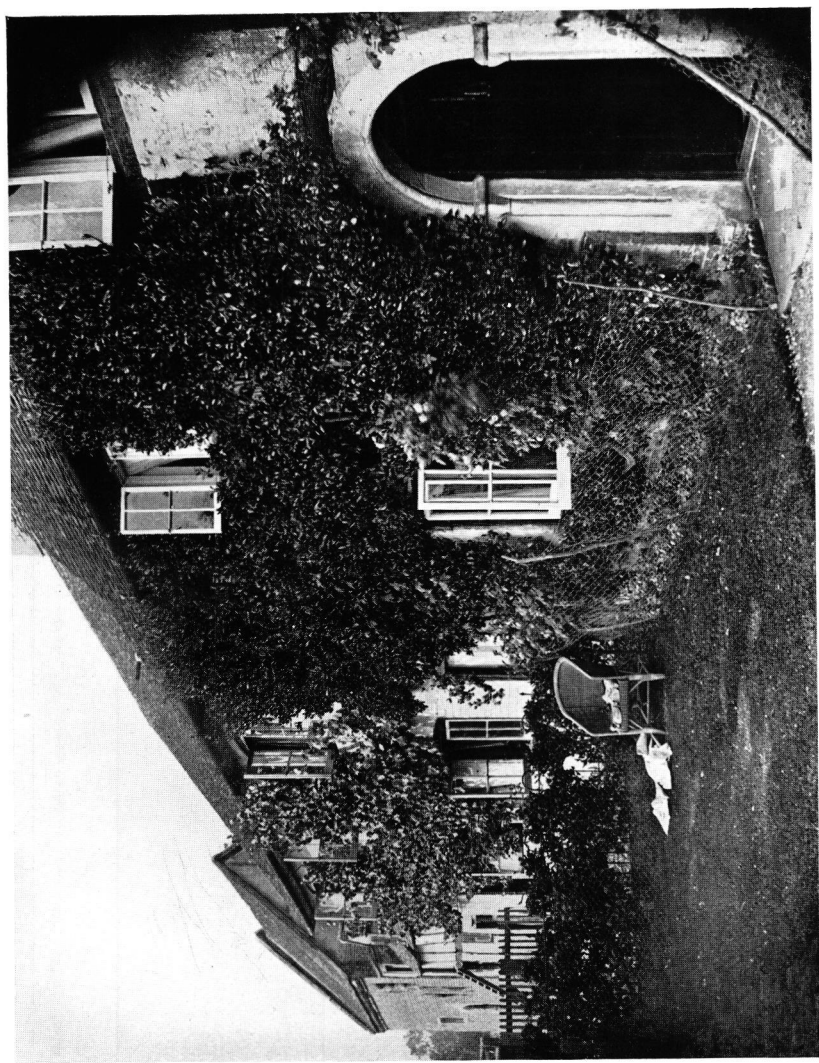
A feoffment is preserved<sup>2</sup> which seems to show that, after the manner common in those times, and to serve some special purpose, Sir John conveyed away his rights in the estate, and had them reconveyed to him for his own and his son's lifetime. John de Dagenhall, in 1355, confirms to John de Chausey and Margaret his wife, all his manor of Mapledurham Chausey . . . for all his life, and after his decease the manor aforesaid is to remain to Nicholas his son and Margaret his son's wife. Sir John Bardolf and William de Herdwyk are among the witnesses to the document. The deed conveying the manor to John de Dagenhall does not appear to have survived. John de Chausey's name also occurs as witness to a deed dated 21 August 1333, by which Thomas Syward conveys to John Wertham and Alice his wife all his lands and tenements in Mapledurham Gorney, M. Chazey, and Garynge.<sup>2</sup>

Sir John de Chausy was still living in 1366, when, as John Chaussee, he witnesses a bond between Sir John Bardolf and Sir Thomas Huscarle of Purley.<sup>2</sup> The date of his death is unknown, no inquisition having been held.

Nicholas de Chausy must have succeeded his father in the latter years of the reign of Edward III and was certainly lord of the manor in 1395-9 (p. 38 *n.*). His wife's name was Margaret, but he appears to have had no male issue, and was the last of his name to hold the manor. His daughter

<sup>1</sup> *Parliamentary Writs* (Palgrave), ii, div. iii, p. 354; *Feudal Aids*, iv. 170.

<sup>2</sup> Blount MSS.



CHAZEY FARM HOUSE, THE TUDOR CHAPEL AT THE END

Elizabeth was the mother, by a husband whose name has not survived, of a daughter Margaret, who married Robert, son of John de Stanshawe and Isabella his wife, but died without issue. Robert de Stanshawe then married another Isabella, and had by her a son, Robert de Stanshawe the younger.<sup>1</sup>

Nicholas de Chausey outlived Robert Bardolf, who died in 1395. This is clear from the presentment of the jury of the hundred of Langtree who held an inquiry into the condition of the 'lokkes and weirs' between Caversham and Wallingford at a date which has been shown to be between 1395 and 1399. The result of that inquiry reported unfavourably on the condition of the 'lokke and sewer' owned by Nicholas de Chausey at Mapuldurhamchausey (p. 38 *n.*).

A fine between John Thornebury and Thomas Weston on one side, and Nicholas Chausy and Margaret his wife on the other, dated 1394, provides that:

'After the decease of the aforesaid Nicholas and Margaret the manor shall wholly remain to Robert, son of John de Stanshawe and Margaret, daughter of Elizabeth, daughter of the aforesaid Nicholas. . . . If it happen that the same Robert and Margaret shall die without heirs, then the aforesaid manor shall wholly remain to the heirs of the said Margaret. . . . And if no heir of the body of the said Margaret shall be begotten, then the aforesaid manor shall wholly remain to John Stanshawe and Isabella his wife.'<sup>2</sup>

When Nicholas de Chausy died is not known, but it must have been before 1428, at which date his heirs are said to hold immediately, &c., certain lands and tenements in Mapulderham Chausey at the service of a knight's fee,<sup>3</sup> and almost certainly before 1416. In a Court Roll dated 7 May 1416, the jury present that a road is overgrown by a hedge which Robert Stanshawe is held to cut back and keep in good repair.

His grandson by marriage, Robert Stanshawe the elder, died 'on the Saturday before the feast of palm branches in

<sup>1</sup> Blount MSS.

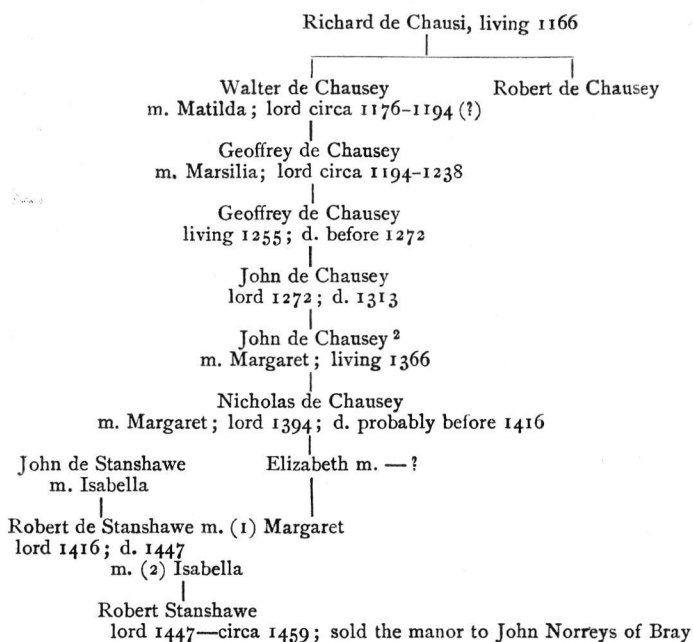
<sup>2</sup> *Feet of Fines (Common Pleas)*, Oxford, 18 Rich. II, quoted in Blount MSS.

<sup>3</sup> *Feudal Aids*, iv. 200.

the 25th year of the reign of the king that now is' (1447). In the Inquisition held after his death, the jurors report that :

'On the deaths of Nicholas and Margaret Chausey, Robert and Margaret de Stanshawe entered into that manor. Margaret died without heirs, Robert survived her and married a certain Isabella, and they have issue between them Robert de Stanshawe, now surviving, and of the age of 23 years and more. John de Stanshawe and Isabella his wife (parents of Robert de Stanshawe the elder) afterwards died, whereupon the right of fee simple of the manor descended to Robert, son of John. And afterwards the same Robert, as being seised thereof in his demesne as of fee, enfeoffed the said Robert his son now surviving To have and to hold that manor.'<sup>1</sup>

The following pedigree exhibits, so far as it can be made out, the family of the de Chauseys, and of the Stanshawes who succeeded them in the manor.



<sup>1</sup> *Cal. Inquis. p. mortem*, Henry VI, 1447, p. 232.

<sup>2</sup> Possibly a generation has been lost here.



Robert de Stanshawe the younger was not long in possession of the manor. When next we hear of it, it is held, probably by purchase, by John Norris (Noreys, Norreys) of Bray, Berks. When he bought it, is not known; but his name appears in Court Rolls of Mapledurham Gurney, where he must also have acquired property, in 1459 and 1462.<sup>1</sup> He was a considerable landowner, and held estates in Wargrave, Sunningfield, Reading, New and Old Windsor, Twyford, Wokingham, Ascot, Purley, and Theale.<sup>2</sup> He died in 1466 and was succeeded at Chausey by John Norris, his son by his first wife Alice. This John Norris the second cannot have held the manor for more than a dozen years. He is mentioned (p. 57) as lord of Chausey at the same time as Thomas Lynde is lord of Gurney, which carries him down to 1476-8, while the fact that his successor William Norris is fined at a court held in 1479, indicates that John was no longer alive in that year.

A curious petition was presented to one or other of these John Norrises by some of the tenants of Mapledurham Gurney, whose lands lay adjacent to the Chausey fields. They conceived themselves injured and annoyed by one of John Norris' tenants, and addressed his master in a respectful remonstrance:

'To our worshipfull and reverent master John Norys Squyer of our Soverayn Lorde the Kynge for his body.

'Besechyth mekly your pour orators and servants and tenants to the maner of Mapulderham Gourney that there as we holden londes and tenements of the saide maner be the which tenures We and all other that have ben occupyers of the seide tenures be the vertu of the seide tenures have ben possessyd of a Comyn Within youre lordship of Mapulderham Chawsey in ofnyn<sup>3</sup> tyme and now yt is so that Thomas Bekynton your ffermour in your seide maner as he seith be your commaundement us of the seide comon hath interiptyd and yet dailly lettith as in a ffelde called Wydehamme and

<sup>1</sup> T. Stapleton, on the evidence of Blount MSS. which do not now appear to exist, says he held Chausey manor in 1453 (Daniel Gurney, *Record of the House of Gurney*, p. 223).

<sup>2</sup> *Cal. Inquis. p. mortem*, Edward IV, 1466, p. 337 f.; H. J. Reid, *History of Wargrave*, p. 63.

<sup>3</sup> Possibly 'afor', i. e. former tyme.

the seide Thomas with his hounds our bestys to our gret hurt hath dailly thame chasted and huntyd out of the seide ffelde not withstondyng that we occupye londe within the seide ffelde wherby we oght to have our Comyn Wherfor it plesith you to write or sende to your seide ffermour that we might have our Comyn in manner and forme as we have occupied and othir afor us a tyme out of mynde and that we to our dutees and Comyn be restoryd we pray yow of your good master ship at the reverence of God and in the Way of charyte.<sup>1</sup>

A deed of entail bearing date 1463 enables us to disentangle the genealogy of the Norris family.<sup>2</sup> Thomas Heywood and William Aspul, Gentilmen, feoffees of John Norreys of Bray in Co. Berks., armiger, and of Richard Bulstrode, give to John Norreys all their property in Mapelderham Chaucy, Mapulderham Gournay, and Garyng, which they have lately held by the feoffment of John Norreys, for life. After his death, there is remainder of the said property to John Norreys, his son by his former wife Alicia, and their heirs male. These failing, the property is to go to William Norreys, son of the elder John by his [third] wife Lady Margaret. In default of male issue of his marriage, there is remainder to William Norreys, miles, son of John Norreys the elder. In default of his male issue, then to John Norreys, armiger, son of John Norreys and Alianore, formerly his [second] wife. In default of his male issue there is to be remainder to the rightful heirs of John Norreys the elder. Dated 6 March 3 Edward IV (1463).<sup>3</sup>

Evidently male heirs must have failed both in the line of John Norreys son of Alicia, and of William Norreys, for we next find Sir William Norreys, son of John Norreys

<sup>1</sup> Blount MSS., f. 5/15.

<sup>2</sup> Blount MSS.

<sup>3</sup> John Norreys the elder was Master of the Wardrobe to Henry VI and Esquire of the Body to Edward IV, and built the mansion of the Norrises at Ockholt. His will, proved at Lambeth 4 July 1467, is given by C. Kerry, *Manor and Hundred of Bray*, p. 116. His widow, Lady Margaret, became Duchess of Norfolk and died 1495. The family derives from Richard de Norreys, the favourite cook of Eleanor of Provence, queen of Henry III, who held in fee of the king at a rent of 40s. 'perpresturam in floresta de Wyndesor vocat' Ockholt'.

the elder by his first wife, in possession. His name occurs in connexion with a question of the rightful ownership of the manor. Sir William was presumably, on the evidence of the Court Rolls, lord of Chausey in 1479. He was fined *vjd.* in that year and in 1491 for not attending a Court, and was fined for a similar offence in 1493. He died in 1507, leaving two sons, Richard and Lionel, the former of whom was, on the evidence of the Court Rolls, lord of the manor in that year, and was recently deceased in 1527. A question arose between Sir Richard Bridges (Brigess, Briggs) and Anne his wife on the one side, and Lionel Norreys on the other, as to their rights in 'the manor of Mapyll Deram Chauceys, which late were Richard Norres, Esquyre, deceased, in possession'. It is not definitely stated who Anne Bridges was, but in view of the fact that Sir Richard Bridges acts 'in the right of the said Anne', it seems clear that she was the sister of Lionel and Richard Norreys. In order to avoid the expense of taking the matter into court—and this is further evidence that the parties were closely related—it was agreed to refer the matter in dispute, which also involved the ownership of a certain number of messuages and acres of pasture and woodland 'in Tacham, Shenynghfield,<sup>1</sup> and Redyng in the County of Bark', to a board of arbitrators consisting of Richard, Bishop of Winchester,<sup>2</sup> Sir William Sandes, and Lord Sandes.<sup>3</sup> The award of these arbitrators, who, as they say, acted 'as moche as in us lieth for the avoïdyng of all abiguyte and dowghte that myghte arise', was to the effect that Richard Brydges and Anne his wife were to have and to hold the manor 'without lett or interference of the said Lionell'. In default of issue born to them, and in that case after Richard Brydges' death, the manor was to go according to the Will of Sir William Norreys, knight, deceased.<sup>4</sup> This award, which is dated 18 February 1526/7, was followed, on 4 July 1527, by

<sup>1</sup> Thatcham and Shinfield.

<sup>2</sup> Richard Fox, bishop 1501-28, translated from Durham; Lord Privy Seal.

<sup>3</sup> William, created Baron Sandys of 'the Vyne', near Basingstoke 1523, lord chamberlain 1526, a favourite of Henry VIII, d. 1540.

<sup>4</sup> Blount MSS.

a conveyance and declaration by Lionel Norreys to Richard Bridges and his wife in terms of the award.<sup>1</sup>

When Richard Bridges died is uncertain, but he must have held the manor for nearly a quarter of a century. A letter is extant, dated 27 February 1549, from Sir Richard Blount of Mapledurham Gurney to Sir Francis Knollys of Caversham and Mr. Thomas Vachell, asking them to 'take the paynes to here the complayntes' in a dispute, probably affecting rights of pasture, which had arisen between the tenants of Gurney and Chauses, concerning 'a common heath called Chauses heath'.<sup>2</sup> Sir Richard Blount and Mr. Richard Brydges express themselves ready to abide by the decision of the umpires, whatever it may be.<sup>3</sup>

The Bridges did not die childless, but were succeeded, at an unknown date after 1549, by their son Anthony. He must have fallen into difficulties in the later years of his life,<sup>4</sup> for on 4 May 1581 he mortgaged 'the manor mansion house and demesnes of Mapledurham Chaseys alias Chasis Courte' to 'John Popham<sup>5</sup> of Wellington in the County of Sommsett, sollicitor generall to the Queenes Matie, Thomas Hanam of the Middle Temple in London, Esquire, and James Clarcke, of the same Temple, Gent., in consideration of the somm of foure hundred pounds of Lawful English money'. The 'cleare yearly vawew' of the manor is stated in the mortgage to be £16 11s. 8d.<sup>6</sup> On 4 February 1581/2, Anthony and his three mortgagees (Popham is now 'attorney generall') conveyed the manor to 'Michael Blount of Iver in the County of Buck. in consideracion of the some of Nyne hundred pounds of good and lawful money of England'.<sup>6</sup> The two manors, Gurney

<sup>1</sup> Blount MSS.

<sup>2</sup> Now the hamlet of Chazey Heath, on the Oxford road, two miles from Caversham Bridge.

<sup>3</sup> Blount MSS.

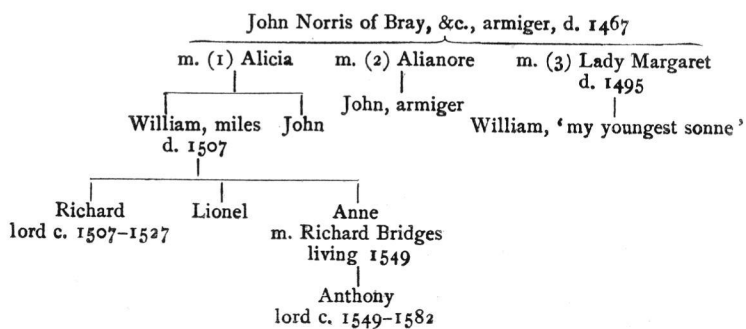
<sup>4</sup> He is described in the mortgage as 'of West Shefford, Co. Barck', and was Sheriff of Berks. 1575.

<sup>5</sup> Sir John Popham, L.C.J. 1592-1607, was afterwards the judge before whom Edmund Darrell was arraigned for the murder of his own illegitimate infant son. Popham, according to Lord Malmesbury, acquitted Darrell contrary to all evidence. He is said to have left Darrell's former estate at Littlecote near Ramsbury, and £10,000, to his own son.

<sup>6</sup> Blount MSS.

and Chazey, were thus united under the same ownership, and the same family has held them ever since.

# PEDIGREE OF THE NORRIS OF MAPLEDURHAM CHAZEY



## CHAPTER VII

### THE CHURCH: HISTORY AND SUPPRESSION OF THE ALIEN PRIORY

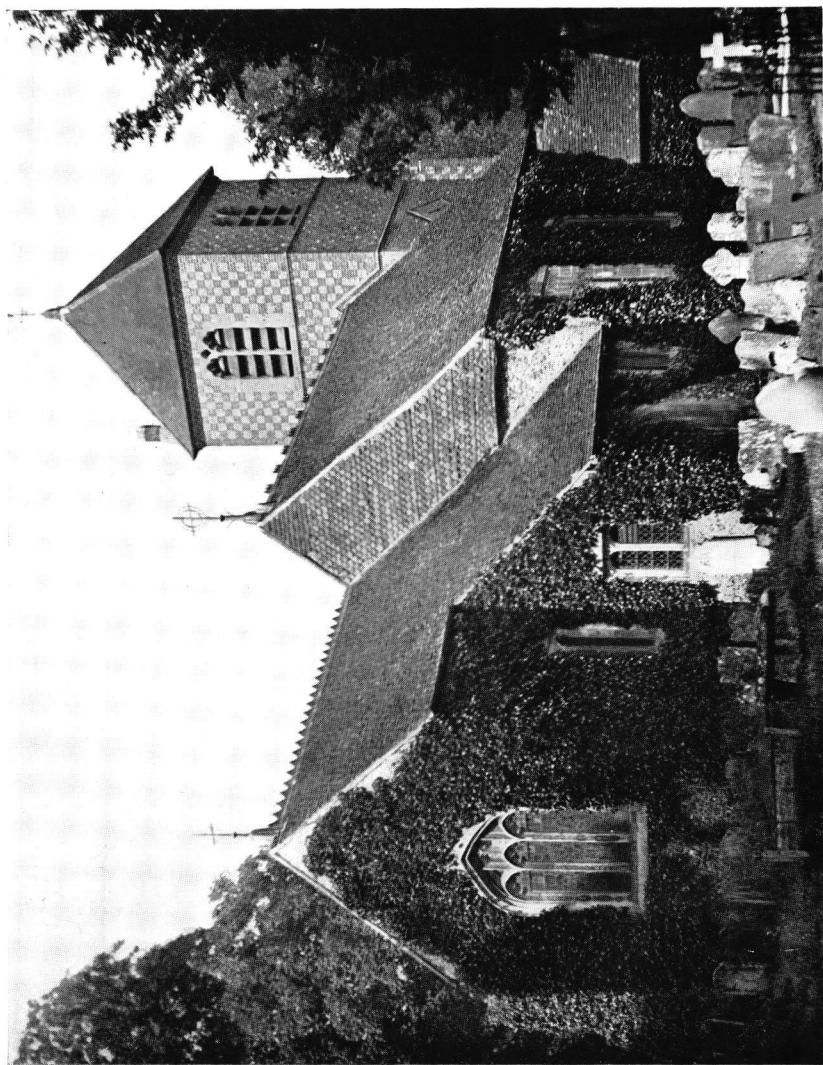
THE ecclesiastical records of the two manors of Mapledurham, although quite distinct from one another, begin at about the same time. Both begin with the payment of tithe to a religious house, external to the parish itself, shortly after the Norman Conquest. The larger manor, later known as Mapledurham Gurney, paid two-thirds of the tithes of the demesne to the priory of Lewes in Sussex. The smaller manor, later known as Mapledurham Chazey, paid two-thirds of the tithes arising out of its demesne lands to the abbey of Bec, in Normandy. Two-thirds of the tithe appears to have been the regular amount which used to be given to a religious house. The remaining one-third fell to the parish priest, or to the appropriators.

William de Warenne and his wife Gundrada, daughter of Queen Matilda, and stepdaughter of William I of England, founded, in or about 1078, the priory of St. Pancras at Lewes, as a cell to the abbey of Cluny, and endowed it with two-thirds of the 'Gurney' tithe. The Mapledurham manor which they owned, passed by marriage, as has already been explained, to the de Gournay family, who continued the payment of the tithe they inherited.

Milo Crispin, lord of the honour of Wallingford, in the reign of William I, granted '*ecclesie sancte Marie Beccosuarum terrarum decimas quas in Anglia habebat*'. Twenty-four places in all are named in the grant,<sup>1</sup> Mapledurham being the seventh on the list, following Witthechurch and Herdewicha<sup>2</sup> and followed by Retherfeld and Clopcote. After

<sup>1</sup> *Liber Albus* of John Arundel, St. George's College, Windsor, f. 152 v.

<sup>2</sup> It is interesting to find Hardwick separate from Whitchurch at this early date.



THE CHURCH, EXTERIOR

mentioning the tithes granted at Whitchurch, which include 'de molendino decimam et de piscatorio iiij stichas',<sup>1</sup> the entry continues: 'apud Mapultereham concessit decimam in annona agnis caseis velleribus pellibus porcellis vitulis pannagio'. The confirmation of these grants, and of all others made to the abbey of Bec in various parts and by various persons in England, purports to have borne the *signa* of William, King of the English, of Lanfranc, Archbishop of Canterbury, of William the Earl and son of the King [afterwards William II], of Thomas, Archbishop of York, of Geoffrey, Bishop of Coutances, of Richard, son of Earl Gilbert, of Walchelin, Bishop of Winchester, of William, Bishop of Durham, of Milo Crispinus, and of Henry, son of the King [afterwards Henry I]. No date is appended to the document. Lanfranc, Thomas of York, and Walchelin of Winchester were all consecrated to their respective sees in 1070, but William of St. Calais, Bishop of Durham, obtained that see in 1081. Thus the date of this confirmation of Milo Crispin's gifts falls between 1081 and 1087.

Alexander, Bishop of Lincoln 1125-47, confirmed the grants made to the abbey of Bec in his diocese, including the gift of Milo Crispin and Matilda of Wallingford his wife, of tithes in twenty parishes. And Walter Reynold, Archbishop of Canterbury, confirmed at Lambeth, 22 May 1320, a grant of all the tithes claimed by Bec in England. Mapledurham is included in both these documents.<sup>2</sup>

The Benedictine abbey of Bec, le Bec, or Bec Hellouin, situated near the junction of a small 'beck' or rivulet with the Rille, about half way between Evreux and Honfleur, was founded in 1037 by Hellouin, a Norman knight, who, at the age of forty, entered the religious life, and eventually became the first abbot of his own foundation.<sup>3</sup> The church which subsequently took the place of the first, and ruder, building, was dedicated to the honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary by

<sup>1</sup> A 'stick' of eels was twenty-five, threaded on a piece of wood. Riparian tenants paid rent in 'sticks' of fish for centuries after this.

<sup>2</sup> *Liber Albus* of John Arundel, *ut supra*.

<sup>3</sup> According to the *Annales Monastici* (Winchester), p. 16, the date of the foundation was 1023.



Lanfranc in 1077. Its abbot Theobald was consecrated Archbishop of Canterbury in 1135, and in 1173 abbot Roger was elected to the same office but declined it, 'utrum pusillanimitatis intuitu an religionis incertum habetur'.<sup>1</sup> Anselm was abbot 1078-93.

We have already seen how the de Gournays came into possession of the larger manor at Mapledurham by marriage with the Warennes. It must now be explained how the ecclesiastical history of the two manors, each of which was connected with so distinguished a religious house, became more closely united, and how, while the separate payments of tithe to those houses continued for many generations, an entirely new element in the situation was introduced by the conversion of the church of Mapledurham Gurney into an 'alien priory'. Many English benefices, in the eleventh and twelfth centuries, passed, in one way or another, into foreign hands.

About a kilometre west of the country town of Gaillefontaine (*Goislainfontana*) in Normandy, which lies about 20 km. north-north-east of Gournai, in the department of Seine-Inférieure, stood the little nunnery of the *Clarus Rivus*, or the Clear Stream. In his charter, a copy of which, extracted from the archiepiscopal records at Rouen, is in the Eton College Library,<sup>2</sup> Hugo de Gornai IV relates how he and his wife Milicent 'construximus ecclesiam beate Dei genetricis Marie et sancti Johannis Baptiste apud Goislainfontanam iuxta alnetum qui est secus Rivulum qui vocatur Clarus Rivus', and how 'ad eandem ecclesiam transire fecimus sanctimoniales que antea in Valle prelii habitaverunt'. Freeman<sup>3</sup> has pointed out that 'a Norman noble of the middle of the eleventh century thought his estate lacked its chief monument if he failed to plant a colony of monks in some corner of his possessions'. The movement had not died out a hundred years later. Hugh de Gornai, like Roger of Montgomery, may have built his nunnery 'indignans videri in aliquo inferior suis comparibus'.

<sup>1</sup> Matthew Paris, *Hist. Anglorum* (Rolls Series), i, pp. 24, 373.

<sup>2</sup> It is also given in Dugdale, *Monasticon*, vi. 1088.

<sup>3</sup> *History of the Norman Conquest in England*, ii. 215.

After mentioning a number of benefactions already bestowed by Hugh de Gornai upon the nuns before their removal, which he desires 'propriis nominibus subnotare', the charter proceeds to bestow upon them 'from the marriage portion of my wife Millesend xl shillings', and 'in England at Castre<sup>1</sup> two marks of silver'. 'And', continues the donor, 'I give and bestow on the church of the nuns of Goislainfont for ever the church of Malpetreham and all its belongings which belong to me, for the salvation of my soul and the souls of my predecessors and for the soul of my wife Milisend, free and quit of all customs and services. And I further grant them 1 shillings sterling which in the same church I received.' The nuns are to hold the church, &c., of Malpetreham 'after the death of Radulphus de Agia',<sup>2</sup> who is no doubt the vicar in possession. He makes a similar donation to them of the church of 'Keneborlai' (Kimberley) in Norfolk (saving the jurisdiction of the lord bishop of Norwich), 'post decessum Willelmi predictae ecclesie presbyteri cum ista donacio facta fuit'. William, however, is not treated so liberally as Ralph, for as long as he lives he is to pay the nuns an annual rent (*pensio*) of five shillings. A postscript of special interest adds that 'ego Milesendis' have given to the aforesaid church [of Gaillefontaine] 'all my purchases within my own rights of which I shall die possessed, and all my property of what nature soever'.

This undated<sup>3</sup> charter has to receive the confirmation of the King of England, who gives it in the usual form :

'H[enricus II] Rex anglie et dux normannie et aquitannie et comes Andegavensis archiepiscopis episcopis abbatibus comitibus baronibus iusticiis universis et omnibus ministris et fidelibus suis Anglie et Normannie salutem. . . . My will and strict injunction is, that the aforesaid nuns shall have and hold all these gifts, In Bosco et in plano in pratis et pascuis in agris et molendinis in viis et semitis et in omnibus aliis Rebus . . .

<sup>1</sup> Now Caister in Flegg near Great Yarmouth.

<sup>2</sup> Possibly of La Haye, some 25 km. east of Gournai.

<sup>3</sup> Dugdale, *Monasticon*, vi. 1088, dates it about 1050 which is more than a century too early.

bene et in pace et libere et quiete et plenarie et integre et honorifice sicut carte donatorum testantur.'

Among the witnesses to the king's signature are 'Gauffr. Archidi. Cant.', and Reginald FitzUrse. Geoffrey Ridel was Archdeacon of Canterbury 1163-73, when, after being excommunicated by Becket in 1169 as an arch-devil and limb of Antichrist, he was promoted to the see of Ely. Reginald FitzUrse, one of the murderers of Becket, fled the country immediately after the murder (1170), and, after visiting Rome with his fellow-assassins, in an attempt to propitiate the Pope, is said to have fallen with them before the walls of Jerusalem.<sup>1</sup> It is certain that he never again witnessed the signature of Henry II. Thus the royal confirmation of Hugh de Gurney's gift of the church of Mapledurham to the nuns de Claro Rivo falls between 1163 and 1170. The charter itself happens to mention that all Hugh's gifts to the nuns are made with the approval of his sons Gerard and Hugh. Gerard is said to have died in 1151. If this was so, the charter must be dated before that year. Henry II, however, did not come to the throne till 1154, and it is improbable that the confirmation of the charter would have been deferred for at least three years. The evidence for the date of Gerard's death is not convincing, and it seems necessary to assign the charter to the date given above, namely 1163-70.

All these gifts of Hugh de Gurney IV to the nuns de Claro Rivo were confirmed by his son Hugh V, who added further concessions of his own, which bear no reference to Mapledurham.<sup>2</sup> His son, Hugh VI, endowed the nuns as a perpetual quitclaim for the tithe of hay from his demesnes in the vill of Mapledurham ('pro perpetua quieta clamacione decimarum feni de dominico meo in villa de M. D.'), with two acres of land, 'namely those which lie between the land of Richard de Aketune and the land of the aforesaid nuns'.<sup>3</sup> He

<sup>1</sup> Lingard, *History of England*, ii. 83 note.

<sup>2</sup> The original charters were in the chancery of Rouen Cathedral before 1848, according to T. Stapleton in Daniel Gurney's *History of the Gurney Family*. A careful search in the cathedral archives in 1924 revealed no trace of them.

<sup>3</sup> None of these lands can now be identified with certainty.

also confirmed to the nuns, in 1238, all the lands and tenements which they held from his father 'in the manor of Malpedureham', and added, as a further gift of his own, a concession of free pasture for eight oxen, 'feeding with my oxen wherever my oxen have fed, with free ingress and egress, and common rights at pleasure in the common pastures of the vill'. In a final sentence he recognized the right of the nuns to present on his behalf to the vicarage of Mapledurham ('*recoгноско quod debent . . . presentare pro me ad vicariam*').<sup>1</sup>

Although no definite statement of fact is forthcoming, all these transactions of necessity imply, that, in the times we are concerned with, and probably at a much earlier date, Mapledurham possessed a place of worship, in charge of an ordained minister. Each of the two manors must have contained a manorial chapel, originally no more than a rude wooden building, standing in close proximity to the manor house, and largely dependent upon it. In what century the manorial chapel of Mapledurham Gurney developed into the parish church, and under whose lordship a substantial stone building took the place of a narrow and precarious structure of wood, will probably never be known. But there can be no doubt that the present parish church of Mapledurham represents, and conceivably stands on the same site as, the manorial chapel of Mapledurham Gurney. The chapel which we know was attached to the manor of Mapledurham Chazey never developed into what we now call a church, probably owing to the small size of the manor itself. But there still stands, in a line with the farm house or Court of Chazey, a building, now used as a stable, which was once devoted to ecclesiastical purposes, and whose architecture assigns it to Tudor times. This building may almost certainly be regarded as the lineal descendant of the early manorial chapel of the Chauseys, and probably stands on the site on which that chapel stood.

About half a century after the nuns de Claro Rivo became rectors of the church of Mapledurham, an important step was taken in the direction of unifying the religious control of the

<sup>1</sup> A duly attested copy of this deed is in the library of Eton College.

two manors. Sir Geoffrey de Chausey, grandson of Richard de Chausey the earliest known lord of the Chausey manor, concluded, about 1225, a formal agreement (*convencio*) with the prioress and nuns de Claro Rivo. Hitherto, the two manor houses each had its own independent system of religious life, now they were drawn into close connexion. Perhaps it had been difficult to obtain a *capellanus* to minister at the smaller manor, perhaps there may have arisen, on both sides, a desire for closer religious union. However that may be, after a small preliminary rectification of landed property, it was agreed that the nuns de Claro Rivo, as rectors of the mother church (*matrix ecclesia*), should enjoy all the lesser tithes which the chapel at Chausey<sup>1</sup> was accustomed to enjoy, that the nuns were to serve (*deservire*) the chapel of Geoffrey the knight daily throughout the year by some suitable chaplain (*capellanus*) to be appointed jointly by the nuns and Sir Geoffrey, and approved by the archdeacon. Further, the nuns must appoint a suitable clerk to act as server to the *capellanus*, and they must also provide such vestments, books, and lights as are, in the judgement of good men, necessary for the honourable performance of the services of the chapel, preserving all the ornaments already in the chapel and placed there by Sir Geoffrey, who is to retain all the spiritual rights in the chapel possessed by himself, his successors, his household, and his guests, including the right of confession and of communion. 'Femine vero', continues the agreement, 'de eorum domo maritande ibidem desponsabuntur, et post puerperium purificabuntur, et Infantes earum baptizabuntur'. The aforesaid knight, his successors and their families, may choose them a free place of burial wherever they please, provided only that the chaplains and clerics who minister in the said chapel shall receive their bequests and offerings, if haply mass is celebrated in the said chapel for a dead person.

This important document is witnessed, amongst others, by Simon, dean of Siplake, Osbert, rector of Stokez, Silvestre,

<sup>1</sup> A casual notice in a lease of much later date (p. 207), informs us that this chapel was dedicated to St. Michael, as is also the private chapel in the present Mapledurham House.

vicar of the church of Witchurche, John, vicar of Garingez, Thomas Huscarl (probably lord of Purley), and Robert of Mapledurham, clerk. Osbert, rector of 'Stokes' (i.e. South Stoke), was instituted circa 1221/2, and was succeeded by Walter de Hida in 1227/8; Silvester was instituted to the vicarage of Whitchurch before 1219; John was instituted to the vicarage of Goring before 1220. These dates place the charter between 1221 and 1227.

The Eton MS. further contains a confirmation, dated 1238, by Geoffrey de Chausey, son of Geoffrey, to the nuns de Claro Rivo, in tithes and in lands, of all the gifts 'que pater meus Galfridus iis charta sua confirmavit'.<sup>1</sup>

The arrangement thus concluded must have been from every point of view satisfactory. It secured to the nuns the religious jurisdiction of the whole parish, instead of only a part, and must have extended their influence considerably while at the same time it guaranteed the proper administration of divine service, in its various forms, at the smaller and weaker manor. No doubt any arrangement affecting the tithes left undisturbed the primary obligation under which the two manors lay, of payment in the one case to the priory of Lewes, in the other to the abbey of Bec.

To this period belongs the official 'Vicarie ordinacio' or charter of the vicarage, set out in the *Liber antiquus de Ordinationibus Vicariarum tempore Hugonis de Wells*<sup>2</sup> (1209-35), during whose episcopate, and for three centuries later, the diocese of Lincoln extended from the Humber to the Thames.

It runs as follows:

MAPULDURHAM.

*Vicarie ordinacio.*

Vicaria in ecclesia de Mapelduram que est Abbatisse et Monialium de fonte Ebroidi ut habetur in inquisicione Consistit in toto altaragio cum minutis decimis et manso competente et solvet vicarius synodalia tantum Moniales autem

<sup>1</sup> Witnessed by Simon, 'tum temporis', dean of Siplake, Walter, rector of the church of Stokes, G. de Rosa, rector of the church of Wichchurch, and Hugh, chaplain of Garinges.

<sup>2</sup> Edited by A. Gibbons, 1888.

hospitium Archidiaconi procurabunt et sufficit ibi unus capellanus.

The vicarage is said to belong to the abbess of Fons Ebroidi, the superior Order, and not to the lesser priory de Claro Rivo. The vicar's stipend consists of the whole amount of the offerings at the altar, with the lesser tithes and an adequate dwelling-house. So modest a stipend, after the payment of episcopal dues, will hardly suffice for the entertainment of the Archdeacon at his official visitations, for he does not come alone, and the nuns are to provide for that. The total value of the benefice is not stated, nor is any mention made of any glebe, although we know that Hugh de Gurney endowed the church with two acres (p. 86). The case of Goring, which comes next on the official list of *ordinaciones* is very different: 'Vicarius habebit decimas casei, &c. . . cum una acra terre in uno campo et aliam acram terre in alio campo.'

The statement that 'one *capellanus* is sufficient there' means that one man in priest's orders can do the work of the parish church. The agreement with Chazey (p. 88) was not yet in force. The Rev. H. E. Salter remarks:<sup>1</sup>

'The word *capellanus* evidently does not mean "chaplain" in the ordinary sense of the word; it does not denote one who was lower than a rector or a vicar, but is used as equivalent to *sacerdos* or *presbyter*, and has this signification in all the rolls of Bishop Hugh de Wells.'

The *Ordinacio* sometimes states why one '*capellanus*', or more, is necessary, and who is to pay for him. Thus in the case of the church of All Saints, Northampton, 'the monks shall find at their own expense two *capellani* to help the vicar, and the clerks necessary for the said *capellani*' (*Lib. Ant.*, p. 34). And in Bernecestria (Bicester), 'the vicar shall have for the stipends of himself and his *capellanus* and their clerks xls., and he and his *capellanus* and their clerks shall have their food' (*ibid.*, p. 177). Sometimes it is stated why a *capellanus* or *capellani* are necessary, sometimes it is not (as in the case of Mapledurham). At Bradewell (*ibid.*, p. 3) the vicar 'must

<sup>1</sup> A. Gibbons, *ut supra*, Preface, p. xvii.

serve the mother church and the chapel of Kelmestok every day, and the chapel of Haliwell thrice a week and on festivals, hence three *capellani* are necessary there'.

The expression in the second line of the *Ordinacio* of Mapledurham, *ut habetur in inquisicione*, refers to the fact that in the case of each benefice the facts were ascertained in the chapter of the rural deanery, and the bishop made his decision upon the return made by that committee.<sup>1</sup>

The exact position of the church and vicar of Mapledurham as an 'alien priory', i. e. a benefice owned by foreigners, and the exact point of Bishop Hugh de Wells' *Ordinacio*, as definitely constituting the income, and the duties, of a certain number of the benefices in his diocese, will be best explained by a further quotation from the Introduction to Mr. Gibbons' book :

'Our parochial churches were at first all rectories, possessed of the tithe, glebe, and offerings. The vicarage originated from "appropriation", i. e. the giving or assigning rectories or churches to religious houses. For some time after the Norman Conquest patrons were in the habit of giving the churches of which they had the advowsons to monasteries, the monks obtaining license from the King or Pope to be perpetual incumbents of any churches given them, without institution or induction. The effect of this was to take the churches out of the control of the Bishop.'

Attempts were made to remedy this state of affairs but 'the monks eventually held in England 3,845 churches out of 9,284'. Nunneries, military orders, &c., seized upon the parochial churches, and exacted the tithes.

The Lateran Council of 1179, under Pope Alexander III, ordered that the bishops should require the monastery to assign to the vicar a sum sufficient for paying ecclesiastical dues (*synodalia*) and enjoying an honest maintenance, and that vicars were not to be removable at the will of the appropriator or rector. This canon was steadily resisted, the monasteries constantly refusing any perpetual alienation of the tithes and

<sup>1</sup> Canon Perry quoting from Dr. Pegge, formerly Canon of Lincoln, in Introduction (p. x) to A. Gibbons' edition of the *Liber Antiquus*.



dues to a vicar, but preferring to treat him simply as their curate, removable at their will. The bishops of Lincoln, St. Hugh (1186-1200) included, made attempts to carry out the law, and Hugh de Wells in and after 1213 (the book being mainly written in 1218) records the estate, as settled, of nearly 300 vicars.

The 'Vicarie ordinacio' of Mapledurham is also set out in the *Rotuli Hugonis de Wells*<sup>1</sup> in much the same terms as in the *Liber Antiquus*, except that Mapledurham is said to be the property 'Monialium de Geldesfontaines de Partibus Transmarinis', and no mention is made of the *capellanus*. The first officially recorded institution to the benefice occurs in the *Rotuli Roberti Grosseteste*, episc. 1235-53 (see p. 155).

It is now necessary to explain the reference, in Hugh de Wells' *Ordinacio*, to the convent of Fons Ebroidi.

The great Benedictine monastery of Fontevraud in Anjou, founded by Robert d'Arbriscelle in 1100, had many subordinate convents both in France and England. Among the former was Hugh de Gurney's nunnery of Gaillefontaine, among the latter the cells of La Grave, Eaton, and Amesbury. In the charter of Henry II the monastery is called *Fons Ebraldi*, in that of Henry III *Fons Ebroidi*, the modern Fontevrault. The earlier English kings were closely connected with this monastery, which, although containing both monks and nuns, was presided over by an abbess. Henry II and his wife Eleanor of Guienne, Richard I, and King John's queen, Isabel of Angoulême, were buried in the choir. Henry III bequeathed his heart to be buried there.<sup>2</sup>

The subordinate priory of La Grave in Bedfordshire is now represented by Grovebury in the parish of Leighton Buzzard. According to Tanner,<sup>3</sup> Henry II having given, before 1169, the manor of Leighton to the nuns of Fontevrault in lieu of part of a yearly pension granted them by Henry I, a convent of foreign monks was settled there, the prior of which was

<sup>1</sup> *Canterbury and York Society*, i, 1909, p. 178; *Lincoln Record Society* iii, 1912, p. 178.

<sup>2</sup> Dugdale, *Monasticon*, vii. 1085.

<sup>3</sup> *Notitia Monastica*, Bedfordshire, x.

procurator or agent-general for all the concerns of that abbey in England. This explains why the prioress and nuns de Claro Rivo, as possessors of the church of Mapledurham, are sometimes officially referred to by the name of Fons Ebroidi. The priory of La Grave was given, in 1447, to Eton College, and, in about 1480, by the Duke of Suffolk and Elizabeth his wife, to the Dean and Canons of Windsor. The monks are referred to in early rolls as 'fratres fontis Ebraudi (Ebraldi) apud Gravum in Lecton'.

The priory of Eaton, afterwards Nuneaton, was founded early in the reign of Henry II for nuns of the order of Fontevrault, under a prioress, and was dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary. As usual in the foreign houses of the order, it probably held monks as well.<sup>1</sup>

At the ancient foundation of Ambrosebury or Amesbury in Wilts., Henry II placed a prioress and twenty-four nuns from 'Font Ebrald' in Normandy, to which monastery the house was for some time subject, but at length was made denizen, and became, as of old, an abbey. Under Henry VIII it was granted, in 1541, to Edward, Earl of Hertford.<sup>1</sup> It does not happen to be mentioned, as La Grave and Eaton are, in connexion with the history of the church of Mapledurham.

As early as 1245 indications began to show themselves that the alien rectors of Mapledurham were not to be left in undisturbed possession of their rights, if trouble occurred with France. In that year, the sheriff of Oxford was given orders<sup>2</sup> that, 'with regard to the manor of Mapeldureham which he took into the hand of the king on occasion of the cession of the abbess of Fons Ebroidi, he should cause the prior of La Grave to have the same seisin of it as he had before it was taken into the king's hand'. In spite of the fact that the French and English kings were brothers-in-law, Louis having married Margaret of Provence in 1234 and Henry her sister Eleanor in 1236, war had broken out between the two nations, and had been closed by a truce for five years in April 1243. The king probably seized the glebe (here called the manor)

<sup>1</sup> Tanner, *Notitia Monastica*, Warwickshire, x, Wiltshire, i.

<sup>2</sup> *Calendar Close Rolls*, Henry III, 1245, p. 307.

of Mapledurham, on the cession of the abbess, as patron of Fontevrault, claiming that position, although he had lost Normandy.<sup>1</sup>

Almost a century later, when the last of the de Gurneys had passed away, and the Bardolfs had long been in possession of the manor, more serious trouble occurred. In 1336 relations between England and France, which had been friendly since the accession of Edward III, again became strained, and in 1337 preparations for what was afterwards known as the Hundred Years' War were set on foot. Seizures of alien property seems to have occurred already, for in the same year an order was issued<sup>2</sup> of 'commitment, during pleasure, to the prioress of Claruissel, who has made petition to the king for the administration of the fruits, &c., of the church of Mapulderham, of the said church at the rent of £6 13s. 4d. a year to the Exchequer'. This was one of many similar orders issued at or near the same date, affecting alien priories all over the kingdom. The respite was not of long duration, for in 1344 the sheriff of Oxon. was instructed,<sup>3</sup> 'that if, as the king learns, the church of Mapeldureham, belonging to the abbess and nuns de Claro Rivulo in Normandy, has not been taken into the king's hand among the priories, churches, benefices, &c., held by aliens in England at a time when a state of war exists between England and France, he is to seize without delay the church and all that appertains to it ("una cum omnibus bonis et catallis ad eandem ecclesiam spectantibus"), and hold them until further notice'.

In the following year there is a writ<sup>4</sup> to the sheriff of Oxon., dated 12 April 1345, containing the results of an inquisition held at Crowmarsh before the bailiff of the honour of Wallingford, of the four and a half hundreds of Ciltre.<sup>5</sup> The report states that:

<sup>1</sup> Glebes are sometimes called manors, if held by one who is not incumbent.

<sup>2</sup> *Fine Rolls*, Edward III, 1337, p. 34.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, 1344, p. 361.

<sup>4</sup> *Calendar of Inquisitions Miscellaneous* (Chancery), vol. ii, p. 490, no. 1953.

<sup>5</sup> Chiltern, i.e. the hundreds of Binfield, Langtree, Pirton, Lewknor, and the half hundred of Ewelme.

'The abbes and convent of Clairussel in Normandy demised the rectory of Mapelderham to Sir Richard de Grenebor'w, an Englishman, a brother of the house of Eton, for life, for his good service, without any rent; he held it long before the outbreak of war between the king and the French; he died about All Saints last [1 Nov.], and on St. Martin [11 Nov.] the escheator took it into the king's hand. There are no profits thereof between All Saints and St. Peter's chains [1 Aug.].'

'The church is of the yearly value of £10 15s., whereof the vicarage is of the yearly value of v marks, because the vicar has the small tithes, the oblations, and the tithes of lambs and wool, and part of the tithe of sheaves; the abbot of Bec Herlewyn has a portion of the tithe of sheaves, of the yearly value of 33s. 4d., and the abbot of Oseney a similar portion, of the yearly value of 15s., so that the yearly value of the rectory belonging to the abbes is 100s. and no more.'

'Brother Richard de Greneburgh' was one of 'the proctors general of the prioress and convent of Claro Rivulo', and is so described<sup>1</sup> in the presentation of John of Knytecote to the vicarage of Mapledurham in 1335. 'Eton' is of course Nuneaton. The prioress, on the threat of danger, places the church of Mapledurham in the hands of the representative of the superior Order in England (above, pp. 93-4). The report, if correctly transcribed, seems to have been hurriedly drawn up: the value of the Bec tithe was 13s. 4d., not 33s. 4d., and the statement that 'the abbot of Oseney' had tithe to the value of 15s. seems an error for the prior of Lewes, unless the abbot of Oseney was acting as collector.<sup>2</sup>

The king, having taken 'the church of Mapledurham' into his own hands, proceeded to grant it to Henry de Greystok, his clerk, 'for services and costs incurred, for an annual payment of 100s. to the Court of Exchequer'.<sup>3</sup> This is the first

<sup>1</sup> *Lincoln Episcopal Register*, iv, p. 271.

<sup>2</sup> There is, in the entry of the college of St. George's at Windsor, an acquittance from the abbot of Oseney, collector of the tithe imposed by Pope Clement V (1305-14) on the Church of England, to the prior of Okeburn for his portion of Witchurch and for his portion in the churches of Garingg, Stokebasset, Rutherford, Maple dureham, Chinnore, Aston, &c., and for the first moiety of the above tithe for the second of the two years, dated Oseney 14 August 1307. And a similar acquittance dated 2 January 1306.

<sup>3</sup> *Fine Rolls*, 1345, p. 428; *Rotul. Orig. Abbreviatio*, ii. 173. The marginal 'Norff' in the latter reference is clearly an error.

instance of what afterwards became common, the granting of 'the portion of the church' to a lay individual. Henry de Greystok appears to have resided, for a while, in the parish. In 1349 he was granted<sup>1</sup> by Sir John Bardolf 'pasture a pasturez son bovis entouz leus [lieux] ou mes propriis bovis pasteront hors pris mon parc et mon Gardin a terme de sa vie'. In 1350 the two were members of an inquisition in Oxon.<sup>2</sup> A Henry de Greystoke, probably the same man, is appointed one of the barons of the King's Exchequer in 1356,<sup>3</sup> and in 1358 a steward of the king's chamber. This grant to Greystok is evidently the occasion of an order to the treasurer and barons of the Exchequer<sup>4</sup> 'not to meddle further with the fruits and issues of Mapledurham Church, which is of the abbess of Clairvaux [sic] of the power of France, and which the king has caused to be reserved to the chamber by reason of the war'.

Shortly afterwards, the king was compelled, for warlike purposes, to have recourse to the clergy for a tenth, but 'the prior of St. Fredeswyd's, Oxford, one of the collectors for the diocese of Lincoln, of the tenth granted by the clergy', was ordered<sup>5</sup> to supersede the levying of the portion of the tenth touching the church of Mapledureham, whose fruit and issues the king has reserved to his chamber, by reason of the appropriation of that church to the priory de Claro Rivo'. A couple of years later, a similar order was issued to the collectors in Oxon.<sup>6</sup>

In many cases, the ecclesiastical property of aliens which was confiscated to the Crown on the outbreak of war between England and France, was restored to them when peace was concluded, or even, as after the treaty of Calais in 1361, when hostilities were suspended for a while. No such restoration appears to have taken place in the case of the church of Mapledurham. The prioress and convent de Claro Rivo are

<sup>1</sup> Blount MSS.

<sup>2</sup> *Calendar Patent Rolls*, Edward III, 1350, p. 523.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, 1356, p. 438; 1358, p. 79.

<sup>4</sup> *Calendar Close Rolls*, Edward III, 1345, p. 533.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*, 1346, p. 9.

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*, 1348, p. 437.

never again recorded as lawfully acting in the character of rectors. Just before the seizure of the church and its 'fruits and issues' by the Crown, Sir John Rose (or Rosum) had been presented by them to the vicarage; when war broke out, he was left in undisturbed possession, and lived on as vicar for an unusually long period. It seems to have been thought necessary, in view of the confiscation of the temporalities, to issue a special mandate ratifying his 'estate' as vicar of the church.<sup>1</sup> After his death in 1381 four institutions to the benefice followed in eight years, and in each case the presentation was made by the king, Richard II.<sup>2</sup> Four further institutions were made before the patronage of the living passed into the hands of the Provost and Fellows of Eton College. In three of these cases the Crown presented, in the fourth the holder of the Mapledurham Gurney manor.<sup>3</sup>

Not only did the nuns de Claro Rivo never recover the right of presentation, but they never again enjoyed 'the portion of the church'. After the death of Henry de Greystok, the portion seems to have been held by another of the king's clerks, John de Hermestorp,<sup>4</sup> at a similar rent, while in 1376 it was granted to Sir Robert Bardolf, king's esquire and lord of the manor of Mapledurham, for the duration of the war, no rent being charged, as Sir Robert was a royal favourite.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Cal. Patent Rolls*, Edward III, 1346, p. 50.

<sup>2</sup> *Lincoln Episcopal Register*, under the names of Peter Savage (x, f. 373 d), John Pulteney (xi, f. 302), Thomas Bate (xi, ff. 304 d, 305), Thomas Forsthill (xi, f. 313).

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, Richard Deryndon (xiv, f. 393 d), Robert Loker (xvii, f. 57 d), Walter Brygg (xvii, ff. 61, 61 d); Roger Gery, *Calendar Patent Rolls*, Henry VI, 1436/7, p. 43.

<sup>4</sup> John de Hermestorp (Harmesthorp) is frequently mentioned as making payments on the king's behalf. He is described as 'one of the Chamberlains of the Exchequer'. In 1390 John de Hermestorp, clericus, and others are granted in fee the manor of Astley and one third of the manor of Kyderminster, and in the same year J. de H. and others are granted in fee the manors of Mereworth, Maplescombe, and Oldhay, in Kent, in every case in place of a holder attainted for service owed. *Issues of the Exchequer*, F. Devon, 1837, i, pp. 227, 244; *Calendar Patent Rolls*, Richard II, 1389, p. 80; 1390, p. 222.

<sup>5</sup> *Cal. Patent Rolls*, Edward III, 1376, p. 355: 'Grant to the king's squire, Robert Bardolf, of the portion of the alien prioress of Claruissel in the church of Mapelderham, with all fruits proceeds profits and emoluments, for which portion the king's clerk, John de Hermestorp, used to

After Richard II comes to the throne there is an inspeximus and confirmation, in favour of Robert Bardolf, king's esquire, of Edward III's letters patent of 1376, granting him the same portion of the alien prioress in Mapelderham Church during the war with France.<sup>1</sup>

A curious incident occurs during the widowhood of the Lady Amice Bardolf. Her husband, Sir Robert, died in May 1395, and in November of the same year, a pardon was issued<sup>2</sup> to her 'of her trespass in the acquisition by the said Robert and herself, without licence, for their lives in survivorship, to them and their executors, for the term of eight years, from the prioress of the alien priory of Clererussel, the portion in the church of Mapuldurham belonging to the said priory, granted by letters patent of the late king to the said Robert, which he by the name of the manor of Mapuldurham, with its appurtenances rents lands services fees advowsons &c. . . . acquired as above; and grant, at her request, to the king's lieges Edward Daundeseye, chaplain, and John Lynde, of the said portion or manor of Mapulderham, &c. . . . for her life, without rent. By p.s. and for xli. paid in the hanaper'. If the Bardolfs, as this mandate states, accepted a lease from the prioress without the king's licence, which was undoubtedly required in the case of a grant made by an alien house, no doubt a trespass was committed. But as the portion of the said alien prioress in the church of Mapledurham had been granted to Sir Robert Bardolf by Edward III in 1376, and the grant had been confirmed by Richard II in 1381, it is not easy to see exactly where the trespass lay. The Lady Amice, it is true, presented<sup>3</sup> Richard Deryndon to the benefice of Mapledurham, some years after this incident, in March 1411/12, but that does not seem to have been regarded as an offence, although, unless it was covered by the grant mentioned above, it was a clear usurpation of the royal authority.

Both Edward Daundeseye and John Lynde were closely render at farm to the king 100s. yearly, to hold during the war with France, without rendering anything.

<sup>1</sup> *Calendar Patent Rolls*, Richard II, 1381, p. 435.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, 1391-6, p. 668.

<sup>3</sup> *Lincoln Episcopal Register*, xiv, f. 393 d.

related to the Lady Amice. John Lynde was son of the Sir Roger Lynde who married Elizabeth Buxhull, Amice's sister, and Edward Daundeseye was probably the son of Walter Daundeseye and Elizabeth Beverley, Amice's daughter by her first husband. We know that John Lynde died in 1400, but the date of Edward Daundeseye's death is uncertain. He was probably chaplain of either the 'matrix ecclesia' or of the chapel at Chausey Court. It is unlikely that he would have been granted a share of the portion, unless he had been a resident in or close to his grandmother's manor. William Lynde the elder became lord of Mapledurham Gurney in 1416, and was granted the same 'portion' of the prioress and nuns de Claro Rivo, and, on his death in 1438, his second son William Lynde, 'the king's servant', was granted<sup>1</sup> the same portion at the yearly rent of £4 10s., 'in lieu of a grant thereof to him by the treasurer of England from Michaelmas aforesaid for seven years at the yearly rent of £4 2s. 3½d. which William Lynde deceased used to pay, and 7s. 8½d. increment, the said portion having come into the hands of Edward III through his war with France and been granted by him to Robert Bardolf and Amice his wife; the present grantee to keep up divine service and the accustomed works of piety'. Thomas Lynde, who succeeded his step-father John Iwardby as lord of the manor in 1470, was probably non-resident (his mother having a life interest) and not in the royal favour (p. 54).

It seems that William Lynde did not hold the profits of the church for long. Mapledurham was one of the many alien priories with which Henry VI endowed his newly founded College of Eton. An ancient rent roll in the possession of the College records the amounts received from 'reversions of priories and possessions of the College of Eton in the xix<sup>th</sup> year of King Henry the Sixth our founder', the receipts being grouped under the headings of the various counties. Under Oxon. we find:

'De Johē Iwardby et Johā uxō eius p porcione in ecclia de Mapelderham cs.'

<sup>1</sup> *Calendar Patent Rolls*, Henry VI, 1438, p. 284.



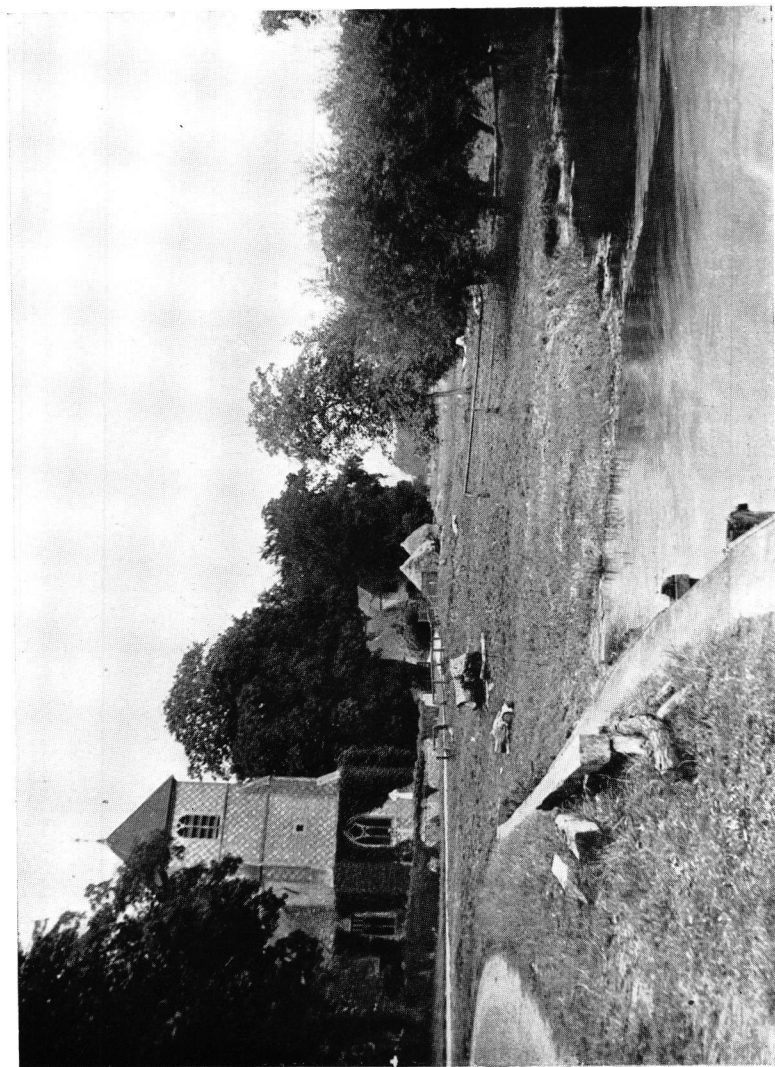
Joan Iwardby was William Lynde's mother, and John Iwardby was her second husband.<sup>1</sup> On the back of the roll is the entry for the next year, headed :

'Reversiones prioratum et possessionum Alienigenarum percipiendorum pro Collegio Regali beate marie de Eton juxta Windesore vz a festo Sancti Michaelis Anno regni domini Regis xix<sup>mo</sup> usque idem festum tum proxime sequens ut per unum annum integrum . . . Oxon. De Johanne Iwardeby et Johanna uxore eius firmarium per litteras Regis patentes de porcione priorisse de Claro Rivolo in ecclesia de Mapilderham . . . cs.'

The other Oxfordshire receipts are—from William Yorke of Goring 34s., from the lord of Lovell for the priory of Minster Lovell £8 13s. 4d., from the same for the priory of Cogges £13 6s. 8d., and from Cottisford £7 6s. 8d.

We have now to retrace our steps a little, and consider the amount of the tithe paid out from Mapledurham to external religious houses. It has been already stated (p. 82) that this was, in the case of Mapledurham Gurney, two-thirds of all its demesne tithes to the priory of Lewes, and, in the case of Mapledurham Chazey, two-thirds of all its demesne tithes to the abbey of Bec in Normandy. It appears that the actual tenths of the produce in its various forms were, as usual, soon commuted for a fixed annual payment in money. Radulphus de Agia, or Agi, the earliest known vicar of Mapledurham, who was holding office when Hugh de Gurney IV gave the church to the nuns de Claro Rivo, settled with the priory of Lewes for a payment of one mark of silver a year. He seems to have lost the deed, for he found it necessary to procure a signed testimony from Roger, Abbot of Reading, that he, Roger, actually saw such a document signed. 'Vidi', says Roger, 'ubi Nicolaus Celerarius de Sancto Pancratio decimam

<sup>1</sup> On receiving 'the portion of Mapledurham' from the hands of the king, the College probably followed precedent in granting it to the lord of the manor, at the same time reverting to the earlier amount of rent. A bull of Pope Eugenius IV allowed the College to let their lands to laymen : 'Preposito ac omnibus ac singulis officiariis . . . Collegii indulgemus . . . fructus redditus proventus et obventiones ecclesiarum etiam parochialium et perpetuarum vicariarum quibusdam etiam laicalibus personis . . . arrendare locare seu ad firmam vel ad annuam pensionem . . . concedere.' *Correspondence of T. Bekynton*, ii. 296 (Rolls Series).



THE CHURCH, FROM THE MILL

## GIFTS FOR SQUIRE



Mr. John Bucknell, of Park Farm, Mapledurham, presenting a gold wristlet watch to Mr. T. E. Eyston (right) at Mapledurham on Wednesday.

# READING'S BOXING DAY HIDING

## SIX - GOAL ROUT IN LAST HALF-HOUR

Northampton Town 6; Reading 1

[By a Special Correspondent]

**S**ELDOM have Reading experienced so sudden and so complete change of fortune as they encountered at Northampton on Boxing Day. For an hour Reading were far superior to the home side, deservedly leading by SIMPSON'S goal after 18 minutes, and looking a good bet to take Northampton's unbeaten home record.

Then came a goal deluge by Northampton, who suddenly sprang into their best form, and within the space of 26 minutes the Reading defence had been pierced six times to give the home side their biggest victory of the season.

During this period, the hitherto sound Reading defence went to pieces, leaving big gaps for the home forwards to break through.

Only one of the goals came from any range; all the others were taken from close in by forwards either unmarked or able

settle down, and it was not until break-away shots by Wheeler and Grieve were turned round the post by the Southampton goalkeeper, that the game began to warm up. JUDD scored first for Southampton in the twentieth minute, after Kirkwood had dropped the ball at his feet.

Their lead was short lived however, as STREET, with the best shot of the match, equalized from 35 yards two minutes later. Parker and Grieve, who were both playing well,

de Mapeltreham Deo et Sancto Pancratio in elemosinam datam, scilicet duas partes de dominico, Radulpho clerico de Agi pro una marca argenti singulis annis ad Pascha reddenda tradidit.' This extract from some unnamed public document in London is endorsed, 'Lincoln dioc. Testimonium Abbatis Radingensis de decimis de Mapelderham', and is certified as true by Ed. Fauconberge and John Lowe, procamerarius, 26 November 1677. It is copied into a vellum book, now in the parish chest, most of which is in the handwriting of William Day, vicar 1637-84.

This commutation of tithe must at first have been renewable to each incumbent. There is a bond, dated Saturday after Michaelmas 1271, given by William de Bello, clerk, the fourth vicar whose name we know, who was instituted in 1240, to the prior of St. Pancras at Lewes, and to the convent of the same, in 14s., to be paid yearly in Whitsun Week in the parish church of Mapeldreham in the diocese of Lincoln, for all their tithes, which, in consideration of the said payment, they had granted him for life.<sup>1</sup> The payment of one mark has now risen to 14s. A few years later there is<sup>2</sup> a 'counterpart of demise by the prior John and the convent of Lewes to John de Mapelderham and Robert his brother, of the same, clerks, sons of Robert de Mapelderham, in survivorship, of their tithes in the town or parish of Mapelderham in the diocese of Lincoln, rendering 14s. at Whitsuntide in the parish church there. Done in the chapter of Lewes the day of St. Fabian and St. Sebastian [20 Jan.] A. D. 1286.'

In this case, John and Robert are probably the sons of a freeholder resident in the parish. When the previous vicar, probably William de Bello's successor, dies, this man makes a bid for the tithes in the name of his two sons and secures it for them. If he is the same Robert de Mapledurham of whose doings we know in the years 1250, 1255, and 1261 (p. 71), being a layman he would be unable to take a lease of the tithes himself, and accordingly secures it for his clerical sons.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Descr. Catal. Ancient Deeds*, iv. 244, A. 7963.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, iv. 238, A. 7918.

<sup>3</sup> I owe this explanation to the kindness of the Rev. H. E. Salter.

When Pope Nicholas I granted to Edward I one-tenth of the spiritualities of England, in order to meet the expenses of an expedition to Palestine, it became necessary to make a new survey of ecclesiastical property in general (1288/9). In the Henley deanery of the Lincoln diocese the value of the ecclesia de Mapeldureham was found to be £8 13s. 4d., 'deducta porcione', the portions of the abbot of Bec and the prior of Lewes being stated at 13s. 4d. and 15s. respectively, the value of the Lewes portion thus showing a further rise. Of adjacent parishes, Whitchurch is assessed at £10 13s. 4d., Goring at £10 13s. 4d., Rotherfield Peppard at £7 6s. 8d. The abbot of Bec had a portion in Whitchurch valued at £1 6s. 8d., in Goring at 13s. 4d., in Rotherfield Peppard at 13s. 4d.<sup>1</sup>

With regard to the *Taxatio Temporalitatum* in the same deanery, it is stated that the abbot of Nottle holds in Caversham and Mapledurham in lands and belongings 9s. 10d. Walter Giffard second earl of Buckingham and Ermengard his wife in 1162 built and endowed an abbey for regular canons of the order of Augustine at Nottley (Nutley, Noctele, De parco Crendon, De parco super Thamam). It was dedicated to the Virgin and St. John the Baptist.<sup>2</sup> The chapel of St. Anne, on Caversham Bridge, belonged to it. The responsibilities of the abbot of Nottley in respect of repairing hedges, &c., in Mapledurham, are often brought up in the Court Rolls (see pp. 59-60).

Half a century later, a fresh investigation of property, both spiritual and temporal, belonging to religious houses—the so-called *Nonarum Inquisitiones*—was made, in order to secure for Edward III the ninth part of all goods and chattels. In the case of Mapledurham, the taxable value of the church 'with all its portions' is returned at £10 1s. 8d. The value of the glebe, with hay, is £2 13s. 4d.<sup>3</sup>

The report of the special inquisition, held in 1345 before

<sup>1</sup> *Taxatio Ecclesiastica P. Nicolai IV*, p. 30: *deducta porcione* may be understood as if in the plural number.

<sup>2</sup> Tanner, *Notitia Monastica*, Bucks., xxi.

<sup>3</sup> *Nonarum Inquisitiones in Curia Scaccarii* (1340), p. 136.

the bailiff of the honour of Wallingford, with its apparent errors of fact, has been already dealt with (p. 94).

It is natural to ask what became of the Bec tithe during the long wars with France. So far as Mapledurham is concerned, no direct evidence is forthcoming, but it is in the last degree unlikely that that money was allowed to go out of the country when the profits and issues of the church were taken from the nuns de Claro Rivo. The Bec tithe probably remained for many years in the hands of the Crown or with the lay impropiator. In 1421 John, Duke of Bedford, third son of Henry IV, acting as Regent of England for his brother Henry V, gave to the College of St. George's, Windsor,<sup>1</sup> a large number of spiritualities previously held by the abbey of Bec Herlewin. Amongst these were portions of tithes scattered throughout forty-eight different parishes. These had all been held by the prior of Okeburn, the representative in England of the alien abbey of Bec.

Henry V, in 1422, confirmed the gift of the spiritualities of Okeburn priory, with all the rectories, manors, lordships, lands, rents, &c., belonging to it, which were granted by Henry IV to his brother John, Duke of Bedford, and others to hold during the war with France, and subsequently John granted the same to the warden and canons of the king's chapel of St. George within the Castle at Wyndesore.<sup>2</sup> Mapledurham,<sup>3</sup> though not actually specified, must have been amongst these.

Further mention of the Lewes tithe occurs in 1427. In that year we have the particulars of the account of the collectors of a subsidy granted to King Henry VI by laymen in the County of Oxon.<sup>4</sup> The taxation of Mapulderham in the deanery of Henley is xiiij marks, the subsidy is xvijs. iiij*d.*, i.e. one-tenth. The note goes on :

'With regard to the subsidy of the portion of the abbot of Bec there 13*s.* 4*d.*, because a subsidy of this kind is only

<sup>1</sup> The College possesses the original form of the grant.

<sup>2</sup> *Calendar Patent Rolls*, 10 Henry V, 21 July, p. 441.

<sup>3</sup> i.e. Mapledurham Chasey, which alone paid tithe to Bec.

<sup>4</sup> *Feudal Aids*, vi, pp. 371-2.

granted from parishes of churches taxed and not taxed. [Cancelled] And they are charged, besides the account of 18*l.* from the subsidy, of a certain portion [of] 15*s.* which the prior of Lewes enjoys in the same, that is, according to the form of the concession.<sup>1</sup>

The whole statement is not very intelligible, but it is at least clear that the payment to Lewes was still being made.

No more seems to be known of either the Bec, now the Windsor, or of the Lewes tithe until we come to the *Valor Ecclesiasticus* of Henry VIII, a survey of ecclesiastical property in England taken in 1535. 'Mapylderam' appears in the record of Oxon.,<sup>2</sup> but the account is spoiled by an obvious blunder, either of the inquisitor or the scribe. It runs as follows:

	£	s.	d.
Dominus Thomas Pethe vicarius ibidem	xviiij		
Inde deducte pro sinodal. et px		x	
Item pro pensione ad collegium de Eyton } pro Beks tythe communibus annis }	iiij		
Item ad collegium de Windesor communibus } annis }		xx	
Summa	xij	x	
Decima pars		xxv	

Here the *pensio*, or annual rent of six marks paid by the vicar to Eton College, and 'Beks tythe' are lumped together and valued at £4, which is absurd. The Bec tithe had been granted to the College of Windsor many years before, and, it is believed, now amounted to 20*s.* No mention is made of the tithe paid to Lewes. Possibly the account may be amended by altering the position of the bracket and rewriting its contents thus:

Item pro pensione ad collegium de Eyton . . . . .	iiij <i>l.</i>
Item pro Beks tythe ad collegium de Windesor communibus annis . . . . .	xx <i>s.</i>

But even this does not explain the non-mention of Lewes.

<sup>1</sup> *Feudal Aids*, vi, pp. 371-2.

<sup>2</sup> Vol. ii, p. 166.



The corresponding 'Summa' for Whitchurch is £16 2s. 8½d., for Checkendon £19 9s. 4½d., for Rotherfield Peppard £9 9s. 4½d. According to the same authority (vol. ii, p. 206) the monastery of Goring has among its 'yerely receipts and proffits in temporalibus in Oxon. a yerely quyte rent off a tenement in Mapyldoram parysche vs.'

When the priory of Lewes was confiscated to the Crown, in Henry VIII's great assault upon the monasteries, the payment of the Lewes tithe must have gone with it, and we lose sight of it for over a century. Thomas Crumwell was granted the priories of Lewes in Sussex and Castleacre in Norfolk by deed dated 16 February 1539/40.

The *Liber Regis*, the date of which is about the same as that of the *Valor Ecclesiasticus*, gives the following entry (p. 801, ed. Bacon) for 'Mapledereham alias Mapledurham'.

King's Books.	Yearly Tenths.	Syn. and Prox.	Pens. Coll. Eton.	Coll. Wyndsor.
£12 10s. od.	£1 5s. od.	10s.	£4	£1

From information supplied by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners it appears that 'in the time of Sir Richard Blount'<sup>1</sup> the property of the Dean and Canons of Windsor in Mapledurham consisted of the tithe of all the lands belonging to Chazey Court, and of a portion of another farm, now in the Gurney manor.

The name of Bec-herlouin, as applied to these tithes, was a puzzle to the honest farmers of many generations. They called them Beckerlewens, Beckharbens, Beckharvest, with other variations. A churchwardens' account book, which extends from 1708 to 1781, suddenly begins to mention the rate levied on Bec tithes, not always in a form easy to recognize. In 1759 we have:

	s.	d.
John Allaway, Chase farm and back tythes	16	3
Rich. Allaway, New Farm and back tythes	15	7½
1760 John Allaway, Chase farm and Back-tythes	10	10
Richd Allaway, new Farm and Back-tythes	10	5

<sup>1</sup> There were three Sir Richard Blounts, who died respectively in 1508, 1564, and 1628.

The unwary reader might think these entries had something to do with tithe hitherto unpaid, but then we get :

		£	s.	d.
1763	John Allaway, Case farm Black tithes	2	3	4
	Richd Allaway, new farm Black tithes	2	1	8
1764	Richd Allaway, for . . . part of Windsor } tythe	1	3	10½
	John Allaway, for part of Windsor } Tythe and Chaus farm	16	9	

There is also a 'poor book of Mapelderham'. Up to 1735, the poor-rate was levied on the yard-land (or virgate), but in that year and afterwards the rate was on the annual rental. The levy on the tithe did not amount to much, as is seen from the following extract for 1735 (when the book ends):

	£	s.	d.
Thos. Lewington for Chaws Farme	01	10	00
Thos. Lewington for Beck Tythes	00	02	06
Richd Allaway, New Farm Dry Lease	01	19	06
Richd Allaway Beck Tythes	00	01	03

We now return to the history of the portion of the church. An investigation appears to have been held, early in the reign of Henry VI, into the actual value of the parsonage of Mapledurham, but whether the inquiry was special or held in common with other parishes is not stated. The jury are twelve local men, as is clear from their names—John Hawe, Roger Bartram, John Bedyll, Edmund Edrich, John atte Lee, Thomas ffynamore, William Cooke, Symond Norfolke, Roger atte Lee, John Wygmore, Thomas Edrych, and William Page junior. They say 'by ther othes that ther longyth no more but a mesuage of no valewe to the parsonage of Clare Rivolo and xliij acre of arabull lond a acre and di. of mede and none othyr thyng'. The inquisition is taken at Mapulderham the 4th day of September the fifth yere of Kyng Harry the vj<sup>th</sup> [1426] before Richard Walstede knyght Sheref of Oxfordshier and Berk By vertu of a wryt to him directyd.<sup>1</sup>

Among the Blount MSS. there is a record of glebe land at

<sup>1</sup> Blount MSS., f. 26 a.

Mapledurham, which may very well have been drawn up as an appendix to this inquisition, which indeed would be incomplete without it. It was noted by Thomas Hearne the antiquary, who gives a transcript of it in his *Remarks and Collections*.<sup>1</sup> It reads as follows:

‘This byn the parcell of all the londis that byn longyng un to the parsonage of Mapulderham.

In the ffirst, in a Croft called Crouchcrofte be side Martyn's Crofte xij acres.

Item in the Crofte be side Axstill's xij acres.

Item in the Crofte be side Seynt Marye Parocke<sup>2</sup> v acres.

Item in the Crofte be twyxst Axstill's and Wiggemorys viij acres.

Item in the Parsonage Crofte ij acres.

Item in Henefilde ij acres.

Item in Glidmore ffilde j acre.

Item in Mede in divers parcells j acre and dimid. Acre.’

Total  $43\frac{1}{2}$  acres;<sup>3</sup> the distinction between ‘arabull lond’ and ‘mede’ is not specified exactly, but the ‘mede’ is undoubtedly the last item only. One acre seems to have dropped out somewhere, to bring the total up to  $44\frac{1}{2}$ .

<sup>1</sup> T. Hearne, vol. vii, p. 134 (Oxford Historical Society, 1906) under date 26 May 1720. Rawlinson, whose MSS. are in the Bodleian, was allowed to see many of the MSS. in the possession of Michael Blount (ibid., pp. 49, 66, 97).

<sup>2</sup> The neighbouring parish church of Whitchurch is dedicated to St. Mary.

<sup>3</sup> This list no doubt includes the two acres given to the nuns de Claro Rivo by Hugh de Gournay VI, and the land, extent unknown, which they held before this gift (p. 86).

## CHAPTER VIII

### THE CHURCH AND ETON COLLEGE. FURTHER HISTORY OF THE GLEBE

THE foundation of Eton College marks a change in the position of the church of Mapledurham, the importance of which can hardly be exaggerated. Instead of being in the possession of aliens, whose tenure was liable to be terminated at any moment by the will of the sovereign, while its revenues, such as they were, might be disposed of to lay owners at his pleasure for long terms of years, the benefice was now given a fixed and definite status in the hands of powerful patrons of English nationality, under the protection of the Crown, backed by the authority of Parliament. The caprices of Edward IV endangered the position for a moment, but in the end did not materially affect it.

The endowment of Henry VI's College of Eton was carried out by Act of Parliament. The endowment consisted of annual pensions, or payments for occupation, all kinds of tithes and rents, and of large numbers of priories and manors formerly held by foreigners and confiscated to the Crown, all of which are separately specified in the Act.<sup>1</sup> Amongst them we find :

'An Estate and Rent of 100s. which John Iwardeby and Joan Lynde late the wife of William Lynde deceased, for the custody of the portion of the alien prioress de Claro Rivolo in the church of Mapelderham otherwise called Mapildram in the County of Oxon. with the fruits Issues Profits and Emoluments appertaining to the said portion, granted to them by us, to hold from the festival of St. Michael in the seventeenth year

<sup>1</sup> *Rolls of Parliament*, v. 47-52, 20 Henry VI, A. D. 1442. The king's instructions in detail to Parliament are dated at Windsor, '25 March 19th year of our reign', the day chosen being no doubt significant.

of our reign till the close of the sixteen years then next following, to be completed in full, are bound to pay to us year by year, with reversion of the same when it shall happen<sup>1</sup>.

Mr. Roger Gery was vicar of Mapledurham during the whole period of these changes (1437-84). He was also vicar of Whitchurch<sup>2</sup> from an unknown date to 1457 (when his place was taken by John Argentyn<sup>3</sup>), and rector of the same parish from 1462 to 1483. He thus held the two livings simultaneously, a fact which does not appear to have been known to the Eton authorities of the time. He complained to the College that the stipend he received, as vicar of Mapledurham, was inadequate, and the College made answer to him in a document, the scholarly wording of which is worthy of their reputation. Given at Eton 20 January 1454, the document,<sup>4</sup> which is in the joint names of William Westbury,<sup>5</sup> provost of the royal College of the Blessed Mary of Eton near Windsor, of the diocese of Lincoln, and the College of the same, patrons of the parish church of Mapledurham, and of Roger Gery, perpetual vicar of the aforesaid church, recites the fact that the said Roger Gery alleged and affirmed that the portion of the vicar and of the vicarage of the said church, which had been of ancient days somewhat limited, was and is too scanty, thin, and insufficient to enable him to maintain himself, to keep up hospitality, and to perform the other

<sup>1</sup> 'Firmam et Redditum Centum Solidarum quos Johannes Iwardeby et Johanna Lynde nuper uxor Willelmi Lynde defuncti, pro custodia portionis Priorisse de Claro Rivolo Alienig', in Ecclesia de Mapelderham alias dict' Mapildram in Comitatu Oxonie, cum Fructibus, Proventibus, Proficuis et Emolumentis, eidem portioni spectant', sibi per nos commiss', Habend' a Festo Sancti Michaelis Anno regni nostri Decimo Septimo usque finem Sexdecim Annorum tunc prox' sequentium plenarie complendorum, Nobis annuatim reddere tenentur, cum reversione ejusdem cum acciderit.' This back-dating of his gifts is common in Henry's grants, one gift being dated back to the first year of his reign. The Iwardbys may have been married in Sept. 1438, but her husband, William Lynde, only died 17 March in that year.

<sup>2</sup> Canon John Slatter, *History of the Parish of Whitchurch*, p. 116.

<sup>3</sup> Afterwards Provost of King's College, Cambridge, 1501-7, and physician to Henry VII's two sons.

<sup>4</sup> Endorsed on the outside, in Mr. William Day's handwriting, 'A coppie of ye deede of Eton Colledge whereby the said Colledge annexed the Parsonadge of Mapledurham to the Vicarage thereof for a yearly rent'.

<sup>5</sup> Provost 1448-77.

burdens incident to the vicariate, as of right they should be ('iuxta iuris exigentiam'), and he earnestly requested an augmentation of that portion out of the fruits of the same church which belong to the College as patrons. The College, on the other hand, in their reply, maintained that the endowment, though admittedly small, was sufficiently fruitful, rich, and adequate ('satis fertilem pinguem et sufficientem') for the vicar to maintain himself, discharge the calls of decent hospitality, and perform his other duties.

'But', they continue, 'wishing to avoid the doubtful issues of a dispute of this nature, and to cut down the brambles of all contentions and to lop off the occasion of differences of all kinds whatsoever ("omnium dissensionum vepres succidere et cuiuslibet differentiae materiam cupientes penitus amputare"), we have, with the consent of the Reverend father in Christ lord John<sup>1</sup> by the grace of God bishop of Lincoln, diocesan of the parish church of Mapeldurham, given our consent to a friendly agreement or final settlement ("condescendimus in quandam amicabilem compositionem sive finalem concordiam") in the way and form detailed below.'

Then follows a schedule of various fields, with their acreage, which, together with the 'mansio Rectoriae', Magister Roger and his successors are to have and to hold for ever.

Further, they are to have all the tithes of every kind as well mixed greater as lesser, and all the offerings, issues, benefits, profits, and emoluments of the parish church. In return for the mansion, lands, houses, crofts, tithes, fruits, &c., aforesaid, Roger Gery binds himself and his successors to pay to the College a sum of six marks sterling annually, in equal portions at the feasts of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary and of St. Michael the Archangel. Finally, Roger Gery undertakes for himself and his successors the burden of keeping in repair the chancel of the church and the rectory house, and the other places mentioned in the agreement.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> John Chadworth, formerly Archdeacon of Wells, Bishop of Lincoln 1452-71.

<sup>2</sup> At the foot of the copy of this document in the Eton Library is appended a further attestation by Sir Henry Wotton, provost 1623-39: 'His literis et monumentis transcriptis et exemplificatis nos Henricus

The schedule of fields is as follows:

'A Croft called Pouchcroft containing 10 acres.

Another called Longe-croft containing 6 acres.

Another called Crouchcroft containing 10 acres.

Another called Rakercroft or Rakedcroft containing 7 acres.

A piece of land lying in the common field called Hennfield containing by estimation 2 acres.

A piece of land lying atte parsonage stubbis containing 2 acres.

A piece of land lying at Rothemere containing one acre.

An acre lying at Glidmoreshill.

A piece of meadow called le persons-plott with its stiche of meadow containing by estimation  $1\frac{1}{2}$  acres.

A little croft lying near the Rectory called Parsons Croft containing by estimation  $2\frac{1}{2}$  acres.

A piece of land lying in the field called Thropfield, containing by estimation 5 acres.

And one acre lying in great Legh<sup>1</sup> (Ligh).'

Total 49 acres.

The certified acreage of land belonging to the parsons of Mapledurham in 1426 was  $44\frac{1}{2}$  acres, in 1454 it appears to have grown to 49 acres. The estimates of acreage in the former year were possibly below the mark; Parsonage Croft is put down at 2 acres in 1426, and at  $2\frac{1}{2}$  acres in 1454. At any rate it is clear that from the later date the value of the benefice, to the holder of it, was increased by the right to the tenure of lands which, for some decades, had been let by the Crown, and subsequently by the College, for a rent of about £5 a year. Added to this was the grant of the tithes, greater and lesser, while all the oblations, revenues, &c., of the church itself (which previous vicars must also have enjoyed) were confirmed to the vicar. As a set-off against this, he now had to pay £4 a year<sup>2</sup> as rent for his house, lands, and tithes, to

Wotton eques Praepositus Coll. Reg. B. M. de Etona juxta Windesoram et Socii Coll. ejusd. in majorem fidem et testimonium eorundem, Sigillum nostrum commune ad rogationem et obtestationem Gulielmi Day vicarii de Mapeldurham apposimus octavo die Sextilis A. D. 1638.'

<sup>1</sup> Several of these fields can still be identified.

<sup>2</sup> The vicar of Mapledurham still pays this rent to the College.

be responsible for the repairs of the chancel, and to keep the land in good order. The annual payment of 13*s.* 4*d.* to Lewes and of 20*s.* to Windsor, though not mentioned in the agreement, had still to be provided for as a first charge on the general tithes of Mapledurham Gurney and Mapledurham Chazey.

It seems possible that Mr. Roger Gery's application to the College was carefully timed. The Iwardbys were granted the portion of Mapledurham Church 'in the seventeenth year of our reign' (i. e. in 1438) for sixteen years, which would bring the lapse of their lease to 1454, the actual date when the College was asked to make the new arrangement with the vicar.<sup>1</sup>

The College was in risk of losing, if it did not actually lose for a time, its interest in the church of Mapledurham. Edward IV, as well as Henry VI, had projects of his own for ecclesiastical endowment, and had it not been for the strenuous efforts of Provost Westbury, aided by the influence of Waynflete and others in authority, Eton might have been grievously despoiled of her recent acquisitions, for the Bull of union with St. George's, Windsor, was actually issued. The letters patent of 1462/3 contain what appears to be a mandate of restoration to the College and to 'our beloved William Westbury' and their successors in the hospital of St. Peter near Windsor as from 4 March last, of the manors of Bledlow in Bucks. and Cottisford in Oxon., formerly parcel of the alien priory of Okeburne in Wilts., the alien priory of Stratfeldsay in the Cos. of Southampton and Berks., and the portion of the prioress de Claro Rivallo in the church of Mapilderham alias Mapildram with its fruits, profits, &c., and many other priories and manors in various counties.<sup>2</sup>

The income of the vicar in the middle of the reign of Henry VIII may be deduced from the account of a subsidy of

<sup>1</sup> In the Eton Account Roll for 31-32 Henry VI John Iwardeby still pays his £5. Unfortunately, from that date to 6-7 Edward IV the rolls are lost or imperfect; in the latter year Roger Gery is found paying his £4.

<sup>2</sup> The text of this mandate (dated 23 Feb. 1462/3) so far as it affects Mapledurham is given in Appendix IV.



one-tenth granted in the diocese of Lincoln in 1526.<sup>1</sup> The return for Mapledurham is:

Dom. Thomas Pethe rec.  $\text{£}x$ .

In proc. et sin.	$x\text{s. viij}d.$	} q.m. (= quota medie- tatis)
In visitacione episcopi	$ii\text{s. viij}d.$	
In repar.	$xxv\text{j}s. viij}d.$	
		xvs. 10d. ob.q.

In the Blount papers there is a document containing 'the names of those persons that yearly on Easter Day doe pay these following severall summes of Money in full discharge of all Tythes yearly renewing out of the common Meads in Mapledurham . . . and due to the vicar there for the tyme being by an Ancient Custome, each one paying sixpence the yard-land' (MSS. fol. 33 v.). By a comparison with the register of burials the date is about 1640-50, and the compiler will be Mr. William Day. Nine tenants hold 2 yard-lands each, seven hold  $1\frac{1}{2}$ , ten hold 1, and one holds  $\frac{1}{2}$  a yard-land; hence there are 39 yard-lands of common meadow in all, and the annual payment to the vicar is 19s. 6d.

In the Eton papers is 'A Terrier of ye Glebe lands belonging to ye Vicaridge or Parsonage of Mapledurham in ye Countie of Oxon., exhibited at ye first Visitation of John Lord Bp. of Oxford held at Henley upon Thames April 20 1676'.

The document, which is in the handwriting of Mr. Day, runs as follows:

'Imprimis there are neere adjoininge to ye Rectorie or Parsonadge house of Mapledurham aforesaid Orchards and a Garden and to them there is a close adjoininge, all wiche together conteint by estimation two Acres and a halfe.

Item there is a little pidle belonginge to ye parsonadge or Vicaridge adjoininge to ye Church-yarde wiche is at present an Hopp-garden<sup>2</sup> and is bounded on ye North and Easte sides with Brick-walls of Gardens or Orchards belonging to ye Mannor-house of ye Mannor of Gurnay, on ye south with ye Church-yarde and on ye west with ye highway.

Lands inclosed remote from ye House and above the Hill

<sup>1</sup> *A subsidy collected in the diocese of Lincoln, 1526*; Rev. H. E. Salter in *Oxford Histor. Soc.*, lxiii (1913), p. 249.

<sup>2</sup> Now the kitchen-garden of the vicarage, but diminished in size by an addition to the churchyard, made in 1902.

Imprimis One close called Pouchcrofte conteining by estimation tenn Acres.

Item another close called Longe-croft conteining by estimation Six Acres.

Item another close called Round-close cont. by estimn. seven Acres.<sup>1</sup>

Item another close called Crouchcroft cont. by estimn. tenn Acres.

Item a longe-pidle lying betweene ye way wich leadeth from Whitchurch and Goringe to Readinge and ye said Crouchcrofte on ye south, and it contains by estimation two Acres.

Lands in ye Common feilds.

*In Wheatelands.* In ye common feilde called Wheatelands there are foure peeces or parcels of Lande belonging to ye sd Vicaridge or parsonadge whereof two ly neere or on ye side of Kinge-Hill and ye other two in ye bottom betweene Chauzes woode and Hennfeilde, wich foure peeces or parcels of Lande conteine by estimation three Acres and better.

*In Hennfeilde.* In ye common feilde called Hennfeild there are three peeces or parcels of lande belonging as aforesaide, wich conteine Six Acres Two Roods and Seven perches.

*In ye common Meade.* In ye common Meade there are foure peeces or parcels of meadow grounde belonging to ye sd Vicarage or parsonage wich conteine two Acres two Roodes and foure perches. The first peece or parcel contains ye Landez and the Trencher peeces adjoining, Two of ye other peeces or parcels are called Stiches, and ye other peece is called ye parson's or parsonage gore.'

Yet another 'terror of the glebe', apparently about the same date as the last, but in parts illegible, after enumerating matters already cited in the document immediately preceding, continues:

'The Incumbent of Mapledurham hath right of common in ye common meadow and other common grounds (at ye time that they ly common) for sixteen Cows and doth . . . the same.

He hath also by Custome a Mortuary<sup>2</sup> for every one that dieth according to ye Statute of the Lande.

<sup>1</sup> This must be the Rakercroft of the award of 1454 (p. 111).

<sup>2</sup> *Mortuary*, a customary gift (generally the second best beast or garment) claimed by the incumbent of the parish from the estate of a dead parishioner. Originally it represented the payment of tithe supposed to be forgotten during life. Sometimes known as 'soul shot'.

He hath also belonging to him one dwelling-house (wich is commonly called the parsonage house), whereunto is belonging these outhouses following, viz. one granary: One pigeon loft with a Rome under it: Two barnes, with a stable at the end of one of them. One Orchard with a little peece of Grounde adjoining to ye Easte parte thereof now used for an hopp garden.'

The fields 'above hill' are then enumerated, much as before, and the holdings in the common fields. The remark is made, that 'these two last peeces are seide to have been exchanged with Sir Richard Blount for a peece of land lying under Chauzes-wood-hedge on which he made a way from Mapledurham to Readinge'. This must be the stretch of road now known as the Warren. The old road to Reading, at a point near and above Chazey Court, turned up-hill and over the fields to the north-west and north of Chazey Wood. Sir Richard Blount's new road started to the north of Chazey Farm and led along the south-west edge of Chazey Wood, gradually nearing the river, till it reached the neighbourhood of St. Peter's Church at Caversham. This is still in part the private road from Mapledurham to Reading. Sir Richard Blount, son of the Michael Blount who bought Mapledurham Chazey, was lord of the two manors 1591-1628.

It is not possible to identify all the fields named in the above documents, or to reconcile the documents with one another. On a large estate the shape and size of fields is constantly changing, hedges are grubbed, parcels of land are run together or separated, exchanges are carried out. The fields of one century, as the old maps testify, often differ greatly from the fields of a century later.

An unfortunate dispute arose in 1638 between Mr. William Day, vicar, and Sir Charles Blount of Mapledurham, son of the Sir Richard Blount just mentioned, on the subject of tithe. It seems that the payment of the vicar's tithe on the demesne lands of the two manors had fallen into desuetude, largely owing, as Mr. Day alleges, to the age and incapacity of Mr. Thomas Matthew, his next predecessor but two. Accordingly, Mr. Day, when the tithes of 1638 were 'not set out upon

his demand . . . preferred a Bill against Sir Charles Blount, Lord of the said Mannors, and against the Tenants of his Demesne Lands and Meadowes, in his Maties Court of Exchequer Chamber'. The preliminaries of the case were protracted, the civil war broke out, Sir Charles was tragically killed<sup>1</sup> at Oxford, it was said by Peter Langstone, brother of Antony Langstone his own solicitor, and the suit died out until it was afterwards revived by Sir Charles' son Walter, after the death of his elder brother Michael in 1649. Meanwhile, by letters patent of 2 May 1641, in consideration of £20 paid to the Exchequer, Mr. Day and his successors were granted the whole portion of tithe called the portion of Lewes for ever, i.e. two-thirds of the great and small tithes of the manor of Gurney.<sup>2</sup> The demesne lands from which the tithes are drawn are said to consist of arable land 200 acres, meadow and pasture land 100 acres, while the park contains 200 acres. The total value of the tithe on these lands is £20, of which 20 marks, i.e. two-thirds, are due to the Crown, but are now made over to the vicar and his successors for ever.

An indenture, dated 17 March 1686, provides for the letting by Mr. John Hawtrey, vicar, to Lyster Blount, lord of the manor, for the annual payment of £28, of all the tithe of woods, woodlands, and underwood in the various woods and coppices named. Also all manner of tithes and rights, excepting common for sixteen beasts in the common meadows, arising out of the various demesne pastures, which are enumerated, and also all the small tithes of the manor house of Gurney, except the tithes of wool and lambs.<sup>3</sup>

The oldest extant map of the Mapledurham estate is a copy by H. W. Jones of Reading, in 1891, of a map of 'Maplederom, Performed and finished Anno Domini 1587 by

<sup>1</sup> 'On a little white marble fastened to an old stone' in St. Mary's Church, Oxford, was an inscription recording his death on 1 June 1644. 'He was of Mapledurham in this countie, and was killed at the north port by the sentinell for not standing at his command' (A. Wood, *Antiquities of the City of Oxford*, iii. 142 (Oxford Hist. Soc., vol. xxxvii)).

<sup>2</sup> From a vellum manuscript book by Mr. Day, now in the parish chest. There is a mass of documents bearing on the suit in Eton College Library.

<sup>3</sup> Blount MSS.

John Blagrave Gent. Mathew Benevolum'. This map which is very roughly executed and in parts defective, gives no indication of glebe land.

A map dated 1722, by Mr. Joseph Collier, shows practically all the glebe land mentioned in the Eton concession of 1454, and in the terriers of and about 1676. The names do not in all cases correspond, but a large number can be identified. The various patches of glebe in the common fields are all clearly marked, the 'stitches', which impinge on the river, and the 'parson's gore', are unmistakable.

A manuscript book, obviously written in connexion with the map of 1722, and explaining it more or less in detail, gives a list of the various tenants and their holdings. The following account is given of 'The glebe land in ye field':

*Wheatlands.*

	a.	r.	p.
The Picked Peice . . . . .	0	1	32
The Chalk pit Peice . . . . .	0	1	33
The by the way . . . . .	0	0	16
Ye Little Peice by henfield . . . . .	0	1	20
Bush Peice in Little Henfield . . . . .	2	1	29
Mead Peice in Little Henfield . . . . .	2	0	35
The Peice in Great Henfield . . . . .	1	1	20
	8	1	15

*Meadow.*

The Peice next to henfield . . . . .	1	2	27
The Square Peice . . . . .	1	0	12
The Upper Peice next ye Theames . . . . .	0	1	11
The Lower Peice next ye Thams . . . . .	0	1	21
Stumetchen Peice . . . . .	0	0	30
	3	2	21

Total 11 a. 3 r. 36 p.

The actual date or dates of the enclosure of the Mapledurham common fields is not known. But the disadvantage of holding at least a dozen small and scattered pieces of land, partly arable, partly meadow, lying at a distance from the vicarage, must have been felt by every succeeding vicar. It is

# 118 EARLY HISTORY OF MAPLEDURHAM

known that Dr. Littleton (1726-33), Dr. Burton (1734-65), and Mr. Barnard (1766-85), got over the difficulty to a certain extent by renting pasture land in the Mill field, adjacent to the vicarage grounds.

It became known that the lord of the manor was anxious to effect a division of the meadow land, and it was Dr. Norbury (vicar 1785-1800) who first initiated a proposal for a wholesale exchange. After his death, Mr. Tew (1800-18) took the matter up energetically, and ultimately, about July 1801, the following terms of exchange were arranged :

Mr. Tew gave up to Mr. Michael Blount

## (a) Meadow Land

	a.	r.	p.		a.	r.	p.	£	s.	d.
3 pieces in Common	2	0	19	}	= 2	2	26 at 30/- p/a	= 3	19	9
Mead	0	1	11							
	0	0	36							

Right of common in the after  
pasture in Common Mead for 5  
cows at 5/- each

= 1 5 0

## (b) Arable Land

	a.	r.	p.		a.	r.	p.	£	s.	d.
In Great Hen Field	1	1	20	}	= 8	1	25 at 20/- p/a	= 8	8	1½
In Little Hen Field	4	2	21							
In Wheatlands 4 pieces	2	1	24							
Total	11	0	11					£13	12	10½

Mr. Tew received in exchange from Mr. Michael Blount

	a.	r.	p.		£	s.	d.
Lambs Pightle <sup>1</sup>	1	1	0 at 20/-	=	10	8	3
Mill Field	10	1	26 at 20/-				
Malt House Pightle (in part)	2	0	0 at 20/-				
	13	2	26		£13	3	3

It will be observed that the total acreage of this portion of the glebe corresponds very nearly with that given above in the survey of 1722.

<sup>1</sup> Part of a leasehold estate called Benwell's Farm, held on life of Rev. John Hewett.

At the same time, certain rectifications of garden ground were made, on both sides of the road in Mapledurham village; the broad ditch which ran on the south-east and west of the vicarage garden was taken into the garden, and a road made through the almshouse garden to the vicarage stables. Some slight addition seems to have been made to the vicarage garden on the east side of the road. The final agreement was signed in 1802.

Finally, in 1921, all the glebe above the hill (Pouchcroft, Crouchcroft, &c.) amounting to forty-one acres was sold to Mr. E. Riddell Blount, then lord of the manor, for £550. Mr. Blount redeemed the whole of his tithe rent-charge in the same year.

## CHAPTER IX

### THE CHURCH, ITS FABRIC AND CONTENTS

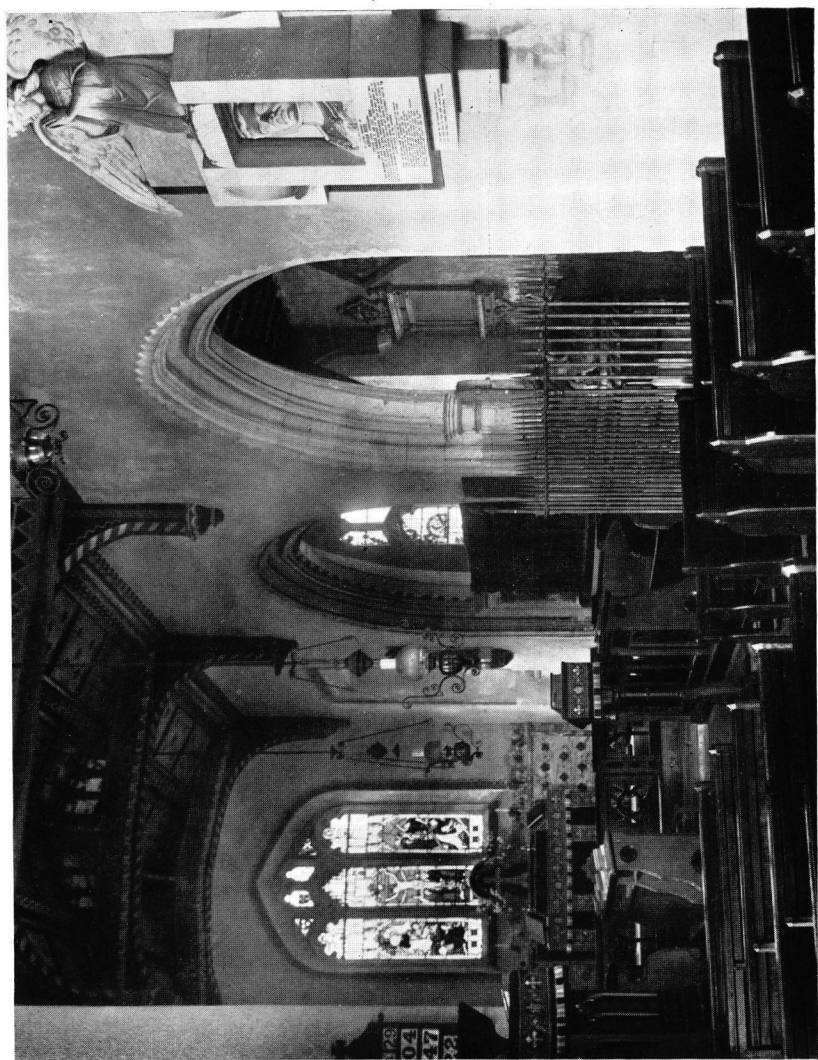
As has been already remarked, there can be little doubt that the present church of Mapledurham stands on, or adjacent to, the site of the rude chapel which originally formed an appendage to the manor house, and of which no record remains. Even at the present day, there is said to be an underground passage leading from the cellars of the Elizabethan mansion, part of which stands on the site of the old manor house, to a point beneath the chancel, and a second passage from under the chancel towards the hills. A passage actually exists under the churchyard, about three feet in diameter, but choked by falls of the chalk blocks which form it; its further extension has not been verified.

Of the fabric of the church itself, singularly few records remain, and it is left to tell its own story. No picture of the church appears to exist, older than about 1862. But the building in which the early vicars of the twelfth and thirteenth centuries officiated can hardly have been the church of the present day. All that we can say is, that the nave and chancel were standing, with some kind of bell-tower, not the present one, when Sir Robert Bardolf was lord of Mapledurham from 1375 to 1395.

A copy of Sir Robert's will, and of that of his widow, Lady Amice, are preserved in Somerset House, and make it quite clear that they built the present south aisle as an addition to the church as it now exists. To connect this aisle with the main body of the church, they constructed, in what was then the south wall of the fabric, the present three arches, the two eastern of which are much more elaborate than the western.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The span of the eastern arch is 9 ft. 5 in., of the central 8 ft. 2 in., of the western 10 ft.





THE CHURCH, INTERIOR, SHOWING THE BARDOLF AISLE AND ARCHES

Sir Robert declares in his will: 'Item lego ad reparacionem cancelli predicte ecclesie, ut decore preces pro anima mea . . . sepius et cicius celebrentur, xls. sterlingorum.' And he leaves 'corpus meum ad sepeliendum in quadam aela ecclesie parochialis de Mapelderham Gurney, ubi pater meus et mater mea sunt sepulti', the 'ubi', as is clear from Sir John Bardolf's will (p. 32), referring not to the 'aela' but to the church. Lady Amice's will is more precise. 'Item lego fabrice navis dicte ecclesie de Mapelderham xxs. Item lego ad reparacionem et sustentacionem nove capelle in parte australi dicte ecclesie de Mapeldreham modo constructe x marcas.' The 'new chapel', 'lately built' settles the question.

The Bardolf aisle, then, may safely be dated between 1381 or 1382 and 1395. John de Beverley, Lady Amice's first husband, died in 1380, and there is nothing to show when she married Robert Bardolf. The opinion which has generally found expression, that the south aisle is older than the rest of the church, must be revised. Equally incorrect was the view of a former vicar of Mapledurham,<sup>1</sup> that 'an aisle to the parish church was built by Mr. Head of that [the Blount] family before the Reformation principally with a view to its becoming a family cemetery'. One would be inclined to date the nave, and probably the chancel as well, as not greatly older than the aisle itself; the bell-tower of Sir Robert's will must have been replaced by the present tower at a later date. Possibly the Bardolfs may have renewed the windows on the north side of the church, or they may have copied them for their own aisle. The windows in the chancel have been restored at a later date. The mullions and jambs of the older windows are composed of chalk, and have been patched and mended at various times and with various materials. No further information has come down to us with regard to any structural alteration in the church, until the latter half of the nineteenth century. If it is permissible to conjecture who the builders of the church may have been, regarded from the point of view of wealth and ability to build, one would point to William Bardolf the younger and his wife Juliana de Gurney (1254-95).

<sup>1</sup> E. C. H. in *Notes and Queries*, xi, 1855, p. 432.

The chapel was evidently intended to be in practice, though not technically, a chantry subsidiary to the main building. An altar stood beneath the east window, the service table is still in the wall to the right. Lady Amice made an ample bequest of vestments and plate (p. 133). A shallow wooden step is set 37 ft. from the east window and 15 ft. from the west; the width of the aisle is 10 ft. 3 in. The little door on the south side, opening into the churchyard, is much later than the rest of the building, and probably dates from Tudor times.

This aisle has always been claimed by the Roman Catholic owners of Mapledurham House as their private property. Lord Augustus FitzClarence, during his tenure of the benefice (1829-54), raised the question of its ownership. The matter was referred by the Bishop of Oxford to Dr. Phillimore, chancellor of the diocese, who decided wholly in favour of the Blount family, on the grounds that the aisle had been the private property of the Blounts as far back as the memory of man extended, that they alone had been responsible for its repair for a similar period, and that it was accessible by a door of which they alone held the key. At the same time Lord Augustus' claim to a fee for performing burials within the private portion was upheld. The last burial which took place in the aisle was that of Michael Henry Mary Blount, and was conducted by Mr. Coleridge on 10 September 1874.

From the will of Sir John Bardolf the younger (1375) we learn that the church contained images of the patronal saint (St. Margaret) and of the Virgin. From the will of Joan Iwardby (d. 1476) we learn that there was also an image of St. Thomas the Confessor in the chancel, south side, 'afore which' she desired to be buried.

Valuable information with regard to the contents of the church, from the death of Sir Robert Bardolf onward, is derived from two independent sources, the 'Pedigrees and Records' of Sir Richard St. George,<sup>1</sup> Norroy King-of-Arms 1603-23, and a little notebook of Richard Symonds the antiquary. The former MS., dated 1615, forms part of the Rawlinson Collection in the Bodleian Library, the latter is one of

<sup>1</sup> Afterwards Clarenceux King-of-Arms from 1623 to his death in 1635.

the Harleian MSS. in the British Museum.<sup>1</sup> Both these antiquaries visited the church, Symonds in 1644, St. George at an earlier date, and both made copious notes of the windows, brasses, coats of arms, and inscriptions. Although some discrepancies occur, a combination of the two accounts enables us to arrive at a very good idea of what the interior of the church was like in 1644 and for nearly two centuries earlier. When Symonds visited the church, as a young man of twenty-seven, he was attached to a troop of horse which formed the king's life-guard in the royal army as it operated between Oxford and Reading. He was at Dorchester, Crowmarsh Giffard, and Bensington on 28-29 March of that year, at Wheatley 14 April, at Mapledurham and Whitchurch 2 May, at Burford and Witney 16, 17 June. The same period is covered by his *Diary of the Marches*,<sup>2</sup> but no mention is made therein of Mapledurham. His notes on Mapledurham Church were copied by J. Dunkin in his manuscript History of Oxfordshire, Langtree Hundred, 1823-5.<sup>3</sup> A transcript, not quite accurate, was published in the *Topographer*, vol. i, 1789, pp. 409-14, but it was not stated whose notes they were. Mr. P. Manning (*Oxford Journal of Monumental Brasses*, i. 287-95) deals with St. George's notes and Symond's notes in Dunkin, without knowing the origin of the latter.

Sir Robert Bardolf's brass, now on the floor below the east window of the Bardolf aisle, was originally inlaid on 'a very large Altar Tomb covered with a grey marble'. It stood 'betweine ye south ile of the chancel and the chancel', much in the same position as the great tomb of Sir Richard and Lady Cicely Blount now stands, but under the arch further to the east. When the tomb was demolished and the brass laid in its present position is not known; it was still on the tomb in 1718 when Rawlinson speaks of it as 'a fair Altar monument'.<sup>4</sup> In 1731 it was on the floor in its present position, and

<sup>1</sup> Rawlinson MSS. B. 103; Harleian MSS. 965.

<sup>2</sup> Camden Society's Publications, vol. 74, 1859.

<sup>3</sup> Guildhall Library, City of London MS. 4339.

<sup>4</sup> *Parochial Collections*, Wood and Rawlinson: Oxfordshire Record Society, iv. 203.

'some of the ornamental brass on the verge of the stone had gone'.<sup>1</sup>

This fine brass, which belongs to the very best period of English work, closely resembles the brass of Sir Robert de Grey (1387), in Rotherfield Greys Church, and is probably by the same hand.<sup>2</sup> The armour in general is the mixed chain and plate armour of the camail period. The height of the figure plus the inscription is 6 ft. 3 in., the length of the brass all over is 8 ft. 3 in. The laces of the camail are shown on the bascinet, the vervells fastening them are of quatrefoil shape; the sculptor has omitted to engrave the lace on the sinistral side. The hauberk just shows under the bottom of the jupon, which is slightly escalloped. The coudières are large, heart-shaped at the inner angle; the genouillères are plain; the loose end of the belt depends nearly to the right knee. The blade of the broadsword is lost 14 in. below the hilt, the misericorde is present, but not visible below the belt in which it rests. Only the indent remains of the tilting helmet, which had disappeared in 1644; the crest was, Out of a ducal coronet a dragon's head or, both wings expanded gules. Two shields occupied the free spaces within the canopy over the head to right and left; these were charged with the Bardolf and the Buxhull arms, three cinquefoils argent on a field gules (Bardolf), and, argent, a lion rampant azure, fretty of the first (Buxhull). These shields were *in situ* when St. George made his notes, for he sketches them in, they had gone when Symonds visited the church. The feet of the figure rest on a lion gardant; the inscription, which is remarkably clear, reads:

HIC IACET ROBERTVS BARDOLF MILES QVI OBIIT  
VICESIMO DIE MENSIS MAIJ ANNO DÑI MILLMO  
CCCLXXXXº QVINTO CVIVS AĒ PPICIETVR DEVS  
AMEN

In the east window of the aisle were the effigies of the knight and his lady. These were present in 1615, for they

<sup>1</sup> T. Hearne, *Remarks and Collections*, x. 467 (Oxford Histor. Soc., vol. lxvii).

<sup>2</sup> Boutell, *Monumental Brasses*, p. 31, plate.

were sketched by St. George; in 1644 Symonds thus describes them: 'The same picture of Bardolfe as in the east end, but latelie broken and patcht. The picture of a woman kneelyng, and on the under part of her garment Or, per pale, a lion rampant frettie <sup>1</sup> [sketched]; the colours worne off, impaled in the east window.' To the left (as seen) was the kneeling figure of the knight, facing left, the arms uplifted, palms appressed, head bare, the figure in plate armour, sword and spurs prominent. To right was the lady, also facing left, arms uplifted in prayer, the head to front, backed by an extension of the head-dress; she wore a long mantle charged with a shield exhibiting the Buxhull arms: over the two heads were two shields charged as before; no impaling, as stated by Symonds. These details are from St. George's sketch.

An inscription, probably below the figures, ran as follows: '*Orate pro Roberto Bardolph milite et Amicia uxore eius, qui istam capellam construxerunt*' (St. George). Symonds gives only '*Bardolph milite Roberto... capellam construxerunt*'.

Some conflict of evidence exists with regard to the contents of the east window of the chancel. Symonds notes, with sketch appended: 'East window chancel arms G. 3 cinquefoils A. Bardolfe: S. an eagle displayed A.<sup>2</sup> impaling O. a lion rampant fretty.' These two shields are to left and right over the head of the figure. 'The figure of a man in armour, having on his breast the Bardolfe arms, his hands extended, holding a scroll with these words, "*Jesu fili Dei... mei*".' The sketch shows that he wears a spiked helmet, visor raised, camail laced as in the brass; his coat and sleeves are marked 'gules' and cuffed 'or'; the right palm open, the left holding the scroll; in the middle of the body two cinquefoils; on a shield beneath the chin, a crusader's cross. This obviously represents Robert Bardolf, and Symonds has no further note on the east window.

St. George, on the other hand, makes no mention of this

<sup>1</sup> G. F. Beltz, *Memorials of the Order of the Garter*, gives the Buxhull arms as Or, a lion rampant azure, fretty argent.

<sup>2</sup> Probably the arms of John de Beverley, recording his marriage with Amice Buxhull.

effigy. He gives a sketch, labelled 'Chancell window', exhibiting a shield charged with the Bardolf arms,<sup>1</sup> and surrounded by a circular ribbon, within which is the Bardolf motto, 'B. frend, B. frendly', thrice repeated. The whole is above and slightly overlaps a garter, which surrounds a shield charged with the Buxhull arms and what were probably the Bigwood arms, but the sinister side is left blank in the sketch.<sup>2</sup> Upon the garter is the motto *Honi soit qui maly pense*. Pendant from it is a small shield, notched in the upper quarter, charged with three crosses crosslet. The whole represents the union of the houses Bardolf and Buxhull, Lady Amice being daughter of Sir Alan Buxhull, K.G. To the left of these, as viewed, is sketched a single shield, charged with the Bardolf arms, to the right are two shields in a line, the innermost being Buxhull impaling Bigwood (argent, on a chief gules two crescents or), the outer Lynde impaling Buxhull, and signifying the marriage of Sir Roger Lynde with Elizabeth Buxhull, Amice Bardolf's sister. The Lynde arms are a pelican on her nest, no tinctures given. It certainly is a singular circumstance that St. George and Symonds, while more or less agreeing as to the contents of the other windows, should differ so completely over the windows of the chancel. Possibly the St. George sketch refers to the south chancel window, which Symonds does not notice at all.

'The north window of the chancel', writes Symonds, 'is of two panes, and is adorned with these coats and figures. First compartment [i. e. the western] John Iwardeby th' elder and Jane his wife kneeling opposite each other with scrolls containing their names.' The words were somewhat mutilated in Symonds' time, St. George gives them in full: on his, *Thu my maker Bring me to Bliss John Iwardeby th' elder*; on hers,

<sup>1</sup> The Bardolf arms, 'd'azure trois quintefoiles d'or', are mentioned in *Archaeologia*, xxxix (1863), p. 377, as occurring in a Roll of Arms to be dated about 1280 (Harleian MSS. 6589). The tinctures vary with the degrees of relationship. *Parliamentary Writs and Summons*, i, p. 415 (temp. Edward I), in lists headed 'Ces sunt les Nons e les Armes a Banerez de Engleterre', has 'Sire Johan Bardolf, de goules a iij quintefoils de argent; Sire Thomas Bardolf, de or a iij quintefoils de azure; Sire William Bardolf, de azure a iij quintefoils de argent'.

<sup>2</sup> Sir Alan Buxhull's first wife was probably a Bigwood.

*Mary moder I you pray help me Jane daughter of Hugh Ansley Knight.* His head is bare, she is coifed or capped; his robe is lettered 'gules', belt 'argent'. In the other compartment, John Iwardeby the younger and Katherine his wife, both kneeling, right hands clasped, left hands uplifted; from his mouth a scroll (broken and defaced in 1644) with the words *God have mercy on me John the son of John and Jane Iwarbye*; on her scroll, *Helpe Mary moder gracious lady me Katyn daughter of Edward Lord Bergavenney.* She is vested 'azure' a band or fillet on her forehead; his head is bare, no details on his plain robe. According to St. George, between the two figures was an infant, lying flat, at the height of their arms, from its mouth proceeded a scroll with the words *God have mercy on me John the son of John the son of John.*<sup>1</sup> Along the bottom of the two compartments ran the inscription: *John Iwardbye and Katyn his wife specially you pray Say as oft as ye see this window ij De profundis for him or on pater noster and on ave for them and for Edward Elizabeth John and Jane*<sup>2</sup> *their faders and moders and for ye sowle of John the which by the wall lieth son of the said John and Katherine on whome Jesu have mercy* (Symonds).

In the western compartment, just above the two heads, was a shield charged with a lion or, impaling, paly of six, argent and azure, on a bend gules a mullet in chief (Annesley); the uppermost part of the window is marked in Symonds' sketch 'new glasse'. Over the eastern compartment four shields, one, two, and one, charged as follows: (1) gules, on a saltire argent a rose of the first (Earl of Westmoreland), (2) quarterly, first and fourth argent, a bend sable, second and third gules, a fretty or (Spencer), impaling France and England quarterly, with a label of three points, quartering Castile and Leon quarterly (Richard, Duke of York), (3) Neville impaling Beauchamp, Warrene, Clare, and Spencer quarterly: first quarter,

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Manning (*Oxford Journ. Monum. Brasses, ut supra*) pronounces the threefold repetition 'a blunder'. But they may very well have lost their first son John, and named their next-born John as well (compare the next inscription and p. 53).

<sup>2</sup> Edward, Lord Bergavenny, Elizabeth Despencer, John Iwardby, Jane Iwardby (*née* Annesley, *veuve* Lynde).



gules, on a fess between six martlets or a crescent for difference (Beauchamp); second, chequy or and azure (Warrenne); third, Spencer; fourth, or, three chevrons gules (Clare); (4) Iwardby impaling quarterly Neville, Beauchamp, Warrenne, Clare, and Spencer.

These coats, which are sketched by Symonds and St. George, require some explanation. John of Gaunt, fourth son of Edward III, quartered the arms of Castile and Leon in virtue of his marriage with Constance, daughter of Pedro the Cruel. John's daughter by Catherine Swinford, Joan Beaufort, married Ralph de Neville, first Earl of Westmoreland, and their daughter Cicely married Richard, Duke of York, great grandson of Edward III, and became the mother of two kings, Edward IV and Richard III.

Isabel le Despencer, daughter of Thomas de Clare, Earl of Gloucester, married (1) Richard Beauchamp, Earl of Worcester and Baron Bergavenny, (2) Richard, fifth Earl of Warwick. Elizabeth, her daughter by her first marriage, became Baroness le Despencer, and married Sir Edward Neville, K.G., the father of Katharine Neville, who married John Iwardby the younger. As a confidant of Edward IV he was summoned to the English Parliament as Baron Bergavenny in right of his wife.<sup>1</sup> The Despenchers and the de Clares, earls of Gloucester, in the reigns of Edward III and Richard II held charges on Caversham Manor.

No record is given by either antiquary of any effigies or coats in the south window of the chancel unless, as has been suggested, St. George's sketches of the garter and Bardolf arms combined belongs to this window. In the north window of the church, according to Symonds, were 'four shields not so old as ye former, held by angels, this written under each in scrolls'. The shields ran along the window in a line from west to east, and were charged as follows:

1. 'Sable, a pelican on her nest feeding her young argent, under it a scroll with these words . . . Lyn . . . de . . .'
2. 'Argent a saltier eng'd sable, charged with a rose argent,

<sup>1</sup> The spelling Abergavenny, according to Burke, was not adopted till 1724-45.

on a chief sable two mullets, pierced argent. A scroll with the name Iwardeby.'<sup>1</sup>

3. 'Paly of six argent and azure, a bend gules charged with a mullet [in chief] argent, under it, Jane Iwardeby.'

This shield, that of the Annesleys, is now in the tracery of the east window, the glass having been trimmed to make it fit. A careless workman has inserted it inside out. Over the angel's head are the letters *dns teni*, below, *Iwar*.<sup>2</sup>

4. 'Or, a cross engr'd gules, in first quarter, a martlet. Under it, "Missenden".'

St. George's description of these four shields in the 'church window' is nearly identical.

Another of these four shields held by angels is now in the tracery of the east window, but is too much discoloured to admit of identification.

Mr. Manning's account of the fourth shield is somewhat different: he gives 'Argent, a cross engrailed gules, voided sable, in the first quarter, a chough of the third, beaked and membered of the second'.

The presence of the Missenden coat is explained by the fact that a John Iwardby of Quainton, Bucks., who was closely related to the Iwardbys of Mapledurham, married Katharine, daughter and heiress of Sir Bernard Missenden, of Missenden, Bucks. In the southernmost piece of tracery in the present east window is the following coat: Quarterly, first and fourth chequy, or and azure; second, gules, on either side of a fesse, or, charged with a crescent, sable, three crosses crosslet, argent (Beauchamp); third, same as second, but without the crosses: impaling, gules, a saltire argent, bordered sable, charged with a rose of the first (Neville).

We now come to the brasses (other than that of Sir Robert Bardolf) which St. George and Symonds found in the church.

<sup>1</sup> Lipscomb, *History of Buckinghamshire*, i. 406, gives the Missenden coat as, Argent, a saltire engrailed sable, on a chief of the last two mullets of the first; a somewhat different coat is given in iii. 502.

<sup>2</sup> In the *Visitations of the Co. of Oxford* (Harleian Soc. Publ., v. 1) there is a memorandum, 'Rr. to go to Mapledurham to see the crest of Mr. Annesley'.

The earliest is that of Alan de Buxhull, son of Sir Alan de Buxhull, K.G., and half-brother of Amice Bardolf and Elizabeth Lynde, who died about 1400, aged eighteen (see p. 36). St. George (*Pedigrees*, f. 69*b*) gives a sketch of a youthful knight in armour. 'He wears a pointed bascinet, with trefoil decoration over the forehead; a gorget of plate, cuirass, épaulières, round palettes at the arm-pits, scalloped cotes, a skirt of taces, and the usual leg armour. Attached by a diagonal belt is a sword and misericorde. Under it are the words "This inscription defased"' (Manning). On the slab were four shields, two above and two below. Beginning with the upper dexter, they were (1) Argent, a lion rampant azure, fretty of the first (Buxhull), impaling, Argent on a chief gules two crescents or (Bigwood); (2) a double-headed eagle displayed, impaling an eagle displayed; (3) two bars, over all a bend; (4) a cross' (Manning). No tinctures or explanations are given of the last three coats.

St. George records, but does not sketch, the brass of John Lynde, eldest son of Sir Roger Lynde and Elizabeth Buxhull, who died 1400. The inscription ran: *Hic iacet Johannes Lynde qui obiit xviij die Julij anno domini MCCCC cujus anime propitiatur deus*. The same is the case with regard to Sir Roger Lynde's brass, the inscription on which was: *Hic iacet Rogerus Lynde armiger qui obiit nono die maij anno domini MCCCCVII c. a. p. d.* These are probably the brasses referred to by Symonds when he writes, 'Three old worne flat stones lye close together in the middle of this pretty small chancel, whereon each was adorned with effigies, and four shields, but all worne and gone'.

Symonds continues: 'Upon the uppermost step near the east end, and under the north window aforesaid, lies a flat stone, whereon was the effigies of a man like his picture in the glasse. Three shields at the top in a row. This inscription under his feet: *Here lyeth John Iwardeby ye Elder squier ye which dyed the 16 of Aug. 1470 on whose sowle Jesu have mercy Amen.*'

St. George's *Pedigrees* (f. 77*b*) show a rough sketch of the brass with six shields, three above and three below. 'The effigy is bareheaded and wears complete plate armour with

demi-placcates and a skirt of taces slit up the middle. Of the shields only the uppermost are charged' (Manning). St. George's sketch shows that, of the upper row, the dexter and central shields are charged, for Iwardby and Annesley respectively, of the lower row, the dexter only, for Iwardby.

'Upon a flat stone neare the south wall, upper end of the chancel, whereon was the picture of a woman and this' (Symonds). '*Here lyeth Dame Jane, the doughter of Sir Hugh Andysley and late the Wyf of William Lynde Esquier whoos soules I pray you hartely remembrith in your Good Prays.*' It seems strange that the fact is suppressed that she was the wife of John Iwardby for about thirty years and his widow for six. St. George (*Pedigrees*, f. 69*b*) gives a sketch of this brass: the effigy wears a spreading over-gown, with a loose belt and pointed tassel pendent from it. On either side of the effigy was a shield charged Lynde impaling Annesley.

'A small square stone, the fashion of this crosse [he gives a sketch of a tall cross raised on two stones] in brasse and this: Here lyeth Richard Annysley, Son of Henry Annesley, Gent. on whose soule Jesu have mercy' (Symonds). 'Another flat stone in the chancell, the small picture of a man in arms, four shields and this; a lion gardant at his feet' (Symonds). St. George sketches the effigy and the coats. According to him there were two shields in the upper part, representing (1) Sambourne of Southcote and Drew, impaling, quarterly, first and fourth a lion rampant, gardant, second and third, two lions passant; (2) quarterly of eight, the upper four the above four coats, the rest blank. Symonds seems to supply the Sambourne and Drew coats: 'quarterly, first and fourth, a chevron between three mullets, quartering, second and third, a lion rampant, impaling, quarterly, first and fourth, a lion rampant, second and third, two lions passant.'<sup>1</sup>

The inscription is: *Here lieth Nicolas Sanburne the sonne of*

<sup>1</sup> The Sambournes of Southcote must have been a different family from the Sambournes of Sonning, whose arms are given as, 1st and 4th argent, a chevron sable between three mullets gules pierced or (Sambourne); ermine, a lion passant, gules (Drew), *Visitations of Oxon.*, p. 232. A Nicholas Sambourne was escheator for the Cos. of Southampton and Wilts. in 1385 (*Calendar Close Rolls*, 9 Richard II, p. 73).

*Walter Sanburne of Sowthcotte gentelman the which decessid the xxviij day of Apriell the yere of our Lord MV + VI (i.e. 1506) on whos soull Jhu have mcy.* This inscription and Jane Lynde's still survive and are affixed to the north wall of the Bardolf chapel.

Nicholas Sambourne's will, proved 27 June 1506, begins:

'I will that my Body be buried in the Chancell of the parysche church of Mapeldurham in the Countie of Oxon. . . . And in Witnesse I send for my gostly fader Sir Thomas Peyth, Vicar of Mapuldurham and declare the aforesaid my Will in his presence, Ric. Blount, Robert Wodeford, Thomas Peyth and others.'

He evidently lived in the parish, but his further connexion with it is not known.

Symonds continues: 'Upon a flat stone near ye south doore middle yle church, "*Hic iacet Robertus Cowdray qui obiit 9 Aug. qui legavit ecclesie de Mapuldereham xxvjs. viijd. ut gardiani dicte ecclesie pro tempore ordinent et faciant quolibet anno obitum suum in perpetuum die predicta Anno MCCCCXLVII, c. a. p. d. a.*"' The transcriber in the *Topographer* obscured the meaning by reading *et gardinum* ('and a garden') for *ut gardiani* ('that the churchwardens') and leaving a blank from *pro tempore* to *die predicta*. Provision for a religious office (*obitus*) on the anniversary of burial was common. Nothing is known of Robert Cowdray.

Neither St. George nor Symonds mention the two-light south window in the Bardolf aisle. It now contains pieces of Flemish glass of various dates. The two canopies are about 1460, the lower portions, some of which appear to represent the landing of St. Augustine in Britain, accompanied by the words *Sancte Augustine ora pro nobis*, contain a fragment of a label [16]37. Of the tracery, the two exterior pieces are the same date as the lower portions, while the two interior pieces, representing flowers and fruit, are a little later. The Virgin and crown in the left-hand light are rather later than the rest of the glass, but also seventeenth century. The small pieces in the west window of the aisle are all fifteenth century.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> I am indebted to the kindness of Mr. R. C. Haydon-Bacon, of Caversham, for this description.

The church of Mapledurham did not escape despoilment in the reign of Edward VI at the hands of the king's commissioners, who, in order that money might be raised for the wars in France and Scotland, were commanded<sup>1</sup> in 1551 'to take into the Kinges handes such church plate as remaineth to be employed unto his Highnes use'. They reported:<sup>2</sup>

'Maple durham Gurney Bynfyld h.  
This Inventory indented made the 28th of Julye 6 Edw. VI of all the Goodes perteyning to the par. ch. of Mapledorham in the co. of Oxford betweene the same commissioners . . . and Thomas Asplen Curat, and Richard Mylsam witnesseth

In primis too chalysys of sylver and gylt

Item oon sute of vestements of blew damaske with oon albe

„ oon vestement of red saten of Bregys with the albe

„ „ „ „ white „ „ „ „ an „

„ „ cope of blew sylke with birds

„ 3 bellys.'

On page 133 of the same entry is noted :

'Thys inventorie indented made the 17 day of May 7 Edw. VI of all bellys chalyce surplessys of the churche of Mapledyrham between [commissioners] and Thomas Asplen Curate Richard Mylsam and John Atwellys churchwardens . . . witnesseth that the same are commyttyd to the custody [of the same] for the use of the kyngges maiestey. Imprimis 3 bellys one chalyce without a cover 2 surplessys.'

Perhaps some of these articles of which the church was now robbed had been left to it by Lady Amice Bardolf, more than a century before. 'Item lego', she had said, 'vestimentum meum rubeum de auro cum ij frontellis ejusdem panni, ij tuallis [towels], unam tabulam depictam, j superaltare, j calicem ij cruetas argenteas et de auro cum pedibus firmatas in fundo, ad remanendum et deserviendum in divinis officiis ad altare in nova capella quamdiu durare valeant in futurum.'

<sup>1</sup> *Acts of the Priory Council*, iii. 228 (3 March, 1551); see A. F. Pollard, *England under Protector Somerset*, p. 270.

<sup>2</sup> *Edwardian Inventories for Oxfordshire* (Oxfordshire Record Soc., 1919, p. 95). 'Bregys' = Bruges.

William Wytherton, vicar 1539-44, formerly vicar of Stoke Gury<sup>1</sup> in the diocese of Bath and Wells, by his Will, dated 26 October 29 Henry VIII (1537), and proved 2 December 1544, gave 'to the parysche church of Mappull Dorram of the diocese of Oxford a paire of vestments of redd satten. And I will', he continues, 'that my executours shall by clothe to make the albe and ammys. Item I bequeath to the poore people of Mappull Dorram aforesaid three shillings fourpence to be devyded by the discretion of my executours.'<sup>2</sup>

The recumbent figures on the large stone tomb under the central arch of the Bardolf aisle represent Sir Richard Blount (bur. 12 May 1628) son of Sir Michael and father of Sir Charles, and his wife Cicely (d. 21 Dec. 1619). The tomb is 6 ft. 6 in. long by 5 ft. broad. The coping at the eastern end has been cut away to give more space to show the coats of arms at the western end.

The knight is bareheaded, with short chin beard and moustache; he is clad in the conventional plate armour of the day, which opens by hinges on the breast, body, and legs; a high shirt collar is conspicuous round the lower part of his face; his broadsword lies at his side. His lady's hands are raised and appressed, head with hair dressed high over a wire, a little rosette of curls in the centre of the forehead, round her neck is a ruff; she wears a full skirt over a small farthingale, a stiffened bodice, buttoned down the front, decorated with jewelled chains at neck and waist, ruffled at the shoulders, sleeves with plain cuffs.

On the south side of the wall to the east of the tomb is a stone with this inscription:

'Here lyeth the bodies of Sr Richard Blount knight and Dame Cicily his wife, daughter of Sr Richard Baker of Sisinghurst in the County of Kent knight Who had issue between them Charles Walter Richard and Lister Mary Elinor Elizabeth Dorothy and Francis. The Father and Grandfather of this Sr Richard were both Luieftenants of the Tower and there erected their monuments.'

<sup>1</sup> Now Stoke Courcy, near Bridgewater.

<sup>2</sup> Somerset House, P.P.C., 19 Pynnyng.

Over this stone two crests: dexter, within the sun in his splendour an eye (Blount); sinister, a sinister arm embowed, vested, holding in the hand a swan's neck in bend sinister, erased (Baker).

On the south side of the same wall, to the west of the tomb, is a marble tablet, surmounted by the Blount arms and the heads of two children, with the following inscription:

'This monument is erected in memory of Cicely Lady Blount, daughter of Sir Richard Baker of Sissinghast in the Countie of Kent kt., and wife of Sir Richard Blount of Mapledurham in the Countie of Oxford kt., whoe departed this mortall life on Monday the 20 of November 1619 and of Walter Blount 2 sonn of Sir Richard Blount aforesaid and of Dame Cicely his wife whoe departed this mortall life on Monday the 26 Aprile 1610 being of the age of 18 years As alsoe the body of Elizabeth Blount 3rd daughter of the aforesaid Sir Richard Blount and Dame Cecily his wife whoe departed this mortall life on Monday the 21 December 1619 whoes bodies ly interred in the Parish Church of St. Martin's in the Feilds nere Charing Crosse by London in tender love and memory of whom the said Sir Richard Blount caused this monument to be erected.'

This inscription seems to make it plain that Lady Cicely was not buried at Mapledurham, as stated by the inscription at the other side of the tomb, unless the word 'whoes' refers to the children only.

On three sides of the body of the tomb are coats of arms, recording the marriage alliances of the heads of the Blount family for nearly three centuries.

North side: Small shield to left, under coping. Barry nebulée of six, or and sable (Blount), impaling Sable, a lion rampant, argent, langued gules, between six cinquefoils of the second (Clifton; Sir Thomas Blount, ob. 1468, married Catherine Clifton). Small shield to right, under coping. Blount impaling Azure, a fesse engrailed, or, charged with three cinquefoils, gules, between three swans necks erased, of the second, each charged with a ducal coronet of the third (Baker of Sissinghurst). Large central shield, quarterly of eight, first grand quarter, Blount, second, Argent, two wolves passant,



sable, within a bordure gules charged with ten estoiles, or (Ayala; Sir Walter Blount, ob. 1403 at the battle of Shrewsbury, married Sancha de Ayala, of the household of Constance of Castile); third, Or, a tower triple-towered, azure (Ayala); fourth, Vair, argent and azure (Beauchamp; Sir John Blount, ob. 1358, married Eleanor Beauchamp); fifth, Argent, a pale sable (Delaforde; Sir Richard Blount of Iwer and Mapledurham, ob. 1508, married Elizabeth Delaforde); sixth, Azure, a chevron between three pheons, or (Spycer; John de la Ford, grandfather of Elizabeth Delaforde, married Agnes Spycer); seventh, Argent, a fesse dancette, paly of six, gules and sable, between three mullets, or (Moore; Sir Michael Blount, ob. 1596, married Mary Moore); eighth, Argent, a bar (query for a fesse) between three annulets, or (Moore).

South side: Small shield to left, under coping, Blount impaling Delaforde: Small shield to right, under coping, Blount impaling Sable, between four cocks<sup>1</sup> a cross argent, charged with five torteaux, gules, bearing each a mullet, or (Lister; Sir Richard Blount, ob. 1564, married Elizabeth Lister): Large central shield, quarterly of eight, first grand quarter, Baker; second, Argent, a fesse between three mullets, sable; third, Gules, three garbs, or; fourth, Argent, a bend azure, charged with three lions heads erased, (?) or; fifth, Azure, a fesse ermine, in chief three mascles, or; sixth, Gules, three lions rampant, or; seventh, Gules, a lion rampant, argent, armed of the field; eighth, Gules, six escallops or, three, two, and one. The last seven quarters probably bear reference to Cicely Baker's ancestors.

West side: Small shield to left, under coping, Blount; Small shield to right, under coping, Blount impaling Moore: Large central shield, quarterly of eight, grand quarters 1-8, as in the central shield on the north side, impaling, grand quarters 1-8, as in the central shield on the south side.

In 1722, when Stephen Weston was vicar, a gallery was built in the church, extending across the tower arch from the south wall of the nave to the middle of the window by the north door. Its supports must have considerably blocked the

<sup>1</sup> As represented, the four cocks are more like doves.

## THE CHURCH FABRIC AND CONTENTS 137

entrance and it must have deprived the church, already rather dark, of a great deal of light. The bill for its construction, preserved in the churchwardens' account book, reads as follows:

pd for bilding the new galeary . . . . .	10	0	0
pd for saaing the timbor and other expenses			
for the new galearay . . . . .	1	17	6
pd for A Litell frame with the date of the Lord			
to it . . . . .	00	5	0

In 1737 a special rate of  $2\frac{1}{2}d.$  in the pound was levied 'for Beautifying the Church'. The bill for work done is as follows:

### The Particulars

Paid Will Collier £10 10s. 0d. as it was agreed at the vestery for new Plastering the Boddy of ye Church, Srapeing the old off, and writeing the Lord's Prayer Ten Commandments the Creed containing 2000 Letters at a half Penny a Letter, the Plastering at 6d. pr. yard containing 250 yards.

Paid him for Painting ye Beams of ye Church and for writing the names of the Benefactors to ye Poor, 10s. 0d.

Paid Daniel Wells a Bill for White-washing and Plastering ye Little Chancels, ye Church Seelling, ye Gallery Seeling and Bellfree &c. £3 7s. 6d.

The writing referred to in the first paragraph was on boards which were affixed to the front of the gallery. When the gallery was pulled down in 1863 these boards were stored in an outhouse on the adjacent glebe till they disappeared; the names of benefactors and several ancient monumental inscriptions vanished as part of the same 'restoration'.

When Mr. Coleridge became vicar in 1862, he at once took in hand the restoration of the church. The low-pitched roof of the chancel was in bad condition, the interior was very dark, and the tower needed repair. A faculty dated 5 June 1863 gave him permission

'to take down and entirely remove the gallery [of 1722] now obstructing the interior of the Church and to open out the space within the Tower Arch [which seems to have been blocked by some partitions], to build a new Porch at the Entrance Door and to put a new Window in the North Wall of the Church . . . to take off the present Roof of the Chancel

and to replace the same with one of the same pitch as that of the Nave, and also to affix new Altar Rails within the Chancel aforesaid, to erect a new Pulpit . . . to take down the present pews and sittings within the Fabric of the Church and to furnish new and open sittings in lieu thereof.'

Mr. Coleridge, however, went far beyond the limits granted him by the faculty. The raising of the pitch of the chancel roof involved the abolition of a curious window in the tiled east gable of the roof of the nave. This window was about five feet high and thirteen feet wide, with a sill below and a sort of small projecting penthouse above it, and was evidently constructed in order to let light into the dark interior. Water-colour drawings in the possession of Miss Thackeray and the present writer show the almost flat chancel roof, with sheets of lead overlapping the eaves, and the long window in the gable of the nave. The original panelled ceiling of the chancel, painted and ornamented, was preserved. W. Fletcher, in *A Tour Round Reading*<sup>1</sup> (1843), states that 'the altar screen is elaborately carved'. If this means the chancel screen, it must have been removed by Mr. Coleridge, but there is no other record of it. Mr. Coleridge made a false aisle on the northern side of the nave, marked off by two wooden pillars supported on stone bases. He separated off a small vestry from the organ chamber, and constructed a door leading from the vestry into the chancel, and rebuilt the external door. This robbed the organ chamber of its light, so he made a little two-light window in the north wall, close to the present organ. He gained light in the belfry and in the church itself by blocking up a door in the west side of the tower, and enlarging and rebuilding the window which stood over the door. The position of the door can still be traced by an examination of the plinth, the flints, and the mortar on the outside. Entrance to the gallery used to be obtained by this door and a wooden staircase within the belfry.

Finding that the tower battlements were decayed and ruinous, he took them down, raised the tower twenty-four feet, and crowned it with the present unsightly extinguisher-shaped roof.

<sup>1</sup> Vol. i of *The Environs of Reading*, edited by J. G. Robertson.

The original height of the tower was forty-six feet. The buttresses of the tower were thoroughly restored. As a further afterthought, the brick and cement wall under the westernmost arch of the Bardolf aisle was constructed, finally cutting off that chapel from the nave. Previously, the space beneath this arch had been filled by a wooden fence.<sup>1</sup> Tradition says, that, before the fence, the opening was closed with sheep-hurdles. It is also reported that three stone coffins were found under the floor of the nave when it was relaid. A certain amount of old fresco work was found on the walls of the nave and chancel in the course of these operations, and was covered up with plaster. The architect, Mr. Butterfield, is responsible for the colouring of the arches. The present sedilia were placed in the chancel, and the font was moved from a place nearer the north door to its present position. A reredos of Sienna marble, with a cross of alabaster in the centre, was placed under the east window.

All old brasses or memorials of the past, which survived in the church, were removed or obliterated.

Mr. Coleridge also filled with coloured glass the east window (except the tracery), the west window, the principal subject of which is St. Margaret trampling on the dragon, and the two side windows in the chancel. These were the work of Hardman, of Birmingham, and were put in in 1865. The two chancel windows, representing the four Evangelists, each holding a scroll on which are inscribed the first words of his gospel, are in memory of Edward Craven Hawtrey, put up 'by a grateful friend'. The small window in the organ chamber<sup>2</sup> was put up by the same firm in 1881, at which date the east window was repaired. A note in the old Register runs as follows:

'1863. In this year the Parish Church was thoroughly

<sup>1</sup> A bill in Mr. Riddell Blount's possession, dated 9 March 1849, fixes the cost of 'preparing and fixing New Palisading in Mapledurham Church' at £1 16s. 7<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>d.

<sup>2</sup> In memory of Annie Katherine Prichard, drowned at Blandford while skating, 20 December 1879. She was daughter of General and Mrs. Prichard, and niece of the second Mrs. Coleridge, *née* Bevan. The first Mrs. Coleridge was a Miss Keate, daughter of the famous Head Master of Eton.

restored and greatly improved, and ornamented with Four Windows of glass painted by Hardman and Co., without any Parish Rate or assistance from the owners of Land in the Parish. The cost of the improvements was £1,600, for which sum the vicar made himself solely responsible.

While these alterations were being carried out, services were conducted at Lily Farm, then in the occupation of Mr. Reeves. The church was reopened on 27 September 1863.

In the middle of the gallery which was removed in 1863 stood the barrel-organ, which ground twelve tunes and was worked by turning a handle. It was the gift of William IV, who also gave the present church clock, bearing the royal crown and his initials, in 1834. On the south side of the gallery sat the school children, in raised seats, boys at the back, girls in front, the schoolmaster in a niche in the south wall. The north side was left for adult members of the congregation. The royal coat of arms hung in the centre of the belfry arch, behind the barrel-organ. On the front panels of the gallery were painted the Lord's Prayer and the Ten Commandments. The old pulpit before Mr. Coleridge's time was a 'three-decker', with clerk's seat below. The school-children in Lord A. FitzClarence's time were furnished with a uniform, when they attained a certain scholastic standard. The boys had green tunics with black buttons, corduroy trousers, and peaked caps; the girls wore green frocks, white straw poke bonnets, trimmed with green ribbon which tied in a bow under the chin. New suits were provided once a year.<sup>1</sup>

The old window on the north side of the church was filled with stained glass by Powell in 1908, in memory of the three sons of Sir Charles Rose of Hardwick House, Charles Ernest (1872-1900), Bertram Temple (1874-1900), Adrian (1878-1908), who fell or served in South Africa during the Boer War. The subjects of the window are, in the centre light, the Risen Christ; in the side lights, Angels and Knights hold 'the whole armour of God' as described in Ep. Ephes. vi. 13-17. The marble monument, also in their memory, facing

<sup>1</sup> For these reminiscences I am indebted to an old inhabitant, Mr. Joseph Guttridge, now of the Priory, Old Windsor.



THE FONT


the window, was put up in the same year by their mother. Sir Charles Rose also gave a new heating apparatus in 1908, and a new organ in 1889.

The beautiful monument on the south wall of the chancel to Sir Frank Rose, Tenth Royal Hussars, who fell at Zandvoorde in 1914, was put up by the present Lady Rose of Hardwick House.

The font is late Norman, and probably older than the church. It is of stone, mounted on a modern base, very massive, barrel-shaped, without figures or inscription, with transverse raised 'rope' ornamentation, and smaller raised work intervening.

### THE BELLS



I am indebted to my friend Mr. H. B. Walters, of the British Museum, author of *Church Bells of England*, for the following account of the inscriptions on the bells.

1. (Treble) RECAST ANNO DOMINI 1787 JOHN ALLAWAY  
CHURCH WARDEN ✱ T : JANAWAY 

Below: FECIT

2. NON BRVTVM; AST HOMINEM DELECTAT MVSICA;  
QVIDNAM

EST IGITVR QVEM NON MVSICA NOSTRA INVAT 1664

3.  LET YOVAR HOPE BE IN THE LORD E  K 1623

4. 1664 SEX SVMVS ET PVAMVIS RARA EST CONCORDIA  
FRATRVM,

NOS SEX CONCORDES, HARMONICIPVE SVMVS

5. WALTER CRESSELL CW COELESTAS TEMET SPHAERAS  
AVDIRE PVTARES

SI NOS AVDIRES PYTHAGORAE SENEX 1690 ABARA<sup>M</sup>  
ILSLEY ✱ Below: S K ✱

6. (Tenor) ROBERT WELLS : ALDBOURNE : FECIT : 1764

Nos. 2-5 were cast at Reading by members of the Knight family, who worked there from 1518 to 1710. The founder of the fourth apparently ran short of Q's, so used P instead.

Thomas Janaway was a bell-founder of Chelsea 1762-88.

The distich on (2) unfortunately no longer exists: the bell is now inscribed 'Recast by John Warner and Sons, London, 1907'. The two Etonians William Day and John Hawtrey are no doubt responsible for the elegiac stanzas.

## CHAPTER X

### THE CHURCH PLATE, REGISTERS AND RECORDS. THE ALMS-HOUSES. BENEFACTORS

A NOTE in the old Register states that the churchyard of Mapledurham 'was first compasted one ye south side and west side thereof with a stone wall in ye month of May in ye yerre of or Lorde one thousand six hundred and fiftie at ye charge of ye parish, Griffin Kirsill and William Berry being Churchwardens'.

A tablet affixed to the west wall commemorates the enlargement of the churchyard in 1902 by the inclusion of part of the vicarage garden.

#### THE CHURCH PLATE

An inventory in the handwriting of Lady Sarah FitzClarence taken 25 March 1845, runs as follows:

A Silver-gilt Service of Communion Plate (complete) in a strong oak chest . . .

One silver-gilt Flagon.

2 Chalices.

2 Plates.

2 Patens.

2 Books for the Altar bound in green velvet and silver-gilt, each side representing the frame of a window, engraved with arms and dated 1831.

\* A set of old silver and silver-gilt and pewter Communion Service belonging to the Church . . . In all seven different articles.

A silver-gilt Flagon with engraved upon it: *The Gift of the Lady Margaret Savill.*

\* A silver Flagon, with engraved upon it: *The Gift of Mrs. Isabella Lybbe*<sup>1</sup> *Widdow and relict of Richard Lybbe*

<sup>1</sup> Isabella Twysden was married to Richard Lybbe 19 February 1713. He died 1722, she 1742.



*Esqre of Hardwick in the Parish of Whitchurch in the County of Oxford.*

× 2 Silver Chalice.

× 2 Silver Patens, one large and the other small. One Pewter Plate dated '*Mapledurham 1739*'.

Attached to the pieces marked × is a note—'never seen since I came in 1883, except the pewter plate: Francis St. John Thackeray'. There is nothing to account for their disappearance. No inventory seems to have been made by Dr. Hawtrey or Mr. Coleridge, Lord Augustus's successors.

The surviving pieces, with one exception, were all presumably given by Lord Augustus in 1831, although the flagon alone bears on the foot the inscription 'Presented for the use of the parishioners of Mapledurham, by the Reverend Lord Augustus Fitz Clarence, vicar, 1831'. On the books, within the decorated tracery of the window, both at back and front are, in the centre, the royal arms of England, in Pretence, Hanover, ensigned with an imperial crown; in the front, to left and right, on smaller shields the lions of England and the lion of Scotland; at the back, similar shields bearing the harp of Ireland and the arms of Hanover. Within, the Oxford edition of the books dated 1861 has been substituted by a succeeding vicar for the edition first given. The covers also bear the FitzClarence monogram, a rose repeated, and the date.

Within the cover is a representation of the '*sigillum domini Augusti de Fitz Clarence*', exhibiting the royal arms of England debruized by a baton sinister, charged with a cross paté between two anchors. Crest, on a chapeau gules turned up ermine a lion statant, guardant, crowned with a ducal coronet or, and gorged with a collar azure, charged as the baton. Motto: *Nec temere nec timide*. Supporters: a lion and a horse, each gorged with a collar charged as the baton; the lion crowned with a ducal coronet.

All these seven pieces of plate bear the sacred monogram and cross, surrounded by a crown of thorns, the whole encircled by rays. They also carry the royal arms of England, debruized with a baton as on the seal. Motto and supporters as on

the seal, but the supporters are not collared. Crest: on the royal crown of England a lion statant, guardant, ducally crowned.<sup>1</sup>

The Savill flagon<sup>2</sup> is a beautiful specimen, the only silver 'round-bellied' Elizabethan flagon belonging to the Church in Oxfordshire. It bears the hall-mark of 1598, with maker's mark R.S. above some undecipherable object, in a plain heraldic stamp. The bowl, ornamented in flat repoussé work, and chased with scroll-work and flowers is embellished with a coat of arms: Argent, on a bend sable, three owls of the first, a mullet for difference, Savill; impaling, or, a chevron sable between three torteaux, each charged with an escallop argent, Dacres. Round the coat is engraved in stippled script characters, *The Guift of the Lady Margaret Savill*.<sup>3</sup> With its rich ovole mouldings, and projecting flange beneath the bowl, this example of these very rare flagons is perhaps a finer specimen than the pairs at Cirencester (1576) and Rendcombe (1592), though the four Gloucestershire ones are considerably taller and more massive. Height 11½ in., diameter of mouth 2⅞ in., of circular foot 4¼ in.; weight c. 28 oz.

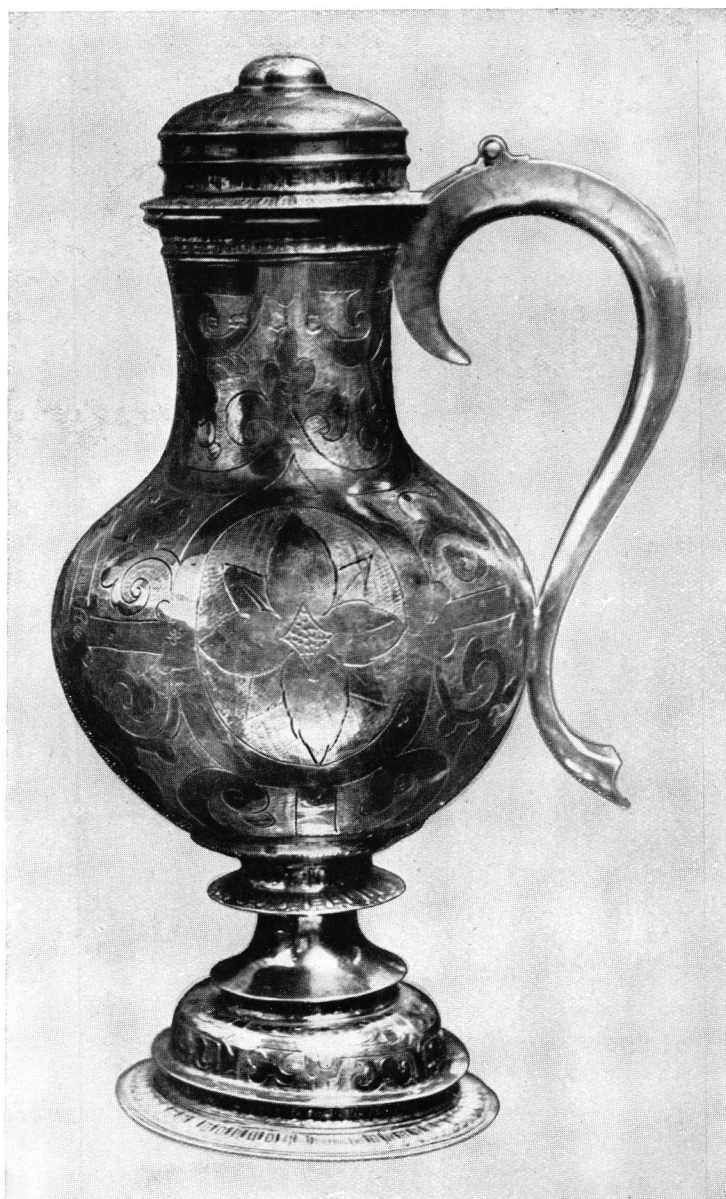
#### THE REGISTERS AND RECORDS

The Registers of Births, Marriages, and Burials begin in 1627, under Thomas Matthew, with a heading now almost illegible: 'This Begins the Booke of Christenings Marriages and Burials in the parish of Mapledurham in the County of Oxford.' An earlier book, or books, have been lost, for in the Eton College Library are two scraps of paper, containing identical copies of the burial entries for the years 1580-2,

<sup>1</sup> The chalices measure 9⅞ in. in height, and each weighs c. 22 oz. The plates and the patens are each 9¾ in. in diam., the latter weighing 20 oz. 10 dwts. The ewer-shaped flagon is a huge vessel, 17½ in. in height, and weighing c. 70 oz. For these details, and those that follow, I am indebted to the Rev. J. T. Evans, rector of Stow on the Wold.

<sup>2</sup> Sir Henry Savill, Provost of Eton 1596-1622, married, about 1592, Margaret, dau. of George Dacres of Cheshunt, and widow of George Gerrard of Dorney.

<sup>3</sup> Sir Henry Savill having been knighted in 1604, the 'guift' must be dated in or after that year.



THE SAVILL FLAGON

and dated 'about the year 1660', proving that the oldest Register was in existence in the time of William Day.

On one of the first pages there is a

'Memorandum yt in ye yeare 1654 there was Collected in ye parish of Mapledirham in ye County of Oxford by virtue of [Letters of] Parliament the sum one pound seaventeene shillings towards the Releife of ye dystressed Inhabytants of Malbroughe in Wilts shire Wch money was pd the 29th of December in ye same yeare by Mr. William Day Vickar to Mr. John Strange one of ye Treasurers for ye Collection of money for ye Releif of ye said Marlbroughe'.

The Rev. C. D. Hoste, the present rector of Marlborough, explains the occasion of the 'dystress' in the following letter:

'In April 1653 a fire broke out at the west end of the High St. and destroyed nearly the whole length of it, together with the Town Hall and St. Mary's Church. Marlborough had held for the Roundheads, though Wiltshire was a royalist stronghold, during the Civil War, and when Cromwell heard of the disaster to the town he caused Parliament to issue directions for a kind of levy in relief to be made in all the parishes in the country.'<sup>1</sup>

Again:

'Memorandum yt there was collected in Mapledurham in ye Countie of Oxon ye sum of twelve shillings of Lawfull money of England towards ye Buildinge of the Church of Oswestree in the county of Salop by Virtue of Oliver Lord Protector his Letters patents for that purpose. For witnesse whereof we have heer sett our Hands this 25 of March 1659: William Day, Minister, John Blackhall, Henry Grindall, Churchwardens, The mark x of Griffin Kirsell, John Wild, Assistants.'

A few extracts from the Registers may be given.

1628. May 16. Sr Richard Blount, Knight, was buried.

1646/7. Jan. ye 31 was one James Cope buried by night privatelie wch was drowned Jan. 29.

1647/8. March 2. Memorandum yt one Samuel Forde of Henly, Bargeman, being drowned at Mapledurham Locke, Febr. ye 22nd 1647, was taken up out of ye watter ye same day and was buried ye day following.

<sup>1</sup> Wargrave parish collected £1 6s. 6d. for the same object (H. J. Reid, *History of Wargrave*, p. 119).

There was no marriage celebrated in the church between 1 January 1644/5 and 1 December 1651, nor between that date and 28 September 1658; there was one marriage on 4 March 1659. By Act of Parliament 24 August 1653 only marriages celebrated before a Justice of the Peace were declared lawful. This law continued in force till the Restoration.

1649. May 8. Michael Blount Esquire Lord of the Two Mannours of Gurney and Chausey in Mapledurham being unhappily slaine by a Foote-boy in St. Martin's Lane neere Charring-Crosse by London the 25th of April 1649 was brought to Mapledurham the 8th day of May following and there buried the same day [aged 19 or 20].

1652. Elizabeth Collins widdow the Relict of Daniel Collins (late Dr. of Divinitie, Vice Provost of the King's Colledge of Eaton neere Windsor, prebend of the Chappell of St. George within the Castle of Windsor, and sometimes Vicar of this Parish Church of Mapledurham), died the 14th day of May 1652 aboute eleven of the clocke at night, being Friday, and was buried the 17th day of ye same May Anno 1652 beinge Munday.

Her tombstone in the belfry, placed there by 'her sorrowfull sonne Samuel',<sup>1</sup> is the only one in the church which has escaped destruction.

1656. Ye same day one Henery Ellkins being a swimming was unhapely drowned in norcote scower and buried May 31 1656.

1670. John Slade of Frilsham in ye County of Berks. rashly attemptinge to swim over ye Thames at Mapledurham one horsebacke falling of from his horse while It strove to gaine Purley Banck was drowned July ye 13th 1670 and was buried ye 19th of that month after ye Coroner had satt upon him.

1679. Ann Alder widdow being one of ye Almspeople of Charles Lister's Hospitell in this parish and Reputed to be above an hundred yeares old was buried the 3 February 1679.

1684. Mr. William Smal alias Smallwood was buried the first day of December 1684 (see p. 153).

1692. Ann ye daughter of Henry Ironmonger who was

<sup>1</sup> Fellow of King's College, Cambridge, 1637-48, M.A. 1642, M.D. 1649.

unhappily killed by a prong running into her breast in coming off from a Corn Mow in Edward Butler's barn, whom she wrought with in ye Harvest, was buried September 7 1692. N.B. She received her Death's wound Septem. 5th in ye morning and died immediately upon ye place.

1723. Jonathan Blagrove was buried the 12 Feb. 1723. N.B. He was murder'd in his Way from Reding.

A contemporary who kept a notebook, Mrs. Isabella Lybbe of Hardwick, tells us that 'ye violence of ye Blows fractured his scull, he got to the "Roebuck", and dyed there. Ambrose Strange yt kill him was hanged in chainds on Tylers Heath for it'.

The oldest churchwardens' book begins in 1708. On the first page is written: 'Churchwardens be shore to be cherat-able to the por and be kind to the widow and the fatherless and then god allmighty wil you bless it is . . . the midel of iune Matthew Berry 1714.'

In 1708 the church-rate was 'to shilene four pence the yard lande'. The expenses of the vissitacion at Wattelton (Watlington) and Henley cost 4s. 10d. and 5s. 'Payd for 3 bucks 3s. 0d.' seems cheap, until we discover that 'bucks' means books. In 1709 'for ringing the sarm: bel 10s.' refers to the custom of ringing a bell after the Morning Service to indicate that there would be a sermon in the afternoon. Under 1710/11, 'the releafe of 16 souldiers 2s. 6d.' is a reminder that Marlborough's campaigns had not quite ended, and an entry of 15s. in all, paid for ringing in the preceding year, is probably due to the victory of Malplaquet. In 1713 we find 'pd for bread and wind at Mikol 2s. 1d.', and 'paid for bread and winde at Krismos 2s. 1d.' The following entries in the same year have reference to the peace of Utrecht and the general election which followed it: 'pd to the parator [apparitor, archdeacon's attendant] for a proklyma and leekshon 2s.' and 'gin to the ringers a thankesgivne day<sup>1</sup> 5s.' 'Given to ye ringres a crounation day 3s.' (1714) marks the accession of George I, and 'givene to the ringers a gunpoder tresun 4s.' is a common

<sup>1</sup> A public thanksgiving for peace was commanded on 7 July 1713, and Parliament was dissolved on 8 August.

entry. In 1718 'to ye Ringers for ye news of seasing the Spanyeards', is a clear reference to Admiral Sir George Byng's destruction of eighteen Spanish ships of the line off Sicily (11 Aug.). 'For a Prayer for the Queen and Prince 1s.' (1752/3) commemorates the birth of George IV (born 17 Aug. 1762). More homely matters are, 'pd Jeames Webb for the wether Coak post 2s.' (1718); 'given to A man which had a ship [i.e. sheep] burnt by ye thonder and Lintling 4s.' (1720); 'for mending the Church 2s.' (1712); 'To a woman that had a loft 6d.' (1722); 'paid for sodring the led one touer and nailes and 2 men a days work £1 5s. 3d.' (1724); 'pd for a prear book for ye Clark 4s. 6d.' (1728). The churchyard wall seems to have been in a frail condition, and is constantly reported as having been mended; there are also frequent disbursements for glazing the church windows. In 1718 Mr. Stephen Weston seems to have had the pulpit furniture renewed: 'pd for sammy to Lyne ye Pulpit Cloath 2s. 6d., pd for Camlet<sup>1</sup> to cover ye Deske 5s. 3d., pd Gould Lase to Trime ye Cloathe and Cush £1 12s., pd for silk and golloom<sup>1</sup> 8d.' 'For a new Bell £18' (1764).

Occasionally the wardens seem to have disbursed money for the destruction of injurious animals in the parish generally, e.g. in 1750:

	£	s.	d.
pd for 84 dusen of sparows	1	1	0
pd for hedghogs 12		4	0
pd for polcats 18		8	0
pd for stoats 11		3	8
pd for sparrow hakes 4		1	4
pd for kits 4		1	4

During the period which is covered by this book (1708-82) the celebrations of Holy Communion appear to have been very few, and the annual number decreased rather than increased. In 1710 and 1711 the account reads: 'Whitsentide, bred and wine 3s. 8d., Saint Mikill 3s. 1d., December 25, 3s. 8d., at Eastere 3 communions, 9s. 2d.,' making six in all, and

<sup>1</sup> *Camelot*, cloth made of wool and goats' hair; *galloon*, a silk or worsted ribbon.

19s. 7*d.* charged. In 1762 and 1763 there were only five communions in the year, and in 1776 and 1777 only four, at a cost of 13*s.* 8*d.*, and 12*s.* 8*d.*

There is an old 'Poores book of Maplederdham', the first entries in which are dated 1693. 'A rate made by John michell And by John Butler overseers of the poore of ye parish of Maplederdham at ye rate of to shilling ye yard lande.' The first names assessed are 'Lister Blont Esquire £1 6*s.* 0*d.* and Mr. John hawtree 13*s.*'

The account, as balanced every year, is inspected, signed and sealed by two magistrates of the county, who appoint the overseers for the succeeding year.

The following are samples of the entries :

1695/6. Paid for drinke at a publike meeting concerning Thomas fuller, 1*s.*

1702/3. pd for nusing and burying Jorg fenddon's child.

1703/4. pd for the death of Gorg Vindin wife, 4*s.*

1706/7. Lent to Whitley to releive young Merrish in a ffit of sicknesse, 10*s.*

1709/10. Paid for keeping Short Doll's child and a smock, 7*s.* 1½*d.*

1710/11. Small pox pd to John Costing and his family in theare sickness and ye two Nurses, £8 3*s.* 0*d.*

1712/13. pd when taner had the smal pox, 2*s.* 6*d.*

pd for burying old henery gray, 13*s.*

pd when John Emanes was sick, 2*s.* 6*d.*; pd for wosen and srud and burying of him, 11*s.* 9*d.*

pd for keeping old doll's girl, £2 5*s.* 0*d.*

1714/15. pd ye widow Weeb to by hur a Shift, 2*s.* 6*d.*

pd ye traveling wooman for car'ing away the Child that was left, 12*s.*

1715/16. pd for bereying the man that wose drowned, £1 2*s.*

1721/2. pd to the Ringers ye King Restertuasion day, 3*s.*

1723/4. for beare when ann garet had the small pox and bastord, 4*s.* 9*d.*

1735/6. Paid Lisabeth Millard for alttring Sara Nubery's klose and for a pare of shoues, 2*s.* 6*d.*

Pd for klening of Danel Cotton and for klose and for his borde.

Before being submitted to the Justices, the year's accounts were generally signed by the vicar or his curate. An entry in



the poor-book at the close of the year 1725/6 seems to show that Dr. Littleton was not afraid of doing an unpopular act, when he thought it his duty.

'I do allow', he writes, 'every Article in ye Disbursements of ye above mentioned Thomas Creswell except ye last [an item of 13s. "payd in Expences at ye meeting"], which being no more than an Ale House Reckoning and (as appears by this Book) an Innovation introduc'd of late years into ye Parish and a manifest abuse of publick Money, collected for ye use of ye Poor, I can by no means persuade myself to allow. Nevertheless since ye money has been so employ'd, I am content to pay ye said Reckoning myself, and do hereby make myself accountable to ye overseers of ye Poor for ye present year for ye sum of thirteen shillings. Upon wch and no other conditions I do allow ye said Thomas Cresswell's account, hoping ye Overseers of ye Poor of ye Parish for ye future will be hereby admonish'd not to place to ye account of ye Parish whatever money they shall at any time lay out upon themselves or their Company.'

A bold proceeding for a man in the first year of his incumbency.

Some of Dr. Littleton's successors did not share his scruples with regard to the use of the money levied for the relief of the poor. There was an inn in the village, at the point where the road to Hardwick branches off, which afterwards became the abode of the priest attached to Mapledurham House. At this inn, known as the King's Head, and kept by a Mrs. Aldridge, an entertainment was regularly held on Easter Monday, the expenses of which were charged to the overseers' account and duly passed, at the end of the financial year, by the curate, churchwardens, and two justices of the peace. Entries of the following nature occur, in another book, with unfailing regularity: '1805, Dinner &c. Easter Monday, £4 12s. 8d.; 1806, Dinner and Liquor at Easter, £4 4s. 9d.; 1811, Easter Meeting, £5 18s. 6d.; 1812, ditto, £6 4s. 6d.; 1819, Dinner and c, £5 18s. 7d.', 'and c' no doubt standing for the liquid part of the refreshment.

In the same account book there is a regular entry, from 1805 to 1823, of payments of 'Marshalsea money', the amount being £1 16s. 10½d. a quarter, and £7 7s. 6d. a year. Sometimes

the payment has been allowed to lapse for a considerable time, and is then made in a lump sum. The payment is probably made on behalf of some poor parishioner, unfortunately imprisoned in the Marshalsea for debt, on somewhat the same principle as a payment is made to another parish, if it happens to be maintaining an infirm inhabitant of Mapledurham.

Another book contains accounts, from 1769 to 1841, of the money raised and expended on the repair of the highways of the Liberty of Mapledurham Gurney. Two 'surveyors' raise the money, and present their accounts annually, which are certified by two justices of the peace for the county, as in the case of the overseers' accounts. The principal landowners and tenants have to provide teams (if they have them) and men, for carting stones which the women and children pick off the fields, or a money payment in lieu of the same.

At the beginning of the book there is a table of what is called

Whole Duty for Teams			Compound for the whole		
Rents	Teams	Men	£	s.	d.
230 Michael Blount Esq.	24	18	6	0	0
135 Wm. Antrum	00	78	2	12	0
20 Samuel Justice	00	12	0	8	0
190 Matthew Berry	18	24	4	17	0
146 Wm. Chayney	12	24	3	10	0
164 Mrs. Smith	18	06	4	5	0
133 Mrs. Biddel	12	18	3	6	0
58 Wm. Allwright	06	00	1	7	0
28 Richd. Taylor	06	00	1	7	0
30 Matthew Taylor	06	00	1	7	0
20 Jas. Seward	06	00	1	7	0
8 Mrs. Fielder	00	06	0	3	0

A team thus counts as 4s. 6d. and a man as 8d., and this holds good for all cases except the last on the list. William Antrum was the miller and rented the islands, where there were no roads, which is perhaps why he is rated so low. It seems to have been usual to collect only 'Half a Duty for Teams' or the 'Compound for a Half', no more being required. A balance-sheet reads as follows: The Disbustment of Eliza

## 152 EARLY HISTORY OF MAPLEDURHAM

Smith and James Seward, Surveyors of Mapeldurham Gurney  
for the year 1770:

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
For Picking of Stones and Paying the Labrerers	6	11	4	17	11	4
By Teems	11	0	0			
Half Duty for Teems or Compound for Half is	15	3	0	23	15	1
Receiv'd with Book [i.e. balance at last audit]	8	12	1			
To be Delivered with the Book				6	3	9

It may be a relic of this system of road repairing that a 'waywarden' was annually elected at a meeting of the rate-payers of the parish, as late as 1893.

## THE ALMS-HOUSES

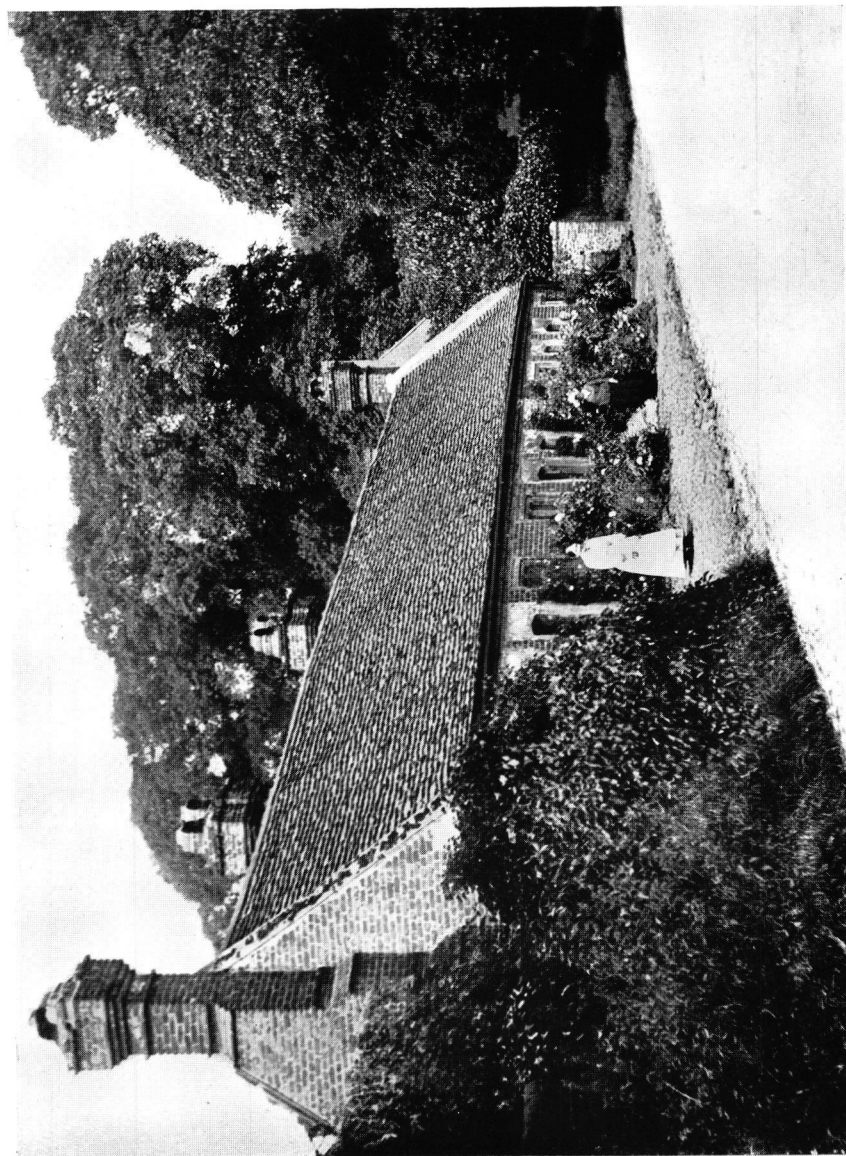
On the south wall of the Bardolf chapel, above the credence table, is a tablet with the following inscription:

'Here lieth the body of Charles Lister of New Windesore in the Countie of Berk Esquire sonn of Sr Michael Lister Knight of the Bathe sonn and heire of Sr Richard Lister Knight Lo: Chiefe Justice of England and Master of the Court of Wardes and Livery<sup>1</sup> He gave unto his kinswomen for their preferment in mariage 1000*l.* for the foundation of an hospitall here in this Towne & for the maintenance thereof 600*l.* the remainder of his estate to his godson Lister Blount sonn<sup>2</sup> of Sir Richar Blount Knight his executor who in memory of so worthy a kinsman caused this monument to be erected.'

It appears that Sir Charles Lyster by will dated 23 October 1613 devised to Sir Richard Blount a lease for 1000 years of certain lands called Coxwell in Berks., that the lease might be sold and the produce employed in erecting either a hospital for poor people or a free school for poor children, within the towns of Bicester or Mapledurham. It has been stated, but on what authority does not appear, that King Charles II vested the government of the hospital in Sir Richard Blount and his heirs for ever.

<sup>1</sup> Sir Richard Lister (Lyster) was Lord Chief Justice 1546-52.

<sup>2</sup> Fourth son of the Sir Richard and Lady Cicely Blount whose effigies lie on the great tomb under the arch.



THE ALMSHOUSES

Each of the occupants of the six houses now receives 1*s.* 6*d.* a week, and two loads of firewood a year.<sup>1</sup>

#### THE BENWELL AND SMALLWOOD CHARITIES

By his will dated 8 June 1618 Mr. Thomas Benwell declared :

'first I give to the parrish of Mapledurham forty shillings which money my will is should be putt forth and ymployed to some use by the Churchwardens and Chiefest men in the parrish and the profit thereof given to the poore yearly.'

'Item I give to the poore six pounds, which money my will is should be given at the Church at my buriall. Item I give to the ringers twenty shillings. Item I give for to by two freestones to be laid the one uppon my mother the other upon myselfe and for Carrage, Carges and finishinge of it 34 shillings. Item I give to the preacher for a sermon at my buriall thirteen shillings four pence. Item I give for to make a dinner for my kindred neighbours and friends at my buriall fouer pounds.'

Thomas Benwell's tomb is in the eastern part of the churchyard. A piece of the Blount estate is still known as Benwell's Close.

Extract from the will of Thomas Smallwood, or Small, dated in 1684 :

'Item I give and bequeath unto the Minister and Churchwardens of the Parish of Mapledurham the summ of Twenty Pounds in trust, that they or their Surrogates shall from time to time place the same at Interest or otherwise dispose thereof to the best advantage. And the Interest or other profitts thereof arising yearely to give and dispose to and amongst the poore people of the said Parish on Easter Monday in each yeere.'

A note in the church rate-book of Dr. Burton, dated 14 April 1735, states that both these legacies (the Benwell legacy being stated as £7) were then in the hands of Michael Blount, who paid interest on them at the rate of 5 per cent., reduced to 4 per cent. in 1740. They are now (1924) administered by the Charity Commissioners, and produce 12*s.* 8*d.* a year.

<sup>1</sup> A presentment of the Jury and Homage at a 'Courte Barand', 7 July 1658, runs: 'Wee present 6 Almes-Houses which have had 2*s.* aweeke a peice and 2 loades of woode every yeere a peice ever since the founding of the said Almes-Houses which hath beene paid by the Lord of the Mannor till now of late.'

## CHAPTER XI

### VICARS OF MAPLEDURHAM

As the beginnings of Mapledurham Church are lost in the mists of antiquity, a complete list of vicars cannot be drawn up. And even when we discover an early tenant of that post, a period of some obscurity follows, during which the existence of two vicars is inferred rather than recorded. But after Walter de Murlesle the series is unbroken, except for a curious failure of date, affecting only a year or two at most, in the middle of the sixteenth century, long after fixed records of episcopal institution had become the rule.

1. **Radulphus de Agia** (Agi), living within the years 1158-1170.

He was vicar in possession when Hugh de Gurney IV, then patron of the living, gave the church to the nuns de Claro Rivo (1163-70). After compounding with the prior of St. Pancras at Lewes for his tithe, he found it necessary to obtain an attestation of the fact from Roger, who was Abbot of Reading 1158-64 (p. 100). Thus the date within which his vicariate may have fallen is circa 1158-70. He was also dean of St. Hildevert in the chapter of Gournai, and held a rent of three solidi in the church of Little Ellingham in Norfolk.<sup>1</sup> The name de Agia may possibly relate to the town of La Haye, 20 km. west of Gournai.

2. **William de Mapildreham**, living in 1184.

Nothing is known of this vicar, whose name occurs in the Oseney Cartulary at Christ Church, fol. 130, and in the Oseney Cartulary at the British Museum.<sup>2</sup>

‘Anno ab incarnatione domini MCLXXXIII facta est inquisicio precepto domini regis. Milites de comitatu Oxon.,

<sup>1</sup> T. Stapleton in Daniel Gurney's *Record of the House of Gurney*, pp. 197-252; J. C. Tingey, *Manorial History of Little Ellingham* (Norfolk and Norw. Archaeol. Soc., xxi. 6).

<sup>2</sup> Cott. MS. Vitell. E xv, fol. 22. I owe the references to the kindness of Rev. H. E. Salter.

et clerici de archidiaconatu et milites de Honore Walingford recordantur quod ecclesia de Watlington non est de prebenda de Walingford et quod ecclesia de Mungewella non est de prebenda de Walingford etc. Isti sunt milites qui hanc recognitionem fecerunt. Thomas de Druvale [Goring], Robertus de Mara [Marsh Baldon], Ruelent de Anvers [Badgemere], Galfridus de Bella Aqua [Knipton Blunt], Alanus filius Anfridi, Robertus de Wytefeld [Wheatfield] tunc vicecomes, Henricus de Ewelma, Rogerus filius Eluredi [Shirburn], Willelmus de Bruges, Nicholaus de Oyly, Iordanus de Valeynes. Isti sunt clerici; Nicholaus de Leukenore tunc vicearchidiaconus, Gilebertus de Berencestria, Hunfridus decanus, Willelmus de Wytefeld, Stephanus de Tocfeld [= Nuffield], Robertus de Wychyrche, Willelmus de Mapildreham, Radulphus de Stokes, Bartholemeus de Pyngton, Hugo de Crommerche, Radulphus de Harpendene, Henri de Neweham'.

His name goes some way to fill the big gap between Ralph de Agia and William de Bello.

3. **Robert of Mapledurham**, living 1225-1238.

The evidence for this vicar is of the same nature as that for the last. He is a witness, in 1225, to the *convencio* made between Sir Geoffrey de Chausey and the prioress and nuns de Claro Rivo, a document to which, affecting as it did the interests of the 'mother church', we should have expected the signature of the vicar then in possession. In 1238 he is a witness to the deed by which Hugh de Gurney VI gave the same nuns the right to pasture eight oxen on his demesne lands (p. 87), and to the confirmation, by Geoffrey de Chausey, of his father Geoffrey's *convencio* with the nuns. Possibly, but by no means certainly, he and the last-named vicar fill up the long gap of seventy years (1170-1240) between Ralph de Agia and William de Bello, though it is conceivable that a vicar may yet be discovered who lived between the William of 1184 and Robert of Mapledurham.

Patron, the prioress and nuns de Claro Rivo.

4. **William de Bello**, 1240-1271 at least.

Under the sixth year of Bishop Grosseteste (Episc. Lincoln 1235-53) the Lincoln Register contains the entry:

'Mapuldereham. Willelmus de —, capellanus, presentatus

## 156 EARLY HISTORY OF MAPLEDURHAM

per fratrem G. procur. gener. monialium de Claro Rivo ad vicariam ecclesie de Mapelderesham per W. officialem . . . in ea canonice vic. perpet. institutas cum onere . . .<sup>1</sup>

The de Gurney family had long ago ceded the right of presentation to the nuns of Clairruissel (p. 87). 'Brother G.' is the representative of Nuneaton or Leighton (La Grave), subordinate cells in England of the abbey of Fontevraud the Order superior which directed the nunnery. 'W. officialis' is the Archdeacon who institutes for the Bishop.

That this vicar's name was William de Bello appears from a bond by William de Bello, Clerk, and the prior of St. Pancras at Lewes, settling the composition for tithe at 14s. a year, and dated Saturday after Michaelmas A. D. 1271 (p. 101).

### 5. **Walter of Murlesle**, resigned 1306.

Only known by the fact that his successor's institution to the living (dated 1306) is caused 'per resignacionem Walteri de Murlesle ult. vicarii'.<sup>2</sup>

Murlesle, Mursele, and Mursle, of vicars Nos. 5, 7, 8 and 9, are no doubt the same name. Possibly the reference is to 'Ivingho Nunnery otherwise called Meuresley or St. Margaret's de Bosco in Bucks',<sup>3</sup> a Benedictine house founded in the tenth century, and leased, as Mursley alias St. Margaret's, to John Verney in 28 Henry VIII.<sup>4</sup> No direct reference occurs to the superior Order to which this little nunnery belonged, but the same procurator may very well have acted for Mursele and for the nuns de Claro Rivo, especially as we know that the church of Mursley was bestowed upon the prioress and convent of Nuneaton in 1237.<sup>5</sup>

### 6. **Nicholas of Schipton**, capellanus, 1306-1335.

Presented 'per priorissam et conventum de Claro Rivo'.

<sup>1</sup> *Lincoln Record Society*, xi. 468. 'Cum onere et pena vicariorum', or 'ministrandi personaliter in eadem', are the regular formulae.

<sup>2</sup> *Lincoln Episc. Register*, ii, f. 149 d.

<sup>3</sup> Dugdale, *Monasticon*, iv. 268.

<sup>4</sup> The hamlet of St. Margaret now forms part of Herts., a little to the north of Nettleton.

<sup>5</sup> Lipscomb, *History of Buckinghamshire*, iii. 427.



Instituted 'secundo Non. Octobris. [6 Oct.] Anno Domini Millesimo trecentesimo sexto'.

By 'Schipton' is probably meant Shipton-under-Wychwood, near Woodstock, not Shipton-on-Cherwell. According to the *Liber Antiquus Hugonis de Wells*, the vicar of the former 'habebit capellanum socium in dicta parochia continue secum ministrantem'.<sup>1</sup>

Between 1335 and 1538, nine vicars out of fifteen, Nicholas included, are styled *dominus* ('Sir') in the Lincoln Register or elsewhere. Opinions are at variance as to the exact significance of the word. It may have been a mere title of respect.

7. **John of Knytecote**, presbiter, 1335-1341.

'Presentatus per fratrem Richardum de Greenburgh et Hugonem de Mursle Priorisse et Conventus de Claro Rivulo Rothomagensis dioc. procur. generales ... per mortem domini Nichi. de Schipton ult. vicarii secundo Idub. Febris. [12 Feb.] Anno domini 1334.' He also is styled 'dominus' in the next presentation.

Instituted at York.<sup>2</sup> Richard de Greenburgh is again mentioned in connexion with the church, p. 95.

8. **Robert Batyn**, presbiter, 1341-1343.

Presented by Hugh of Mursle, proctor of the same prioress and convent.

Instituted at Bisshemede 12 Kal. June [21 May] 1341, on the death of John of Knyghcote.<sup>3</sup>

Bessemede (Bushmead, Bysshemead) was a priory of Black (Austin) Canons in Bedfordshire, founded temp. Henry II.<sup>4</sup> He also is styled 'dominus' in the presentation of his successor.

9. **John Rose** (Rosen, Rosum, Rosoun), presbiter, 1343-1381.

'Presentatus per Hugonem de Mursle habentem custodiam

<sup>1</sup> Ed. A. Gibbons, p. 6.

<sup>2</sup> *Lincoln Episc. Register*, iv, f. 271.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, iv, ff. 288, 288 d.

<sup>4</sup> Tanner, *Notitia Monastica*, Bedfordshire, iii.

et firmam de Mapuldorham in manu sua existentem.' The last presentation by the representative of the nuns de Claro Rivo.

Instituted at the Old Temple, London (where many bishops had a hostel for official purposes), 5 Nones May [3 May] 1343.<sup>1</sup> War broke out with France shortly after his institution, and, when the church and its property were taken over by the Crown, it was thought necessary 'to ratify the estate of John Rosoun as vicar of the Church of Mapledurham'.<sup>2</sup>

There is a record<sup>3</sup> of a fine and agreement, dated 1344, between Sir John Bardolf and Margery his wife, complainants, and John Rose de Daylifford [possibly Daylesford near Chipping Norton] and John Loveday, deforciant, whereby, in the usual form, the manor of Mapledurham Gurney is conveyed from one side to the other, and then reconveyed with full rights.<sup>3</sup> Sir John Bardolf in his will dated 7 April 1375 left John Rose half a quarter of wheat and half a quarter of barley.<sup>3</sup>

Patron, the Crown (Richard II).

10. **Peter Savage**, of Trynnele, capellanus, 1381-1384.

The presentation is 'in the king's gift by reason of the temporalities of the alien priory of Clerussell being in his hands on account of the war with France'.<sup>4</sup>

He was instituted, as *priest*, at Lidington, 27 April 1381, no doubt on the death of John Rose.<sup>5</sup> At Lidington, near Uppingham, in Rutland, the bishops of Lincoln had a palace, since converted into a hospital.

Savage resigned in 1384, by exchange with John Pulteney, to become vicar of St. Mary, Leukenore (Lewknor in the deanery of Aston, Oxon.), to which benefice he was presented by the abbot and convent of Abingdon. There is no record of him at Lewknor.

<sup>1</sup> *Lincoln Episc. Register*, vi, ff. 81, 81 d.

<sup>2</sup> *Calendar Patent Rolls*, Edward III, 1346, p. 50.

<sup>3</sup> Blount MSS.

<sup>4</sup> *Calendar Patent Rolls*, Richard II, 1381, p. 615.

<sup>5</sup> *Lincoln Episc. Register*, x, f. 373 d.

Patron, the Crown (Richard II).

11. **John Pulteney**, 1385-1386.

This presentation, dated 29 January 1384/5, is in the king's gift for the same reason as the last.<sup>1</sup>

Instituted at Lydington 15 February 1384/5.<sup>2</sup> He exchanged with the next vicar in 1386, being instituted to St. Martin, Wallingford, 26 June 1386. He died there in 1394.

Patron, the Crown (Richard II).

12. **Thomas Bat** (Bate, Batte), 1386-1389.

He was 'parson of St. Martin's Walyngford, in the diocese of Salisbury', to which he had been instituted 6 June 1385, having previously been Rector of Whaddon. The vicarage is in the king's gift for the same reason as before.<sup>3</sup>

The commission of the Bishop of Lincoln to the Bishop of Salisbury to institute is dated at his castle of Sleaford 18 May 1386. On 6 July Thomas swore canonical obedience to the Bishop of Lincoln at Stow Park. The certificate of institution is dated at the bishop's castle of Schirebourne [Sherborne] 27 June 1386.<sup>4</sup> Resigned in 1389.<sup>5</sup>

Patron, the Crown (Richard II).

13. **Thomas Forsthill** (Forstal, Frosthall), capellanus, 1389-1412.

Presented 'to the vicarage of Mapuldurham Bardolf in the diocese of Lincoln, void by the resignation of Thomas Bat'.<sup>6</sup>

Instituted, as *priest*, at Lidyngton, 22 December 1389.<sup>7</sup>

Sir Robert Bardolf, in his will dated 2 May 1395, left him 100s., to say prayers for certain of his relations and celebrate

<sup>1</sup> *Calendar Patent Rolls*, Richard II, 1385, p. 525.

<sup>2</sup> *Lincoln Episc. Register*, xi, f. 302.

<sup>3</sup> *Calendar Patent Rolls*, Richard II, 1386, p. 137.

<sup>4</sup> *Lincoln Episc. Register*, xi, ff. 304 d, 305.

<sup>5</sup> 'Thomas Batte exchanged on the 27 June 1386 with Thomas [*sic*] Pulteneye, Vicar of Mapledurham.' J. K. Hedges, *History of Wallingford*, ii. 415 ('from MSS. History'). St. Martin's Church is supposed to have stood in or near the street of that name, not far from the present St. Mary's.

<sup>6</sup> *Calendar Patent Rolls*, Richard II, 1389, p. 164. This is the only known instance of Mapledurham Gurney being called M. Bardolf.

<sup>7</sup> *Lincoln Episc. Register*, xi, f. 313.

masses: he also made him one of his executors. John Cook of Wycombe executed on 4 April 1400 a cession and transfer to Thomas fforstal, vicar of Mapuldurham, Richard Merlawe, capellanus, and others, of all his possessions in Mapledurham Gurney<sup>1</sup> (p. 206).

Patron, Lady Amice Bardolf.

14. **Richard Deryndon**, alias **Merlawe**, presbiter, 1412-1431.

'Presentatus per dominam Amiciam Bardolf Relictam domini Roberti Bardolfe militis defuncti . . . per mortem domini Thoma ffrosthull ultimi vicarii.'

Instituted at Lidyngton 5 March 1411/12.<sup>2</sup>

He came from Little Marlow in Bucks., and seems to have been usually known as Richard of Merlawe. As Ricardus Merlawe, capellanus, he was one of the parties to whom John Cook of Wycombe ceded all his rights in Mapledurham Gurney. He was certainly a resident capellanus in Mapledurham before his appointment as vicar (p. 206). By her will, Lady Amice Bardolf left five marks 'Ricardo de Marlawe', and made him one of her executors. Her presentation of the living to him seems to have been wholly irregular.

Patron, the Crown (Henry VI).

15. **Robert Loker**, presbiter, 1432-1433.

'Presentatus per excellentissimum in Christo Principem et dominum dominum Henricum dei gratia Regem Anglie et ffrancie et dominum Hibernie illustrem', on the death of Deryndon.

Instituted at the Old Temple, 20 February 1431/2.<sup>3</sup>

Described as 'king's clerk' in the official presentation.<sup>4</sup>

Patron, the Crown (Henry VI).

16. **Walter Brygg** (Brigge), 1433-1437.

He was rector of 'Northmerdon', now North Marden, dioc. Chichester, and exchanged with Robert Loker. The com-

<sup>1</sup> Blount MSS.

<sup>2</sup> *Lincoln Episc. Register*, xiv, f. 393 d.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, xvii, f. 57 d.

<sup>4</sup> *Calendar Patent Rolls*, 1431, 10 Nov., p. 182.

mission of the Bishop of Lincoln (William Grey) to the Bishop of Chichester was dated at his hostel in the Old Temple 17 November 1433; the certificate of the Bishop of Chichester was dated the next day at the same place. On 6 December following Walter came to the Old Temple and exhibited the latter certificate, the date of which may be taken as the date of institution.<sup>1</sup>

His name does not occur in the Chichester Episcopal Registers.

Patron, the Crown (Henry VI).

17. **Roger Gery**, capellanus, 1437-1484.

Presented 15 March 1437 on the resignation of Walter Brigge.<sup>2</sup>

There is no record of his institution, either in the Lincoln Register or elsewhere. He also held the adjacent living of Whitchurch from an unknown date (here again there is no record of his institution) till 1457, when he resigned, having converted the vicarage into a rectory.<sup>3</sup> He returned to Whitchurch in 1462 by exchange with John Argentyn, afterwards Provost of King's College, Cambridge, 1501-7, and physician to the two sons of Henry VII. Gery resigned Whitchurch in 1483 (his successor there being instituted 13 October of that year), and died Vicar of Mapledurham in 1484. Sometime rector of Dummer, Hants.

His fine brass, in which he describes himself as 'in decretis bacularius', lies on the north side of the altar at Whitchurch, with the date of death not filled in:<sup>4</sup> his arms are a bend between six choughs or martlets.

He must have been a man of energy, as is shown, not only by his action at Whitchurch, but also by his success in procuring from Eton College an augmentation of endowment for Mapledurham (p. 109 f.). Joan Iwardby left him in her will

<sup>1</sup> *Lincoln Episc. Register*, xvii. 61, 61 d.

<sup>2</sup> *Cal. Patent Rolls*, Henry VI, 1437, p. 43.

<sup>3</sup> As his brass declares, 'qui inter Rectoriam et Vicariam hujus ecclesie consolidacionem et perpetuam unionem procuravit'.

<sup>4</sup> It is figured in *Oxford Univ. Brass Rubbing Soc. Journ.*, vol. i.

'my macer with ears that I drink in, on paire of beades of Corall, with beades of gold'.<sup>1</sup>

In the erary of the College of St. George at Windsor there is a bond of Master Roger Gery 'Rector' of Mapledurham, to Master Thomas Mannyng, Warden or Dean, and to the Canons of St. George's, in c. shillings for the payment of the portion of Whitchurch (probably for Bec tithe transferred to them). Date 8 September 1457.

The Gery family appears to have been connected with Chesham, Bucks. One Roger Gery of Chesham, in his will dated 2 March 1491, mentions his wife Florence Gery and a William Gery of Great Missenden, close by. A Robert Gery was Rector of Addington, near Buckingham 1421-32. William Lynde the elder, lord of Mapledurham Gurney, who died 1438, was tenant in tail of the manor of Chesham Bois, and it is quite possible that he may have been instrumental in suggesting the appointment of our Roger Gery to the benefice of Mapledurham.

Patrons, the Provost and Fellows of Eton College.

18. **William Heryson** (Harryson, Harrison), presbiter, 1484-1490.

'Dominus Willelmus Heryson, presbiter, presentatus per venerabiles viros Prepositum et Socios Collegii Regalis beate Marie de Eton . . . per mortem Rogeri Gray (sic).' Henceforward the presentations are taken from the Eton Register Books.

Instituted at the Old Temple 6 November 1484.<sup>2</sup>

In recording his presentation under date 4 November 1484 the Eton Register calls him *capellanus*. Henry VI, when revising his original scheme of 1440 for Eton College, provided in the statutes ten secular chaplains (*capellani*), 'hired and removable, graduates if possible'.<sup>3</sup> Each received £5 a year, commons, and five yards of cloth; their duty was to officiate daily in the Collegiate Church.<sup>4</sup> 'Chaplain', therefore, in this

<sup>1</sup> MSS. Rawlinson B. 103, f. 78.

<sup>2</sup> *Lincoln Episc. Register*, xxii, f. 224 d.

<sup>3</sup> Heryson was *dominus*.

<sup>4</sup> Maxwell Lyte, *History of Eton College*, pp. 19, 497.

and the two following presentations, has a special meaning. In early days Eton College habitually presented her chaplains to her vacant livings. The first seven presentations to Asthall, Oxon. (1492-1549), are of capellani, so are seven out of the first eight presentations to Blakenham, Suffolk (1475-1502), also the first three to Clymping, Sussex (1494-1501), and six out of the first nine to Creting St. Mary, Suffolk (1464-1543).<sup>1</sup>

19. **Gilbert Carlton**, chaplain, 1490-1500.

Presented 11 July 1490 on the death of 'Harrison'.

Instituted at Lydington 16 July 1490.<sup>2</sup>

20. **Thomas Pethe** (Pety, Pettie, Peith), presbiter, chaplain, 1500-1537.

Presented 22 August 1500 on the death of 'dominus Carleton'.

Instituted at Banbury 16 September 1500.<sup>3</sup>

He can hardly be the Thomas Pety of Stratford in the County of Warwick,<sup>4</sup> who was admitted Scholar of King's College, Cambridge, 22 July 1454, at the age of 17, 'became Fellow and went out M.A.' Possibly this Pethe was our Pethe's father, the name is unusual.

A Court Roll of 1508 records the fact that he was fined *xxd.* for keeping a gelding 'contrary to the custom of the manor'.

There is a nuncupative will of Joan Pethe of Mapledurham, widow (no doubt this man's wife), proved 11 June 1556, whose goods on inventory are valued at £4 19s. 8d.<sup>5</sup> She has one son and four daughters, and desires to be buried in the church of Mapledurham.

21. **Oliver Stonyng** (Stonyng, Stoning, Stonne), B.D., 1538-1539.

Presented 19 January 1537/8 on the death of 'Peith'.

<sup>1</sup> M. R. James, *Etoniana*, pp. 525-8.

<sup>2</sup> *Lincoln Episc. Register*, xxii, f. 229.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, xxiii, f. 279.

<sup>4</sup> *Etoniana*, p. 180.

<sup>5</sup> *Arch. and Cons., Oxford*, ser. I, vol. iv, No. 27.

Instituted 4 February 1537/8 at Woburn.<sup>1</sup>

Of Oxford (College not known); B.A. February 1513/14, M.A. 1517, S.T.B. (as Stonne) 1534. Fellow of Eton 1530,<sup>2</sup> Bursar, 1534-7, with Richard Bruarne, 1544-5. Resigned Mapledurham Jan. 1538/9; Vicar of Newington, Kent (an Eton living), March 1538/9, resigned January 1539/40. Rector of Southmere, Norfolk (an Eton living), March 1546, deprived by August 1554, when his successor is appointed; 'at this time it is said there were no churchwardens or inhabitants';<sup>3</sup> again Vicar of Mapledurham July 1546, Canon of Lichfield 1546, deprived 1554,<sup>4</sup> Vicar of Stogursey, Somerset (an Eton living), November 1546, deprived by September 1554, Vicar of Wantage 1552-4, of Modbury, Devon (an Eton living), September 1554, deprived<sup>5</sup> April 1555, Vicar of Ealing (then called Yealing) in Middlesex February 1556/7-62, when he died. Said to have been buried at Wantage, but the register there was not very accurately kept.<sup>6</sup>

Certainly a man of unique experience, both in institution to and ejection from preferments. To hold eight benefices in twenty years, some of them more than once, and to be deprived of four of them, must be an ecclesiastical record.

22. **William Wytherton** (Witherton, Wetherton, Whitherton, Wydderton, Witherston), S.T.B., 1539-1544.

Presented 24 January 1538/9 on the resignation of Stoning. Instituted 6 February 1538/9 at Woburn.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Lincoln Episc. Register*, xxvii, f. 190. Woburn probably means Woburn Abbey, Beds., founded by Hugo de Bolebock, A.D. 1145, who 'viculum quendam nomine Wouburniam Linc. dioecesi divinis rebus consecravit' (Dugdale, *Monasticon*, v. 479). John Longland, Bishop of Lincoln, died at Woburn in 1547.

<sup>2</sup> Anthony Allen (*Skeleton Collegii Regalis Cantab.*, or *A Catalogue of all the Provosts Fellows and Scholars of the King's College of the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. Nicholas in the University of Cambridge. Since the foundation thereof Anno 1441 usque ad extremum Anni 1750*, 4 vols. MS. King's College Muniment Room) is in error when he enters Stonyng's name twice in the list, once as 78th, once as 91st Fellow.

<sup>3</sup> Francis Blomefield, *History of Norfolk*, x. 369.

<sup>4</sup> J. Foster, *Alumni Oxonienses*, p. 1430; Le Neve, *Fasti Eccles. Angl.*, i. 625.

<sup>5</sup> In these troublous times of Mary, there were four vicars of Modbury in three years.

<sup>6</sup> Allen is in error when he says Stonyng was Rector of St. Peter, Paul's Wharf, 1555.

<sup>7</sup> *Lincoln Episc. Register*, xxvii, f. 197 d.



Of Magdalen College, Oxford, Organist 1523-6, B.A. 1525, M.A. 1530, S.T.B. 1539, S.T.P. 1543; Proctor 1536. Fellow of Eton 1536. Canon of Wells (Wedmore) 1543-4. Vicar of Stoke Gury, Somerset (i. e. Stoke Courcy, near Bridgewater), 1535-44, where he was buried, and to which church he bequeathed 13s. 4d., 'a corporas of purple velvett ymbroidered in goolde, and an oulde Cope to make quys-shons'.<sup>1</sup> For his bequests to Mapledurham Church, see p. 134.

23. **William Goldewyn** (Goldwyn, Goldynge, Golding, Goulding), M.A., 1545-1546.

Presented 24 December 1544 on the death of Wytherton.

Instituted 6 March 1544/5.<sup>2</sup>

Born at Dorney, near Windsor; Scholar of King's College, Cambridge (as Goulding), August 1515, B.A. 1520, M.A. 1523. Fellow of King's 1518-25, of Eton 1540, Vice-Provost of Eton<sup>3</sup> 1547, when the Eton Audit Book records his riding to meet the Bishop of Lincoln for the admission of the new Provost, Dr. Thomas Smith. Master of Cardinal Wolsey's School, or College at Ipswich, possibly at its foundation in 1529. Resigned Mapledurham 1546. Rector of Piddlehinton, Dorset, 1550-62, when he died.<sup>4</sup>

24. **Richard Bruarne** (Bruerne, Brewerne, Brawarne, Breurne), M.A., 1546.

Presented 4 February 1545/6 on the resignation of Goldewyn.

Instituted 12 March 1545/6, resigned before 10 July same year. Lincoln College, Oxford, B.A. February 1536/7, M.A. 1539, Fellow; S.T.B. 1547, S.T.P. 1562.<sup>5</sup> Regius Professor of Hebrew 1548, resigned 1559 on a charge of gross immorality. Canon of Christ Church 1554, of Windsor 1557-63, Treasurer of the Royal Free Chapel of St. George,

<sup>1</sup> Somerset House, P.C.C. 19, Pynnyng.

<sup>2</sup> From this date onward the institutions are taken from the Oxford Register. In 1545 an independent see was first established at Oxford.

<sup>3</sup> He must have resigned the office in 1550, on his appointment to Piddlehinton: the Eton Audit Book has a note under that date: 'plate fownde . . . at the departure of Mr. Goldwing vice-provost' (*Etoniana*, xxx. 477).

<sup>4</sup> *Etoniana*, p. 560 (M. R. James).

<sup>5</sup> From information kindly supplied by the Keeper of the Archives, Oxford University.

where a compotus of his for 1563/4 and for 1565, is preserved.<sup>1</sup> Fellow of Eton January 1544/5, Bursar, elected Provost by the Fellows 25 July 1561 without instructions from the Crown, whereupon a royal commission, under Archbishop Parker, visited the College, and Bruarne escaped expulsion by offering his resignation: the College gave him £10 as a solatium.<sup>2</sup>

Rector of Waterstock, Oxon., 1551-7, of St. Dunstan's-in-the-East, London, 1557-65. John Leland in his *Cyanea Cantio* calls him 'Hebraei radius chori'. Returned to Mapledurham 1550 (see No. 26); died April 1565 at Windsor, buried in St. George's Chapel.

25. **Oliver Stonyng**, B.D., 1546-1550.

Presented (a second time) 10 July 1546 on the resignation of Bruarne. There is no record of his re-institution. He must have resigned again before Michaelmas 1550 (see No. 26).

26. **Richard Bruarne**, B.D., 1550-1559.

There is no record in the Eton Register of his second presentation, or, in the Oxford Episcopal Register, of his second institution. But in the Eton College accounts he pays his full pensio or rent as vicar of Mapledurham, for the year Michaelmas 1550 to Michaelmas 1551 and for succeeding years. He resigned again 11 August 1559.

27. **John Hodgeson** (Hodgson, Hogeson, Hodson), M.A., 1559-1574.

Presented 12 August 1559 on the resignation of Bruerne.

Instituted 15 December 1559 in London. 'Dominus admisit Joh'em Hodgeson A.M. ad vic. de Mapledurham per resign. Ric'i Bruarin ad pres. Will'i Byll S.T.P. prepositi coll. regalis B. Mariae de Eaton inter institutiones beneficiorum Oxon. dioc. Londini expeditas temp. vacationis ibidem post mortem Roberti Kynge ult. ep'i.'<sup>3</sup>

Perhaps of Brasenose College, Oxford, B.A. 1548, M.A. 1552; 'Chaplain of the King's College at Windsor 1558' (Allen).

<sup>1</sup> *Catalogue of Documents in the Erary*, Canon J. N. Dalton (unpub.), pp. 99, 110.

<sup>2</sup> Maxwell Lyte, *History of Eton College*<sup>2</sup>, pp. 161-3.

<sup>3</sup> *Parker Register*, ii, f. 186, quoted by W. Kennett, *Parochial Antiquities*, ii, 415. Robert King was Bishop of Oxford 1545-57.

28. **Thomas Matthew, M.A., 1575-1630.**

Presented 24 December 1574 on the death of Hodgeson.

Instituted 7 January 1574/5. In the 'True Certificate' for Oxon. of 1593 it is recorded that [Mr. Thomas] Matthew parson of Mapledyrham was 'ordered' by Edmund Bushope of [Nor]wiche 7 January 1574 and instituted 7 January 1575.

Probably Student of Christ Church, Oxford, 1567, B.A. 1571, M.A. 1574; Vicar of Newton Valence, Hants., January 1589/90-1606.

There is no doubt about the length of his tenure. Mr. William Day, in the vellum book now in the parish chest, writes of 'one Thomas Matthews who continued vicar about threescore years'. Buried at Mapledurham 27 December 1630 (Register). His son Tobey Matthew was parish clerk for a long time, and died 'in Charles Lyster's Hospitall in Mapledurham in Feb. 1674 aged about 88' (Register).

[Robert Cley]

By letters patent dated 5 November 1604, and addressed to John, Bishop of Oxford, and in his absence to his vicar in spiritual matters, 'or to any one who holds authority in that diocese', King James I presented 'ad vicariam de Mapilderam . . . jam legitime vacanti et ad nostram presentationem per lapsum temporis hac vice spectanti' his beloved Robert Cley, clerk, M.A., and required the Bishop to institute him to that vicarage. The original, with the Great Seal attached, is in the possession of Eton College—how it got there is not known—and is endorsed '*Fiat Institutio* Jo. Oxonff' (i.e. John Brydges, Bishop 1604-19).

There is no evidence that *fiat* ever became *facta est*. The College took no notice of the presentation, because Thomas Matthew was still alive in 1604 and continued to live for many years after. Thus there was no *lapsus temporis* but only a lapse of accuracy on the part of his Majesty.

Robert Cley (Claye), of Yorkshire, was a Commoner of Merton College, Oxford, B.A. 1596, M.A. 1598, S.T.B. 1607. It appears that Eton College had, on 30 August 1600, presented him to the rectory of Cottisford, Oxon., but the

presentation was cancelled. They again presented him to the same rectory on 14 January 1608, and he was instituted 25 February 'ad presentationem Henr. Savil Militis Prepositi et sociorum'.<sup>1</sup> In 1611 the College presented him to Minster Lovell which he held (he had now taken his D.D.) with Cottisford till his death in 1624.

29. **John Smyth** (Smith), M.A., 1630-1635.

Presented 29 December 1630 on the death of 'Mathew'.

Instituted 5 January 1630/1.

Of Hunstanton; admitted Scholar of King's College, Cambridge, 1603, B.A. 1607, M.A. 1611, Fellow 1606-22, Bursar 1608-20. Ordained Priest 1619. Fellow of Eton 1622, elected in spite of a violent attempt on the part of John Williams, Bishop of Lincoln, to force on the electors his chaplain, John Hacket, Vicar of Broadchalke, Wilts. (a King's living), January 1621/2, resigned same year. Buried in Eton College Chapel 1635.

Mr. S. S. Pearce,<sup>2</sup> following the Oxford Episc. Register, gives his name as Thomas, not John. The writer of the Register probably confused his name with that of Thomas Matthew on the presentation form.

30. **Daniel Collins** (Collens), D.D., 1636-1637.

Presented 30 January 1635/6 on the death of Smyth.

Instituted before 1 July 1636, on which date he compounded<sup>3</sup> for firstfruits, but no record of his institution appears, either at Oxford or London. There is a gap in the Oxford Register from 8 October 1634 to 8 May 1636.

Scholar of King's College, Cambridge, 1594 (at age of 15), B.A. February 1598/9, M.A. 1602, B.D. 1609, D.D. 1626. Fellow of King's 1597-1609. Ordained Priest (Linc.) 1606. Fellow of Eton January 1616/17-1648; Vice-Provost. Rector of Puttenham 1610-16, Vicar of Ruislip<sup>4</sup> 1617-33,

<sup>1</sup> Rawlinson MSS. B. 268, f. 149, in some extracts from the Oxford Episc. Register; M. R. James, *Etoniana*, p. 527; J. C. Blomfield, *Deanery of Bicester*, part iii, p. 29.

<sup>2</sup> *Oxfordshire Archaeol. Soc.*, Report for 1918, p. 146.

<sup>3</sup> P.R.O. Composition Book, xix, f. 180b (Rev. S. S. Pearce).

<sup>4</sup> 'Queen Elizabeth's letter of dispensation, by which the Fellows were

1640-1, Canon of Windsor 1631 (ejected), Rector of Cowley,<sup>1</sup> Middlesex, 1617-35, 1640-1. Chaplain to King Charles I. Died at Cowley 29 December 1648.<sup>2</sup> Will proved 27 February 1650/1 (P.C.C. Grey 18). Son of Baldwin Collins, Fellow of Eton, who died 1616, to whose Fellowship Daniel succeeded, father and son holding the Fellowship for seventy-seven years. His brother Samuel Collins was Provost of King's 1615-44. His wife Elizabeth Collins was buried in the belfry at Mapledurham in 1652. Perhaps she died while on a visit to her daughter Mary, wife of William Day, four of whose children were buried at Mapledurham.

**31. William Day, M.A., 1637-1684.**

Presented 29 July 1637 on the resignation of Collins.

Instituted 15 September 1637.

Of Windsor, probably a relation (not son) of William Daye, Provost of Eton 1561-95 (Canon of Windsor 1563, Dean 1572, Bishop of Winchester 1595); Scholar of King's College, Cambridge, 1624, B.A. 1628, M.A. 1632, incorp. M.A. Oxford 1635, Fellow of King's 1627-37; divinity reader of H.M. Chapel Royal at Windsor Castle (Allen). Married Mary, daughter of Daniel Collins, his predecessor at Mapledurham. Buried at Mapledurham 20 December 1684, aged 79. Author of several books, among which is an exposition of the Book of the Prophet Isaiah 1634 (Harwood).

His dispute with Sir Charles Blount over the tithe, and his copious records of the same in the vellum book, now preserved in the parish chest, have already been referred to.

**32. John Hawtrey (Hawtree), M.A., 1685-1715.**

Presented 22 December 1684 on the death of Day.

Instituted 28 January 1684/5.

allowed to hold other ecclesiastical preferment, was confirmed by a licence granted in 1629 to Daniel Collins, to hold two livings not exceeding the value of 40 marks a year, in addition to a prebend at Windsor.<sup>1</sup> H. C. Maxwell Lyte, *History of Eton College*<sup>2</sup>, p. 219.

<sup>1</sup> See note 4, p. 168.

<sup>2</sup> Anthony Allen adds Pulham to the list of livings he held, but F. Blomefield in his list of Pulham rectors does not record him, nor is there any gap in the list which Collins might have filled (*Hist. Norfolk*, v. 388-92).

Born at Hitcham, Bucks., son of Edward Hawtrey,<sup>1</sup> who was Fellow of King's College, Cambridge, and Vicar of Burnham, Bucks. Scholar of King's 1662, B.A. 1665, M.A. 1669, Fellow 1665-8, Fellow of Eton 1681-1715, Bursar. All the payments connected with the rebuilding of Upper School at Eton (1689-94) passed through his hands. He presented to the College the advowson of Burnham Church.<sup>2</sup>

'Mr. John Hawtrey, ffellow of Eton College and vicar of this parish, was buryed the thirty ffirst day of January 1715' (Register). His wife's name was Kinborough Carill; she died 31 October and was buried at Mapledurham 7 November 1693.

33. **Stephen Weston, D.D., 1716-1724.**

Presented 10 March 1715/16 on the death of Hawtrey.

Instituted 12 July 1716.

Born at Farnborough, Hants, 25 December 1665; said to have been related to Richard Weston, first Earl of Portland. Scholar of King's College, Cambridge, 1683, B.A. 1686/7, M.A. 1690, Fellow of King's 1686-91. Usher (i.e. Lower Master) at Eton 1693-1707. Married, in 1691, Lucy Sleece, sister of Richard Sleece, Assistant Master at Eton, by whom he had sixteen children.

Admitted at Gray's Inn December 1692. Ordained Deacon and Priest, London, 1707, S.T.B. and S.T.P. by incorporation, Oxford,<sup>3</sup> 1711 (New College). Fellow of Eton 1707, afterwards Vice-Provost. 'Weston's yard' preserves his name: he used to occupy the gabled house at the right-hand corner of the gateway from the Playing Fields. Canon of Ely 1715-17. Bishop of Exeter, on translation of Lancelot Blackburn to York, December 1724. Rector of Calstock, Cornwall, of Shobrooke, Devon, Treasurer and Canon of Exeter Cathedral, all in 1724; Archdeacon of Exeter 1732. These livings and offices appear to have been normally annexed to the bishopric

<sup>1</sup> The history of the Haute Rive (de Alta Ripa) family is given by Rev. F. St. J. Thackeray in his *Memoir of Dr. Hawtrey*, pp. 3-9.

<sup>2</sup> H. C. Maxwell Lyte, *History of Eton College*<sup>2</sup>, pp. 266, 278.

<sup>3</sup> T. Hearne (iii. 277) suggests a curious reason why Weston took these degrees at Oxford instead of at Cambridge.

at the time, in order to provide a maintenance in lieu of the extensive alienations of episcopal manors which had taken place from time to time.<sup>1</sup>

Died 8 January 1741/2 and buried at Exeter; his wife, who scarcely survived him two months, is buried in the same tomb. His monument, which records the fact that he was *Hypodidas-calus* at Eton, is in the South Choir aisle of Exeter Cathedral. His clergy are said to have disliked him, because of his school-master treatment of them.

34. **William Malcher, M.A., 1724-1726.**

Presented 12 November 1724 on the resignation of Weston (the Crown do not seem to have claimed the right of presentation).

Instituted 16 November 1724.

Born in Fetter Lane, London; Scholar of King's College, Cambridge, 1699, B.A. 1702, M.A. 1706, Fellow of King's 1702-9, of Eton 1724. Ordained Priest (Ely) 1703, Rector of Manningford Abbas, Wilts., 1708-17, the patron being the Duke of Somerset;<sup>2</sup> of Teversham, Cambs., 1717-25, of Hadstock, Essex, 1720-4, Vicar of Littlebury, Essex (a sinecure), 1722-6. Chaplain to Bishop Fleetwood of Ely (an old Etonian) 1720.

Died at Bath, buried at Bath Abbey 6 June 1726.

He filled Weston's vacancy both as Fellow of Eton and Vicar of Mapledurham. His name is spelt Melchior by T. Hearne (ix. 187-8).

35. **Edward Littleton, M.A., 1726-1733.**

Presented 5 July 1726 on the death of Malcher.

Instituted 15 July 1726.

Born at Stoke St. Millborough in Shropshire 1699; Scholar of King's College, Cambridge, January 1716/17, B.A. 1720, M.A. 1724, LL.D. 1728, Fellow of King's January 1720. Assistant Master at Eton 1720-6, Fellow 1726; Chaplain to the King 1730.

<sup>1</sup> This information is derived from the researches of Prebendary Chanter and of the Rev. R. W. B. Langhorne, of Exeter Cathedral.

<sup>2</sup> According to Allen the gift was 'by recommendation of Horace Walpole anno 1698'; the date is impossible.

Married Frances, daughter of Barnham Good, Lower Master at Eton, 2 February 1726. Died 16 November 1733, buried in the church at Mapledurham. His widow married the next vicar, John Burton.

Published two volumes of sermons and some poems which are contained in Dodsley's *Collection* (vol. vi, pp. 316, 324).

He succeeded Malcher (or Melchior) both as Fellow of Eton and Vicar of Mapledurham. The living was then worth £240 a year.<sup>1</sup>

36. **John Burton, S.T.B., 1734-1765.**

Presented 27 February 1733/4 on the death of Littleton.

Instituted 4 March 1733/4.

Born 1696 at Wembworthy, Devon (of which parish his father was rector); educated at Okehampton, Tiverton, and Ely; Scholar of Corpus Christi College, Oxford, 1713, B.A. 1717, M.A. 1720, Fellow and College Tutor 1723, S.T.B. 1729, S.T.P. 1752, Deputy Junior Proctor and Master of the Schools 1725; Fellow of Eton 1733,<sup>2</sup> Vice-Provost 1752-71.

Married Frances Littleton, widow of his predecessor at Mapledurham, 11 November 1736;<sup>3</sup> she died in 1748. Vicar of Buckland, Berks., 1725-33. Resigned Mapledurham and became Rector of Worplesdon, Surrey (another Eton living), 1765. Died 11 February 1771, aged 75, and was buried 'at the entrance of the inner chapel at Eton'. His portrait hangs in the College Hall.

Author of sermons tracts and addresses.

Burton was one of the five exceptions to what became the rule in the eighteenth century, that fellowships at Eton were given to present or past Fellows of King's who had previously

<sup>1</sup> T. Hearne, ix. 187-8, quoting from the *Reading Mercury* for 29 August 1726.

<sup>2</sup> Some of these details are taken from a Latin life of Burton by Edward Bentham, S.T.P., who says that Burton's connexion with Eton was due to the fact that several distinguished Etonian scholars came under Burton's care as tutor. Maxwell Lyte (*Hist. Eton Coll.*,<sup>3</sup> p. 291) describes him as 'by far the most distinguished Fellow of Eton in the middle of the eighteenth century, and says that he owed his Fellowship to his having been tutor to a son of Dr. Bland, Head Master 1720-8.'

<sup>3</sup> How the marriage came about is told by A. C. Benson, *Fasti Etonenses*, p. 141.



been Eton Collegers.<sup>1</sup> His election was only determined by the casting vote of the Provost.<sup>2</sup>

Dr. Burton seems to have greatly interested himself in the general welfare of the parish. In 1735, at a meeting held in the church under his chairmanship, it was decided 'to levy ye Parish rates not according to ye yard land (which method aggrieves many persons), but by a more equal way, according to ye Pound Rate [on the rental]'. He was interested in matters connected with river navigation, as is evident from the following extract from a letter of his, dated 15 September 1764, and addressed to Michael Blount, Esq., lord of the manor. '[I write] to remind you about what was promised in relation to the removing Cabbage hill or the hillocks below the Lock, which obstructed the Navigation; this being done there will be no further complaint about the Pile, as room will be made for Barges by that means. You as the Landowner are interested in the effect, as the stuff cast up will make an addition to your Land, and in a few years the whole may be so filled as to make a continuation of the Mill Green. . . . If it be a great work, then the expence is to be charg'd to the Barge-masters by a tax impos'd on every ton. . . . In truth, the Gutts<sup>3</sup> and all obstructions below Locks should be remov'd, and the Navigation facilitated.' An interesting comment on this letter is the fact that Dr. Burton published, in 1765, a tract entitled, 'The present state of the navigation of the River Thames considered, with certain regulations proposed': 2nd edn. 1767.

The following sentences are translated from the Latin life of Burton mentioned above, in order that future vicars of Mapledurham may know how much they owe to him:

'When Burton had settled down in this delightful spot, he considered there was nothing more pleasant in the way of innocent amusement, nothing more useful for the general good, than, as far as his tastes permitted him, to spend himself and

<sup>1</sup> *Etoniana*, p. 465.

<sup>2</sup> T. Hearne, xi. 256.

<sup>3</sup> 'A *Gutt* of water, shallow and rapid, [is] occasioned by the violence of the stream [just below the Weir], which throws up the looser Stratum, and lodges it on the Sides in small Hillocks or Sand-beds.'

his money on building, repairing, and ornamenting, on elaborating the charm of the gardens, on planting or training trees . . . on making pathways, and carrying out works of a like nature, by which he hoped in some way to afford pleasure to his successors.'

After his wife's death he lived principally at Eton, one of his duties as Vice-Provost being that of acting as Catechist in the Chapel.

**37. Thomas Barnard, M.A., 1766-1785.**

Presented 7 July 1766 on the resignation of Burton.

Instituted 17 July 1766.

Born at Harpenden, Herts., son of George Barnard, curate there, and brother of Dr. Edward Barnard, Provost of Eton 1762-81. Educated at his father's school, Harpenden. Sizar of St. John's College, Cambridge, 1740, B.A. February 1743/4, M.A. 1757. Ordained Deacon (Ely) 1746. Rector of St. Michael's, Barbadoes, 1748-56. Fellow of Eton 1772. Buried at Mapledurham 27 December 1784.

In a letter to Michael Blount, dated 23 July 1766, Dr. John Burton writes :

'I think it proper to give you some account of my successor. He is brother to our Provost ; he liv'd in Barbadoes sevl years, being Minister of Bridgetown, a living of £500 per annum. He there married a Lady with a large fortune : by her he hath 5 or 6 children.'<sup>1</sup>

**38. John Norbury, D.D., 1785-1800.**

Presented 28 February 1785 on the death of Barnard.

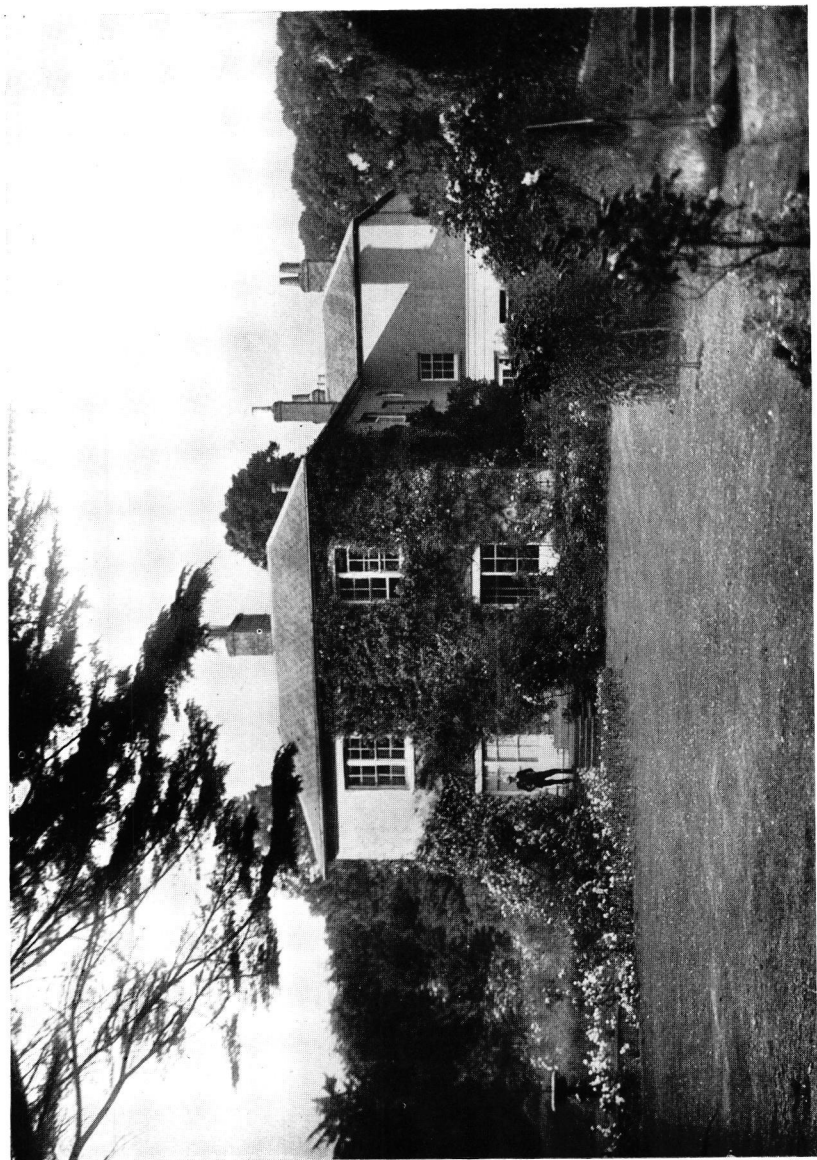
Instituted 16 April 1785.

Son of Nathaniel and Jane Norbury, baptized at Chester 6 August 1725. Entered Eton at the age of 8, 1734. Scholar of King's College, Cambridge, 1743, B.A. 1746/7, M.A. 1750. D.D. 1784.<sup>2</sup> Fellow of King's 1746-8, Assistant Master at Eton 1753-83, Fellow of Eton 1783, Bursar, with Edward Tew, 1788. Rector of Walton-on-Trent 1779-85. Died and was buried at Eton 23 March 1800.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Blount MSS.

<sup>2</sup> How he obtained his Cambridge D.D., without previously proceeding B.D., is not known.

<sup>3</sup> *Etoniana*, p. 200.



THE VICARAGE, FROM THE SOUTH

Norbury was a well-known figure at Eton in his day. He seems to have been one of the first assistant masters who kept a regular boarding-house. His merits as a tutor, his learning, his celebrated black wardrobe, his sermons, are all recorded.<sup>1</sup>

39. **Edward Tew, M.A., 1800-1818.**

Presented 4 April 1800 on the death of Norbury.

Instituted 28 April 1800.

Son of Dr. Edmund Tew and Barbara his wife, baptized at Sawbridgeworth 30 March 1736. Scholar of King's College, Cambridge, 1754, B.A. 1758, M.A. 1761; Fellow of King's 1757-71, of Eton 1781-1818, Bursar 1788, Vice-Provost 1802-18. Prebendary of Yatesbury (Sarum) 1799 and of Chardstock 1802. Died 30 August 1818 and was buried in the antechapel at Eton.

For his exchange of the scattered pieces of glebe in the common fields for land adjoining the vicarage, see p. 118.

40. **John Bird Sumner, M.A., 1818-1828.**

Presented 18 November 1818 on the death of Tew.

Instituted 20 November 1818.

Born 25 February 1780, grandson of John Sumner, Provost of King's College, Cambridge, 1756-72, son of Rev. Robert Sumner, Vicar of Kenilworth and Stoneleigh, Co. Warwick, by Hannah daughter of John Bird, Alderman of the City of London. Scholar of King's 1798, B.A. 1803, M.A. 1807, D.D. (per Lit. Reg.) 1828, Fellow of King's 1801-3. Browne Medallist (Latin Ode) 1800, Hulsean Prizeman 1802, Assistant Master at Eton 1802-17, Fellow 1817-21. Prebendary of Durham 1820-8, Bishop of Chester 1828-48, Archbishop of Canterbury 1848-62. Died at Addington Park 6 September 1862, buried in the churchyard there.

His portrait, by Margaret Carpenter, is in the Hall of Eton College; another, by Eddis, a copy of that painted by him for Lambeth Palace in 1880, hangs in the Hall of King's College, Cambridge. His recumbent effigy, by H. Weekes, R.A., is in the nave of Canterbury Cathedral.

<sup>1</sup> *Etoniana*, pp. 279 f., 337-8, 344, 364; Maxwell Lyte, *Hist. Eton College*<sup>2</sup>, p. 340.

He is said to have planted the great cedar in the vicarage garden, near the fountain, at Mapledurham.

Published Sermons, Expositions of the Gospels and Epistles of the N.T., and a treatise on the Records of the Creation.

The following quotation may be of interest :

‘Another recommendation to Checkendon [where Samuel Wilberforce entered upon his first cure of souls in January 1829] lay . . . in its vicinity to Mr. Sumner, i. e. to Mr. J. B. Sumner, then Vicar of Mapledurham, but who before S. Wilberforce was actually ordained was removed from the neighbourhood by his promotion to the Bishopric of Chester.’<sup>1</sup>

**41. Lord Augustus FitzClarence, 1829–1854.**

Patron, the Crown pro hac vice, on the resignation of Sumner, appointed Bishop of Chester.

Presented 31 March 1829.<sup>2</sup>

Instituted 7 April 1829.

Born 1805, fifth son of William IV (then Duke of Clarence) by Mrs. Jordan the actress. Brasenose College, Oxford, 1824, Trinity College, Cambridge (Fellow-Commoner), 1826, LL.B. 1832, Hon. LL.D. (*nobilissimo patre natus*) 1835; Chaplain to Queen Adelaide. Married Sarai Elizabeth Catherine, daughter of Lord Henry Gordon, 2 January 1845, by whom he had six children. In his time the water-tower and fountain were put up in the vicarage garden, the broad walk was constructed round the paddock, and the wall from the front door round to the mill was built; offices and a new kitchen were added to the house. He died 14 June 1854, and was buried in the churchyard.

Fanny Kemble gives<sup>3</sup> an amusing account of a young gentleman who attended every one of her performances as a debutante at Covent Garden in the winter of 1829, and who afterwards made her acquaintance at a dance. She tells how ‘the Rev. A. F:C—— informed her that he had been trained as a sailor, but that in consequence of the death of a brother, he had been literally taken from on board ship, and in spite

<sup>1</sup> A. R. Ashwell, *Life of Bishop Wilberforce*, i. 41–2.

<sup>2</sup> *Patent Rolls*, 10 George IV, part ii, No. 10.

<sup>3</sup> *Records of a Girlhood*, ii. 72–7.

of the utmost reluctance on his part, compelled to go into the Church', and how he asked her to write a sermon for him which she indignantly declined to do. Macready in his Diaries<sup>1</sup> gives a further instance of FitzClarence's devotion to celebrated actresses. Yet there is evidence that he made a good parish priest, for when he died a meeting of parishioners recorded 'their deep sense of the loss the Parish had sustained', and acknowledged 'the Christian virtues which distinguished him as their Pastor Friend and Benefactor, exemplary in the discharge of every duty and exercising such liberality and beneficence as endeared him to all, and will perpetuate his memory among them. . . . They express their lasting gratitude for the splendid Service of Plate presented by him in 1831 to be used for ever at the Celebration of the Holy Communion, and also for the Clock erected in the Tower and Organ in the Gallery of the Church'.<sup>2</sup>

**42. Edward Craven Hawtrey, D.D., 1854-1862.**

Presented 27 July 1854 on the death of FitzClarence.

Instituted 3 October 1854.

Born at Burnham, Bucks., 7 May 1789, son of Edward Hawtrey Vicar of Burnham 1783-1803, who was grandson of John Hawtrey of Mapledurham 1684-1715. Scholar of King's College, Cambridge, 1807, B.A. 1812, M.A. 1815, D.D. (per Litt. Reg.) 1835; Fellow of King's 1810-35. Assistant Master at Eton 1814-34, Head Master 1834-52, Provost 1853-62. Rector of Ewhurst, Sussex, 1835-54, of Farnham Royal, Bucks., February 1854, but never resided, and resigned before 26 October same year. Died 27 January 1862, buried in Eton College Chapel (the last person to be buried there).

Commemorated in Mapledurham Church by the two north and south windows in the chancel, placed there by his successor.

**43. Edward Coleridge, M.A., 1862-1883.**

Presented 7 May 1862, on the death of Hawtrey. The College presented the Rev. George John Dupuis, Vice-Provost 1868-84, to the living 8 April 1862, but he was not instituted.

Instituted 21 May 1862.

<sup>1</sup> Ed. W. Toynbee, ii. 146.

<sup>2</sup> Notebook in Parish Chest.

Born 1801, King's Scholar at Eton 1813, Exhibitioner of Corpus Christi College, Oxford, 1818, B.A. 1822, M.A. 1827, Fellow of Exeter College 1823-6. Assistant Master at Eton 1825-50, Lower Master 1850-6, Fellow 1857-82. Buried at Mapledurham 23 May 1883.

Son of Captain James Coleridge, of Heaths Court, Ottery St. Mary, nephew of S. T. Coleridge, the poet and philosopher, brother of Mr. Justice John Taylor Coleridge, uncle of Lord Chief Justice Coleridge. In conjunction with A. J. Beresford Hope he founded, in 1845-8, St. Augustine's Missionary College at Canterbury. He made himself responsible for the whole cost of the restoration of Mapledurham Church in 1863.

According to Goldwin Smith,<sup>1</sup> 'there was one master at Eton, who had not been a Fellow of King's, but having married the daughter of the Head Master, Keate,<sup>2</sup> had been brought in to fill a gap, and then permanently retained, though not without discreditable manifestations of jealousy on the part of some of his colleagues, Edward Coleridge. I had the good fortune to be his pupil and board in his house. A deep scholar he was not, but he was a maker of scholars. He inspired when he could not instruct. His pupils requited his affection, and to have been "in my tutor's house" has always been among them a cherished memory. Coleridge was the Arnold of Eton, so far as Eton could have an Arnold, and there was sympathy between him and Arnold of Rugby.' 'By training a series of Newcastle Scholars [the Newcastle Scholarships were founded in 1829] Mr. Coleridge acquired a reputation higher than that enjoyed by any Assistant Master at Eton before or since.'<sup>3</sup> In 1845 he caused the great west window of the Chapel to be filled with stained glass.

44. **Francis St. John Thackeray**, M.A., F.S.A., F.G.S.,  
1883-1919.

Presented 12 July 1883.

Instituted 28 July 1883.

<sup>1</sup> *Reminiscences*, pp. 40-1.

<sup>2</sup> Coleridge's second wife, who was buried at Mapledurham, was a Miss Bevan.

<sup>3</sup> Maxwell Lyte, *ut supra*, p. 360.

Born in London 13 December 1832, son of Rev. Francis Thackeray, of London. Eton Postmaster of Merton College, Oxford, 1852, B.A. 1856, M.A. 1859, Fellow and Tutor of Lincoln College, 1857, Assistant Master at Eton 1858-83, ordained Deacon 1858, Priest 1867. Married Louisa Irvine 1860. Died 14 July 1919, buried at Mapledurham.

Published *Anthologia Graeca* and *Latina*, Translations from Prudentius, Memoir of Dr. Hawtrey, Occasional Poems, &c.

## ASSISTANT CURATES AT MAPLEDURHAM

The following list, which is probably not complete, is compiled from the Oxford Episcopal Register, the Parish Registers, and other sources of information. The dates give the years in which it is known the Curate was in residence.

<i>Vicar</i>	<i>Curate</i>
Bruarne (1550-1559)	Thomas Asplen, 1553
Hawtrey (1685-1715)	Anthony Whistler, 1693
"	William Sympson, 1697-1700
"	Philip Sayer, 1704
"	Samuel Guise, 1706-7
"	Joshua Sugden, 1707-15
Weston (1716-1724)	" " 1716-19
"	Joshua Hedges, 1720-3
Malcher (1724-1726)	Thomas Archer, 1725-6
Littleton (1726-1733)	" " 1726-8
"	James Badger, 1730-3
Burton (1734-1765)	" " 1734
"	William Pennicott, 1753-7
"	Roger Huggett, <sup>1</sup> 1758
"	Samuel Torrent, <sup>2</sup> 1758-62
Barnard (1766-1785)	William Toong, 1772
"	William Wise, 1775

<sup>1</sup> One of the Eton Conducts (1737-64), Minor Canon of St. George's, Windsor, 1746-62, rector of Hartley Wespall, 1762-9 (*Etoniana*, pp. 483-6). When Burton died, he proposed himself as a candidate for Mapledurham.

<sup>2</sup> A Samuel Torrent, assistant master at Eton 1702, was possibly this man's father (*Etoniana*, p. 61).



*Vicar (cont.)*

Norbury (1785-1800)  
 Tew (1800-1818)  
 Sumner (1818-1828)  
 FitzClarence (1829-1854)

"  
 "  
 Hawtrey (1854-1862)

"  
 "  
 "  
 Coleridge (1862-1883)

"  
 "

*Curate (cont.)*

Coventry Lichfield,<sup>1</sup> 1790  
 Robert Baker, 1807-18  
 " " 1818-20  
 John Morgan, 1829-36  
 George William Murray, 1837-8  
 George Hutchins,<sup>2</sup> 1838-54

" " 1854-6  
 C. R. Powys, 1856-9  
 E. J. Sykes, 1859  
 William Master Shewell, 1860-9  
 William Henry Atkinson Emra,<sup>3</sup>  
 1870-1

Henry Farley, 1874-81  
 Reginald Molyneux, 1881-3

<sup>1</sup> He seems to have been temporarily in charge of the parish when Burton resigned in 1765.

<sup>2</sup> Not Hutchings, as recorded in the Oxford Episcopal Register.

<sup>3</sup> Became rector of Great Blakenham, Suff., in 1871.

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Vicars of Mapledurham cont.

45. Alfred Hands Cooke. M.A.  
 Sc.D (Cambridge) Vicar 1920-34  
 Fellow, Dean & Tutor of Kings  
 College Cambridge

46. Ernest Livingstone Macassey. M.A.  
 B.D (Oxon) D.D (Lambeth)  
Vicar 1935-1947.

47. Charles Purvis. Sherwood.  
1948-1953

48. William Francis J.D. Coles.  
MA, BD 1954-

## APPENDIX I

CONFIRMATION by William I of grants made to the Abbey of Bec by various persons in England (*Arundel White Book* in the Erary of St. George's College, Windsor).

Confirmacio Willelmi Regis Anglorum de bonis in Anglia . . . Sicut nobis ad dandum elemosynam expedit esse promptos ita ad confirmandum quod datur oportet esse sollicitos. Justum enim est ut in quantum possibile est perpetuum fiat quod tribuitur, cum certum est eternum esse quod retribuitur. Quapropter ego Willelmus gracia dei Rex Anglie volo ut subscripta nostra donacio presentibus apicibus ad noticiam posterorum mandetur quibus pia largicio ab ignorantia sive malivolencia defensa inconcussa stabilitate perpetua servetur. Illius igitur aspirante gracia qui dat et bene velle et posse pro bona voluntate, concedo Monasterio Beccensi gloriose genetricis dei Marie . . . et ut per omnes meos proprios portus in Anglia res proprie servorum dei in eodem monasterio commanencium quiete sint a consuetudinibus que pro transitu in portu exigunt solent.<sup>1</sup> Concedo etiam ipsi cenobio quod illi Hugo de Gornaco dedit scilicet in London quod ibi habebat de me et in Essex ecclesiam de ffordham cum terra ecclesie et totam decimam . . . Et quod Milo Crispinus dedit eidem monasterio et ipso concedente homines eius Hugo filius Milonis et Ricardus filius Reinfredi. Item in Oxenfordsh' totum dominicum eiusdem Milonis de Swyncomb et decimam de eius dominico de Mapultreham. . . . Testes: Signum Willelmi Regis Anglorum, S Lanfranci Archiepiscopi, S Willelmi comitis filii Regis, S Thome Archiepiscopi Ebor., S Gaufridi Episcopi Constantie, S Ricardi filii Gilberti comitis, S Walchelini Episcopi Winton., S Willelmi Episcopi Dunelm., S Milonis Crispini, S Henrici filii Regis.

<sup>1</sup> i. e. the goods of the monks of Bec are excused the payment of export duties in English ports.

## APPENDIX II

(a) The agreement between the Prioress and Nuns de Claro Rivo and Geoffrey de Chausey the elder (Eton College Library).

Hec est convencio inita inter priorissam et Moniales de Claro Rivo Rectores ecclesie de Mapeldurham ex una parte et Galfridum de Chauseya militem ex altera parte super tercia parte decimarum de dominico suo in Villa de Mapeldureham et tota decima de omnibus assartis suis in eadem Villa et tota decima feni sui minutis decimis suis et de tercia parte decimarum de terra Roberti Frauleveleren videlicet quod matrix ecclesia omnes decimas debet percipere petitas quas capella percipere consuevit et omnes alias secundum formam edicionis sue. Dictus vero G. miles dedit et concessit pro bono pacis et pro salute anime sue et antecessorum et successorum suorum Deo et matri ecclesie de Mapeldureham unam virgatam terre cum mesuagio uno in liberam puram et perpetuam elemosinam illam scilicet quam tenuit Galfridus de Chelebi et Osbertus clericus et unam Croftam jacentem inter terram Ricardi Cripsi et terram Johannis nobilis juxta viam Regiam et duas Acras terre versus longam sepem quarum capita abutant in chemino qui ducit apud Wichuthe. Dicte autem Moniales Renunciaverunt omni juri quod habebant in duas acras quas ecclesia de Mapeldureham percipere consuevit de Dominico dicti G. militis ante tempus hujus convencionis. Dicte vero Moniales deservire debent dicte capelle dicti G. militis omnibus diebus per annum in perpetuum per aliquem capellanum ydoneum ab eisdem monialibus querendum et a milite vel suis successoribus non nisi justa causa interveniente Reprobandum dum tamen ab Archidiacono loci fuerit approbatus. Debent eciam invenire Clericum ydoneum qui Capellano in dicta ecclesia ministret et vestimenta et libros et luminaria que ad capellam honorifice deserviendam bonorum virorum arbitrio fuerint necessaria salvis tamen ejusdem Capelle ornamentis omnibus ibidem inventis et a G. milite collatis. In predicta vero Capella miles et successoribus [*sic*] sui et familia eorum domestica et libera et hospites sui omnia spiritualia Recipient et admittentur ibi ad confessionem et communionem. Femine vero de eorum domo maritande ibidem desponsabuntur et post puerperium purificabuntur et infantes earum baptizabuntur. Predictus vero miles et successores sui et familia eorum liberam eligant sibi sepulturam ubicunque voluerint dum tamen

capellani et clerici in dicta cappella ministrantes sua Recipiunt legata et oblationes si forte pro defuncto in dicta Capella missa celebretur. Facta est autem hec convencio anno dominice Incarnacionis MCCXXV°. Ut autem hec convencio Rata et stabilis in perpetuum permaneat utraque pars huic scripto ad modum cirographi confecto hinc inde sigillum suum apposuit Hiis testibus: Simone tum temporis decano de Siplake, Osberto rectore ecclesie de Stokez, Silvestro vicario ecclesie de Witchuche, Johanne vicario de Garingez, Thoma Huskarl, Johanne de Freydon, Alano de' Englefeld, Willelmo Basset, Guillelmo de Hunrescule (?), Roberto de Mapeldureham clerico, Radulphus de hetanc (?), Ricardo de ageron, Siwardo filio guill— et multis aliis.

(b) Geoffrey de Chausey the younger to William Page: lease of a virgate of land (Blount MSS.).

Sciant presentes et futuri quod ego Galfridus de Chauseya dedi concessi et hac presenti carta mea confirmavi Willelmo Page pro homagio et servicio suo Illam virgatam terre cum pertinentiis suis quam Willelmus Le Juvene de Mapelderham aliquando tenuit de Galfrido de Chauseya quondam patre meo in villa de Mapelderham. Tenendum et Habendum de me et heredibus meis sibi et heredibus suis in viis semitis Boscis planis pratis et in pasturis et cum omnibus aliis libertatibus predicte terre pertinentibus et cum Liberis Introitibus et exitibus Liberis et in pace libere quiete et hereditarie in perpetuum. Reddendo inde annuatim mihi et heredibus meis ipse et heredes sui Tresdecim solidos et quatuor denarios ad duos anni terminos scilicet ad festum beate Marie in Marcio sex solidos et octo denarios et ad festum sancti Egidii sex solidos et octo denarios pro omni servicio seculari exactione consuetudine et demanda salvo servicio domini Regis quantum pertinet ad tantam terram eiusdem feodi. Et ego predictus Galfridus et heredes mei warantizabimus aquietabimus et defendemus predictam virgatam terre cum omnibus pertinentiis suis supradictis predicto Willelmo et heredibus suis contra omnes homines et feminas in perpetuum. Pro hac autem donacione concessione warantizacione et carte mee confirmacione dedit mihi predictus Willelmus viginti marcas · uxori mee dimidiam marcam · Johanni filio meo primogenito duos solidos sterlingorum in gersumam. Et ut hec mea donacio concessio Warantizacio et carte mee confirmacio rata et stabilis in perpetuum permaneat hoc presens scriptum sigilli mei appositione Roboravi · Hiis testibus. Galfrido de Codray · Roberto de Mapelderham · Hugone de Druval · Radulpho de

Herdwyck · Radulpho Druval · Waltero Le Waleys · Waltero de Cl[e]veden · Johanne de La Hull · Willelmo de La Beche · Adam de La Lye · Johanne de La Hage · Roberto de Garinges et Aliis.

## APPENDIX III

## The metynge of the brode mede.

This ys the metynge of the brode mede by twyxt Maystere Lynde the lorde of Mapulderham Gurney and the lorde of Chauseys Corte

ffyrst for my mastere Lynde xxij loggys<sup>1</sup> lying next to the yate at Cow mede and j Gore lying alonge by the Thrope felde hegge and strethethe forthe to pyll furlonge

Item then for Maystere	Norys next	. . . . .	ij logge
" "	Lynde	. . . . .	viiij "
" "	Norys	. . . . .	iiij "
" "	Lynde	. . . . .	viiij "
" "	Norys	. . . . .	iiij "
" "	Lynde for Cause of Senfy <sup>2</sup>		
	acre	. . . . .	xij "
" "	Norys	. . . . .	iiij "
" "	Lynde viij logge and the		
	Gore lying there to by		
	the pyll <sup>3</sup> dyche		
" "	Norys iiij logge with the		
	Gore		
"	in the Est syde of pyll dyche for Maystere		
	Lynde	. . . . .	viiij "
"	then for Maister Norys	. . . . .	iiij "
[the pair of entries, viij to Lynde and iiij to Norys, six times more repeated, then . . .]			
Item for Maistere Lynde the Gore conteynynge	iiij logge	ix fote and an half.	

<sup>1</sup> 'The measuring rod that was used for land—and still is used in parts of Northern Russia—had many names, such as *perch, rod, pole, lug*.' F. W. Maitland, *Domesday Book and Beyond*, p. 372. A map, dated 1605, edited by Mr. Mowat (*Sixteen Old Maps*, Clarendon Press, 1888) illustrates the division of a piece of land between two owners, one being Corpus Christi College, and the other a yeoman, Edward Standerd of Whitehill, Oxon., who take alternate strips of two (estimated) acres (ibid., p. 381).

<sup>2</sup> 'Senfy's acre' evidently constitutes an interruption to the regular measurement: two Senfys are mentioned in the Court Roll of 1443.

<sup>3</sup> pyll (pill), a creek or ditch.

Item then for Maistere Norys Gore conteynyng ij logge iiij fote and half and ij ynche

Item then to my mastere Lynde an acre lying next to Mastere Norys Gore y called Droverys conteynyng on the south side xvij logge ix fote and  $\frac{1}{2}$

Summa of all the bothys ptyning to the Maner of Chauseys Corte —

This ys the boke to mete the lordys mede of Mapulderham ffirst fro the mede yate for the lorde of Mapul-

derham Gurney . . . . . xxij logge

Nexste than for the lorde of Chawses . . . . . ij "

" for the lorde of Mapulderham . . . . . viij "

" " " " " Chawses . . . . . iiij "

" " " " " Mapulderham . . . . . viij "

" " " " " Chawses . . . . . iiij "

" " " " " Mapulderham xij logge by

cause of Senfy ys Aker

Than to John Norrys . . . . . iiij "

" " my mast. viij logge and the Gore lying p<sup>e</sup> to

" " Norys iiij logge with owte ye Gore

" yn ye Est syde of pyldych to my mast. . . . . viij "

and a Gore lying there by pyldyche

" to John Norys . . . . . iiij "

and the Est syde of pilldiche to the gore

" to my mast. . . . . viij "

" to John Norys . . . . . iiij "

[this last pair of entries repeated 5 times more, then]

" to my mast. ys Gore conteynyng iiij logg. ix fote and  $\frac{1}{2}$

" " John Norys Gore conteynyng ij logge iiij fote and halfe and 2 ynches

" to my mast. ys Aker lying next to John Norys Gore and cald Drovys conteynyng on the Southe syde xvij logge ix fote and a halfe<sup>1</sup>

The lengthe of ye logge ys xvj fote and half and ynche and  $\frac{1}{2}$  ynche and a barley corn and  $\frac{1}{2}$ .

<sup>1</sup> An approximate date for these documents may be reached. They mention a 'mayster Lynde' and a 'John Norys'. After the death of John Iwardby the elder in 1470, his widow Joan Iwardby was mistress of Mapledurham Gurney till 1476, when she was succeeded by her son Thomas Lynde, 1476-85. John Noreys, as a *libere tenens* in that manor, was fined for non-attendance at views of frankpledge for the last time in 1466, but his successor William Noreys is fined the first time for the same offence in 1479. This seems to show that the only years in which Thomas Lynde and John Noreys could have been contemporary as lords of their respective manors, were 1476-78, and these documents must be dated accordingly.

## APPENDIX IV

Mandate of Edward IV restoring certain property to Eton College (Letters Patent 1 Edward IV, pt. 3, m. 24).

Rex etc. . . . salutem. Sciatis quod cum Collegium beate Marie de Etona juxta Windesoram in Com. Buks de et in numero unius Prepositi et ceterorum sacerdotum choristariorum ac scolariorum ad gloriam et honorem crucifixi laudemque et veneracionem beatissime Virginis matris sue exaltacionem et decus Ecclesie militantis sanctissime matris nostre ac stabilimentum fidei christiane in ecclesia ejusdem beate virginis Marie de Eton predictae et in quodam fundo cimiterio ejusdem ecclesie contiguo erectum et fundatum existat Nos de gracia nostra speciali et ob sinceram devocionem quam erga gloriosam virginem Mariam prelibatam gerimus et habemus et ut predicti nunc Prepositus et Collegium et Successores sui ex salubri statu nostro et Cecilie matris nostre dum vixerimus et pro animabus nostris cum ab hac luce migraverimus Et pro animabus illustris Principis Ricardi nuper ducis Eboraci patris nostri carissimi et progenitorum nostrorum apud altissimum specialius deprecentur et exorent ex mero motu et certa sciencia nostris dedimus concessimus et hac presenti carta nostra confirmavimus dilectis nobis in Christo Willelmo Westbury jam preposito Collegii predicti et ejusdem loci Collegio et successoribus suis hospitale sancti Petri juxta Windesoram cum suis juribus et pertinenciis Maneria de Bledlowe in Com. Buks et Cottesford in Com. Oxon cum pertinentibus quondam parcellis Prioratus de Okeburne Prioratum de Stratfeldsay Alienigenarum cum omnibus terris tenementis redditibus serviciis pensionibus et possessionibus cum pertinenciis in Com. Suthton et Berk Portionem Priorisse de Claro Rivallo Alienigenarum in ecclesia de Mapilderham alias dictam Mapildram in dicto Com. Oxon cum ejusdem fructibus proventibus et emolumentis etc., habenda tenenda . . . a quarto die Marcij proximo preterito prefatis preposito et Collegio et successoribus suis pro eorundem sustentacione imperpetuum una cum exitibus et proficuis inde medio tempore perceptis Ac etiam cum advocacionibus Prioratuum predictorum feodis militum etc. et ceteris premissis seu alicui parcellae eorundem pertinentibus sive spectantibus. In cujus rei etc. Teste Rege apud Westm. xxiiij die ffebruarii [1462/3].

## APPENDIX V

## Leasing of the Broad Mede &amp;c. in 1480.

These ben the passelys of the Medys lesures and pasturys  
letten the iiij day of June the xviiij yere of the regne of Kynge  
Edward the iiijth by Thomas Lynde Esquyer.

In primis John ffrethorne for the Gore ayenst Chausis iijs.

Item the said John for an aker of mede nexte the longe hegge iijs.

Item John Sullam paying for the myll Gore iijs.

Item Thomas Elyenot for the mede in the mersth ijs. vjd.

Item Richard att Lee for the brodesteche by neth al the  
Akeris xs. jd.

Item William Cray for iiij landewys ijs.

Item William Crokeford for the grete Gore athissed the long  
hegge xs.

Item John Sullam and Thomas Elyenot for ij lottys nexte ye  
grete Gore xs. viijd.

Item Robert Martyne for the Akere next Gosinere Akere  
iijs. iiijd.

Item John Deylys of Chakenden an Akere of mede next  
holborow iijs. iiijd.

Item Thomas Helery for the Akere next Gosinere Akere  
iijs. iiijd.

Item William Sparow of Chakenden ij lockys of heye xvjd.

Item Richard Selwod of Chakenden for the Gore next to the  
dropefeld hegge vjs. viijd.

Item Roger Boteler for an akere of mede calld Gosinere Akere  
iijs. iiijd.

Item John Alwey and Cristian Clyston for iij lottis next by  
yond pyldych vjs.

Item ffalkener of Chakenden for vj lockys of hey ijs. iiijd.

Item William Sparow of Ch for ix lockys hey in the brode  
mede iijs. xd.

Item William Crokeford for ye iij lots nexte to the grete Gore  
vjs. viijd.

Item John Haw for xij lockys of hey in the lee hurneys  
vs. xjd.

Item Marstere Pokelonde for iij lockys of hey in the le hurne  
xxd.

Item John Haw for vj lockys of hey in the lee hurne ijs. vd.

Item Richard Browne for v lockys of hey in the lee hurne  
ijs. jd.

Item Richard Selwode for a locke of hey iiijd.

Item Thomas Alwey for droveris Akere ijs.

Sm to[talis] —————



## APPENDIX VI

## Court Roll of 1416.

Mapul-  
deram  
Gournay  
assisa  
cere-  
visie mia  
ixd.

Visus ffranciplegii ibidem tentus vij die Maij Anno  
Regis H. Vti post conquestum quarto  
Simon Loveioye tastor cerevisie presentat quod  
Isolda (ixd.) Taillor (iiij) brasiauit et fregit assisam  
Ideo etc.

Willelmus Page decenarius ibidem . . . venit etc. Et  
dicunt quod omnia alia in isto visu presentata perti-  
nent Amicie Bardolf. . . .

Item quod venella vocata Holborough lane est con-  
creta per ingentem sepem ex utraque parte eiusdem  
venelle quam Robertus Stanshawe succidere et emen-  
dare tenetur. Et presentant quod emendetur citra  
festum Sancti Jacobi proximum futurum sub pena xxd.

pena.  
m. viijd.

Item quod Nicholaus Milleward (viijd.) cepit tolne-  
tum excessive Ideo etc.

extrahura  
remanet  
non judi-  
cata.

Item quod multo niger perveniens de extrahura ad  
festum Martini remanet quousque cum Waltero  
Sheparde unde responsum est etc.

## Court Roll of 1437.

Mapuldram Gurnay. Visus Franciplegii tentus ibidem  
vicesimo tertio die Octobris Anno regni Regis Henrici Sexti  
post conquestum sextodecimo.

Thomas Coke decenarius ibidem cum tota decena venit et  
presentavit quod dant ad hunc diem de certo vjs. viijd. Et  
quod Thomas (ijd.) Grove, Johannes (ijd.) Rowe, Simon (ijd.)  
Helder, Rogerus (ijd.) atte Lee, Baill. (ijd.) Bartram, Johannes  
(ijd.) Meryk, Johannes (ijd.) Goslyng, Johannes (ijd.) Grove  
Junr., Thomas (ijd.) Wygmore, Willelmus (ijd.) Grove,  
Johannes (ijd.) Wynsy, Rogerus (ijd.) Wynsy, Willelmus (ijd.)  
Boteler, Ricardus (ijd.) Sampson, Johannes (j.) Hyckys,  
Robertus (jd.) Scheperd faciunt defaltam Ideo ipsi in miseri-  
cordia. Et quod Simon (ijd.) Northfolk recepit Johannem filium  
suum extra decenam Ideo etc. Item presentant quandam  
viam vocatam Cherschelend defectivam in defectu Thome (ijd.)  
Norton, Ideo etc. Item presentant quandam Gutteram voca-  
tum Kakullescroft non reparatam in defectu Johannis Geyler  
quam emendare citra proximum [Visum] sub pena  
xijd. Et quod Johannis (ijd.) Tayllor molendinus cepit  
tolnetum excessive Ideo etc.

Tastor cerevisie Johannes Alewey presentat quod Johannes (ixd.) Smyth (ijj) Agnes (iijd.) Wynsy (j), Willelmus (iijd.) Bartram (j), Thomas (iijd.) Grove (j), Johannes (iijd.) Geyler (j), Johannes (iijd.) Rowe (j), Rogerus (iijd.) atte lee (j) bracia-verunt et fregerunt assisam.

Electio officiorum. Thomas Cok amotus est ab officio decenarii et in loco ejus Johannes Fuller est juratus.

Afferatores : Simon Nortfolk, Johannes Brone.

Johannes Drayton positus est in assisa domini Regis et juratus est.

Johannes Geyler positus est —————

### Court Roll of 1443.

Mapull-  
dereham  
Gurnay  
Presenta-  
cio  
Decenari

Visus Franciplegii tentus ibidem viij die Maij anno regis Henrici sexti post conquestum vicesimo primo.

Willelmus Bertram Decenarius ibidem presentat quod dat de certo domino Regi ad hunc diem vjs. viijd.

Et quod omnia alia inferius presentata pertinent Johanni Iwardesby, videlicet quod Thomas (iijd.) Wygmore, Willelmus (iijd.) Cornedon, Rogerus (iijd.) atte lee, Simon (iijd.) Northfolke, Ricardus (iijd.) Croun, Rogerus (iijd.) Northfolke, Johannes (iijd.) Bertram, Henricus (iijd.) Smyth, Johannes (iijd.) Northfolke, Rogerus (iijd.) Senfy, Johannes (iijd.) Senfy, Thomas (iijd.) Carbe, Johannes (iijd.) Onke, Laurenc (iijd.) atte

mis. iijs.  
viijd.

Stable, Johannes (iijd.) Hickes, Johannes (iijd.) Cury, et Johannes (iijd.) Mody, qui debent adventum faciunt defaltam Ideo ipsi in misericordia. Et quod fossata (emendetur) apud lakedyche obstuppatur quod Johannes (iiijd.) Staunton et Johannes (iiijd.) Rowe emendare tenentur. Ideo etc. Et quod venella vocata Cryps lane est concreta cum spinis et tribulis in defectu Ricardi (iiijd.) Astell. Ideo ipse etc. Et quod venella vocata long lane (emendetur) et venella vocata Holow-lane (emendetur) sunt concrete cum ramis arborum in defectu Johannis Iwardesby. Ideo habet diem ad emendandum citra proximum visum sub pena ijs. iiijd.

pena.

extrahura  
remanens

Et quod ij oves matrices pervenientes de extrahura ad festum sancti Michaelis precio ijs. iiijd. Et remanent cum Simone Hylder quousque etc. Et quod Johannes

juratus in  
officio.

Raulyn juratus est in officio Decenarii ibidem. Johannes Alwey Tastor cerevice presentat quod Rogerus (iij.) atte lee (xij), Agnes (ijs.) Wynsy (viij), Simon (iijd.) Northfolk (j), Johannes (iijd.) Croun (j)

braciaverunt et fregerunt assisam. Ideo etc. Et quod Simon (xij*d.*) Rowe non misit pro tastore cerevisie ad cerevisiam suam tastandam Ideo etc.

Afferatores: Simon Helder, Joh. Broun, jurati.

Summa hujus visus xjs. viij*d.*

### Court Roll of 1444.

Mapul-  
dereham  
Gurnay  
presenta-  
cio

Visus Franciplegii tentus ibidem secundo die Junij anno regis Henrici sexti post conquestum xxij<sup>o</sup>.

Johannes Raulyn Decenarius ibidem presentat quod dat domino Regi ad hunc diem vjs. viij*d.* Et quod omnia alia inferius presentata pertinent Johanni Iwardesby armigero domino ibidem videlicet quod Thomas (j*d.*) Wygmore, Johannes (j*d.*) Lovell, Johannes (j*d.*) Sholler, Rogerus (j*d.*) Beres, Thomas (j*d.*) Byrche, Willelmus (ij*d.*) Cornedone qui debent adventum faciunt defaltam Ideo etc. Et quod j ovis mas perveniens de extrahura anni precedentis acretus est domino precio x*d.* Et remanet in manu Johannis Iwardesby etc.

m. xvij*d.*  
extrahura  
iij*s.* ij*d.*

Et quod ij oves pervenientes de extrahura anni precedentis accrete sunt domino precio ijs. iiij*d.* unde Simon Hylder est respons.

pena  
pendens

Et quod venella vocata Hollewellane (emendetur) est concreta cum ramis arborum ad nocumentum in defectu Willelmi atte Lee (iiij*d.*) Ideo habet diem ad emendandum citra festum Nativitatis sancti Johannis Baptiste proximum futurum sub pena iij*s.* iiij*d.* Et quod Gutterra vocata Cakulcroft obstuppata [est] ad nocumentum in defectu Johannis Lovell. Ideo habet diem ad emendandum citra predictum festum sancti Johannis sub pena iij*s.* iiij*d.* Et quod Willelmus Jory (iiij) capit tolnetum excessive Ideo etc. Et quod Ricardus Bottiller juratus est in decena.

assisa  
cerevisie

Johannes Alwey Tastor cerevisie ibidem presentat quod Agnes (iiij*s.* ij*d.*) Wynsey (xvij), Rogerus (iis. ij*d.*) atte lee (ix), Thomas (ij*d.*) Stephenes (j), Rogerus (ij*d.*) Bere (j), Johannes (ij*d.*) Sholler (j), Johannes (ij*d.*) Raulyn (j), Johannes (ij*d.*) Rowe (j), braciaverunt et fregerunt assisam Ideo etc.

m. vijs.  
ix*d.*

Afferatores: Simon Hilder, Willelmus Bertram jurati.

Summa hujus visus (blank).

## Court Roll of 1445.

Mapul-  
dereham  
Gurnay

Visus Franciplegii tentus ibidem ultimo die marcii  
Anno regni Regis Henrici sexti post conquestum  
vicesimo tercio.

presenta-  
cio  
Decenarii

Johannes Raulyn Decenarius etc. (as in preceding  
roll) . . . quod Willelmus Cornedon (*ijd.*), Nicholaus  
Wygmore (*ijd.*), Thomas Bertram (*ijd.*) qui debent  
adventum faciunt defaultam Ideo etc.

m. *vjd.*  
extrahura  
*xvd.*

Et quod Johannes Lovell (*iijs. iiijd.*) nondum emen-  
davit gutteram apud Caculcroft Ideo etc. Et quod  
aper perveniens de extrahura anni precedentis acretus  
est domino precio *xvjd.* unde Johannes Broun est  
respons. Et quod Thomas Bertram (*xxd.*) prostravit  
spinas et brul' domini apud Magnam Dene et inclusit  
semitam cuniculorum domini Ideo etc.

assisa  
cerevisie  
*vjs. ix.*

Et quod Willelmus Jory (*vjd.*) capit tolnetum  
excessive in molendino aquatico Ideo etc. Johannes  
Raulyn amotus est ab officio decenarii et in loco ejus  
electus Ricardus Botiller alias Johannes. Et quod  
Johannes Alwey electus est constabularius et juravit etc.

Walterus Grove Tastor cerevicie ibidem presentat  
quod Johanna (*ijs.*) atte lee (*vijj.*), Agnes (*iiij.*) Wynsy  
(*xvj.*), Willelmus (*iijd.*) Bertram (*j.*), Johannes (*iijd.*)  
Raulyn (*j.*), Thomas (*iiij.*) Stephenes (*j.*) braciaverunt et  
fregerunt assisam. Ideo etc.

Afferatores: Johannes Broun, Ricardus Botiller  
juraverunt.

Summa hujus visus *xiiij. jd.*

## Court Roll of 14 April 1491.

Mapul-  
derham  
Gurnay  
Essoin

Curia tenta ibidem *xiiij.* die Aprilis anno regis  
Henrici septimi sexti.

Johannes Martyn de communi per ballivum

Edmundus Toby „ „ „

Robertus Sperowe „ „ per Thomas Crowne

Homa-  
gium

Johannes Hawe	Willelmus Weste	} Juratores qui presentant super eorum sacramentum
Thomas Alwey	Ricardus ffrewene	
Thomas Godwyn	Willelmus Horne	
Simon Courteys	Ricardus Jakys	
Johannes Attwell	Nicholaus Wyg-	
Johannes Colyar	more	
Willelmus Punte	Thomas Crowne	
Willelmus Crokford	Robertus Attwell	

miseri-  
cordia

quod Willelmus Noreys miles (vj*d.*) est sectator curie et fecit defaltum. Ideo ipse in misericordia.

Item presentant quod Johannes Clerke qui tenet de domino secundum consuetudinem manerii est sectator curie et fecit defaltam Ideo etc.

Item presentant quod Johannes Clerke fecit vastum in tenura sua scilicet in succidendo diversas arbores et transferendo eas extra tenuram et dominium domini in aliam tenuram quam tenet de Willelmo Noreys milite et eas circa negocia illius tenure et alia necessaria ibidem facienda eas occupavit contra consuetudinem manerii Ideo tenura forisfacta est ad voluntatem domini.

Item presentant quod tenura Willelmi Punte est ruinosa et ante proximam emendanda citra festum omnium sanctorum sub pena xx*d.*

(Similar presentations made, and similar penalties inflicted with regard to the tenures of Nicholas Wigmore, Richard ffrewene, John North, William Horn, Philip Attwell.)

Curia Ricardi Blount armigeri.

### Court Roll of 14 June 1493.

Mapul-  
durham  
Gurnay

Essoin s

Curia Ricardi Blount armigeri tenta ibidem xiiij die Junii Anno Regni regis Henrici septimi post conquestum octavo.

Johannes Clerke de communi per Robertum —  
Willelmus Crokeford de communi per Simonem Curteys.

Tenentes  
ad volun-  
tatem  
domini

Johannes Martyn, Thomas Halwey, Simon Curteys, Willelmus Punt, Willelmus Crokeford, Ricardus Body, Ricardus Halwey, Ricardus ffrewene, Robertus Martyn, Willelmus Horne, Ricardus Jakys, Nicholaus Wigmore, Thomas Broun, Robertus att Well, Ricardus Abrem, Edmundus Clerk, Edmundus Toby, Robertus Sparrowe, Willelmus Ponde, Johannes Clerk, Henricus Crokeford, Rogerus Prys tenentes ad voluntatem domini secundum consuetudinem manerii.

Homa-  
gium

Johannes Martyn, Thomas Halwey, Simon Curteys, Nicholaus Wygmore, Ricardus ffrewyn, Willelmus Pount, Thomas Broun, Ricardus Jakys, Henricus Broun, Robertus att Well, Ricardus Abrem, Willelmus Horne juraverunt pro domino.

Qui dicunt super sacramentum suum quod Willelmus

Veri-  
dictum  
homag.

Norys miles (ij*℥*.) et Johannes Hawe (ij*℥*.) sunt sectatores curie et fecerunt defaultam Ideo ipsi in misericordia domini ij*℥*.

Item presentant quod tenura Johannis Martyn est defecta in tectura et in muris. Ideo [ante] proximam ei emendare et reparare dictam tenuram citra ffestum Omnium Sanctorum proximum futurum sub pena xx*℥*. quos predictus Johannes concessit levare de bonis suis ad opus domini si contingat tenuram predictam ad diem supradictam esse defectam.

Item presentant quod tenura Simonis Curteys est defecta in muris et in tectura Ideo proximam ei emendare et reparare dictam tenuram citra predictum ffestum sub pena xx*℥*. quos . . . et cet. ut supra.

memo-  
randum  
quod

Item presentant quod Willelmus Horne apud Gallow feld end subboscum ibidem crescentem sibi limitatum pro reparacione sepium suorum. Ideo ipse in misericordia domini ij*℥*. (they present that the tenements of Henry Broun and Richard Jakys are defective, and they are dealt with as above).

Pena

Pena ponitur quod tenentes de Whitelewe faciant seu fieri faciant sepes suos ibidem citra ffestum omnium sanctorum sub pena suorum domino xij*℥*. et ecclesie de Mapulderham predicte iiij librorum cere.

Dimis-  
siones  
ffines  
ffideli-  
tates

Ad hanc curiam venit Rogerus Prys et cepit de domino unum mesuagium et dimidium virgate terre cum pertinenciis nuper in tenura Willelmi Sparowe habendum ei et suis secundum consuetudinem manerii per servicia reddita et consuetudines inde prius debitas et consuetas et dat domino de fine pro ingressu habendo vjs. viij*℥*. Et admissus est inde tenens et juravit.

(A similar notice of the tenancy fine and oath of Henry Crokeford).

Affera-  
tores  
curie

Simon Curteys } electi sunt afferatores curie et  
Willelmus Pount } juraverunt.

## APPENDIX VII

## The Common Fields.

It is no concern of the present history to deal with the record of the Blounts of Mapledurham. This has already been done by a member of the family, Sir Alexander Croke.<sup>1</sup> Still, it seems desirable to add a few words about the common fields of the parish, some of which contained small scraps of glebe which in time were exchanged for a single compact holding (p. 118).

The earliest reference to common fields, apart from a hint in 1238 (p. 87 l. 6) and a notice of the parson's holding in Mede in 1426 (pp. 106-7), occurs in a list of the holdings of one William atte Lee, endorsed 'For the Lee growde at Mapylderham Gorney', and dated 1449.<sup>2</sup> 'Memorandum that William atte Lee holds . . . by the Longe Hegge half an acre and five butts, Also at Three Oaks five butts; Also he holds in le Thrope feld one half an acre called Wakworth butte, Also he holds one half acre at Broddes Erle, Also he holds one acre at Scharpe Kyngmer, Also he holds one acre of meadow lying by lot between him and Alice Stevens, Also he holds two styches in another vill.' Here, in the recurring mention of half an acre and an acre, we have a clear reference to the *seliones* or the acre or half acre strips into which the open fields were divided, while the 'butts' denote end strips abutting on the others. The extract also illustrates the fact that the strips of the same owner were scattered over various fields, and did not lie adjacent to one another.

Not many years later (1459-78, see p. 77) there is mention, in a tenants' petition, of 'a Comyn' in Mapledurham Chazey, otherwise 'a ffeilde called Wydehamme', within which 'we occupy londe'. 'Wydehamme' may with tolerable certainty be identified with Ham Common field in the list given below (p. 197); it is marked Great Ham and Little Ham field on the estate map of 1722.

A copy of a document, probably in the hand of the Rev. Mr. Lefebvre, a priest attached to Mapledurham House in about 1810, contains a reference to the common fields

<sup>1</sup> *The Genealogical History of the Croke family, originally named Le Blount*, 1823, 2 vols. 4to.

<sup>2</sup> Blount MSS.

in the times of the Stuarts. 'Sir Richard Blount in his time [lord of the two manors 1591-1628] Kept oxen and Grased his meadows at which time the Mapledurham mead extended it selfe up to your Dear Course and down to the River he usually put into the said Common mead all his Cattle oxen as also all other Cattle sheep excepted which never had any Right to Common there which was thought a great prejudice to the Cattle of the freeholders Coppyholders and lease holders by thair beating of their Cattle, to avoid which they came to an agreement with the said Sr Richard that if he would Quit his Right of commoning oxen or other Cattle in the said mead for the future for his demesne that then the said mead should be reduced to what it is at this time, and not only so but agreed further that all should be stented<sup>1</sup> which was done at 8 Cows to a yard-land and so in proportion and every horse to go for two Cows and every beast to be marked with a pitch marke in a visable part.

'The demenss at ye above said time was Chasey farm Colliers farm Mr. Blagraves farm<sup>2</sup> and woods which were then Common and now new farm which in Mr. Walter Blounts time [lord of the manors 1644-71] was took out of the several Liveings who stented themselves so can have no right of Common in ye fields or meads but what dirived from the said Liveings.'

The parson's tithe derived from holders of land in the common meadows about 1640-50, together with the number of yard-lands held by each tenant, is set out on p. 113.

A 'Presentment of the Jury and Homage of Mapledurham Gurney at the Courte Barond there holden the 7th of July 1658' contains some interesting information with regard to the claims and regulations of the Tenants in the Common Fields.

'Imprimis. Wee present that the Tennantes within the Mannor of Mapledurham Gurney aforesaid which have time out of minde had and aught to have Sufficient Timber upon their Lande for building and Repairing of their Houses and for Plough Boote Carte Boote and Harese boote<sup>3</sup> by assignment of the Lord of the Said Mannor or his Deputie: And for defaulte of Such assignment within Nine days next after requeste in that behalfe to be made have had and aught to have the same without assignment making noe wilful waste

<sup>1</sup> To stent or stint: 'to limit the pasturage of common land to a certain number of cattle' (Murray).

<sup>2</sup> i. e. these were the tenants at the time of the writer of the memorandum.

<sup>3</sup> i. e. wood for repairing their ploughs, carts, and (?) harness.



or spoyle therof And Sufficient Headge boote and ffire boote without assignment.

'Item. Wee present, the Common Meadow of Mapledurham aught to be hayned and kept in Severall<sup>1</sup> with Headges Ditches Gates and Boundes from all manner of Cattel ffrom the Second day of ffebruary Yearly called Candlemas Day Untill the ffirst Day of August called Lammas Day saving only Liberty for the said Tennants to lye and feede their Cattle everyone upon his owne Landes there: And that no Man aught to cutt in the said Meade or to feede his Cattel there at any time from Twelve of the Clock on the said first day of August Called Lammas Day untill the latter Lady Day,<sup>2</sup> which is about three weekes before Michaelmas: And that noe sheepe aught to be putt in or to feed in the said Common Meade at any time in the said yeare, but the fences to be made to keepe them out.

'Item. Wee present that the Hine ffeilde Wheate Lande the Ham Rudge feilde and Sandhills have time out of minde beene broken<sup>3</sup> for Cattle with the Common Meade and not before, and that the wheate stubble ffeildes aught to be broken for sheepe on St. Edward's Day [13 Oct.] and not before, and the barly stubble ffeildes on All Saintes Day, and not before.

'Item. Wee present that the Summer fallow feildes for winter Corne aught to be Lained and Several and every man to make his bounds sufficient by St. Matthew's Day which is the One and Twentieth Day of September yearly: And the Summer Corne feildes by St. Matthias Day which is commonly the fflower and Twentieth of ffebruary.

'Item. Wee present that noe man aught to lett goe at Libertie upon the Commons Beaste Bullocke Horse or Colte from Candlemas untill May Day following.

'Item. Wee present that the Wood called Causies wood: And Dudsome Coppice aught to lie Common with the feildes seven yeares after it is ffield . . .

'Item. Wee present that the Place and the ffarme these Demeanes have noe Common at all for noe kinde of Cattle within the Parish.<sup>4</sup>

'the marke of Edward Wilde the marke of Will Thatcher  
'the marke of Anthony Wells James Hill

<sup>1</sup> 'Hedged and kept separate.'

<sup>2</sup> 8 September, the Nativity of the Virgin.

<sup>3</sup> The separating fences taken down.

<sup>4</sup> This probably means that the Manor House and the farm adjacent (now Park Farm) have plenty of grazing ground of their own, being demesne lands.

'the marke of John Emmonde Richard Michall

'the marke of John Pocock'

The parson's rights of pasture in the common meadows are preserved in an indenture dated 17 March 1686, which provides for the letting, by John Hawtrey, vicar, to Lyster Blount [lord of the manors 1676-1710], for the annual payment of £28, all the tithes of woods woodlands and underwood in the various woods and coppices named. Also all manner of other tithes and rights, except common for sixteen beasts in the Common meadows, arising out of the various demesne pastures.<sup>1</sup>

Amongst 'the Presentments of the Jury and Homage of the Mannors of Gurney and Chausey in Mapledurham, at a Court Leete and Baron held on the 3 day of Octob. Ao Domin. 1693', the following occurs: 'Item wee present that the Common ffields in Mapledurham aforesd ought to be broken with [all] sorts of Cattel except sheepe (which are to be kept out for the space of one weeke next after the breach of the sd ffields which breach is to be so soone as the Corne is taken off).'

This sentence is not very clear, but it appears to mean that after the fields are broken up, subsequent to the carrying of the corn, i. e. after the fences separating the arable strips have been removed, cattle only, not sheep, are to be turned in, after the interval of one week to let the herbage grow.

The parson's actual holding in the common fields, as stated by William Day, vicar 1637-84, is given on pp. 113-15.

In the time of the Michael Blount, who was lord of the manors 1710-39, a good deal of work seems to have been done on the survey and reorganization of the estate. In a MS. book, entitled 'A Copy of a Survey of the Manours of Mapledurham Chaussy and Mapledurham Gurney taken in the year 1720 or 1721 by Mr. Collier of Reading', the following appear as Common fields:

The Great Common Mead	Worm Mead
Lye Common Field	Marsh Mead
Common Field	Ridge (Rudge) Common Field
Little Hen Common Field	Ham Common Field
Great Hen Common Field	Little Hombs Common Field
Wheatlands and King's Hill	Great Galley Common Field
Common Field	Little Galley Common Field

<sup>1</sup> Blount MSS. This right of common for sixteen beasts, which seems to have existed before John Hawtrey's time, see p. 116, had been reduced, by 1802, to a right for only five, see p. 118.

Chausey Heath, Common 5 years sowed 2 years in 7. Various tenants hold so many pieces, varying in number to six or more: the size of the pieces varies greatly. One tenant has 92 acres in the Ridge Common Field, and 49½ in Ham Common Field. It would appear therefore that the process of enclosure had already begun and had made considerable progress at this date.

The Collier map of 1722 marks all these fields, as well as the various scraps and 'stitches' of glebe scattered about them, including the 'parson's gore', a long isosceles triangle in the Common Meade which is skirted by the river, adjacent to 'Chase' on the south side, and 'Ilsley's living' on the north.

The following note, on a scrap of paper which must have been addressed to Sir Michael Blount, illustrates the difficulties of the village pinder:

'Sept ye 10. 1723

Sr This day at noon I looked over ye Cattle in your Comon Mead where I found your Horses and also Doctor Westons without a picth marke and abundance without your marke I begg they be marked as they ought to be, otherwise I hope you'll excuse me if I should impound them.'<sup>1</sup>

A memorandum in the handwriting of the same Sir Michael Blount, undated, but evidently between 1726 and 1730,<sup>2</sup> shows that the process of enclosure was being carried further at that time.

'Underwritten are ye particulars of what Common each Free-holder or Copyholder has in Mapledurham Henfields, Wheatlands or Common Mead

Common Mead

Bullock	2 horses		
Fishermen	1 horse	Richd. Allaway	his cattle
Collier	5 horses	Fermore Biddle	his cattle
John Lewington	his cattle	Ed. Highwood	7 horses
Francis Millard	3 cows	Child	2 horses
Abram Ilsley	3 horses	Heskeu	5 horses
Ed. Butler	20 horses	Widow Binfield	2 horses
" " Jr	5 horses	Mr. Brigham	} turn over <sup>3</sup>
Gandy	5 horses	Doctor Littleton	
Charles Butler	his cattle	Ed. Highwood	

<sup>1</sup> Blount MSS.

<sup>2</sup> Dr. Littleton was instituted in 1726; Edward Heywood or Highwood died in 1730 (Register).

<sup>3</sup> But there is no note on the other side of the paper.

'Whereas the two Henfields and Wheatlands are now Common, by which I do not conceive anybody has any other advantage only for ye feed, out of ye Common Mead and that only for those mentioned on ye other side; I propose with a generall consent to enclose ye said fields and whereas I have a right to lett Commons without stint, which by ye great number of Cattle taken in renders ye feed but of very little value, I will oblige my self and heirs not to lett any for ye time to come; or I will make any other allowance shall be reasonable and as ye enclosing ye said feilde would be of very great advantage to ye Tenents att present and to ye Estate in reversion; I hope it will not be objected against, since nothing is desired to encroach on ye priviledges of ye parish, or to ye loss of any one concerned.'

The following extracts, which may very well have come from a 'stint book' of the time, are obviously of later date than 1752.

'Mapledurham Common Meadows to be opened for Cattle on Sept. 8, O.S., and the Cattle to be taken out on Candlemas Day [2 Feb.]. No sheep or Oxen to be put into them.

'Summer Fallow to be hained the 21 Sept. Summer Corn Fields the 24 Feb.

'Lye Field, Rudge Field, and Sand Hills are to be broke up for Cattle at the same time as the Common Mead by Sept. 8.

'Wheat Stubble Fields to be broke up for Wheat on St. Edward's Day, the 13 Oct. and not before. The Barley Stubble ye same on All Saints Day Nov. 1 and not before.

'Each Possessor may feed his own Landee.

'Nobody to carry away Hay before 1 Aug.

'3 a. 2 r. 31 p. of Park Strings are Commonable Land several other Pieces having been many years past added to it by Grubing Hedges etc., which makes the said Field so much Larger now. If the Commonable part is insisted on the same will be again fenced out.'

## APPENDIX VIII

List of Court Rolls in the possession of E. Riddell  
Blount, Esq., of Mapledurham House.

*(A certain number are 'extracts', not entire Rolls.)*

1. Wednesday before feast of S. Juliana (16 Feb.) 20 Richard II (1397).
2. 7 May 4 Henry V (1416).
3. 22 Jan. 7 Henry V (1420).
4. 5. 23 Oct. 16 Henry VI (1437): two of same date.
6. 4 June 16 Henry VI (1438).
7. 29 March 18 Henry VI (1440).
8. 30 Sept. 19 Henry VI (1440).
9. 3 Jan. 19 Henry VI (1441).
10. 7 May 21 Henry VI (1443).
11. 12 March 22 Henry VI (1444).
12. 2 June 22 Henry VI (1444).
13. 31 March 23 Henry VI (1445).
14. 12 April 23 Henry VI (1445).
15. 27 April 27 Henry VI (1449).
16. 10 April 28 Henry VI (1450).
17. 8 April 38 Henry VI (1460).
18. 6 May 1 Edward IV (1461).
19. 20. 30 June 2 Edward IV (1462): two of same date.
21. 10 Aug. 3 Edward IV (1463).
22. 23. 5 May 6 Edward IV (1466): two of same date.
24. 12 July 11 Edward IV (1471).
25. Easter week 19 Edward IV (1479).
26. 23 April 5 Henry VII (1490).
27. 14 April 6 Henry VII (1491).
28. 29. 14 June 8 Henry VII (1493): two of same date.
30. 20 Sept. 23 Henry VII (1507).
31. 3 Oct. 24 Henry VII (1508).<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> This Roll is headed 'Mapulderham Gorney: Extractus Curie Roberti Rede militis et cofeoffatorum suorum'. The Redes are known to have had tenure of land in Checkenden from 1393 till 1487. The Sir Robert of the Roll may have been the Chief Justice, son of William and Joan Rede, of Magdalene (then Buckingham) College, Cambridge, founder of the Rede Lectureship. How Mapledurham Gurney came to be in his hands in 1508 is not known. Possibly there was one of those conveyances and reconveyances, for certain purposes, which have been noted more than once in this book.

La lue puelica — fuit ad eam Catharina de Chauliga dca. concessi. — hac puelica carui mel contrindui. Et sic pasci pasci pasci  
 seruo luo Nam pasci carui — e cum pasci luo quem luo. Le mure de orpeldetiam aliquando carui de orpeldetiam de Chauliga quatuor  
 parte meo in villa de orpeldetiam. Tenent — Ad eand de me — hereditas mel luo — hereditas mel luo — hereditas mel luo — hereditas mel luo  
 pasci. — in pasci — e cum omni alio hereditas pasci — e re pasci — e cum luo — hereditas mel luo — hereditas mel luo — hereditas mel luo  
 — hereditas mel luo — hereditas mel luo — hereditas mel luo — hereditas mel luo — hereditas mel luo — hereditas mel luo — hereditas mel luo  
 luo anni — luo luo ad pasci — ad pasci — ad pasci — ad pasci — ad pasci — ad pasci — ad pasci — ad pasci — ad pasci — ad pasci  
 seruo seculari carui. concessi. — hereditas mel luo — hereditas mel luo — hereditas mel luo — hereditas mel luo — hereditas mel luo — hereditas mel luo  
 pasci Catharina — hereditas mel luo — hereditas mel luo — hereditas mel luo — hereditas mel luo — hereditas mel luo — hereditas mel luo  
 luo — hereditas mel luo — hereditas mel luo — hereditas mel luo — hereditas mel luo — hereditas mel luo — hereditas mel luo — hereditas mel luo  
 — in pasci — hereditas mel luo — hereditas mel luo — hereditas mel luo — hereditas mel luo — hereditas mel luo — hereditas mel luo  
 mel domos concessi. — hereditas mel luo — hereditas mel luo — hereditas mel luo — hereditas mel luo — hereditas mel luo — hereditas mel luo  
 — ob orpeldetiam. Catharina de orpeldetiam. Tenent — Ad eand de me — hereditas mel luo — hereditas mel luo — hereditas mel luo  
 Le Walterus Walterus de Chauliga dca. concessi. — hac puelica carui mel contrindui. Et sic pasci pasci pasci

GRANT OF GEOFFREY DE CHAUSEY THE YOUNGER TO WILLIAM PAGE

(About 1270)

- 32. 12 March 18 Henry VIII (1527).
- 33. 18 Jan. 19 Henry VIII (1528).
- 34. 1 Oct. 20 Henry VIII (1528).
- 35. 19 Oct. 21 Henry VIII (1529).
- 36. 25 Oct. 21 Henry VIII (1529).
- 37. 27 June 33 Henry VIII (1541).
- 38. 28 Sept. 40 Elizabeth (1598).
- 39. 29 Jan. 43 Elizabeth (1601).
- 40. 7 July 1658 (Presentment of Jury and Homage at Court Baron).
- 41. 42. 20 Oct. 1684 (two of same date).
- 43. 3 Oct. 1693.

## APPENDIX IX

Various Documents bearing on the history of Mapledurham, from the Blount MSS.

- (a) Fine: Robert de Kenetwode and Alice his wife convey to Henry de Sarum, capellanus, seven acres of land in Mapledurham Chazey and a fishery in the water of Thames: Trinity Term, 1261 (translation)<sup>1</sup> (p. 71).

This is the final concord made in the Court of the Lord the King at Westminster in the Octave of Holy Trinity in the forty-fifth year of the reign of King Henry son of King John Before John de Wyvill and John de Kana Justices and other faithful people of the Lord the King then and there present between Henry de Sarum capellanus Plaintiff and Robert de Kenetwode and Alice his wife Defendants of seven acres of land with appurtenances in Mapelderham and the fishery in the water of Thames in the same vill which was formerly of Robert de Mapelderham, whereof a plea of warranty of charter was summoned between them &c. . . . To have and to hold to the same Henry and his heirs of the aforesaid Robert and Alice &c. . . . Rendering therefor by the year one penny at Easter for all service suit of Court custom and exaction. And the aforesaid Robert and Alice . . . will warrant &c. . . . And for this acknowledgment warranty acquittance defence fine and concord the said Henry

<sup>1</sup> From *Test of Fines*, Oxford, 45 Henry III, no. 127. For Robert of Mapledurham see p. 71.

gave to the aforesaid Robert and Alice seven marks of silver.

- (b) Grant by Lady Juliana Gurney of the Manor of Mapledurham Gurnay to her sons Roger, John, and William for an annual rent of £50. No date, but probably 1298 or 1290 (p. 21).

Noverint universi quod ego Juliana de Gornay quondam uxor Willelmi Bardolf in legitima viduitate et potestate mea concessi dedi et hac presenti carta mea confirmavi Rogero Johanni et Willelmo filiis meis ad promocionem suam totum manerium meum de Mapelderham cum omnibus pertinenciis suis videlicet in dominiis homagiis vilenagiis terris redditibus et serviciis liberorum una cum Parco eiusdem Manerii et feriis in eodem existentibus boscis pratis planis pascuis pasturis molendinum [sic] stagnis aquis piscariis vivariis et omnibus aliis rebus ad dictum Manerium pertinentibus sine ullo retinente excepto tenemento Willelmi Batayle et Willelmi Averei et serviciis eorundem . . . Et si contingat quod predictus Rogerus obierit sine herede masculo de se dictis Johanne et Willelmo superstitibus totum predictum Manerium integre eis permaneat . . . Et sciendum quod predicti Rogerus Johannes et Willelmus et heredes sui reddent michi in tota vita mea de Manerio predicto quinquaginta libras argenti annuatim ad duos anni terminos videlicet ad Pascha xxv libras argenti et ad festum Sci. Michaelis xxv libras argenti . . . Et post decessum meum cessabit solucio predicta L. librarum Ita quod quiete teneant totum predictum Manerium de capitalibus dominis feodi tantum per servicium inde debitum et consuetum . . . In c. r. test. presenti scripto sigillum meum apposui Hiis testibus: Dominis Rolando de Arle Johanne de Tidmersche Roberto Achard et Johanne de Chaussy militibus Willelmo de Bubury Willelmo Loveday Hugone Wurmäl Radulpho de Herdwyk Thoma Sylward de Mapulderham et aliis.

- (c) Grant by Edward I, 12 July 1304, to John Bardolf of the right to hold a fair at Halghton, Co. Leicester, and of free warren at Mapledurham (p. 21).

Edwardus dei gracia Rex Anglie Dominus Hibernie Dux Aquitanie Archiepiscopis Episcopis Abbatibus Prioribus Comitibus Baronibus Justiciariis vicecomitibus prepositis Ministris et omnibus Ballivis et fidelibus suis salutem. Sciatis nos concessisse et hac carta nostra confirmasse dilecto et fideli nostro Johanni Bardolf quod ipse et heredes sui imperpetuum



habeant unam feriam apud Manerium suum de Halghtone in comitatu Leycester singulis annis per tres dies durantern videlicet in vigilia et in die et in crastino Ascencionis Domini Nisi feria illa est ad nocumentum vicinarum feriarum et quod habeat liberam Warennam in omnibus diversis terris suis de Mapilderham in Comitatu oxon. Cum tamen terre ille non sint infra metas foreste nostre Ita quod nullus intret terras illas ad fugandam in eis vel ad aliquid capiendum quod ad Warennam pertineat sine licencia et voluntate ipsius Johannis vel heredum suorum super forisfacturam nostram decem librarum . . . Hiis testibus: Henrico de Lacy,<sup>1</sup> comite Lincoln, Thoma comite Lancastri,<sup>2</sup> Radulpho de Monte Hermerii,<sup>3</sup> Comice Gloucestri et Hereford, Humfrido de Bohun comite Hereford et Essex,<sup>4</sup> Guidone de Bello Campo comite Warrwyke,<sup>5</sup> Adomaro de Valencia,<sup>6</sup> Johanne de Britannia Juniore,<sup>7</sup> Johanne de Segrave,<sup>8</sup> Roberto de la Garde, seneschallo hospicii nostri et aliis Datum per manum nostram apud Stryvelyn [Stirling] duodecimo die Julii Anno regni nostri tricesimo secundo. Per breve de privato sigillo (Merton).

- (d) Sir John Bardolf's grant of right of pasture to Henry Graystock, king's clerk: 14 May 1349 (pp. 23, 96).

Sachent totus genz que moy Johan Bardolff Chevaler ay graunt a syr Henry Graystok clerk pasture a pasturez son bovis entouz leus ou mes proprijs bovis pasteront hors pris mon parc et mon Gardin a terme de sa vie temoynance de ceste chose ay mis mon sael T. sir Johan Chausse sir Johan Venere Johan Tedemershe et Willm Bayleff de Herdewick done Mapuldurham le xiiij jur de May lan du regne nostre S<sup>r</sup> le Roy Edward tierz puis la conqueste ceste assavoyr dengleterre vintisme tierz et de ffrance disme.

<sup>1</sup> Regent 1310; died 1311.

<sup>2</sup> Nephew of Edward I, married Alice daughter and heiress of Henry de Lacy, rebelled and was defeated at Boroughbridge, executed 1321.

<sup>3</sup> One of Gaveston's enemies, married Joan of Acre.

<sup>4</sup> Married Elizabeth, daughter of Edward I. Joined Lancaster's rebellion and was killed at Boroughbridge 1321.

<sup>5</sup> Guy de Beauchamp, the 'Black Dog of Warwick', headed the rebellion against Gaveston. Died 1315.

<sup>6</sup> Aymer de Valence, Earl of Pembroke, head of the royalist Earls under Edward II, defeated Bruce at Methven 1306, captured Gaveston at Scarborough 1312, died 1324. His widow, Mary de St. Paul, founded Pembroke College, Cambridge.

<sup>7</sup> John of Brittany, Earl of Richmond, son of John, Duke of Brittany, and nephew of Edward I.

<sup>8</sup> Commander of the forces against Scotland, 1302-3, defeated at Roslin, 1303.

- (e) Conveyance of a meadow in Mapledurham Chausey by Robert Sullam of Reading to Thomas Milward of Mapledurham.

Sciant presentes et futuri quod Ego Robertus Sullam de Rading concessi et hac presenti carta mea confirmavi Thome Milward de Mapeldurham totum pratum meum in Mapeldurham quod habui de dono et vendicione Lucie de Verley Habendum et tenendum dicto Thoma et heredibus suis et assignatis de me et heredibus meis et assignatis Libere quiete bene et in pace imperpetuum Reddendo inde annuatim Capitalibus dominis feodi illius servicium inde debitum et consuetum Michi vero ad totam vitam meam quadraginta solidos ad festum Nativitatis sci. Johannis Baptiste pro omni servicio seculari exaccione et demanda Pro hac autem donacione concessione et presentis carte mee confirmacione dedit mihi dictus Thomas centum solidos sterlingorum . . . Et ut hec mea donacio concessio rata et stabilis permaneat Huic scripto sigillum meum apposui Hiis testibus: Thoma Huscarle Johanne de Chausey militibus Thoma de Beauchamp Willelmo de He[r]dew]yk Ranulph de Causham Petro de la Hulle Gileberto de Chalcore Radulpho de alta Ryp[a] et aliis.

No date, but about 1350. A Lucy de Verney holds two virgates of land in M. Chausey at the time of the Hundred Rolls (p. 70).

- (f) Award of dower by Sir Thomas Blount, Sheriff of Oxon., to Lady Isabel Bardolf, widow of Sir Thomas Bardolf; 15 June 1375 (pp. 28-9).

This Writinge Endentid made at Mapulderham Gorneye in the Countye of Oxforde the xv<sup>e</sup> day of June the xlix<sup>th</sup> yere of Kyng Edward the thridde Wittnessith that Sir Thomas Blont Knyth Shreve of the Countye a forseide hath indowed Dame Isabell Bardolfe late Wyfe of Sir Thomas Bardolfe Knyth late lorde of Mapulderham a forseid That is to sey of and Inne the thridde Parte of the Mansione of the seide manere of Mapulderham In the first In a Chambere Callidde Wilcotys Chambire with all the Chambers therto Enclosid ffrom the hall unto the grete yate And also with a Stabull callid the Cheynes stabull with other ij howsis therto ajoynd And the thridde pejone of the grete dovehouse with xxti Copull of Conyngs and the thridde part of the ffyssh Takyn in the bowkys at the myll and also the thridde part of the Rentte of the seide Mille and of all Water pertheyning to the

seide Maner *iiijl. ijs. ijd.* And the thridde parte of the Rent of the seide maner of ffree holders and bonde holders *iiijl. xviijs.* That is to sey of Symonde Bartram *xs.* for Sattiners and *xd.* ffor Sywardis of Richard at Lee for a tenement with Certeyn Closis and Water of the lee *xs.* and as for the le herms *vs.* of Alis ffynamore *xd.* of Edith at lee *xiiijl.* of William Aldewyne *xs. xjd.* of William Strode *xs. vd.* of Stephyn Hodmere *xs. vd.* of John Brown *xs. ij ob.* of Robert Chapelyn *ijs. ijd.* of Roger Turnere *iijs.* of John Hilder *vs.* off William Welyngford *ijs.* of Davy Cartere *ijs.* Also as for the thridde part of all demayne londis medowys and pasturis pertynyng unto the seide manere that the seide Isabell is indowed first in a filde Callid Westfelde that contaynyth in all *vj<sup>xx</sup>* and *x* acris wherof to her part *xliij* acris price the acre *iiijd.* Also in a filde Callid Michelden filde Conteynyng *xl.* acris hir part *xiiij* acris price the acur *iiijd.* Item in a Crofte callid Stonycrofte conteynyng *iiij* acris to her part an acre price *iiijd.* Item in Hontleye Hill and the Crofte ther to perteynyng *vij* acris to hir part is *ij* acris price the acur *iiijd.* Item in a filde Callid Chalkespittfilde conteynyng *xxvj<sup>ti</sup>* acris wherof to her *viiij* acris price the acur *iiijd.* Item in a Crofte callid the lordis Oxcrofte that conteynyth *xvj* acris wher of to hir *v* acris price the acur *iiijd.* Item in a filde callid trenchfilde conteynyng *xxvj<sup>ti</sup>* acres wherof to hir *viiij* acris price the acur *iiijd.* Item in Thropfilde conteynyth fro Shipcott lane to the ponde hegge a bove the path waye *xxti* acres and benethe the Weye *xxvj<sup>ti</sup>* acris wherof to her part *xliij* acris price the acur *iiijd.* Item in the filde Callid Wolbys Down Estfilde and Doungefilde is conteynyng *xl* acres wherof to her is *xiiij* acris price the [acur] *iiijd.* Item as for the Parke she is a lowyd Every yere a dere and *xx* Coupull of Conyes and all fewell Wode to her necessarye to be Takyn in a Wode callidde Grenedene Wode. Item she is Endowed in a mede Callid Small mede and in *x* acris in the gret mede Callid the brode mede for hir parte price the acur *iijs.* Item as for the Oveles and the mede lee Senfeye and atfilde She to have yerelye *iiij* horse *x* Retherbestis goyng with the lords Cataile with *vj* Swyne and *xxti* Ewys and *xxti* weders goyng and pasturyng with the lordis Shepe This endowment was made by the asent and grement of the seide Isabell and by ye Avyse of Sir Edmonde Bardolfe prest unkuill to the forseide Sir Thomas Bardolfe and to Sir Robert Bardolfe knyghts lorde and Right Eyre unto the forseide maners and lordeshippe of Mapilderham Gorneye after the disseace of the seide Sir Thomas.

Item certeyn londis Shawys Grovys Crofts Wodys lesuris

and heggerewys Callid Bardolfys londis lyinge by side Grene-dene conteynng in all iij<sup>xx</sup> acris Grounde and more by Estimacion yildyng by the yere xs. to the seid lord of Mapulderham Gornay.

- (g) Release by John Cook of Wycombe to Thomas Forsthill, vicar of Mapledurham, Richard Merlawe Capellanus and John Buckenhull of Chesham, of all his rights in the Manor of Mapledurham Gurney, &c.

Omnibus Christi fidelibus ad quos presentes litere pervenerint Johannes Cook de Wikeham salutem in domino Noveritis me remisisse relaxasse et omnino pro me et heredibus meis imperpetuum quietum clamasse Thome fforstal vicario ecclesie parochialis de Mapuldurham Ricardo Merlawe capellano et Johanni Buckenhull de Chesham totum ius et clameum que habeo vel quovismodo habere potero in Maneriis de Mapuldurham Gornay Stokelisle et Cokkefeld ac in terris et tenementis vocatis Edmondesplace cum omnibus suis pertinenciis in Com. Oxon. Ac eciam in Manerio de Chesham Bury et in terris et tenementis de Blakewellehalle . . . in Com. Bokyngham Ita quod nec ego predictus Johannes Cook heredes vel assignati mei in Maneriis terris nec tenementis predictis . . . nec in aliqua inde parcella aliquid iuris vel clamei de cetero exigere vel vendicare potuerimus infuturum sed ab omni iure et iuris accione in premissis et premissarum quolibet per presentes simus exclusi imperpetuum In cuius rei testimonium presentibus sigillum meum Apposui Datum apud Mapuldurham quarto die Aprilis Anno regni Regis Henrici quarti post conquestum Anglie primo [4 April 1400].

- (h) Presentation, dated Thursday after 2 February 1465, by a Court at Mapledurham, relating to the alienation by Thomas Averey of property formerly granted by Sir Robert Bardolf, the rent of which property (2s. a year) was to go towards the stipend of a 'capellanus' in the church of Mapuldurham and in the chapel of St. Michael at Chazey (p. 88).

Curia tenta apud Mapeldurham Gorney ibidem die Iovis proximo post festum purificationis beate Marie virginis anno regis Edwarde iiij viij<sup>o</sup> presentatum est quod Thomas Averey alienavit in feodo simplici totum istum mesuagium cum curtilagio . . . que Johannes Stameswall quondam tenuit in Wycombsale iuxta Regiam viam vocatum scripstrete que quidem mesuagium et curtilagium . . . Robertus Bardolf miles

quondam dominus de Mapulderham Gorney tradiderat et concesserat predicto Thome Avey et Agneti uxori sue et heredibus de corporibus eorum legitime procreatis Reddendo inde annuatim Rectori de Mapulderham ut in auxilium stipendi unius capellani idoney pro divina celebracione facienda tam in ecclesia de Mapelderham quam in capella sancti Michaelis Chausey duos solidos ad duos Anni terminos principales equis porcionibus . . . prout in quodam scripto suo indentato inter eosdem factum cuius datum est apud Mapulderham Gorney die Iovis in festo omnium sanctorum Anno regni Regis Ricardi secundi decimo [1386] plenius liquet. Et insuper dicunt quod predictus Thomas et Agnes [non] habent exitum inter eos legitime procreatum ad hunc diem nisi solummodo Johannum Avey qui est etatis lx annorum et amplius et non habet exitum ideo consulendum est domino.

- (i) Acknowledgement by Edward Langford, probably a grandson of Lady Amice Bardolf, of a debt of £40 to John Scot, junior, for goods purchased from him in the Staple of Westminster, followed by
- (j) An Agreement between Edward Langford and Thomas Lynde relative to a debt of £20 due from T. L. to E. L. under the Statute of the Staple.

Noverint universi me Edwardum Langford Armig. teneri Johanni Scot iuniori Gentilman in quadraginta libris sterlingorum pro mercandis ab eo in stapula Westmonasteriensi emptis Solvendum eidem Johanni aut suo certo attornato hoc scriptum ostendenti heredibus vel executoribus suis in festo Purificacionis beate Marie virginis proximo futuro post datum presentium Et nisi fecero concedo quod currat super me heredes et executores meos pena in statuto stapule predicte pro huiusmodi debitis recuperandis. Datum in dicta stapula sexto die Decembris Anno regni Regis Edwardi quarti sexto [6 Dec. 1466].

This endenture, made by twixt Edward Langford Squyer on that one party and Thomas Lynde Squyer on that other party witnesseth that where [as] the said Thomas stondest boundon in the obligacions of the statute of the Stapull of merchandise xx*li* beryng date the vjthe day of December the vjthe yere of the Reyngne of Kyng Edward the fourthe [1466] to the said Edward Langford, the said Edward Willeth and by these presentys graunteth that iff the forsaid Thomas Lynde make or do to be made a sure and suffycyant a state to Thomas Stoner, Thomas Hampden, William Marmyon, Thomas Rastewolde, John Brocas and Thomas Langford

and to there heires of the two parties of the maner of Chessam . . . in the Counte of Bukkyngham and the revercion of the thride part of the said maner . . . the which Jane Iwardeby modyr of the said Thomas Lynde holdeth for terme of hur lyffe, and also of the reversion of the maner of Mounesley . . . in the Counte of Hereford, and also of the maner of Mapuldurham . . . in the Counte of Oxonford as shall be appoyntid ordeynyd and awordid by the avyse of Thomas Bryon sergeant of the Kyngs Lawe and William Cornbyford So that the said apoyntement ordynance and award be made by fore the feste of the transacion of sent Thomas ye martir next comyng after the date of these present that than the said obligacions of the statute of the Staple to be a nulld and of no manner effecte nor strengthe and ellse to be gode and lawfull and stand in full effecte and strengthe. In witness whereof to these endentures the parties aforesaid entier-changeably have put there sealis gevyng ye vijth day of the said moneth of Decembre the yere above said.

The Ordinance of the Staples (1353) restricted the sale of certain home products (wool, leather, woolfells, lead) to certain fixed markets or staples (Germ. *stapel*, a mart). In England these were Newcastle-upon-Tyne, York, Lincoln, Norwich, Westminster, Canterbury, Chichester, Winchester, Exeter, Bristol.

## APPENDIX X

A brief genealogy of the Blounts of Mapledurham: the wives whose coats are on the Blount tomb (pp. 134-6) in italics.

Sir Walter Blount of Rock, nephew of Lord Blount of Belton, m. Joanna de Sodington, and died about 1316.

Their son, Sir John Blount of Sodington, m. *Eleanor Beauchamp*, and d. 1358.

Their son, Sir Walter Blount, d. 1403, at the battle of Shrewsbury. He m. *Sancha de Ayala* dau. of Diego Gomez, Alcalde of Toledo.

Their son, Sir Thomas Blount, d. 1456, was Treasurer of Normandy, and m. Margaret Gresley. They were the parents of Sir Walter Blount, who became K.G. and Lord Mountjoy, and d. 1474.

Their son, Sir Thomas Blount, m. *Catharine Clifton* and d. 1468.

Their son, Sir Richard Blount of Iver, Bucks., m. *Elizabeth Delaford* of Iver, purchased Mapledurham Gurney 1490, and d. 1508.

Their son, Sir Richard Blount, m. *Elizabeth Lister*. He was Lieutenant of the Tower of London, and was buried at St. Peter ad Vincula 1564.

Their son, Sir Michael Blount, m. *Mary Moore* of Bicester, and was also Lieutenant of the Tower and buried there 1610. He purchased Mapledurham Chazey 1582.

Their son, Sir Richard Blount, m. *Elizabeth Lister*. He was Lieutenant of the Tower of London, and was buried at St. Peter ad Vincula 1564.

The camp opened on Saturday, and included the Abingdon Cadet Corps, the 13th (Didcot) Battalion Royal Berks, and the 15th (Wantage) Battalion Royal Berks. The units are formed into five companies and a bantam company, the latter composed of lads under 14. Training includes fieldcraft, shooting, use of automatic weapons, in addition to the usual drill, weapon training, etc. The Berkshire Cadet Committee, who are sponsoring the camp, have been fortunate enough to obtain the services of officers from a Guards' battalion to act as camp commandant and adjutant. Service cooks from the Army School of Caterers are responsible for the cooking.

One Tuesday, the distinguished visitors included the Lord Lieutenant (Ald. A. T. Loyd), who is president of the County Cadet Committee, Major J. H. Simonds, Col. G. A. Thurlow and Col. Sir Ralph Glyn, M.P.

Their son, Sir Richard Blount, m. *Elizabeth Lister*. He was Lieutenant of the Tower of London, and was buried at St. Peter ad Vincula 1564.

Their son, Sir Michael Blount, m. *Mary Moore* of Bicester, and was also Lieutenant of the Tower and buried there 1610. He purchased Mapledurham Chazey 1582.

Their son, Sir Richard Blount, m. *Elizabeth Lister*. He was Lieutenant of the Tower of London, and was buried at St. Peter ad Vincula 1564.

# LOCAL WEDDINGS

Their sons dying without male issue the estate, in 1908, devolved upon Edward Riddell, son of their daughter Ellen, and of Francis Riddell of Cheeseburn Grange, Northumberland.

Edward Riddell Blount d.s.p.m. 1943.

x 5th dau Agnes Mary = Charles John Eyston  
B 1887-1883 of East Hendred

2 John Joseph = Elizabeth Dunn  
1867-1916

Thomas More = Lady Agnes d f Wm E f Mexpor.  
B 1902-1940

Thomas More  
B 1942.

## INDEX

- Advowsons, disposal of, 9, 91.  
 Agia Radulphus de, vicar, 85, 100, 154.  
 Aketune, Richard de, 86.  
 Ale, offences connected with, 50-1, 60, 188-91.  
 Alien priories, 11 *n.*, 84, 91, 93-6, 98-100, 109 *n.*, 112.  
 Almshouses, 146, 152-3.  
 Amesbury, cell of, 92-3.  
 Annesley, family of, 43 *n.*, 54, 131; arms, 127.  
 Annesley, Joan, wife of William Lynde, 43-4, 48; of John Iwardby, 47-9, 52, 99-100, 185 *n.*, 208; death and will, 53-4, 122, 161.  
 Annesley, Sir Hugh, 43, 131.  
*Apulder* and derivatives, 1.  
 Argentyn, John, 109, 161.  
 Arundel, Earl of, 32.  
 Asplen, Thomas, 133.  
 Assaults, 59, 60.  
 Asthall, 163.  
 atte Lee, la Lee, family and holding, 48-9, 51, 53.  
*Auxilium bondorum*, 27, 28.  
 Ayala, Sancha de, 136.
- Baconeslane, 56.  
 Baker, Cicely, *see* Blount, Sir Richard.  
 Bardolf aisle, 120-5, 132, 139.  
 Bardolf (Doun or Dodo), 17.  
 Bardolf, Lady Amicia, *see* Beverley.  
 Bardolf, Lady Isabel, 16, 28, 33 *n.*, 73, 204-5.  
 Bardolf, Lord Hugh, 16, 18, 20, 21.  
 Bardolf, Lord John, 23, 24.  
 Bardolf, Margery (wife of Roger Lynde), 16, 26, 37, 43.  
 Bardolf, pedigree, 16; arms, 126.  
 Bardolf, Sir Edmund, brother of Sir Robert, 16, 26, 30.  
 Bardolf, Sir Edmund (the priest), 16, 29, 205.
- Bardolf, Sir John, the elder, 16, 21, 22, 202.  
 Bardolf, Sir John, the younger, 16, 22-8, 30, 49, 96, 122, 203; his wife Margery, 5, 16, 25.  
 Bardolf, Sir Robert, 16, 25, 26, 29-34, 97-9, 120-6, 205-6; his brass, 123-4.  
 Bardolf, Sir Roger, 16, 21.  
 Bardolf, Sir Thomas, 16, 28, 30, 204.  
 Bardolf, William, the elder, 17-18.  
 Bardolf, William, the younger, 5, 16-20, 121, 202.  
 Bardolf's Wood, 29.  
 Barnard, Thomas, vicar, 118, 174.  
 la Bataille, 9.  
 Bate, Thomas, vicar, 97 *n.*, 159.  
 Batyn, Robert, vicar, 157.  
 Beauchamp, family, 53, 136.  
 Beauchamp, Richard, Earl of Worcester, 128; arms, 127-9, 136.  
 Bec, Abbey, abbots, and monks of, 10, 11 *n.*, 61-2, 82-4; tithes paid to, 82, 95, 100-6, 181.  
 Bedford, John, Duke of, 103.  
 Beds and bedding, 41.  
 Bekynton, T., correspondence quoted, 100 *n.*  
 Bello, William de, vicar, 101, 155.  
 Bells, Church, 141.  
 Belozanna, 11 *n.*  
 Benevolences, 54.  
 Bensington (Benson), 4.  
 Benwell Charity, 153.  
 Bergavenny, Edward Neville, Lord, 52-3, 127-8.  
 Beverley, Amice de, wife of Robert Bardolf, 15, 31, 34, 36-8, 98-9, 121-6; death and will, 40-3, 133; her lock, 39.  
 Beverley, Anne de, 15, 32, 40.  
 Beverley, Elizabeth de, 15, 32, 40, 99.



- Beverley, John de, 31, 121; will, 34-5; arms, 125 *n.*  
 Bicester church, 90.  
 Bigwood, 126 *n.*, 130.  
 Binfield hundred, 1, 3, 4, 15, 18, 74.  
 Bishop, John, poet, 40.  
 Black Death, 73.  
 Blakenham, 163.  
 Bledlowe, 11, 112.  
 Blounts of Iver, 5, 58, 80; arms, 135; pedigree, 208-9.  
 Blount, Lister, 116, 152, 197.  
 Blount, Michael (1710-39), 153, 197-9; (1739-92), 151, 173-4; (1792-1822), 118.  
 Blount, Michael Henry Mary, 122.  
 Blount, Mr. E. Riddell, 25, 119.  
 Blount, Walter (d. 1671), 116, 195.  
 Blount, Sir Charles, 115-16, 134.  
 Blount, Sir John (d. 1358), 136.  
 Blount, Sir Michael (d. 1592), 29, 40, 80, 115, 136.  
 Blount, Sir Michael (d. 1649), 116, 146.  
 Blount, Sir Richard, of Iver and Mapledurham (d. 1508), 58, 192.  
 Blount, Sir Richard (d. 1564), 80, 136.  
 Blount, Sir Richard (1564-1628), and his wife Cicely Baker, 13 *n.*, 115, 123, 134-5, 145, 152, 195.  
 Blount, Sir Thomas, sheriff of Oxon, 28, 204.  
 Blount, Sir Thomas (d. 1468), 135.  
 Blount, Sir Walter (d. 1403), 136.  
 Boschouons, 7.  
 Bote, Boote, of various kinds, 38, 195.  
 Boves, Hugh de, 12.  
 Bradwell church, 90.  
 Brasses, ancient, in the church, 123-4.  
 Breaking into houses, 59, 60.  
 Bridges, Anthony, 80, 81.  
 Bridges, Sir Richard, and Anne his wife, 79-81.  
 Briefs, 145.  
 Broad Chalke, 1, 168.  
 Broad mede, 56-7, 184, 187.  
 Bruarne, Richard, vicar, 165-7.  
 Brygg, Walter, vicar, 97 *n.*, 160.  
 Buckies, bucks, 28, 39.  
 Buckland, Berks., 172.  
 Burlingham, N. and S., 20.  
 Burnham, Bucks., 170, 177.  
 Burton, John, vicar, 118, 153, 172-4; life of, by Bentham, 172-3.  
 Buxhull, Alan de, 35-6, 130.  
 Buxhull, Amicia de, *see* Beverley, Amice.  
 Buxhull, Elizabeth de, wife of Roger Lynde, 35, 41, 126, 130.  
 Buxhull, Sir Alan de, K.G., 35-6; arms, 125-6, 130.  
 Byng, Admiral Sir George, 148.  
 Caister (Castre), 8, 9, 11, 20, 85.  
 Calais, treaty of, 96.  
 Calcia, Calcensis, &c., 64, 65.  
 Calstock, 170.  
 Cantelupe, Walter de, 14.  
 Cantelupe, William de, father, 14.  
 Cantelupe, William de, son, 12, 13.  
 Cantley, 11, 20.  
*Capellanus*, 88, 90-1, 156, 158-9, 162, 182, 206.  
 Carlton, Gilbert, vicar, 163.  
 Castleacre, 105.  
 Caversham, 38, 53, 66, 68, 74, 80; bridge, 56, 102; chapel of St. Anne, 102; manor, 128.  
 Chaucer, Alice, Duchess of Suffolk, 63.  
 Chaucer, Thomas, 44 *n.*  
 Chausey, Geoffrey de, the elder, 65, 66-8, 76, 88-9, 155, 182-3; his wife Marsilia, 66-8, 76.  
 Chausey, Geoffrey de, the younger, 68-9, 76, 89, 155, 183.  
 Chausey, Nicholas, 38, 74-6; his wife Margaret, 74-6.  
 Chausey, Robert de, 48, 66, 76.  
 Chausey, Sir John de, the elder, 18, 21, 69, 72, 76, 183.  
 Chausey, Sir John de, the younger, 49, 74, 76; his wife Margaret, 74, 76.  
 Chausey, Walter de, 48, 65-7, 76; his wife Matilda, 66, 76.  
 la Chaussée (Chausey), family of, 63-4, 71 *n.*; pedigree, 76.  
 Chausi, Richard de, 65, 76, 88.  
 Chazey Farm and Court, 3, 22, 56, 73, 80, 87, 106-7, 115.  
 Chazey Heath, 80 *n.*, 198.  
 Chapel, the Bardolf, 30, 120-4.  
 Chapels, manorial, 87, 206.  
 Checkendon, 105, 176, 187.  
 Chesham, 41, 54, 162, 206, 208.  
 Chesham Bois, 44 *n.*

- Cheshambury, 44.  
 Chiltern hundreds, 4, 22 *n.*, 74, 94.  
 Cholsey, 64.  
 Churchwardens' books and records, 147-9.  
 Churchyard, 113, 142.  
 Ciltre, *see* Chiltern.  
 Clare, arms of, 127-8.  
 Clarus Rivus, nuns, &c., of, 9-13, 20, 31, 68, 71, 84-90, 93-6, 98-9, 112, 154-8, 182-3.  
 Clere Privet, 65.  
 Cley, Robert, 167-8.  
 Clifford, Roger de, 15.  
 Clifton, Catherine, 135.  
 Clymping, 163.  
 Cogges, 100.  
 Coleridge, Edward, vicar, 122, 137-40, 143, 177-8.  
 Collins, Daniel, vicar, 146, 168-9; son of Baldwin C., 169; his wife Elizabeth, 146, 169.  
 Collins, Samuel, 146, 169.  
 Common Fields, 113-18, 194-9.  
*Convencio*, as to the Chapel at Chausey, 88-9.  
 Conveyances and reconveyances, 32, 44, 49, 54, 74.  
 Cook, John, of Wykeham, 32, 33, 37, 160, 206.  
 Coombe Bank, 1.  
 Corbote, 38.  
 Cornwall, Earls of, 18, 62-3, 73.  
 Cosyn Lane, 34, 41.  
 Cottisford, 100, 112, 167.  
 Council, Lateran, of 1179, 91.  
 Court Rolls, 37-8, 49-51, 59-60, 75, 79, 188-93; full list of, 200-1.  
 Cowdray, Robert, 132.  
 Cowley, Middx., 169; Oxon., 65.  
 Creting St. Mary, 163.  
 Crispin, Milo, 3, 61-2, 65, 82-3, 181; his wife Matilda, 61-2, 83.  
 Cromwell, Oliver, 145.  
 Crumwell, Thomas, 105.  
  
 Dagenhall, John de, 74.  
 Dampmartin, Julia de, 6, 10.  
 Daundesey, Edward, 98-9.  
 Daundesey, Walter, 16, 40, 99.  
 Day, William, vicar, 101, 109 *n.*, 113, 115-16, 141, 145, 169.  
 Delaford, 136.  
 de la Pole, William, Duke of Suffolk, 63.  
  
 Deryndon (alias Merlawe), Richard, vicar, 42, 97 *n.*, 98, 160, 206.  
 Despencer, family and arms, 53, 62, 127-8.  
 Domesday Book, 2-4, 7, 61.  
*Dominus*, the title, 157.  
 Drover, William, 52; Drover's acre, 187.  
 Dummer, 161.  
 Dunkin, J., 123.  
  
 Ealing, 164.  
 East Barsham, 30.  
 Easter Monday dinners, 150.  
 Eaton (Nuneaton), cell of, 92-3.  
 Edward IV, and Eton College, 108, 112, 186.  
 Ellingham, Little, 154.  
 Enclosure of common fields, 117, 198-9.  
 Euglefield, Philip, 44, 53.  
 Eton College, 46-7, 51, 93, 97, 99-100, 104, 110-12, 146, 161-79, 186.  
 Eton College, Provosts of, 109, 110 *n.*, 112, 144 *n.*, 166, 168-9, 174, 177, 186.  
 Evreux, Almeric of, 6, 14.  
 Ewelme hundred, 4, 74.  
 Ewhurst, 177.  
 Exeter, 170-1.  
 Extenta, 73 *n.*  
*extrahura* (animals astray), 59, 188-91.  
  
 Farnham Royal, 177.  
 Fields, old names of, 29, 48, 55, 57, 66, 77, 107, 111, 114, 117, 118, 187, 194-9, 204-6. *See also* Court Rolls.  
 Fisheries, 48, 67, 70, 73; rents of, 27.  
 Fish-weirs, 21, 39, 66-7.  
 FitzClarence, Lord Augustus, vicar, 122, 140, 143, 176-7; his wife Lady Sarah, 142, 176.  
 FitzCount, Brien, 62; his wife Matilda, 62.  
 FitzUrse, Reginald, 86.  
 Flatel, Gerard de, 6, 8; his dau. Basilia, 6, 8.  
 Fons Ebroldi (Fontevrault), 89, 90, 92-3.  
 Font, 139, 141.

- Forsthill, Thomas, vicar, 33, 97 *n.*, 159, 206.  
 Free warren, 21.  
 Friars, Friar Street, Reading, 26.
- Gaillefontaine, 8, 9, 84-5, 92.  
 Gallery in Church, built, 137;  
 pulled down, 140.  
*gardiani*, 132.  
 Garsington, 61, 65, 72.  
 Gatehampton, 56, 61.  
 Gaveston, Piers, 60, 72.  
*gersuma*, instances of, 66, 67, 69, 183.  
 Gery, Roger, vicar, 54, 60, 97 *n.*, 109-12, 161-2.  
 Glebe, 113-15, 117-19.  
 Godstow Abbey, 65.  
 Goldewyn, William, vicar, 165.  
 Goring, 100, 102; nuns and nunnery, 33, 105; John, vicar of, 89; endowment of vicar, 90, 95 *n.*  
 Gournay (Gornai), 8, 9, 84, 154.  
 Gournay, Gerard de, 4, 6, 7.  
 Gournay, Hugh de, II, 6, 8.  
 Gournay, Hugh de, III, 6, 8, 181.  
 Gournay, Hugh de, IV, 6, 8, 9, 84-6; his wife Millicent, 6, 9, 10, 84-5, 100, 154; his son Gerard, 6, 9, 86.  
 Gournay, Hugh de, V, 6, 9-11, 86-7; his son Gerard, 11, 12.  
 Gournay, Hugh de, VI, 6, 12-14, 18, 48, 68, 86-7, 90, 107 *n.*, 155; his wife Matilda, 14-15.  
 Gournay, Juliana de, 5, 15, 17, 18, 20-1, 121, 202; her sons Roger, John, and William, 21, 202.  
 Green Dene wood, 1, 29.  
 Greenborough, Richard de, 95, 157.  
 Greystok, Henry de, 23, 95-7, 203.  
 Gundrada, 6, 7, 82.
- Halghton, 21, 22 *n.*  
 Hardwick, 1, 4, 55-6, 82, 140-1, 150.  
 Hawle, Robert, 35-6.  
 Hawtrej, Edward Craven, vicar, 139, 143, 177, 179.  
 Hawtrej, John, vicar, 116, 141, 169-70, 197.  
 Hearne, Thomas, referred to, 28 *n.*, 107, 124 *n.*, 170 *n.*, 172 *n.*, 173 *n.*  
 Hellouinus, 83.
- Henry II, confirmation of charter, 85; burial place, 92.  
 Henry VI, King, his ostrich, 46; his foundation of Eton, 46-7, 108, 162; presents to the living, 160-1; subsidy granted to, 103.  
 Herdewyk, Ralph de, 21, 69, 184; William de, 74, 203-4.  
 Herdewyk, Ralph de, 21, 69, 184.  
 Herdewyk, William de, 74, 203-4.  
 Heriot, 59, 60.  
 Hermestorp, John de, 97.  
 Heryson, William, vicar, 162.  
 Hodgeson, John, vicar, 166.  
 Holland, Joan, 63.  
 Houghton, 10, 11.  
 Hundred Years' War, 94.  
 Hundred Rolls, 18, 69-71.  
 Huscarle, Sir Thomas, 24-5, 74, 89.
- Inquisitions post mortem, 18, 20, 21, 24, 32, 36, 40, 53, 57, 72, 76.  
 Inquisitions, various, 38, 48, 55, 56, 63, 75, 89, 91, 94-5, 106-7.  
 Inventories (Edwardian) of church property, 133.  
 Ivingho Nunnery, 156.  
 Iwardby, the family of, 5, 48, 53.  
 Iwardby, Joan, *see* Annesley.  
 Iwardby, John, the elder, 47-52, 59, 99-100, 108-9, 112 *n.*, 126-7, 130, 185 *n.*, 189-90.  
 Iwardby, John, the younger, 52-3, 127-8; his wife Katherine Neville, 127-8; their son John, 127.  
 Iwardby, John, of Quainton, 129.
- Janaway, bell-founders, 141.  
 Jews, laws affecting, 13.  
 Jordan, Mrs., the actress, 176.
- Keate, Dr., of Eton, 139, 178.  
 Kemble, Fanny, quoted, 176.  
 Kenetwode, Robert de, 71.  
 Kidlington, 40.  
 Kimberley (Norf.), 85.  
 King's College, Cambridge, 161, 163-5, 168-71, 174-5.  
 Knight, bell-founders, 141.  
 Knights' fees, 19, 53, 65, 67, 72, 75.  
 Knytecote, John of, vicar, 95, 157.
- La Grave, cell of, 92-3.

- La Haye, 85 *n.*, 154.  
 Lanfranc, 83, 181.  
 Langford, Edward, 207.  
 Langford, Robert, 16, 40.  
 Langtree hundred, 1, 3, 4, 56, 68-71, 74.  
 Laward's lock, 39.  
 Le Juvene (Jeune), William, 68, 183.  
 Lewes, priory of St. Pancras at, 82; tithes paid to, 95, 100-5, 112, 116.  
*Liber albus* of John Arundel, 82-3; *antiquus Hugonis de Wells*, 89-92; *Regis*, 105.  
 Lincoln, bishops of, 20, 46-7, 55, 83, 89, 91, 92, 110, 155, 158-9, 161.  
 Lister family, 152.  
 Lister, Elizabeth, 136.  
 Littlebury, 171.  
 Littleton, Edward, vicar, 118, 150, 171-2.  
 Locks, *see* Weirs.  
 Logge, 56-7, 184-5.  
 Loker, Robert, vicar, 97 *n.*, 160.  
 Lybbe, Mrs. Isabella, 142, 147.  
 Lynde, James, 41, 42.  
 Lynde, Joan, *see* Annesley.  
 Lynde, John, son of Roger, 32, 33, 37, 43, 98-9, 130.  
 Lynde, Sir Roger, 37, 41, 43, 126, 130.  
 Lynde, Thomas, 49, 52-8, 77, 99, 184-5, 187, 207-8; his sons John and Thomas, 57-8.  
 Lynde, William, the elder, 41, 42, 43, 44-5, 47, 49, 53, 99, 108, 162.  
 Lynde, William, the younger, 45-7, 99.  
 Lyndes, family of the, 5, 43; arms, 126, 128; pedigree, 45.  
 Malcher, William, vicar, 171-2.  
 Manningford Abbas, 171.  
 Mapledurham Bardolf, 3.  
 Mapledurham church, possible builders of, 121; restoration, 137-40.  
 Mapledurham, glebe, 90, 106-7, 110-15, 117-19.  
 Mapledurham mill, 3, 24-5, 28, 204; the miller, 50, 51, 59, 188, 190-1.  
 Mapledurham, 'portion' of the church, 46, 51, 93-100, 106, 108-10.  
 Mapledurham, situation and boundaries, 1; derivation of name, 1-2; various spellings of, 2.  
 Mapledurham, stipend of vicar, 89-90, 95, 104-5, 109-13, 172.  
 Mapledurham Chazey, 3, 4, 40, 61, 65-81; Chapel at, 87.  
 Mapledurham Gurney, 3, 4, 7, 87; rent roll of, 26-9, 73.  
 Mapledurham Parva, 3.  
 Mapledurham, Cristine de, 72.  
 Mapledurham, Johannes de la Dene de, 72.  
 Mapledurham, John de, 101.  
 Mapledurham, Robert de (several of the name), 69, 71-2, 101; vicar, 89, 155, 183, 201.  
 Maps, of the Mapledurham estate, 116-17.  
 Marla, Milicent de, 6, 9, 10.  
 Marlborough (General), 147; town, 145.  
 Marmion, the family of, 66-7.  
 Marriages in Church, forbidden, 146.  
 Marshalsea money, 150.  
 Matthew, Thomas, vicar, 115, 144, 167.  
 Menageries, 46.  
 Merlawe (Merlowe), Richard, *see* Deryndon.  
 Mill, miller, *see* Mapledurham mill.  
 Minster Lovell, 100, 167.  
 Missenden, Great, 48 *n.*, 129.  
 Missenden, Katharine, 129.  
 Modbury, 164.  
 Mongewell, 56, 67, 155; Nicholas of, 15.  
 Montceaux, Dru de, 8.  
 Mont St. Michel, 64.  
 Mortuary, 114.  
 Murlesle, Hugh of, 157.  
 Murlesle, Walter of, vicar, 156.  
 Murlesle, the nunnery, 156-7.  
 Neville, family, 53; arms, 127-9.  
 Neville, Katharine, 52-3, 127-8.  
 Neville, Richard, Earl of Warwick, 53, 128.  
 Newington, Kent, 164.  
 Newton Valence, 167.  
 Nicholas of Schipton, vicar, 156.  
*Nonarum Inquisitiones*, 102.

- Norbury, John, vicar, 118.  
 Noreys (Norris), John, the elder, of Bray, 57, 59, 76-8, 81; his three wives, 78, 81; his son John, 77, 81, 185.  
 Noreys, Lionel, 79-81.  
 Noreys (Norris), pedigree, 81.  
 Noreys, Richard, 79, 81.  
 Noreys, Sir William, 77-9, 81, 185, 193.  
 Northampton, All Saints' Church, 90.  
 North Mardon, 160.  
 Notley, Abbot of, 59, 60, 102.  
 Nuneaton, *see* Eaton.  
 Obit, 11 *n.*, 132.  
 Okeburn, 62, 95 *n.*, 103, 112.  
 Oseney, 95, 154.  
 Oswestry, 145.  
 Ouilly, Matilda de, 61.  
 Ouilly, Robert de, 61.  
 Oxford, Bishops of, 113, 122, 167.  
 Oxford, Provisions of, 17.  
 Page, William, 68, 183.  
 Pethe, Thomas, vicar, 163; fined, 60, 132; income, 104, 113; his wife Joan, 163.  
 Phillimore, Dr., 122.  
 Piddlehinton, 165.  
 Pippard, the family of, 67.  
 Place-names, family, 3 *n.*  
 Plate, the Church, 142-4.  
 Ponde, Nicholas, 58.  
 Poor book, extracts from, 149-51.  
 Pope Eugenius IV, 47.  
 Popham, Sir John, 80.  
 Porchester castle, 31.  
 Prichard, Annie K., 139 *n.*  
 Priour, Richard, 44.  
 Pulham, 169 *n.*  
 Pulteney, John, vicar, 97 *n.*, 159.  
 Purley, 24, 25, 56, 74, 77, 89.  
 Puttenham, 168.  
 Rawlinson MSS., 122 f.  
 Reading, Abbey of, 64; Roger, abbot of, 100.  
 Registers, 144-7.  
 Richard II, presents to Mapledurham, 97, 158-9.  
 Ridel, Geoffrey, Archd. of Canterbury, &c., 86.  
 Robert of Normandy, 7, 8.  
 Rose, John, vicar, 26, 97, 157.  
 Roses of Hardwick, 140-1.  
 Rother, meaning of, 29.  
 Rotherfield Peppard, 60, 66-7, 102, 105.  
 Rotherfeld, 95 *n.*; Greys, 124.  
 Rucote, Fulco de, 19.  
 Ruislip, 168.  
 St. Dunstan's-in-the-East, 166.  
 St. Frideswide, monastery of, 10, 96.  
 St. George, Sir Richard, 122-32.  
 St. George's, Windsor, College of, 62, 103-5, 162, 181; Chapel of, 165-6, 169; tithe paid to, 103, 105-6.  
 St. Michael's, Barbadoes, 174.  
 St. Peter, hospital of, 112.  
 Salter, Rev. H. E., quoted, 4 *n.*, 88.  
 Sambourne, Nicolas, 131-2.  
 Sambourne, Walter, 132.  
 Sandes, Sir William, and Lord, of the Vyne, 79.  
 Sarum, Henry de, 71, 201.  
 Savage, Peter, vicar, 97 *n.*, 158.  
 Savill, Lady Margaret, her flagon, 142, 144; Sir Henry, 144 *n.*  
 Schakell, John, 35-6.  
 Schipton, Nicholas of, vicar, 156.  
 Senfy's acre, 184-5, 205.  
 Sewers, 38-40.  
 Shiplake, Simon, dean of, 88.  
 Shobrooke, 170.  
 Skerning, John, 49.  
 Smallwood, William, 146, 153.  
 Smyth, John, vicar, 168.  
*sorus*, meaning of, 67 *n.*  
 Spycer, Agnes, 136.  
 Stanshawe, John de, 75, 76.  
 Stanshawe, Robert de, 75-7, 188.  
 Staples, the, 207-8.  
 Stick, of fish, 83.  
 Stint, to, 195, 199.  
 Stokebasset, *see* Stoke, North.  
 Stoke Gury (= Stogursey), 134, 164-5.  
 Stoke, North, 56, 61, 95 *n.*  
 Stoke, South, 56; early vicars of, 89.  
 Stonyng, Oliver, 163-4, 166.  
 Stratfieldsay, 112.  
 Stray animals, *see extrahura*.  
 Strumpshaw, 20.

- Styches, 39 *n.*, 117, 194, 198.  
 Sumner, John Bird, vicar, 175-6.  
 Symonds, Richard, 122-32.  
 Syward, Thomas, 74, 205.  
  
*Taxatio Ecclesiastica*, 102.  
 Taylor, John, poet, 40.  
 Teams for road repair, 151.  
 Terrier, *see* Glebe.  
 Teversham, 171.  
 Tew, Edward, vicar, 118, 175.  
 Thackeray, Francis St. John, vicar, 143, 170 *n.*, 178-9.  
 Tithes, 13, 82-4, 86, 88-91, 95, 100-6, 110-13, 115-16, 169, 181, 195.  
 Toll, excessive, of corn, 59, 188-91.  
 Tournaments, 12.  
  
*Vallis prelii*, 84.  
*Valor Ecclesiasticus*, 104.  
 Vermandois, Beatrice de, 9.  
 Vetipons (Vipont), Robert de, 10.  
*Vicarie ordinacio*, 89-92.  
  
 Wales, subjection of, 19.  
 Wallingford, 155; honour of, 4, 55, 61-3, 67, 69, 74, 94.  
 Walton-on-Trent, 174.  
 Wantage, 164.  
 Warenne, Editha de, 4, 6-8, 10.  
 Warenne, William de, 2, 3, 7, 82; arms of family, 128.  
 Warenne, William de, Earl of Surrey, 7.  
 Wargrave, 64.  
 Waterstock, 166.  
 Watlington, 155.  
 Waywarden, 152.  
 Weirs, 22, 38-40, 173.  
 Wendover, 10, 11.  
  
 Wermegey, 16, 23.  
 Westbury, William, provost of Eton, 109, 112, 186.  
 Westminster Abbey, burial in, 34, 36, 40-1; legacy to, 33; out-rage in, 36.  
 Westmoreland, Ralph Neville, Earl of, 128; arms, 127.  
 Weston, Stephen, vicar, 136, 148, 170-1, 198.  
 Whitchurch, 1, 4, 55, 56, 61, 82-3, 89, 95 *n.*, 102, 105, 107 *n.*, 109.  
 Wigod of Wallingford, 61; his dau. Aldith, 61.  
 Wilberforce, Samuel, 176.  
 Will, of John Bardolf, 26, 122; of Robert Bardolf, 32-33, 121; of John Beverley, 34; of Amice Bardolf, 41-2, 121, 133; of John Iwardby, 52; of Joan Iwardby, 122, 161; of William Wytherton, 134, 165; of Thomas Benwell, 153; of Thomas Smallwood, 153; of Joan Pethe, 163.  
 William I, of England, 6, 7, 8, 61, 83, 181.  
 William IV, 176; gifts to the Church, 140.  
 Windows of the church, ancient, 124-9, 132; modern, 137-41.  
 Woburn, Beds., 164.  
 Worplesdon, 172.  
 Wotton, Sir Henry, provost of Eton, 110.  
 Wytherton, William, vicar, 134, 164.  
  
 Yatesbury, 175.  
 Yonge, Sir William, 42.  
 York, Richard, duke of, 63, 127.

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In Bank, Jan. 1, 1924 . . . .				114	4	3	Printing volume for 1923 . . . . .	93	6	0
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3 In advance . . . . .	1	11	6				Printing . . . . .	1	7	1
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